

VIRGINIA BASKETBALL 2001-2002 MEDIA NOTES

Charleston Southern (2-4)

vs.

#7 / #6 Virginia (5-0)

December 17, 2001 • 7:30 p.m.

University Hall

Charlottesville, Va.

VIRGINIA 2001-02 SCHEDULE 5-0 Overall / 0-0 ACC

Nov. 2	Nantucket Nectar Naturals (EX)	W, 82-70
Nov. 11	Los Angeles Stars (EX)	W, 98-69
Nov. 16	WAGNER	W, 105-74
Nov. 18	EAST TENNESSEE STATE	W, 85-62
Nov. 21	HOWARD**	W, 115-66
Nov. 28	vs. Michigan State* (ESPN2)	Suspended with UVa leading 31-28, 15:04 left in 2nd half. The game will not be completed.
Dec. 1	VIRGINIA TECH (FSNS)	W, 69-61
Dec. 8	vs. Auburn+ (ESPN Reg.)	W, 77-72
Dec. 17	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN (Comcast)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	at Georgetown** (TBS)	8:00 p.m.
Dec. 23	RUTGERS (FSN)	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 30	GRAMBLING STATE (Comcast)	2:00 p.m.
Jan. 5	NC STATE (R/JP)	2:00 p.m.
Jan. 8	at Clemson (FSNS/Sunshine)	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 12	at North Carolina (ESPN)	12 Noon
Jan. 15	WAKE FOREST (R/JP)	9:00 p.m.
Jan. 20	FLORIDA STATE (R/JP)	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Georgia Tech (ESPN2)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	VMI	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	at Duke (FSN)	8:00 p.m.
Jan. 31	MARYLAND (ESPN)	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Missouri (ABC)	2:00 p.m.
Feb. 6	at NC State (ESPN2)	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	CLEMSON (R/JP)	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 12	NORTH CAROLINA (R/JP)	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 17	at Wake Forest (FSN)	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	at Florida State	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 23	GEORGIA TECH (RJ/ESPN2)	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 28	DUKE (ESPN)	9:00 p.m.
Mar. 3	at Maryland (FSN)	8:00 p.m.
Mar. 7-10	ACC TOURNAMENT^	TBA

*ACC/Big Ten Challenge, at Richmond Coliseum

**John Thompson Classic

+ Arby's Hardwood Classic, Birmingham, Ala.

^Charlotte, N.C.

(All times are Eastern)

TELEVISION

Tonight's game against Charleston Southern will be televised by Comcast SportsNet. Joe Beninati will handle the play-by-play. Dan Bonner is the analyst.

RADIO

All UVa games are heard on the Virginia Sports Network originating at WINA/WWVV in Charlottesville. Mac McDonald calls the play by play. Jim Hobgood provides the analysis.

OFFICIALS

THE GAME

Virginia (2000-2001: 20-9/9-7 ACC), ranked seventh in the AP poll and sixth in the *USAToday*/ESPN poll, stands at 5-0 this season. The Cavaliers are coming off a 77-72 victory over Auburn (Dec. 8) in the Arby's Hardwood Classic at the Birmingham Jefferson County Civic Center in Birmingham, Ala. Charleston Southern (2000-2001: 10-19/7-7 Big South) is 2-4 in the 2001-2002 season. The Buccaneers are coming off a 90-69 loss to VMI (Dec. 12) in Lexington, Va. Charleston Southern also hosts North Greenville on Dec. 15 at 2:00 p.m. before playing the Cavaliers.

The Series vs. Charleston Southern

Tonight's game against Charleston Southern is Virginia's first-ever meeting versus the Buccaneers in the sport of men's basketball.

Virginia vs. the Big South Conference

Against the eight current members of the Big South Conference, the Cavaliers are 16-1 all-time. Virginia is 5-0 vs. Elon, 4-0 vs. Radford, 4-1 vs. Liberty, 2-0 vs. Winthrop, and 1-0 vs. Coastal Carolina. Last season, UVa defeated Coastal Carolina 117-78 (Nov. 20) in Charlottesville in its only contest against a Big South opponent.

Of the Big South's current membership, Virginia has never faced Charleston Southern prior to tonight's game, as well as High Point or North Carolina-Asheville.

There have been seven other schools that have been members of the Big South Conference at one time or another since 1986. Virginia is 16-1 against schools in the Big South at game time.

Non-Conference Teams at University Hall

Virginia is 190-28 (.872) all-time in University Hall against non-conference opponents since the building opened for the 1965-66 season. The Cavaliers have won 72 of their last 81 home games, including the last 11, against non-conference opponents dating back to the 1989-90 season.

Cavalier Captains

Seniors Adam Hall and Chris Williams, and junior Roger Mason, Jr., have been elected captains of the 2001-02 Virginia basketball team by their teammates. Williams was one of the team's tri-captains last season.

Virginia's Probable Starters

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Ppg.	Rpg.	Mpg	Notes
32	F	J.C. Mathis	6-8	224	So.	4.6	5.0	18.4	Career high - 10 rebs (ETSU), 9 pts (Aub)
33	F	Chris Williams	6-7	216	Sr.	18.2	6.2	30.2	Leads team with 13 steals (2.6 spg)
35	C	Travis Watson	6-8	255	Jr.	10.8	10.2	27.0	Three double-doubles in 2001-02
21	G	Roger Mason, Jr.	6-5	199	Jr.	21.0	4.4	34.0	Averaging 5.2 assists per game
31	G	Adam Hall	6-5	203	Sr.	11.8	3.4	24.8	Needs 21 points for 1,000 career points

Virginia's Key Reserves

42	F	Elton Brown	6-9	265	Fr.	9.6	3.8	15.2	Shooting 66.7% (18-27) from the field
34	F	Jason Clark	6-8	225	Fr.	3.4	3.8	13.8	Leads team with 9 blocked shots
10	G	Keith Jenifer	6-3	155	Fr.	2.8	2.2	14.2	Averaging 2.6 assists per game
24	G	Jermaine Harper	6-3	166	Fr.	4.6	1.2	13.4	Scored career-high 8 points vs. Howard

Non-Conference Regular Season Winning Streak

Virginia has won 22 consecutive regular season games against non-conference opponents. This mark ties the school record for consecutive non-conference regular season victories. During its streak, UVa has won both of its games against ranked non-ACC teams, beating fourth-ranked Tennessee 107-89 (Dec. 19) and 20th-ranked Missouri 85-72 (Jan. 20) during the 2000-01 season. The streak began with a 98-67 win against Loyola (Md.) at University Hall on December 8, 1999. The last time the Cavaliers lost to a non-conference opponent during the regular season was on December 4, 1999 when they lost 85-63 to St. John's University at Madison Square Garden. Since joining the Atlantic Coast Conference, Virginia also won 22 consecutive non-conference regular season games from November 21, 1981 to December 19, 1982. UVa began the streak with a 63-61 win over Brigham Young (Dec. 19) to start the 1981-82 season. The streak ended the next season when Virginia lost to Chaminade 77-72 (Dec. 23).

Michigan State Game Cancelled

Virginia's game against Michigan State in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge November 28 at the Richmond Coliseum was halted with UVa leading 31-28 with 15:04 left in the contest due to wet floor conditions. The unseasonably warm temperature (70 degrees) combined with the ice surface under the playing court produced condensation on the court which caused slippery conditions and forced the game to be halted. The game will not be completed or replayed.

Head Coach Pete Gillen

Pete Gillen is in his 17th season as a collegiate head coach and sports a 332-165 record for a .668 winning percentage. Gillen is in his fourth season at Virginia and has posted a 58-37 record (.611 winning percentage). Gillen won the 300th game of his career when Virginia defeated then 21st-ranked North Carolina 87-85 on January 18, 2000 at University Hall.

Gillen has led his teams to postseason play 13 times in 16 seasons (nine NCAA, four NIT). He has been selected as the conference Coach of the Year five times - all while coaching Xavier (Midwestern Collegiate Conference).

Virginia Returns to Postseason Play

The University of Virginia men's basketball team received an invitation to the NCAA Tournament following the 2000-01 regular season. UVa lost to Gonzaga 86-85 in the first round of the 2001 NCAA South Region Tournament. The game marked the Cavaliers first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1997. It was also UVa's second consecutive postseason appearance as the Cavaliers received a bid to the 2000 National Invitation Tournament (NIT). Virginia lost to Georgetown 115-111 in triple overtime in the first round of the NIT.

Maurice Young Leaves Team

Sophomore forward/guard Maurice Young has left the Virginia basketball team. Young asked for and received his immediate release. He remained at UVa through the end of the fall semester.

Young played in Virginia's first two games and scored six points and had four rebounds in 21 minutes of action. As a freshman last season, Young played in 25 games and averaged 2.6 points, 1.3 rebounds and 6.7 minutes of playing time a game.

Rebounding

The Cavaliers are off to an excellent start in the rebounding department. UVa has outrebounded its opponents by an average of 10.6 per game (44.8 to 34.2), which leads all ACC teams. Virginia has outrebounded its opponent in four of five games. Virginia Tech is the only team to rebound UVa in a game (50-41).

The Cavaliers averaged 39.0 rebounds per game last season, while their opponents had 33.4 boards per game.

Pre-Season Prognostications

The Virginia men's basketball team was ranked among the top teams in the nation in several preseason rankings.

UVa was ranked 10th by Lindy's and 11th in the *USAToday/ESPN* and Associated Press preseason polls. Virginia was also ranked 11th by both *The Sporting News* and *Street and Smith's*. The Cavaliers were ranked 13th by *Basketball News*, Dick Vitale and *Sports Illustrated*, and 16th by *Slam* magazine and ESPN.com.

AP Ranking

Virginia's ranking of 11th in the preseason Associated Press poll is its highest preseason AP ranking since the 1982-83 season when the Cavaliers were ranked number one in the nation. It is just the seventh time since the 1982-83 season UVa has been ranked in the AP's preseason poll. Prior to the 1995-96 season, the Cavaliers were ranked 19th and were 14th in 1994-95. Virginia was 16th in the 1993-94 season, 18th in 1990-91, and 24th prior to last season.

Here's a look at Virginia's ranking in this season's AP and ESPN/USAToday polls:

Date	AP	USAToday/ESPN
Preseason	11th	11th
Nov. 12	No Poll	11th
Nov. 19	11th	10th
Nov. 26	9th	8th
Dec. 3	8th	7th
Dec. 10	7th	6th

2001-2002 ACC Pre-Season Media Prediction

(Indicates first place votes)

	Team	Points
1.	Duke (69)	661
2.	Maryland (5)	596
3.	Virginia	483
4.	North Carolina	421
5.	Wake Forest	407
6.	Georgia Tech	254
7.	N.C. State	242
8.	Florida State	140
9.	Clemson	126

2001-02 Media Pre-Season All-ACC Selections

First Team		Second Team	
Jason Williams, Duke	74#	Chris Duhon, Duke	24
Juan Dixon, Md.	69	Roger Mason, Jr., UVa	24
Lonny Baxter, Md.	58	Jason Capel, UNC	14
Carlos Boozer, Duke	37	Josh Howard, WF	11
Mike Dunleavy, Duke	35	Travis Watson, UVa	11

#Denotes unanimous selection

2001-02 Media Pre-Season ACC Player of Year

Jason Williams, Duke 74#

2001-02 Media Pre-Season ACC Rookie of Year

Julius Hodge, NC State	40
Jawad Williams, North Carolina	20
Anthony Richardson, Florida State	5
Chey Christie, Clemson	3
Elton Brown, Virginia	2
Barry Elder, Georgia Tech	1

Williams Hot from the Field

Senior forward Chris Williams is off to an outstanding start shooting the basketball from the field in 2001-2002. Williams has made 32 of 49 attempts from the field for an outstanding 65.3 percentage. He has also made nine of 16 three-point attempts (56.3 percent). Williams made eight of nine attempts (he missed his first attempt) from the field against Howard (Nov. 21), including five of six threes.

Ironically, Williams has made only 18 of 32 attempts for 56.3 percent from the free throw line - the same as his three-point percentage. He entered the season as a 72.8 percent career free throw shooter.

In his career, Williams is shooting 51.5 percent (540-1049) from the field.

Single Game Scoring List

The Cavaliers scored 115 points in their win over Howard (Nov. 21), marking the seventh highest single game point total by a UVa squad. Virginia's 49-point margin of victory (115-66) is the 11th widest margin of victory in school history.

Here's a list of the Cavaliers' highest single game point totals in school history:

1. George Mason	128	Jan. 28, 1995
2. Johns Hopkins	124	Nov. 26, 1982
3. BYU-Hawaii	118	Dec. 21, 1981
4. Baldwin Wallace	117	Dec. 11, 1971
Coastal Carolina	117	Nov. 20, 2000
6. Hampton	116	Nov. 25, 1998
7. Howard	115	Nov. 21, 2001

UVa Reaches Triple Digits for Seventh Time in an Opener

The Cavaliers put 105 points on the scoreboard in the season opener against Wagner (Nov. 16), marking the seventh time (all victories) in the 97-year history of the Virginia basketball program UVa has reached the century mark in a season opener. It was also the first time since 1982-83 when the Cavaliers scored 124 points in a win over Johns Hopkins that Virginia scored 100-plus points in a season opener. Here's a list of UVa's 100-point outputs in season openers:

Score	Opponent	Site	Season
124-60	Johns Hopkins	H	1982-83
113-65	Hampden-Sydney	H	1975-76
113-80	Washington & Lee	A	1971-72
113-92	Richmond	A	1968-69
110-63	Hampden-Sydney	A	1954-55
105-74	Wagner	H	2001-02
102-69	Washington & Lee	H	1972-73

Williams Passes Hand for 12th on Scoring List

Senior forward Chris Williams has moved into 12th place on Virginia's all-time scoring list with 1,496 career points, surpassing former teammate Donald Hand (1998-2001), who scored 1,486 career points. Williams needs 45 points to move past Richard Morgan (1986-89) for 11th place.

Here's a look at where Williams stands on UVa's all-time scoring list:

1.	Bryant Stith (1989-92)	2,516
5.	Junior Burrough (1992-95)	1,970
6.	Wally Walker (1973-76)	1,849
7.	Harold Deane (1994-97)	1,763
8.	Curtis Staples (1995-98)	1,757
9.	John Crotty (1988-91)	1,646
10.	Bob McCarty (1954-56)	1,625
11.	Richard Morgan (1986-89)	1,540
12.	Chris Williams (1999-pres.)	1,496
13.	Donald Hand (1998-01)	1,486

Shooting the Long Ball

Virginia's current roster features two of the top 10 career three-point field goal leaders in school history and a third who stands 11th. Senior forward Chris Williams is currently in eighth place with 111 three-pointers, while senior forward/guard Adam Hall is 10th with 82. Junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., is 11th with 75 career threes.

Here's a look at Virginia's all-time three-point field goal leaders:

1. Curtis Staples (1995-98)	413 (NCAA record)
2. Harold Deane (1994-97)	237
3. John Crotty (1988-91)	179
4. Donald Hand (1998-2001)	156
5. Cory Alexander (1992-95)	142
6. Richard Morgan (1986-89)	132
7. Bryant Stith (1989-92)	114
8. Chris Williams (1999-pres.)	111
9. Keith Friel (2000-2001)	107
10. Adam Hall (1999-pres.)	82
11. Roger Mason, Jr. (2000-pres.)	75

Dialing Long Distance

With the graduation of Keith Friel and Donald Hand, the Cavaliers lost two of their three-point threats from last season. One of the questions for UVa this season was the ability to hit the outside jumper. The Cavaliers answered that question against Howard (Nov. 21) as they connected on 14 three-pointers, just one shy of the school record, in a 115-66 win. Virginia was 14 of 24 from beyond the arc for an impressive 58.3 percent, including 11 of 15 (73.3 percent) marksmanship in the first half. UVa's 14 threes ties for the third most in a game as the Cavaliers made 15 threes against North Carolina (Feb. 14, 1990) and Hampton (Nov. 25, 1998). In addition to the Howard game, Virginia made 14 threes against UNLV (Feb. 12, 1995), North Carolina (Feb. 17, 1996) and South Carolina (Nov. 25, 1996).

The Cavaliers three-point percentage of 58.3 percent (14-24) is its second highest in a game when making at least 10 three-pointers. UVa's best percentage when making at least 10 threes in a game is 58.8 percent (10-17) versus VMI (Dec. 22, 1997).

On the season, Virginia is shooting an ACC best 42.5 percent (37-87) from beyond the three-point arc and is averaging 7.4 three-pointers per game. Senior forward Chris Williams has made nine of 16 threes for 56.3 percent, while junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., is 19-38 (50 percent).

Cavaliers Block 11 Buccaneer Shots

Virginia registered 11 blocked shots against East Tennessee State (Nov. 18) which ties for the sixth highest single game total in school history. The school record is 14 blocks vs. Army (Dec. 22, 1979). Last season, UVa's highest single game blocked shot total was seven against Gonzaga in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

In five games in the 2001-2002 season, the Cavaliers have registered 28 blocked shots for an average of 5.6 per game. Freshman forward Jason Clark leads UVa with nine blocks.

Hall Closing in on 1,000 Career Points

Senior forward/guard Adam Hall has scored 979 career points and needs 21 to reach 1,000 for his career. Hall would be the 35th Virginia player to reach the 1,000 career point plateau. Chris Williams became the 34th UVa player to score 1,000 career points last season against Coastal Carolina (Nov. 20, 2000).

Hall is averaging 11.8 points per game this season and is shooting 40.4 percent (21-52) from the field. He has made six of 16 three-pointers (37.5 percent) and connected on 11-16 (68.8 percent) free throws.

Mason on a Roll

Junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., moved to point guard this season, but it has not slowed his offensive production. Dating back to last season, Mason has scored 18 or more points in seven consecutive games, including a career-high 30 against Gonzaga in the first round of the 2001 NCAA Tournament. Mason has also made at least two three-point field goals in seven consecutive games (dating back to last season), including a trio of five three-point field goal outings.

Mason is averaging a career-best 21.0 points per game, which leads the team. He also tops UVa in assists with 26 (5.2 per game).

Mathis Grabs Career-High 10 Rebounds

Sophomore forward J.C. Mathis set a career-high when he pulled down 10 rebounds against East Tennessee State (Nov. 18). His previous career best was nine rebounds against Maryland (Mar. 3, 2001).

Mathis also equaled his career high with two blocked shots against the Buccaneers.

On the season, Mathis is averaging 5.0 rebounds and 4.6 points per game.

All-Time Steals Leaders

Seniors Chris Williams and Adam Hall rank among the Cavaliers' all-time leaders in steals. Williams is eighth with 153 career steals and needs two to move past Bobby Stokes (1976-79) for seventh place. Hall has 136 career steals to his credit and ranks 10th all-time. He needs five steals to move past Ricky Stokes (1981-84) for ninth place.

Here's a look at Virginia's all-time steals leaders:

1. Othell Wilson (1981-84)	222
2. Jeff Jones (1979-82)	189
3. Harold Deane (1994-97)	179
Donald Hand (1998-01)	179
5. Bryant Stith (1989-92)	177
6. Richard Morgan (1986-89)	160
7. Bobby Stokes (1976-79)	154
8. Chris Williams (1999-pres.)	153
9. Ricky Stokes (1981-84)	140
10. Adam Hall (1999-pres.)	136

All-Time Blocked Shot Leaders

Senior Chris Williams and junior Travis Watson rank among Virginia's all-time leaders in blocked shots. Williams is eighth with 85 career blocks and needs two to move past Olden Polynice (1984-86) for seventh place. Colin Ducharme (1997-2000) is sixth with 88. Watson has 69 career blocked shots and ranks 10th all-time.

Here's a look at Virginia's all-time blocked shots leaders:

1. Ralph Sampson (1980-83)	462
2. Chris Alexander (1993-96)	148
3. Kris Hunter (1997-99)	126
4. Steve Castellani (1976-79)	108
5. Junior Burrough (1992-95)	96
6. Colin Ducharme (1997-00)	88
7. Olden Polynice (1984-86)	86
8. Chris Williams (1999-pres.)	85
9. Ted Jeffries (1990-93)	82
10. Travis Watson (2000-pres.)	69

Three Double-Doubles

Junior forward/center Travis Watson has notched three double-doubles this season to increase his career total to 24. Watson tallied 11 points and 13 rebounds against Wagner (Nov. 16), and 14 points and 13 rebounds versus East Tennessee State (Nov. 18). He had 11 points and 10 rebounds against Auburn (Dec. 8) for his third double-double of the season. With 24 career double-doubles, Watson is two behind Maryland's Lonny Baxter who is the ACC's active leader in career double-doubles with 26. Watson is also eighth all-time at UVA with his 24 career double-doubles. With his next double-double, Watson will tie Norman Nolan, Bill Gerry and Gus Gerard for fifth place with 25 career double-doubles. Watson led the ACC a year ago with 13 double-doubles.

Senior forward Chris Williams recorded his 11th career double-double with 26 points and 10 rebounds against Wagner (Nov. 16). Williams is 19th on UVA's all-time double-doubles list.

Cavaliers Welcome Seven Newcomers

Look for several new faces around the Cavaliers this season as the team welcomes five first-years and two transfer students to the program. Joining the returning let-termen from last season are first-years Elton Brown, Jason Clark, Bret Gladstone, Jermaine Harper, and Keith Jenifer. Also coming to the program are transfer students Todd Billet and Nick Vander Laan, who will not play in games this season.

Brown is a 6-9 forward from Warwick High School in Newport News, Va. A three-time team MVP and runner-up for the McDonald's All-American team, Brown set a school record at Warwick with a total of 1,850 career points.

Clark is a 6-8 forward out of Hargrave Military Academy. He is originally from Virginia Beach, Va. In his final year at Hargrave he averaged 17 points, 10 rebounds, and four blocks a game in leading the team to a 27-1 record.

Gladstone is a 6-1 guard from Greenwich, Conn. He earned five varsity letters at the Brunswick School.

Gladstone graduated as the school's all-time leading scorer

and the third-leading scorer in state history with 2,468 points.

Harper, who is from Gardena, Calif., is a 6-3 guard who played at the Blue Ridge School the last three years. He was named the 2001 Central Virginia Player-of-the-Year by the *Charlottesville Daily Progress* after averaging 21.2 points, 5.7 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 2.3 steals a game his senior season.

Jenifer is a 6-3 guard who played at Hargrave Military Academy last season. He is from Baltimore, Md., and played four years at Towson Catholic High School in Baltimore before attending Hargrave last year. At Towson Catholic he was named first-team All-State and garnered several other awards following his senior season.

Billet is a 6-0 guard from Middletown, N.J. He started all 58 games for Rutgers the last two seasons and averaged 14.6 points per game. He is a three-point specialist who established the Rutgers' school record for three-pointers in a season with 82 and tied the single-game record when he made eight three-pointers against Lafayette during the 2000-01 season.

Vander Laan is a 6-10 center from Sacramento, Calif. He transferred to Virginia from California-Berkeley where he averaged 7.5 points and 6.1 rebounds per game in two seasons. He was voted honorable mention Pac-10 All-Freshman following the 1999-2000 season.

Four Starters Return for 2001-2002

Four the second consecutive season, the Cavaliers return four starters —Roger Mason, Jr., Chris Williams, Adam Hall, and Travis Watson. Those four players are the only players on the team who had started a game at UVA prior to this season. Last season, Mason, Williams, Hall and Watson combined for:

64.0 percent (724 of 1131) of the team's rebounds
63.3 percent (140 of 221) of the team's steals
61.9 percent (1526 of 2464) of the team's points
58.8 percent (3373 of 5800) of the team's minutes
45.2 percent (190 of 420) of the team's assists

At Home in University Hall

Virginia went 14-1 overall at home during the 2000-01 season and has gone 29-4 at University Hall over the past three seasons, including 4-0 this year. UVA had the best home winning percentage (.933) in the Atlantic Coast Conference last season. The Cavaliers won seven of eight games at home against conference opponents, joining North Carolina as the only other team in the ACC to lose just one conference game at home last season. Over the past two seasons Virginia has gone 13-3 at home against ACC opponents, which ties the Cavaliers with Duke over that span.

Success Outside of Conference

Virginia went a perfect 11-0 against non-conference opponents during the 2000-01 regular season. This mark included wins against Purdue, Ohio, Tennessee, Missouri and Virginia Tech. The previous time Virginia went undefeated in non-conference regular season play was in 1981-82 when the Cavaliers won all 15 of their regular season non-conference games and finished 30-4 overall.

This season UVa plays 11 games against non-conference foes, including games against Auburn (won 77-72), Georgetown, Missouri, Rutgers and Virginia Tech.

Virginia Remains Perfect With 77-72 Win Over Auburn

The Cavaliers made 10 of 11 free throws in the final four minutes to help erase a five-point deficit for a 77-72 victory over Auburn (Dec. 8) in the Arby's Hardwood Classic at the Birmingham Jefferson County Civic Center. Virginia trailed by five points, 67-62, with 4:12 remaining before making its next 10 free throws.

The Cavaliers shot 57.1 percent (16-28) in taking a 40-37 halftime lead. Both teams held seven-point leads during the opening stanza.

The second half featured 10 lead changes and eight ties. The Cavaliers trailed 67-62 with 4:12 to play, but a pair of free throws by senior forward Chris Williams and a three-pointer by senior guard Adam Hall tied the game at 67-67 with 3:13 to play. Three free throws by junior guard Roger Mason, Jr. answered a three-pointer by the Tigers' Derrick Bird to tie the game at 70-70. A driving layup by junior forward/center Travis Watson with 1:47 to play tied the game at 72-72. UVa took the lead for good, 74-72, when freshman forward Jason Clark drained a pair of free throws with 57 seconds to play. Two more free throws by Mason and one by Watson made the final score 77-72.

Mason led all scorers with 18 points and added five assists. Williams had 14 points, seven rebounds and four assists, while Watson recorded his third double-double of the season with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

UVa shot 50 percent (25-50) from the field in the game and held a 42-25 edge in rebounds. Brandon Robinson led Auburn with 15 points and seven rebounds, while Bird had 14 points.

Strong Second Half Propels UVa Past Virginia Tech

Trailing by as many as 19 points in the first half and by 16 points at halftime, the Cavaliers outscored in-state rival Virginia Tech 42-18 in the second half to register a 69-61 win over the Hokies (Dec. 1) at University Hall.

Virginia Tech shot 51.5 percent (17-33) from the field and made seven of 10 three-point attempts in taking a 43-27 halftime lead. The Cavaliers opened the second half with a 25-8 run to take their first lead of the game, 52-51, with 8:34 left on a running jumper by freshman guard Keith Jennifer. UVa grabbed the lead for good, 60-59, on a jumper by junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., with 2:13 to play.

Mason led all scorers in the game with 22 points and added six rebounds and four assists. Senior forward Chris Williams tallied 16 points, five rebounds, four steals and three assists. Junior Travis Watson led Virginia with eight rebounds and added seven points.

Carlos Dixon and Bryant Matthews both scored 12 points for Virginia Tech, while Carlton Carter registered a double-double with 10 points and 15 rebounds.

Cavaliers Coast to 115-66 Triumph Over Howard

Virginia put on an outstanding offensive display as it posted a 115-66 victory over Howard (November 21) in the John Thompson Classic at University Hall. UVa shot an impressive 58.9 percent (43-73) from the floor, including 58.3 percent (14-24) from three-point range. The Cavaliers' 14 three-pointers ties for the third-highest total in school history. All 12 Virginia players scored in the game.

Senior forward Chris Williams made eight of nine attempts from the field (5-6 on three-pointers) and scored a game-high 22 points. He also added five rebounds, three steals, three assists and two blocked shots. Junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., added 21 points and made his first five three-point attempts before finishing five for eight. Mason also dished out six assists and grabbed five rebounds. Freshman forward Elton Brown came off the bench to equal his career high with 16 points. Senior forward/guard Adam Hall and junior forward/center Travis Watson rounded out UVa's double figure scorers with 13 and 11 points, respectively. Watson also grabbed a team-high seven rebounds.

The Cavaliers led the entire game and quickly opened a 30-7 lead, on the strength of five three-pointers, with 12:34 left in the opening half. UVa made 11 of 15 threes en route to a 60-27 halftime advantage. Virginia led by as many as 56 points (104-48) in the game.

Ron Williamson led Howard with 18 points, while Mario Grove tallied a double-double with 13 points and 10 boards.

UVa Downs ETSU 85-62 to Improve to 2-0

Virginia used a balanced scoring effort to post an 85-62 win over East Tennessee State November 18 at University Hall.

Junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., led all scorers with 20 points, while senior forward/guard Adam Hall chipped in with 19 points, including 15 in the second half. Junior forward/center Travis Watson registered his second double-double of the season with 14 points and 13 rebounds and added three blocked shots. Senior forward Chris Williams contributed 13 points and three steals. Sophomore forward J.C. Mathis pulled down a career-high 10 rebounds, while freshman forward Jason Clark established a career high with three blocked shots.

The Cavaliers, who never trailed in the game, used a 14-1 run midway through the first half to open up a 36-19 lead. UVa took a 42-31 lead at the intermission. Virginia never saw its lead fall below 11 points (44-33) and led by as many as 27 points (69-42 and 76-49) in the second half.

UVa made 31 of 41 free throw attempts in the game for 75.6 percent and blocked 11 ETSU shots.

Jerald Fields and Zakee Wadood tallied 12 points and six rebounds apiece to lead the Buccaneers.

Cavaliers Defeat Wagner 105-74 in Season Opener

Five players scored in double figures as Virginia successfully opened the 2001-2002 season with a 105-74 victory over Wagner College November 16 at University Hall. Senior forward Chris Williams and junior forward/center Travis Watson notched double-doubles to lead UVa.

Williams paced all scorers with 26 points, including an 11-13 shooting effort from the field. He also grabbed 10 rebounds for the double-double. Watson pulled down a game-high 13 rebounds to go with 11 points for his double-double. Junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., registered 24 points, including five three-point field goals, and dished out a career-best nine assists. Senior forward/guard Adam Hall and freshman forward Elton Brown rounded out the Cavaliers' double-figure scorers. Hall had 18 points, while Brown made eight of nine shots from the field for his 16 points.

With the score tied at 4-4, UVa went on an 18-2 run to take a 22-6 lead with 12:52 left in the first half. The Seahawks slowly crept back in the game and narrowed the deficit to three, 39-36, with 4:45 to go in the opening half. The Cavaliers closed the half with a 20-6 run to take a 59-42 advantage at intermission. The closest Wagner got in the second half was 13, 61-48, with 18:11 left in the game. UVa led by as many as 33 points (103-70) in the second half.

UVa shot 59.2 percent (42-71) from the field in the game and made 6-11 three-point attempts (54.5 percent). The Cavaliers also dominated the rebounding department as they held a 50-36 advantage.

Jermaine Hall led the Seahawks with 18 points and eight rebounds.

UVa Completes Exhibition Season with 98-69 Victory

The Cavaliers concluded the exhibition portion of the 2001-02 season with a 98-69 victory over the L.A. Stars November 11 at University Hall.

Senior forward Chris Williams led all players with 21 points, 12 rebounds and three blocks. Junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., went a perfect 8-8 from the free throw line, as he added 20 points for the Cavaliers. Other Virginia players to score in double figures included junior forward/center Travis Watson, and freshmen Jermaine Harper and Elton Brown. Watson scored 14 points on 6-9 (.666) shooting from the field and pulled down seven rebounds. Harper started the game for Virginia and scored 10 points, while making both of his three-point attempts. Brown came off the bench to contribute 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Three players scored in double figures for L.A., led by Jelani Janisee and Byron Wilson, who scored 11 points apiece. Derrick Anderson scored 10 points and pulled down seven rebounds for the Stars. Janisee also had eight rebounds and six assists in the losing effort.

Virginia never trailed in the contest as Mason opened the game with a three-pointer. Mason's two free throws with five seconds remaining in the first half gave the Cavaliers a 26-point lead (50-24) at the break. Late in the second half UVa took its largest lead of the contest as Harper hit a three-pointer to give Virginia a 34-point lead (93-59) with 2:37 remaining in the game. The Cavaliers outrebounded the Stars 58-37 and forced 17 turnovers. UVa outshot L.A. 43.4 percent (36-83) to 33.3 percent (23-69).

Cavaliers Open Exhibition Season with 82-70 Win

Virginia began the exhibition portion of its 2001-02 season with an 82-70 victory over the Nantucket Nectars November 2 at University Hall.

Junior forward/center Travis Watson led all scorers with 24 points on 12-15 shooting from the field. Watson also pulled down 10 rebounds for the Cavaliers and added three blocked shots. Senior forward Chris Williams also recorded a double-double with 17 points and a game-high 13 rebounds. Williams also led all players with six assists. Joining Watson and Williams in double figures were junior guard Roger Mason, Jr., and sophomore forward J.C. Mathis. Mason scored 14 points and added four assists, while Mathis registered 10 points and six rebounds.

Tim Fudd led the Nectars with 23 points and eight rebounds. Nii Nelson Richards contributed 14 points.

The Cavaliers shot 50 percent from the field (36-72) while holding the Nectars to 38.5 percent (25-65). The Nectars shot 44 percent from behind the arc (11-25). Virginia also outrebounded the Nectars by a 48-30 margin. UVa only trailed once in the game, after Fudd scored the first basket of the contest to give the Nectars a 2-0 lead 14 seconds into the game. The Cavaliers took the lead for good on a field goal by freshman forward Elton Brown with 14:16 remaining in the first half that gave UVa a 16-14 lead. Virginia stretched its lead to as many as 14 points (41-27) in the first half before taking a 43-31 halftime advantage.

Lots of Games against Tournament Teams

Of Virginia's 27 regular-season games before the 2002 ACC Tournament, 13 are against eight teams that participated in either the 2001 NCAA Tournament or the National Invitation Tournament (NIT). Four of the games are against three of last year's Final Four teams, with two games against Duke and two against Maryland. In addition to those games, Virginia plays Georgetown, a team that made it to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet Sixteen, and three games against teams that advanced to the tournament's second round (North Carolina twice and Missouri). UVa's other games against 2001 NCAA Tournament participants are versus Georgia Tech (twice) and Wake Forest (twice). Virginia defeated Auburn, a team that advanced to the second round of last season's NIT, 77-72 in Birmingham, Ala., on December 8.

Mapp Out

Sophomore guard Majestic Mapp will miss the 2001-02 season because of another operation on his injured right knee. Mapp also missed the 2000-01 season after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in the knee and undergoing surgery in late August 2000. He injured the knee while playing basketball at St. Raymond's High School, his alma mater, on August 2, 2000.

Mapp was second on the team in assists in 1999-2000 (2.2 apg) and ranked fourth among all Atlantic Coast Conference freshmen in that category. He averaged 5.3 points a game and was named to the ACC Honor Roll for his academic work and athletic participation.

Mason Competes at World University Games

Junior Roger Mason, Jr., looks to bring his experiences from a busy off-season to the court for Virginia during the 2001-02 season. The 6-5 guard competed on the 2001 USA Basketball World University Games Team and helped lead the team to a bronze medal. Mason scored 13 points and grabbed five rebounds in the bronze medal game against Germany. He started all eight games for the U.S. squad and averaged 13.0 points and 4.8 rebounds per game.

Mason is also among the Top 50 Preseason Candidates for the 2001-02 Wooden Award All-America Basketball Team. The Top 50 candidates were selected in a national poll conducted of The John R. Wooden Award Preseason Committee.

His selections to the USA Basketball World University Games Team and the Top 50 Preseason Candidates for the 2001-02 Wooden Award All-America Basketball Team follow a superb sophomore season for Mason. During the 2000-01 season he led the Cavaliers and was sixth in the ACC in scoring with an average of 15.7 points per game. He also established a UVa record and led the ACC last season by making 88.4 percent (122-138) of his free throw attempts. Mason earned third-team All-ACC honors and was co-recipient of UVa's Bill Gibson Cavalier of the Year Award.

Watson Rebounds

Junior forward/center Travis Watson has put up some impressive rebounding numbers the last two seasons. During the 2000-01 season he joined Ralph Sampson as the only players in Virginia basketball history to collect 500 or more rebounds in their first two varsity seasons. He currently has 573 career rebounds and is averaging 10.2 rebounds per game in 2001-2002.

Watson is the ACC's top returning rebounder after ranking second in the conference (9.1 rpg) last season. With 24 career double-doubles, he is two behind Maryland's Lonny Baxter for the conference lead in career double-doubles among active players.

Watson earned second-team All-ACC recognition and was co-recipient of UVa's Bill Gibson Cavalier of the Year Award last season.

Two More Televised Games

Virginia's games against Charleston Southern on December 17 and Grambling State on December 30 will be televised by Comcast SportsNet.

Schedule Change

There is one date change on Virginia's 2001-02 men's basketball schedule. UVa's game with Florida State in Charlottesville, previously scheduled for January 19, will be played on January 20 at 4:00 p.m.