

VIRGINIA

Basketball

2005-06

Media Notes

Virginia (3-3, 0-1 ACC)

vs.

#10/#11 Gonzaga (6-2)

December 17, 2005 • 5:00 p.m. (PT)

McCarthy Athletic Center (6,000)

Spokane, Wash.



2005-06 Schedule

3-3 Overall / 0-1 ACC

Home: 2-1

Away: 1-2

Neutral: 0-0

Nov. 11	CONCORDIA(ex)		W, 98-62
Nov. 18	LIBERTY		W, 79-44
Nov. 22	at Richmond	CN8	W, 59-43
Nov. 27	at #9 Arizona	FSN	L, 51-81
Nov. 30	NORTHWESTERN%	ESPNU	W, 72-57
Dec. 4	at Georgia Tech	ESPNU	L, 54-63
Dec. 7	FORDHAM		L, 60-62
Dec. 17	at Gonzaga	FSN - NW	8:00 p.m.
Dec. 23	Loyola (Md.)		7:00 p.m.
Dec. 28	UMBC #		7:00 p.m.
Dec. 31	HARTFORD		2:00 p.m.
Jan. 2	at Western Kentucky	ESPNU	8:00 p.m.
Jan. 7	CLEMSON	ESPNU	Noon
Jan. 11	FLORIDA STATE		7:00 p.m.
Jan. 15	at Virginia Tech	ESPNU	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 19	NORTH CAROLINA	ESPNU	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 24	MIAMI	ESPNU	9:00 p.m.
Jan. 28	at Duke	ESPNU	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 1	at N.C. State	RSN	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	WAKE FOREST	ESPNU	1:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	at Maryland	RSN	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	VIRGINIA TECH	ESPNU	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 15	LONGWOOD		7:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	at Florida State	ESPNU	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 21	BOSTON COLLEGE	RSN	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 25	at Clemson		2:00 p.m.
Mar. 1	at North Carolina	ESPNU	9:00 p.m.
Mar. 5	MARYLAND	ESPNU	3:30 p.m.
Mar. 9-12	ACC Tournament ^		TBA

% - ACC/Big Ten Challenge
 # - Richmond, Va.
 ^ - Greensboro, N.C.
 All Times Eastern

TELEVISION

Today's game will be televised by FoxSportsNet Northwest. Greg Heister will handle the play-by-play. Jeff Brown is the analyst.

RADIO

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

OFFICIALS

THE GAME

Virginia enters today's game with a 3-3 overall record and a 0-1 mark in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The Cavaliers are coming off a 62-60 loss to Fordham (Dec. 7) in Charlottesville.

Gonzaga stands at 6-2 on the season and is ranked 10th in *The Associated Press* Top 25 Poll and 11th in the ESPN/USAToday Top 25 Poll. In their last outing, the Bulldogs used a last second shot to defeat Oklahoma State 64-62 (Dec. 10) at Key Arena in Spokane, Wash.

The Series vs. Gonzaga

Today's game is just the second meeting between Virginia and Gonzaga in men's basketball. The Zags won the initial meeting 86-85 in the first round of the 2001 NCAA Tournament at The Pyramid in Memphis, Tenn.

Roger Mason, Jr., made a three-pointer with 1:40 to go to give UVa an 85-84 lead. Casey Calvary converted a layup with four seconds left to give Gonzaga an 86-85 edge. Mason's layup at the buzzer was off target.

Virginia vs. the West Coast Conference

Against the current West Coast Conference membership, UVa is 2-1 all-time. UVa has a pair of wins over Loyola Marymount in the last two seasons – a 79-77 overtime win on Dec. 23 last season and a 76-68 win on Dec. 19 in the 2003-04 campaign. The loss was an 86-85 setback to Gonzaga on Mar. 16, 2001 in the first round of the 2001 NCAA Tournament in Memphis, Tenn.

The Cavaliers have never played current WCC members Pepperdine, Portland, St. Mary's (Calif.), San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Clara.

Virginia has played eight games against teams that were one-time members of the WCC, going 5-3 all-time against Loyola Marymount (2-0), UNLV (3-1), San Jose State (0-1) and Gonzaga (0-1).

UVa vs. the Evergreen State

The Cavaliers are 3-1 all-time against teams from Washington. Virginia is 2-0 vs. Washington State, 1-0 vs. Washington, and 0-1 vs. Gonzaga.

Virginia's last win against a team from Washington was a 62-53 triumph over Washington State on Nov. 22, 1998 in the Top of the World Classic in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Today's game at Gonzaga marks just the second time Virginia has played in the Evergreen State. UVa's first appearance in the Evergreen State was in the 1984 Final Four. The Cavaliers lost to then fifth-ranked Houston 49-47 in overtime at the Seattle Kingdome on Mar. 31.

Virginia's PROBABLE Starters

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Ppg.	Rpg.	App.	Mpg.	Notes
11	F	Laurynas Mikalauskas	6-8	241	Fr.	4.5	4.0	0.0	21.3	Scored 14 points in collegiate debut vs. Liberty (11/18)
24	G/F	Mamadi Diane	6-5	185	Fr.	10.8	5.3	0.8	32.5	Career-high 18 points vs. Northwestern (11/30)
21	C	Tunji Soroye	6-11	212	So.	3.2	6.3	0.0	26.5	Career high 12 points vs. Fordham (12/7)
2	G	J.R. Reynolds	6-2 1/2	197	Jr.	11.7	3.7	3.8	30.8	Named to 2005 ACC Tournament second team
44	G	Sean Singletary	6-0	174	So.	17.2	5.0	3.0	32.2	Missed Fordham game with hip injury

Virginia's Key Reserves

12	G	Billy Campbell	6-0	184	Sr.	1.8	1.2	1.2	12.8	Made first career start vs. Fordham (12/7)
15	G	T.J. Bannister	5-10 1/2	176	Jr.	1.0	0.5	1.0	4.5	Made 2005-06 debut vs. Georgia Tech (12/4)
30	F	Adrian Joseph	6-7	195	So.	8.7	4.8	0.5	24.8	Made first start of season vs. Northwestern (11/30)
33	F	Jason Cain	6-10	212	Jr.	7.5	8.2	0.2	22.7	Back-to-back double-doubles vs. Ga. Tech and Fordham
55	F/C	Donte Minter	6-8	250	Jr.	1.3	0.5	0.0	4.6	Stats from 04-05; limited in preseason by an injury

Tale of the Tape

Here's a statistical comparison of Virginia and Gonzaga in the 2005-06 season.

Virginia	Category	Gonzaga
62.5	Points	80.5
58.3	Points Allowed	75.1
+4.2	Scoring Margin	+5.4
39.7	Field Goal %	48.3
39.1	Field Goal % Defense	44.1
27.5	3 Point Field Goal %	30.2
26.4	3 Point Field Goal % Defense	36.6
72.7	Free Throw %	83.7
41.7	Rebounds	36.4
+11.3	Rebound Margin	+2.8
9.2	Assists	13.3
16.3	Turnovers	15.5
4.5	Steals	7.9
3.8	Blocked Shots	2.1

Top 10 Foes

Gonzaga enters today's game ranked 10th in the latest Associated Press poll. The Cavaliers routinely meet top 10 opponents in conference play, but today's game against the Bulldogs marks the second top 10 non-conference opponent on UVa's schedule this season. Earlier this year, the Cavaliers fell to then ninth-ranked Arizona 81-51 (Nov. 27) in Tucson, Arizl.

It marks the first time since the 1995-96 season Virginia has played two top 10 non-conference opponents in the same season. On Nov. 29, 1995, UVa fell to second-ranked Kansas 72-66 in Auburn, Hills, Mich., and the Cavaliers also lost to fourth-ranked Connecticut 76-46 on Jan. 28, 1996 in Hartford, Conn.

The Cavaliers' last win on a top 10 non-conference opponent's home court was on Dec. 11, 1982 when top-ranked UVa defeated third-ranked Georgetown 68-63 at the Capital Centre in Landover, Md.

Last season, UVa defeated then 10th-ranked Arizona 78-60 (Nov. 21) at University Hall for its last 10 top victory. The Cavaliers' previous non-conference top 10 win came on Dec. 19, 2000 when UVa downed fourth-ranked Tennessee 107-89 in East Rutherford, N.J.

ACC Openers Unkind to Virginia

Virginia lost its 2005-06 Atlantic Coast Conference season opener 63-54 to Georgia Tech (Dec. 4) in Atlanta. The Cavaliers have lost their last 11 ACC openers. UVa is 19-34 all-time in ACC openers and 6-18 in away ACC openers.

Head Coach Dave Leitao

Dave Leitao was named the 10th head men's basketball coach at Virginia on April 16, 2005. Leitao was the head coach at DePaul University the last three seasons. His DePaul teams

compiled an overall record of 58-34 and competed in a postseason tournament each season. The Blue Demons participated in the NCAA Tournament in 2004 and in the National Invitation Tournament in 2003 and 2005. Leitao also spent two seasons as the head coach at his alma mater, Northeastern University, and now sports an 83-72 record in six seasons as a head coach.

This is Leitao's first meeting against Gonzaga as a head coach.

Leitao has coached in 21 games against AP ranked teams and is 5-16. Against top 10 AP teams, Leitao is 0-6. He was 0-4 against ranked teams in two seasons at Northeastern, 5-11 vs. ranked opponents in three years at DePaul, and 0-1 against ranked foes at UVa.

In six season-openers, Leitao is 4-2. In addition to this year's season-opening win, Leitao won all three season openers while at DePaul and lost both openers at Northeastern. Here's a look at the results of Leitao's six season-openers:

1994-95	Northeastern lost at Duke	93-70
1995-96	Northeastern lost at Marist	73-55
2002-03	DePaul won at Northern Illinois	63-48
2003-04	DePaul won at home over Loyola-Chicago	73-61
2004-05	DePaul won at home over Bowling Green	69-59
2005-06	Virginia won at home over Liberty	79-44

Dave Leitao Makes Virginia Debut

A new era of Virginia basketball began on Nov. 18 when Dave Leitao made his Virginia coaching debut. The Cavaliers rolled to a 79-44 victory over Liberty. Leitao became the seventh (of 10) head coach to win his opener at UVa. Here's a look at how the nine other coaches fared in their Cavalier debut:

Henry Lannigan (1905-06)	W	30-9	Charlottesville YMCA (H)
Roy Randall (1929-30)	L	65-32	Duke (H)
Gus Tebell (1930-31)	W	32-15	Staunton Collegians (H)
Evan "Bus" Male (1951-52)	W	56-50	Catholic (H)
Billy McCann (1957-58)	L	73-69	William & Mary (A)
Bill Gibson (1963-64)	L	75-64	Kentucky (A)
Terry Holland (1974-75)	W	77-69	Washington & Lee (H)
Jeff Jones (1990-91)	W	80-77	Siena (N)
Pete Gillen (1998-99)	W	86-70	Va. Commonwealth (N)
Dave Leitao (2005-06)	W	79-44	Liberty (H)

Leitao also earned a win in his second game at Virginia and joined four of the previous nine head basketball coaches at UVa to start out their stay at Virginia with consecutive wins. Jeff Jones (1990-91), Terry Holland (1974-75) and Gus Tebell (1930-31) each started out 2-0, while Henry Lannigan (1905-06) is the only Virginia coach to win more than his first two games. He led UVa to four consecutive victories in the first year of the Cavalier basketball program in 1905-06.

Virginia Quick Facts

Location: Charlottesville, Va.
Founded: 1819 by Thomas Jefferson
Enrollment: 20,018 (13,140 undergraduates)
President: John T. Casteen III
Athletics Director: Craig Littlepage
Faculty Athletic Rep.: Carolyn M. Callahan
Conference: Atlantic Coast Conference
Arena: University Hall (8,392)
Colors: Orange and Blue
Nicknames: Cavaliers, Wahoos, 'Hoos
Mascot: Cavalier

Basketball Information

Head Coach: Dave Leitao (Northeastern '83)
Career Record: 83-72 (sixth season)
Record at Virginia: 3-3 (first season)
Assistant Coaches: Gene Cross (Illinois '94) – first season, Rob Lanier (St. Bonaventure '90) – first season, Steve Seymour (Bridgewater State '81) – first season
Director of Basketball Operations: Drew Diener (Saint Louis '03) – first season
2004-05 Record: 14-15
2004-05 ACC Record: 4-12 (10th-tie)
Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 9/5

The Opener

UVa's 35-point margin of victory over Liberty (Nov. 18) marked the largest in a season-opener since the 2000-01 season when the Cavaliers won by 46 points over Long Island (Nov. 17) – 96-50. The 44 points allowed by UVa are the fewest in a season opener since 1991-92 when Virginia posted a 78-43 win over William & Mary (Nov. 24).

Cavalier Captains

Junior J.R. Reynolds and sophomore Sean Singletary are co-captains of the 2005-06 Virginia basketball team. Singletary is the first sophomore since Donald Hand in the 1998-99 season to be a team captain.

Cavaliers Open Season Strong

Virginia opened the 2005-06 season with a pair of victories, marking the seventh consecutive year UVa started out the season 2-0. UVa won its season-opener 79-44 over Liberty (Nov. 18) and then registered a 59-43 victory at Richmond (Nov. 22). The Cavaliers had their two-game winning streak snapped with an 81-51 loss to ninth-ranked Arizona Nov. 27.

Cavaliers Improve to 4-2 in ACC/Big Ten Challenge

With a 72-57 victory over Northwestern (Nov. 30), Virginia improved to 4-2 in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge. The Cavaliers also helped the ACC win the series for the seventh consecutive year as ACC schools won six of 11 contests. The ACC's cumulative record in the Challenge is 40-24.

Cavaliers Fall to Fordham in Closing Seconds

Virginia let a seven-point second half lead slip away and Fordham escaped University Hall with a 62-60 victory (Dec. 7) over the Cavaliers.

UVa led 56-49 with 6:18 remaining in the game, but the
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Rams went on a 7-0 run to tie the game at 56-56 with 4:43 to play. A jumper by J.R. Reynolds halted Fordham's run and gave the Cavaliers a 58-56 lead with 2:22 left. The Rams answered with a layup by Jermaine Anderson at the 1:49 mark to tie the game at 58-58. Reynolds gave UVa what proved to be its last lead of the game when he made the first of two free throws with 1:17 to go. With 1:01 to play, Fordham's Bryant Dunston made a pair of free throws to put the Rams up 60-59. Reynolds knotted the game at 60-60 by making the first of two foul shots with 53 ticks left. The Rams' Nicholas Vita made the game-winning shot with 3.4 seconds to play. Reynolds' desperation running three-pointer as time expired was off the mark.

The Cavaliers fell behind early, 10-3, but responded with a 15-2 run to grab an 18-12 lead with 6:07 remaining in the opening stanza. UVa went on to take a 26-22 halftime advantage.

Jason Cain topped the Cavaliers with his second consecutive double-double. Cain registered career highs with 16 points and 15 rebounds, including nine on the offensive glass. Tunji Soroye also notched a career high with 12 points to go along with six rebounds. Adrian Joseph added 11 points and six rebounds.

UVa outrebounded Fordham 37-26 and held a 17-8 advantage on the offensive glass. Virginia shot only 41.1 percent (23-56) from the field. Fordham made 24-53 attempts for 45.3 percent, including 53.3 percent (16-30) in the second half.

Dunston and Jermaine Anderson led Fordham with 21 points apiece. Dunston also blocked four shots, while Anderson had six rebounds and five assists.

Bannister makes Debut

After missing the first four games of the season, guard T.J. Bannister made his 2005-06 season debut against Georgia Tech (Dec. 4). Bannister played two minutes during the first half and made his only field goal attempt. He also played seven minutes against Fordham and had two assists and one rebound.

Last season, Bannister averaged 4.3 points and 3.7 assists per game.

Ruling the Offensive Glass

Jason Cain has registered an amazing 16 offensive rebounds in the last two games (7 vs. Georgia Tech – Dec. 4 and 9 vs. Fordham – Dec. 7). The 16 offensive rebounds ties Bryant Stith for the most offensive rebounds in back-to-back games in school history. Stith had 16 offensive boards (eight each) against Wake Forest (Mar. 1, 1989) and Maryland (Mar. 5, 1989).

Furthermore, Cain's nine offensive rebounds vs. the Rams was just one shy of the single game school mark which is shared by three players (Stith, Matt Blundin, Travis Watson). Only one other player – Junior Burrough – has had nine offensive boards in a game (against Old Dominion on Dec. 11, 1993).

On the season, Cain has 28 offensive rebounds for an average of 4.67 per game. He leads the ACC in offensive rebounds and is sixth in overall rebounding at 8.2 per game.

Minus Singletary

Point guard Sean Singletary missed UVa's game against Fordham (Dec. 7). It marked the first game Singletary has missed, let alone not started, during his career which spans 34 games.

Really Raising Cain

Jason Cain has recorded back-to-back double-doubles which also mark the first double-doubles of his career. In both instances, he set new career highs in points and rebounds.

Cain had his first career double-double in UVa's 63-54 loss to Georgia Tech (Dec. 4). The junior forward tallied then career

high of 15 points and 11 rebounds. Against Fordham, Cain posted career bests with 16 points and 15 rebounds. His former career highs of 13 points and nine rebounds came in different games against NC State last season.

Cain is the only current UVa player to have a double-double to his credit (and is also the only Cavalier to have a double-digit rebounding performance). He leads UVa with 49 rebounds (8.2 per game), including 28 offensive rebounds (4.67 per game). Cain is fifth on the team in scoring with 7.5 points per game.

Diane Bounces Back

After making 6-11 field goal attempts and scoring 17 points in his collegiate debut against Liberty (Nov. 18), Mamadi Diane struggled in his next two games. Diane made only 1-7 attempts from the floor vs. both Richmond (Nov. 22) and Arizona (Nov. 27) and scored a total of seven points. Diane bounced back with a career-high 18 points (6-9 field goals) against Northwestern (Nov. 30). He then had 14 points (and seven rebounds) against Georgia Tech (Dec. 4). He scored nine points and added three rebounds and two assists against Fordham (Dec. 7).

On the season, Diane is averaging 10.8 points and 5.3 rebounds per game while starting all six contests.

Who Leads the Cavaliers in Minutes Played?

An educated guess would be that either J.R. Reynolds or Sean Singletary (prior to missing the Fordham game) leads UVa in minutes played, however, that would be incorrect. In a close race, freshman Mamadi Diane leads the team with 195 minutes played (32.5 per game). Reynolds is second with 185 minutes (30.8 per game) and Singletary is third with 161 minutes (32.2 per game).

Turnovers

UVa is averaging 16.3 turnovers per game through the first six contests. The Cavaliers have committed 18 or more turnovers in four of six games. Against Northwestern (Nov. 30), UVa had only eight turnovers, including only two miscues in the second half against the Wildcats. In its previous game against Arizona, Virginia committed a season-high 24 turnovers.

No Threes

UVa was 0-13 from three-point range against Georgia Tech (Dec. 4). The last time Virginia failed to make a three-pointer in a game was Jan. 31, 2004 at Wake Forest.

28 Offensive Rebounds

UVa pulled down 28 offensive rebounds against Georgia Tech (Dec. 4) and it ties for the second highest offensive rebounds total in a game in school history. The Cavaliers also had 28 offensive boards against Virginia Tech on Jan. 25, 1989. The school record for offensive rebounds in a game is 30 vs. Towson on Dec. 3, 1994.

Point Guard or Shooting Guard?

Through six games, UVa's point guard leads the team in scoring, while the Cavaliers' shooting guard leads the team in assists.

Point guard Sean Singletary leads UVa with 17.2 points per game and is averaging 3.0 assists per game, while shooting guard J.R. Reynolds leads the team with 23 assists (3.8 per game). Reynolds is second on the squad with 11.7 points per contest.

Singletary has led UVa in scoring twice – 24 points against Arizona and 23 points vs. Northwestern. Reynolds scored 23 points against Richmond to lead the Cavaliers.

Rebounding a Key

One of the keys to success for UVa this season is rebounding and so far Virginia has more than held its own on the glass. The Cavaliers have outrebounded each of their first six opponents and are averaging 11.4 more rebounds per game than the opposition, which ranks seventh among all Division I teams. UVa is averaging 41.7 rebounds per contest.

Double Figures in all Five Games

After scoring in double figures in back-to-back games only once last season, Sean Singletary has scored in double figures in the five games he has played this season and is averaging 17.2 points a game.

Singletary scored in double figures in 13 games last season, but not in back-to-back games until he scored 17 vs. NC State (Mar. 2) and 11 vs. Florida State (Mar. 6).

Dating back to the final game of the 2004-05 season, Singletary has scored in double digits in six consecutive games (he tallied 16 points in the ACC Tournament vs. Duke - Mar. 11).

Impressive Start

Virginia limited its first two opponents to an average of 43.5 points per game (Liberty 44 points, Richmond 43 points) and 25.7 percent (27-105) shooting from the field. The last time UVa held its first two opponents under 50 points was way back in the 1948-49 season. In 1948-49, the Cavaliers held Lynchburg Independents to 40 points (in a 72-40 win) and Langley Field to 38 points (in a 78-38 win).

In its third game, UVa gave up 81 points to then ninth-ranked Arizona (Nov. 27) and the Wildcats also shot 50.8 percent (33-65) from the field. The Cavaliers rebounded nicely from their first setback of the season with a 72-57 win over Northwestern (Nov. 30). UVa held the Wildcats to 57 points and 44.7 percent (21-47) shooting from the field.

UVa gave up 63 points to Georgia Tech (Dec. 4), but held the Yellow Jackets to 40.0 percent (22-55) shooting from the field.

Virginia allowed Fordham (Dec. 7) 62 points and 45.3 percent shooting from the field (24-53).

On the season, Virginia is limiting its opponents to 39.1 percent (127-325) shooting from the field and 58.3 points per game.

Last Season in University Hall

The 2005-06 campaign is the last season in University Hall for Virginia's men's and women's basketball teams. After calling University Hall home since the 1965-66 season, the Cavaliers will move across the street to their new facility, the John Paul Jones Arena, for the 2006-07 season.

In 41 seasons (including 2005-06), the Cavaliers are 395-141 (.737) all-time at University Hall.

Two Players Join Virginia Squad

University of Virginia men's head basketball coach Dave Leitao announced on Nov. 8 that junior Matt Deasey and freshman Drew Shiembob joined the Virginia team after going through a tryout process.

Deasey is a 6-0 guard from Wynnewood, Pa. He lettered three times in basketball at Episcopal Academy and was the team captain his senior season.

Shiembob is a 6-4 freshman forward from Richmond, Va. He was a four-year starter at St. Christopher's School. He averaged 18.5 points and 6.9 rebounds a game as a senior and earned Virginia League of Independent Schools first-team All-State honors. He finished his career at St. Christopher's as the school's career leader in rebounds (582) and ranked fourth in scoring (1,097 points). Shiembob was the team's captain as a junior and a senior.

UVa Returns Three Starters

The Cavaliers return three starters from last year's team. The returning starters are guards T.J. Bannister, J.R. Reynolds and Sean Singletary.

Sam Warren Leaves Virginia Basketball Team

Virginia men's head basketball coach Dave Leitao announced on Nov. 7 that center Sam Warren had left the team. Warren plans to remain at Virginia through the end of the fall semester.

"Sam is a terrific young man and I wish him well," Leitao said. "I am sorry he won't be with us."

Warren is a 6-10 freshman from Greenwood Village, Colo.

Cavaliers Win Exhibition Game 98-62

Sophomore Sean Singletary and junior guard J.R. Reynolds combined for 47 points as Virginia defeated Concordia University 98-62 on Nov. 11 in an exhibition game at University Hall.

Virginia shot 59 percent (36-61) from the field, including 50 percent (10-20) from three-point range. Freshman Mamadi Diane was one of two freshmen to start for the Cavaliers. Diane finished with 16 points. Sophomore forward Adrian Joseph came off the bench to score 13 points and junior forward Jason Cain added 11 rebounds. Singletary also tallied six assists.

UVa led 47-35 at halftime after shooting 51.4 percent (18-35) from the field in the first half, including 46.2 percent (6-13) from three-point range. The Cavaliers used a 29-16 run to build its largest lead in the first half at 39-23 with 3:20 left in the half.

Virginia stretched its lead to 21 points on a jumper by Cain with 12:10 remaining, 66-45. Concordia chipped away at the deficit and came within, 70-56, with 7:25 remaining, but the Cavaliers closed out the game with a 28-6 run to seal the victory.

Chris Blackwood and Andre Johnny each scored 13 points for Concordia while Patrick Perrotte added 10 points.

UVa Guards Make Game-Winning Plays

Three returning guards for the Cavaliers provided game-winning heroics during the 2004-05 season. Sean Singletary scored Virginia's final four points, including the winning basket with 2.2 seconds to play, in a 64-62 victory at North Carolina State. J.R. Reynolds' driving layup with 1.5 seconds remaining in overtime provided UVa with its margin of victory in a 79-77 win over Loyola Marymount. T.J. Bannister's jumper in the lane with 2.7 seconds left in the second overtime period gave the Cavaliers' an 80-79 win over Western Kentucky.

Singletary and Reynolds Earn ACC All-Freshmen Honors

Virginia has had a player earn All-ACC Freshmen honors each of the last two seasons.

Sean Singletary was named to the All-ACC Freshmen Team in 2005 after earning ACC Rookie of the Week honors five times. He averaged 10.5 points, 3.9 assists, 3.0 rebounds and 29.9 minutes played a game, and was the only UVa player to start all 29 games during the 2004-05 season.

J.R. Reynolds was named to the All-ACC Freshmen Team in 2004. He averaged 9.4 points, 1.7 rebounds, 2.0 assists and 24.7 minutes played a game during the 2003-04 season.

Singletary, Bannister in Last Year's ACC Rankings

Guard Sean Singletary led Virginia in assists (3.9 apg.) and steals (1.66 spg.) in 2004-05, and ranked first among Atlantic Coast Conference freshmen in those two categories. He also ranked second among ACC freshmen in minutes played (29.9 mpg.) and third in scoring (10.5 ppg.). Overall, he ranked sixth in the ACC in assist/turnover ratio (1.61, 113 assists and 70 turnovers), and ninth in assists and steals.

Guard T.J. Bannister ranked fifth in the ACC in assist/turnover ratio (1.71, 108 assists and 63 turnovers) and 10th in assists (3.72 apg.). He had an assist to turnover ratio of 2.18 in ACC games (74 assists and 34 turnovers) that ranked second in the conference.

J.R. Reynolds in the ACC Tournament

Guard J.R. Reynolds has played very well in the first two Atlantic Coast Conference Tournaments of his Virginia career.

In two games in the 2005 ACC Tournament, Reynolds scored 43 points and earned second-team All-Tournament honors. He scored a career-high 32 points and tied his career-high with 39 minutes played in the 66-65 victory over Miami in the opening round of the tournament. His 32 points tied for the third highest point total ever by a Virginia player in an ACC Tournament game. He is Virginia's first All-Tournament selection since Junior Burroughs was a first-team pick in 1995.

Reynolds scored 38 points in UVa's two games in the 2004 ACC Tournament. He had a season-high 20 points against Duke in the tournament quarterfinals and 18 against Clemson in the first round.

Virginia Assistants have Head Coaching Experience

Two members of University of Virginia men's head basketball coach Dave Leitao's coaching staff have head coaching experience at the Division I level.

Rob Lanier was the head coach at Siena College the last four years (2001-05). During his four years as Siena's head coach, the Saints participated in one NCAA Tournament and one National Invitation Tournament (NIT).

Siena won the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Tournament Championship in 2002 to earn a spot in the NCAA Tournament. The Saints defeated Alcorn State in the NCAA Tournament opening round game before losing to eventual national champion Maryland.

During the 2002-03 season, Lanier led Siena to a 21-11 record and a third-place finish in the MAAC with a 12-6 record. The Saints earned a berth in the NIT where they defeated Villanova and Western Michigan before losing to Alabama-Birmingham.

Steve Seymour was the head coach at Drexel University for two years (1999-2001). Drexel compiled a 21-15 record in the America East Conference during his two years as head coach. He later served as an assistant coach at Siena during Rob Lanier's first three years as head coach of the Saints.

Brown Named Strength and Conditioning Coach

Shaun Brown, the head strength coach of the Toronto Raptors of the National Basketball Association the last two years, was named strength and conditioning coach for the University of Virginia men's basketball program on October 13.

Brown has 17 years of experience at the professional and collegiate levels. Before joining the staff of the Toronto Raptors, he was the head strength coach for the Boston Celtics from 1997-2003.

From 1992-97, Brown was the head strength coach for men's basketball at the University of Kentucky. During his time at Kentucky, the men's basketball team won the 1996 NCAA Championship.

"The hiring of Shaun Brown continues to move our program in the right direction and helps us provide the best possible student-athlete experience," said UVa men's head basketball coach Dave Leitao. "Shaun comes to Virginia with credentials that speak for themselves. He has been a part of a national championship program, and has successfully trained athletes at the professional and collegiate levels."

Evan Marcus is Virginia's head strength coach and director of the McCue Center weight room. Ed Nordenschild (head strength coach for Olympic sports), and assistant coaches Bill Miller, Shad Pospahala and Lorenzo Rivers assist Marcus. Nordenschild will continue his work with the UVa women's basketball team.

"The strength training unit is critical to our success and has done a tremendous job in support of the athletics department's 10-year goals," said Virginia Executive Associate Athletics Director Jon Oliver. "Shaun Brown is an important addition in this area. His credentials are reflective of the type of professionals we have in the strength training unit."

Brown served as the head strength coach at Providence College from November of 1989 until April of 1992. Prior to that he was an assistant strength coach at Rutgers University from August of 1989 until he accepted the position at Providence.

A native of Hornell, N.Y., Brown earned a bachelor's degree from Canisius College in 1987 and a master's degree from Ohio State University in 1988. He served as a graduate assistant strength coach at Ohio State and as strength and conditioning coach at Dublin High School in Dublin, Ohio, from August of 1988 to August of 1989.

Littlepage Chairs NCAA Basketball Committee

University of Virginia Athletics Director Craig Littlepage is the chair of the NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Committee. The main responsibility of the committee is the administration of the NCAA men's basketball tournament. Littlepage has been a member of the committee since Sept. 1, 2002. His term on the committee ends on Sept. 1, 2006.

John Paul Jones Arena On Its Way

On May 30, 2003 ground was broken on the University of Virginia's new special events center, the John Paul Jones Arena. Scheduled for completion in the summer of 2006, the arena will replace University Hall. The new 15,000-seat arena will feature training and weight rooms, men's and women's basketball locker rooms, coaches' offices, and one-and-a-half practice courts per program so the men's and women's basketball teams can practice simultaneously, and when the arena is being used for other purposes.

2005-06 VIRGINIA MEN'S BASKETBALL ADDITIONAL PLAYER BIOS

25 Matt Deasey

G • 6-0, 178 • Jr.

Episcopal Academy • Wynnewood, Pa.

[Pronunciation Key: Dee-see]

WORTH NOTING: Joined the team as a walk-on prior to the 2005-06 season ... team captain his senior season at Episcopal Academy ... received team Hustle and Coaches Awards as a senior ... earned All-Area and team Most Improved Awards his junior season.

HIGH SCHOOL: Competed four seasons for head coach Dan Dougherty at Episcopal Academy ... served as team captain his senior season ... lettered three times in basketball ... three-sport athlete in high school ... also competed in water polo and baseball.

PERSONAL: Matthew Joseph Deasey ... born February 7, 1985, in Wynnewood, Pa. ... son of Geoffrey and Molly Deasey ... has two siblings ... father rowed at the University of Pennsylvania ... Jefferson Scholar finalist ... Dean's List student ... neuroscience major.

35 Drew Shiembob

F • 6-4, 199 • Fr.

St.Christopher's School • Richmond, Va.

[Pronunciation Key: Shem-bob]

WORTH NOTING: Joined the team as a walk-on prior to the 2005-06 season ... team captain as a junior and senior at St. Christopher's ... finished his high school career as St. Christopher's career leader in rebounds (582) ... fourth in career scoring (1,097 points) at St. Christopher's ... Virginia League of Independent Schools first-team All-State selection as a senior.

HIGH SCHOOL: Averaged 18.5 points and 6.9 rebounds per game during the 2004-2005 season ... a four-year starter for head coach Chuck Thomas at St. Christopher's ... school's all-time career leader in rebounds (582) and ranked fourth in scoring (1,097 points) at the conclusion of his high school career ... team captain in both his junior and senior seasons ... named first-team All-Prep League as a junior and senior ... Virginia League of Independent Schools first-team All-State as a senior ... participated in the Dominion Classic All-Star game.

PERSONAL: Andrew Reed Shiembob ... born September 11, 1986, in Richmond, Va. ... son of Mark and Cheryl Shiembob ... has one sibling ... father earned both his undergraduate and Law degrees at UVa ... Jefferson Scholar finalist.