



The Premier Independent Publication Covering Virginia Tech Athletics

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Mr. Dave Smith
Sports Information Director
364 Jamerson Athletic Center
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0502

Dear Dave:

I am writing to formally request media access for *Tech Sideline* for the upcoming football season.

As you already know, *Tech Sideline* is an independent publication covering Virginia Tech athletics. *Tech Sideline* has been in existence since March of 1996, making it the longest-running independent publication dedicated solely to covering Virginia Tech athletics.

Since my last request to you in August of 2000, *Tech Sideline* has continued to grow at a phenomenal rate. Our web site, TechSideline.com, is currently logging 30,000 user sessions per day, and is recording over 4 million page views per month. Our monthly subscription-based publication, the TSL Extra, just signed up its 1,000th subscriber, in less than 9 months of existence.

This season, our request does not include press box access on game day, as I understand Virginia Tech's available press box space may be limited. I would, however, like to request the following standard items from your department for the 2001 football season:

- Access to football practices;
- Access to players, coaches, and administrators for interview purposes;
- Access to all Virginia Tech football press conferences and media events;
- Access to weekly Big East teleconferences.

Dave, you and your colleagues do a commendable job on behalf of Virginia Tech, its Athletic Department, and its alumni. We at *Tech Sideline* very much look forward to a productive and enjoyable working relationship with you and your department during the 2001 football season.

In advance, I would like to thank you for your help on behalf of the thousands of alumni, fans, benefactors, friends, etc. who visit our online publication and subscribe to the TSL Extra. They are eager to see more from us, and I know that with your cooperation they will be quite pleased with our future coverage and direction.

Please mail any information regarding this request to the P.O. Box listed at the top of this letter. I am available to answer any questions you may have. You can email me at will@techsideline.com, or you can call 639-3817 during the day.

Sincerely yours,

Will Stewart
Member, Football Writers Association of America
General Manager and Managing Editor, *Tech Sideline*