

VIRGINIA

Basketball

2005-06

Media Notes

Virginia (5-4, 0-1 ACC)

vs.

Hartford (5-5)

December 31, 2005 • 2:00 p.m.

University Hall (8,392)

Charlottesville, Va.



2005-06 Schedule

5-4 Overall / 0-1 ACC

Home: 3-1

Away: 1-3

Neutral: 1-0

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		L, 54-63
Dec. 7	FORDHAM		L, 60-62
Dec. 17	at #10 Gonzaga	FSN - NW	L, 69-80
Dec. 23	Loyola (Md.)		W, 98-59
Dec. 28	vs. UMBC #		W, 77-66
Dec. 31	HARTFORD		2:00 p.m.
Jan. 2	at Western Kentucky		8:00 p.m.
Jan. 7	CLEMSON		Noon
Jan. 11	FLORIDA STATE		7:00 p.m.
Jan. 15	at Virginia Tech		4:00 p.m.
Jan. 19	NORTH CAROLINA		7:00 p.m.
Jan. 24	MIAMI	ESPNU	9:00 p.m.
Jan. 28	at Duke		7:00 p.m.
Feb. 1	at N.C. State	RSN	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	WAKE FOREST		1:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	at Maryland	RSN	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	VIRGINIA TECH		8:00 p.m.
Feb. 15	LONGWOOD		7:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	at Florida State		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		9:00 p.m.
Mar. 5	MARYLAND		3:30 p.m.
Mar. 9-12	ACC Tournament ^		TBA

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

TELEVISION

Today's game will not be televised.

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 enters today's game with a 5-4 overall record and a 0-1 mark in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The Cavaliers are coming off a 77-66 win over UMBC (Dec. 28) at ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center in Richmond, Va.

Hartford stands at 5-5 on the season. The Hawks are coming off a 56-54 home loss to Monmouth (Dec. 28).

The Series vs. Hartford

Today's game marks just the second meeting between Virginia and Hartford. The Cavaliers won the initial meeting 73-54 on Jan. 2, 1986 at University Hall.

Virginia vs. the America East

This is Virginia's second consecutive and final game this season against an opponent from the America East Conference. UVa defeated UMBC 77-66 (Dec. 28) at the Siegel Center in Richmond.

The Cavaliers are 5-0 all-time against the nine current members of the America East (and 3-0 vs. teams that were America East members at the time of the game). UVa is 3-0 vs. UMBC and 1-0 vs. Hartford and New Hampshire. The Cavaliers have never played Albany (N.Y.), Binghamton, Boston University, Maine, Stony Brook or Vermont.

Against the Nutmeg State

UVa has played four of the seven Division I basketball teams from the state of Connecticut and is 7-7 all-time. The Cavaliers are 2-0 vs. Fairfield, 1-0 vs. Hartford, 2-1 vs. Yale, and 2-6 vs. Connecticut. Virginia has never played Central Connecticut, Quinnipiac or Sacred Heart.

The Cavaliers have not played a team from Connecticut since the 1997-98 season when they lost to UConn 74-63 (Dec. 10, 1997) at home. Virginia's last win over a team from Connecticut was in the 1990-91 season when it won 84-52 over Fairfield on Feb. 13, 1991 at University Hall.

Singletary Named ACC Player of the Week

Sophomore guard Sean Singletary was named the Atlantic Coast Conference Player of the Week on Dec. 19. Singletary scored a career-high 35 points in UVa's 80-69 loss to 10th-ranked Gonzaga (Dec. 17). In addition to the 35 points, Singletary tied his career high with six steals and added six rebounds and four assists.

Singletary, who was a five-time ACC Rookie of the Week last season, is the first UVa player to garner the ACC's Player of the Week award since Elton Brown captured the honor on Dec. 27, 2004.

Singletary is eighth in the ACC in scoring at 16.5 points per game.

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.

Virginia's PROBABLE Starters

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Ppg.	Rpg.	App.	Mpg.	Notes
11	F	Laurynas Mikalauskas	6-8	241	Fr.	5.1	4.1	0.1	21.9	Scored 14 points in collegiate debut vs. Liberty (11/18)
33	F	Jason Cain	6-10	212	Jr.	8.7	9.3	0.4	24.1	Four double-doubles in last five games
24	G/F	Mamadi Diane	6-5	185	Fr.	10.4	4.6	1.1	30.2	Career-high 18 points vs. Northwestern (11/30)
2	G	J.R. Reynolds	6-2 1/2	197	Jr.	13.9	3.2	4.1	31.3	Season-high 25 points vs. Loyola (Dec. 23)
44	G	Sean Singletary	6-0	174	So.	16.5	4.8	4.0	31.9	ACC Player of the Week–Dec. 19 - 35 pts. vs. Gonzaga

Virginia's Key Reserves

12	G	Billy Campbell	6-0	184	Sr.	2.0	1.1	0.8	10.6	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	Only played vs. Georgia Tech (12/4) and Fordham (12/7)
21	C	Tunji Soroye	6-11	212	So.	3.0	5.3	0.1	23.7	Career high 12 points vs. Fordham (12/7)
30	F	Adrian Joseph	6-7	195	So.	10.2	4.3	0.4	27.3	Career-high 24 points (5 threes) vs. Loyola (Dec. 23)

Tale of the Tape

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

Virginia	Category	Hartford
68.8	Points	69.2
61.7	Points Allowed	68.5
+7.1	Scoring Margin	+0.7
42.1	Field Goal %	44.3
40.3	Field Goal % Defense	42.0
32.5	3 Point Field Goal %	31.6
29.4	3 Point Field Goal % Defense	35.2
73.2	Free Throw %	66.1
41.2	Rebounds	39.3
+9.6	Rebound Margin	+6.7
10.9	Assists	14.0
14.6	Turnovers	17.3
5.4	Steals	7.9
3.9	Blocked Shots	3.5

Ring in the New Year

The Cavaliers rarely ring in the New Year with a game on New Year's Eve. UVa is only 2-2 in games played on December 31 since 1950, but has won the last two. The first three New Year's Eve games were on the road. There are only eight other possible seasons (in the 30s and 40s) where UVa could have played on New Year's Eve – but those game dates are unknown.

Virginia last played on New Year's Eve in 2003 – an 85-74 win over Iowa State in the Cavaliers' first New Year's Eve game at University Hall.

Here's a list of UVa's known New Year's Eve games:

2003	Iowa State	Win, 85-74
1964	at Canisius	Win, 64-61
1956	at Kentucky Wesleyan	Lost, 82-72
1951	at Lawrence Tech	Lost, 75-72

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 85-73 record in six seasons as a head coach.

Leitao is 1-3 all-time as a head coach against Hartford.

Leitao has coached in 22 games against AP ranked teams and is 5-17. Against top 10 AP teams, Leitao is 0-7. He was 0-4 against ranked teams in two seasons at Northeastern, 5-11 vs. ranked opponents in three years at DePaul, and 0-2 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.

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).

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: 85-73 (sixth season)
Record at Virginia: 5-4 (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: 8/6
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Non-Conference Wins at University Hall

Virginia is 220-31 for an impressive .876 winning percentage all-time in University Hall against non-conference opponents. The Cavaliers' 87-65 victory on Jan. 2, 2003 over Wofford marked their 200th win over a non-conference opponent at University Hall since the building opened for the 1965-66 season.

The Cavaliers have won 102 of their last 114 home games (.895 winning percentage) against non-conference opponents dating back to the 1989-90 season.

Virginia had its 11-game non-conference home winning streak stopped with a 62-60 loss to Fordham (Dec. 7) this season. UVa began another non-conference home winning streak at University Hall with a 98-59 win over Loyola (Md.) (Dec. 23).

UVa had a 34-game home non-conference regular season winning streak snapped with an 84-69 loss to Providence College on Jan. 3, 2004. Virginia's previous regular season home loss to a non-conference opponent was Dec. 12, 1998 when the Cavaliers fell to 12th-ranked St. John's 95-68.

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).

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 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.

Singletery Goes for 35

Sean Singletery scored a career-high 35 points in UVa's 80-69 loss at Gonzaga (Dec. 17). The 35 points set a McCarthy Athletic Center record for the most points scored by a Gonzaga opponent. Singletery, who missed UVa's previous game against Fordham (Dec. 7) with a hip injury, made 11-20 attempts from the field (4-9 three-pointers) and 9-14 free throws. He also had a career-high tying six steals, six rebounds and four assists in 39 minutes.

Singletery's 35 points are the most scored in a game by a UVa player since J.R. Reynolds tallied 32 points vs. Miami (Mar. 10) in last year's ACC tournament. The last time a UVa player scored more than 35 points in a game was last season when Devin Smith tallied 40 points against Iowa State (Dec. 6).

Singletery scored just over half of Virginia's points in the game against Gonzaga. The last time one player scored more than half of UVa's points in a game was when Smith scored his 40 points against Iowa State last season (UVa had 79 as a team).

Virginia Downs UMBC 77-66

J.R. Reynolds scored 20 points and Virginia used a 13-3 run late in the second half to post a 77-66 victory over a determined UMBC squad (Dec. 28) at the ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center in Richmond, Va.

Reynolds, who scored 14 of his 20 points in the second half, made 4-8 field goal attempts (2-5 three-pointers) and all 10 of his free throw attempts in leading the Cavaliers to the victory. He also tied Sean Singletery for team-high honors in assists with six. Jason Cain recorded his fourth double-double of the season with 16 points and 12 rebounds. He tied his career high with the 16 points and established a new career best with three blocked shots. Mamadi Diane also scored 16 points and added three rebounds and three steals, while Adrian Joseph contributed 10 points and four boards.

The Cavaliers led 60-53 with 7:59 to play, but back-to-back three-pointers by the Retrievers cut the UVa advantage to one, 60-59 with 7:00 on the clock. Virginia then embarked on a 13-3 run in a 4:12 span to grab a 73-62 advantage with 2:32 to go and put the game out of reach. Reynolds and Diane both scored four points during the run.

Joseph scored all 10 of his points in the first half to help the Cavaliers take a 33-30 advantage at the intermission. The Retrievers led by as many as five points (17-12) in the first half, but UVa responded with a 15-2 run to take its biggest lead of the first stanza, 27-19, with 5:48 to play.

UVa shot an impressive 56.0 percent (14-25) in the second half and made 26-54 (48.1 percent) of its attempts from the field. UMBC shot only 41.7 percent (25-60) from the floor, but made 12 (of 31) three-pointers. The Cavaliers made 19-22 (86.4 percent) of their free throws, while UMBC was just 4-7 (57.1 percent). UVa held a 34-33 edge in rebounds and committed only 10 turnovers in the contest.

Brian Hodges came off the bench to lead the Retrievers with a game-high 23 points, including six three-pointers. Jay Greene added 12 points by making four threes and tallied six assists.

Virginia Signs Three Players

Head basketball coach Dave Leitao has announced the signing of three individuals to letters of intent with Virginia during the recent November signing period.

The three players are 6-6 forward Will Harris from Corona, N.Y.; 6-8 forward Johnnie Lett of Mobile, Ala.; and 6-9 forward Jamil Tucker of Gary, Ind.

Minter No Longer on Team

Head coach Dave Leitao announced on Dec. 22 that Donte Minter is no longer on the team for personal reasons. He is not expected to return to the team.

"Donte is a fine young man and I wish him well," Leitao said.

Minter, a 6-8 junior forward/center from Salisbury, N.C., did not play in a game for the Cavaliers this season.

Minter lettered for Virginia the last two seasons. He played in all 31 games for the Cavaliers and started three as a freshman during the 2003-04 season. He averaged 5.6 points and 2.6 rebounds a game that season, while shooting 56.0 percent (70-125) from the field and 71.7 percent (33-46) from the free throw line.

Minter was hampered by injuries in 2004-05. He played in 18 games that season, scoring 23 points and grabbing nine rebounds.

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. Bannister has not played in UVa's last three games – Gonzaga (Dec. 17), Loyola (Dec. 23) or UMBC (Dec. 28).

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

Ruling the Offensive Glass

Jason Cain registered an amazing 16 offensive rebounds in 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, and 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 39 offensive rebounds for an average of 4.33 per game. He leads the ACC in offensive rebounds and is second in overall rebounding at 9.3 per game.

Really Raising Cain

Jason Cain has recorded back-to-back double-doubles twice this season, including the last two games. He has four double-doubles in his last five contests and is averaging 12.2 rebounds per game during that span. He has led Virginia in rebounding six consecutive games.

Cain had his first career double-double in UVa's 63-54 loss to Georgia Tech (Dec. 4). The junior forward tallied then career highs of 15 points and 11 rebounds. Against Fordham (Dec. 7), Cain posted career bests with 16 points and 15 rebounds. Against Loyola (Dec. 23), he recorded 15 points and 16 rebounds with the 16 boards setting yet another career high. In his last outing against UMBC (Dec. 28), Cain tied his career high with 16 points and added 12 rebounds for his fourth double-double of the season.

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 84 rebounds (9.3 per game), including 39 offensive rebounds (4.33 per game). Cain is fifth on the team in scoring with 8.7 points per game.

Home is Sweet for Diane

Freshman Mamadi Diane has excelled at home this season while struggling on the road. Here's a breakdown of Diane's statistics at home vs. on the road.

Category	Home (4 gms)	Away (5 gms)*	Overall
Points per game	13.8	7.8	10.4
FG shooting	48.6% (18-37)	29.2% (14-48)	37.6% (32-85)
3-pt FG shooting	44.4% (4-9)	23.1% (3-13)	31.8% (7-22)
Turnovers	1	8	9
Assists	9	1	10
Steals	4	4	8
Blocks	4	4	8
Rebounds	5.0	4.2	4.6
Minutes Played	32.0	28.8	30.2

*UVa's game against UMBC (Dec. 28) is included as an away game. Diane had 16 points (6-11 field goals), three rebounds, three steals, one assist and one blocked shot with no turnovers.

Reynolds Breaks Out

After making only four three-point field goals (on 28 attempts) in the first seven games of the season, J.R. Reynolds drained a career-high tying five three-pointers against Loyola (Dec. 23) on seven attempts. He followed that performance with a 2-5 effort from long range against UMBC (Dec. 28). Reynolds is now 11-40 (27.5 percent) from beyond the three-point line this season.

Reynolds snapped an 0-11 slump that spanned four games when he made his first three against the Greyhounds with 12:53 left in the first half. His 5-7 effort from long range against Loyola also snapped a 1-20 slump over the previous five games.

Reynolds is 8-19 (42.1 percent) from three-point land at home, but just 3-21 (14.3 percent) from long range away from University Hall.

Turnovers

UVa is averaging 14.6 turnovers per game through the first nine contests. The Cavaliers committed 18 or more turnovers in four of their first five games. In the last four games, UVa has cut its turnovers down to 11.0 per game (44 turnovers). The most miscues UVa has made in its last four games is 13 vs. Loyola (Dec. 23).

Against Northwestern (Nov. 30), UVa had only eight turnovers, including just 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 nine 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 16.5 points per game and is averaging 4.0 assists per game, while shooting guard J.R. Reynolds leads the team with 37 assists (4.1 per game). Reynolds is second on the squad with 13.9 points per contest.

Singletary has led UVa in scoring three times – 24 points against Arizona, 23 points vs. Northwestern and 35 points vs. Gonzaga. Reynolds has also led the Cavaliers in scoring three times – 23 points against Richmond, 25 vs. Loyola (Md.) and 20 points vs. UMBC.

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 eight of their first nine opponents and are averaging 9.6 more rebounds per game than the opposition (first in the ACC). UVa is averaging 41.2 rebounds overall (second in the ACC) and 15.33 offensive boards per contest (first in the ACC).

Free Throw Accuracy

UVa is currently shooting an impressive 73.2 percent (142-194) from the free throw line this season which ranks second in the ACC. The Cavaliers have three players ranked among the top seven in the ACC in free throw shooting. Mamadi Diane is second at 88.5 percent (23-26). J.R. Reynolds is sixth at 78.3 percent (36-46), while Sean Singletary is seventh at 76.6 percent (36-47). Adrian Joseph is shooting 78.6 percent (11-14) from the free throw line but does not qualify to be listed among the ACC's leaders because he hasn't attempted enough free throws.

Double Figures in First Six Games

After scoring in double figures in back-to-back games only once last season, Sean Singletary scored in double figures in the first six games he played in this season before having his streak stopped when he scored only four points against Loyola (Md.). Singletary, who is averaging 16.5 points a game, scored only seven points against UMBC (Dec 28).

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 scored in double digits in seven consecutive games (he tallied 16 points in the ACC Tournament vs. Duke - Mar. 11) before having the streak snapped against Loyola (Md.).

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).

On the season, Virginia's opponents are shooting 40.3 percent (204-506) from the field and averaging 61.7 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 396-141 (.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.

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 avg.) 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 avg.). 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 Burrough 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.

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.