

VIRGINIA

Basketball

2005-06

Media Notes

Virginia (4-4, 0-1 ACC)

vs.

UMBC (4-6)

December 28, 2005 • 7:00 p.m.
 ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center (7,500)
 Richmond, Va.



2005-06 Schedule

4-4 Overall / 0-1 ACC

Home: 3-1

Away: 1-3

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		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 #		7:00 p.m.
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	BOSTONCOLLEGE	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

Tonight'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 tonight's game with a 4-4 overall record and a 0-1 mark in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The Cavaliers snapped a three-game losing streak with a 98-59 win over Loyola College (Dec. 23) at University Hall.

UMBC stands at 4-6 on the season. The Retrievers are coming off an 81-70 loss at Long Beach State (Dec. 22).

The Series vs. UMBC

Tonight's game marks just the third meeting between Virginia and UMBC. It is also the first game not to take place at University Hall. The Cavaliers won the initial meeting on Dec. 21, 1996 by the score of 57-34, and then took the second matchup 85-69 on Dec. 23, 2000.

In the first two meetings, UVa held the Retrievers to 35.8 percent (39-109) shooting from the field. UMBC was 15-50 (30 percent) from the floor in the first contest and 24-59 (40.7 percent) from the field in the last meeting.

Third Meeting, Third Conference

Tonight's game marks the third meeting between UVa and UMBC, and it is also the third different conference UMBC has been a member of when playing the Cavaliers.

UMBC was a member of the Big South in 1996 when it played Virginia. The Retrievers were in their third season as a member of the Northeast Conference when they met UVa in 2000. UMBC is currently in its third season as a member of the America East Conference.

Virginia vs. the America East

This is Virginia's first of two games this season against opponents from the America East Conference. UVa's next game, on Dec. 31, is against America East member Hartford.

The Cavaliers are 4-0 all-time against the nine current members of the America East (and 2-0 vs. teams that were America East members at the time of the game). UVa is 2-0 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.

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 currently fifth in the ACC in scoring at 17.9 points per game.

Virginia's PROBABLE Starters

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Ppg.	Rpg.	App.	Mpg.	Notes
11	F	Laurynas Mikalauskas	6-8	241	Fr.	5.5	4.3	0.1	22.5	Scored 14 points in collegiate debut vs. Liberty (11/18)
24	G/F	Mamadi Diane	6-5	185	Fr.	9.8	4.8	1.1	30.5	Career-high 18 points vs. Northwestern (11/30)
21	C	Tunji Soroye	6-11	212	So.	3.1	5.5	0.1	24.9	Career high 12 points vs. Fordham (12/7)
2	G	J.R. Reynolds	6-2 1/2	197	Jr.	13.1	3.4	3.9	30.6	Season-high 25 points vs. Loyola (Dec. 23)
44	G	Sean Singletary	6-0	174	So.	17.9	5.1	3.7	32.3	ACC Player of the Week–Dec. 19 - 35 pts. vs. Gonzaga

Virginia's Key Reserves

12	G	Billy Campbell	6-0	184	Sr.	2.3	1.3	0.9	11.6	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)
30	F	Adrian Joseph	6-7	195	So.	10.3	4.4	0.5	27.3	Career-high 24 points (5 threes) vs. Loyola (Dec. 23)
33	F	Jason Cain	6-10	212	Jr.	7.8	9.0	0.4	22.6	Three double-doubles in last four games

Tale of the Tape

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

Virginia	Category	UMBC
67.8	Points	63.8
61.1	Points Allowed	68.8
+6.6	Scoring Margin	-5.0
41.4	Field Goal %	41.5
40.1	Field Goal % Defense	46.1
31.9	3 Point Field Goal %	25.8
27.5	3 Point Field Goal % Defense	36.7
71.5	Free Throw %	64.0
42.1	Rebounds	33.8
+10.6	Rebound Margin	-1.7
10.5	Assists	14.1
15.1	Turnovers	15.1
5.0	Steals	6.8
3.8	Blocked Shots	2.5

Second Trip to ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center

The Cavaliers have played many games in Richmond through the years, but tonight's contest is just UVa's second in Virginia Commonwealth's ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center. Last season, the Cavaliers defeated Auburn 89-87 on Dec. 3 in their first contest at the Siegel Center, which opened in the fall of 1999.

Back-to-Back

Tonight's game against UMBC marks the first time since the 1996-97 season UVa is playing back-to-back games against teams from the state of Maryland. On Jan. 2, 1997 the Cavaliers hosted Loyola (won, 67-61) and then played at Maryland on Jan. 4 and lost 78-62.

UVa has played numerous back-to-back games against Maryland teams with the Terrapins in the equation. However, the last time Virginia played back-to-back games against teams from Maryland – other than the Terrapins – was way back in 1931. The Cavaliers hosted St. John's (Md.) on Jan. 12, 1931 and lost 22-20. On Jan. 14, 1931 UVa played at Navy and fell 36-21.

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.

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 84-73 record in six seasons as a head coach.

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

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.

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: 84-73 (sixth season)
Record at Virginia: 4-4 (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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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.

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).

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.

Singletary Goes for 35

Sean Singletary 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. Singletary, 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.

Singletary'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).

Singletary 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).

UVa Cruises to 98-59 Win over Loyola (Md.)

J.R. Reynolds and Adrian Joseph combined for 49 points, including 10 three-pointers, and led five UVa players in double figures in scoring as the Cavaliers rolled to a 98-59 victory (Dec. 23) over Loyola College (Md.) at University Hall.

Reynolds led all players in scoring with his 25-point performance, which included a career-high tying five three-point field goals (on seven attempts). He also added six assists and four rebounds. Joseph set a new career high with 24 points (19 in the first half) on 9-14 shooting from the field. He also drilled a career-best five three-pointers (on eight attempts).

Jason Cain notched his third double-double of the season with 15 points and a career-best 16 rebounds. Mamadi Diane and Laurynas Mikalauskas rounded out UVa's double digit scorers with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Diane also contributed five rebounds, four assists and two steals.

Loyola took a 7-3 lead three minutes into the game, but Virginia used a 45-9 run to open up a 48-16 lead with 4:24 remaining in the first half. The Cavaliers eventually took a 60-29 lead at the intermission. It marked the first time UVa scored 60 points in a half since tallying 68 points in the opening stanza against Grambling on Dec. 30, 2001. UVa shot 52.8 percent (19-36) from the floor in the first half, including 61.5 percent (8-13) from three-point range.

For the game, the Cavaliers shot 46.3 percent (31-67) from the field and made a season-best 13 three-pointers on 21 attempts (61.9 percent). UVa also held a 51-32 advantage in rebounds and registered 20 assists. Virginia held Loyola to 37.3 percent (25-67) shooting from the floor.

Andre Collins recorded a double-double for the Greyhounds with 16 points and 10 assists. Hassan Fofana added 12 points and eight rebounds.

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.

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 did not play against Gonzaga (Dec. 17) or Loyola (Dec. 23).

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 34 offensive rebounds for an average of 4.25 per game. He leads the ACC in offensive rebounds and is third in overall rebounding at 9.0 per game.

Really Raising Cain

Jason Cain recorded back-to-back double-doubles against Georgia Tech (Dec. 4) and Fordham (Dec. 7) which also mark the first double-doubles of his career. In both instances, he set new career highs in points and rebounds. Cain came back to notch his third double-double in four games against Loyola (Dec. 23).

Cain had his first career double-double in UVa's 63-54 loss to Georgia Tech. The junior forward tallied then career highs of 15 points and 11 rebounds. Against Fordham, Cain posted career bests with 16 points and 15 rebounds. Against Loyola, he recorded 15 points and 16 rebounds with the 16 boards setting yet another career high. 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 72 rebounds (9.0 per game), including 34 offensive rebounds (4.25 per game). Cain is fifth on the team in scoring with 7.8 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 gm)	Away (4 gm)	Overall
Points per game	13.8	5.8	9.8
FG shooting	48.6% (18-37)	21.6 % (8-37)	35.1% (26-74)
3-pt FG shooting	44.4% (4-9)	10.0% (1-10)	26.3% (5-19)
Turnovers	1	8	9
Assists	9	0	9
Steals	4	1	5
Blocks	4	3	7
Rebounds	5.0	4.5	4.8
Minutes Played	32.0	29.0	30.5

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 is now 9-35 (25.7 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 1-16 (6.3 percent) from long range away from University Hall.

Turnovers

UVa is averaging 15.1 turnovers per game through the first eight contests. The Cavaliers committed 18 or more turnovers in four of their first five games. In the last three games, UVa has cut its turnovers down to 11.3 per game.

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 eight 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 17.9 points per game and is averaging 3.7 assists per game, while shooting guard J.R. Reynolds leads the team with 31 assists (3.9 per game). Reynolds is second on the squad with 13.1 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 scored 23 points against Richmond and 25 vs. Loyola (Md.) to lead the Cavaliers in those two contests.

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 seven of their first eight opponents and are averaging 10.6 more rebounds per game than the opposition (first in the ACC). UVa is averaging 42.1 rebounds overall and 15.75 offensive boards per contest to lead the ACC in both categories.

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.). He is averaging 17.9 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 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 40.1 percent (179-446) from the field and averaging 61.1 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 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 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.

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.