# VIRGINIA BASKETBALL 2002-2003 MEDIA NOTES



Virginia (12-7 / 3-4 ACC)

VS.

#8 / #9 Maryland (14-4 / 6-1 ACC)
February 6, 2003 • 9:00 p.m.
Comcast Center (17,950)
College Park, Md.

## 2002-03 SCHEDULE

12-7 Overall / 3-4 ACC Home: 9-0 Away: 1-6 Neutral: 2-1

|           | TM.  |           |  |  |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|--|
| Nov. 10   | Big Apple Basketball (EX)                  | W, 84-60  |  |  |
| Nov. 17   | One World All-Stars (EX)                   | W, 73-57  |  |  |
|           |  |           |  |  |
| Nov. 22   | LONG ISLAND                                | W, 90-86  |  |  |
| Nov. 25-2 | 7 Maui Invitational Tournament             |           |  |  |
| Nov. 25   | Chaminade* (ESPN)                          | W, 86-72  |  |  |
| Nov. 26   | vs. #15 Kentucky* (ESPN)                   | W, 75-61  |  |  |
| Nov. 27   | vs. #19 Indiana* (ESPN)                    | L, 63-70  |  |  |
|           |  |           |  |  |
| Dec. 4    | at #21 Michigan State# (ESPN)              | L, 75-82  |  |  |
| Dec. 17   | EAST TENN. STATE                           | W, 84-76  |  |  |
| Dec. 19   | GARDNER-WEBB                               | W, 72-65  |  |  |
| Dec. 21   | at Rutgers                                 | W, 61-57  |  |  |
| Dec. 28   | GEORGETOWN (CBS)                           | W, 79-75  |  |  |
| Dec. 30   | LIBERTY                                    | W, 77-58  |  |  |
|           |  |           |  |  |
| Jan. 2    | WOFFORD (Com/Sunshine)                     | W, 87-65  |  |  |
| Jan. 5    | at N.C. State (FSN)                        | L, 63-75  |  |  |
| Jan. 11   | NORTH CAROLINA (ESPN)                      | W, 79-72  |  |  |
| Jan. 15   | at #1 Duke (ESPN)                          | L, 93-104 |  |  |
| Jan. 18   | at Clemson (R/JP)                          | L, 77-78  |  |  |
| Jan. 21   | at Virginia Tech (ESPN2)                   | L, 55-73  |  |  |
| Jan. 23   | #17 WAKE FOREST (ESPN2)                    | W, 85-75  |  |  |
| Jan. 29   | FLORIDA STATE                              | W, 85-72  |  |  |
|           |  |           |  |  |
| Feb. 1    | at Georgia Tech (R/JP)                     | L, 60-80  |  |  |
| Feb. 6    | at #8 Maryland (ESPN2)                     | 9:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Feb. 9    | N.C. STATE (R/JP/ESPN)                     | 4:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Feb. 12   | at North Carolina (ESPN)                   | 7:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Feb. 15   | DUKE (ESPN)                                | 9:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Feb. 18   | CLEMSON (R/JP)                             | 8:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Feb. 23   | at Wake Forest (FSN)                       | 6:30 p.m. |  |  |
| Feb. 26   | at Ohio University                         | 7:00 p.m. |  |  |
|           |  |           |  |  |
| Mar. 1    | at Florida State (RSN)                     | Noon      |  |  |
| Mar. 5    | GEORGIA TECH (ESPN)                        | 7:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Mar. 9    | MARYLAND (FSN)                             | 8:00 p.m. |  |  |
| Mar. 13-1 | Mar. 13-16 ACC Tournament <sup>^</sup> TBD |           |  |  |

\*Maui Invitational, Maui, Hawaii #ACC/Big 10 Challenge ^Greensboro, N.C.

Rankings listed are from the Associated Press Poll

#### TELEVISION

Tonight's game against Maryland will be televised by ESPN2. Mike Patrick will handle the play-by-play. Len Elmore is the analyst.

#### **RADIO**

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

#### **OFFICIALS**

## THE GAME

Virginia stands at 12-7 overall and 3-4 in the Atlantic Coast Conference in 2002-2003. The Cavaliers are coming off an 80-60 loss to Georgia Tech (Feb. 1) at Alexander Memorial Coliseum.

Maryland, ranked eighth in The Associated Press and ninth in the USAToday/ESPN polls, stands at 14-4 overall and 6-1 in the ACC this season. In their last game, the Terrapins defeated Loyola College (Md.) 85-58 (Feb. 2) at Comcast Center in College Park, Md.

### The Series vs. Maryland

Maryland leads the series with Virginia 95-62 in a rivalry that dates back to the 1912-13 season. After winning five consecutive meetings between 1992-1994, the Cavaliers have lost 13 of the last 18 contests, including both meetings last season. The Terrapins won 91-87 (Jan. 31) in Charlottesville in the first meeting last season and 112-92 (Mar. 3) in the final game at Cole Field House. In 2000-2001, UVa split a pair of games with Maryland with each team winning at home. Virginia earned a 99-78 victory (Jan. 31) in the first meeting of 2000-2001 in Charlottesville. Maryland gained a split in the season series with a 102-67 victory (Mar. 3) in College Park.

The Terrapins lead 54-19 in games played in College Park during the series. UVa won only 13 of 47 meetings at Cole Field House. Maryland is riding a nine-game winning streak at home over Virginia. The Cavaliers' last victory in College Park was a 70-68 win on February 2, 1993.

The Cavaliers' last four wins over the Terrapins (1995, 1997, 2000 and 2001) have occurred at University Hall in Charlottesville.

This is the 56th consecutive season the Cavaliers and Terrapins have met (every season since 1947-48), Virginia's second-oldest opponent in terms of consecutive seasons met. They have played 119 games in that span. (Virginia's oldest opponent in terms of consecutive seasons played is Virginia Tech—69 straight seasons).

#### **Good Riddance**

Virginia is hoping a change of scenery will bring them better luck in College Park as UVa makes its inaugural appearance in Comcast Center. After winning three consecutive games (1991, 1992 and 1993) at Cole Field House, the Cavaliers lost their final nine games at Cole Field House and were 13-34 all-time in the building. Those nine losses were by an average of 14.3 points per game. Only three of those games were decided by fewer than nine points.

The Cavaliers' last victory in Cole Field House was a 70-68 triumph on February 4, 1993. It was the second of three consecutive two-point decisions at Cole. UVa won the first 76-74 in 1992, while the Terrapins won the third 70-68 in 1994 to begin their current ninegame winning streak in College Park.

| Virg | inia's I | PROBABLE Starte  | rs   |     |     |      |      |      |   |
|------|----------|------------------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|---|
| No.  | Pos.     | Name             | Ht.  | Wt. | CI. | Ppg. | Rpg. | Mpg  | Notes                                       |
| 34   | F        | Jason Clark      | 6-8  | 234 | So. | 5.4  | 2.7  | 14.6 | Shooting 70.2 % (40-57) from the field      |
| 42   | F        | Elton Brown      | 6-9  | 270 | So. | 9.9  | 4.2  | 18.8 | Shooting 60.0 % (33-55) in last seven games |
| 35   | F        | Travis Watson    | 6-8  | 255 | Sr. | 14.3 | 10.4 | 30.7 | ACC-best 9 double-doubles, 47 in career     |
| 5    | F        | Derrick Byars    | 6-7  | 200 | Fr. | 7.8  | 2.9  | 21.4 | Averaging 10.2 ppg at home                  |
| 22   | G        | Todd Billet      | 6-0  | 192 | Jr. | 14.3 | 2.0  | 32.6 | Shooting 92.3% (60-65) from FT line         |
| Virg | inia's I | Key Reserves     |      |     |     |      |      |      |   |
| 4    | С        | Nick Vander Laan | 6-10 | 255 | Jr. | 6.2  | 4.9  | 16.3 | UVa career-high 17 pts. vs. Gardner-Webb    |
| 33   | G        | Devin Smith      | 6-5  | 230 | So. | 9.8  | 3.8  | 24.5 | Tied for 2nd on team with 21 blocked shots  |
| 24   | G        | Jermaine Harper  | 6-3  | 165 | So. | 4.1  | 1.3  | 12.6 | Scored season-high 12 points vs. Liberty    |
| 11   | G        | Majestic Mapp    | 6-2  | 185 | Jr. | 2.4  | 8.0  | 9.8  | Played vs. UNC – first game since 3/15/00   |

#### A Nailbiter Could be in the Offing

The recent series with Maryland has featured quite a few close games. Since 1987, 20 of 33 games have been decided by nine points or less, with Virginia winning 10 games. In the last 16 years there have also been three overtime games, with Virginia winning two of the three games.

A breakdown of the close games in the series since the 1986-87 season is below:

| 2 points - 5 | 4 points - 2 | 5 points - 2 | 6 points - 3 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 7 points - 5 | 8 points - 2 | 9 points - 1 |              |

## UVa Vs. a Top 10 Maryland Team

Tonight's game is Virginia's 22nd meeting against an Associated Press top-10 Maryland team. The Cavaliers are 4-17 in those games and 1-8 in College Park. UVa's lone victory over a top-10 Maryland squad in College Park was a 66-64 triumph on January 14, 1981 when the Terps were ranked 10th. In that meeting, the Cavaliers won on a last second jumper by Jeff Lamp.

The last time the Cavaliers defeated a top-10 Maryland team was in the first meeting of the 2000-2001 season in Charlottesville. UVa posted a 99-78 victory (Jan. 31) over the ninth-ranked Terrapins

#### He's Back

After missing 70 consecutive games spanning 1,032 days, junior guard Majestic Mapp made his long anticipated return to the Cavalier lineup against North Carolina (Jan. 11). Mapp entered the game to a standing ovation with 7:23 remaining in the first half and played just over two minutes.

Mapp had been sidelined after tearing the ACL in his right knee on August 2, 2000. He missed the entire 2000-01 and 2001-02 seasons. The last time Mapp had played for UVa was March 15, 2000 against Georgetown in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament.

After not seeing any action in the Cavaliers' games at Duke (Jan. 15) and at Clemson (Jan. 18), Mapp played six minutes against Virginia Tech (Jan. 21). He scored three points (on a three-point field goal), grabbed one rebound and handed out one assist.

Mapp saw his most significant playing time of the season in the Cavaliers' 85-75 victory over Wake Forest (Jan. 23). In 17 minutes of action, Mapp had three points, four assists and one steal with only one turnover. Against Florida State (Jan. 29), he scored four points and had three rebounds, two assists and two turnovers in nine minutes. Mapp played 15 minutes vs. Georgia Tech (Feb. 1) and had two points, two assists and one steal.

#### Gillen Registers 350th Career Win

Virginia head coach Pete Gillen won his 350th career game on December 21 when his Cavaliers posted a 61-57 victory over Rutgers.

Gillen is in his 18th season as a collegiate head coach and sports a 356-184 record for a .659 winning percentage. Gillen is in his fifth season at Virginia and has posted an 82-56 record (.594 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 14 times in 17 seasons (nine NCAA, five NIT), including the last three seasons at Virginia. He has been selected as the conference Coach of the Year five times – all while coaching Xavier (Midwestern Collegiate Conference).

#### Jenifer Suspended Indefinitely

Sophomore guard Keith Jenifer is suspended from the team indefinitely for conduct detrimental to the team. He will not practice or play in games during the suspension.

Jenifer started 14 games and played in all 19 of the Cavaliers' games this season. He leads the team in assists (104) and is averaging 5.6 points and 3.5 rebounds a game.

## Billet and Watson Among NCAA Leaders

Junior guard Todd Billet and senior forward/center Travis Watson are ranked among the NCAA Division I leaders in free throw percentage and rebounding, respectively, for games played through February 3.

Billet is tied for seventh in the nation in free throw percentage at 92.3 percent (60-65).

Watson is 12th among all Division I players in rebounds with an average of 10.4 per game (187 in 18 games).

## **In-State Winning Streak Snapped**

The Cavaliers' had their 15-game winning streak against in-state opponents snapped with a 73-55 loss at Virginia Tech (Jan. 21). Even with the loss to Virginia Tech, UVa's record against in-state opponents in the last 26 seasons (since 1977-78) is 106-15 for an .876 winning percentage.

#### **Home Sweet Home**

Virginia snapped a three-game losing streak with an 85-75 win over Wake Forest (Jan. 23) at University Hall (and has since defeated Florida State at home (85-72 – Jan. 29) and lost at Georgia Tech (80-60 – Feb. 1). Prior to defeating the Demon Deacons, UVa had lost its last three games and four of the last five – and all four losses were on opponents' home courts. UVa's only win in those five games was a 79-72 victo-

ry over North Carolina (Jan. 11) at University Hall. The Cavaliers are a perfect 9-0 at U-Hall this season and just 3-7 away from home, including 1-6 in away games.

Since the beginning of the 1999-2000 season, the Cavaliers are:

47-8 (85.5 percent) in all home games

21-6 (77.8 percent) in all home ACC games

14-26 (35.0 percent) in all away games

7-21 (25.0 percent) in all away ACC games

7-6 (53.8 percent) in all neutral site games

#### 'Hoos Starting

The Cavaliers have played 19 games this season and have used 11 different starting lineups. UVa's latest starting lineup (vs. Georgia Tech – Feb. 1) featured sophomore forward Jason Clark, senior forward/center Travis Watson, junior center Nick Vander Laan, junior guard Todd Billet and freshman forward Derrick Byars. Those five comprised UVa's 11th different starting lineup this season.

Billet and Watson lead the team with 17 starts apiece, while sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith and sophomore guard Keith Jenifer have drawn 14 starting assignments. Sophomore forward Elton Brown has started 10 contests, while Vander Laan and Byars have both started nine times. Eight different players have started games this season for Virginia and all eight have at least five starts this season.

Here's a breakdown of UVa's starting lineup in each game this season with the number of different starting lineups in parenthesis:

| LIU            | (1)  | Byars | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
|----------------|------|-------|--------|-------------|---------|--------|
| Cham           | (2)  | Byars | Watson | Vander Laan | Jenifer | Billet |
| Kent           | (3)  | Byars | Brown  | Watson      | Billet  | Smith  |
| Ind            | (4)  | Byars | Watson | Vander Laan | Billet  | Smith  |
| MSU            | (5)  | Byars | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Smith  |
| ETSU           | (6)  | Smith | Watson | Vander Laan | Jenifer | Billet |
| GWU            | (7)  | Smith | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
| Rut            | (8)  | Smith | Clark  | Vander Laan | Jenifer | Billet |
| <b>G</b> 'town | (8)  | Smith | Clark  | Vander Laan | Jenifer | Billet |
| Liberty        | (7)  | Smith | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
| Wofford        | (2)  | Byars | Watson | Vander Laan | Jenifer | Smith  |
| NCSU           | (1)  | Byars | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
| UNC            | (1)  | Byars | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
| Duke           | (7)  | Smith | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
| Clem           | (6)  | Smith | Watson | Vander Laan | Jenifer | Billet |
| Va Tech        | (7)  | Smith | Brown  | Watson      | Jenifer | Billet |
| Wake           | (9)  | Clark | Watson | Vander Laan | Billet  | Smith  |
| FSU            | (10) | Clark | Brown  | Watson      | Billet  | Smith  |
| Ga. Tech       | (11) | Clark | Watson | Vander Laan | Billet  | Byars  |

#### 20/20

Against Wofford (Jan. 2), senior forward/center Travis Watson accomplished what no UVa player has been able to do in 20 years – register 20 or more points and rebounds in the same game. In the Cavaliers' 87-65 victory, Watson scored 21 points and pulled down a career-high 20 rebounds.

The last Virginia player to accomplish the feat was Ralph Sampson on Jan. 12, 1983 when he had 33 points and 21 rebounds against N.C. State.

## **Five Score in Double Figures**

The Cavaliers had five players score in double figures in their 85-72 win over Florida State (Jan. 29), marking the first time this season that has happened. Senior forward/center Travis Watson led the way with 20 points, while freshman forward Derrick Byars had 15. Junior guard Todd Billet and sophomore forward Elton Brown both scored 14 points, and sophomore forward Jason Clark added 12.

The previous time UVa had five players score in double figures in the same game was February 28, 2002 against Duke. Roger Mason, Jr.

## PRESEASON ACC PREDICTIONS

## 2002-2003 ACC Pre-Season Media Prediction

(Indicates first place votes)

| 1. | Duke (79)        | 852 |
|----|------------------|-----|
| 2. | Maryland (9)     | 686 |
| 3. | N.C. State (4)   | 595 |
| 4. | Georgia Tech (1) | 548 |
| 5. | Virginia         | 488 |
| 6. | Wake Forest      | 380 |
| 7. | North Carolina   | 348 |
| 8. | Clemson          | 168 |
| 9. | Florida State    | 138 |

## 2002-03 Media Pre-Season All-ACC Selections First Team

| Travis Watson, UVa | 85 |
|--------------------|----|
| Steve Blake, Md    | 83 |
| Chris Duhon, Duke  | 83 |
| Josh Howard, WF    | 78 |
| Julius Hodge, NCSU | 62 |

#### **Second Team**

| Dahntay Jones, Duke | 24 |
|---------------------|----|
| Edward Scott, Clem  | 12 |
| Tahj Holden, Md     | 5  |
| Marcus Melvin, NCSU | 5  |
| Raymond Felton, UNC | 5  |

## 2002-03 Media Pre-Season ACC Player of Year

| Chris Duhon, Duke              | 26 |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Travis Watson, Virginia        | 23 |
| Josh Howard, Wake Forest       | 20 |
| Steve Blake, Maryland          | 9  |
| Julius Hodge, N.C. State       | 5  |
| Dahntay Jones, Duke            | 3  |
| Drew Nicholas, Maryland        | 1  |
| Jawad Williams, North Carolina | 1  |

#### 2002-03 Media Pre-Season ACC Rookie of Year

| Raymond Feiton, North Carolina | 65 |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Chris Bosh, Georgia Tech       | 10 |
| Rashad McCants, North Carolina | 4  |
| Shavlik Randolph, Duke         | 4  |
| Eric Williams, Wake Forest     | 4  |
| J.J. Redick, Duke              | 2  |
| Jarrett Jack, Georgia Tech     | 1  |

## 2002-2003 UVa ACC Players of the Week

Jan. 6 – Travis Watson Jan. 13 – Todd Billet

Junior guard Todd Billet was named the Co-ACC Player of the Week on January 13 after scoring 24 points in UVa's 79-72 home victory over North Carolina (Jan. 11). He also had three rebounds, two assists and two steals in the win. Billet was eight for 15 from the field, including six of 11 from three-point range. He also made both free throw attempts.

Billet reached a career milestone in the victory as he scored his 1,000th career point with a three-point field goal with 4:15 remaining in the first half.

He shared the award with Duke's Dahntay Jones.

(22), Adam Hall (21), Chris Williams (14), Watson (12) and Keith Jenifer (10) all reached double figures in the scoring column.

#### **Cavalier Captains**

Seniors Travis Watson and Jason Rogers, and junior Majestic Mapp are the captains of the 2002-03 Virginia basketball team.

#### 200

The Cavaliers' 87-65 victory (Jan. 2) over Wofford marked their 200th victory over a non-conference opponent at University Hall since the building opened for the 1965-66 season. Virginia is 200-29 for an impressive .873 winning percentage all-time in University Hall against non-conference opponents.

#### **Billet Scores 1,000th Career Point**

Junior guard Todd Billet reached the 1,000 point milestone in UVa's 79-72 win over North Carolina (Jan. 11). Billet scored his 1,000th career point with a three-point field goal with 4:15 remaining in the first half. Billet tallied 24 points in the game against North Carolina. He has scored 1,116 points in his collegiate career. Billet scored 844 points in two seasons at Rutgers and has scored 272 points this season in a Virginia uniform.

#### **Shooting 50 Percent From the Field**

The Cavaliers have shot 50 percent or better in five games this season and are only 3-2 in those games (Virginia is 9-5 when it shoots below 50 percent). The two games UVa shot 50 percent and lost, it outshot its opponent (Duke - 50.8 to 50.0 and Clemson - 59.2 to 55.4). Virginia is one of only two ACC schools (Clemson is the other) this year to lose a game when shooting 50 percent or better.

#### **Four Consecutive Double-Doubles**

Senior forward/center Travis Watson had his streak of double-doubles in four consecutive games snapped against Duke (Jan. 15). After a "drought" of three games without a double-double, Watson notched his eighth double-double of the season in UVa's win over Wake Forest (Jan. 23). He recorded his second straight double-double with 20 points and 16 rebounds in the Cavaliers' win over Florida State (Jan. 29). See page 5 of the notes for a listing of Watson's double-doubles this season.

Watson has recorded four consecutive double-doubles three times in his career (he did it twice last season). The last Virginia player other than Watson to notch four consecutive double-doubles was in the 1997-98 season when Norman Nolan accomplished the feat. Nolan posted consecutive double-doubles against Clemson (Feb. 21) - 24 pts., 12 rebs., Maryland (Feb. 24) - 26 pts., 15 rebs., Florida State (Feb. 28) - 24 pts., 10 rebs., and Duke (Mar. 3) - 13 pts., 15 rebs.

Ralph Sampson is the last UVa player to have five consecutive double-doubles as he concluded his stellar career with five double-doubles in a row in the 1982-83 season. Sampson's career high for consecutive double-doubles is nine, but interestingly enough, that is not the school record. Norm Carmichael posted a school record 12 consecutive double-doubles in the 1967-68 season.

Watson has led UVa in rebounding in 14 of 19 games this season and is averaging ACC bests of 10.4 boards per game

overall and 11.0 in ACC play. He is also tied with Todd Billet in scoring with an average of 14.3 points per game (13th in the ACC). Watson is shooting 53.6 percent (98-183) from the field (2nd in the ACC).

#### **Free Throw Woes**

The Cavaliers set a record for free throw futility in their loss to Virginia Tech (Jan. 21). UVa was just 1-6 (16.7 percent) from the free throw line marking their lowest known free throw percentage in a game since at least the 1963-64 season (and very possibly since the 1957-58 season). Virginia's previous known record for lowest free throw percentage in a game was 20.0 percent when it went 2-10 from the line against Kentucky Wesleyan on December 28, 1963.

The one made free throw vs. Virginia Tech ties for the fewest free throws made in a game. The Cavaliers also made only one free throw vs. Duke – 1-2 (Feb. 9, 1977); North Carolina – 1-1 (Mar. 7, 1982); and Wake Forest – 1-3 (Mar. 9, 1984).

UVa's six free throw attempts against the Hokies ties for the 14th fewest free throws attempted in a game. It is the fewest free throws Virginia has attempted in a game since attempting only three (two were made) against North Carolina on February 11, 1998 and six (five were made) against Georgia Tech on February 14, 1998.

## **Making Free Throws Down The Stretch**

The Cavaliers have struggled from the free throw line this season, making just 66.3 percent (279-421) of their attempts from the charity stripe. However, UVa has been more reliable from the charity stripe in the final five minutes of games.

In the first half of games, Virginia is shooting 66.9 percent (93-139) from the line. UVa has made 66.0 percent (186-282) of its attempts in the second half of games. In the final five minutes of games, the Cavaliers have made 101 of 148 attempts for 68.2 percent. (UVa is only 85-134 for 63.4 percent in the first 15 minutes of the second half.) In its last 15 games, UVa has made 90 of 126 attempts from the foul line in the final five minutes of games for 71.4 percent.

#### **Field Goal Percentage Defense**

After allowing its last seven opponent's of the 2001-2002 season to shoot 50 percent or better from the field (and nine overall), the Cavaliers have allowed only three teams to shoot 50 percent or better from the field this season.

Last year, UVa opponents shot 44.2 percent from the field compared to 42.2 percent in 2002-2003. In ACC contests last season, Virginia's opponents shot 48.0 percent from the floor, versus 46.4 percent this season.

#### **Cavaliers Finish Second in Maui Invitational**

Virginia won two of three games to finish second in the 2002 EA Sports Maui Invitational (Nov. 25-27) at the Lahaina Civic Center in Maui, Hawaii. The Cavaliers defeated Chaminade 86-72 (Nov. 25) and 15th-ranked Kentucky 75-61 (Nov. 26) before falling to 19th-ranked Indiana 70-63 (Nov. 27) in the championship game.

Senior forward/center Travis Watson was named to the All-Tournament team. Watson registered two double-doubles and averaged 12.7 points and 11.0 rebounds in the three games. He also blocked nine shots and added seven assists and five steals.

#### **Billet Unkind to Former Team**

He was booed all game long, but it didn't faze junior guard Todd Billet, who was making his return to Louis Brown Athletic Center and Rutgers on December 21. Billet, who played for Rutgers for two seasons before transferring to Virginia, scored a game-high 22 points in leading his new team to a 61-57 victory over the Scarlet Knights. Among his 22 points were a pair of free throws with 14 seconds remaining that broke a 57-57 tie and gave the Cavaliers the lead for good.

In two seasons at Rutgers, Billet averaged 14.6 points per game, including 16.6 per game in 2000-01. He also established a school record for three-pointers in a season with 82 in 2000-01.

Billet is tied for the team lead in scoring this season with 14.3 points per game (11th in the ACC). He is averaging a team-high 19.0 points per game in ACC play (3rd in the ACC). Billet tops the Cavaliers in three-point field goals (56) and is second among all ACC players in free throw shooting (60-65 for 92.3 percent).

#### Watson 29th All-Time Among ACC Players in Rebounding

Senior forward/center Travis Watson is tied for 29th all-time among ACC players in career rebounds. Watson has 981 rebounds and is tied with Clemson's Horace Grant (1983-87) for 29th place. He needs five rebounds to surpass Gene Banks, who played for Duke from 1978-81, and move into 28th place. Georgia Tech's Matt Harpring (1995-98) is 27th with 997 rebounds and Maryland's Lonny Baxter (1999-02) is 26th with 998 career rebounds.

#### **ACC Career Rebounding Leaders**

| AC   | ACC Career Rebounding Leaders |                |              |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|--|
|  | Player                        | School         | Rebs (Avg)   |  |  |
| 1.   | Dickie Hemric (1952-55)       | Wake Forest    | 1,802 (17.3) |  |  |
| 2.   | Ron Shavlik (1954-56)         | N.C. State     | 1,598 (16.8) |  |  |
| 3.   | Tim Duncan (1994-97)          | Wake Forest    | 1,570 (12.3) |  |  |
| 4.   | Ralph Sampson (1980-83)       | Virginia       | 1,511 (11.4) |  |  |
| 5.   | Wayne Rollins (1974-77)       | Clemson        | 1,311 (11.9) |  |  |
| 6.   | Mike Gminski (1977-80)        | Duke           | 1,242 (10.2) |  |  |
| 7.   | Dale Davis (1988-91)          | Clemson        | 1,216 (10.0) |  |  |
| 8.   | Len Chappell (1960-62)        | Wake Forest    | 1,213 (13.9) |  |  |
| 9.   | Malcolm Mackey (1990-93)      | Georgia Tech   | 1,205 (9.3)  |  |  |
| 10.  | Sam Perkins (1981-84)         | North Carolina | 1,167 (8.6)  |  |  |
| 11.  | Lee Collins (1953-56)         | South Carolina | 1,159 (12.5) |  |  |
| 12.  | Christian Laettner (1989-92)  | Duke           | 1,149 (7.8)  |  |  |
| 13.  | Tom Owens (1969-71)           | South Carolina | 1,116 (13.3) |  |  |
| 14.  | George Lynch (1990-93)        | North Carolina | 1,097 (7.8)  |  |  |
|  | Alvin Jones (1998-01)         | Georgia Tech   | 1,075 (8.7)  |  |  |
| 16.  | Randy Denton (1969-71)        | Duke           | 1,067 (12.7) |  |  |
| 17.  | Tom Burleson (1972-74)        | N.C. State     | 1,066 (12.7) |  |  |
| 18.  | Billy Cunningham (1963-65)    | North Carolina | 1,062 (15.4) |  |  |
| 19.  | Len Elmore (1972-74)          | Maryland       | 1,053 (12.2) |  |  |
| 20.  | Mike Lewis (1966-68)          | Duke           | 1,051 (12.5) |  |  |
| 21.  | Antawn Jamison (1996-98)      | North Carolina | 1,027 (9.9)  |  |  |
| 22.  | Mitch Kupchak (1973-76)       | North Carolina | 1,006 (8.5)  |  |  |
| 23.  | Brad Daugherty (1983-86)      | North Carolina | 1,003 (7.4)  |  |  |
|  | Danny Ferry (1986-89)         | Duke           | 1,003 (7.0)  |  |  |
| 25.  | Joe Smith (1952-55)           | South Carolina | 1,001 (10.3) |  |  |
| 26.  | Lonny Baxter (1999-02)        | Maryland       | 998 (7.2)    |  |  |
|  | Matt Harpring (1995-98)       | Georgia Tech   | 997 (8.0)    |  |  |
|  | Gene Banks (1978-81)          | Duke           | 985 (7.9)    |  |  |
| 29.  | Travis Watson (2000-pres)     |                | 981 (9.3)    |  |  |
|  | Horace Grant (1983-87)        | Clemson        | 981 (8.0)    |  |  |
| (Includes all players who played a portion of their career |                               |                |              |  |  |

players from Georgia Tech and Florida State, who joined the ACC in 1980 and 1992, respectively, reflect only those years played in the ACC.)

#### **More Double-Doubles**

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has picked up where he left off last season as he has recorded nine double-doubles this season, including a stretch of four consecutive double-doubles, which was snapped against Duke (Jan. 15). With the nine double-doubles, Watson leads all ACC players in that category. Watson has 47 in his career which trails only Ralph Sampson's school record 84 career double-doubles.

Here's a list of Watson's double-doubles in 2002-03:
Travis Watson – 26 pts., 13 rebs. vs. Long Island (Nov. 22)
Travis Watson – 16 pts., 14 rebs. vs. Chaminade (Nov. 25)
Travis Watson – 14 pts., 11 rebs. vs. Indiana (Nov. 27)
Travis Watson – 20 pts., 15 rebs. vs. Liberty (Dec. 30)
Travis Watson – 21 pts., 20 rebs. vs. Wofford (Jan. 2)
Travis Watson – 10 pts., 12 rebs. vs. N.C. State (Jan. 5)
Travis Watson – 18 pts., 12 rebs. vs. North Carolina (Jan. 11)
Travis Watson – 11 pts., 13 rebs. vs. Wake Forest (Jan. 23)
Travis Watson – 20 pts., 16 rebs. vs. Florida State (Jan. 29)

Watson's 47 career double-doubles are the most of any active ACC player. Watson, who recorded an ACC-best 17 double-doubles last year, also had double-doubles in both of UVa's 2002-2003 exhibition games.

#### **Duke Ties a Record**

In UVa's game against Duke (Jan. 15), the Blue Devils made 37 of 40 free throws (92.5 percent) with the 37 made free throws tying the school record for most free throws made in a game by a Virginia opponent. St. Joseph's (Pa.) made 37 free throws (43 attempts) against UVa on February 21, 1958.

#### **Harper Reinstated**

Sophomore guard Jermaine Harper was reinstated to the team December 12 after being suspended for a violation of team rules. Harper missed the Cavaliers' first five games of the season. He did not practice during the suspension.

In the 14 games Harper has played he is averaging 4.1 points and 1.3 rebounds per game. He is averaging 12.6 minutes of playing time per game.

#### **Vander Laan Joins Growing List**

Junior center Nick Vander Laan became the latest Cavalier to set a UVa career-high in scoring (see notes to follow). Vander Laan poured in 17 points in Virginia's 72-65 win over Gardner-Webb (Dec. 19). His previous UVa best was 10 points against then 19th-ranked Indiana (Nov. 27). Vander Laan's overall career-high is 23 points against Oklahoma in the 1999-2000 season while playing for Cal-Berkeley.

Vander Laan also set a UVa career-best in rebounds with 11 vs. Rutgers (Dec. 21). His previous season-high was eight rebounds on two occasions. Vander Laan's overall career best rebounding game is 13 against Washington during the 1999-2000 season while playing for Cal-Berkeley.

#### **Byars Joins Career High Club**

Freshman forward Derrick Byars became another in a long line of Cavaliers to set a career high in scoring. Byars registered career-highs in back-to-back games. Byars scored 16 points, including 14 in the second half, in UVa's 84-76 win over East Tennessee State (Dec. 17). He then scored a

game-high 20 points in the Cavaliers' 72-65 victory over Gardner-Webb (Dec. 19). His previous career high was 11 points against Indiana (Nov. 27).

Byars also registered a career-high five steals against Gardner-Webb. His previous career-best was two steals against Michigan State (Dec. 4).

#### **Billet and Smith Net UVa Career Bests**

Junior guard Todd Billet and sophomore forward/guard Devin Smith scored career-highs as Cavaliers in UVa's game against Michigan State (Dec. 4).

Billet poured in 28 points off the bench – including 26 in the second half. His career-high is 37 points against James Madison during the 2000-2001 season while playing at Rutgers University. He is averaging 14.3 points per game this season (tied for the team lead).

Smith scored 24 points against the Spartans. He was 9-13 from the floor, including 4-6 from three-point range, and made both of his free throw attempts. Smith is fourth on the team in scoring at 9.8 points per game.

#### **New Career High for Clark**

Sophomore forward Jason Clark scored 12 points – all in the second half – in the Cavaliers' 90-86 win over Long Island (Nov. 22) to establish a new career high. Clark equaled his career high with 12 points against Rutgers (Dec. 21) in his first start of the season. He also scored 12 points versus Florida State (Jan. 29). Clark also blocked a season-high five shots and grabbed a season-best eight rebounds vs. Rutgers. Clark's former career-best was 11 points against Duke (Jan. 27, 2002).

#### **Brown Nets New Career High for Points**

Sophomore forward Elton Brown established a new career high for points in a game when he scored 22 in UVa's 86-72 victory over Chaminade (Nov. 25). Brown, who surpassed his old career best of 20 points against Georgia Tech (Jan. 22, 2002), made eight of 13 shots from the floor and five of seven attempts from the charity stripe.

#### Jenifer Sets Career Highs

Sophomore guard Keith Jenifer became the third returning player to establish a new career high in scoring this season. Jenifer tallied 13 points in UVa's 75-61 victory over Kentucky (Nov. 26). His previous career high was 10 points against Duke (Feb. 28) last season.

Jenifer has also set a new career high for assists. He handed out a career-best seven assists in the season-opener against Long Island (Nov. 22) and then increased his career high to eight against Indiana (Nov. 27). He equaled his career-best with eight assists against Wofford (Jan. 2) and then against Florida State (Jan. 29).

With nine rebounds against Rutgers (Dec. 21), Jenifer set a new career high in that category. His previous career high for rebounds was five on two occasions.

## Jenifer Sets Career-High

Sophomore guard Keith Jenifer has handed out 104 assists (5.5 per game – 6th in the ACC) this season and has surpassed his previous career high of 80. Jenifer has a 2.0 to 1 assist to turnover ratio this season (4th in the ACC). He possesses a 2.43 to 1 assist to turnover ratio in ACC play (2nd in the ACC).

Jenifer has had five or more assists in 14 games this season. He has not had more turnovers than assists in any game this season.

#### Not Just a Scorer

Sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith came to Virginia with a reputation as a terrific scorer (19.4 ppg, at Coffeyville Community College), but he has also shown a knack for blocking shots. He has blocked 15 shots in the last 11 games, including a season-high four against Liberty (Dec. 30). With 21 blocks this season (1.1 per game), Smith is tied for second on the team in that category.

#### Making the Most of His Opportunities

Sophomore forward Jason Clark has only taken 57 shots this season, but he's made 40 baskets for an impressive .702 field goal percentage. He is shooting 72.0 percent (18-25) in ACC games this season. Clark has shot 50 percent or better in every game excluding the three games (Indiana – Nov. 27, East Tennessee State – Dec. 17, and Wofford – Jan. 2) he did not attempt a field goal. Clark has been perfect from the field six times this season. He is shooting 63.5 percent (80-126) from the field in his career. In ACC contests during his career, Clark is 45-62 for an amazing 72.6 percent.

#### Home Cookin'

Freshman forward Derrick Byars is averaging 7.8 points per game this season, however, he is averaging better than 10 points per contest in games played at University Hall. (His average at home was 12.3 points per game prior to not scoring against North Carolina – Jan. 11. He injured his left shoulder early in the game against UNC and played only eight minutes). Byars is averaging 10.2 points per game in nine home games and is averaging only 5.6 points in 10 games away from home. To go one step further, Byars has only scored 27 points (3.9 per game) in UVa's seven games on opponents' home courts. Eleven of those points came in UVa's last game vs. Georgia Tech (Feb. 1).

#### **Billet Heating Up**

In his last seven games, junior guard Todd Billet has scored 129 points for an average of 18.4 points per game (and 123 points – 20.5 points per game in his last six ACC games). He has made 40 of 83 attempts from the field for 48.2 percent and 29 of 60 three-point attempts for 48.3 percent. Billet made seven three-pointers against Clemson (Jan. 18) which ties for the sixth highest single game total in school history.

Billet is averaging 14.3 points per game overall (11th in the ACC) and 19.0 points per ACC contest (3rd in the ACC). On the season, Billet has made 56 three-point field goals overall (2.95 per game – 3rd in the ACC) and is averaging a league-best 4.0 three-pointers per game in conference tilts. Billet is shooting 39.7 percent from behind the arc (7th in the ACC). In ACC play, he has made 28 of 59 three-point attempts (47.5 percent – 2nd in the ACC).

#### **Brown Finds His Touch**

In his last seven games, sophomore forward Elton Brown has scored 82 points for an average of 11.7 points per game and is shooting 60.0 percent (33-55) from the field. In his last five ACC games, Brown has made 26 of 41 attempts from the floor (63.4 percent).

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Brown is averaging 9.9 points per game overall and 12.0 points per game in ACC play. In ACC games, he is shooting 55.7 percent (34-61) from the field.

#### **Watson Heating Up**

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has scored in double figures in 10 of his last 11 games and is averaging 15.4 points per game in those 11 contests. On the season, he is averaging 14.3 points per game overall and 14.4 in ACC games.

Watson is shooting 53.6 percent (98-183) from the field this season and has shot better than 50 percent 10 times (in 18 games). Over the last 11 games, he has connected on 54.5 percent (61-112) of his field goal attempts and has shot better than 50 percent in eight of those contests. Watson is shooting 53.7 percent (36-67) in ACC games (3rd in the ACC).

When Watson has shot from inside the three-point arc this season, he is 94-165 (57.0 percent). He is just 4-18 (22.2 percent) from three-point range.

#### Watson 19th in Scoring

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has moved up to 19th on the Cavaliers' all-time scoring list with 1,359 career points. He needs 57 points to move past Mel Kennedy (1985-88) into 18th place.

#### Watson Second in Rebounds

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has grabbed 187 rebounds (10.4 per game) this season in the 18 games he has played. He is second on Virginia's career rebounding list with 981.

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

| 1. | Ralph Sampson (1980-83)    | 1,51 |
|----|----------------------------|------|
| 2. | Travis Watson (2000-pres.) | 981  |
| 3. | Junior Burrough (1992-95)  | 929  |
| 4. | Bryant Stith (1989-92)     | 859  |
| 5. | Steve Castellan (1976-79)  | 799  |
| 6. | Ted Jeffries (1990-93)     | 787  |
| 7. | Chris Williams (1999-02)   | 786  |

#### **All-Time Blocked Shot Leaders**

Senior Travis Watson ranks among Virginia's all-time leaders in blocked shots. Watson has 113 career blocked shots and ranks fourth all-time. He blocked a career-high tying five shots against Chaminade (Nov. 25) to jump from seventh to fifth place. He needs 14 blocked shots to move past Kris Hunter (1997-99) for third place.

Here's a look at UVa'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. | Travis Watson (2000-pres.) | 113 |
| 5. | Steve Castellan (1976-79)  | 108 |
| 6. | Chris Williams (1999-02)   | 97  |
| 7. | Junior Burrough (1992-95)  | 96  |

#### Tough Early Season Schedule

The Cavaliers played three nationally-ranked teams (Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan State) in their first five games of the season. It is the first time in school history the Cavaliers played three of their first five games of a season against ranked teams. In the 1963-64, 1968-69, 1991-92 and 1996-97 seasons, UVa played two ranked teams in the first five games of the season.

The Cavaliers are 2-3 against nationally-ranked teams this season. Here's a list of UVa's games this season against teams ranked in the Associated Press Poll:

| 11/26 | vs. Kentucky      | #15 | W | 75-61  |
|-------|-------------------|-----|---|--------|
| 11/27 | vs. Indiana       | #19 | L | 63-70  |
| 12/4  | at Michigan State | #21 | L | 75-82  |
| 1/15  | at Duke           | #1  | L | 93-104 |
| 1/23  | Wake Forest       | #17 | W | 85-75  |

## **50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ACC**

The Atlantic Coast Conference is celebrating its 50th anniversary this season. Former University of Virginia standouts **Jeff Lamp**, **Barry Parkhill** and **Ralph Sampson** were named to the 50th Anniversary ACC Men's Basketball Team.

Sampson was also recently named as one of the top 50 male ACC athletes of all-time.

Lamp lettered four times for Virginia from 1978-81, and was a first-team All-America selection in 1980 and 1981. He helped lead the Cavaliers to the 1980 NIT Championship and the 1981 NCAA Final Four. He was named the Most Valuable Player of the 1981 NCAA East Regional and was an All-Tournament selection at the 1981 Final Four. A team captain during his UVa career, Lamp ranks second on Virginia's all-time scoring list with 2,317 points. Lamp was a first-round selection by the Portland Trail Blazers in the 1981 NBA Draft.

Parkhill lettered for Virginia from 1971-73 and was a first-team All-America selection in 1972 and 1973. He was selected the ACC Basketball Player of the Year and the ACC Athlete of the Year in 1972. Parkhill earned first-team All-ACC honors in 1972 and was a second-team All-Conference selection in 1971 and 1973. He was also an All-ACC Tournament selection in 1971 and 1972. He holds Virginia's single-game scoring record with 51 points against Baldwin-Wallace on December 11, 1971. Parkhill was a first-round draft selection by both the Virginia Squires (ABA) and Portland Trail Blazers (NBA) after his collegiate career.

Sampson lettered four times for Virginia from 1980-83, and was a three-time National and ACC Player of the Year. He was a four-time first-team All-America selection and a three-time first-team All-ACC selection. Sampson received three consecutive Rupp trophies, two consecutive Eastman Awards and two John R.Wooden Awards. He was the ACC Rookie of the Year in 1980. Sampson helped lead the Cavaliers to the 1980 NIT Championship and the 1981 NCAA Final Four. He was named the Most Valuable Player of the 1980 NIT. Sampson holds Virginia career records for rebounds (1,511), field goals made (899) and blocked shots (462). He led the ACC in rebounding three times and ranks fourth on UVa's career scoring list with 2,228 points. Sampson was selected by the Houston Rockets as the NBA's number one draft choice in 1983 and went on to earn NBA Rookie of the Year honors.

#### Virginia Players Among the ACC Leaders

(Includes all games)

| Player           | Category        | Avg./Pct. | Rank  |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| Travis Watson    | Rebounding      | 10.4      | 1st   |
| Travis Watson    | Defensive Rebs. | 7.11      | 1st   |
| Travis Watson    | Offensive Rebs. | 3.28      | 2nd   |
| Travis Watson    | Field Goal %    | 53.6      | 2nd   |
| Todd Billet      | Free Throw %    | 92.3      | 2nd   |
| Todd Billet      | 3 PT FG Made    | 2.95      | 3rd   |
| Keith Jenifer    | Asst-TO Ratio   | 2.00      | 4th   |
| Keith Jenifer    | Assists         | 5.47      | 6th   |
| Travis Watson    | Blocked Shots   | 1.28      | 6th   |
| Todd Billet      | 3 Pt FG %       | 39.7      | 7th   |
| Jason Clark      | Blocked Shots   | 1.17      | T10th |
| Todd Billet      | Scoring         | 14.3      | T11   |
| Travis Watson    | Scoring         | 14.3      | 13th  |
| Devin Smith      | Blocked Shots   | 1.11      | 13th  |
| Nick Vander Laan | Rebounding      | 4.9       | 22nd  |

## Virginia in the ACC Team Statistics

| Virginia in the ACC Team Statistics |           |      |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|--|--|--|--|
| (Includes all games)                |           |      |  |  |  |  |
| Category                            | Avg./Pct. | Rank |  |  |  |  |
| 3 Pt FG % Defense                   | 30.9      | 2nd  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 Pt Field Goal %                   | 37.1      | 4th  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 Pt Field Goals Made               | 7.42      | 4th  |  |  |  |  |
| Rebounding Offense                  | 37.7      | 4th  |  |  |  |  |
| Blocked Shots                       | 4.79      | 4th  |  |  |  |  |
| Defensive Rebounds                  | 24.53     | 5th  |  |  |  |  |
| Scoring Offense                     | 76.1      | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Field Goal %                        | 45.9      | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Free Throw %                        | 66.3      | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| FG % Defense                        | 42.2      | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Offensive Rebounds                  | 13.21     | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Rebounding Defense                  | 35.9      | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Rebounding Margin                   | +1.8      | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Assists                             | 14.58     | 6th  |  |  |  |  |
| Asst-Turnover Ratio                 | 0.93      | 8th  |  |  |  |  |
| Scoring Margin                      | +2.6      | 8th  |  |  |  |  |
| Steals                              | 6.00      | 9th  |  |  |  |  |
| Scoring Defense                     | 73.5      | 9th  |  |  |  |  |
| Turnover Margin                     | -2.21     | 9th  |  |  |  |  |
|                                     |           |      |  |  |  |  |

#### Virginia Returns to Postseason Play

The University of Virginia men's basketball team received an invitation to the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) following the 2001-02 regular season. UVa lost to South Carolina 74-67 in the first round of the tournament. It was the Cavaliers' ninth NIT appearance and the team's third consecutive postseason appearance. Following the 2000-2001 season, UVa received a bid to the 2001 NCAA Tournament. 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. Virginia made the first of three straight postseason appearances with a bid to the 2000 National Invitation Tournament (NIT). UVa lost to Georgetown 115-111 in triple overtime in the first round of the NIT.

#### **Transfers Making Big Impact**

Virginia's three transfers – junior guard Todd Billet (Rutgers), junior center Nick Vander Laan (California-Berkeley), and sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith (Coffeyville Community College) – have made a big impact on

the team in 2002-03. The trio have combined to start 40 times and average 30.5 points and 10.7 rebounds per game. Billet and Smith have made 85 of UVa's 141 three-point field goals this season as well. Billet also leads UVa in free throw percentage (.923-60-65) and Smith is second (.781-25-32).

Billet and Vander Laan are eligible to play for the Cavaliers during the 2002-03 season after transferring to Virginia prior to the 2001-02 academic year.

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

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

The 6-5 Smith averaged 19.4 points and 6.6 rebounds per game while earning first-team Junior College All-America honors as a freshman at Coffeyville Community College in 2001-02.

### Bench Scoring - 48, 47, 46

Virginia's reserves have played a major role in several of the Cavaliers' wins this season. Reserves have combined to score 46 or more points in three victories this season.

Four Cavaliers off the bench combined to score 48 of UVa's 72 points in a 72-65 victory over Gardner-Webb (Dec. 19). The 48 points are the most this season scored by players off UVa's bench. Freshman forward Derrick Byars and junior center Nick Vander Laan scored 20 and 17 points, respectively.

The previous 2002-2003 high was 47 points in an 86-72 win over Chaminade (Nov. 25). Sophomore forward Elton Brown led the way with 22 points, while sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith added 16 points.

UVa's bench came through again in a 79-75 victory over Georgetown (Dec. 28) as the four players who came off the bench combined to score 46 points. Senior forward/center Travis Watson led the way with 16 points, while Brown tallied 14 points.

#### Two Busy Weeks After Final Exams

After a 13-day break for final exams, the Cavaliers won three games in a span of five days. UVa won the first two games of the stretch – 84-76 over East Tennessee State (Dec. 17) and 72-65 over Gardner-Webb (Dec. 19) – at home in University Hall. UVa closed out the stretch with a 61-57 victory at Rutgers (Dec. 21).

Virginia then won three home games in a span of six days. UVa began its homestand with a 79-75 victory over Georgetown (Dec. 28) and posted a 77-58 win over Liberty (Dec. 30). The Cavaliers closed their homestand with an 87-65 victory over Wofford (Jan. 2).

#### **Rod Jensen Joins Coaching Staff**

Rod Jensen, formerly the head men's basketball coach at Boise State University, joined the University of Virginia's men's basketball coaching staff during the summer. Jensen joined the staff after Tom Herrion left Virginia to become the head coach at the College of Charleston. Other members of head coach Pete Gillen's staff include assistant coaches Walt Fuller and Alexis Sherard, and director of men's basketball operations Scott Shepherd.

#### **Cavaliers Welcome Six Newcomers**

Joining the Cavaliers this season are 6-7 freshman forward Derrick Byars and 6-5 sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith.

Byars, a three-year letterman at Ridgeway High School in Memphis, Tenn., averaged 23.2 points, 10 rebounds and 4.5 assists per game as a high school senior during the 2001-02 season. He shot 37 percent from three-point range and 77 percent from the free throw line. He was a fourth-team *Parade* All-America selection and the Gatorade Player of the Year in Tennessee as a high school senior.

Smith earned first-team Junior College All-America honors as a freshman at Coffeyville Community College in Coffeyville, Kan., last season. During the 2001-02 season he averaged 19.4 points and 6.6 rebounds a game, shot 51.8 percent (251-485) from the field, including 45.8 percent (108-236) from three-point range, and made 90.2 percent (129-143) of his free throw attempts.

Four additional players joined the Virginia team after participating in open tryouts October 7-8. The players are guard Billy Campbell (6-0, Fr., Atlanta, Ga.), forward Greg Harrell-Edge (6-8, Sr., Vienna, Va.), guard Robert Lodge (6-4, Fr., Raleigh, N.C.) and forward Rob Williams (6-7, So., Martinsville, Va.). See page 10 of the notes for bios on the four walk-ons.

#### **Watson Named Candidate for CLASS Award**

Senior All-America candidate Travis Watson is one of 36 candidates for the second annual Senior CLASS Award as announced by the award's organizing committee. The Senior CLASS Award – an acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School – is presented annually to the nation's senior player-of-the-year for NCAA Division I men's and women's basketball. The award was developed in response to the recent trend of college basketball players leaving college early to turn professional.

Selection criteria is based on a number of factors, the most important being that the recipient must have exhausted his four years of eligibility and have fulfilled his commitment to his respective university. In addition, the recipient must be working toward his degree, be in good academic standing and be of sound moral character.

Ten finalists will appear on the official ballot during the national voting process in March. The winners will be announced during the respective NCAA Final Four events.

#### Virginia Drops 80-60 Decision to Yellow Jackets

The Cavaliers got off to a quick start, taking a 14-7 lead, but Georgia Tech used an 11-2 run to take the lead for good (18-16) and went on to an 80-60 victory (Feb. 1) at Alexander Memorial Coliseum.

Junior guard Todd Billet led UVa with 19 points, including five three-point field goals, while freshman forward Derrick Byars added 11 points. Billet also handed out four assists. Senior forward/center Travis Watson led all rebounders with 11 boards.

Virginia got off to a good start, taking a 14-7 lead 5:29 into the contest. Georgia Tech responded with an 11-2 run to

take the lead for good, 18-16 with 8:40 remaining in the first half. The Yellow Jackets increased their advantage to as many as 13 points in the opening stanza and led 38-28 at the intermission.

After falling behind by as many as 14 points early in the second half, the Cavaliers cut the deficit to eight, 47-39, on a three-pointer by Byars at the 15:20 mark. UVa would get no closer in the game.

Virginia shot only 36.5 percent (23-63) from the field in the game while Georgia Tech connected on 28 of 62 attempts (45.2 percent ) from the field. The Yellow Jackets also held a 42-38 advantage in rebounding. UVa committed 19 turnovers in the game that led to 25 Georgia Tech points.

Georgia Tech's Marvin Lewis led all players with 25 points, while Chris Bosh had 22 points and nine rebounds.

## **UVa Wins Two Exhibition Games**

The Cavaliers won both of their 2002-2003 exhibition games. Virginia posted an 84-60 victory over Big Apple Basketball (Nov. 10) and a 73-57 exhibition win over One World All-Stars (Nov. 17) at University Hall.

Against Big Apple Basketball, the Cavaliers' starting front court of senior forward/center Travis Watson, junior center Nick Vander Laan and sophomore forward Elton Brown combined for 69 points and 47 rebounds.

Watson picked up where he left off last year and recorded a double-double with a game-high 32 points and 17 rebounds. Watson connected on 14 of 22 shots from the field, including three of six attempts from three-point range. In his first game as a Cavalier, Vander Laan grabbed a game-high 24 rebounds, including 13 offensive, and added 14 points for a double-double. Brown made 10 of 20 attempts from the field en route to 23 points. He also pulled down six rebounds. Junior guard Todd Billet rounded out UVa's double digit scorers with 13 points. He also contributed five rebounds and three assists. Watson, Brown, Vander Laan and Billet combined to score 82 of UVa's 84 points.

The Cavaliers used just eight players in the game as sophomores Jason Clark, Jermaine Harper and Keith Jenifer were serving a one-game suspension for a violation of team rules. Junior Majestic Mapp, sophomore Devin Smith and freshman Derrick Byars missed the game with injuries.

In the 73-57 win over One World All-Stars, Watson registered a double-double with 16 points and 16 rebounds to lead the Cavaliers. He also blocked four shots. Billet led all scorers with 17 points and also recorded a game-high seven assists. Vander Laan and Smith rounded out UVa's double figure scorers. Vander Laan scored 12 points and added seven rebounds, two blocked shots and two assists. In his first game for the Cavaliers, Smith tallied 11 points.

One World All-Stars built a five-point lead (40-35) early in the second half, only to see the Cavaliers quickly respond with baskets by Watson, Billet and Vander Laan. UVa took the lead for good midway through the second half when sophomore forward Elton Brown converted a layup off an offensive rebound to give the Cavaliers a 51-50 lead.

#### **Cavaliers Ink Two**

University of Virginia men's head basketball coach Pete Gillen has announced the signing of two individuals to national letters of intent with Virginia. The two individuals are 6-6 Gary Forbes of Brooklyn, N.Y., and 6-3 J. R. Reynolds of Roanoke, Va.

Forbes, a guard, averaged 25 points, 11 rebounds and five assists a game as a junior during the 2001-02 season at Benjamin Banneker Academy.

Reynolds, a combination guard, started for four seasons at Roanoke Catholic High School before transferring to Oak Hill Academy for his senior year. He scored 2,237 points, made 217 three-point field goals and had 570 assists during his career at Roanoke Catholic. He was named the Most Valuable Player in the Virginia Independent Schools Division II three times.

"We are thrilled to officially have these two young men join our Virginia basketball family," Gillen said. "They are both very talented guards who can play a couple of positions. I sincerely feel they will be impact players on our team next season."

## **Watson Looks Toward Senior Year**

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has been named to the Wooden Award Preseason All-American Basketball Team and is also a preseason Naismith Award candidate. Watson is a third-team preseason All-America selection by *Street & Smith's* and is rated sixth nationally at center in *Lindy's* preseason basketball magazine. Watson added to his already impressive career at UVa by being named to the All-ACC second team after the 2001-02 season. He led the ACC in four

statistical categories last season: double-doubles (17), rebounds (9.7 rpg), offensive rebounds (3.43 pg), and defensive rebounds (6.29 pg).

At the ACC's annual Operation Basketball, Watson was selected to the conference's 2002-03 Pre-Season First Team. He received 85 votes, the most of any player. Watson was also second to Duke's Chris Duhon in the Pre-Season ACC Player of the Year voting.

#### **Twelve Games against Tournament Teams**

Of Virginia's 29 regular-season games before the 2003 ACC Tournament, 12 are against eight teams that participated in either the 2002 NCAA Tournament or the National Invitation Tournament (NIT). Two of the games are against national champion Maryland. The Cavaliers also meet league foes Duke, N.C. State and Wake Forest twice. Those teams all participated in last season's NCAA Tournament. In addition to those games, Virginia has played Michigan State, an NCAA participant and Rutgers, which earned an NIT bid.

At the Maui Invitational (November 25-27), UVa played Kentucky (NCAA) and Indiana (NCAA runners-up).

UVa is 3-4 in 2002-2003 against teams that competed in postseason play last season.

## 2002-2003 VIRGINIA MEN'S BASKETBALL ADDITIONAL PLAYER BIOS

#### **BILLY CAMPBELL**

Freshman Guard 6-0 Atlanta, Ga./Paideia School

HIGH SCHOOL: Lettered four times as a point guard in basketball, four times in baseball as a pitcher and center fielder, and once in soccer as a goalkeeper at the Paideia School...scored more than 1,000 career points, and had more than 400 assists and 400 rebounds in basketball...earned Most Valuable Player honors...was captain of the basketball team and received the Coaches' Award...twice earned All-Fulton County honors in baseball...honored as the baseball team's Most Valuable Player, Best Offensive Player and Best Defensive Player during his career...also received the Coaches' Award in baseball. PERSONAL: William R. Campbell...born October 12, 1983 in Atlanta, Ga....son of Sharon and William Campbell...has a younger sister, Christina...his uncle, Ed Tapscott, was formerly the head basketball coach at American...was a National Achievement Finalist as a high school senior...received the Dartmouth Book Club Award as a junior.

#### **GREG HARRELL-EDGE**

Senior Forward 6-8 Vienna, Va./Jefferson

HIGH SCHOOL: Lettered twice in basketball at Jefferson High School...received the Coaches' Award as a senior...earned National Merit honorable mention recognition as a senior. PERSONAL: Gregory Thomas Harrell-Edge...born May 22, 1981 in Richmond, Va....son of Sharon Harrell and Robert Edge...has a younger sister...would like to be a basketball coach...government major.

#### **ROBERT LODGE**

Freshman Guard 6-4 Raleigh, N.C./Millbrook

HIGH SCHOOL: Lettered three times in basketball and three times in football at Millbrook High School...earned All-Conference honors as a guard/forward in basketball...honored as a Regional Most Valuable Player during the 2002 state tournament...earned All-Conference honors as a receiver in football. PERSONAL: Robert Jenkins Lodge...born September 6, 1983 in Atlanta, Ga....son of Suzanne and Marc Lodge...has a sister, Elizabeth (17)...member of the National Honor Society and a student government class representative at Millbrook High School...has worked with Habitat for Humanity, and taken mission trips to Mexico and Jamaica.

#### **ROB WILLIAMS**

Sophomore Forward 6-7 Martinsville, Va./Martinsville

HIGH SCHOOL: Lettered and started four years in basketball at Martinsville High School...earned All-State, All-Region and All-District honors as a senior during the 2000-01 season when Martinsville won the State AA Championship...established the record for most total blocks in three state tournament games...named the team's Most Valuable Player as a junior and senior...also earned Scholar-Athlete honors his last two years in high school...played in the 2001 Virginia High School League All-Star Game...member of the National Honor Society. PERSONAL: Robert A. Williams, Jr....born November 25, 1982 in Winston-Salem, N.C....son of Patricia and Robert Williams, Sr....has a younger sister, Jamiese.