YOUNG PLAYERS SHOW STUFF THIS SPRING

Greg Stroman, who returned a punt 88 yards for a touchdown in the Maroon-Orange game, is among a group of underclassmen who have created excitement about the 2015 season with their play in spring practices.

WHAT’S NEXT:
Softball standout Kelsey Mericka is accomplishing big things both on and off the field.
Watching Hokie baseball feels great! So does having a bank that won’t pitch you a checking account with a bunch of hidden fees. At Union, you get really free checking with no minimum balance. That’s a home run for Hokie fans.

Go to bankatunion.com to learn more – and feel good about where you bank.

Don’t have a subscription?
Subscribe online at http://inside.hokiesports.com or cut out this section and mail with a check for the appropriate amount. Makes a great gift for every Hokie!

Print options
1-year: $37.95
2-year: $69.95
Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, Virginia Tech

Online option
1-year: $25.00

Please designate a username and password (online version only):

Username:
Password:
Email:

You will receive an email confirmation once your account is activated.

Access the on-line version by entering your username and password at http://inside.hokiesports.com, once you receive your e-mail confirmation.

To order online: visit http://inside.hokiesports.com and click on the “subscribe” button at the bottom of the page.

Inside Hokie Sports
Jamerson Athletic Center, Virginia Tech
165 Spring Rd.
Blackburg, VA 24061

Published by the Virginia Tech Athletics Department

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES: $37.95 for one year (11 issues) and $69.95 for two years. You can get an online subscription for $25 and both; the online and the print version for $60. Mail all subscription inquiries, renewal, address changes, written inquiries and complaints to Inside Hokie Sports, Jamerson Athletic Center, Virginia Tech, 165 Spring Rd., Blacksburg, Va. 24061 or call (540) 231-3908.

Inside Hokie Sports assumes no responsibility for companies and persons who advertise in this publication. Publication does not necessarily sanction or support advertisements. Permission to reproduce pleased. Request all information contained in this publication is prohibited. Please contact us for a home runs license and copyright for information contained in any advertisements.

ATTN POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Inside Hokie Sports, PO Box 11101, Blacksburg, Va. 24061-1101.

Printed by Worth Huggins & Associates of Richmond, Virginia.

1.800.990.4828

LIFE FEELS GOOD WITH A TEAM THAT SWINGS FOR THE FENCES.

May 2015 • Vol. 7, No. 10
inside.hokiesports.com

Jimmy Robertson
Editor
Marc Mullen
Editorial Assistant
Bill Roth
Columnist
Dave Knachel
Photographer
John Sours
Designer

Contributors
Terry Bolt - Hokie Club
Chris Saccoccia - IMG

To advertise with Virginia Tech athletics or Inside Hokie Sports, contact Brandon Forbis at IMG Sports 540-961-7604

Hokie Club News | 4
News & Notes | 8
Athletics hands out awards at Gobblers show
From the Editor’s Desk | 11
Five football players who impressed this spring
Kroger Roth Report | 12
Voice of the Hokies says farewell to Hokie Nation
Student-Athlete Development | 14
Six awarded ACC’s Top Six for Service honors
Academic Spotlight – Paige Kwartman | 16
Tech runner soars in career in education
Academic Spotlight – Trevor Cone | 17
Hokie golfer to pursue pro career
HS extra – Maroon-Orange Game | 18
Tech scores in all three phases, capping a great spring
Position-by-Position Spring Reviews | 20
An up-close look at each position following 2015 spring practice
HS extra – Skullton Awards | 36
Merida, Woodcock earn department’s top honor
ATD’s Honors Breakfast
Track and Field Spotlight – Hanna Green | 38
Track standout runs to greatness in Blacksburg
Softball Spotlight – Kelsie Mericka | 42
Hokie third baseman on the verge of breaking Hill mark
HS extra – Men’s Hoops Recruiting | 45
Williams adds center to fold during spring signing period
Brendon Hayden’s two-run walk-off home run in the bottom of the ninth inning lifted the Virginia Tech baseball team to a 2-1 win over Boston College and capped a series sweep of the Eagles for the Hokies. The win marked Tech’s sixth of a seven-game winning streak heading into exams, including four in conference action. It also marked the Hokies’ 12th conference win this year, tying for the third-most ACC wins in a season since the school joined the league for the 2004-05 season.

“I am very appreciative of my scholarship and those involved who make it happen. I can’t thank them enough because, without them and my scholarship, I wouldn’t have been able to experience all of what Blacksburg has to offer and the great support and spirit of Hokie Nation.”

Jon Woodcock
Redshirt Junior | Ojai, California

“I am very appreciative for my scholarship and for all those who make the Hokie Club happen. Their efforts help give student-athletes such as me the opportunity to come to a great university and compete for their school. Their support goes a long way, and I thank them for that.”

Brendon Hayden
Senior | Twin Lakes, Wisconsin
Q&A

Q: A Hokie is...
A: When Virginia Tech beat Texas in the Sugar Bowl in 1995, a TV reporter asked a friend of mine, “What is a Hokie?” He responded, “I'm glad you asked. A Hokie is an ace-kicking turkey.”

Q: The Hokie Nation is real because...
A: Thousands follow the Hokies out of love and respect for Virginia Tech.

Q: What is your best memory of Virginia Tech athletics?
A: Virginia Tech beating the University of Texas in the Sugar Bowl in 1995. Bryan Stinnett kicked a field goal to win the game, and Jim Druckenmiller threw the pass.

Q: How did you get involved with the Hokie Club?
A: I became seriously involved when Bud Conner brought his love of the Hokies to my office in 1992 and asked for my support.

Q: What caused you to become a fan of Virginia Tech?
A: Virginia Tech gave me a chance to get an education, and I have great love and respect for the university.

Q: Describe your perfect day at Virginia Tech.
A: A beautiful fall day shared with friends and the Tech football team winning.

Q: Please let us know what made you want to support our 110% campaign.
A: I believe in the concept and understand that to compete with other schools we have to step up in our individual support.

Q: I'm a Hokie Club member because...
A: I want to participate in raising funds in order that we may compete with the schools in the ACC and other top schools.

Q: My favorite Virginia Tech sports are...
A: Football, basketball (men’s and women’s) and golf (men’s and women’s).

Q: My all-time favorite Virginia Tech football player is...
A: Michael Vick was the most exciting player and raised the interest in VT football.

Q: My all-time favorite Virginia Tech student-athletes from another sport are...
A: Dell Curry, Virginia Tech basketball.

Frank N. Cowan

HOKIE CLUB LEVEL: Orange and Maroon Benefactor
CURRENTLY RESIDES: North Chesterfield, Virginia
GRADUATION YEAR: 1959
FAMILY: Marianne (sister); Neil, Chris and Brandon (sons)

Letter from Lu

Hello contributors,

I hope the spring finds all of you doing well! I have several topics that I want to address with this letter and encourage you all to read it through.

High Hokie Campaign

You recently received some information explaining the cost of attendance for our student-athletes. New legislation passed by the NCAA in January will help student-athletes meet the incidental costs of attending college. The athletics department and the Hokie Club jointly launched the 110% Hokie Campaign where we asked for your support by increasing your annual gift by 10 percent to help us meet the rising costs of tuition, room, board and institutional fees.

A gift from last year! Your investment will directly impact all of Virginia Tech’s student-athletes. By adding an extra 10 percent to your annual Hokie Club gift, you will help support our 110% campaign.

When Virginia Tech beat Texas in the Sugar Bowl in 1995, a TV reporter asked a friend of mine, “What is a Hokie?” He responded, “I'm glad you asked. A Hokie is an ace-kicking turkey.”

In 1995, Virginia Tech gave me a chance to get an education, and I have great love and respect for Virginia Tech.

It is not enough to be a spectator. Every day, Hokie coaches and student-athletes give 110% to bring academic success, ACC championships and national recognition to their teams, the University and our fans. Now it’s your chance to take the challenge... and give 110%!

TO GIVE CALL 540.231.6618 OR GO ONLINE HOKIECLUB.COM

GET YOUR TICKETS

On Saturday, September 19, Virginia Tech will play host to the 2015 ACC Softball Championship on May 7-9, and Virginia Tech was selected to play host.

For more information, contact Dorothy Long at 843-448-4531.

Get Your Tickets

Get your tickets for the ACC Softball Championship on May 7-9. Virginia Tech was selected to play host to the 2015 ACC Softball Championship.

Virginia Tech played host to the 2015 ACC Softball Championship on May 7-9, and Virginia Tech was selected to play host.

Virginia Tech hosted the ACC Softball Championship on May 7-9, and Virginia Tech was selected to play host.

Virginia Tech was selected to play host to the 2015 ACC Softball Championship on May 7-9.

The women’s tennis team traveled to California for an NCAA first-round match, and the men’s golf team was the host.

The last stop of this year’s tour will be in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on June 7. Golf and dinner will be held at Wild Wing Plantation, with special guest Torrian Gray, the Hokies’ defensive backs coach. If you live in the area, please come out and enjoy this terrific event.

Wing verticals with special guest Torriam Gray, the Hokies’ defensive backs coach. If you live in the area, please come out and enjoy this terrific event.

Every day, Hokie coaches and student-athletes give 110%.

What it means to be 110% Hokie

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE 110% HOKIE

Every day, Hokie coaches and student-athletes give 110 percent. Whether it’s in the classroom, community, or in competition, they are passionate about Virginia Tech. Now we are asking you, the heart and soul of our “team,” to do the same by adding an extra 10 percent to your annual Hokie Club gift from last year. Your investment will directly impact all of our talented student-athletes who work tirelessly every day to bring academic success, ACC championships and national recognition to their teams, the University and our fans. Now it’s your chance to take the challenge... and give 110 percent!
Gobblers awards show recognizes Tech’s top performances of 2014-15

The Virginia Tech athletics department celebrated the athletic and academic accomplishments of its student-athletes and coaches on May 5 at the inaugural Gobblers awards show held at the Moss Arts Center on campus. The Gobblers awards show took the place of the annual All-Sports Banquet, as the athletics administration changed the format. The new format is similar to the ESPY’s – ESPN’s awards show that recognizes individual and team athletic achievement and other sports-related performances.

Andrew Algeretta, the radio voice of the women’s basketball and baseball programs, served as the master of ceremonies for the event, and members of the Virginia Tech Student-Athlete Advisory Committee presented the awards. Here is the complete list of top accomplishments and of those recognized:

• **Best Game** (the team or individual with the best played game of the year) – football vs. Ohio State

• **Best Sports Moment** (the team or individual whose performance was both inspirational and memorable through either a single act or a broader storyline. This moment can be on or off the playing surface) – Hannah Young, game-winning buzzer beater vs. NC State at the ACC Tournament

• **Male Rookie of the Year** (this award went to one male student-athlete in his first year of competition who has made a tremendous impact on his team through his performance. Only freshmen and redshirt freshmen are eligible) – Isaiah Ford, football (also nominated: Zach Epperly, wrestling; Isaiah Saunders, men’s tennis)

• **Best Female Athlete** (this award went to one female student-athlete who consistently led her team to notable athletics success throughout the season. In short, she was the MVP of all female student-athletes) – Kaylee Arnett, women’s diving (also nominated: Marleth Tornow, women’s soccer; Hanna Green, track and field)

• **Best Male Athlete** (this award went to one male student-athlete who consistently led his team to notable athletics success throughout the season. In short, he was the MVP of all male student-athletes) – Devin Carter, wrestling (also nominated: Thomas Curtin, men’s track and field; Kendall Fuller, football)

• **Female Rookie of the Year** (this award went to one female student-athlete in her first year of competition who has made a tremendous impact on her team through her performance. Only freshmen and redshirt freshmen were eligible) – Ekladzi Nazlihica, women’s swimming (also nominated: Madu Congers, women’s soccer; Bravourn Davisport, softball)

• **ACC Top Six for Service Awards** - Each year, the ACC honors student-athletes on each campus for their outstanding dedication to service. Virginia Tech, with its motto of Ut Prosim, is proud to have student-athletes involved in service projects annually, including but not limited to: volunteering at local elementary schools and participating in programs the Micah’s Backpack and Herma’s Readers.

This year, six student-athletes who have embraced the university motto and have dedicated countless hours to serving the community selflessly were honored. The six were: Ronny Vandebeke (football); Katie Bean (women’s diving); Matt Dauby (baseball); Christian Beyer (men’s basketball); Michelle Prong (softball) and Scott Vincent (softball).

• **Best Breakthrough** (this award went to an athlete who has increased his or her performance dramatically) – Robert Owen (men’s swimming; also nominated: Christian Beyer, men’s basketball; Thomas Curtin, men’s track and field)

• **Best Upset** (this award went to a team that won a game or competition over an opponent that was either ranked significantly higher or posed seemingly insurmountable odds) – men’s tennis vs. No. 2 Duke (also nominated: baseball vs. Virginia)

• **Best Championship Performance** (this award went to the team that rose to the occasion and had an outstanding performance in an ACC or NCAA championship competition) – men’s track and field winning the ACC indoor championships (Also nominated: wrestling at the NCAA Championships; women’s basketball in the ACC Tournament; men’s basketball vs. Wake Forest in the ACC Tournament)

• **Best Male Athlete** (this award went to one male student-athlete who consistently led his team to notable athletics success throughout the season. In short, he was the MVP of all male student-athletes) – Devin Carter, wrestling (also nominated: Thomas Curtin, men’s track and field; Kendall Fuller, football)

• **Best Female Athlete** (this award went to one female student-athlete who consistently led her team to notable athletics success throughout the season. In short, she was the MVP of all female student-athletes) – Kaylee Arnett, women’s diving (also nominated: Marleth Tornow, women’s soccer; Hanna Green, track and field)

The following student-athletes were named team MVPs: Alex Perez and Brendan Hardin (baseball); Justin Bibbs (men’s basketball); Vanessa Panosidis (women’s basketball); Stuart Robertson (men’s cross country); Paige Kvarnumas (women’s cross country); Willis Byrn (football); Trevor Cone (softball); Jackson Wager (men’s tennis); Christian Beyer (men’s tennis); Francesca Fusinato (women’s tennis); Francoise Puisiinto (women’s tennis); Thomas Curtin (men’s indoor track and field); Hanna Green (women’s indoor track and field); Manuel Ziegler (men’s outdoor track and field); Thomas Curtin (men’s indoor track and field); Hannah Green (women’s indoor track and field); Kendall Fuller (women’s swimming); James Stone (men’s cheerleading); and Kelsey Smith (women’s cheerleading).
We’ve got the Hokies covered. Did you know Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance can cover just about anyone for just about anything? And with us, you get... Join the Farm Bureau Family today. Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance is a proud sponsor of Virginia Tech Athletics! Visit FarmBureauAdvantage.com to find your local Agent and learn more. Join the Farm Bureau Family today. Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance is a proud sponsor of Virginia Tech Athletics!

On April 30, Virginia Tech President Dr. Tim Sands and Robert Sumichrast, the dean of the Pamplin College of Business, rang the opening bell at the Nasdaq Marketsite in New York's Times Square, signaling the start of the day's trading action on the electronic stock market.

The two of them visited the MarketSite with Virginia Tech alumni and other representatives from the school, including those from the university's Apex Systems Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which promotes creativity, innovation and vision. The Nasdaq will be launching a similar center in September.

Their visit came four days after the conclusion of the Hokies' annual Maroon-Orange game, one that capped the NCAA's 15-practice allotment, and one that, in keeping with the theme, left Tech fans feeling rather bullish about the approaching 2015 season.

Frank Beamer, the CEO of this operation, certainly felt that way about his team's prospects. "I think our coaches and players have gotten the most out of it that we could get," Beamer said following the spring game. "I like our football team."

This team certainly has some blue chip stocks – Kendall Fuller, Dadi Nicolas, Isaiah Ford, Bucky Hodges come to mind. Beamer hopes these pay handsome dividends this fall.

But what about the sleepers, or for the sake of this column, the "IPOs?" Which of these stocks are ripe to explode? Attending all or parts of all 15 practices gives yours truly some insights into what's ahead.

Chuck Clark – Did you know that defensive back Chuck Clark was third on the team in tackles last season? Or that he led all defensive backs with 8.5 tackles for a loss last season? Or that his 11 pass breakups ranked second on the team?

This kid possesses the lockdown potential of Kendall Fuller, only without the name recognition. He was dominant this spring, and the coaching staff took notice, naming him the defense’s MVP.

Known for being versatile, he may end up at free safety, or at nickel, pending the return of Brandon Facyson.

He’s not a stock, but if he were, you’d better invest now. The price is only going higher.

Eric Gallo – In stock market terminology, Gallo went public last year, playing sparingly as a true freshman. He played sparingly on Tech’s defense, but saw extensive action on special teams.

Don’t expect any depreciation here. Reavis solidified the top-spot at rover coming out of spring practice. He needs to tidy some things up in terms of coverage, but he plays downhill in the running game, and he may have been the best player on the field in the spring game.

The Hokies have a nice portfolio, as they head into the summer months preparing for the season opener against Ohio State. They possess the steady, value plays in proven guys like Michael Brewer, J.C. Coleman, Ryan Malleck, Luther Maddy and Jahlil Williams and Josh Oglesby. Look for McMillian to get a few carries, catch a few passes, return a few kicks – and make something happen.

Vinnie Mihota – There is a lot to love about Mihota, a big, physical, smart guy with better quickness than the staff originally thought. But his versatility gives him a distinct advantage over several of his defensive line teammates. He can play any position, and play them well.

The staff raved about him by the end of spring and line coach Charlie Wokas already has stated that Mihota is one of the top eight in the rotation.

Don’t expect any depreciation here. Reavis solidified the top-spot at rover coming out of spring practice. He needs to tidy some things up in terms of coverage, but he plays downhill in the running game, and he may have been the best player on the field in the spring game.

The Hokies have a nice portfolio, as they head into the summer months preparing for the season opener against Ohio State. They possess the steady, value plays in proven guys like Michael Brewer, J.C. Coleman, Ryan Malleck, Luther Maddy and Devon Clark. They own growth potential with the above-mentioned guys along with others such as Wyatt Teller, Seth Dooley and Greg Stroman. Such talent leaves Tech fans feeling a sense of optimism.

What will the returns be? Hokie Nation will begin to find out on Sept. 7.
This will be my final Kroger Roth Report at Virginia Tech, and I'm limited to 1,200 words to say “thank you” to so many people. Summing up 27 years and thousands of broadcasts in 1,200 words is nearly an impossible task. We've had so much fun over the decades, haven't we?

Leaving Virginia Tech has been the most difficult decision I've had to make in my life, and I've been blessed to have some great friends and advisors from both within and outside the Virginia Tech family to help me along the way, especially during the past six weeks. Still, it’s been an incredibly emotional time for me, and I hope you had the chance to see the video that the HokieVision staff created – one that pretty much sums up the story: http://vtech.is/nzth.

As I mentioned on the air at the conclusion of our spring game broadcast, I'm not saying goodbye as much as I am saying “Thank you!” Thanks to our administrators, staff and coaches who entrusted me with delivering our institution’s messages over the years. Thank you to our players – thousands of you who helped create the lasting memories over the past 27 years. And most of all, thank you to the amazing Virginia Tech fans who opened up a hole as “wide as Fancy Gap,” you got through and did great postgame interviews and talked about your grandma. I cried when he tore his ACL. Eddie Royal. There's a good chance he is the star. And so to the Hokie Nation, to all of you:

I'll never forget looking out over a crowd of 1,500 people at the Richmond Hokie Club Kickoff Dinner and feeling the tremendous support and Hokie love in the room. Or you Hokies in Virginia Beach who snuck out of the Kickoff Dinner to grab some Beach Bully BBQ, so we could enjoy it on the plane ride home. That was a special treat. Enter Sandman, Slipknot, key plays, the exuberance of getting into the Big East and later the ACC – all of it goes by in a blur when you try to recap in 1,200 words.

I've been getting the following question a bunch in the last week, including from Roy Hatfield, who runs the GobblerCountry Tech site. He and others have asked “Who was your favorite player? Who was your favorite player to cover or write about?”

My response: Wow, first of all, that's a totally unfair question. Are you trying to get me in trouble? We’re talking about thousands of athletes, and I’ll have to omit any of them. I loved watching Darvon Washington dunk, especially when he nailed over Greg Paulus at Duke. I really admired the way he could leap, and I loved watching Deron Washington dunk, especially when he sailed over Greg Paulus at Duke. I really admired the way he could leap, and I loved watching Deron Washington dunk, especially when he sailed over Greg Paulus at Duke.

I've loved saying at the end of a road win, when only Tech fans were remaining in the other team's stadium, that it's a “sea of orange, maroon and aluminum.” And I loved that when our 0-1 lineup opened up a hole as “wide as Fancy Gap,” you got the joke and chuckled along with me.

KJ run on an endless loop. And André Davis would just zoom away from people. It’s amazing what people can get away with. Go Hokies! I'm going to try and bring you a score. The Lewis brothers, and the Hopkins brothers, and the Fuller brothers. I just want to hug Mrs. Fuller. Cornell Brown. Everyone loves Cornell, except Silks in Austin, Texas, and James Ricks is at Duke.

Blake DeChristopher … well Blake's Beard. He always referred to his beard as a hopscotch, and an alter ego. I'm going to use too many people out, and I'm going to get in trouble. Bryan Randall. When he's the guy, you'll be even more proud of him, doing the headlock, and he'll get his head out of it. You know what? You're going to get some heat. I will get an email within 20 minutes from someone like Keith Short. Wayne Ward still shows up at our house, and block me like he did that guy from West Virginia in that Thursday night game.

But if you're going pin me down, I'm going with (broadcast partner) Mike Burnop as my favorite athlete, No. 81! Mike inherited a 22-year-old kid back in 1988 and introduced me to the world of college football broadcasting. Mike is the only guy who's a tremendous broadcaster. I'm lucky to have known him, and I'm excited that we will continue our annual Florida vacations together.
The opportunity student-athletes have to serve as role models, as well as the impact they can make on their campuses and surrounding communities. A Top Six for Service award recipient is dedicated to serving others and shows a passion for enriching the lives of others. This year, the following six Hokie student-athletes set themselves apart through their commitments to service.

Katie Bean, a senior on the Hokies’ swimming and diving team, volunteered her time providing athletics facility tours to elementary school students through the Kindergarten to College program, and she also helped collect food for Micah’s Backpack, a local program that partners with schools to provide direct assistance to children and families who qualify for the free lunch program. Bean’s most significant contribution to the community has been through her work with AmeriCorps, a federal agency that helps millions of Americans improve their local communities through service. This year, she organized weekly reading hours for preschool children and has contributed more than 300 hours of service to the AmeriCorps organization.

On Dec. 5, 2014, football standout Ronny Vandyke provided mentorship to Kipps Elementary children who were having trouble making good choices. Although he was only asked to go once, Vandyke took it upon himself to visit with the students every other week because he wanted to help in any way possible. Since his first visit in December, he has met with these students on more than 25 separate occasions and plans to continue working with them in the future. He also has contributed a significant amount of time to Cross Training, a collaboration between Athletics in Action and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, where he serves weekly as a group leader.

Michelle Prong, a softball player, participated in Herma’s Readers Literacy Education Program this year to promote the importance of reading and literacy to children in kindergarten through third grade. She also volunteered for the local Color Me Bad Run benefiting the Special Olympics, and she spent time at a local children’s hospital visiting pediatric patients and their families. Prong is currently pursuing her master’s degree in public health and has goals of one day becoming a physician.

Junior infielder Matt Dauby has not only served the community through the Virginia Tech baseball team’s 19 Ways program – he and his teammates participate in 19 different outreach initiatives annually – but he also has found time to help the community on his own time. Through his work with the Herma’s Readers Literacy Education Program, Micah’s Backpack, and other local initiatives, Dauby has dedicated more than 20 hours of service this year helping the community.

Scott Vincent, a senior member of the men’s golf team, volunteered more than 15 hours of service during the fall semester to the AmeriCorps Reading Hour Program, which was organized by Bean. Each week, he traveled to a local preschool and read to a child. His commitment to the reading hour program continued throughout the spring semester, and he also worked with Herma’s Readers.

Christian Beyer, a men’s basketball player, began volunteering his time with students in the physical education classes at Price’s Fork Elementary in the fall of 2013. He saw firsthand the results that came from consistent physical activity at a young age and wanted to share that experience with others. Since then, he has visited the school twice a week to speak about the importance of being active and staying focused to achieve academic and athletic success. This year alone, Beyer will have devoted 75 hours to this cause.

These are just a few of the many Virginia Tech student-athletes who dedicate their lives to being young men and women of service. They are aware of their platforms and the opportunities they have to impact the Blacksburg community in a positive and long-lasting way. While the demands of academic and athletics responsibilities are many, these six Hokie student-athletes, and many others, live out Ut Prosim (“That I May Serve”) on a daily basis.
A member of Tech’s track and field and cross country teams, Paige Kvartunas graduated in mid-May with a degree in human development. She always has learned toward being an elementary school teacher and recently was accepted into graduate school at George Mason to continue her pursuit of that dream.

Q: Why did you decide to major in human development?
PK: “I actually came in as a human nutrition, foods and exercise major. I didn’t know exactly what I wanted to do, but I’ve always wanted to be a teacher. My grandmother was an elementary school librarian for 30 years. I had a really fun elementary experience, and I looked up to a lot of my teachers. They led me to love learning, and I want to be able to do that for kids in the future.”

Q: What was so fun about your elementary school experiences?
PK: “A lot of it was my teachers. I remember a few of the teachers had creative ways to teach. I remember journals that we had to do and coloring. They made learning fun. History isn’t my favorite subject, but the way they presented the topics made me want to learn more about it and keep me interested in it.”

Q: You’ve worked in a couple of local elementary school classrooms this academic year – with the second graders at Gilbert LinksHouse in the fall and the first graders this spring at Price’s Fork. What have you been doing?
PK: “It’s part of a field study, and you have to have so many hours. It’s not a student-teaching opportunity, but I help out in the classroom a lot. I lead small groups. I’ve taught a few lessons to the kids. Whatever the teacher needs help with, I’ll assist in the classroom, whether it’s small groups or help an individual catch up or come up with activities if a student is absent. I help with the differentiation of a classroom, so they [the teachers] can teach a whole class and yet cater to an individual student’s needs.”

Q: What have you learned in your experiences at those two schools?
PK: “I’ve really enjoyed working at two different schools in two different grades. You really see the developmental differences. The younger ones need a little more assistance. They’ve just learning to read and eat with scissors and all that stuff. In second grade, they can do more things on their own. Both experiences have been great. Working with different teachers, I’ve learned different strategies in classroom management and lesson planning and all that kind of stuff. Every teacher does it differently. I feel like by seeing lots of different teachers, you can pull a little bit from each and make it your own.”

Q: How did you manage to balance running cross country and track and keeping up with your studies?
PK: “Playing sports teaches you time management. I do have a lot of busy days. I go to practice in the morning, and then on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays, I have classes at 9:05 a.m. Then I go to the elementary school for most of the day. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I don’t have classes, so I usually go to the elementary school straight from practice. I then go to practice again [after school], and at night, you have to use your time effectively to do homework. With traveling, that makes it a little harder, too. You just find a way to do it.”

Q: What are your future plans?
PK: “I recently got accepted into graduate school at George Mason and will be pursuing a master’s degree in elementary education, and then from there I hope I become an elementary school teacher. The program is for two years, and I’ll be going back home. I’m from Northern Virginia. I grew up in the Fairfax school district, and it’s one of the best in the country. I would love to be able to teach there.”

Q: What led you to major in marketing management?
TC: “Well, I knew going into college that I wanted to do something that involved business. I originally declared marketing management [as his major] as a freshman because I have always had an interest in products and how they are marketed and advertised toward the consumer. However, I did find finance as an interesting career path and thought about switching during my sophomore year, but realized I would rather be in a more interactive career after college instead of a job that was more math-oriented.”

Q: When do you think you first had interest in that field?
TC: “I have always had an interest in marketing. Whenever I walk through stores, whether it be a sporting goods store, retail store or any type of store, I find myself looking at the products and wondering how the company is marketing it toward consumers and what kinds of strategies they use. I also find advertisements intriguing and look to see how they target consumers. I think it’s compelling how creative some companies are in their marketing and advertising efforts now.”

Q: Do you plan on pursuing a graduate degree?
TC: “At the moment, I don’t plan to pursue a graduate degree. I’m not sure whether I will come back to school to get a master’s degree, but it’s definitely an idea that I’m not opposed to if the opportunity is there in the future.”

Q: Have you done any internships, co-ops, field studies, etc.?
TC: “I actually haven’t done any type of internship while at Virginia Tech. I looked into doing internships the past few years, but playing a sport like golf where you must play year round to compete at the highest level, I couldn’t find the time in the summer to do an internship.”

Q: How have you managed to juggle all the traveling with golf and maintaining solid grades in the classroom?
TC: “One thing most people don’t realize about golf at the collegiate level is that we miss more days of class than almost all the other sports. I learned early on at Virginia Tech that it was going to be difficult to balance school and golf, but I had great motivation and set goals as a freshman pertaining to my GPA and focused more on academics. I realized how to balance my time well and just used the resources that the university has provided the student-athletes. Virginia Tech provides all of the necessary facilities to help you succeed in the classroom through SAASS [Student-Athlete Academic Support Services] and study hall.”

Q: What are your future plans, both short term and long term?
TC: “In the short term, after graduation and after my collegiate career hopefully ends in making it to one last NCAA Championship with the team. I plan on playing amateur golf during the summer, traveling to tournaments across the country. Long term, I plan to turn professional around September of this year and go on to Qualifying School for the PGA Tour.”

Q: And if golf doesn’t work out, then what?
TC: “If golf doesn’t work out, I’d like to stay in the sports industry and work for a sports marketing agency. Another route I’m interested in is staying in the NCAA and working in an athletics department at a university.”

Trevor Cone graduated in mid-May with a degree in marketing management, but the All-American on Tech’s golf team has professional aspirations – and the realistic talent to achieve those. He and two others shared ACC medalist honors at the 2015 ACC Championships, and he has finished in the top 10 eight times heading into an NCAA regional. If a pro career doesn’t work out, he plans on pursuing a career in sports marketing.
Those who traversed to Blacksburg for the annual Maroon-Orange football game and braved the dreary late-April weather elements that somehow hit the area this time of year witnessed a rather entertaining affair.

The offense got the better of things in the troublesome red zone, the defense scored a touchdown, and the special teams came up with two big plays. The performance left a group of hearty souls optimistic about the upcoming season, and more importantly, left head coach Frank Beamer feeling good about the shape of his program heading into the offseason.

“Toughness is what we've been about, and that mindset has been around, and he's good. We've got some guys on the second team that we think will be OK. I think we're getting closer,” Beamer said.

The scoring got started on an 88-yard punt return for a touchdown by Greg Stroman, who certainly looked healed from the balky hamstring that hampered him early in spring practice. That gave Team Pylon a 7-0 lead.

The special teams made another big play later in the first quarter when CJ Reavis tackled punt returner Mitchell Ludwig for a loss before Ludwig could punt – Reavis would have blocked the punt if Ludwig had attempted it. Team Medal of Honor, which gave Team Medal of Honor a 10-7 lead.

Reavis was arguably the best defensive player on the field. In addition to making the big special teams play, he also finished with a game-high seven tackles (three solo).

“I think our coaches and players have gotten the most out of that mindset,” Beamer said following the game. “I like our football team. I've said many times that I think we've got a lot of good character guys on this team and a lot of good players. I like where we are right now. We've got to keep going in a positive direction. I think today [Saturday of the spring game] was different.

“With Coach [Clay] Searels, you get into that mindset that, ‘It’s only 3 yards,’ or ‘It’s only 5 yards, and we’re going to get a touchdown,” left guard Wyatt Teller said. "Sometimes things happen, and you get stopped, but for the most part, especially today, we had that chip on our shoulder. We said, ‘We’re not going to play on our side of the ball. We’re going to play on theirs.’ For the most part, we did.”

“With that being said, today was different than last year or years before. Maybe we didn’t get what Coach Searels was saying, but now we’re actually living what he’s saying,” Beamer agreed.

“I think we’re getting closer to where we want to be from a toughness standpoint,” he said.
BREWER and MOTLEY led an offense that put points on the board this spring 
by Jimmy Robertson

Virginia Tech's football team had 15 practices this spring, including the annual spring game. The entire spring practice session encompassed roughly 10 periods per session, three full-scale scrimmages and approximately 30 hours of on-field instruction.

In that span, quarterback Michael Brewer threw only three interceptions – none in the scrimmages and approximately 30 hours of on-the-field instruction. It has resulted in him winning the Dr. Richard Bullock Award as the player on offense who Best Represented the Spirit of this young man. He has had too many sacks [35]. It’s not always on the offensive line. It takes 11 people to create a sack. The quarterback has to be on rhythm and make the right decision. The backs have to protect, and the receivers and tight ends have to run the route. 

But a lot of that had to do with having complete knowledge both inside and out. You’re making a decision in 1.7 seconds, with a lot of people running at you trying to kill you, and you’re making a decision in 1.7 seconds, with a lot of people running at you trying to kill you, and you need to be working to be consistent. For every two or three great plays, he’d have an OK play. I want him to maintain his consistency, and he was a year ago.

The backs have to protect, and the receivers and tight ends have to run the route. It takes 11 people to create a sack. The quarterback has to be on rhythm and make the right decision. The backs have to protect, and the receivers and tight ends have to run the route. It takes 11 people to create a sack. The quarterback has to be on rhythm and make the right decision. The backs have to protect, and the receivers and tight ends have to run the route. It takes 11 people to create a sack. The quarterback has to be on rhythm and make the right decision. The backs have to protect, and the receivers and tight ends have to run the route.

**Hokies’ Backfield is in good shape**

By Jimmy Robertson

Even with injured running backs out this spring, HOKIES’ BACKFIELD Is in good shape

BREWER and MOTLEY led an offense that put points on the board this spring

**Quarterbacks**

- Michael Brewer (6-0, 200, r-Sr.)
- Brendan Motley (6-4, 228, r-Fr.)
- Andrew Ford (6-1, 198, r-Fr.)
- Chris Durkin (6-4, 242, r-Fr.)
- Jack Cool (6-4, 207, Fr.)

**Brewer**

“He’s made a jump,” Loeffler said. “He needs to make another jump. He does some really good things, and he needs to get consistent with them. At times, he does exactly what we need him to do, and at times, he takes a step back, and then the next day, he looks great. Overall, consistency is going to be the key for him this summer and then leading into training camp [in August].”

Andrew Ford, Chris Durkin and walk-on Jack Cool round out the group. Ford and Durkin looked like freshmen this spring. Occasionally, they made a great play, but more often than not, looked a little indecisive – which is partly attributed to playing behind a young second-year offensive line. Durkin missed the final couple of practices and the spring game with a separation of his left shoulder (non-throwing).

Those three, along with incoming freshman Dwayne Lawlow, will need to continue to develop over the summer. But Tech fans can take comfort in knowing that Brewer and Motley looked good this spring – and even great at times – and the offense itself followed suit.

“We’ve had the best spring by far we’ve had here,” Loeffler said. “We’re scoring points. We scored in the scrimmages. The first couple of years, we were worrying about getting from point A to point B. So it’s exciting to watch this thing come together. If we stay healthy, we’ve got a chance.”

**Backfield**

The running backs’ depth chart above is probably more notable for the names not listed on it than the ones listed.

Marshawn Williams was on pace to lead the Hokies in rushing last fall before joining an ACL in a November game against Duke. That injury put him out for spring ball. Then an off-the-field issue left Shai McKenzie suspended indefinitely. FullBack Sam Rogers also missed spring practice while recovering from a fractured elbow.

Still, the Hokies appear to be in great shape at the running back position thanks largely to the return of J.C. Coleman, who saved the Hokies from even additional depth and Troy Edwards, who appears to fully recovered from a clavicle injury suffered last fall. Coleman rushed for at least 95 yards in each of Tech’s final four games of 2014, including a 531-yard effort that led to him being named the MVP of the Military Bowl.

Those two, along with freshmen Travon McMillian and D.J. Reid, eased some concerns of running backs coach Steve Beamer, who found depth with Williams and McKenzie out. Coleman received the Don Williams TEAM UNITED Award as the player on offense who put the team first during spring workouts, and he came out of spring No. 1 on the depth chart at fullback.

“If the season started today, J.C. would be the starter,” Beamer said. “In our minds, depending on Shai’s situation and Marshawn’s health, there is a next group, and that is Travon, Shai, and D.J. Reid. There’s also a next group, and that is Trey, Travon, Shai, and D.J. Reid. There’s also a next group, and that is Trey, Travon, Shai, and D.J. Reid. There’s also a next group, and that is Trey, Travon, Shai, and D.J. Reid.

“Travon’s also got a chance to be our kick returner. Overall, my challenge to him is to be consistent. For every two or three great plays, he’s got an OK play. I want him to maintain consistency on every play, and that will determine if he’s a guy who plays five years or 20.”

At fullback, Beamer expects Rogers to be the No. 1 guy – and Rogers looked like a guy itching to take comfort in knowing that Brewer and Motley looked good this spring – and even great at times – and the offense itself followed suit.

At fullback, Beamer expects Rogers to be the No. 1 guy – and Rogers looked like a guy itching to take comfort in knowing that Brewer and Motley looked good this spring – and even great at times – and the offense itself followed suit.

“Travon’s also got a chance to be the No. 2 kick returner. Overall, my challenge to him is to be consistent. For every two or three great plays, he’s got an OK play. I want him to maintain consistency on every play, and that will determine if he’s a guy who plays five years or 20.”

At fullback, Beamer expects Rogers to be the No. 1 guy – and Rogers looked like a guy itching to take comfort in knowing that Brewer and Motley looked good this spring – and even great at times – and the offense itself followed suit.

At fullback, Beamer expects Rogers to be the No. 1 guy – and Rogers looked like a guy itching to take comfort in knowing that Brewer and Motley looked good this spring – and even great at times – and the offense itself followed suit.
A year ago, coming out of spring practice, Tech’s top three receivers were Demitri Knowles, Josh Stanford and Carlis Parker.

Times certainly have changed. Of that trio, only Knowles remains – and he played sparingly during the 2014 season. Stanford and Parker departed the program for unspecified reasons, and Tech also lost Willie Byrn, who graduated.

Outside of Byrn, Tech relied heavily on true freshmen Isaiah Ford and Cam Phillips last fall, and new receivers coach Zohn Burden spent the spring keeping those guys sharp, while also – and perhaps more importantly – developing depth behind them. He obviously felt he achieved that particular goal this spring.

“About eight or nine right now,” Burden said when asked how many of his receivers he felt confident in playing. “You hope to get it to 10 or 11. You want all those guys to feel like they have a role.”

That seems like a lot, but Burden came to Tech from Old Dominion, which runs a spread offense and uses a lot of receivers. Tech’s staff uses its tight ends more as receivers, but at least, according to Burden, depth started to emerge at the flanker and split end positions.

Knowles, who played just 56 plays on offense last season and caught only three passes, came out of spring practice as a backup behind Phillips. Kevin Asante, who played just 13 snaps on offense last fall, was listed as the backup behind Ford.

“Kevin Asante’s effort is improving,” Burden said. “His technique and fundamentals are improving. He’s getting his confidence back from not playing a whole lot last year and making some plays out there. He’s coming along.

“Demitri is improving. He’s a fast kid. He’s being more physical in the run game, so that is going to allow the pass game to get open, and he’s a guy that can run by you. He’s doing that out there. He’s made some big plays. These guys are coming along.”

So, too, are Deon Newsome and Jaylen Bradshaw, a redshirt freshman. Both of them battled minor injuries this spring – Newsome a hamstring, Bradshaw bruised legs. But Burden felt good about their progressions.

The wildcard in the receivers’ meeting room is Joel Caleb. Tech’s staff moved him from tailback to receiver early in spring practice, and it marks his second stint at the position. He started his career at receiver before being moved to tailback as a redshirt freshman, and he spent two seasons there in a reserve role.

“Joel is coming along tremendously,” Burden said. “He’s still learning the position. Wide receiver is a physical position here at Virginia Tech, and he’s a physical guy, so that part of it, he’s got down pat. He’s coming along.

Burden and the rest of the coaches wanted to see more physical play out of the receivers this spring. Looking back at last season, coordinator Scot Loeffler called Tech’s perimeter blocking “atrocious.” So the receivers spent a lot of time in practices working on blocking in space.

The coaches liked what they saw. Tech’s offense ripped off some big runs, particularly in the second scrimmage when Brenden Motley scored on two long touchdown runs and when fullback Steven Peoples ripped off a 60-yard touchdown run. The coaches attributed blocking on the perimeter as a prime reason for those long runs.

“I think we have,” Burden said when asked if perimeter blocking had been addressed. “That attributed to some of the bigger runs we had in the second scrimmage. Guys were blocking their butts off down field, and we hope to continue to build on that.”

Unless someone moves in from another position, this is Tech’s group of receivers. The coaches did not sign a true receiver in the 2015 recruiting class.

It is an interesting mix. Ford and Phillips combined to play 1,569 snaps on offense last season. The rest of the returning receivers combined to play just 207 – and 67 of those came from Caleb at the tailback position.

What do the Hokies have at the receiver spots? The coaches feel like they have some talent and depth. But the answer probably won’t be known until the season starts.
First group of offensive linemen strong, but Tech searching for depth
by Jimmy Robertson

Tech's offense put up some numbers this spring, and while many point to the improvement of quarterback Michael Brewer and the leadership of J.C. Coleman and the big-play capabilities of Yosuah Nijman, there is something left for fans to ponder. Does the offensive line have some mystery to it? Is it the continuity of the group that was so good?

The key to the entire group, though, was the play of Gallo, a rising sophomore who only played 14 snaps on offense last fall. After an offseason in the strength and conditioning program and hours spent watching film, he looked like a veteran at the spot.

In some ways, Gallo reminds many of former Tech great Jake Grove – a rather lofty comparison. But he wears the same number and possesses the same body frame. More importantly, he displayed similar toughness.

Gallo ended up being named one of the recipients of the Paul Torgersen Award, which goes to the newcomers of spring practice. “He came in and really studied in the offseason so that he could make the calls,” Searels said. “He understood that the center is the quarterback of the offensive line, and he has to get us all on the same page. So he studied hard, and he gives great effort. The kid has some toughness. He never says two words. I really like him.”

McLaughlin returned to the left tackle spot after starting 13 games there as a freshman. A year ago, he started nine games at right tackle before suffering a season-ending ankle injury – one that left the door open for Hansen to start three games at right tackle. Hansen played so well this spring that he earned a scholarship for his efforts.

The questions with the offensive line center on the backups. Searels juggled players around to get a better evaluation of the group, which makes sense. Of the backups, only former right tackle Durias Redman is a senior. Searels hopes to solidify some spots, but he probably came out of spring practice with more concerns than firm answers.

“Joe’s got to find some depth,” he said. “The question is: who is going to be the next center, and who is going to be the sixth guy to play? If someone twists an ankle, who is going in next? Is it Park Osterloh? Is it Durias Redman? Is it Yosuah Nijman? Is it Braxton Pfaff? Who is the next guy? That hasn’t been established yet.”

There certainly are some guys with potential in that second group, though. Tech’s staff moved Nijman, a true freshman who enrolled in January, from defensive end, and he showed a lot of promise, with a 6-foot-7 frame. Another freshman who enrolled in January, Tyrell Smith, struggled with snapping the ball as a center, but once he got the ball to the quarterback, he showed an ability to be effective in pass protection.

“The movement came when we moved Jon to left tackle. Jon went out last year [because of an ankle injury], and Wade stepped in and played quite well,” Searels said. “If you come out and have a bad day, somebody else is going to take your spot,” Searels said. “When you’ve got a good offensive line and you’ve got guys that can compete, they put pressure on that first unit to perform every day. If a guy is playing as hard as he can every day and he needs a blow, and you’ve got someone on that second unit that you trust, you can put him in. That allows everyone to play that much harder.”

Wyatt Teller

But the Hokies appear to be in solid shape on the offensive line, at least better shape than in previous years. That only adds to the excitement about the Hokies’ offensive this season.

“We like that about it is that we’ve got enough people that if you’re not performing day in and day out, somebody else is going to take your spot,” Searels said. “If you come out and have a bad day, you’re going to be on the second group the next day.”

The best part about this spring for the line was that none of the first-teamers switched positions. Searels did not move guys around, instead focusing on getting everyone at the same spot and letting the group develop cohesion. It paid off, too. Fans witnessed that when the Hokies scored touchdowns on four trips into the red zone during the Maroon-Orange game, including three on short touchdown runs in which the offensive line opened holes.

“We didn’t move guys around because we really made our switches before spring ball,” Searels said. “We had a void at center, but Eric Gallo filled that void, which allowed me to be solid at the center position. Wyatt and Angie both had played, and at times, played at a high level last year, so I didn’t have to move them around.”

The movement came when we moved Jon to left tackle. Jon went out last year [because of an ankle injury], and Wade stepped in and played quite well, so it was easier for him to do that, and Jon had some experience at left tackle. So I thought that would be the best. The continuity of that group was good.

The key to the entire group, though, was the play of Gallo, a rising sophomore who only played 14 snaps on offense last fall. After an offseason in the strength and conditioning program and hours spent watching film, he looked like a veteran at the spot.

In some ways, Gallo reminds many of former Tech great Jake Grove – a rather lofty comparison. But he wears the same number and possesses the same body frame. More importantly, he displayed similar toughness.

Gallo ended up being named one of the recipients of the Paul Torgersen Award, which goes to the newcomers of spring practice. “He came in and really studied in the offseason so that he could make the calls,” Searels said. “He understood that the center is the quarterback of the offensive line, and he has to get us all on the same page. So he studied hard, and he gives great effort. The kid has some toughness. He never says two words. I really like him.”

McLaughlin returned to the left tackle spot after starting 13 games there as a freshman. A year ago, he started nine games at right tackle before suffering a season-ending ankle injury – one that left the door open for Hansen to start three games at right tackle. Hansen played so well this spring that he earned a scholarship for his efforts.

The questions with the offensive line center on the backups. Searels juggled players around to get a better evaluation of the group, which makes sense. Of the backups, only former right tackle Durias Redman is a senior. Searels hopes to solidify some spots, but he probably came out of spring practice with more concerns than firm answers.

“Joe’s got to find some depth,” he said. “The question is: who is going to be the next center, and who is going to be the sixth guy to play? If someone twists an ankle, who is going in next? Is it Park Osterloh? Is it Durias Redman? Is it Yosuah Nijman? Is it Braxton Pfaff? Who is the next guy? That hasn’t been established yet.”

There certainly are some guys with potential in that second group, though. Tech’s staff moved Nijman, a true freshman who enrolled in January, from defensive end, and he showed a lot of promise, with a 6-foot-7 frame. Another freshman who enrolled in January, Tyrell Smith, struggled with snapping the ball as a center, but once he got the ball to the quarterback, he showed an ability to be effective in pass protection.

“The movement came when we moved Jon to left tackle. Jon went out last year [because of an ankle injury], and Wade stepped in and played quite well,” Searels said. “If you come out and have a bad day, somebody else is going to take your spot,” Searels said. “When you’ve got a good offensive line and you’ve got guys that can compete, they put pressure on that first unit to perform every day. If a guy is playing as hard as he can every day and he needs a blow, and you’ve got someone on that second unit that you trust, you can put him in. That allows everyone to play that much harder.”

Wyatt Teller

But the Hokies appear to be in solid shape on the offensive line, at least better shape than in previous years. That only adds to the excitement about the Hokies’ offensive this season.

“We like that about it is that we’ve got enough people that if you’re not performing day in and day out, somebody else is going to take your spot,” Searels said. “If you come out and have a bad day, you’re going to be on the second group the next day.”

The best part about this spring for the line was that none of the first-teamers switched positions. Searels did not move guys around, instead focusing on getting everyone at the same spot and letting the group develop cohesion. It paid off, too. Fans witnessed that when the Hokies scored touchdowns on four trips into the red zone during the Maroon-Orange game, including three on short touchdown runs in which the offensive line opened holes.

“We didn’t move guys around because we really made our switches before spring ball,” Searels said. “We had a void at center, but Eric Gallo filled that void, which allowed me to be solid at the center position. Wyatt and Angie both had played, and at times, played at a high level last year, so I didn’t have to move them around.”

The movement came when we moved Jon to left tackle. Jon went out last year [because of an ankle injury], and Wade stepped in and played quite well, so it was easier for him to do that, and Jon had some experience at left tackle. So I thought that would be the best. The continuity of that group was good.

The key to the entire group, though, was the play of Gallo, a rising sophomore who only played 14 snaps on offense last fall. After an offseason in the strength and conditioning program and hours spent watching film, he looked like a veteran at the spot.

In some ways, Gallo reminds many of former Tech great Jake Grove – a rather lofty comparison. But he wears the same number and possesses the same body frame. More importantly, he displayed similar toughness. Gallo ended up being named one of the recipients of the Paul Torgersen Award, which goes to the newcomers of spring practice. “He came in and really studied in the offseason so that he could make the calls,” Searels said. “He understood that the center is the quarterback of the offensive line, and he has to get us all on the same page. So he studied hard, and he gives great effort. The kid has some toughness. He never says two words. I really like him.”

McLaughlin returned to the left tackle spot after starting 13 games there as a freshman. A year ago, he started nine games at right tackle before suffering a season-ending ankle injury – one that left the door open for Hansen to start three games at right tackle. Hansen played so well this spring that he earned a scholarship for his efforts.

The questions with the offensive line center on the backups. Searels juggled players around to get a better evaluation of the group, which makes sense. Of the backups, only former right tackle Durias Redman is a senior. Searels hopes to solidify some spots, but he probably came out of spring practice with more concerns than firm answers.

“Joe’s got to find some depth,” he said. “The question is: who is going to be the next center, and who is going to be the sixth guy to play? If someone twists an ankle, who is going in next? Is it Park Osterloh? Is it Durias Redman? Is it Yosuah Nijman? Is it Braxton Pfaff? Who is the next guy? That hasn’t been established yet.”

There certainly are some guys with potential in that second group, though. Tech’s staff moved Nijman, a true freshman who enrolled in January, from defensive end, and he showed a lot of promise, with a 6-foot-7 frame. Another freshman who enrolled in January, Tyrell Smith, struggled with snapping the ball as a center, but once he got the ball to the quarterback, he showed an ability to be a powerful blocker, with good enough footwork to be effective in pass protection.

Searels singled out those two and a couple of others. “I think Durias Redman had a good spring,” he said. “Yosuah Nijman, in two weeks, made as much improvement as a kid could make. I think he’s got the makings of being a really, really good offensive tackle one day. Alston Smith showed some flashes and did some good things, Tyrell Smith was a mid-year guy, and he came in and showed some toughness. I liked the way he competed.

“I like that we have more bodies to compete and that we have more depth. But someone has to separate from the group to show that we can trust them to move them in with the first unit and not have a drop-off.”

This spring, Searels wants all his linemen to get bigger and stronger and remain in good shape – and more importantly, good health. Then in August, he wants to quickly find a backup center and a third tackle.
There is no question that every member of the Tech coaching staff would want the depth chart at his position to look like the depth chart at the tight ends position.

The Hokies go three deep at this spot and lose very little with any of the three in the game. The fourth figure to contribute significantly in goal-line situations and on special teams, and the fifth is a role with immense potential being melded for the future.

For sure, the spot has come a long way from a few years ago, when coach Bryan Stinespring was using converted defensive linemen, walk-ons and chewing gum to piece together a productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

For sure, the spot has come a long way from a few years ago, when coach Bryan Stinespring was using converted defensive linemen, walk-ons and chewing gum to piece together a productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.

Production shouldn’t be a problem with this unit, as Ryan Malleck, Bucky Hodges and Kalvin Cline are proven entities. Malleck and Hodges produced the most a year ago, and as a result, got used extensively and in a variety of ways this spring. Both came out of spring basically as starters, whether it be flexed out or productive position.
DEFENSIVE LINE in good shape coming out of spring ball

by Jimmy Robertson

Tech’s defensive line group resembled the running backs unit this spring – a lot of talent was standing on the sidelines.

As with the running back position, though, the coaching staff worked in a lot of young players, and by the end of spring practice, Tech’s defensive line may have been the deepest unit on the entire team. One could argue the tight ends or the running backs as having as much depth and talent, but certainly defensive line coach Charlie Wiles possesses some talent at his disposal.

Defensive tackle Luther Maddy (knee) and Corey Marshall (ankle) and defensive end Ken Ekenam (shoulde) all missed spring ball and are not listed on the depth chart on the next page. But Wiles expects those three back in the lineup this August.

This spring, he grouped Woody Baron, Nigel Williams and Seth Dooley with standout defensive end Dadi L’homme Nicolas, and that unit played fairly well, giving Wiles optimism about this fall.

“You hate to have injuries, but they were a good thing in a way,” Wiles said. “We’re about third, fourth, fifth football time, but I can tell you right now that the future is now. If we end up playing them, we end up playing them.”

Overall, the Hokies look to be in great shape on the defensive line. Perhaps no group is more important to a team’s success.

This unit played well a year ago. The expectations now are even higher.

“Our two deep right now, I think we’ve got a chance to be pretty good,” Wiles said. “I really do. But we’ve got to stay hungry and stay humble and keep working hard and always assume that somebody is trying to get your job. If we keep that kind of work ethic, then we’ve got a shot.”

Another end started to emerge toward the end of spring practice – Mihota. The redshirt freshman spent the first couple of weeks this spring at defensive tackle before Wiles started getting him some work at end.

Mihota worked his way into the rotation – somewhere. Wiles isn’t sure whether Mihota fits in at end or tackle, but he certainly rated the young man among Tech’s top eight defensive linemen.

“He just made more plays,” Wiles said. “He’s got quickness. He’s got good enough strength to bull his way through. He’s a guy who showed the most improvement this spring.

“I like what Vinny brought to the table,” Wiles said. “He’s got quickness. He’s got enough quickness to play outside [at end]. He runs OK. He’s like a Chris Drager [a former tight end and defensive end], only he’s bigger and quicker and he has more twitch than Drager. You can win with that kind of guy.

“Vinny’s within that top eight. If we started practice today, Vinny and Seth would be forward defensive ends with Ken and Dadi.”

That grouping would leave Melvin Kelvin as the fifth defensive end. Kelvin played just five snaps on defense as a true freshman a year ago after the staff moved him from backup to defensive end. He struggled at times this spring and needs a little more time at the position before he can help the team.

“He’s a bit robotic, and he takes everything literally,” Wiles said. “He’s not as instinctive as he needs to be, and that comes with reps. It’s all new to him. This was the first spring he’s had. The ideal thing would be to redshirt him, but can we do that? I don’t know.

The tackle spots are a bit more settled. Baron and Nigel Williams worked with the first team all spring, and Baron, in particular, opened some eyes.

How good was Tech’s defensive line this spring? Well, four of them won spring-concluding awards at the Maroon-Orange game. Nicolas received the President’s Award for the player on defense who exhibited outstanding leadership during the offseason program and spring workouts. Baron was the Don Williams TEAM UNITED award for the player on defense who put the team first during the coaching staff worked in a lot of young players this spring – a lot of talent was standing on the sidelines.

As with the running back position, though, the coaching staff worked in a lot of young players, and by the end of spring practice, Tech’s defensive line may have been the deepest unit on the entire team. One could argue the tight ends or the running backs as having as much depth and talent, but certainly defensive line coach Charlie Wiles possesses some talent at his disposal.

Defensive tackle Luther Maddy (knee) and Corey Marshall (ankle) and defensive end Ken Ekenam (shoulder) all missed spring ball and are not listed on the depth chart on the next page. But Wiles expects those three back in the lineup this August.

This spring, he grouped Woody Baron, Nigel Williams and Seth Dooley with standout defensive end Dadi L’homme Nicolas, and that unit played fairly well, giving Wiles optimism about this fall.

“You hate to have injuries, but they were a good thing in a way,” Wiles said. “We’re about third, fourth, fifth football time, but I can tell you right now that the future is now. If we end up playing them, we end up playing them.”

Overall, the Hokies look to be in great shape on the defensive line. Perhaps no group is more important to a team’s success.

This unit played well a year ago. The expectations now are even higher.

“Our two deep right now, I think we’ve got a chance to be pretty good,” Wiles said. “I really do. But we’ve got to stay hungry and stay humble and keep working hard and always assume that somebody is trying to get your job. If we keep that kind of work ethic, then we’ve got a shot.”

Another end started to emerge toward the end of spring practice – Mihota. The redshirt freshman spent the first couple of weeks this spring at defensive tackle before Wiles started getting him some work at end.

Mihota worked his way into the rotation – somewhere. Wiles isn’t sure whether Mihota fits in at end or tackle, but he certainly rated the young man among Tech’s top eight defensive linemen.

“He just made more plays,” Wiles said. “This is his third spring. The light bulb is going off. It’s becoming second nature, and he’s in tune with what we’re doing and what we’re teaching. He’s learned with reps. He’s 21 now, and there’s a lot of difference between 21 and 18. He was always close to making a play, always close. Well, he made those plays this spring.”

In his mind, Wiles sees Baron and Williams as backups to Maddy and Marshall heading into August practices. That leaves rising sophomore Ricky Walker and rising redshirt freshman Steve Sobczak fighting for time, along with Mihota.

Walker played as a true freshman a season ago, and Baron played as a true freshman two years ago. Could one or both take a redshirt season given the depth at the two positions?
PROJECTED STARTERS at linebacker appear set, but Hokies need depth to emerge

by Jimmy Robertson

A year ago, defensive coordinator Bud Foster – who also doubles as the linebackers coach – spent a pensive spring worrying about finding replacements for longtime starters Jack Tyler and Tariq Edwards.

This spring, his worries were flipped. He knew what he was getting in starters Andrew Motuapuaka and Deon Clarke, but he wondered about depth – and it remains a concern.

“Both Andrew and Deon had really, really good springs,” Foster said. “I thought Andrew instantly improved. He could have been one of our award winners when it was all said and done. He had that kind of spring. He just improved in all areas.”

“Deon was one of our award winners [Frank O. Moseley Award as the player on defense who exhibited the most heart during the offseason and spring workouts]. He had a really good offseason and a really good spring. I’m counting on a lot at linebacker between him and Ronny Vandyke. He’s a freshman,” Foster said. “It’s a toss-up between Jameion and Raymon.”

“Raymon Minor (6-2, 219, r-Fr.)

“Jameion was probably one of our more improved kids. He’s long, and he plays hard. He’s made big strides. He was a valuable member of our special teams last year, and it showed this spring.”

“I think Ray has a little more ability, but he’s a freshman. He’s going through the same growing pains that Jameion went through in his first spring, but he has a lot of ability. Both of those kids need to have great summers, and they’re not the only ones.”

Unproven players, however, stand behind those two on the depth chart. At backer, the situation isn’t quite as unsettling because Jameion Moss showed improvement, and Raymond Minor showed flashes of his immense potential – he had two sacks in one of the scrimmages. With that extra year of experience, Moss knows the defense better than Minor, but Minor probably possesses a higher ceiling.

“Jameion knows the defense better than Minor, but he’s a little inconsistent. He’s got some talent,” Foster said. “I still think he’s a starting linebacker. Jameion and Raymon, Foster said. “Jameion was probably one of our more improved kids. He’s long, and he plays hard. He’s made big strides. He was a valuable member of our special teams last year, and it showed this spring.”

Foster wants to see both emerge into players whom he describes as “on their way.” That means working hard in the strength and conditioning program this summer and watching hours of film.

“Jameion had the_Page_30 Hasan decided a spring back at wide receiver, and happy to have role players. When your opportunity outdoors, he’s trying to learn the defense from the shop. position. That’s his objective right now.”

Following spring practice, Tech’s staff decided to move Anthony Shegog to the whip spot. Shegog spent most of spring bounching around at defensive back between the safety spots and the nickel spot. At a glance, it appears to be a good spot for him, but he needs to learn the role.

The rest of the whip position includes walk-ons – Quinton Taylor, Johnathan Galante and Mike Wandey.

Will the Hokies play the whip linebacker more this season? It depends on the matchup. A lot of Tech’s opponents play four receivers and run fast-break offenses, but Brown believes his whip linebackers can match up with those defenses.

“That’s the way the game is going,” Brown said. “It’s more of a basketball game on turf or on grass. Physical guys that don’t have the ability to run facing smaller guys put them at a disadvantage, especially in what we do.”

“At the end of the day, you want to be a successful team, and how do you fit in making this team successful? Everybody wants to be the starter. Everybody wants to be the headliner. But for a team to be successful, you’ve got to have role players. When your opportunity comes, you have to be ready to excel.”

2015 SPRING DEPTH CHART

WHIP LINEBACKERS

37 Ronny Vandyke (6-4, 219, r-Sr.)
33 Holland Fisher (5-11, 180, r-Fr.)
34 Anthony Shegog (6-2, 212, r-Sr.)
35 Quinton Taylor (6-1, 220, r-Jr.)
42 Mike Wandey (5-11, 218, r-Sr.)
38 Johnathan Galante (5-11, 202, r-Sr.)

VANDYKE the only experienced player at whip linebacker

by Jimmy Robertson

Media managers who cover Tech, along with Hodges fan, continue to ask questions of Tech’s coaching staff about the potential elimination of the whip linebacker spot within the Hokies’ defense. Truthfully, though, the staff plays that guy more than people think.

“They’ve come to a different realm from Ronny in that he’s trying to learn the defense from the shop. position. That’s his objective right now.”

Following spring practice, Tech’s staff decided to move Anthony Shegog to the whip spot. Shegog spent most of spring bounching around at defensive back between the safety spots and the nickel spot. At a glance, it appears to be a good spot for him, but he needs to learn the role.

The rest of the whip position includes walk-ons – Quinton Taylor, Johnathan Galante and Mike Wandey.

Will the Hokies play the whip linebacker more this season? It depends on the matchup. A lot of Tech’s opponents play four receivers and run fast-break offenses, but Brown believes his whip linebackers can match up with those defenses.

“That’s the way the game is going,” Brown said. “It’s more of a basketball game on turf or on grass. Physical guys that don’t have the ability to run facing smaller guys put them at a disadvantage, especially in what we do.”

“At the end of the day, you want to be a successful team, and how do you fit in making this team successful? Everybody wants to be the starter. Everybody wants to be the headliner. But for a team to be successful, you’ve got to have role players. When your opportunity comes, you have to be ready to excel.”

A year ago, defensive coordinator Bud Foster – who also doubles as the linebackers coach – spent a pensive spring worrying about finding replacements for longtime starters Jack Tyler and Tariq Edwards.

This spring, his worries were flipped. He knew what he was getting in starters Andrew Motuapuaka and Deon Clarke, but he wondered about depth – and it remains a concern.

“Both Andrew and Deon had really, really good springs,” Foster said. “I thought Andrew instantly improved. He could have been one of our award winners when it was all said and done. He had that kind of spring. He just improved in all areas.”

“Deon was one of our award winners [Frank O. Moseley Award as the player on defense who exhibited the most heart during the offseason and spring workouts]. He had a really good offseason and a really good spring. I’m counting on a lot at linebacker between him and Ronny Vandyke. He’s a freshman,” Foster said. “It’s a toss-up between Jameion and Raymon.”

“Raymon Minor (6-2, 219, r-Fr.)

“Jameion was probably one of our more improved kids. He’s long, and he plays hard. He’s made big strides. He was a valuable member of our special teams last year, and it showed this spring.”

“I think Ray has a little more ability, but he’s a freshman. He’s going through the same growing pains that Jameion went through in his first spring, but he has a lot of ability. Both of those kids need to have great summers, and they’re not the only ones.”

Unproven players, however, stand behind those two on the depth chart. At backer, the situation isn’t quite as unsettling because Jameion Moss showed improvement, and Raymond Minor showed flashes of his immense potential – he had two sacks in one of the scrimmages. With that extra year of experience, Moss knows the defense better than Minor, but Minor probably possesses a higher ceiling.

“Jameion knows the defense better than Minor, but he’s a little inconsistent. He’s got some talent,” Foster said. “I still think he’s a starting linebacker. Jameion and Raymon, Foster said. “Jameion was probably one of our more improved kids. He’s long, and he plays hard. He’s made big strides. He was a valuable member of our special teams last year, and it showed this spring.”

Foster wants to see both emerge into players whom he describes as “on their way.” That means working hard in the strength and conditioning program this summer and watching hours of film.

“Jameion had the_Page_30 Hasan decided a spring back at wide receiver, and happy to have role players. When your opportunity outdoors, he’s trying to learn the defense from the shop. position. That’s his objective right now.”

Following spring practice, Tech’s staff decided to move Anthony Shegog to the whip spot. Shegog spent most of spring bounching around at defensive back between the safety spots and the nickel spot. At a glance, it appears to be a good spot for him, but he needs to learn the role.

The rest of the whip position includes walk-ons – Quinton Taylor, Johnathan Galante and Mike Wandey.

Will the Hokies play the whip linebacker more this season? It depends on the matchup. A lot of Tech’s opponents play four receivers and run fast-break offenses, but Brown believes his whip linebackers can match up with those defenses.

“That’s the way the game is going,” Brown said. “It’s more of a basketball game on turf or on grass. Physical guys that don’t have the ability to run facing smaller guys put them at a disadvantage, especially in what we do.”

“At the end of the day, you want to be a successful team, and how do you fit in making this team successful? Everybody wants to be the starter. Everybody wants to be the headliner. But for a team to be successful, you’ve got to have role players. When your opportunity comes, you have to be ready to excel.”

A year ago, defensive coordinator Bud Foster – who also doubles as the linebackers coach – spent a pensive spring worrying about finding replacements for longtime starters Jack Tyler and Tariq Edwards.

This spring, his worries were flipped. He knew what he was getting in starters Andrew Motuapuaka and Deon Clarke, but he wondered about depth – and it remains a concern.

“Both Andrew and Deon had really, really good springs,” Foster said. “I thought Andrew instantly improved. He could have been one of our award winners when it was all said and done. He had that kind of spring. He just improved in all areas.”

“Deon was one of our award winners [Frank O. Moseley Award as the player on defense who exhibited the most heart during the offseason and spring workouts]. He had a really good offseason and a really good spring. I’m counting on a lot at linebacker between him and Ronny Vandyke. He’s a freshman,” Foster said. “It’s a toss-up between Jameion and Raymon.”

“Raymon Minor (6-2, 219, r-Fr.)

“Jameion was probably one of our more improved kids. He’s long, and he plays hard. He’s made big strides. He was a valuable member of our special teams last year, and it showed this spring.”

“I think Ray has a little more ability, but he’s a freshman. He’s going through the same growing pains that Jameion went through in his first spring, but he has a lot of ability. Both of those kids need to have great summers – in the weight room and with the coaches. We need them. They’re a play away from being the guy, but I like both of those kids. I like their potential.”

Coming out of spring practice, two freshmen – true freshman Carolyn Lydon and redshirt freshman Trent Young – were behind Motuapuaka at mike linebacker, Lydon, a touted recruit, enrolled in January and struggled some this spring.

A player to watch at mike linebacker, though, is Sean Huelskamp, who tore his ACL last fall in the Ohio State game and missed the rest of the season. He worked in some individual drills, but saw no scrimmage work in spring practice. Foster liked what he saw last season and hopes to see Huelskamp work hard this way into the pros.

“He’s a lot farther along mentally than Caron and does some good things,” Foster said. “Carolyn is a ways away right now, but he should be because he should be a high school senior. He was a little inconsistent. He’s got to learn to trust his reads and all that, but I’m excited about his future.”

With only one senior among this group, the future looks bright. But for Foster, the future is now, and those young guys only have a couple of months left to impress before Ohio State comes to town.
Injuries create lots of moving parts in DEFENSIVE BACKFIELD this spring

by Jimmy Robertson

A few hours before the Maroon-Orange spring game, the Tech athletics department opened Hokie Village, a pregame festival spot with all sorts of entertainment for young children. Torrian Gray was not a part of that entertainment, but he probably could have performed a juggling act for the masses. He did that all spring.

Tech’s defensive backs coach spent much of the 15 allotted practices shuffling his defensive backs into different spots and trying to get a feel for what each does best, and more importantly, where they fit in best. Kendall Fuller (wrist), Jimmy Robertson and Brandon Facyson (log) missed all of spring practice with injuries – they’re not on the depth chart there.

Gray started 43 games in his career, while Jarrett started 38. More pressing concerns were filling the two safety spots. Bonner started 13 games in his career, while Jarrett started 38. A depth chart started to emerge at these two spots by the end of spring practice. C.J. Reavis, who played in 12 games as a true freshman a year ago, solidified the rover spot, with Terrill Edmunds behind him.

A depth chart started to emerge at these two spots by the end of spring practice. C.J. Reavis, who played in 12 games as a true freshman a year ago, solidified the rover spot, with Terrill Edmunds behind him.

THE RIGHT DECISION CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN THE OUTCOME.

A lot of things can happen in a football game. And in life. That’s why it’s important to know that LewisGale’s Emergency Rooms are fast, efficient and provide quality healthcare you can trust.

LewisGale ERs — the choice for Frank Beamer’s team and his family.

More pressing concerns were filling the two safety spots. Bonner started 13 games in his career, while Jarrett started 38. A depth chart started to emerge at these two spots by the end of spring practice. C.J. Reavis, who played in 12 games as a true freshman a year ago, solidified the rover spot, with Terrill Edmunds behind him. Desmond Frye was the

---

DEFENSIVE BACKS

LEFT CORNERBACKS
3 Greg Stroman (6-0, 190, Sr.)
6 Mosk Reynolds (6-0, 172, Fr.)
17 Shawn Payne (6-2, 191, r-Fr.)
12 Erick Banks (5-8, 176, r-Sr.)
13 Gabriel Reed (5-9, 156, r-Fr.)

RIGHT CORNERBACKS
19 Chuck Clark (6-0, 206, Jr.)
36 Adonis Alexander (6-3, 193, Fr.)
27 Curtis Williams (5-10, 170, r-Sr.)

NICKEL DEFENSIVE BACK
23 Der’Woun Greene (5-10, 189, r-Jr.)
6 Mosk Reynolds (6-0, 172, Fr.)

FREE SAFETIES
26 Desmond Frye (6-2, 196, r-Jr.)
2 Donovan Riley (5-11, 210, Sr.)
39 Elisha Boyd (6-0, 175, r-Fr.)

ROVERS
21 C.J. Reavis (6-1, 205, So.)
22 Terrill Edmunds (6-2, 195, r-Fr.)
16 Greg Jones (6-2, 207, r-Jr.)

---

LewisGale Regional Health System
HCA Virginia

GET THE FAST FACTS AT LEWISGALE.COM

---

Inside Hokie Sports

---

Inside.hokiesports.com

---

32 33
Kickers and returns in SOLID SHAPE heading into summer

by Jimmy Robertson

As always, Tech head coach Frank Beamer placed a lot of emphasis on special teams with his program’s spring practices, and he got an evaluation of a new face at punter this spring.

Last year’s punter, A.J. Hughes, missed spring practice after undergoing back surgery – he’s not listed in the depth chart to the right, but should be ready for August practices. Hughes’ injury left the punting duties mostly in the hands of Mitchell Ludwig, who performed some kickoff duties a year ago, and Ludwig impressed this spring.

“Ludwig had a good spring, and he’s a very capable punter,” Beamer said. “I really expect competition between him and A.J. next fall. He has all summer to work on it – I could see him being a factor. I always like it when we’ve got competition.”

At the placekicker spot, Joey Slye returned after a freshman campaign in which he made 20 of 28 field-goal attempts, and he also kicked off 27 times. Beamer said Slye was the best kicker this spring, but also liked the way that Carson Wise and Michael Santamaria pushed him, particularly as they all battle for kickoff duties.

“It’s [the battle to do kickoffs] been Slye and Ludwig, but Wise has gotten stronger and deeper,” Beamer said. “He’s a little guy, but he’s improved his strength and his length. Santamaria is a kickoff guy who is the most exact in placing the ball. If you can get it in the end zone, you want to go ahead and kick it in the end zone, but if you can’t or you’re going to line drive it, I’d rather position it and set the coverage.

“We’re really fortunate that we’ve got a lot of good kickers. The competition is really good.”

In the return game, Beamer expects the Hokies to be better this upcoming season. Greg Struman returns after a freshman year in which he averaged 6.9 yards per return, and he returned one 88 yards for a touchdown in the spring game.

“He wants to be back there,” Beamer said. “He wants to take the ball and go, and that’s what you want back there. I would hope that that part of the game would continue to improve. With the formations going the way they’re going … I think the drawback is their [the opponents’] ability to cover kicks. It’s harder to block a kick, but easier to cover kicks. It’s the quickest way to win a game,” he said.

In the return game, Beamer expects the Hokies to be better this upcoming season. Greg Struman returns after a freshman year in which he averaged 6.9 yards per return, and he returned one 88 yards for a touchdown in the spring game.

“He wants to be back there,” Beamer said. “He wants to take the ball and go, and that’s what you want back there. I would hope that that part of the game would continue to improve. With the formations going the way they’re going … I think the drawback is their [the opponents’] ability to cover kicks. It’s harder to block a kick, but easier to return a kick. So we’re going to work hard and try to get our return game to be a weapon.”

Beamer said he liked what he saw out of Travon Mckinlion, who was among a group of candidates for the kickoff return job. J.C. Coleman and Trey Edmunds were in that group, along with fullback Edmunds were in that group, along with fullback Mitchell Ludwig (5-11, 194, Jr.), and Michael Santamaria (5-9, 168, Fr.), but Wise has gotten stronger and deeper,” Beamer said. “He’s a little guy, but he’s improved his strength and his length. Santamaria is a kickoff guy who is the most exact in placing the ball. If you can get it in the end zone, you want to go ahead and kick it in the end zone, but if you can’t or you’re going to line drive it, I’d rather position it and set the coverage.

“We’re really fortunate that we’ve got a lot of good kickers. The competition is really good.”

In the return game, Beamer expects the Hokies to be better this upcoming season. Greg Struman returns after a freshman year in which he averaged 6.9 yards per return, and he returned one 88 yards for a touchdown in the spring game.

“He wants to be back there,” Beamer said. “He wants to take the ball and go, and that’s what you want back there. I would hope that that part of the game would continue to improve. With the formations going the way they’re going … I think the drawback is their [the opponents’] ability to cover kicks. It’s harder to block a kick, but easier to cover kicks. It’s the quickest way to win a game,” he said.

In the return game, Beamer expects the Hokies to be better this upcoming season. Greg Struman returns after a freshman year in which he averaged 6.9 yards per return, and he returned one 88 yards for a touchdown in the spring game.

“He wants to be back there,” Beamer said. “He wants to take the ball and go, and that’s what you want back there. I would hope that that part of the game would continue to improve. With the formations going the way they’re going … I think the drawback is their [the opponents’] ability to cover kicks. It’s harder to block a kick, but easier to cover kicks. It’s the quickest way to win a game,” he said.
Woodcock and Kelsey Mericka hardly know each other, but they certainly have big plans for their futures.

Woodcock, a starting pitcher on Tech’s baseball team, will be pursuing a master’s degree in industrial and systems engineering next fall, while Mericka, the starting third baseman on the softball squad, will spend the next academic year wrapping up coursework toward a degree in industrial and systems engineering and finishing classes on minor in marketing management and statistics.

Their academic successes, along with their success on the field and in the community, led to both receiving the 2015 Skelton Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics – the highest designation handed out by the Tech athletics department. Both received the honor at the annual Athletics Director’s Honor Breakfast held April 26 at the Inn at Virginia Tech.

Woodcock, a native of Marietta, Georgia, is a two-time member of the All-ACC Academic Softball Team and a two-time member of the ACC Academic Honor Roll. Her original plan called for graduating this spring with a degree in industrial and systems engineering, but she then the labrum in her shoulder a year ago and missed all of last season. Thus, she took a redshirt year, giving her another year of eligibility.

Mericka, a native of Ojai, California – north of Los Angeles – took a rather circuitous route to Virginia Tech. He started his career at Arkansas, where he didn’t play, and then transferred to a junior college in Missouri, where he spent a year before signing with the Hokies.

Woodcock’s coursework at his previous two stops led to him pursuing a psychology degree at Tech – and he graduated in mid-May. With a year of eligibility left, he wanted to take advantage of the opportunity. He researched graduate degrees at Tech and saw that the industrial and systems engineering department accepted those applying for a master’s with psychology degrees. So he applied, and now he plans on pursuing a master’s degree in that field.

Mericka, a native of Ojai, California – north of Los Angeles – took a rather circuitous route to Virginia Tech. He started his career at Arkansas, where he didn’t play, and then transferred to a junior college in Missouri, where he spent a year before signing with the Hokies.

Woodcock, who sports a 3.86 ERA in nine starts with 61 strikeouts in 65.1 innings, made the All-ACC Academic Team a year ago and figures to make it again when the ACC announces it later this spring. He often participates in the team’s Way Events – an initiative designed to help others within the community – and he recently helped with Special Olympics and read to children at elementary schools in Christiansburg and Radford.

Woodcock credited his parents, Chris and Stacey, for keeping him grounded as a kid and for making sure he stayed focused on his academics.

“I’ve always done pretty well in school,” he said. “I have a pretty good memory, and I’ve been able to memorize stuff I need for exams. My parents always pushed me to do as well as I could in school. They don’t like school slack or procrastinators, so they emphasized being organized and having a schedule and taking advantage of all the time I have and not wasting time, so that I could get ahead.”

Other student-athletes recognized at the AD’s Honor Breakfast included the more than 300 who achieved a grade-point average of 3.50 or better during one or both semesters in the preceding calendar year.

The department also recognized Courtney Dobbs from the cross country and track and field teams and Devin Carter from the wrestling squad as its ACC Female and Male Scholar-Athletes of the Year. Respectively. Dobbs, a native of Glen Allen, Virginia, holds a degree in accounting and is wrapping up a second degree in finance. Carter, a native of Christiansburg, Virginia, owns a degree in psychology, is getting a master’s in instructional design and technology and plans on pursuing a doctoral degree in industrial organizational psychology starting next fall.

In addition, the athletics department recognized its Scholastic Athletes of the Year, an honor that goes to those with the highest GPA in their sport. This year’s list of honorees included Alexandria Watt (women’s cross country), Maggie Mitchell (HOF/Track), Shannon Zehnder and Katie Yenen (woman’s soccer), Michelle Prong (equestrian), Kristen Lee (women’s track and field) and Brad Gross (video).
Hanna Green wasn’t well known in recruiting circles coming out of high school, but the Tech sophomore is starting to attract a lot of attention thanks to her performances with the Hokies’ track and field and cross country teams by Marc Mullen

Who is Hanna Green? Seriously, who is HANNA GREEN?

Yes, this article will help introduce the Virginia Tech sophomore out of Latrobe, Pennsylvania, to Hokie Nation, but those in the track and field world are probably asking themselves that very question.

Green was not a highly recruited athlete coming out of high school, and that was justified because she was only once a district champion in the 400-meter run and never finished higher than fifth at the state meet during her career at Greater Latrobe High.

However, Green has turned a high school personal best of 2 minutes, 16.39 seconds in the 800-meter run into an incredible collegiate career so far, all in less than two full seasons. She’s already earned a pair of All-America nods, won an ACC indoor title (defeating a defending national champion in the process), finished as an ACC runner-up and established five school records (three individual and two relays).

In her most recent 800-meter race, one at the Payton Jordan Invitational held in Palo Alto, California, on May 2, she posted a qualifying time for the 2016 U.S. Olympic Trails – a 2:02.62, which broke the school record again and is the second-fastest time in the nation (as of Inside Hokies Sports’ deadline).

“As a freshman, it was like she had no idea or expectations of what she was going to do,” said Ben Thomas, Tech’s head cross country and distance coach. “By indoor at the ACCs, she was really, really good. But the way she went out and won the 800-meter title this year, against a defending national champion, she was … whether she just keeps that all in, but from the outside, she just seemed remarkably calm. And in a sense, there was less pressure, too, because she wasn’t a favorite even though she had finished second the year before and the other girl [Clemson’s Natoya Goule] had been a national champion.

“She had run some nice times, so I don’t think people were totally overlooking her, but for her to win the title was impressive. She’s got that. That’s a go out and see what I can do. I think she understands that. And from the outside, she was just, ‘Hey, let’s go out and see what I can do. I think she understands that. Even though she ran as fast as she did at Stanford and it was awesome to do that as a sophomore, there are still women out there running faster, and she wants to go get those people. That’s pretty rare to see in that much talent, a willingness to go out of her comfort zone to get what she wants.’

“So how did a girl born and raised in Latrobe – most famous for being the home of the Latrobe Brewery (the original brewer of Rolling Rock beer), the hometown of pro golfer Arnold Palmer, the childhood home of actor Fred Rogers and the training camp for the Pittsburgh Steelers – become one of the fastest 800-meter runners in the country?

“It’s more what she’s been willing to bring to the table in terms of the willingness to go out of what she has done before, what she knew before,” Thomas said. “She has trained a lot more like a sprinter in high school, even though she had done cross country, it certainly wasn’t at a high level.

“As a high school runner, she had some performances that caught my eye, knowing that she had that kind of 400-meter speed. But what she has brought is the willingness to train like a Division I cross country runner, and in her willingness to do that and do it as consistently as she has, that’s what really makes her special. She’s durable and has a durable mindset to work hard and do something that’s not never done before.”

Hanna Green Green isn’t well known in recruiting circles coming out of high school, but the Tech sophomore is starting to attract a lot of attention thanks to her performances with the Hokies’ track and field and cross country teams.

Continued on page 40
Track & Field Spotlight | Hanna Green

Continued from page 39

“My parents really never forced me into anything,” Green said. “My mom used to play volleyball for fun, and both of them played sports in high school, but nothing more than that. They would just let me choose whatever I wanted to do, and they would just support me in whatever I wanted to do.

“I actually started running because my friend who I played soccer with was going to join the cross country team, and so I did it mostly to be with my friends. Then I realized that I was good at it, and I just kept doing it and ended up liking it a lot.”

When Green got to high school, she faced the challenge of having a different coach for all three sports seasons – cross country, indoor track and outdoor track. She was so good at many different distances that the coaches put her in as many events as they could. She normally ran four events at each meet – usually two relays (the 4x800 and the 4x400) and two individual races (the 400 and 800). She normally ran four events at each meet – usually two relays (the 4x800 and the 4x400) and two individual races (the 400 and 800).

“Also, we didn’t have a middle-distance group. I would be said. “I actually started running because my friend who I played soccer with was going to join the cross country team, and so I did it mostly to be with my friends. Then I realized that I was good at it, and I just kept doing it and ended up liking it a lot.”

When Green got to high school, she faced the challenge of having a different coach for all three sports seasons – cross country, indoor track and outdoor track. She was so good at many different distances that the coaches put her in as many events as they could. She normally ran four events at each meet – usually two relays (the 4x800 and the 4x400) and two individual races (the 400 and 800). She normally ran four events at each meet – usually two relays (the 4x800 and the 4x400) and two individual races (the 400 and 800). She normally ran four events at each meet – usually two relays (the 4x800 and the 4x400) and two individual races (the 400 and 800).

“I’m kind of a go-with-the-flow type of person, and they [my parents] had no idea what to do,” Green said. “But I immediately eliminated a lot of schools because they didn’t offer my major. The major was the most important thing for me, and it was hard to find schools because my major is very limited in places.

“When Coach Thomas contacted me, it was definitely surprising and exciting. There were other Division I schools that I was talking to, and I was indifferent as to where I would go, but when I saw that they had it [interior design as a major] here, I started looking at Tech more. This was actually the only school I officially visited and applied to.”

Green stepped foot on campus in the fall of 2013, and by the end of the 2014 outdoor track and field season, she had already earned a silver medal at the ACC Indoor Championships in the 800 and was an All-American in same event at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

She became the first true freshman at the school since 2007 to earn All-America honors on the track and just the fourth female. The first was Kristin Price in 2003 (5,000, indoor; 5,000, outdoor) followed by the Kristi Castillo (90-meter hurdles, indoor; 100-meter hurdles, outdoor) and Queen Harrison (100-meter hurdles, outdoor; 400-meter hurdles, outdoor) in 2007.

“When I was looking at the school, I was definitely doubting myself a little bit, because when I was looking at the times the girls were running, they were at 2:05, 2:08, and I was nowhere near the times they were running,” Green said. “I came in and I thought I could drop my time to 2:10 in my first year, maybe a little lower. After my first race here, I think I ran a 2:08 in a relay, and I was just like, ‘Wow!’ That was eight seconds faster than my personal record.

So it was just exciting going through the season, and I was surprised because I would never have expected to make nationals as a freshman.”

This season, Green became just the second sophomore (or younger) track student-athlete to win an ACC indoor title since Patrice Potts took gold in the 60-meter dash at the 2007 ACC Championships. Considering the field in the 800-meter race, it was truly a remarkable accomplishment. Green swept the 800 at both the NCAA indoor and outdoor meets in 2013 as a member of LSU’s women’s track team, a first in that school’s history, and the Hokies’ Amanda Smith, the reigning ACC 800-meter indoor champion, was also in the field.

In the race, which was being held at Rector Field House on the Tech campus, Goole – who transferred to Clemson after one season at LSU! – was in front with a lap to go (2000 meters), while Green was in fourth. However, Green used a powerful kick in the last 50 meters to edge Goole by 14-hundredths of a second. The top four finishers all stopped the clock within a second of each other. Green’s time of 2:03.43 set both an ACC Championships record and the Rector Field House record.

“Everyone kept telling me that I could do it, and I was obviously going to try my best, but everything just worked out that day, and I passed her in, like, the last 10 meters,” Green said. “To win that was really surprising, but to have it at home and have everyone cheering for you, just slamming on the track, was amazing. My parents were there, and they were cheering me on as well, so that was helpful.

“My approach to the race was to sit on her until the end and then kick at the end if I could, and I was in fourth until the last 50 meters. I just wanted to stay in the top pack, and then when it came down to the end, I just kicked and finished as fast as I could.”

Green followed her ACC title with her second All-America honor when she placed fifth at the NCAA Indoor Championships held in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She had to race Goole in both the preliminaries and the finals, and the Tiger ultimately defended her crown, getting the best of Green in both. But Green still set a personal record by a quarter of a second.

The ACC Outdoor Championships were held on May 14-16 in Tallahassee, Florida (after Inside Hokie Sports’ deadline) and were to be followed by the NCAA East Regionals in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 28-30 and the NCAA Championships in Eugene, Oregon, on June 10-13.

“My goals for the rest of the year are to win ACCs again, but I think it will be harder this time because she [Goole] knows me now,” Green said a week before the event. “I think, indoors, she didn’t really know I was going to be there, but she knows this time, and I think she’s going to take the race out really hard.

‘But I’d like to win that, and I’ve already qualified for regionals, but I’d like to qualify for nationals and then place better than I did last year (13th) or actually better than I did at indoors this year (fifth). I’m also planning to run at the USA Championships in [late June].”

Hokie Nation has now a little more knowledge on the latest phenom in Tech Director of Track and Field and Cross Country Dave Cianelli’s program. So, too, does Goole.

As for the rest of those in the track world, it’s time to start paying attention. Hanna Green is rapidly on her way to becoming a household name.”
Kids pick various sports to play based on a number of reasons. Some simply like the sport. Others like being outside and simply running around. Many like being around a bunch of their friends. Kelsey Mericka chose softball for more important reasons.

“I liked the cheers,” she said, smiling. “I also liked the popsicles you got after the game.”

Then she chuckled, “There were a lot of external factors that I liked when I was younger.”

Fortunately those things kept her involved in a sport in which she now practically dominates as a college player. The Hokies’ starting third baseman, Mericka is hitting .275 in this, her redshirt junior season, and has cranked 16 home runs (as of Inside Hokie Sports’ deadline), tying the school’s single-season mark. More importantly, paced by her, the Hokies appear to be on the cusp of a fourth straight NCAA regional appearance.

Mericka, a native of Kennesaw, Georgia, has started every game in which she has played in her collegiate career – 139 heading into the ACC Championship. That makes her a rarity in college athletics, regardless of the sport.

She seems to be a natural at this sport, but don’t let the ease in which she plays fool you. She divulged a startling revelation – she wasn’t a very good player as a kid.

“I think I started in slow-pitch softball when I was 6 and then made the transition to fast-pitch when I was 10. When I was 10, I wasn’t very good at all,” Mericka said. “I was a base runner, honestly. I couldn’t throw. I was small. I had a very small build when I was younger, so I could bunt, and I was quick. I would always lay down a swinging bunt and get on, and that would be my contribution. My skills weren’t there.

“My coach loved me, but he wanted to win, and I wasn’t going to help us win unless I was running.”

Her coach, though, put her in touch with someone who could spend more time with her to help her advance her skills. That marked the turning point in Mericka’s evolution from pinch runner to big-time player.

This coach, Phil Berry, who now is the head softball coach at Harding University in Arkansas, worked with her on throwing, hitting and catching. He ultimately moved her to the catcher spot, and Mericka took to the position. She liked calling pitches and running the show.

Her mother, Jacqueline, also played a role. Now Jacqueline Mericka-Brand, she was a great player in her own right, and she organized private hitting lessons with Don McKinley, whom Mericka still visits when she returns home. She also called the pitchers’ parents to organize impromptu gatherings between the pitchers and her daughter.

“Life hasn’t always been easy for softball standout Kelsey Mericka, but Tech’s starting third baseman has managed to be successful on the field and a superstar in the classroom”

By Jimmy Robertson

Kelsey Mericka on why she liked playing softball as a kid

“

I liked the cheers.
I also liked the popsicles you got after the game. There were a lot of external factors that I liked when I was younger.

– Kelsey Mericka on why she liked playing softball as a kid

Continued on page 44

Inside Hokie Sports
I would catch them for repetitions to get better at catching,” Mericka said. “It was a free way for me to practice.

Life, though, wasn’t always softball and popsicles. Her childhood received a jolt at the age of 7 when she found out that her father, Michael Mericka, had been diagnosed with brain cancer.

The real bombshell came a year later, when he died. Mericka, had been diagnosed with brain cancer.

When our clients engage us, they receive the benefit of working with an entire team. Each member of the team has a specific area of expertise, which allows our clients to access the talents and experience of each of our specialists.

Employment Opportunities: We’re always looking for specialists to join our team. Looking for more? Contact Todd at Hearp, Todd@hfinsurance.com

Todd J. Hearp is a Registered Representative and Investment Advisor. Representatives of, and advisory and investment advisory services offered solely by Equity Services, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC.

4401 Starkey Road • Roanoke, VA • 24018
Phone: 540-989-4600 • Fax: 540-989-0109 • Email: Hearp_Todd@nvlma.com
website: www.nfservicesinc.com

When our clients engage us, they receive the benefit of working with an entire team. Each member of the team has a specific area of expertise, which allows our clients to access the talents and experience of each of our specialists.

When our clients engage us, they receive the benefit of working with an entire team. Each member of the team has a specific area of expertise, which allows our clients to access the talents and experience of each of our specialists.

PROUDLY SERVING THE HOKIE NATION SINCE 1981

Come see why we’ve been the area’s hometown bank of choice for over a century. Our hometown approach of personalized service, no-consumer accounts, and 25 convenient locations is backed up by over 120 years of financial strength and safety. Join our team today!

National Bank
Buzz Williams’ 2014-15 squad lacked size inside, both in terms of height and girth, but the Hokies’ head coach addressed that this spring, signing a seven-footer during the spring signing period, which ran for a couple of weeks in April. Johnny Hamilton, a 7-foot, 215-pound post player from Trinidad and Tobago, joined the Hokies’ program after signing his letter-of-intent. Hamilton played two seasons at Jacksonville College, a junior college in Elk, Texas. As a sophomore, he averaged nine points and 8.9 rebounds per game, and he shot 61.7 percent from the field for the season.

Johnny Hamilton, a junior college basketball player from Trinidad and Tobago, joined the Hokies program after signing his letter-of-intent.

Hamilton also had 112 blocked shots for the Jaguars and was among the leaders nationally in blocked shots, averaging 4.3 blocked shots per game. He had a career-best 18 points and 19 rebounds to go along with five blocked shots in a February victory over Anglina College. Jacksonville, which finished the season 19-12 overall, competes in the Texas Eastern Conference (TEC), one of the top junior college conferences in the nation.

“We are excited to add another member to our 2015 class,” Williams said in a statement with the release announcing Hamilton’s signing. “Johnny is still young to the game, but he has a high ceiling for improvement. More importantly, he has the character and work ethic to get there. As a former student manager in the TEC, I know that he has been well-coached the past two years and has played in one of the best JUCO leagues in the country.”

Hamilton will become the first seven-footer in the Hokies’ program since Luke Minor signed with Tech out of Hagerstown Community College in Hagerstown, Maryland, for the 2002-03 season. The 7-3 Minor, a Richmond, Virginia, native, spent just one season in Blacksburg and played in seven games. He scored just eight points and grabbed seven rebounds that season in what turned out to be then-coach Ricky Stokes’ final year.

Hamilton became the fourth signee in Williams’ second class – a class ranked No. 24 nationally by 247Sports, No. 30 nationally by Rivals and No. 33 nationally by ESPN.com. Chris Clarke, a 6-6, 185-pound forward from Orlando, Florida, was the top recruit in the class. He played in the Florida vs. USA game, an all-star game pitting prospects from Florida versus prospects from the rest of the country as part of the state’s Senior Showcase All-Star Weekend back in April. He scored 10 points in the game and made the All-Showcase team.

With the addition of these four, Tech’s roster next season – barring any departures – will feature five sophomores, four freshmen, three juniors and two seniors (one walk-on). Hamilton joined Chris Clarke, a 6-6, 170-pound point guard from Manassas, Virginia, native, spent just one season in Maryland after averaging 22.2 points, 13.3 rebounds, 5.3 assists and 3.4 blocked shots per game for St. James School. He led the team with the release announcing Hamilton’s signing.

Hamilton will become the first seven-footer in the Hokies’ program since Luke Minor signed with Tech out of Hagerstown Community College in Hagerstown, Maryland.
LIVE ACROSS FROM CAMPUS!  PHASE II NOW LEASING!

HEATED POOL!

the EDGE
apartment homes

321 Edge Way | Blacksburg | vtcampusedge.com
(540) 552-EDGE (3343) | theedge@cmgleasing.com

- Fully furnished apartments & townhomes
- Individual leases & utilities included
- Private bathroom & walk-in closets in every bedroom
- Washer/dryer in each home
- Club inspired Fitness Center & Yoga Room
- Resident lounge with billiard tables, game room & tanning beds
- High-tech study & collaboration areas with video conferencing
- Covered bike storage, picnic areas and sand volleyball

PHASE I OPENING THIS FALL!
PHASE II OPENING MAY 2015!

On Tom’s Creek Road & Prices Fork Road.

Proud Partner of VT Athletics
CMG LEASING

Professionally Managed by