

VIRGINIA BASKETBALL 2002-2003 MEDIA NOTES

Virginia (9-3 / 0-1 ACC)

vs.

North Carolina (9-4 / 1-0 ACC)

January 11, 2003 • Noon

University Hall (8,392)

Charlottesville, Va.

2002-03 SCHEDULE

9-3 Overall / 0-1 ACC

Home: 6-0

Away: 1-2

Neutral: 2-1

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. 25-27	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)	Noon
Jan. 15	at Duke (ESPN)	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 18	at Clemson (R/JP)	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	at Virginia Tech (ESPN2)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	WAKE FOREST (ESPN2)	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 29	FLORIDA STATE	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 1	at Georgia Tech (R/JP)	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 6	at 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. 13-16	ACC Tournament^	TBD

*Maui Invitational, Maui, Hawaii

#ACC/Big 10 Challenge

^Greensboro, N.C.

Rankings listed are from the Associated Press Poll

TELEVISION

Today's game against North Carolina will be televised by ESPN. 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/WWVW in Charlottesville. Mac McDonald calls the play-by-play. Jim Hobgood provides the analysis.

OFFICIALS

THE GAME

Virginia stands at 9-3 overall and 0-1 in the Atlantic Coast Conference in 2002-2003. UVa had its six-game winning streak snapped with a 75-63 loss to N.C. State (Jan. 5) in Raleigh, N.C. North Carolina is 9-4 overall and 1-0 in the ACC this season. In their last game, the Tar Heels defeated Davidson 79-64 (Jan. 8) in Chapel Hill, N.C.

The Series vs. North Carolina

North Carolina leads the all-time series with the Cavaliers 114-45 in a rivalry that dates back to the 1910-11 season. Virginia swept the 2001-2002 season series, winning 71-67 (Jan. 12) in Chapel Hill and 73-63 (Feb. 12) in Charlottesville. It marked the second time in three seasons UVa has swept the season series from the Tar Heels. Virginia also swept the regular season series in 1999-2000 for the first time since the 1980-81 season. (UNC, however, won the meeting in the 1981 NCAA Tournament's Final Four).

The Cavaliers have won three consecutive games in the series and five of the last six contests. The last time Virginia won three consecutive games against North Carolina was back in the early 1940s – 44-25 in 1939-40, 50-45 in 1942-43, and 39-36 in 1943-44. UVa has not won four consecutive games against the Tar Heels in more than 80 years. The Cavaliers won five straight games from the 1917-18 through 1919-20 seasons.

UVa split the 2000-2001 season series with the Tar Heels with both teams winning at home. North Carolina won the first meeting of 2001-2002 88-81 in Chapel Hill (Jan. 24), while Virginia posted an 86-66 victory in Charlottesville (Feb. 25) to begin its current three-game winning streak.

Virginia has won the previous three games and nine of the last 14 games in Charlottesville (1989, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1995, 1997, 2000, 2001, 2002). Since University Hall opened for the 1965-66 season, North Carolina has won 22 of the 37 games between the two teams in the building. North Carolina leads the all-time series in games played in Charlottesville 40-27. Virginia has not won more than three consecutive home games over North Carolina since winning the first five games of the series played in Charlottesville from the 1910-11 through the 1919-20 seasons.

North Carolina has won nine of the last 15 games and 19 of the last 28 games between the two teams.

Cavalier Captains

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

Virginia's PROBABLE Starters

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Ppg.	Rpg.	Mpg	Notes
33	F	Devin Smith	6-5	230	So.	11.4	4.2	27.4	Tied for team lead with 16 blocked shots
35	F	Travis Watson	6-8	255	Sr.	14.1	10.6	29.5	3 consec. double-doubles, 6 overall this year
4	C	Nick Vander Laan	6-10	255	Jr.	6.7	5.4	16.8	Had UVa career-high 17 pts. vs. Gardner-Webb
10	G	Keith Jenifer	6-3	161	So.	6.5	3.8	33.9	Averaging 5.5 assists per game
22	G	Todd Billet	6-0	192	Jr.	11.9	1.8	30.9	ACC best 93.0% (40-43) from FT line

Virginia's Key Reserves

5	F	Derrick Byars	6-7	200	Fr.	9.2	3.6	23.3	Averaging 12.3 ppg at home
42	F	Elton Brown	6-9	270	So.	8.8	4.3	18.6	Tallied career-high 22 pts. vs. Chaminade
34	F	Jason Clark	6-8	234	So.	4.9	2.5	13.0	Shooting 71.4 % (20-28) from the field
24	G	Jermaine Harper	6-3	165	So.	5.9	2.0	15.7	Averaging 8.2 ppg at home
11	G	Majestic Mapp	6-2	185	Jr.	---	---	---	Missed last 70 games with knee injury

Keys to the Game

Virginia needs to shoot the ball well today to help its chances to win. Since the 1989-90 season, the Cavaliers are 11-20 against North Carolina, but are 7-2 when they out-shoot the Tar Heels. The Wahoos are 4-18 when the Tar Heels out-shoot them.

Here's a look at the two teams' field goal percentages since the 1989-90 season. The winner is listed in bold.

Year	Site	UNC	UVa
1989-90	UNC	.583	.397
	UVa	.524	.441
	ACC Trn.	.493	.515
1990-91	UVa	.464	.400
	UNC	.500	.356
	ACC Trn.	.471	.400
1991-92	UNC	.533	.362
	UVa	.446	.472
1992-93	UNC	.476	.400
	UVa	.474	.313
	ACC Trn.	.379	.414
1993-94	UVa	.462	.483
	UNC	.390	.309
	ACC Trn.	.491	.403
1994-95	UNC	.482	.418
	UVa	.452	.439
1995-96	UVa	.386	.322
	UNC	.471	.400
1996-97	UVa	.385	.481
	UNC	.517	.355
	ACC Trn.	.519	.371
1997-98	UNC	.488	.433
	UVa	.431	.300
1998-99	UNC	.412	.277
	UVa	.426	.435
1999-00	UVa	.586	.465
	UNC	.433	.449
2000-01	UNC	.569	.426
	UVa	.438	.470
2001-02	UNC	.436	.421
	UVa	.347	.435

Since the 1989-90 Season:

Combined	.465	.405
UVa wins	.457	.461
UVa losses	.471	.375

Shooting Lots of Three-Pointers Against the Tar Heels

Since the 1989-90 season, the Cavaliers attempted an average of 21.1 three-point field goals (655 in 31 games) per game against North Carolina. Virginia made 215 of those 655 attempts (32.8 percent) for 6.9 made threes per game. Since the 1988-89 season, the Cavaliers have attempted 20 or

more threes in a game against the Tar Heels 20 times.

Three of Virginia's top four and five of the Cavaliers' top nine games in terms of three-point field goals attempted have come against North Carolina (the other four are against Clemson). Prior to attempting a school-record 38 three-pointers against Clemson (Jan. 15, 2000), Virginia's 32 attempts against UNC on February 14, 1990 and March 7, 1997 marked the Cavaliers' all-time high for three-pointers attempted in a game.

Virginia also set its school record for most three-point field goals made in the February 14, 1990 game against UNC with 15. (Virginia equaled the mark of 15 threes made in a game against Hampton on November 25, 1998.)

More Success in Second ACC Games

Virginia has lost its last eight ACC openers, including a 75-63 setback to N.C. State (Jan. 5) this season. However, UVa has fared much better in its second ACC contest of the season over the same span. Over the last seven years, the Cavaliers have won four times in their second ACC game. Three of the wins have come at home at University Hall and the fourth win came in Richmond (against Wake Forest in the 1997-98 season).

Last season was the first time in three years UVa didn't win its second ACC game (a 68-52 loss at Clemson – Jan. 8).

Reunion Day

The Cavaliers are welcoming back more than 70 former players for today's Reunion Day. Among some of the former players returning are: **Chris Alexander** (1993-96) – second all-time at UVa in blocked shots (148); **Matt Blundin** (1988-91) – also a three-year letter winning quarterback; **Yuri Barnes** (1992-95) – 127 career games played; **Mel Kennedy** (1985-88) – 18th in scoring (1,415 points); **Tony Laquintano** (1960-62) – 21st in scoring (1,263), two-time second-team All-ACC; **Scott McCandlish** (1970-72) – ninth in rebounding (761) and 36th in scoring (1,026 points); **Jim Miller** (1982-85) – 28th in scoring (1,218 points), tied for second in games played (132); **Barry Parkhill** (1971-73) – ACC 50th Anniversary Team selection, three-time All-ACC, 15th in scoring (1,437 points) at UVa. **Roy Peabody**, class of 1936, is also scheduled to be in attendance. He is the oldest living basketball alum that will be in attendance today.

Starting Time Changed

The starting time for Virginia's game at Virginia Tech on January 21 has been changed. The contest will start at 7:30 p.m., 30 minutes later than originally scheduled.

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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.

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 353-180 record for a .662 winning percentage. Gillen is in his fifth season at Virginia and has posted a 79-52 record (.603 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).

Billet Closing in on 1,000 Career Points

Junior guard Todd Billet has scored 987 points in his collegiate career and needs just 13 points to reach the 1,000 career point milestone. Billet scored 844 points in two seasons at Rutgers and has scored 143 points this season in a Virginia uniform.

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.

'Hoos Starting

The Cavaliers have played 12 games this season and have used nine different starting lineups. UVa's latest starting lineup (vs. N.C. State – Jan.5) featured freshman forward Derrick Byars, sophomore forward Elton Brown, senior forward/center Travis Watson, sophomore guard Keith Jenifer and junior guard Todd Billet. The same five started UVa's season-opener vs. Long Island (Nov. 22).

Billet, Watson and Jenifer lead the team with 10 starts apiece. Sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith has started nine games. Eight different players have started games this season for Virginia.

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
G'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

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 Felton, 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

Senior forward/center Travis Watson was named the ACC Player of the Week after scoring 51 points, grabbing 47 and registering three double-doubles in as many games last week. He shot 52.8 percent (19-36) from the field and 81.3 percent (13-16) from the free throw line in 96 minutes of action. He also had seven assists, four steals, and two blocked shots in the three games.

In UVa's 87-65 win over Wofford (Jan. 2), Watson became the first Virginia player in almost 20 years to have at least 20 points and 20 rebounds in a game. He had game-high totals of 21 points and 20 rebounds in the game. Watson tallied 20 points and 15 rebounds in UVa's 77-58 victory over Liberty (Dec. 30), as well as 10 points and 12 boards in a 75-63 loss to N.C. State (Jan. 5).

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 Jan. 6. Billet is tied with Ron Williamson of Howard for fourth in free throw percentage at 93.0 percent as both players have made 40 of 43 attempts. Watson is tied with Ryan Gomes of Providence College for ninth in rebounds per game with an average of 10.6. Both players have 117 rebounds in 11 games.

Harper Reinstated

Sophomore guard Jermaine Harper has been reinstated to the team 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 seven games Harper has played he is averaging 5.9 points and 2.0 rebounds per game. He is averaging 15.7 minutes of playing time per game.

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.

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).

Jenifer Finds the Range

Sophomore guard Keith Jenifer started off the season making only nine of 34 (26.5 percent) attempts from the field. In his last seven games, Jenifer has made 40.5 percent (15-37) of his field goal attempts – admittedly, not a great percentage. However, when Jenifer has stepped behind the three-point line, he has been deadly accurate.

Jenifer has made eight of his last 10 three-point attempts (80.0 percent) over the last six games after missing his first six threes of the season. His eight three-pointers this season are six more than he had during the entire 2001-2002 season.

Jenifer is averaging 6.5 points, 5.5 assists and 3.8 rebounds per game this season.

Making Free Throws Down The Stretch

The Cavaliers have struggled from the free throw line this season, making just 67.7 percent (189-279) of their attempts from the charity stripe. However, UVa has been extremely reliable from the charity stripe in the final five minutes of games.

In the first half of games, Virginia is shooting 68.8 percent (64-93) from the line. UVa has made 67.2 percent (125-186)

of its attempts in the second half of games. In the final five minutes of games, the Cavaliers have made 71 of 100 attempts for 71.0 percent. (UVa is only 54-86 for 62.8 percent in the first 15 minutes of the second half.) In its last nine games, UVa has made 60 of 78 attempts from the foul line in the final five minutes of games for 76.9 percent.

Cavaliers Finish Second in Maui Invitational

Virginia won two of three games to finish second in the 2002 EASports 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 second on the team in scoring this season with 11.9 points per game. He tops the Cavaliers in three-point field goals (27) and also leads all ACC players and is tied for fourth in the nation in free throw shooting (40-43 for 93.0 percent).

More Double-Doubles

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has picked up where he left off last season as he has recorded an ACC-best six double-doubles this season. With the six double-doubles, Watson has 44 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)

Watson's 44 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.

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

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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 11.9 points per game this season (second on the team).

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 third on the team in scoring at 11.4 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 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).

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.

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 10 shots in the last four games, including a season-high four against Liberty (Dec. 30). With 16 blocks this season, Smith is averaging 1.3 per game and is tied with senior forward/center Travis Watson for the team lead.

Making the Most of His Opportunities

Sophomore forward Jason Clark has only taken 28 shots this season, but he's made 20 baskets for an impressive .714 field goal percentage. He 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 four times this season. He is shooting 61.9 percent (60-97) from the field in his career.

Home Cookin'

Freshman forward Derrick Byars is averaging 9.2 points per game this season, however, he is averaging better than 12 points per contest in games played at University Hall. Byars is averaging 12.3 points per game in six home games and is averaging only 6.0 points in six games away from home. To go one step further, Byars has only scored seven points in UVa's three games on opponents home courts.

Watson Third in Rebounds

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has opened the 2002-2003 season by grabbing 117 rebounds (an ACC-best 10.6 per game) in the 11 games he has played. He is now third on Virginia's career rebounding list with 911. Watson needs 19 more rebounds to move past Junior Burrough (1992-95) into second place.

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Ralph Sampson (1980-83) | 1,511 |
| 2. Junior Burrough (1992-95) | 929 |
| 3. Travis Watson (2000-pres.) | 911 |
| 4. Bryant Stith (1989-92) | 859 |
| 5. Steve Castellán (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 106 career blocked shots and ranks fifth all-time. He blocked a career-high tying five shots against Chaminade (Nov. 25) to jump from seventh to fifth place. He needs three blocked shots to move past Steve Castellán (1976-79) for fourth 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. Steve Castellán (1976-79) | 108 |
| 5. Travis Watson (2000-pres.) | 106 |
| 6. Chris Williams (1999-02) | 97 |
| 7. Junior Burrough (1992-95) | 96 |

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Watson 22nd in Scoring

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has moved up to 22nd on the Cavaliers' all-time scoring list with 1,257 career points. He needs seven points to move past Tony Laquintano (1960-62) into 21st place and 30 points to surpass Cory Alexander (1992-95) for the 20th spot.

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 25 times and average 30.0 points and 11.4 rebounds per game. Billet and Smith have made 49 of UVa's 83 three-point field goals this season as well. Billet also leads UVa in free throw percentage (.930 – 40-43) and Smith is second (.750 – 15-20).

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.

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 eight 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.

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Cavaliers Fall to N.C. State in ACC Opener

Virginia fell to N.C. State 75-63 (Jan. 5) in the Atlantic Coast Conference opener for both teams in Raleigh, N.C. The Wolfpack made nine three-pointers, including several timely threes, in the game to pull out the victory.

Senior forward/center Travis Watson registered his sixth double-double of the season with 10 points and 12 rebounds to lead UVa. Sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith led the Cavaliers in scoring with 14 points off the bench. Junior guard Todd Billet added 10 points, while sophomore forward Elton Brown tallied nine points and seven rebounds.

After falling behind by as many as nine points (15-6) with 14:56 to play in the first half, the Cavaliers went on a 13-2 run to grab a 19-17 lead. Watson capped off the run with a layup at the 7:33 mark. N.C. State scored the final seven points of the half to take a 29-24 lead at the intermission.

The Wolfpack shot 52 percent (13-25) from the field in the second half and also converted 17 of 23 (73.9 percent) of their free throws to outscore UVa 46-39 in the second half.

N.C. State shot 46.9 percent (23-49) from the floor in the game, while the Cavaliers only made 26 of 65 (40.0 percent) attempts from the floor. The Wolfpack made 20 of 27 free throw attempts (74.1 percent) in the game, while UVa was seven of 12 (58.3 percent) from the foul line. Virginia held a 39-33 advantage in rebounds.

Julius Hodge led N.C. State with 21 points and 11 rebounds. Clifford Crawford added 14 points.

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.

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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.

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.

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 2-3 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.