



**INSIDE:**  
Kyle Wright and the Hurricanes beat up on No. 20 Texas A&M  
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Friday, September 21, 2007



Staff photo by Chet White

Korrey Davis (5) led the Pioneers with 192 yards and two touchdowns.

High School Football

# Heritage grinds it out

Pioneers score 21 unanswered points to beat Comets

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**Heritage 42  
Halifax 29**

Heritage hammered Halifax for 519 yards rushing in the Pioneers' 42-29 victory over the Comets on Thursday at City Stadium. "I was really excited with the execution of our offense," Heritage coach Chris Jones said. "If we are getting five or six yards a run, we're not going to out-coach ourselves. We're just going to grind it up." Heritage (5-0) averaged 8.8 yards

per carry for the game. One reason for the easy yardage may have been that Halifax's Virginia Tech-bound middle linebacker, Allen Stephens, was injured early in the first quarter and did not return. "When Stephens got hurt, that softened them up," Jones said. Stephens was one of five players on the Comets' defense that couldn't finish the game because of an injury.

"We were playing most of the game with guys that don't get many reps during practice and don't have much in the way of game experience," Halifax coach Stan Hodgkin said. "Injuries are part of the game, and no injury we have at any time will be used as an excuse." Despite being unable to curb Heritage's ground attack, the Comets took a 21-14 lead into halftime on the arm of Rodale Pippen. Pippen completed 7 of his 9 pass attempts for 156 yards, including Please see **HERITAGE**, Page D6

College Football

# Rough Weather

Former walk-on fullback Carlton Weatherford makes the best of a no-glory position

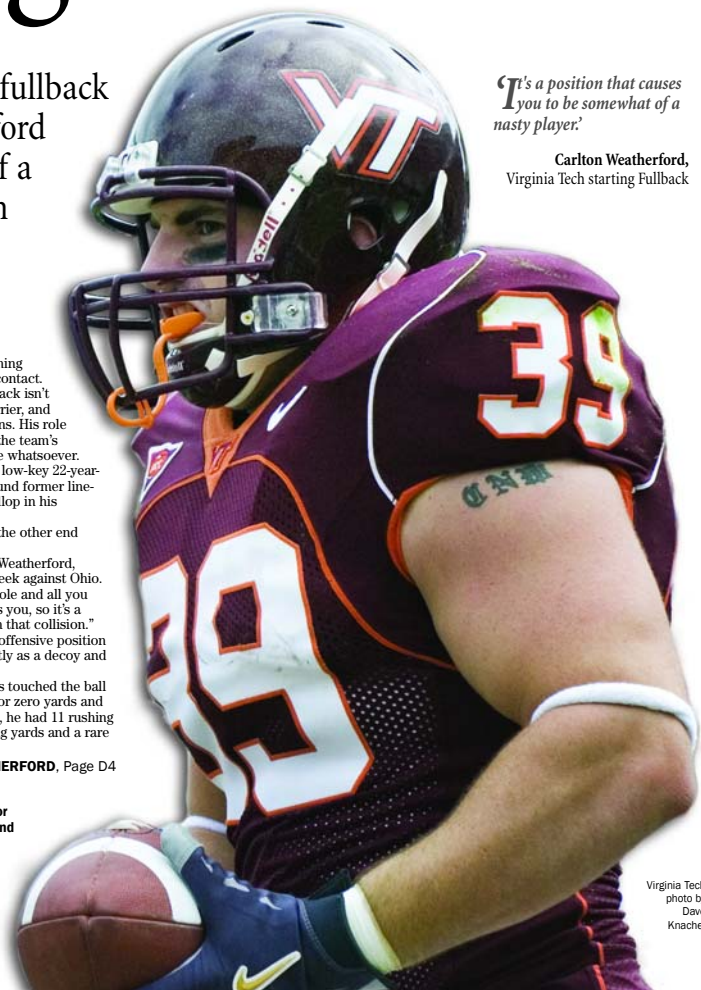
By Nathan Wartners  
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**B**LACKSBURG — It's a good thing Carlton Weatherford craves contact. Virginia Tech's senior fullback isn't much of a threat as a ball carrier, and he has all of five career pass receptions. His role in the Hokies' offense is to block for the team's tailbacks and accept little to no praise whatsoever. Weatherford's OK with that. He's a low-key 22-year-old from Danville, a 5-foot-10, 230-pound former linebacker who was known to pack a wallop in his Tunstall High School days. He still hits hard, but now he's on the other end trying to punish defensive players. "It seems like a train wreck," said Weatherford, who made his first career start last week against Ohio. "The offensive line will open up the hole and all you see is the linebacker and all he sees is you, so it's a race to get there and see who can win that collision." The fullback was once an integral offensive position for the Hokies, but now it's used mostly as a decoy and blocker. Weatherford, a former walk-on, has touched the ball three times this season (two carries for zero yards and one catch for two yards). Last season, he had 11 rushing yards on three carries and 25 receiving yards and a rare touchdown on four catches.

Please see **WEATHERFORD**, Page D4

*It's a position that causes you to be somewhat of a nasty player.'*

Carlton Weatherford, Virginia Tech starting Fullback



Virginia Tech photo by Dave Knachel

**LIBERTY FLAMES**  
Notebook  
**Special teams now strength for Flames**

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Liberty has been so exceptional on special teams this season that teams have completely altered their gameplans to keep the ball out of the hands of Flames returners Wynton Jackson and Dominic Bolden.



Bolden

William & Mary even took two penalties for kicking the ball out of bounds before begrudgingly putting it in play last week. Kicking off from its own 20, W&M paid the price. The Flames returned it and got the ball at the Tribe 45. The Flames' worst starting position against the Tribe was their own 26, and that drive started after W&M turned it over on downs. On the drives where a change of possession came after a kick-off or a punt, Liberty's worst starting position was its own 29. It started at its own 35 or better six times after a punt or kick-off.

"It's an unbelievable advantage," Liberty coach Danny Rocco said. "Special teams-wise, we're right where I thought we needed to be at this time."

The Flames may meet their special teams match Saturday at Elon. The Phoenix ranks third in the FCS with 23.7 yards per punt return, and sophomore Karlos Sullivan is averaging 29.0 yards per return, good for second in the country. Liberty's Jackson is ranked fifth with 20.43 yards per return and has two punt return touchdowns.

To counter Elon's return game, Liberty needs converted kicker Zac Kolegue to continue his solid run as the Flames' punter. He's averaged 40.88 yards per punt and his kicks have had adequate enough hang time to allow the coverage teams to prevent long returns. Opponents have returned 10 punts for 47 yards, with a long of 16 yards.

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**VT** Beamer prepares for battling a good friend  
► Tech Notebook  
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The 'Hoos look to increase the offensive tempo  
► Uva Notebook  
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## Arbitrators find Landis guilty of doping, rule he must forfeit 2006 Tour title



Landis

The Associated Press

PARIS — Floyd Landis lost his expensive and explosive doping case Thursday when the arbitrators upheld the results of a test that showed the 2006 Tour de France champion used synthetic testosterone to fuel his spectacular comeback victory, The Associated Press

Cycling

has learned. The decision means Landis, who repeatedly has denied using performance-enhancing drugs, must forfeit his Tour de France title and is subject to a two-year ban, retroactive to Jan. 30, 2007. The ruling, handed down nearly

four months after a bizarre and bitterly fought hearing, leaves the American with one final way to possibly salvage his title — an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. If Landis doesn't appeal, he'll be the first person in the 105-year history of the race to lose the title because of a doping offense. According to documents

obtained by AP, and to be made public later Thursday, the vote was 2-1 to uphold the results, with lead arbitrator Patrice Brunet and Richard McLaren in the majority and Christopher Campbell dissenting. "Today's ruling is a victory for all clean athletes and everyone who values fair and honest competition," U.S. Anti-Doping Agency general

counsel Travis Tygart said. It's a devastating loss for Landis, who has steadfastly insisted that cheating went against everything he was all about and said he was merely a pawn in the anti-doping system's all-consuming effort to find cheaters and keep money flowing to his labs and agencies. Please see **LANDIS**, Page D6

**INGE'S DAY**  
NO TIGERS GAME PLAYED ON THURSDAY  
NEXT GAME:  
► TODAY vs KANSAS CITY  
SEASON STATS  
AVG. HR RBI  
.241 14 66  
Detroit Tigers third baseman Brandon Inge is a Brookville High School graduate.

Major League Baseball  
The Padres pull closer to the Diamondbacks in the NL West  
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WHAT'S IN THIS SECTION

High School Football  
Two running backs fit right in with Amherst's triple option threat

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Today's TOP TV games

CFB: Oklahoma @ Tulsa  
8 p.m., ESPN  
NASCAR: Nextel Cup Qual.  
3 p.m., ESPN2