

2009 VMI FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

# COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH SPARKY WOODS • 22

ASSISTANT COACHES • 24



# Head Coach Sparky Woods



**Sparky Woods**  
*Second Season*

Sparky Woods enters his second season as head coach of the VMI football program after guiding the Keydets with a steady hand in his debut year.

In 2008, the Keydets continued to make necessary strides to compete at a high level in the Big South Conference.

They doubled their season win total from the previous year, coming up with the most victories since 2003. Offensively, the spread option rolled up record numbers of yardage while leading all of FCS on the ground. Defensively, the Keydets adjusted to a new 3-4 alignment and are progressing towards making the pieces fit.

No stranger to building successful programs, Woods brings a wealth of football coaching experience at the highest level to the Keydets. His outlook and approach to the game mesh perfectly with the Institute's mission of producing outstanding individuals in society.

Woods became the 30th head football coach in the Institute's 117-year history on February 12, 2008, bringing 10 years of head coaching experience at both the FBS (I-A) level and FCS (I-AA) level, including four years at South Carolina and five seasons at

Appalachian State.

"I was very optimistic when we hired Sparky Woods because he had been successful as a head college football coach," said VMI Athletic Director Donny White. "I am even more optimistic now that I have

*"I was very optimistic when we hired Sparky Woods because he had been successful as a head college football coach. I am impressed not only with his football experiences and knowledge of the game, but for his attention to detail, practice and game management, as well as his strong leadership."*

*-VMI Athletic Director Donny White*

seen him work at VMI. First of all, he has great character and he is a good fit here. I am impressed not only with his football experiences and knowledge of the game, but for his attention to detail, practice and game

management, as well as his strong leadership."

Woods, 55, returned to the FCS (I-AA) ranks where he produced a successful run as head coach of Appalachian State for five seasons from 1984 through 1988. Woods guided the Mountaineers to a 38-19-2 mark and two Southern Conference titles (1986, 1987) and two I-AA playoff appearances. Over the two-year span in '86-'87, Appalachian State posted a perfect 13-0 conference mark.

The Southern Conference tabbed Woods as Coach of the Year for three consecutive years (1985-87) and he was also named Kodak Region II Coach of the Year in 1986. As a head coach overall, Woods holds a 67-53-5 mark.





"I think we've made positive movement in our first year and we're making progress in improving on both sides of the ball," said Woods. "I think this year is going to be a great opportunity. Everyone with the program is excited about the coming season."

Prior to accepting the VMI position, Woods served as running backs coach at Alabama from 2003 through 2006. While in Tuscaloosa, Woods coached Tide running back Kenneth Darby to two consecutive 1,000 yard seasons and also mentored Shaud Williams, who led the SEC in rushing yardage in 2003 and was a semifinalist for the Doak Walker award. The Tide also led the SEC in rushing for three consecutive seasons (2003, 2004, 2005).

Woods was also head coach at South Carolina from 1989-93, and later served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Memphis (1995-96), Virginia (1997-98), and Mississippi State (1999-02). At Virginia, Woods tutored NFL QB Aaron Brooks, who finished as the school's third all-time leading passer (5,118 yds.) and second all-time leader in passing TD's (33). While at MSU, Woods coached MSU's all-time passing leader, Wayne Madkin, and help establish record-setting offenses for the Bulldogs.

As an assistant coach, Woods participated in five bowl games; the 2006 Cotton Bowl, 2004 Music City Bowl, 2000 Independence Bowl, 1999 Peach Bowl, and 1998 Peach Bowl. In 1994, Woods served as an offensive assistant for the New York Jets.

Woods is a 1976 graduate of Carson-Newman and began his coaching career at Tennessee later that year. In 1977, he moved to Kansas before serving one year as defensive backs coach at North Alabama in 1978. From 1979-82 he coached at Iowa State, handling the receivers, before joining Appalachian State in 1983 as offensive coordinator, quarterbacks, and running backs coach under Mack Brown. One year later, Woods was named head coach at Appalachian State.

Woods and his wife, Jean Ann, reside in Lexington and have two children, a son, Casey (26) who is on the football coaching staff at Auburn, and a daughter, Emily (21) who is a senior at Alabama.

# The Woods File

## COACHING CAREER:

Yr.	Team	Record	Coaching Role	Postseason
1976	Tennessee	6-5	Assistant Coach	
1977	Kansas	3-7-1	Assistant Coach	
1978	North Alabama	7-2-1	Assistant Coach	
1979	Iowa State	3-8	Assistant Coach	
1980	Iowa State	6-5	Assistant Coach	
1981	Iowa State	5-5-1	Assistant Coach	
1982	Iowa State	4-6-2	Assistant Coach	
1983	Appalachian State	6-5	Assistant Coach	
1984	Appalachian State	4-7	Head Coach	
1985	Appalachian State	8-3	Head Coach	
1986	Appalachian State	9-2-1	Head Coach	I-AA Playoffs (SoCon Champs)
1987	Appalachian State	11-3	Head Coach	I-AA Semifinals (SoCon Champs)
1988	Appalachian State	6-4-1	Head Coach	
1989	South Carolina	6-4-1	Head Coach	
1990	South Carolina	6-5	Head Coach	
1991	South Carolina	3-6-2	Head Coach	
1992	South Carolina	5-6	Head Coach	
1993	South Carolina	5-6	Head Coach	
1994	New York Jets	6-10	Assistant Coach	
1995	Memphis	3-8	Offensive Coord.	
1996	Memphis	4-7	Offensive Coord.	
1997	Virginia	7-4	Offensive Coord.	
1998	Virginia	9-3	Offensive Coord.	Peach Bowl
1999	Mississippi State	10-2	Offensive Coord.	Peach Bowl Champions
2000	Mississippi State	8-4	Offensive Coord.	Independence Bowl Champs.
2001	Mississippi State	3-8	Offensive Coord.	
2002	Mississippi State	3-9	Offensive Coord.	
2003	Alabama	4-9	Assistant Coach	
2004	Alabama	6-6	Assistant Coach	Music City Bowl
2005	Alabama	10-2	Assistant Coach	Cotton Bowl Champions
2006	Alabama	6-7	Assistant Coach	Insight Bowl
2008	VMI	4-7	Head Coach	

**67-53-5 Career Head Coaching Record (12 seasons)**

## COACHING HONORS:

- 1985 Southern Conference Coach of the Year
- 1986 Southern Conference Coach of the Year
- 1986 Kodak Region II Coach of the Year
- 1987 Southern Conference Coach of the Year

## PLAYING CAREER:

- Carson-Newman College 1973-76
- Quarterback and Defensive Back

## PERSONAL:

- Born:** December 20, 1953, Oneida, Tenn.
- Family:** Wife -Jean Ann; Son - Casey (25); Daughter- Emily (21)



INTRO

THIS IS VMI

PREVIEW

COACHES

PLAYER BIOS

OPPOSITION

STAFF

RECORDS

MEDIA

## Bob Bodine

- ◆ Tulane '93
- ◆ Fourth Season
- ◆ Offensive Line



The upcoming 2009 season will mark Bob Bodine's fourth season in Lexington, as he continues to coach the Keydets' offensive line.

For the past three seasons, Bodine has supervised the Keydet offensive line, a unit that helped VMI pace not only the Big South in rushing from 2006-2008, but lead the nation in rushing during 2008.

Bodine has prior ties to the current Keydet coaching staff, having served with offensive coordinator Brent Davis at Georgia Southern University for six seasons. While at Georgia Southern from 1997 through 2002, Bodine worked with the defensive line for two seasons before taking charge of the Eagle outside linebackers in 1999, wide receivers for 2000 and 2001 and slotbacks in 2002.

A two-year starter and three-year letterwinner at offensive guard, Bodine earned his B.A. in Psychology at Tulane University in 1993. He earned Tulane's Ben Weiner Inspiration Award for 1993.

Bodine began his coaching career at his alma mater and assisted with the Green Wave offensive line and long snappers over a three-season span.

A native of Hazleton, Pa., Bodine also served as offensive line coach at Jackson State for two years and was slotbacks coach for one season at Bethune-Cookman.

Bodine is married to the former Joy Elizabeth Jacoway and the couple resides in Lexington.



## A.J. Christoff

- ◆ Idaho
- ◆ Second Season
- ◆ Def. Coordinator



A.J. Christoff enters his second season at the Institute with an impressive coaching career that includes stops as a defensive assistant at some of the top college programs in the nation. He has coached at 11 universities around the country and was defensive coordinator for over 20 years, including

stops at Idaho, Oregon, Stanford, Notre Dame, Colorado, and Cincinnati.

Christoff will once again handle defensive coordinator responsibilities for the Keydets and will also work closely with and supervise the secondary.

Christoff has coached on teams that have appeared in a combined 11 bowl games at Notre Dame, Alabama, UCLA, Colorado, and Cincinnati.

As a defensive coordinator, Christoff's defenses ranked in the Top 20 ten times. In two seasons as defensive coordinator at Cincinnati (2001-02), the Bearcats earned trips to the 2001 Motor City Bowl and 2002 New Orleans Bowl.

Christoff has coached on conference championship teams in four different conferences, the Pac-10 (UCLA, 1994), SEC (Alabama, 1989), and Conference USA (Cincinnati, 2002), and Big Sky (Idaho).

Christoff also served as assistant coach in the NFL ranks coaching the San Francisco 49ers secondary in 2005 between stints at Stanford.

A native of Ritzville, Wash., Christoff earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Biology from Idaho and a Masters Degree in health education from Oregon State. He and his wife, Susan, have two children, Rob, linebackers coach at Idaho, and Andrea, a pediatrician.



## Brent Davis

- ◆ Georgia '97
- ◆ Fourth Season
- ◆ Off. Coordinator



Brent Davis returns for his fourth season as the Keydets' offensive coordinator, where he has been the architect of VMI's record-setting spread option attack.

Davis has played key roles for the program, including serving as interim head coach prior to the 2008 season, when he helped sign 19 new players to the VMI roster and earned the Institute's Distinguished Coaching Award for his efforts.

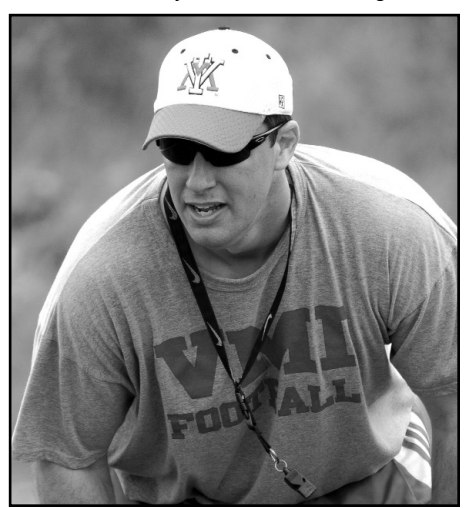
The Keydets have led the Big South in rushing each of his three seasons as offensive coordinator, including their conference-record 357.5 YPG in 2008, a mark that also led the nation.

Davis coached the offensive line at Georgia Southern from 2002-05 and his unit helped GSU to three consecutive I-AA rushing titles (386.2 ypg in 2002, 335.6 ypg in 2003, and 370 ypg in 2004). Three Eagles reached All-America status under Davis' tutelage.

Prior to taking over offensive line responsibilities at GSU, Davis coached Georgia Southern's running backs and worked with Walter Payton Award winner and Chicago Bears back Adrian Peterson in 1998 and 1999.

Davis, an Athens, Ga. native, played two seasons at The Citadel under Charlie Taaffe in 1992 and 1993. Davis transferred to Georgia his junior year, where he lettered and also earned a spot on the Academic All-SEC Honor Roll in his senior year. Davis graduated from Georgia in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in business management.

Davis and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Lexington.





## Greg Harris

- ◆ VMI '97
- ◆ Third Season
- ◆ Outside Linebackers



Greg Harris enters his third season as a VMI assistant coach.

Harris, the only VMI alum on this year's Keydet staff, is charged with coaching the team's outside linebackers.

In addition, he assists with video analysis and various other projects within the program. Harris also helped coach former VMI standout Tommy Lloyd to first-team all-conference and second-team all-VaSID honors following the 2007 season.

A 1997 graduate of VMI with a B.A. in Business and Economics, Harris was a four-year letterman and three-year starter with the Keydets and had the reputation as one of the team's best blockers in Coach Bill Stewart's two-tight end alignment that helped running back Thomas Haskins set a new Division I-AA career rushing mark.

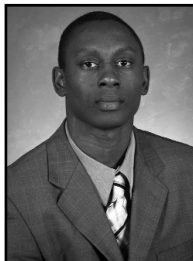
As a receiver, Harris was equally effective, as he caught 47 passes for 431 yards and three touchdowns during his Keydet career. He served as a team captain for the 1996 season and was a Dean's List Student.

After graduation, Harris went into private business for six years, earning a Mark of Excellence Award while working for Hughes Supply, Inc.

Harris and his wife, the former Lorrie Clark, have two children, a son, Dakota, and a daughter, Madelyn.

## Winston October

- ◆ Richmond '99
- ◆ Third Season
- ◆ Wide Receivers



Winston October joined the Keydet coaching staff in the summer of 2007 and spent his first two years at VMI as a secondary coach. He now shifts into his new responsibility, that of coaching wide receivers.

October, a four-time All-Atlantic 10 defensive back selection during his playing days at Richmond, served as team captain during the Spiders' Atlantic 10 championship season in 1998 and was named All-America by The Sports Network.

Upon graduating in 1999 with a B.A. in Communications, October went on to the professional football ranks, playing first with the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League for four seasons, including a pair with VMI alumnus and rushing record holder Thomas Haskins.

After a brief stint with the Washington Redskins in 2001, October returned to the CFL to play in 70 games for the Edmonton Eskimos through the 2004 season.

October came to VMI after working in the personal training and fitness industry in New York City for two years and later serving as the "Team for Kids" Metro Coordinator for the New York Road Runners Foundation. An active participant in community service, October has volunteered his time for Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, Boys and Girls Clubs and youth reading programs. October is married to Andrea Monique October.

## Greg Shockley

- ◆ Virginia Tech '99
- ◆ Fifth Season
- ◆ Slotbacks



Greg Shockley came to the Institute in March 2005 and has served dual roles for the VMI staff. Shockley has coached both wide receivers and running backs during his time at the Institute, and also currently serves as the program's recruiting coordinator.

Shockley came to VMI from William & Mary, where he coached tight ends during the Tribe's successful 2004 campaign. William & Mary posted an 11-3 mark and reached the semifinals of the I-AA playoffs before falling to eventual champion James Madison. The Tribe also won the Atlantic 10 Conference championship in 2004.

Shockley began his coaching career under Frank Beamer at Virginia Tech where he was also a player before assuming graduate assistant duties on the Hokie staff. At Tech, Shockley was an offensive assistant and worked primarily with the offensive lines and tight ends. The Hokies went to bowls each of the three seasons Shockley served on the staff.

A Blacksburg, Va. native and 1999 graduate of Virginia Tech, Shockley was a quarterback and wide receiver for the Hokie squads that won three Big East championships during his playing days. In 1999, he was awarded the John William Schneider Award, given to the Tech player who excels in athletics, scholarship and leadership.

Shockley is married to the former Cheryl Denny, who teaches and coaches volleyball and softball at Lord Botetourt High School. The couple now lives in Buena Vista, Va.

- INTRO
- THIS IS VMI
- PREVIEW
- COACHES
- PLAYER BIOS
- OPPOSITION
- STAFF
- RECORDS
- MEDIA



## Paul Soltis

- ◆ Youngstown St. '99
- ◆ Fourth Season
- ◆ Inside Linebackers



Paul Soltis enters his fourth season at VMI, as he continues to coach the inside linebacker corps, a position he played collegiately.

Soltis played at Ohio State University, earning a letter as a freshman. He then transferred to Youngstown

State University where he was a two-time All-American linebacker. In 1987 and 1989 he played on playoff teams, captaining the 1989 squad. In 1987, Soltis was also named the Ohio Valley Conference Defensive Player of the Year. In 1999, Soltis was inducted into Youngstown State's Sports Hall of Fame.

Soltis' name is still listed frequently in the Youngstown State record book. Currently, Soltis is second in school history for tackles in a career, with a remarkable 468 stops, an average of 156 tackles per season for his three-year YSU career.

Following college, Soltis was signed by the Miami Dolphins. He then played for former Saints and Rams head coach Jim Haslett in the World League.

He worked in law enforcement at both the state and federal level for nine years before arriving in Lexington.

Soltis is married to the former Stacey Smallwood. They have three children, Abbey, Daniel and Alayna.

## Danny Verpaele

- ◆ South Florida '09
- ◆ First Season
- ◆ Defensive Backs



Danny Verpaele joined the VMI football coaching staff as a defensive assistant just prior to the start of this season's spring drills. The former University of South Florida player and undergraduate assistant will assist defensive coordinator A.J. Christoff with the second-

ary.

Verpaele joins the staff from USF, where he was both a player and undergraduate assistant coach. He lettered three years with the Bulls and participated in four consecutive bowl games. As a defensive back, Verpaele was tabbed a 3rd Team Freshman All-American Strong Safety by the Sporting News.

As a student assistant at USF, Verpaele assisted with the defensive game plan and film breakdown during the 2008 season. He has worked numerous football camps, including as an assistant speed coach at the Pat Campbell speed camps since 2003, running speed acquisition drills and organizing stretching and fundamental periods. He also served as secondary assistant coach for Lauren's 1st and Goal Football camp in 2008 and was a camp coach for five years for the Merritt Island (Fla.) High School football camp.

## Don Woods

- ◆ Tennessee Tech '69
- ◆ Second Season
- ◆ Chief of Staff/DL



Don Woods enters his second year on his younger brother's coaching staff, and once again will act as chief of staff and defensive line coach for the Keydets.

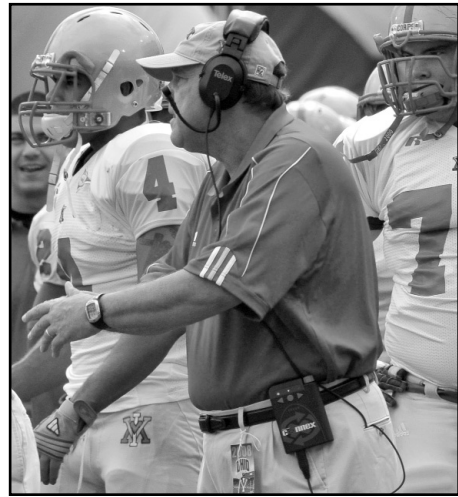
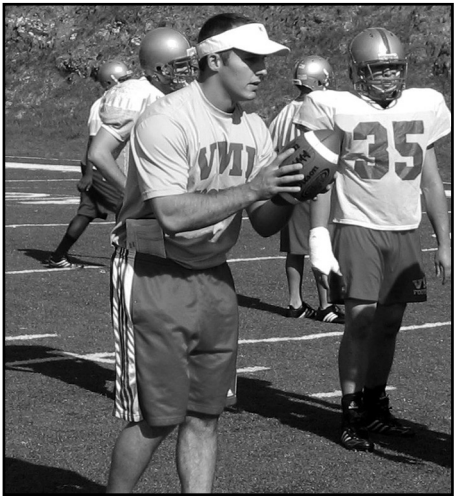
He brought to the Keydets an impressive coaching career in the high school

ranks spanning 38 years in two states with an overall 247-96 career mark. Woods served as head football coach at Morristown-Hamblen High School West in Morristown, Tenn., and built the program into a perennial power, attaining five undefeated regular seasons, four state semifinal appearances, and a championship game appearance in 2003.

Woods was named A.F. Bridges Coach of the Year in 2005 and was also tabbed Five Rivers Coach of the Year in 2003 and 2005 and Northeast Coach of the Year and State Runner-Up Coach's Award in 2003. Woods was also selected IMAC Conference Coach of the Year four times, and was 2001 All-East Tennessee State Coach of the Year. He also coached in the Tennessee State All-Star in 2001, 2006, and as a head coach in 2007.

Don Woods also served as head coach of Hartselle High School in Hartselle, Alabama from 1980 through 1997 and was named Decatur Daily Area Coach of the Year five times.

Woods is a 1969 graduate of Tennessee Tech and holds a Masters of Arts in Education and Secondary Education from the University of Alabama-Birmingham. Woods and his wife, Nancy, have a son Dennis, a daughter-in-law Jaymie, a grandson Dillon (3), a daughter Anna Barnes, a son-in-law Brian Barnes and a newborn grandson, Jamison.



2009 VMI FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

# MEET THE KEYDETS

MEET THE KEYDETS • 28

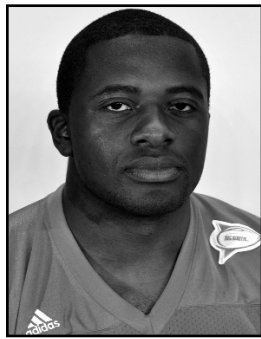
2009 FRESHMAN SIGNEES • 47

WHERE THE KEYDETS PLAY IN 2009 • 48



INTRO  
THIS IS VMI  
PREVIEW  
COACHES  
PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA

# Meet The Keydets



## Howard Abegesah

### Running Back

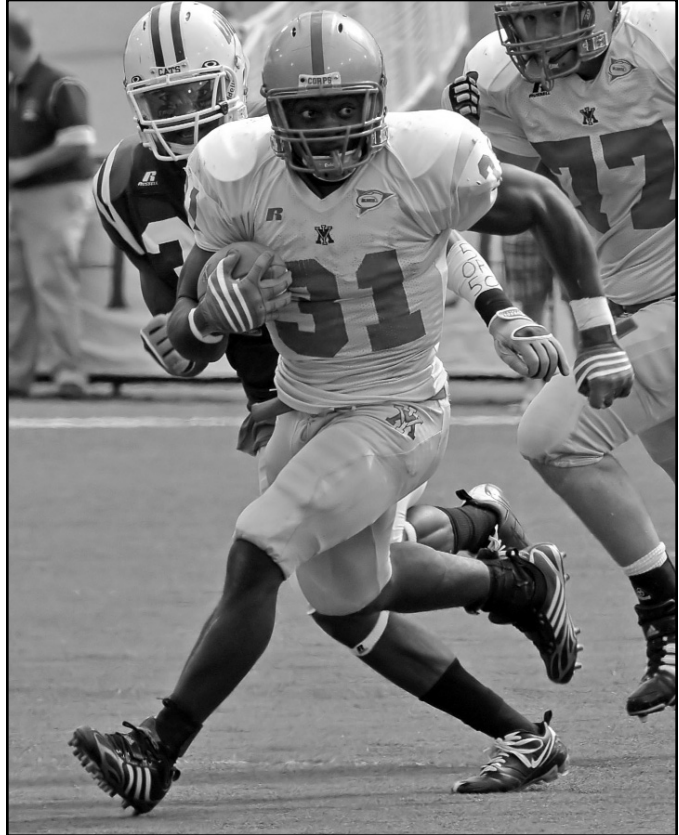
- Senior-3L
- 6-0 • 220
- Beltsville, Md.
- High Point

31

**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Returns to lead an experienced running corps...has thrived in the "B" back position and brings all the tools to the position as a physically tough and punishing runner...recovered from injury to finish in strong fashion last year...will be among the league's elite runners and should again vie for all-conference honors...enters the season with nine career 100-yard games, tying him for fourth-most in school history.

**2008** - Selected **Second Team All-Big South**...ranked fifth in the BSC in rushing and finished the season with back-to-back strong efforts against Stony Brook (109 yards) and Presbyterian (151 yards)...had 124 yards and three touchdowns, including a career-long 63-yard TD run against Chowan... rushed for 102 yards and a touchdown against Charleston Southern...ranked fifth in the BSC in yards per carry (6.6) and sixth in rushing TD's (6)...was 10th in the league in total offense (86.1 ypg)...sidelined two games (weeks 5 and 6) with knee injury...had five runs of at least 27 yards on the season.

**2007** - Named **Second Team All-Big South** at running back...his 1,121 rushing yards were the eight-most in school history...became second straight VMI player to lead the Big South in rushing yards...led VMI in rushing in 10 of 11 games...became the seventh VMI back and seventh running back in Big South history to rush for over 1,000 yards in a season...produced five 100-yard rushing games, the second-most by a Big South back during the season...posted three 100-yard performances against conference foes, including a career-high 180 yards vs. Gardner-Webb, 120 yards vs. Liberty, and 116 yards vs. Coastal



Senior Howard Abegesah's nine career 100-yard rushing games tie him for fourth place on VMI's charts.

Carolina...other 100-yard games included 157 vs. Robert Morris and 132 yards vs. Lock Haven...had five rushing TD's, tied for the team lead...averaged 122.5 yards rushing in BSC games.

**2006** - Played mostly special teams but saw considerable action and earned his first letter...credited with tackles against Norfolk State and Liberty.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of High Point High School in Beltsville, Md...served as team captain...All-League Prince George's County-LB...All-League Prince George's County-Track (Thrower)...723 yards rushing from fullback position...three rushing TDs...three interceptions as linebacker... track state qualifier in shot put (Indoor)...Honor Roll Student.

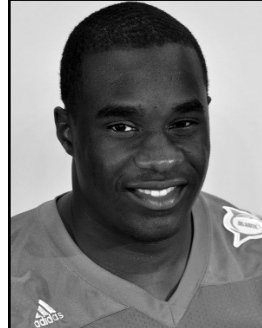
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Howard Akonji Abegesah...Biology major.

### Abegesah's Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	11	223	1121	5.0	30	4	101.9
2008	9	118	775	6.6	63	6	86.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>1896</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>94.8</b>

Receiving							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	11	4	31	7.8	14	0	2.8
2008	9	2	11	5.5	8	0	1.2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.1</b>



## Damiso Alexander

### Defensive End

- Redshirt Junior-2L
- 6-3 • 245
- Richmond, Va.
- Hermitage

84

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Projected to return to the starting defensive line at right end...has improved with two years starting experience and will be counted on for leadership...has the talent, size and speed to be an excellent defensive end and could contend for all-conference honors before his career is finished...had another strong spring and is ready for a big season...earned "Iron Keydet" status for his exceptional work in the weight room.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games and made 10 starts...Finished with 31 tackles, second-most among VMI defensive linemen...led the team with five quarterback sacks...had a season-high nine tackles against Coastal Carolina with four solos and five assists and also two sacks for six yards...posted five solos against Chowan...recovered a fumble and returned it 46 yards for a TD in the opener against Saint Francis...made his first career interception against Charleston Southern and returned it seven yards... had four-tackle games against Richmond and Gardner-Webb...earned his second varsity letter.

**2007** - Played in all 11 games with five starts...started the first five games of the season at defensive end...had 29 total tackles with 14 solos and 15 assists...posted a season-high six tackles with an eight-yard sack in the season finale against The Citadel...recorded five tackles against Gardner-Webb...had three sacks for -20 yards on the year...forced fumbles in the James Madison, Robert Morris, and Charleston Southern games...recovered a fumble against William & Mary...lettered for the first time.

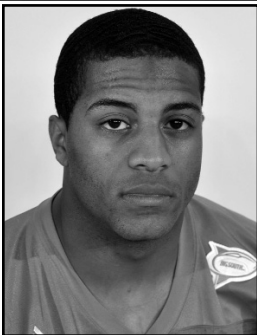
**2006** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Hermitage High School in Richmond, Va...Second Team All-District DE...Second Team All-District TE...42 tackles - six for loss...seven sacks...discus qualifier for outdoor track...Honor Roll Student.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Damiso M. Alexander...Economics and Business major.

### Alexander's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2007	11	14/15	29	3.0	3.5-21	1	3	0	0	0	0
2008	11	18/13	31	5.0	7.0-19	1	2	1	1	7	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32/28</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>10.5-40</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>



## Byron Allen

### Free Safety

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 5-10 • 185
- Massaponax, Va.
- Massaponax/FUMA

22

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Returns to the secondary as a starter...will move to free safety after working mostly at cornerback last year...continues to work hard to sharpen skills...gives the secondary speed and athleticism...was the top DB in off-season conditioning and one of four players to achieve "Super Iron Keydet" status.

**2008** - Started 10 of 11 games at cornerback and earned his first varsity letter...ranked second on the team in tackles with 61...posted double-digit tackles in the Charleston Southern game with a career-high 12, including a tackle-for-loss for two yards...intercepted a pass and returned it 24 yards against William & Mary and also picked off a pass for a 21-yard return against Stony Brook...broke up four passes on the year...blocked a kick versus Stony Brook...ranked 12th in the league in tackles...tied for seventh in the conference in interceptions.

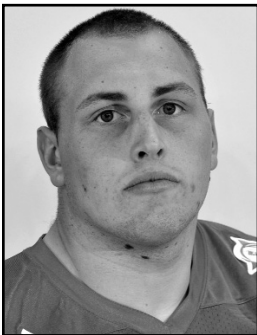
**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Massaponax High School in Fredericksburg, Va...four-year letterwinner...named All-District as a safety...also a four-year letterwinner in basketball...also lettered in track...prepped at Fork Union Military Academy.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Byron Christopher Allen...Economics and Business major.

#### Allen's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	10	33/29	62	0	1.0-2	0	0	4	2	45	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>33/29</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.0-2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>



## Rob Bailey

### Offensive Line

- Sophomore-1L
- 6-4 • 330
- Bonaire, Ga.
- Warner Robins

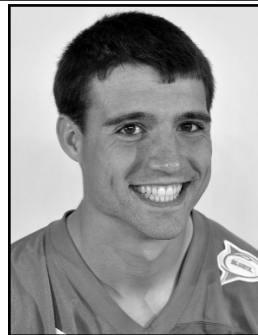
78

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Showed great promise as a freshman and should continue to improve...boasts excellent size & strength and continues to hone footwork & technique...had a strong spring and enters fall at starting right guard.

**2008** - Saw action on the offensive line as a true freshman and participated in 122 total plays on the season...played the most against Chowan, when he participated in 38 snaps...was in on 32 plays over the last two games of the year against Stony Brook and Presbyterian...lettered as a true freshman.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Warner Robins High School in Warner Robins, Ga...two-year starter at offensive tackle...as a junior, helped lead his team to the semi-finals of the Georgia 5A football playoffs...selected by the Georgia Football Magazine Academic All-State First Team and Preseason 5A All-State First Team...as a senior, selected to the First Team All-Houston Co., Second Team Region I-5A, and Third-Team All-Middle GA football teams...as a junior, chosen to the Second-Team Region I-5A; Second Team All-Houston Co.; and Honorable Mention All-Middle GA football teams...voted Most Valuable Offensive Lineman for the 2007 season...three-year football letterman, two year basketball letterman and three year baseball letterman.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Robert Norman Bailey...Civil Engineering major.



## Bryan Barnson

### Slotback

- Junior-2L
- 5-11 • 175
- Chesapeake, Va.
- Western Branch

2

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has proven to be a capable and valuable asset to the backfield...has the versatility to play several positions in the spread offense...has improved blocking ability and made contributions on special teams...listed in the two-deep at slotback...could factor in again as the Keydets develop passing game...had a good off-season for conditioning and earned "Keydet" status for his work in the weight room.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games, seeing action at slotback and on special teams...lettered for the second time...gained 135 yards on 20 carries for a 6.8 average...caught passes versus Gardner-Webb and Presbyterian...rushed for a season-high 44 yards with a long of 18 yards against Coastal Carolina...finished with 150 all-purpose yards.

**2007** - Finished second on the team in receptions with 13 and was also second in receiving yardage with 292 yards...made six starts at wideout...caught two TD passes, the second-most on the squad...averaged 22.5 yards per catch...named Big South Freshman of the Week for his play against Robert Morris when he caught touchdown passes of 49 and 32 yards, becoming the first VMI receiver in two years to pull in two TD's in one game...was one of two players to haul in two TD strikes in a game...caught at least one pass in eight of nine consecutive games...Against Presbyterian, had season-high three catches for 111 yards, including a 40-yarder...was nominated for Big South Freshman of the Year honors...lettered as a true freshman.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Western Branch High School in Chesapeake, Va...three-year letterwinner in football...First Team All-District as a senior...Second Team All-Tidewater...as a senior had 16 receptions, four touchdowns and seven field goals...two-year letterwinner in indoor/outdoor track...national qualifier for indoor 4 x 200 relay & outdoor 4 x 100 relay...All-Chesapeake scholar-athlete & SCA officer...named to Honor Roll all four years at Western Branch.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Bryan Scott Barnson...Civil Engineering major.

#### Barnson's Career Stats

Receiving							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	11	13	292	22.5	49	2	26.5
2008	11	2	15	7.5	8	0	1.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14.0</b>

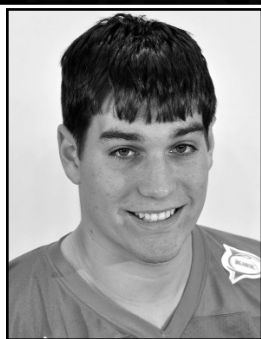
  

Rushing							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	11	3	37	12.3	29	0	3.4
2008	11	20	135	6.8	19	0	12.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Kickoff Returns					
YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2007	2	29	14.5	20	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>

INTRO  
THIS IS VMI  
PREVIEW  
COACHES  
PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA



## Aaron Blue

### Offensive Line

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-3 • 250
- Suwanee, Ga.
- Peachtree Ridge

76

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Was moved from the defensive line to the offensive line in the spring...should vie for a spot in the two-deep at left tackle...will give the Keydets depth on the offensive line...has been sidelined by injury in the past but is looking to make a solid contribution this season.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games on the defensive line and lettered...saw the most action in the season opener against Saint Francis, when he played 39 snaps and made three tackles...posted two-tackle games against Ohio and Charleston Southern.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Peachtree Ridge High School in Suwanee, Ga...member of 2006 Georgia High School 5A Football State Championship Team...named First Team All-Region by Area Coaches...Gwinnett County Touchdown Club Player of the Month...three-time Peachtree Ridge High School Defensive Player of the Week...Trenchman Award Winner given to Best Overall Lineman of the Week...Special Teams Player of the Week...recorded 85 tackles and 15 sacks as a senior...responsible for six caused fumbles, and two fumble recoveries that year...hauled in a TD pass as a TE in 2006...started in the 2006 Georgia Athletic Coaches Association North/South Football All-Star Game...four-year letterwinner in football and three-year letterwinner in track and field.

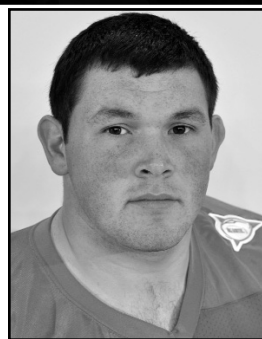
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Michael Aaron Blue...Economics and Business major.

#### Blue's Career Stats

Defensive												
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD	
2008	11	2/7	9	0	1.5-2	0	0	1	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2/7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.5-2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	



Junior center James Boatright has led the Keydet offensive line over the past two years with 172 knockdowns.



## James Boatright

### Offensive Line

- Junior-2L
- 6-0 • 270
- Grayson, Ga.
- Grayson

60

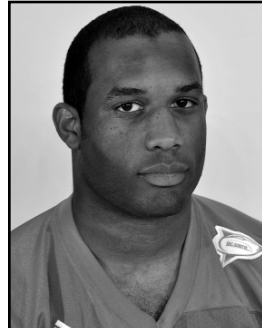
**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has made 20 consecutive starts on the offensive line- all at center...has led the VMI offensive line in knockdowns over the last two years, amassing 172 over that time...has been a big reason for VMI's rushing success on the national scale...underwent surgery late in spring practice and missed the final week of drills...has great footwork and has a good understanding of the offense...will give the O-line leadership and experience.

**2008** - Helped VMI to its third-consecutive Big South Conference rushing crown, as well as a school- and Big South-record 3,932 yards and 357.5 yards per game, which topped the FCS charts...helped VMI pile up 300-plus yards rushing in eight games in 2008...also helped Keydets convert 26-of-32 (81.2%) red-zone scoring opportunities...started all 11 games at center and lettered for the second time...led the O-Line in knockdowns with 75, including 12 in a two-week stretch against Coastal Carolina and Gardner-Webb.

**2007** - Started the season in the two-deep picture and moved into the starting line-up in week three when he made his first start at center against James Madison...remained in the starting line-up for the rest of the season, making nine starts...logged double-digit knockdowns over five consecutive games including a season-high 18 against Gardner-Webb...earned his first varsity letter.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Grayson High School in Grayson, Ga...three-year varsity letterwinner...captain of the football team...received 2005 Ironman Spring Practice Award for Toughness & Durability...named to 2006 Pre-Season and Post-Season All-Gwinnett County Team...awarded 2006 Ram Motivator Spring Practice Award...inaugural recipient of the Rocky Award, given for toughness and determination...named Offensive Lineman of the Year for Gwinnett County as a senior.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is James Thomas Boatright, III...Civil Engineering major.



## Julian Bowers

### Linebacker

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 5-10 • 225
- Richmond, Va.
- Clover Hill

32

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Returns to the team as an experienced defender and has adapted and grown into his new roles...slated to be in the two-deep picture as a "rush" end...brings plenty of enthusiasm and works hard...had a good spring and posted a tackle-for-loss for two yards in the spring scrimmage... comes into the season after a productive conditioning period in the spring and earned "Red-Yellow" status for hard work in the weight room.

**2008** - Switched to defense from fullback in spring '08 drills and handled the transition well...played at "Sam" linebacker and played in 10 of 11 games with the Richmond game his only absence...also saw action on special teams...finished with 13 tackles on the season...had a season-high four tackles against William & Mary with a tackle-for-loss for six yards...posted three-tackle games against Saint Francis and Presbyterian...had a tackle-for-loss for three yards in the season opener against Saint Francis...earned his first varsity letter.

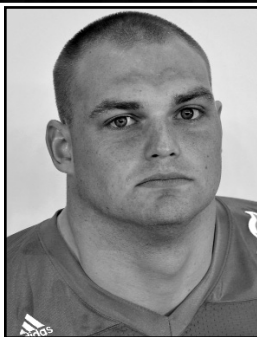
**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Clover Hill High School in Midlothian, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Julian James Bowers...Psychology major.

#### Bowers' Career Stats

Defensive												
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD	
2008	10	9/4	13	0	2.0-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9/4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.0-9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	



# Ben Brandt

## Defensive End

- Redshirt Junior-2L
- 6-2 • 250
- Forest, Va.
- Jefferson Forest

51

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Moved back to defensive line after spending a season at offensive line...has welcomed the change and thrived in spring drills at defensive end, where he is expected to make a significant contribution...hard worker who wants to do anything to help the team and shows leadership...has always graded highly in off-season conditioning and finished as one of four team members with "Super Iron Keydet" status - the highest classification in the team strength and conditioning program.

**2008** - Moved to offensive line from defensive tackle toward the end of spring drills...made the transition, as he started all 11 games at left tackle, seeing action on 682 plays - second only to center James Boatright...had some of his top games against William & Mary (8 knockdowns) and Ohio (7 knockdowns)... finished with 47 knockdowns on the season...lettered for the second time.

**2007** - Started all 11 games at nose tackle as a redshirt freshman...led defensive interior linemen in tackles with 39, including 6.5 tackles-for-loss for -25 yards...also had 2.5 sacks for 15 yards...had 12 solo tackles and 27 assists... made a season-high six tackles against Presbyterian and Lock Haven and had two tackles-for-loss against Gardner-Webb...also had tackles-for-loss against Coastal Carolina and Charleston Southern...earned his first varsity letter.

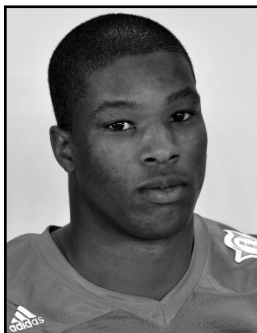
**2006** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Jefferson Forest High School in Forest, Va....First Team All-District...First Team All-Area...Second Team All-Region...team Defensive Player of the Year...three-year team captain...lettered four years playing DE/FB...60 tackles, 19 TFLs, seven sacks as a senior.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Benjamin Grey Brandt...brother Ryan played football at Richmond...Economics and Business major.

### Brandt's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2007	11	12/27	39	2.5	6.5-25	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12/27</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>6.5-25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# Emilio Calvin

## Outside Linebacker

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-3 • 240
- Woodbridge, Va.
- Freedom

99

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - One of several players on the defensive unit that is working at a new position in 2009...had a great spring at outside linebacker and is expected to start there this season...has all the tools to be an outstanding player and will be a key part of the Keydet pass rush package...could be one of the big Keydet playmakers in '09.

**2008** - Played his first season at defensive end and saw considerable action in all 11 games...saw playing time increase significantly over the last five weeks, making starts at linebacker late in the season against Liberty and Stony Brook... had 53 tackles, ranking him fifth on the team...had a season-high nine tackles against Ohio, which included four solo stops...also had eight-tackle games in consecutive weeks against Liberty and Stony Brook...recovered a fumble in the opener against Saint Francis...credited with a tackle-for-loss for two yards against Richmond...earned his first varsity letter.

**2007** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Freedom High School in Woodbridge, Va...two-year captain of the football team...team MVP as a senior...All-Region Honorable Mention (2006)...All-District First Team Linebacker (2006)...All-

District Second Team Defensive End (2005).

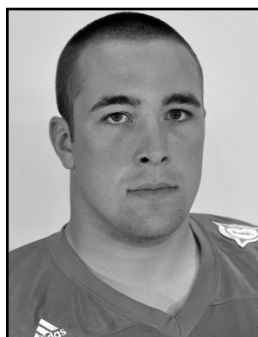
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Emilio Calvin...Economics and Business major.

### Calvin's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	11	28/25	53	0	1.0-2	1	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28/25</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.0-2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



*Ben Brandt will shift back to the defensive line this season after playing on the offensive line last year.*



# Eric Church

## Linebacker

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-3 • 240
- Louisa, Va.
- Louisa County

47

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Had another strong spring practice and will be one of the mainstays at inside linebacker this fall...emerged from spring drills with his name at starting "Ted" inside linebacker on the depth chart...has shown considerable improvement since first arriving on post...a versatile player who has also helped out the kicking game as a punter.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games, seeing action on 382 total plays...finished the year with 29 tackles, including 17 solos and two tackles-for-loss...had a tackle in all but one game and logged a season-high six tackles at Stony Brook...made two tackles-for-loss for four yards and forced a fumble against Charleston Southern... picked off his first career interception against Chowan...punted once for 47 yards against Stony Brook...lettered for the first time.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Louisa County High School in Mineral, Va...team captain...First Team VHSCA All-State (LB & K)...All-Central Virginia Defensive Player of the Year...Region II Defensive Player of the Year...two-time First Team All-Central Virginia (LB)...two-time First Team All-Region II at linebacker and one-time First Team All-Region II at kicker...First Team All-State (Util)...at linebacker, totaled 136 tackles, including 23 for loss, made eight sacks while causing five fumbles and making one INT; also blocked two punts and two kicks...at tight end, made 16 receptions for 393 yards, scoring three TD.

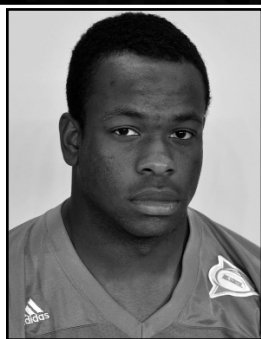
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Eric Brittian Church...Civil Engineering major.

### Church's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	11	17/12	29	0.5	2.5-6	0	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17/12</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.5-6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

INTRO  
THIS IS VMI  
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PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA



# Zach Collins

## Slotback

- Senior-3L
- 5-10 • 200
- Universal City, Texas
- Randolph

24

**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - One of the veteran returners in the back-field...has proven to be a valuable back and special teams member...has played both slotback and "B" back in the spread option...slated to start at one slotback position this fall...a hard worker in the weight room and was one of seven players to achieve "Iron Keydet" distinction in the off-season...continued to sharpen skills in spring practice and is looking forward to big senior season.

**2008** - Once again proved to be a big part of the offense and played in all 11 games with 10 starts at slotback...led slotbacks in knockdowns with 25 on the season, including four at Gardner-Webb...was fourth on the team in rushing with 313 yards on 34 carries and three touchdowns...caught six passes, tied for second-most on the team, and had 231 yards receiving with two touchdowns... started the season well, with two TD rushes in the season-opener against Saint Francis, accounting for 112 yards...tied for longest VMI kickoff return on the season with a 53-yarder against Ohio...caught a 90-yard TD pass against Coastal Carolina which ranked as the second-longest in school history and the longest in Big South history...caught 53-yard passes in successive weeks against Charleston Southern and Liberty, with the CSU reception resulting in a score...lettered for the second time.

**2007** - Saw action in all 11 games and made one start (JMU) when VMI employed a full house backfield...rushed for 171 yards on 35 carries with three touchdowns...rushed three times for 25 yards and a touchdown in the opener against Lock Haven...gained a season-high 72 yards on eight carries with two touchdowns including a 59-yard touchdown run against The Citadel...also played special teams and lettered for the second time.

**2006** - Saw substantial playing time at reserve slotback and on special teams, lettering as a true freshman...carried the ball for the first time against JMU, when he rushed four times for 19 yards (long 10-yarder) and caught a pass for 19 yards...rushed for a season-high 33 yards on five carries against The Citadel and had a 23-yard run...reeled off an 18-yard run against Liberty in the season finale...also served as a kick returner and returned four kickoffs for 43 yards against Coastal Carolina including a 29-yarder which was his longest of the season.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Randolph High School in Universal City, Texas...District MVP- 2005...Second Team All-City...Offensive MVP - 2004... Newcomer of the Year - 2003...First Team Defensive Back...First Team All-City RB...First Team All-State RB...holds school record for most rushing yards season (1735)...holds school records for most touchdowns in a game (8)...lettered four years in track as a sprinter - district champ 100-meters.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Zachary Tremayne Collins...Psychology major.

### Collins' Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2006	7	23	126	5.5	23	0	18.0
2007	11	35	171	4.9	59	3	15.5
2008	11	34	313	9.2	62	3	28.5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21.0</b>

Receiving							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2006	7	1	19	19.0	19	0	2.7
2007	11	1	11	11.0	11	0	1.0
2008	11	6	231	38.5	90	2	21.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29.0</b>

Kickoff Returns					
YR	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2006	5	76	15.2	29	0
2007	11	191	17.4	27	0
2008	13	220	16.9	53	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>



# Chris Conte

## Wide Receiver

- Redshirt Sophomore
- 6-0 • 170
- Tampa, Fla.
- Plant

30

Has good speed and continues to work hard to make a contribution...a productive spring practice earned him a reserve spot in the two-deep at 'X' wideout ...caught two passes in spring scrimmage...could see more playing time this fall.

**2008** - Appeared in two games seeing action against Saint Francis and Chowan.

**2007** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Plant High School in Tampa, Fla.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Christopher William Conte...International Studies major.



# Jack Curtis

## Running Back

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-0 • 210
- Fairfax, Va.
- Robinson Secondary

45

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has worked out on both sides of the ball and is now at "B" back position on the depth chart, after playing mostly at linebacker during his career...can also contribute on special teams...will give the Keydets depth...named to 2008-09 Big South Presidential Honor Roll for academic achievement.

**2008** - Appeared in Saint Francis and Chowan games...made two tackles in just 10 plays against Chowan...played at linebacker and on special teams.

**2007** - Played in all 11 games and finished with 12 tackles including four solos and eight assists...saw action mostly on special teams...had a season-high four tackles against James Madison...recorded two tackles each against Lock Haven, Coastal Carolina and Liberty.

**2006** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, Va...team captain...First Team All-Concorde District...District Defensive Player of the Year...First Team All-Northern Region...Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year...First Team All-Washington Examiner newspaper Defensive Player of the Year...Community Times (Northern Virginia newspapers) Defensive Player of the Year...Washington Post All-Met - Second Team...Associated Press (AP) Virginia Group AAA All-State - First Team...Virginia Coaches Group AAA All-State - First Team...Three-year letterwinner.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is John McNamara Curtis, Jr...History major.

### Curtis' Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2007	11	4/8	12	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	2	1/1	2	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5/9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



## Josh Favaro

### Tight End

- Redshirt Junior-2L
- 6-3 • 230
- Suwanee, Ga.
- North Gwinnett

89

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has become a fixture at tight end and is looking to move into the top spot this season after serving as backup to Travis Ludden the past two years...is a seasoned performer and will be looked upon for leadership as well as contributions on special teams...has two years of considerable playing experience.

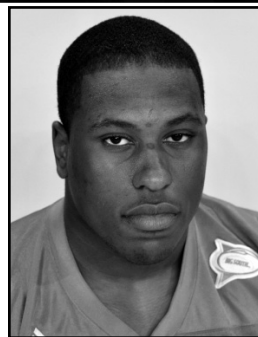
**2008** - Played mostly on special teams and saw action in all 11 games...credited with a special teams tackle against Liberty...lettered for the second time...appeared in 206 total plays with a season-high 46 against Stony Brook.

**2007** - Played in 10 games seeing action mostly on special teams...lettered for the first time...caught a two-point conversion pass against Liberty.

**2006** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of North Gwinnett High School in Suwanee, Ga...lettered three years at tight end...team captain...had 19 catches for 272 yards as a senior...received Coaches Award...County Player of the Week...played in 5A State Playoffs two straight years.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Joshua Lawrence Favaro...Civil Engineering major.



## A.J. Gross

### Linebacker

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 5-11 • 220
- Waldorf, Md.
- Westlake

7

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Emerged as a defensive leader in his first full season...will anchor the linebacker corps at one of the inside slots...a returning starter and all-conference performer...possesses exceptional quickness and play-making ability...earned "Keydet" award status for off-season strength and conditioning...coming off a solid spring and is looking forward to a big season...earned a spot on the 2009 Big South Conference Presidential Honor Roll for academic excellence.

**2008** - Voted **Second Team All-Big South**...Started all 11 games, leading the team in tackles with 67 stops while also pacing the defense with 14.5 tackles-for-loss, ranking him second overall in the Big South...led the Big South in tackles-for-loss in conference games with 8.0 for 33 yards...his four sacks for -20 yards, including 3.0 in BSC games, placed him second in the league...was named Big South Defensive Player of the Week against Coastal Carolina (Oct. 11), when he logged a career-high 13 tackles, including six solos, seven assists, five tackles-for-loss for 27 yards and three sacks for -20 yards...forced a fumble against Presbyterian...also had nine tackles against Liberty with a tackle-for-loss...ranked ninth in the league in tackles per game (7.4) in conference games.

**2007** - Played in two early season games (William & Mary and James Madison) and started at linebacker against James Madison in week three before being sidelined the rest of the year...made eight tackles with seven assists and a tackle-for-loss against James Madison...made two assisted tackles in his first collegiate game against William & Mary.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Westlake High School in Waldorf, Md...two-year captain...team Defensive Player of the Year (2006)...First Team All-Academic (2005, 2006)...First Team All-Conference (2005, 2006)...First Team All-Southern Maryland (2005, 2006)...two-time Recipient of the State of Maryland Minds in Motion award for academic excellence.

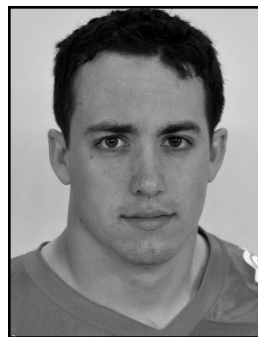
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Arthur Spencer Gross, Jr...Biology major.

### Gross' Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2007	2	1/9	10	0	0.5-2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	11	29/38	67	4.0	14.5-53	0	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30/47</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>15.0-55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



Linebacker A.J. Gross led the team in tackles as a redshirt freshman last season.



## T.J. Guthrie

### Tight End

- Redshirt Junior
- 6-3 • 245
- Pittsburgh, Pa.
- North Allegheny

11

Moved to offense in the spring after playing on defense over the last two seasons...expected to provide depth at tight end and could also see action on special teams.

**2008** - Saw action against Chowan in week three.

**2007** - Saw limited action in four games...played in his first game at Robert Morris (Sept. 29), which was a homecoming to his native Pittsburgh...also saw action on special teams.

**2006** - Came to the team as a recruited walk-on...did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of North Allegheny High School in Wexford, Pa.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Troy Jacob Guthrie...International Studies major.

INTRO

THIS IS VMI

PREVIEW

COACHES

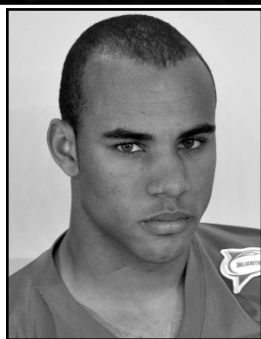
PLAYER BIOS

OPPOSITION

STAFF

RECORDS

MEDIA



# Tracy Hairston

## Cornerback

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-1 • 185
- Martinsville, Va.
- Martinsville

4

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Returning letterman who gained valuable experience last season...continued to progress in the spring and is listed in the two-deep at no. 2 left corner...will give the secondary depth and can push for a starting job with his physical play...has worked to adapt to defense after being converted from quarterback/receiver after his redshirt year...possesses great skill and athletic ability...was designated an "Iron Keydet" after another productive off-season of strength and conditioning.

**2008** - Lettered for the first time after playing in all 11 games in the secondary and on special teams...compiled nine tackles with seven solos...saw his most action against William & Mary in week two...made a season-high three tackles against William & Mary and had a pass break-up against Chowan.

**2007** - Moved from quarterback/wide receiver to defense in fall camp and worked out in the secondary...did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Martinsville High School in Martinsville, Va...captain of both football and basketball teams...All-Piedmont District First Team as a Quarterback and Defensive Back...Second Team All-Region Quarterback...All-Timesland Defensive Back...Honorable Mention All-State...2006 Piedmont District and Regional Champion Track & Field...leading rebounder for 2005-2006 State Championship Basketball Team...as a senior, completed 60 of 95 pass attempts for 854 yards, throwing seven TD; also rushed for 800 yards on 95 attempts, while making 40 tackles and two INT on defense...mentor at Martinsville Middle School...Honor Roll Student.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Tracy Michael Hairston...Psychology major.

### Hairston's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	11	7/2	9	0	0-0	0	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7/2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# George Handler

## Offensive Line

- Redshirt Senior-3L
- 6-3 • 255
- Quinton, Va.
- New Kent

55

**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Voted to the **2009 Preseason All-Big South** squad...veteran performer who will anchor the offensive line...slated to start at left guard...a hard worker and former walk-on who has lifted the offensive line with his grit and determination...has the most experience of any offensive lineman in the two-deep...is the only VMI offensive lineman to have played all five offensive line positions during his career...named to 2008-09 Big South Presidential Honor Roll for academics.

**2008** - Named **Second Team All-Big South**...started all 11 games at left guard, giving him 30 consecutive starts on the offensive line...consistently graded as the top offensive lineman and helped VMI to its third-consecutive Big South Conference rushing crown...helped offense to school and Big South records of 3,932 yards and 357.5 yards per game...VMI also led nation in rushing...helped VMI amass 300+ yards rushing in eight games in 2008...also helped Keydets convert 26-of-32 (81.2%) red-zone scoring opportunities...finished with 49 knock-downs on the season, second-most on the offensive line...had 10 knockdowns in the season finale against Presbyterian.

**2007** - Started all 11 games, playing four different positions on the offensive line...started the first two games at center, where he lettered as a freshman, before moving to left tackle for six straight starts...started the final three games

at left guard and played the final two games with a broken wrist...had a season-high 14 knockdowns against Charleston Southern...lettered for the second time.

**2006** - Began the season in the two-deep picture and moved into the starting role at center at the end of fall camp...held down the starting center position all season...lettered for the first time.

**2005** - Joined the team prior to the season but did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of New Kent High School in New Kent, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is George Leslie Handler, IV...Mechanical Engineering major.



# James Handler

## Offensive Line

- Redshirt Sophomore
- 6-4 • 315
- Quinton, Va.
- New Kent

65

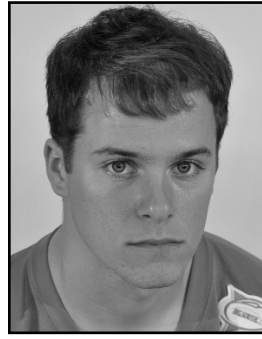
Enters the fall camp in the two-deep picture again on the offensive line...continued to progress in the spring and is listed on the depth chart at reserve right guard...got a taste of action last year before a shoulder injury shut down his season...became the first VMI brother combination to see action on the offensive line simultaneously, as older brother George is the starting left guard.

**2008** - Played in 14 total plays the first two games before injury ended his season...spent remainder of the year rehabbing in preparation for spring drills.

**2007** - Did not game action...joined the team as a recruited walk-on.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of New Kent High School in New Kent, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is James Harold Handler...Mechanical Engineering major.



# Justin Hickman

## Wide Receiver

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-0 • 185
- Brandon, Fla.
- Armwood

16

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has transitioned from quarterback to receiver, where he worked out in the spring...listed on the depth chart at reserve "Z" slot...will give depth to the receiving corps.

**2008** - Was a reserve quarterback and saw action in 10 games, playing both QB and special teams...completed six of 15 passes for 120 yards and two touchdowns...completed 53-yard pass to Zach Collins against Charleston Southern that went for a score and finished the game with a season-high 72 yards passing...also tossed a 24-yard touchdown pass against Chowan and rushed four times for 22 yards...earned his first varsity letter.

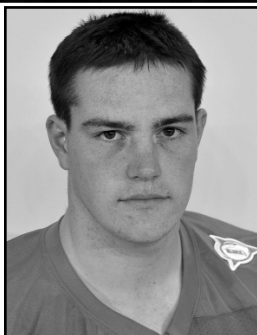
**2007** - Worked out at quarterback and did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Armwood High School in Brandon, Fla...captain of football team...named MVP of the All-County Game... Second Team Sun Coast...All-State Honorable Mention...member of the two-time State Champions and one-time State Runners-Up...as a senior, passed for 1,300 yards and 13 TD, while rushing for 900 yards and 25 TD.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Justin Eugene Hickman...Psychology major.

### Hickman's Career Stats

Passing								
YR	G	Cmp.-Att.	Effic.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	INT	LP
2008	10	6-15	151.20	40.0	120	2	0	53
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6-15</b>	<b>151.20</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53</b>
Rushing								
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG	
2008	10	15	49	3.3	11	0	4.9	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	



# Steven Hite

## Offensive Line

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-4 • 275
- Smyrna, Ga.
- Campbell



**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - A returning starter on the offensive line...listed on the preseason depth chart as starting left tackle...will shift to new slot after starting most of '08 at right tackle...helped Keydets to put up outstanding rushing numbers last season...has dealt with injuries during the off-season and is looking forward to a healthy campaign after off-season shoulder surgery...should be much improved after gaining valuable experience last year.

**2008** - Started nine of 11 games at right tackle...played in all 11 games and lettered...saw a season-high 73 snaps against Liberty...had six knockdowns against William & Mary and Liberty...finished with 35 knockdowns on the season.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Campbell High School in Smyrna, Ga...graded out at 96% over his career as a two-year starter at offensive tackle...logged 68 pancake blocks in his career...selected to Cobb County TD Club All-County First Team...selected as Marietta Daily Journal All-County First Team Offensive Lineman...selected Atlanta Journal Constitution All-County First Team Offensive Lineman...Campbell High School Offensive Lineman of the Year 2006...led team to second-ever State 5A playoff berth...Four-year starter on varsity baseball team.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Steven Wayne Hite...Mechanical Engineering major.



# Kyle Hughes

## Quarterback

- Senior-3L
- 6-3 • 190
- Williamsburg, Va.
- Lafayette



**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has served as a capable and dependable quarterback the past three seasons...combines with Tim Maypray to give the Keydets as dynamic a quarterback combo as there is in the conference...has great poise and presence...possesses a respected throwing arm and has improved his execution of the option game...worked hard to help develop team passing game in the spring...looking forward to a big senior season...a proven and returning all-conference performer.

**2008** - Was on track to put up big numbers once again but had season sidetracked by midseason injury that caused him to miss four games...played in seven games with one start (CCU)...led the team in passing yards...threw for over two-thirds of his season passing yardage over the last two games of the season, when he completed eight of 12 passes for 191 yards and two touchdowns against Coastal Carolina and connected on six of seven passes for 151 yards against Presbyterian...his 90-yard TD pass to Zach Collins against Coastal Carolina was the second-longest touchdown pass in school history, and the longest in BSC history...tossed a 61-yard pass completion against Ohio...rushed for a season-high 53 yards against Chowan.

**2007** - Named **Second Team All-Big South** at quarterback...rushed for 444 yards and five touchdowns and completed 51.3% of his passes for 1,097 yards and 11 TD's...named Big South Offensive Player of the Week when he became the second player in VMI history to both rush and pass for over 100 yards in a game vs. Robert Morris (136 rush, 108 pass)...recorded back-to-back 300-yard total offense games against Coastal Carolina (317) and Charleston Southern (308)...tossed a touchdown pass in seven straight games...completed 10-of-17 passes for 229 yards passing and two TD's vs. Coastal Carolina and 11-of-19 passes for career-high 261 yards and three TD's including an Big South record 87-yarder...handled the punting chores and averaged 33.5 yards for 40 punts with a long of 54 yards.

**2006** - Did not play the first three games but was thrust into action in week four against William & Mary in his hometown of Williamsburg when starting QB Jonathan Wilson went down with a shoulder injury in the second quarter...completed four of nine passes for 72 yards including a 28-yarder...made three consecutive starts the next three games against James Madison, Army, and Coastal Carolina...engineered the offense to a near win against league champ Coastal Carolina and rushed 13 times for 67 yards and completed eight of 13 passes for 108 yards and a touchdown...completed ten of 13 passes against James Madison for 113 yards and a touchdown...came in for Wilson midway in the first quarter in the season finale against Liberty and completed three of six passes for 57 yards including a 34-yarder and tossed a TD strike before halftime as the offense garnered a season-high 32 points against the Flames...earned his first varsity letter.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Lafayette High School in Williamsburg, Va...Four-year starter at QB...three-time First Team Virginia Gazette...Virginia Gazette Offensive Player of the Year...Second Team Daily Press (2004, 2005)...Second Team Bay Rivers District (2004, 2005)...holds Lafayette's season (1,452) and career passing marks (4,153)...completed 92/148 passes for 1,423 yds and 11 TD's during 2005...threw for 1,452 yds and 20 TD's in 2004...36-10 as a starter...won a regional championship and was a state runner-up.

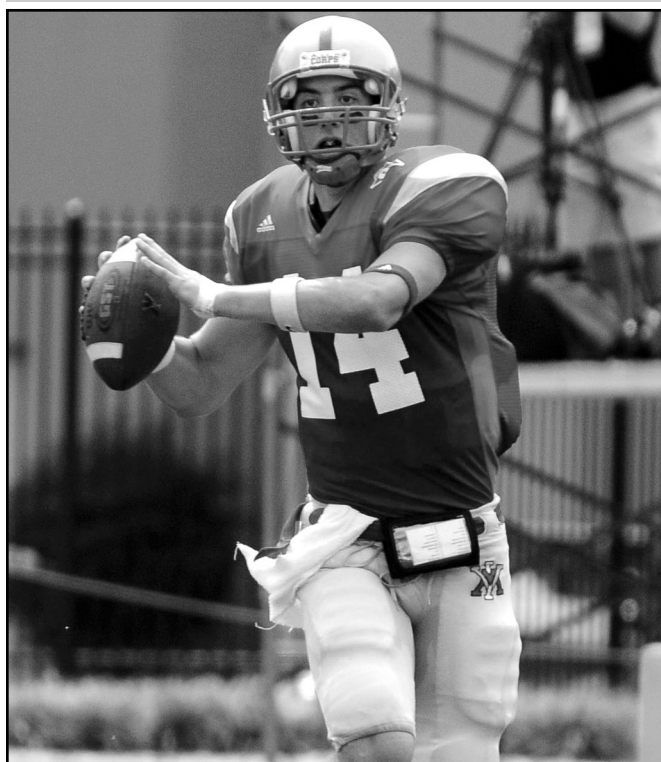
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Kyle Robert Hughes...Economics and Business major.

### Hughes' Career Stats

Passing								
YR	G	Cmp.-Att.	Effic.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	INT	LP
2006	8	28-51	123.65	54.9	371	3	3	34
2007	11	58-113	154.38	51.3	1097	11	6	87
2008	7	21-52	136.45	40.4	478	6	5	90
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>107-216</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>1946</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>90</b>

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2006	8	62	90	1.5	25	0	11.2
2007	11	131	444	3.4	71	5	40.4
2008	7	32	110	3.4	28	2	15.7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24.8</b>

Punting								
YR	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TB	FC	120	Blkd
2006	1	29	29.0	29	0	0	1	0
2007	40	1340	33.5	54	1	4	7	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1369</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>



**Senior Kyle Hughes has led the Keydets in passing each of the past two seasons.**

- INTRO
- THIS IS VMI
- PREVIEW
- COACHES
- PLAYER BIOS
- OPPOSITION
- STAFF
- RECORDS
- MEDIA



# Gabe Itoka

## Slotback

- Junior-2L
- 5-6 • 180
- Reston, Va.
- South Lakes

6

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - A dependable and versatile back who will be returning to the backfield...quick and explosive runner...skills fit perfectly in the option attack...will be in the mix for starting job or top reserve duty, as well as special teams...continued to excel in conditioning and achieved "Iron Keydet" status in strength training.

**2008** - Played in 11 games at slotback and special teams...gained 232 yards rushing for a 6.4 ypc average...reached the end zone three times...caught a 34-yard TD pass against Chowan, his lone reception of the year...rushed for a season-high 64 yards on six carries against Liberty...had three key knockdown blocks against Coastal Carolina...carried twice for 39 yards and a touchdown against Gardner-Webb, when he had a season-long 30-yard run...lettered a second time.

**2007** - Saw significant playing time as a true freshman and lettered...played in all 11 games and averaged 7.5 yards per carry as he gained 172 yards on 44 carries...ran for a season-high 60 yards against Charleston Southern including a 44-yarder, which was his longest run of the year...also played on special teams...lettered for the first time.

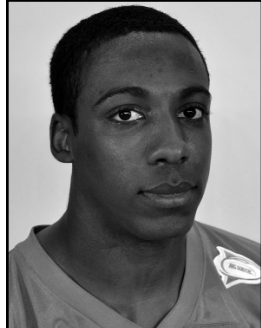
**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of South Lakes High School in Reston, Va...captained football team as a senior...First Team All-District Running Back and Kick Returner as a senior...First Team All-Region Kick Returner (2006)... Second Team All-Region Running Back (2006)...Honorable Mention All-State Kick Returner (2006)...All-Metro (2006).

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Gabriel Kodjo Itoka...Economics and Business major.

### Itoka's Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	10	23	172	7.5	44	0	17.2
2008	11	36	232	6.4	30	3	21.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19.2</b>

Receiving							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	10	1	3	3.0	3	0	0.3
2008	11	1	34	34.0	34	1	3.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.8</b>



# Cameron Jones

## Quarterback

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 6-0 • 205
- Austin, Texas
- Stephen F. Austin

12

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Consummate team player who has accepted a variety of roles to help the squad...has served as both reserve quarterback and wideout...listed on the pre-season depth chart at backup quarterback where he worked out in the spring and completed seven of 11 passes for 60 yards...is a strong running threat and has improved his passing game.

**2008** - Worked himself onto the field for 401 total plays on the season, seeing most of the action at wide receiver...also contributed on special teams...started six games at wideout and played in all 11 games to letter for the first time...rushed for eight yards and a touchdown against Chowan.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Stephen F. Austin High School in Austin, Texas...team captain...First Team All-District...Academic All-District...Austin American Statesman Athlete of the Week...selected to play in the First Annual

Lone Star Arena Classic...completed 118 of 209 passing attempts for 1,484 yards and 12 TD...gained 622 yards on 104 rushing attempts, scoring seven TD... Honor Roll Student.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Cameron Davis Jones...Economics and Business major.

### Cameron Jones' Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2008	11	1	8	8.0	8	1	0.7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.7</b>



# Chaz Jones

## Running Back

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 5-11 • 220
- Cleveland, Ohio
- Glenville

23

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Developed into a dependable performer in his first year on the field...has provided dependable depth at "B" back, spelling Howard Abegesah...has all the tools - size, agility, and footwork - for the position...saw most of the reps in spring practice with Abegesah rehabbing from injury...again in the two-deep on the pre-season depth chart...named to the 2008-09 Big South Conference Presidential Honor Roll for academic achievement.

**2008** - Played in 10 of 11 games...started the Richmond and Coastal Carolina games when Howard Abegesah was sidelined with injury...ranked third on the team in rushing with 407 yards on 66 carries for a 6.2 ypc average...rushed for four touchdowns, which was also the third-most on the team...nearly surpassed the century mark twice when he had 98 yards on 14 carries and two touchdowns against Liberty, which included a 53-yard run...also rushed for 97 yards against Chowan and logged a 65-yard run, which stood as the longest run by a Keydet during the season...rushed for a workhorse-like 53 yards on 14 carries and two touchdowns in win over Coastal Carolina...ran for 59 yards against Richmond...returned a kick for 17 yards against William & Mary.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Glenville High School in Cleveland, Ohio...Honorable Mention All-Northeast Ohio Lake Erie District...All-LEL Conference Honorable Mention...All-Cuyahoga County Honorable Mention...team Offensive MVP...Cleveland Plain Dealer Player of the Week...2006 All-Senate Honorable Mention...as a junior, totaled 1,658 yards in total offense (871 passing, 787 rushing) while scoring 17 TD...as a senior, rushed for 705 yards and 8 TD and made ten catches for 117 yards and 2 TD...All-League Running Back.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Chaz Deandre Jones...Economics and Business major.

### Chaz Jones' Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2008	10	66	407	6.2	65	4	40.7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>40.7</b>

Kickoff Returns					
YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2008	1	17	17.0	17	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>



Chaz Jones ranked third on the team in rushing last season as a redshirt freshman.



## Chris Leach

### Offensive Line

- Redshirt Senior
- 6-3 • 285
- Raphine, Va.
- Rockbridge County

62

Continues to work hard to position himself for a spot in the two-deep on the offensive line...listed as a reserve at right guard...has improved in his off-season conditioning throughout his career...is one of two Rockbridge County products on the roster.

**2008** - Saw action in two games...participated in 20 plays against Chowan and saw seven plays against Saint Francis in the season opener.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**2006** - Did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Rockbridge County High School in Lexington, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Christopher M. P. Leach...Mechanical Engineering major.



## Aaron Lewis

### Wide Receiver

- Redshirt Freshman
- 6-3 • 205
- Richmond, Va.
- Meadowbrook

88

Showed tremendous promise before an early season-ending knee injury derailed his true freshman season...granted a medical waiver...will work hard to get back into playing shape and regain timing when he hits the field in August camp... should be in the two-deep picture at "Z" wide receiver position.

**2008** - Played in three games (Chowan, Ohio, and Richmond) before sustaining a knee injury that ended his season...underwent surgery...caught a 24-yard touchdown pass against Chowan for his first and lone pass reception.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Meadowbrook High School in Richmond, Va...captain of football team as a senior...three-year letterman...Second-Team All-Central District as a wide receiver in 2007...helped lead team to 9-3 Record and a Central District Championship in his senior season...sister, Rachel, runs track at Hampton University.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Dwayne Aaron Lamar Lewis...Economics and Business major.

#### Lewis' Career Stats

Receiving							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2008	3	1	24	24.0	24	1	8.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8.0</b>



## Adam Looney

### Cornerback

- Sophomore
- 5-10 • 180
- Salem, Va.
- Glenvar

43

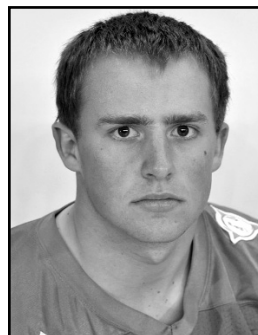
Has been working out at reserve cornerback...one of three players from the Roanoke Valley...will provide depth in the secondary...distinguished himself in the

weight room and earned "Red/Yellow" distinction.

**2008** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Glenvar High School in Salem, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Adam Jennings Looney...Economics and Business major.



## Richard Luck

### Defensive Back

- Sophomore
- 5-10 • 195
- Richmond, Va.
- St. Christopher's

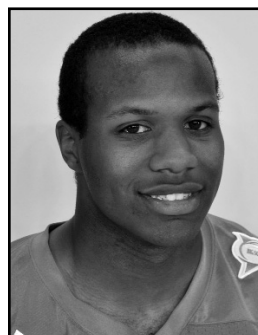
42

Was moved to strong safety in spring practice and is listed at reserve on the post-spring chart...will help the Keydet depth situation in the secondary...can also help out on special teams...has worked hard to make a contribution... named to the 2008-09 Big South Conference Presidential Honor Roll for academic achievement.

**2008** - Saw action in one game, playing eight plays against Chowan for his only action on the season.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of St. Christopher's School in Richmond, Va...captain of both football and lacrosse teams...garnered All-Prep, All-State, and All-Metro Honors...senior season stats through seven games: 85 tackles, including 10 tackles-for-loss, seven sacks, two safeties, one forced fumble and two fumble recoveries...recipient of the Randolph Macon Book Award for Excellence in Academics, Athletics, & Leadership...Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond - Brotherhood Youth Award...Student Council Member.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Richard Samuel Luck...Economics and Business major...Son of Charlie Luck IV (VMI '83) and Lisa Luck, and grandson of Charles Luck III (VMI '55) and True Luck...also grandson of NASCAR's Richard Petty.



## Terrell Lynch

### Outside Linebacker

- Redshirt Freshman
- 6-2 • 230
- Richmond, Va.
- Hermitage

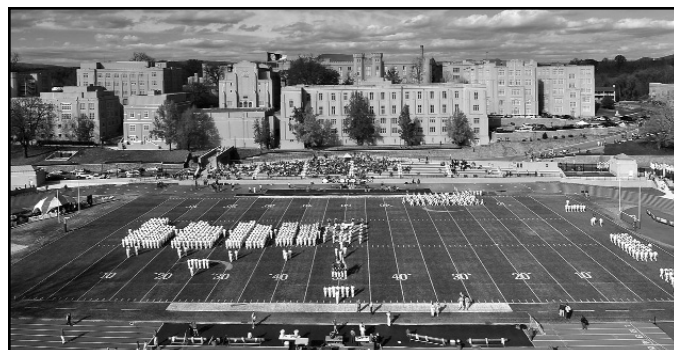
92

Could factor in the two-deep picture at outside linebacker...listed at "Sam" as a reserve in the two-deep but could figure to see playing time...progressed nicely in the spring practice drills and recovered a fumble in the spring scrimmage...had a great spring of strength and conditioning and was tagged "Keydet" award.

**2008** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Hermitage High School in Richmond, Va...coached by Patrick Kane...First-Team All-Colonial District - Defensive Line (2007)...First-Team All-Central Region - Defensive Line (2007)...First-Team All-Metro - Defensive Line (2007)...First-Team All-Group AAA State - Defensive Line...senior season stats: eight sacks, 47 tackles, nine tackles-for-loss, four fumble recoveries, one TD.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Earnest Terrell Lynch...Computer Science major.



INTRO

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PREVIEW

COACHES

PLAYER BIOS

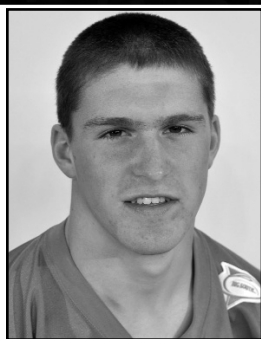
OPPOSITION

STAFF

RECORDS

MEDIA

INTRO  
THIS IS VMI  
PREVIEW  
COACHES  
PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA



# Kyle Marston

## Wide Receiver

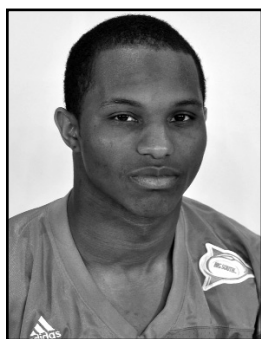
- Redshirt Freshman
- 6-0 • 182
- Bagdad, Ky.
- Shelby County

20

Worked out at "X" receiver in the spring where he is listed as a reserve on the post-spring depth chart...will help the depth in the receiving corps.  
**2008** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Shelby County High School in Shelbyville, Ky...three-year varsity football letterman and starter... team captain... career stats: 75 receptions, 1409 yards receiving, 11 touchdowns and 70 tackles... holds school record for receptions in a season...voted Most Outstanding Special Teams Player 2007...2007 recipient - United States Naval Academy Alumni Association Award...2008 Marine Corp JROTC officer...Kentucky Governor's Scholar Program Nominee 2007...President - Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Matthew Kyle Marston...Civil Engineering major.



# Tim Maypray

## Quarterback

- Senior-3L
- 5-8 • 165
- Madisonville, Ky.
- Randolph-Macon Acad.

28

**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Voted **2009 Big South Offensive Preseason Player of the Year**...one of the most exciting performers to ever wear a Keydet uniform...has the ability to make a big play with each touch of the ball...holds the top two all-purpose yards single game marks in Big South history...will see his second season at quarterback and could also see action again at wide receiver, slotback and on returns...enters the season with 29 career touchdowns, which is tied for third-most in school history.

**2008** - Named **Second Team All-Big South** at quarterback...ranked 3rd in the BSC in rushing...became the first QB in the Big South to rush for over 1,000 yards in a season...rushed for a career-high 235 yards vs. Presbyterian and also caught a 75-yard TD pass, accounting for 332 all-purpose yards, which is second most in BSC history...first Big South player with 1,000 career rushing and receiving yards...2nd in career all-purpose yards in BSC history (4,279)...had six 100-yard plus rushing games in '08 including 134 yards vs. W&M and 130 yards vs. Ohio...named BSC Player of the Week for Sept. 8, Oct. 13 and Nov. 24...had seven straight games with a 40+ yard run and four games with at least a run of 60+ yards...caught seven passes on the year, including a 75-yard TD vs. PC...had 12 rushing TD's, tied for third-most in school history and set Big South QB season record in that category...2nd in BSC in rushing TD's (12)...capped the season with four touchdowns scored against Presbyterian...his 1,266 rushing yards was the fifth-highest season in VMI history.

**2007** - Named **First Team All-Big South** at kick returner and **Second Team All-Big South** at wide receiver...led the team in touchdown receptions (7)-the most by a VMI receiver since 2002...set a Big South single-season record for all-purpose yards with 1,975, the fifth-most in VMI history...produced five games of 200+ all-purpose yards including a Big South and school-record 346 yards against Charleston Southern...named Big South Offensive Player of the Week for Oct. 15 (Presbyterian) and Nov. 5 (Charleston Southern)...scored a TD in six straight games...caught five passes for 209 yards vs. CSU-second most receiving yards in BSC history... 87-yard TD reception vs. CSU tied for the longest in BSC history... returned two kickoffs for touchdowns (86 vs. JMU, 99 vs. Citadel) and was the first in BSC history to return two kicks for scores in the same season... set a school mark for kick return yards with 889 yards (25.4 ypr)...returned 11 punts for 80 yards and a 7.3 average with a long of 21 yards against Lehigh...played a team-high 560 snaps last season...lettered for the second time...Also saw time with the Keydet basketball team, playing in four games, all



**Tim Maypray ranks third in career touchdowns in VMI history.**

coming against Big South opponents.

**2006** - Named **2006 Big South Freshman of the Year**...a big-play performer on the offense...was second on the team in receptions with 14 catches for 244 yards and two touchdowns and was third on the team in rushing with 280 yards on 41 carries (6.8 ypc)...named Big South Freshman of the Week two consecutive weeks for his play against Army (Oct. 7) and CCU (Oct. 14)...had 132 all-purpose yards vs. CCU by rushing for a team-high 89 yards on eight attempts (11.1 average), and scoring on a 37-yard TD run...had 62 all-purpose yards vs. Army...caught a season-long 74 yard touchdown pass against CSU and scored again for the third straight week when he caught a 23-yard pass at GWU...sixth in the league in all-purpose yards (87.0) and second in kick return average (18.8).

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal, Va...two-year letterwinner in football as RB/DB...two-time All-State performer at RB/DB...career: 1,702 yds. rushing, 673 yds. receiving and 32 TD's...two-year letterwinner in basketball - averaging 17 ppg...All-State Track performer.

**PERSONAL**- Full name is Timothy Wayne Maypray, II...Psychology major.

### Maypray's Career Stats

Rushing								
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG	
2006	10	41	280	6.8	37	1	28.0	
2007	11	67	391	5.8	38	3	35.5	
2008	11	195	1266	6.5	64	12	115.1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>1937</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>60.5</b>	

Receiving								
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG	
2006	10	14	244	17.4	74	2	24.4	
2007	11	31	615	19.8	87	7	55.9	
2008	11	7	168	24.0	75	1	15.3	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>32.1</b>	

Passing								
YR	G	Cmp.-Att.	Effic.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	INT	LP
2007	10	0-1	0.00	0.0	0	0	0	0
2008	11	9-19	229.58	47.4	255	4	0	74
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9-20</b>	<b>218.1</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>74</b>

Kickoff Returns					
YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2006	17	320	18.8	36	0
2007	35	889	25.4	99	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>2</b>

Punt Returns					
YR	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2006	2	26	13.0	16	0
2007	11	80	7.3	21	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>



# Chance McConnell

## Free Safety

- Sophomore
- 5-11 • 196
- Acton, Calif.
- Paraclete

35

Worked out at free safety in the spring and is listed at reserve...worked hard in the spring to put himself in a position to contribute to the squad...will provide depth in the secondary.

**2008** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Paraclete High School in Lancaster, Calif.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Chance Joseph McConnell...Biology major.



# Patrick McKinney

## Defensive End

- Redshirt Senior-3L
- 6-3 • 245
- Big Stone Gap, Va.
- Powell Valley

17

**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Moved to defensive end in the spring after starting three years at linebacker, including two at inside linebacker...adjusted well to the change and is looking forward to a big senior season...earned 2009 "Iron Keydet" Award for off-season strength and conditioning as a defensive lineman after winning the 2008 award as a linebacker...had a strong spring practice adapting to the new position and had 2.5 tackles-for-loss in spring scrimmage... has 189 career tackles.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games with nine starts and lettered for the third time...had 29 tackles last season, including 12 solo and 17 assists...started all 11 games in 2009 and has made 33 consecutive starts, starting every game of his



Patrick McKinney will shift to defensive end this season after starting for three years at linebacker.

career...posted a season-high seven tackles against Chowan and had two tackles-for-loss for 5 yards...had three tackles with a tackle-for-loss against both Ohio and Liberty...also posted three tackles against Richmond and Stony Brook.

**2007** - Started all 11 games at linebacker and led the team in tackles for the second straight year with 78 tackles (32 solos, 46 assists)...had six tackles-for-loss for -25 yards...posted double-digit tackle games against James Madison with a season-high 11 stops (five solos and six assists) and also had ten tackles (five solos and five assists) against The Citadel...had eight tackles with a TFL (-6) against Coastal Carolina and seven tackles and two TFL (-3) against Gardner-Webb...ranked seventh in the Big South in tackles per game (6.8).

**2006** - Made 11 consecutive starts as a redshirt freshman and led the team with 82 total tackles (37 solo and 45 assists)...credited with 2.5 tackles-for-loss for -7 yards...made the game-saving tackle by stopping a two-point conversion rush attempt at the goal line with time expired to defeat Davidson, capping his collegiate debut with 14 tackles...posted 10 tackles against Norfolk State and FCS playoff team James Madison...credited with a pass break-up at Gardner-Webb... became the eligible freshman to lead VMI in tackles since Robert Mason (80) in 2002...lettered for the first time.

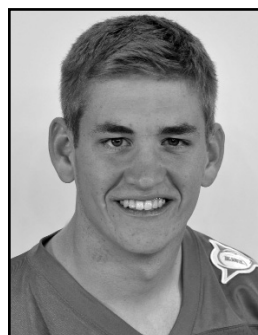
**2005** - Was injured and did not see game action...was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Powell Valley High School near Big Stone Gap, Va...twice named First Team All-District, All-Region and Honorable Mention at fullback during his junior and senior years...also named Second Team All-District at linebacker in 2003...rushed for over 1,000 yards as a junior...was named Lonesome Pine District Defensive Lineman of the Year and honorable mention all-state at defensive end in 2004...two-way starter for state A runner-up Powell Valley that posted a 12-2 record in 2004...Academic All-State athlete for four years.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Patrick Brown McKinney...Civil Engineering major.

### McKinney's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2006	11	37/45	82	0	2.5-7	0	0	1	0	0	0
2007	11	32/46	78	0.5	6.0-25	0	1	0	0	0	0
2008	11	12/17	29	0	4.5-13	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>81/108</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>13.0-45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# Cameron Murray

## Punter

- Sophomore
- 6-1 • 200
- Richmond, Va.
- Deep Run

39

Originally recruited by the Keydet soccer program but joined the VMI football team early last fall...has helped the depth of the Keydet punting game...worked hard in the spring to get timing down after transitioning from soccer...will be a candidate for the punting job in preseason camp and could also placekick.

**2008** - Started the fall on the VMI soccer team but joined the football program three weeks into the season in late September...punted in three games-Richmond, Liberty, and Presbyterian...punted four times for a 33.0 average with a long of 39 yards against Liberty.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Deep Run High School in Glen Allen, Va...three-year letterwinner as a punter and kicker at Deep Run...earned All-District honors...led Deep Run to two straight Colonial District titles and two Central Region semifinal appearances on the soccer field...named Second Team All-District as a goalkeeper...was a member of the Richmond Strikers Academy team in '07-08 and competed at Disney 2006 US Club Soccer Championships... received prestigious West Point Society of Richmond's Award for Leadership in 2007.

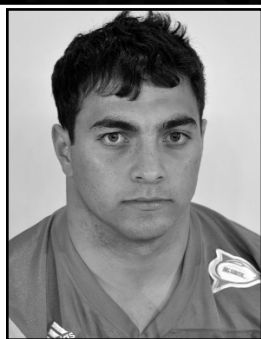
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Cameron Richard Murray...son of former VMI punter Cal Murray '83, who serves as color commentator on the VMI Football Radio Network...Biology major.

### Murray's Career Stats

Punting								
YR	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TB	FC	I20	Blkd
2008	4	132	33.0	39	0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

INTRO  
THIS IS VMI  
PREVIEW  
COACHES  
PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA

INTRO  
THIS IS VMI  
PREVIEW  
COACHES  
PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA



## Kyle Nikmard

### Strong Safety

- Redshirt Junior-2L
- 5-11 • 195
- Katy, Texas
- Taylor

8

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Moved to strong safety after playing last season at linebacker...sat out spring practice while recuperating from shoulder surgery but should be ready to go at the start of August camp...very familiar with the defensive scheme...strong, fast, and explosive with great football knowledge...came to the team as a recruited walk-on and has earned his way into scholarship status and a starting role.

**2008** - Played in 10-of-11 games, missing the Stony Brook game in week 10 because of injury...made 10 starts at outside linebacker...ranked fourth on the team in tackles with 54 total stops, including 26 solo and 28 assists... fourth on the team in tackles-for-loss with five for -25 yards...had 26 tackles over a three-week stretch in conference when he posted a season-high nine tackles against both Gardner-Webb and Charleston Southern, including 1.5 tackles-for-loss for -10 yards against CSU...racked up eight tackles against Liberty and Ohio...had sacks against Saint Francis and Chowan...intercepted a pass to stop a scoring drive at William & Mary and returned it 15 yards...broke up two passes against both Saint Francis and Presbyterian, finishing the year with four, tying him for the team lead.

**2007** - Started to see considerable action at mid-season and worked himself into some mid-season starts...started three consecutive games (Presbyterian, Gardner-Webb, and Coastal Carolina)...finished with 23 tackles...had four solos and two assists for six stops against Coastal Carolina...made six tackles including five assists and a pass break-up against The Citadel...made two tackles-for-loss for -4 yards.

**2006** - Sustained an ankle injury and was sidelined the entire year.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Taylor High School in Katy, Texas.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Mikyle Amir Nikmard...Mechanical Engineering major.

### Nikmard's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2007	9	10/13	23	0	2.0-4	0	0	1	0	0	0
2008	10	26/28	54	2.0	5.0-25	0	0	5	1	15	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36/41</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.0-29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>



Junior slotback Michael Rainey-Wiles started all 11 games last season and tied for the team lead in receptions.



## Michael Rainey-Wiles

### Slotback

- Junior-2L
- 5-9 • 170
- Pittsburgh, Pa.
- North Hills

9

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Talented receiver who makes things happen when he gets the ball...has complemented the option offense by stretching defenses with his routes...great hands and speed...will start at one slotback position...comes in off a solid spring practice and was tabbed a "Keydet" strength award recipient for his work on conditioning.

**2008** - Tied for the team lead in receptions with seven and was second in receiving yardage...started all 11 games at slotback...rushed for a season-high 79 yards and a touchdown against Stony Brook...caught two passes for 40 yards and two scores against Coastal Carolina...snagged a 46-yard touchdown pass against Gardner-Webb for his longest reception of the year...caught a 36-yard touchdown pass against Ohio...returned four kicks for 14.5 average and three punts for a 7.7 average...saw action on special teams coverage and was credited with four tackles.

**2007** - Rushed 32 times for 153 yards and averaged nearly five yards a carry...gained 91 yards on seven attempts in his first college game against Lock Haven and turned in an 83-yard TD run, VMI's longest run from scrimmage last season...his 83-yard touchdown run tied him for the fourth-longest run from scrimmage in VMI football history and set a Big South record for longest run at the time...returned ten kicks for 159 yards with a long of 23 against Presbyterian...lettered as a true freshman.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of North Hills High School in Pittsburgh, Pa...team captain - Football & Track...Three-year varsity letterwinner...All-State Track...Honorable Mention All-State (2006)...Pittsburgh Post Gazette First Team All-Conference (2006)...Journal News First Team All Conference (2006)...Special Teams Player of The Year (2006)...as a senior, rushed for 454 yards and three TD - totaled 310 yards receiving and one TD...totaled 363 yards on 12 kick returns and 331 yards on 15 punt returns...collected 1,348 all-purpose yards...on defense, made 39 tackles and two INT... Second Team All-Conference - All-Purpose Back (2005)...as a junior, rushed for 551 yards and two TD, while making 14 catches for 215 yards and two TD...on defense, made 20 tackles and had four pass breakups.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Michael Anthony Rainey-Wiles...Psychology major.

### Rainey-Wiles' Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	7	32	153	4.8	83	1	21.9
2008	11	37	295	8.0	23	1	26.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24.9</b>

Receiving							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	7	1	18	18.0	18	0	2.6
2008	11	7	153	21.9	46	4	13.9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9.5</b>

Kickoff Returns						
YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	
2007	10	159	15.9	23	0	
2008	4	58	14.5	18	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	

Punt Returns						
YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	
2008	3	23	7.7	15	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	



## Alex Ray

### Inside Linebacker

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 5-11 • 225
- Roanoke, Va.
- Hidden Valley

52

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has provided quality depth at linebacker...will again be in the two-deep picture at inside linebacker...listed on the post-spring depth chart at no.2 "Mike"...one of two upperclassman on the roster from the Roanoke Valley...produced a safety in the spring scrimmage.

**2008** - Played in eight games and earned his first varsity letter...credited with three tackles on the season with one each against Saint Francis, Chowan, and Richmond.

**2007** - Came to the team as a recruited walk-on...did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Hidden Valley High School in Roanoke, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Alexander T. S. Ray...Civil Engineering major.

#### Ray's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	8	0/3	3	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0/3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



## Marc Ray

### Punter

- Redshirt Freshman
- 6-1 • 190
- Greenville, Va.
- Riverheads

80

Will vie for the punting job in preseason camp...joined the team as a walk-on last year but did not participate in a game...coming off a spring practice where he saw plenty of reps.

**2008** - Came to the team as a walk-on in August camp and did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Riverheads High School near Greenville, Va...punted on title teams throughout his scholastic career.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Marc Dillon Ray...Economics and Business major.



Kyle Nikmard (8) and Tyler Reedy (37) will be slated for action at the two safety spots this fall.



## Tyler Reedy

### Free Safety

- Redshirt Sophomore-1L
- 5-10 • 185
- Canton, Ga.
- Sequoyah

37

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - One of the fastest members of the secondary... a returning letterman with starting experience...continued to develop during spring practice...listed on the preseason depth chart at no.2 free safety...recovered a fumble during the spring scrimmage.

**2008** - Played in 10-of-11 games in his first season on the field...started the first two games of the season (Saint Francis, William & Mary)...ranked eighth on the team in tackles with 38, including 24 solo stops...logged at least one tackle in every game he saw action...racked up a season-high six tackles (two solo, four assists) against Liberty and was also credited with six stops against Richmond...forced fumbles against Saint Francis and Liberty and also recovered a fumble against Liberty...intercepted a pass and returned it 50 yards for a touchdown against Charleston Southern, becoming the first Keydet to accomplish the feat since the 2006 season.

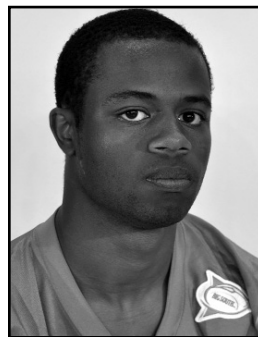
**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Sequoyah High School in Canton, Ga...captain of the football team (2006)...Atlanta Journal Constitution Second Team All-State (2006)...Region 5 AAAA Defensive Player of the Year (2006)...Cherokee Tribune County Defensive Player of the Year (2006)...Atlanta Journal Constitution Cherokee County Defensive Player of the Year (2006)...All-Region DB (2005)...Cherokee Tribune All-County Team (2005)...Atlanta Journal Constitution All-County Team (2005)...in final two seasons at Sequoyah, totaled 301 tackles, 20 tackles-for-loss, six INT, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries, eight passes broken up and five blocked kicks...also collected 630 yards of total offense, scoring nine touchdowns and three safeties while averaging 34.8 yards per kick return and 22.0 yards per punt return...Three-year track letterwinner.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Tyler Scott Reedy...English major.

#### Reedy's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	10	24/14	38	0	0.5-2	1	2	1	1	50	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24/14</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5-2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>



## Eric Scott

### Wide Receiver

- Redshirt Sophomore
- 5-9 • 160
- Richmond, Va.
- Mills Godwin

87

Enters his third season with the program and will help the receiving corps' depth...got a taste of action last season...listed on the depth chart as a reserve at "Z" position...can also play on special teams...recruited walk-on.

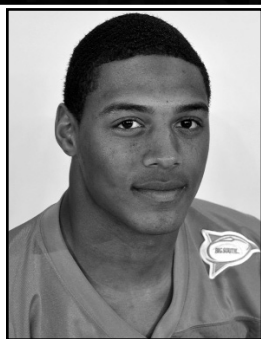
**2008** - Played in two games, seeing action in the opener against Saint Francis and the Chowan game in week three...saw 12 plays against Chowan.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Mills Godwin High School in Richmond, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Eric Brian Scott...Economics and Business major.

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PLAYER BIOS  
OPPOSITION  
STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA



# Mario Scott

## Wide Receiver

- Junior-2L
- 5-11 • 170
- Staunton, Va.
- Randolph-Macon Acad.

3

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** – Talented veteran who will lead the receiving corps...has big-play explosiveness...one of the Keydet deep threats...listed as a starter on the preseason depth chart at "X"...had another good spring and was one of five players to earn "Red/Yellow" award for off-season strength and conditioning...will look to have more touches this fall.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games...caught six passes for 90 yards on the season, including a 46-yard TD reception against Ohio...caught two balls for 18 yards in the season opener against Saint Francis...was a big part of the Keydet offense with his field presence and blocking ability...led wide receivers in knockdowns with seven...lettered for the second time...made a tackle on special teams.

**2007** - Played in all 11 games and lettered...had a breakout game against Coastal Carolina catching four passes for 84 yards including a 36-yard touchdown snag - the only time he reached the end zone...caught two passes in the season finale against The Citadel...finished the year with ten catches for 134 yards.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal, Va...team captain in football, basketball, & track...four-year letterwinner in football as QB/WR/DB...1,970 yards passing, 1,100 yards rushing in his final two seasons...Two-year letterwinner in basketball, averaging 11 points, six assists and six steals...member of 4 x 100 state champ and 4 x 400 state runner-up team in track...on the President's List, Dean's List and a member of the National Honor Society...high school teammate of current Keydet Tim Maypray.

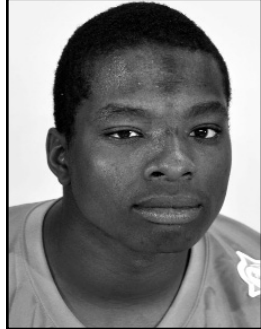
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Mario N. Scott...International Studies major.

### Mario Scott's Career Stats

Receiving							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	11	10	134	13.4	36	1	12.2
2008	11	6	90	15.0	46	1	8.2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10.2</b>

Rushing							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2007	11	1	5	5.0	5	0	0.5
2008	11	1	7	7.0	7	0	0.6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5</b>



# D'Angelo Smith

## Offensive Line

- Sophomore
- 6-1 • 255
- Ellenwood, Ga.
- Stockbridge

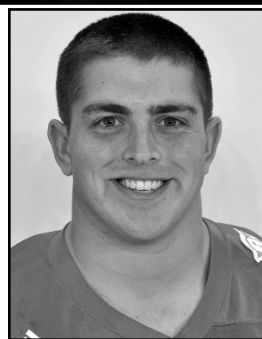
66

Played in a reserve role last year on the offense and should see more playing time this year...is in the two-deep picture at center and is listed in the no. 2 slot...one of the few true freshman linemen to see action last year...continues to improve technique and understanding of the offense.

**2008** - Appeared in four games as a reserve offensive lineman and worked mainly at tackle...played against Saint Francis, Chowan, Richmond, and Coastal Carolina...participated on 24 snaps against Chowan with six knockdowns and 10 snaps against Saint Francis.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Stockbridge High School in Stockbridge, Ga...coached by Steve Collins...two-year starter on offensive line...team captain as a senior...selected Second Team All-Region...Two-year football letterman...Stockbridge HS Academic Award Winner as a senior in football.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is D'Angelo Romane Smith...Computer Science major.



# Josh Sneed

## Inside Linebacker

- Sophomore-1L
- 6-2 • 240
- Lawrenceville, Ga.
- Collins Hill

54

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Saw plenty of action last year as a true freshman and was a big contributor to the linebacker corps and special teams...will be in rotation at linebacker and is listed in the two-deep at "Ted"...has a good sense of the defense and continues to improve with experience...should play more of a role at linebacker after graduation of Jacob Rochester and is expected to again be a big part of special teams.

**2008** - Played in all 11 games as a true freshman and lettered...logged at least one tackle in his first five college games including two stops against William & Mary, Chowan, and Ohio...finished the year with eight tackles.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Collins Hill High School in Suwanee, Ga...selected First-Team Region 7-5A...Second-Team All-County as offensive guard...fifth all-time leading tackler in Collins Hill history...awarded 2007 Collins Hill Iron Eagle Award, given to most outstanding two-way player...selected to play in inaugural Rivals of Gwinnett County All-Star Game...September 2007 Gwinnett County Touchdown Club football "Player of the Month"...attended and completed 2007 IDEALS Leadership School...two-year letterman in track.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Joshua Ryan Sneed...Economics and Business major.

### Sneed's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	11	3/5	8	0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3/5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# Dave Stradford

## Offensive Line

- Redshirt Freshman
- 5-10 • 270
- Fort Washington, Md.
- Friendly

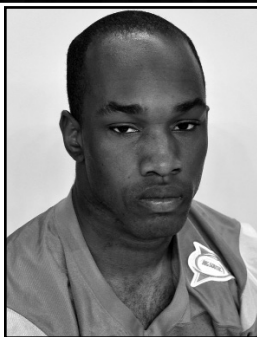
70

Spent last year developing his strength, stamina and technique and the work has paid off as he now finds himself in the two-deep...slotted at back-up left guard...had a good spring practice and is ready to contribute on the field.

**2008** - Did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Friendly High School in Fort Washington, Md...lettered three years at center and defensive tackle...as a senior, played on 3A state championship squad that went 14-0 and offense averaged 44.3 points per game...named All-County... lettered one year as a shot putter in track.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is David Tyrone Stradford...Economics and Business major.



# Levi Swindell

## Cornerback

- Redshirt Junior-2L
- 6-0 • 190
- Elk Grove, Calif.
- Franklin/FUMA

19

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Experienced defensive back who is working to get back in the mix after sustaining a knee injury last year...spent most of spring practice rehabbing to get back into shape for fall camp...has 18 career starts... will help the depth situation at cornerback...enters the year as a redshirt junior eligibility-wise.

**2008** - Played in four games before seeing his season end with an ACL injury in the Ohio game in week four...made starts against Chowan and Ohio... had 12 tackles on the season...picked off a pass against Chowan...credited with a pass break-up at William & Mary.

**2007** - Started the first four games at strong safety before moving to make two starts when the Keydets employed a five defensive back scheme later in the year...again ranked highly on the depth charts ranking fifth with 59 tackles including 27 solos and 32 assisted stops...led the team in tackles with 15 against William & Mary in week two...broke up passes in the Lock Haven, Presbyterian and Gardner-Webb games...lettered for the second time.

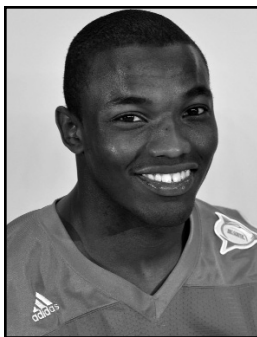
**2006** - Started ten games as a true freshman in the defensive backfield...finished second on the team in tackles with 70 including 35 solos...led the team in pass break-ups with six...had a season-high 11 tackles with nine solos against The Citadel had four more games with at least seven stops including nine tackles against Norfolk State and eight each consecutive games against Coastal Carolina and Charleston Southern...credited with a tackle-for-loss against Army...lettered for the first time.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Franklin High School in Elk Grove, Calif...prepped at Fork Union Military Academy...Three-year starter at Franklin HS as a DB/WR...also played varsity basketball and ran track... 2004-Honorable Mention All Delta League-California...2005-Starting CB on Post Graduate Football Team at FUMA...AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) Program...Black Youth Leadership Project... Student Assemblyman California... Honor Roll Student.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Levi Alexander Swindell, Jr...History major.

### Swindell's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2006	11	35/35	70	0	0.5-1	0	0	6	0	0	0
2007	10	27/32	59	0	0.0-0	0	0	3	0	0	0
2008	4	9/3	12	0	1.0-3	0	0	1	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>71/70</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.5-4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# TJ. Talley

## Slotback

- Sophomore-1L
- 5-10 • 200
- South Hill, Va.
- Park View

25

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Lettered as a true freshman after serving primarily on special teams...could see an expanded role this season after a good spring practice...listed at reserve slotback on the depth chart and could give the Keydets quality depth.

**2008** - Played in 10-of-11 games during the '08 campaign ...participated in 115 plays, seeing most of that action on special teams...earned his first varsity let-

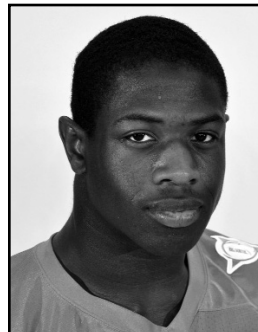
ter...rushed twice for 23 yards in his first collegiate game at William & Mary, with a long of 15 yards...racked up 16 tackles on special teams coverage...had three-tackle games against Richmond, Coastal Carolina, and Charleston Southern...credited with two knockdowns against Chowan...had at least one tackle in each of the last nine games of the season.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Park View High School in South Hill, Va...three-year letterwinner while playing football at Park View...two-year letterwinner playing basketball.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Donald Anthony Talley, Jr...Economics and Business major.

### Talley's Career Stats

Rushing							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2008	10	2	23	11.5	15	0	2.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.3</b>



# Hardy Temoney

## Running Back

- Sophomore-1L
- 5-11 • 205
- Wilmington, N.C.
- Eugene Ashley

44

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - True freshman who made an impact on special teams last season...played at "B" back fullback position in spring practice after playing linebacker as a freshman...has good athletic skills and continues to build size and develop speed...was an "Iron Keydet" during off-season strength and conditioning workouts...will provide quality depth in the backfield and should continue to play a big part on special teams...came to the team as a recruited walk-on.

**2008** - Played in six games on the season and earned a letter as a true freshman...got on the field for 56 plays during a three-game stretch at mid-season (Chowan, Ohio, and Richmond)...credited with two assisted tackles against Richmond.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Eugene Ashley High School in Wilmington, N.C.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Hardy Leroy Temoney, II...Psychology major.



# Justin Tench

## Offensive Line

- Redshirt Junior
- 6-3 • 295
- West Point, Va.
- West Point

69

Continues to work hard and earns respect with his approach to the team concept...continues to work out at left guard, where he is listed as a reserve on the pre-camp depth chart...has good size and will give the offensive line depth...a recruited walk-on...saw his first collegiate action last year.

**2008** - Got on the playing field for the first time and saw action in two games on the offensive line.

**2007** - Did not see game action.

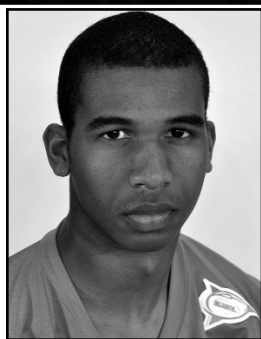
**2006** - Joined the team during preseason practice in Fall 2006, but did not see game action and was redshirted.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of West Point High School in West Point, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Justin Ryland Tench...Economics and Business major.

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STAFF  
RECORDS  
MEDIA



# Juan Thrasher

## Cornerback

- Sophomore-1L
- 5-10 • 180
- Carrollton, Texas
- Creekview

34

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Learned a great deal during his true freshman year and is a better player for it...had a good spring and enters fall camp as the starter at right cornerback...has improved technique and confidence which will only improve with more experience...could also contribute on special teams.

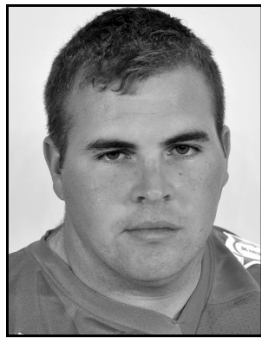
**2008** - Lettered as a true freshman and played in all 11 games, with playing time increasing significantly over the last six games of the year...moved into the starting lineup at cornerback the last five games of the season...totaled 20 tackles...made a season-best five tackles against Chowan...intercepted a pass and returned a blocked kick for a two-point conversion against Coastal Carolina...broke up passes against Chowan, Gardner-Webb and Liberty.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Creekview High School in Carrollton, Texas...captain of football team as a senior...named First-Team All-District as a free safety in his senior season...defensive team MVP & defensive back MVP as a senior...earned Second-Team All-District honors as a free safety as a junior...Honorable Mention All-State at Free Safety as a sophomore...Who's Who in Sports Among High School Students (2005)...lettered in baseball, track, and bowling...team leader in stolen bases as a junior and senior.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Juan Edward Thrasher...Psychology major.

### Thrasher's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	11	12/8	20	0	0-0	0	0	3	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12/8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# Mark Tomlin

## Offensive Line

- Redshirt Sophomore
- 6-4 • 275
- Madison Heights, Va.
- Amherst County

64

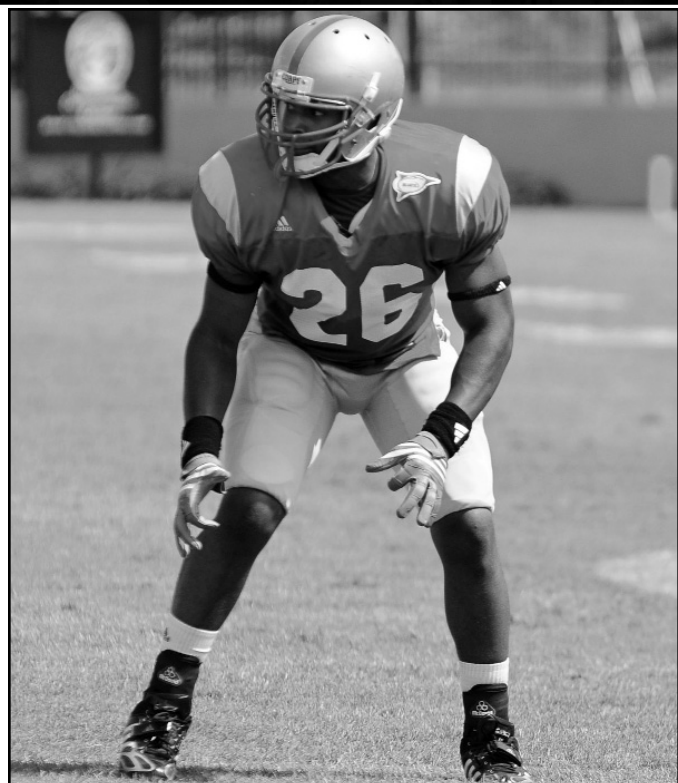
Will give the Keydets depth on the offensive line...listed on the post-spring depth chart at no. 2 right tackle...converted from defensive line after he first arrived on post...has a strong familiarity with the option offense after playing a similar style in high school...continues to progress after working hard in spring drills.

**2008** - Saw his first action as a collegian and played in the Saint Francis and Chowan games.

**2007** - Came to VMI as a recruited walk-on and did not see game action.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Amherst County High School in Madison Heights, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Mark Dakota Tomlin...Economics and Business major.



*Kris Ware moves outside linebacker this season after finishing sixth in tackles last year at strong safety.*



# Greg Walker

## Cornerback

- Sophomore-1L
- 5-9 • 165
- Waldorf, Md.
- Westlake

29

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Made a significant contribution to the secondary and special teams as a true freshman...has starting experience and used it to his advantage in spring practice...enters the season at one starting cornerback position...had three tackles and a pass deflection in the spring scrimmage.

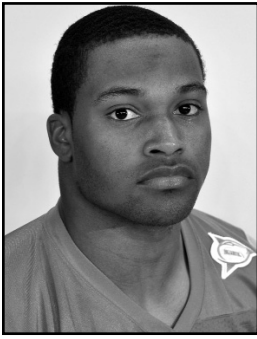
**2008** - Played in all 11 games, seeing action in 220 plays...played considerably in two games of the season (Stony Brook and Presbyterian) at corner and helped filled voids caused by injury...also played on special teams...intercepted a pass in his collegiate debut against Saint Francis and returned it 34 yards...recorded a season-high five tackles against Chowan with two solos and three assists...earned his first varsity letter.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Westlake High School in Waldorf, Md...captain of football team as a senior...First-Team All-Conference and First-Team All-County at cornerback in his senior season... First-Team Washington Post All-Southern Maryland at cornerback as a senior... Senior season offensive stats: 88 rushing attempts; 836 yards; 13 TD's, five receptions, and 110 yards receiving...led conference in scoring and was fourth in rushing...senior season defensive stats: 18 solo tackles, five interceptions and 76 return yards...tied for conference lead in interceptions...ranked 37th in the nation in the 300 meters...member of 4x200 meter relay team ranked first in the nation...three-time recipient of the State of Maryland Minds in Motion Award for Academic Excellence (2005, 2006, 2007)...Honor Roll student.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Gregory Deon Walker...Psychology major.

### Walker's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	11	8/4	12	0	0-0	0	0	0	1	34	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8/4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>0</b>



# Kris Ware

## Linebacker

- Redshirt Junior-2L
- 6-0 • 221
- Chesapeake, Va.
- Deep Creek

**26**

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** – Returned to action after a year's absence and was a fixture in the secondary...was moved to outside linebacker in the spring and is one of the Keydets who made a positive transition...listed at starting rush end in the preseason depth chart...had another outstanding year of strength and conditioning and was one of four Keydets to attain "Super Iron Keydet" status.

**2008** - Started all 11 games at strong safety...ranked sixth on the team in tackles with 49...made six tackles including one for loss for two yards against Gardner-Webb...blocked a kick against Coastal Carolina...recovered a fumble at William & Mary...combined on a tackle-for-loss for one yard as one of his five stops against Saint Francis.

**2007** - Practiced with the squad but did not see game action.

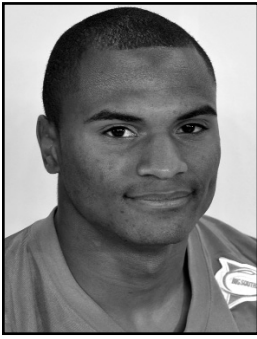
**2006** - Made two starts (JMU and Army) at outside linebacker...also played special teams and lettered...finished the year with 22 tackles...had a season-high four solo tackles, two assists, and recovered a fumble against William & Mary.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Deep Creek High School in Chesapeake, Va....as a senior, totaled 60 tackles, 250 rushing yards, five pass deflections, averaged about 7.5 yards per carry...Honor Roll student...First Team District (MLB)... Second Team All-Tidewater (MLB)...lettered three years in football, two years in basketball and one year in track...game captain several times.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Kristopher Sean Ware...Psychology major.

### Ware's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2006	9	9/13	22	0	0.5-1	1	0	1	0	0	0
2008	11	23/26	49	0	1.5-3	1	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>32/39</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.0-4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# Trae Watkins

## Strong Safety

- Sophomore-1L
- 5-11 • 185
- Lynchburg, Va.
- Virginia Episcopal

**1**

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Has helped the defensive secondary with his speed and agility...positioned at strong safety in the spring and is in the current two-deep...should get playing time on special teams this fall, as he did last year...comes in after a noteworthy off-season of strength and conditioning where he earned "Keydet" award status...worked hard to rehab from a knee injury sustained late last year.

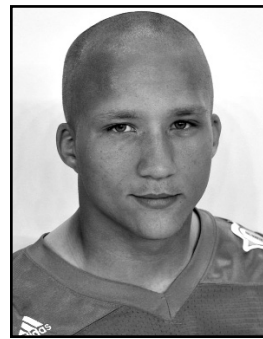
**2008** - Active on the playing field as a true freshman, with playing time increasing throughout the year...saw his most playing time in the opener when he was in 34 plays against Saint Francis...also was involved in 32 plays at Stony Brook before a knee injury in that game ended his season...played in nine of 11 games and lettered...had 11 total tackles on the season, including five solos...posted a season-high four stops against Saint Francis...broke up passes against William & Mary and Stony Brook...credited with half tackle-for-loss for five yards against Chowan.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg, Va...led team to VISAA Championship game as a senior...three-time All-VISAA running back...two-year selection as All-VISAA Defensive Back First Team...two-year selection to the Lynchburg News & Advance All-Area First-Team as Defensive Back...Virginia Episcopal School Most Valuable Player as junior and senior.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is James Ellison Watkins, III...Economics and Business major.

### Watkins' Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	9	5/6	11	0	0.5-5	0	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5/6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5-5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# Zach Webb

## Cornerback

- Sophomore-1L
- 5-10 • 175
- Bedford, Va.
- Liberty/FUMA

**46**

**ONE-YEAR LETTERMAN** - Will help the depth situation at cornerback after working there in the spring...could also contribute on special teams again...continues to improve and is a returning letterman with significant game experience...working hard to rehab from a knee injury suffered late last season.

**2008** - Another true freshman who lettered for the Keydets and saw significant duty on special teams...finished with 13 tackles on the season in eight games before a knee injury sidelined him the last three games of the year...made four tackles against Chowan including a half tackle-for-loss for four yards... returned a punt for 17 yards against Saint Francis.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Liberty High School in Bedford, Va... attended Fork Union Military Academy in Fork Union, Va...posted 586 rushing yards in a 2-game stretch as a junior...was Second-Team All-District at running back...averaged 119 yards rushing per game as a senior.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Zachary Lewis Webb...Psychology major.

### Webb's Career Stats

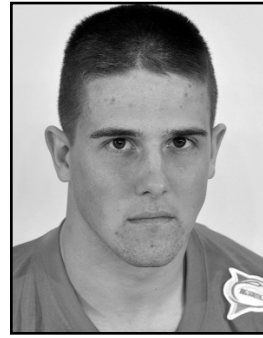
Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2008	8	7/6	13	0	0.5-4	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7/6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5-4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Kickoff Returns

YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2008	1	28	28.0	28	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>

### Punt Returns

YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2008	1	17	17.0	17	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>



# Michael White

## Outside Linebacker

- Sophomore
- 6-2 • 220
- Midlothian, Va.
- Midlothian

**58**

Could help the depth situation at outside linebacker...working hard to improve strength and speed...was named to the 2008-09 Big South Conference Presidential Honor Roll.

**2008** - Came to the team as a recruited walk-on...Did not see game action.

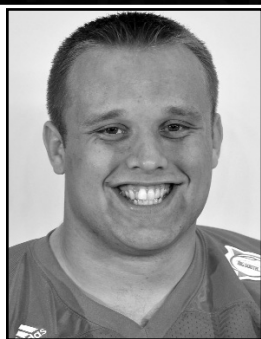
**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Midlothian High School in Midlothian, Va.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Michael Robert White, Jr...Civil Engineering major.

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RECORDS  
MEDIA



# Josh Wine

## Defensive Tackle

- Junior-2L
- 6-0 • 265
- Fredericksburg, Va.
- Massaponax

**50**

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** – Has developed into a leader on the defensive line and has the most experience of returning players...will be counted on for leadership as several new players work into the mix on the D-line...brings plenty of intensity to the fray at nose tackle...has also been used as a power formation fullback in goal line situations...worked hard to adapt to the 3-4 alignment last year and had another productive spring...also an outstanding heavyweight wrestler who was voted the top freshman heavyweight in the country two years ago, as he advanced to the NCAA Championships, where he won a match.

**2008** - Started all 11 games at tackle on the defensive line and compiled 34 stops to lead all defensive front players...made a season-high eight stops at Ohio...racked up four tackles-for-loss for -12 yards on the season...made five tackles each in conference games against Gardner-Webb and Liberty...also rushed twice and scored both times on two-yard rushes in goal line situations against Gardner-Webb...registered tackles-for-loss in consecutive weeks against William & Mary, Chowan, and Ohio...lettered for the second time...advanced to the NCAA Wrestling Championships for the second-straight season.

**2007** - Played and started all 11 games at nose tackle and was the only true freshman to start every game on defense...had 30 tackles which led all down linemen 6.0 tackles-for-loss...posted a season-high seven tackles at Lehigh with two TFL's and one sack...led the team with three fumble recoveries getting loose balls against Robert Morris, Presbyterian and Charleston Southern...was tied for second on the team in sacks with three...lettered as a true freshman.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Massaponax High School in Fredericksburg, Va...two-time captain of the football team...three-time All-Commonwealth District LB...two-time All-Northwest Region LB...three-time All-Area Team LB...team Offensive Player of the Year (2006)...Commonwealth District Defensive Player of the Year (2005)...Pat Tillman Award (Team Defensive Player of the Year) (2004, 2005)...member of the National Honor Society (2005, 2006).

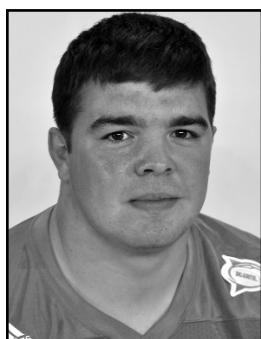
**PERSONAL** - Full name is Joshua Allen Wine...Psychology major.

### Wine's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2007	11	12/18	30	3.0	6.0-19	3	0	0	0	0	0
2008	11	11/23	34	1.5	4.5-12	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23/41</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>10.5-31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Rushing							
YR	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	YPG
2008	11	2	4	2.0	2	2	0.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.4</b>



# Bo Wren

## Offensive Line

- Junior-2L
- 6-0 • 265
- Gainesville, Ga.
- Gainesville

**63**

**TWO-YEAR LETTERMAN** – A returning upperclassman with two years starting experience...has become a fixture at right tackle and has made 22 straight starts on the offensive line...continues to make gains in strength and technique...will be a leader on the offensive line.

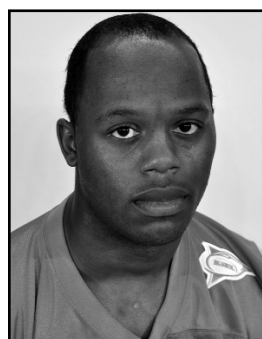
**2008** - Started all 11 games at right tackle after playing guard his freshman year...lettered for the second time...was a key factor in VMI's success as the

Keydets led the nation in rushing and topped the Big South in that category for the third-straight year...participated on a season-high 74 snaps against Liberty... put together team-high 14 knockdown games against conference foes Gardner-Webb, Charleston Southern and Presbyterian, and compiled 70 knockdowns on the year.

**2007** - Started all 11 games at right guard and lettered...only true freshman to start all 11 games on offense...was a big part of the unit that set a new Big South Conference rushing mark with 283.2 yards per game to lead the league in rushing for the second straight year and rank as high as third in FCS...posted double-digit knockdown games against Lock Haven (15) and Charleston Southern (13).

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Gainesville High School in Gainesville, Ga...three-year letterman on offensive and defensive line...team captain...named All-Area...Honor Roll Student...lettered four years in wrestling and was a two-time state champion and held the school record for wins (193)...USA Wrestling Off-Season State Champion.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Robert Lewis-Nixon Wren...Economics and Business major.



# Bryant Youngblood

## Cornerback

- Senior-3L
- 5-10 • 180
- Youngstown, Ohio
- Youngstown Ursuline

**5**

**THREE-YEAR LETTERMAN** – One of six players on the squad with three varsity letters and has the most experience of any returning member of the secondary...a dependable defender who will provide leadership in the defensive backfield...listed on the two-deep at right cornerback where he will vie with Juan Thrasher for playing time...has also been a valuable member of the special teams...makes the most of his time in the weight room and was designated an "Iron Keydet", one of three DB's to attain that distinction...has 19 career starts.

**2008** - Started all 11 games in the secondary, beginning games at both cornerback and free safety...ranked third on the team in tackles with 59 and led all defenders in solo stops...tied for the team lead in pass break-ups (5) and fumble recoveries (2)...returned three punts for 12 yards...made a season-high eight total tackles against Gardner-Webb and also logged three seven tackle games... participated on a team-high 747 plays on the season.

**2007** - Played in all 11 games and lettered for the second time...moved into the starting line-up at free safety in week five and remained there for the rest of the year, starting seven games total...piled up 60 tackles - the fourth-most on the team...made a team-high tying 39 solo tackles...had a season-high ten tackles in back-to-back games against Robert Morris and Presbyterian...logged nine tackles against Liberty and forced two fumbles returning one 87 yards for a score...intercepted a pass against Gardner-Webb and returned it 26 yards.

**2006** - Played in ten games seeing action mostly on special teams and lettered...racked up 27 tackles including 14 solos...made his only start of the season and had a season-high nine tackles in the season finale against Liberty...posted five-tackle games against James Madison and Gardner-Webb...was a big part of special teams unit...earned his first varsity letter.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - A graduate of Ursuline High School in Youngstown, Ohio...Team Captain...First Team All-SVC...Honorable Mention All-Ohio... member of Mahoning County All-Star team...2005 MVP...lettered two years in track...lettered in basketball...Honor Roll student...member of NHS...President of Student Council.

**PERSONAL** - Full name is Bryant Lamont Youngblood, Jr...Biology major.

### Youngblood's Career Stats

Defensive											
YR	G	T/A	Tot.	QBS	TFL-Y	FR	FF	PBU	Int.	Yds.	TD
2006	10	14/13	27	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	11	39/21	60	0.5	1.5-1	1	2	2	1	26	1
2008	11	38/21	59	0	0-0	2	0	5	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>91/55</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.5-1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>

Punt Returns					
YR	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
2008	3	12	4.0	12	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>



# Meet The Keydets-Freshmen

**Shawn Chapman, LB, 6-0, 230 lbs., Cocoa, Fla./Rockledge HS**

- \* Second Team All-Space Coast in '08
- \* First Team All-District (DE) in '07 and '08
- \* Blocked three kicks during 2008 campaign
- \* First-Team All-Space Coast in 2007
- \* Holds school bench press record, 400 lbs.
- \* Plans to major in Computer Science

**Patrick Goulden - DE, 6-3, 253, Laurel, Md./DeMatha Catholic HS**

- \* Member of 2006, 2007 and 2008 Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC) championship teams
- \* Senior season had six sacks, 45 tackles, three tackles-for-loss, and three fumble recoveries
- \* Selected for 2008 WCAC All-Met Defensive Line Team
- \* Awarded 2008 DeMatha High School Unsung Hero Award
- \* Plans to major in History

**Taj Harris - RB, 5-9, 200, College Park, Ga./Milton HS**

- \* Rushed for 742 yards on 114 carries with eight TD's, despite splitting carries with University of Tennessee signee Toney Williams
- \* Named Offensive Player of the Week for final regular season game vs. Kell, rushing for 147 yards and two TD's on 25 carries and clinching a home playoff berth
- \* Won Fastest Man Title at Schuman's National Underclassmen Combine in 2007
- \* Selected to attend Lead America Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.
- \* Plans to major in Biology

**Michael Johnson - QB, 5-10, 175 Glen Allen, Va./Hermitage HS**

- \* First Team All-District Utility
- \* Second Team All-District QB
- \* Honorable Mention All-Metro/All-Region
- \* Plans to major in Biology (Pre-Med)

**Charles Jones - DE, 6-1, 245, Hampton, Va./Phoebus HS**

- \* First Team All-Daily Press (2007)
- \* First Team All-Peninsula District (2006, 2007)
- \* First Team All-Eastern Region (2006, 2007)
- \* First Team All-State (2006)
- \* Academic Honor Roll every semester of academic career (1st thru 12th grade)
- \* Plans to major in Engineering

**Austin Lewis - DB, 5-10, 190, Severna Park, Md./Severna Park HS**

- \* Three-year starter at WR and DB
- \* Was team's primary kick returner during 2008 season
- \* Team reached Maryland state quarterfinals in '08
- \* 2008 All-County
- \* Averaged 27.5 yards-per-catch during senior season
- \* Second on team in scoring (84 pts.) in 2008
- \* Third on team in tackles during final HS campaign
- \* Four-year track participant in the sprints, winning Maryland State 4A East Regional 100-meter dash final in 2008 (10.9 seconds)

**Adam Morgan - QB, 6-0, 200, Sutherland, Va./Dinwiddie HS**

- \* Named First Team All-State QB and Offensive Player of the Year for AAA by VirginiaPreps.com & Rivals.com
- \* Named Co-MVP of 2009 VHSCA All-Star Game
- \* Second Team AAA All-State QB by the Associated Press
- \* Unanimous vote for First Team All-District (three consecutive years) and Offensive Player of the Year (two straight seasons)
- \* First Team All-Central Region QB, and Central Region Offensive Player of the Year
- \* First Team QB and Player of the Year by Progress Index
- \* All-Metro First Team QB and All-Metro Player of the Year by the Richmond Times Dispatch
- \* Received All-American status through O-D.com, named to their top 100 (No. 25) in the nation, and invited to play in their All-Star Game
- \* All-Central District and Central Region Academic Team
- \* Nominated for National Red Zone Player of the Year Award
- \* 2008 Statistics: 232 for 379 (61%) for 3499 yards and 48 touchdowns (new VHSL single season record)
- \* Rushed 125 times for 758 yards (6.0 ypc) and eight touchdowns
- \* Plans to major in Economics & Business

**Andrew Patrick - DL, 6-2, 265, Norcross, Ga./Wesleyan School**

- \* Four-year letterwinner, over 150 career tackles
- \* Member of 2008 Georgia Class A State Champions
- \* Averaged an 87% blocking grade during 2008 season
- \* Had 32 solo tackles, 28 assists and four sacks during senior campaign
- \* First Team All-Region at DT
- \* Georgia Athletic Coaches Association All-State Team (2008)
- \* Georgia H.S. Coaches Association Class A Def. POTY (2008)
- \* Plans to major in Engineering

**Phillip Pickens - OL 6-1, 255, Norcross, Ga./Meadowcreek HS**

- \* Offensive line MVP in 2005 and 2007
- \* Four-Time Gwinnett County Touchdown Club Player Of the Month
- \* Voted to the All-Star team in December 2008
- \* Two-year Scholar-Athlete and held team's highest GPA in 2006 and 2007
- \* Four-year letterman in football
- \* As a wrestler, was Two-time MVP and Scholar-Wrestler ('07 and '08)
- \* State 8AAAAA qualifier in 2007 and placed third in state Division 8AAAAA in '09
- \* Placed fourth in the 2008 GHSA Wrestling Championship
- \* Plans to major in Civil Engineering.

**Weston Reber - LB, 6-2, 215, Huntersville, N.C./Hopewell HS**

- \* 2008 Team Captain
- \* 2008 All-Conference, All-Mecklenburg Area and Bronco Nagurski Student-Athlete Finalist
- \* Two-year member of National Math Honor Society (Mu Alpha Theta)
- \* Two-year member of National History Honor Society
- \* Plans to major in Engineering

**Stefawn Ross - OLB, 6-4, 215, Bealeton, Va./Liberty HS**

- \* Two-way threat during only year of high school football, playing both WR and DE
- \* Team won Northwest Regional championship
- \* Three-year letterwinner on Liberty's basketball team
- \* Possesses 35-inch vertical leap and runs 4.56 40-yard dash
- \* Plans to major in Engineering

**Justin Smith - DL, 6-1, 230, Maryville, Tenn./Maryville HS**

- \* 4A TACA All-State, TSWA All-State, Consensus All-State 4A Defense, AP All-State Defense, Reebok All-State Defensive Team (2008)
- \* Finished career with 255 tackles (39.5 for loss), 21 sacks, 13 fumbles caused and 11 fumbles recovered
- \* MaxPreps Medium School Second-team Defense All-American 2008
- \* Toyota East/West All-Star Game Defensive MVP, East Squad
- \* 2008 Team Captain
- \* Team finished in the top-10 of three major polls in 2007
- \* 59-1 H.S. record, was part of 74-game win streak
- \* Plans to major in Business

**James Snyder - OL, 6-1, 258, Alpharetta, Ga./Milton HS**

- \* Three-year letterwinner on offensive and defensive line
- \* All-Fulton County Selection in both 2007 and 2008 season
- \* U.S. Army Pre-Season Academic All-State
- \* Graded 83% on offensive line
- \* Recorded over 80 knockdowns in both junior and senior season
- \* Three-year scholar athlete
- \* National Honor Society Member (2007-2009)
- \* Plans to major in Mathematics

**Jafri Taylor - QB, 6-2, 195, Pensacola, Fla./W. Florida Tech HS**

- \* Three-year starter
- \* First Team All-Northwest Florida (2008)
- \* 1057 rushing yards, 820 passing yards (2008)
- \* 2007 Second-Team All-Northwest Florida
- \* 2007 Challenger Award Winner
- \* President of FCA

INTRO

THIS IS VMI

PREVIEW

COACHES

PLAYER BIOS

OPPOSITION

STAFF

RECORDS

MEDIA