

VIRGINIA BASKETBALL 2002-2003 MEDIA NOTES

Virginia (8-2)

vs.

Wofford (4-5)

January 2, 2002 • 7:30 p.m.

University Hall (8,392)

Charlottesville, Va.

2002-03 SCHEDULE

8-2 Overall / 0-0 ACC

Home: 5-0

Away: 1-1

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)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 5	at N.C. State (FSN)	5:30 p.m.
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

Tonight's game against Wofford College will be televised by Comcast SportsNet and the Sunshine Network. Joe Beninati will handle the play-by-play. Glenn Consor 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 (2001-2002: 17-12/7-9 ACC) stands at 8-2 this season. In its last game, UVa defeated Liberty 77-58 Monday (Dec. 30) at University Hall for its fifth consecutive victory. Wofford (2001-2002: 11-18/5-11 Southern Conference) is 4-5 in 2002-2003, including two losses to ACC opponents. The Terriers are coming off an 86-71 loss to N.C. State (Dec. 29) in Raleigh, N.C.

The Series vs. Wofford

Tonight's game is the first meeting between Virginia and Wofford College in men's basketball. The Terriers moved from NCAA Division II to Division I in 1995-96 and joined the Southern Conference in 1997-98.

Virginia vs. the Southern Conference

This is Virginia's second and final game this season against a school from the Southern Conference. The Cavaliers defeated East Tennessee State 84-76 (Dec. 17) at University Hall earlier this season.

Virginia was one of the 13 original members of the "old" Southern Conference from 1922-37 and has a long and rich history of competition against the Southern Conference.

Against the 12 current members of the Southern Conference, the Cavaliers are 116-19 all-time. Most of the games were against VMI—a series Virginia leads 99-15. The Cavaliers are 3-0 vs. East Tennessee State, 2-0 vs. The Citadel, 1-0 vs. Appalachian State and the College of Charleston, and 10-4 against Davidson.

Of the Southern Conference's current membership, Virginia has never faced Chattanooga, Furman, Georgia Southern, North Carolina-Greensboro, Western Carolina or Wofford.

There have been 40 other schools besides UVa that have been members of the Southern Conference at one time or another since 1922. These schools include many current members of the Southeastern Conference and the ACC. Virginia is 274-244 (.529) against these schools at the time they were in the Southern Conference.

Seeking 200

The Cavaliers have won 199 games against non-conference opponents at University Hall since the building opened for the 1965-66 season. Virginia is 199-29 for an impressive .873 winning percentage all-time in University Hall against non-conference opponents.

Non-Conference Teams at University Hall

Virginia is 199-29 (.873) all-time in University Hall against non-conference opponents since the building opened for the 1965-66 season. The Cavaliers have won 81 of their last 91 home games against non-conference opponents dating back to the 1989-90 season. UVa had its 15-game home winning streak against non-conference opponents snapped with a 74-67 loss to South Carolina in the first round of the 2002 National Invitation Tournament (Mar. 13). Virginia's previous home non-conference loss was also in the NIT as the Cavaliers fell to Georgetown 115-111 in triple overtime in the first round of the 2000 NIT (Mar. 15).

The last time UVa lost a regular season home game to a non-conference opponent was December 12, 1998 when the Cavaliers fell to 12th-ranked St. John's 95-68. Virginia has won 27 consecutive regular season home games against non-conference foes.

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 352-179 record for a .663 winning percentage. Gillen is in his fifth season at Virginia and has posted a 78-51 record (.605 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).

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.

Cavalier Captains

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

Billet Closing in on 1,000 Career Points

Junior guard Todd Billet has scored 974 points in his collegiate career and needs just 26 points to reach the 1,000 career point milestone. Billet scored 844 points in two seasons at Rutgers and has scored 130 points this season in a Virginia uniform.

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 five games Harper has played he is averaging 6.0 points and 2.6 rebounds per game. He is averaging 14.8 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.

2002-2003 ACC Pre-Season Media Prediction

(Indicates first place votes)

	Team	Points
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		Second Team	
Travis Watson, UVa	85	Dahntay Jones, Duke	24
Steve Blake, Md	83	Edward Scott, Clem	12
Chris Duhon, Duke	83	Tahj Holden, Md	5
Josh Howard, WF	78	Marcus Melvin, NCSU	5
Julius Hodge, NCSU	62	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

A Busy Week 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).

Tonight, the Cavaliers are playing their third and final home game in 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). After closing its homestand with tonight's game against Wofford, Virginia begins its ACC slate at N.C. State on January 5.

'Hoos Starting

The Cavaliers have played 10 games this season and have used eight different starting lineups. The fivesome of sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith, sophomore forward Jason Clark, center Nick Vander Laan, sophomore guard Keith Jenifer and junior guard Todd Billet started back-to-back games against Rutgers (Dec. 21) and Georgetown (Dec. 28). In the last game, the Cavaliers' starting lineup consisted of Smith, sophomore forward Elton Brown, senior forward/center Travis Watson, Jenifer and Billet. That same five also started in UVa's victory over Gardner-Webb (Dec. 19).

Billet leads the team with nine starts. Watson, Smith and Jenifer have each started eight games.

Here's a breakdown of UVa's starting lineup in each game this season:

LIU	Byars	Brown	Watson	Jenifer	Billet
Cham	Byars	Watson	Vander Laan	Jenifer	Billet
Kent	Byars	Brown	Watson	Billet	Smith
Ind	Byars	Watson	Vander Laan	Billet	Smith
MSU	Byars	Brown	Watson	Jenifer	Smith
ETSU	Smith	Watson	Vander Laan	Jenifer	Billet
GWU	Smith	Brown	Watson	Jenifer	Billet
Rut	Smith	Clark	Vander Laan	Jenifer	Billet
G'town	Smith	Clark	Vander Laan	Jenifer	Billet
Liberty	Smith	Brown	Watson	Jenifer	Billet

Making Free Throws Down The Stretch

The Cavaliers have struggled from the free throw line this season, making just 68.6 percent (166-242) 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 69.2 percent (54-78) from the line. UVa has made 68.3 percent (112-164) of its attempts in the second half of games. In the final five minutes of games, the Cavaliers have made 62 of 87 attempts for 71.3 percent. (UVa is only 50-77 for 64.9 percent in the first 15 minutes of the second half.) In its last seven games, UVa has made 51 of 65 attempts from the foul line in the final five minutes of games for 78.5 percent.

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.

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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 13.0 points per game. He tops the Cavaliers in three-point field goals (25) and also leads all ACC players in free throw shooting (37-39 for 94.9 percent).

More Double-Doubles

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has picked up where he left off last season as he has recorded four double-doubles this season. With the four double-doubles, Watson has 42 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)

Watson's 42 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 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 13.0 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 also 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).

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 seven shots in the last two games, including a season-high four against Liberty (Dec. 30). With 13 blocks this season, Smith is averaging 1.3 per game and is tied with sophomore forward Jason Clark for second on the team.

Making the Most of His Opportunities

Sophomore forward Jason Clark has only taken 28 shots this season, but he made 20 baskets for an impressive .714 field goal percentage. He has shot 50 percent or better in every game excluding the two games (Indiana – Nov. 27 and East Tennessee State – Dec. 17) 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 8.7 points per game this season, however, he is averaging better than 11 points per contest in games played at University Hall. Byars is averaging 11.4 points per game in five home games and is averaging only 6.0 points in five games away from home. To go one step further, Byars has only scored one point in UVa's two games on opponents home courts.

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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.

50th Anniversary of the ACC

The Atlantic Coast Conference is celebrating its 50th anniversary this season. Former University of Virginia stand-outs 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.

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.

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 22 times and average 31.1 points and 11.4 rebounds per game. Billet and Smith have made 43 of UVa's 68 three-point field goals this season as well. Billet also leads UVa in free throw percentage (.949 – 37-39) and Smith is second (.778 – 14-18).

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.

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 seven 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.

Watson 26th in Scoring

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has moved up to 26th on the Cavaliers' all-time scoring list with 1,226 career points. He needs six points to move past former teammate Roger Mason, Jr. (2000-02) into 25th place. Billy Langloh (1974-77) is 24th with 1,240 points and Tom Sheehey (1984-87) is 23rd with 1,241 points, while Marc Iavaroni (1975-78) is 22nd with 1,244 points.

Watson Third in Rebounds

Senior forward/center Travis Watson has opened the 2002-2003 season by grabbing 85 rebounds (9.4 per game) in the nine games he has played. He is now third on Virginia's career rebounding list with 879. Watson needs 51 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.) | 879 |
| 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 105 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 four blocked shots to move past Steve Castellan (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 Castellan (1976-79) | 108 |
| 5. Travis Watson (2000-pres.) | 105 |
| 6. Chris Williams (1999-02) | 97 |
| 7. Junior Burrough (1992-95) | 96 |

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.

Watson Powers Virginia Past Liberty

Senior forward/center Travis Watson registered his fourth double-double of the season with a game-high 20 points and season-high 15 rebounds to lead Virginia to a 77-58 victory over Liberty (Dec. 30) at University Hall.

In addition to Watson, three other Cavaliers scored in double figures with all three – sophomore guard/forward Devin Smith, junior guard Todd Billet and sophomore guard Jermaine Harper – tallying 12 points. Smith also notched five rebounds, four blocked shots, three steals and two assists.

The Flames scored the first basket of the game for their only lead. Watson answered Liberty's opening bucket and UVa took the lead for good, 12-9, on a three-point play by Watson at the 12:45 mark. Watson's three-point play began a 28-6 Cavalier run that opened up a 37-15 advantage late in the first half. Virginia led 37-18 at the intermission.

The Cavaliers led by as many as 26 points (52-26) in the second half and never saw their lead dwindle to less than 14 points (63-49) the remainder of the game.

UVa shot only 40.3 percent (25-62) from the floor in the game, but held Liberty to a nearly identical percentage – 40.4 (21-52). Virginia, however, was able to shoot 72.4 percent (21-29) from the free throw line. A key factor in Liberty's shooting woes was 10 blocked shots by UVa. The Cavaliers held a big advantage in the rebounding department, 44-30, including a 17-8 edge on the offensive glass. UVa also forced 21 Liberty turnovers while committing 16.

Ryan Mantlo and Gabe Martin led the Flames with 15 and 14 points, respectively.

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).

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.