



VIRGINIA 85, TEXAS TECH 77, OT
NCAA MEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



HOOS LAUGHING NOW

Hunter pours in career-high 27 points as Virginia wins first national championship



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Virginia guard Kyle Guy (5) celebrates in front of Texas Tech guard Jarrett Culver at the end of the championship game in the NCAA Tournament on Monday night. Guy was named the most outstanding player of the Final Four. He scored 24 points in the championship game.

By Eddie Pells
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Now that, Virginia, is the way to close out a season.

And quiet those critics, too. Led by De'Andre Hunter and his NBA-ready brother, the Cavaliers turned themselves into national

champions Monday night, holding off tenacious, ferocious Texas Tech for an 85-77 overtime win — a scintillating victory that came 388 days after a crushing setback that might have sunk a lesser team for years.

But Virginia was better than that. A season after becoming the

first No. 1 seed to lose to a 16 — the one thing that had never happened in a tournament where anything can — the Cavaliers watched a 10-point lead turn into a three-point deficit before Hunter came to the rescue. The sophomore made the game-tying 3 with 12.1 seconds left in regulation, then made another with

more than two minutes left in the extra period to give the Cavs the lead for good.

“Surreal,” Hunter called it. “It’s a goal we started out with at the beginning of the season. We knew we were going to bounce back from last year. We achieved our dreams.”

After going scoreless for the

first 18½ minutes, Hunter finished with a career-high 27 points, and if he leaves as a lottery pick — well, what a way to go out.

He helped the Cavs bring home the first NCAA title for a program with a colorful, star-crossed and,

SEE **HOOS** | B4

VIRGINIA TECH BASKETBALL

Young arrives at his dream job

By Mark Berman
The Roanoke Times

BLACKSBURG — Growing up, Mike Young used to attend Virginia Tech basketball games at Cassell Coliseum with his father.

He will have a different vantage point of the Hokies' games next season.

Virginia Tech introduced Young, a Radford High School graduate, as its new men's basketball coach Monday morning at a news

conference on the Cassell Coliseum court. Young, who spent the past 17 seasons as Wofford's coach, was named Tech's new coach Sunday night.

“So thrilled to be home,” Young said as he addressed the media and a small gathering of fans. “As I look around and I think of all the big games I’ve seen in here through the years, so help me goodness, I have

SEE **YOUNG** | B4

Hillman adds to mound effort



EMILY ELCONIN/THE NEWS & ADVANCE

Lynchburg Hillcats starter Juan Hillman throws a pitch during the Lynchburg Hillcats' home opener against the Salem Red Sox on Monday night.

Lefty doesn't allow an earned run in six innings

By Emily Brown
ebrown@newsadvance.com

If Juan Hillman felt any extra pressure heading into Monday's game, he didn't show it.

Hillman got the call to take the mound for the Lynchburg Hillcats' home opener at City Stadium with lofty expectations to meet. In his Class A-Advanced debut, the 21-year-old was asked to follow stellar outings from



HILLCATS 5, RED SOX 2

Carolina League Baseball

Key player: Tyler Friis reached base four times for Lynchburg.
Inside: Box. B2

the rest of the starting rotation with his own strong performance.

The four others who'd pitched so far helped Lynchburg leave Myrtle Beach with three wins, only giving up two earned runs.

SEE **HILLMAN** | B4

RELIVE THE CAVALIERS' MAGICAL SEASON WITH THIS HARDCOVER COLLECTOR'S BOOK.



BOOK DETAILS

- Coverage of regular season and tournament
- By the journalists and photographers of The Daily Progress
- Hardcover, 144 pages, limited edition

\$29.95 ~~\$39.95~~

plus tax & shipping // offer expires 4/15/19

The News & Advance The Daily Progress



presented by Get full details and pre-order at

NEWSADVANCE.UVABOOK.COM

Texas Tech's Jarrett Culver (23) drives against Virginia's Ty Jerome and De'Andre Hunter (12) during the overtime Monday night in Minneapolis. Culver was just 5 of 22 from the floor and finished with 15 points.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hoos

From Page B1

now, very winning history. Nothing came easily — appropriate given where Virginia has been over the last year, since its history making loss to University of Maryland-Baltimore County in the first round of last year's tournament.

Each of its 35 wins, and each of the team's scant three losses, were all punctuated by the reminder that only the end result would serve as the ultimate report card on whether the Cavs could truly shed the baggage of last year.

What a ride this was. A 1 seed once again, they fell behind by 14 early to 16th-seeded Gardner-Webb in this year's opening round, and a nightmare seemed to be unfolding. But this time, they overcame it. Then, they beat Purdue in the Elite Eight when the game looked lost, and did the same against Auburn on Saturday — getting bailed out by a foul call and Kyle Guy's three free throws with 0.6 seconds left.

"I told them, I just want a chance at a title fight one day," Virginia coach Tony Bennett said. "That's all I want. ... You're never alone in the hills and the valleys we faced that in the last year."

Hunter's key 3 in OT gave

Virginia a 75-73 lead, and after the teams traded possessions, Tech guard Davide Moretti scrambled after a loose ball heading onto Virginia's end of the court. It appeared it would be Texas Tech ball, but a replay showed Moretti's pinkie finger had barely scraped the ball. Virginia got possession, and worked the ball into Ty Jerome, who got fouled and made two free throws.

Brandone Francis missed a 3 on the other end, and Virginia pulled away — the first time this game felt remotely comfortable, even after Guy made a 3 to give the Cavs a 10-point lead with 10:22 left in regulation. Guy is not Virginia's only clutch free-throw shooter, by the way. The Cavs went 12 for 12 from the line in overtime to ice this game. They scored the game's final 11 points.

For the Red Raiders (31-7), well, what can you say?

The team full of overlooked grinders refused to quit. They fell behind by 10 twice in this game — seemingly too much in a matchup between two legendary defenses — but just kept coming back.

Jarrett Culver, also lottery-pick material, made a spinning left-handed layup over Hunter with 35 seconds left in regulation to put the Red Raiders ahead 66-65, and after Jerome missed a

teardrop on the other end, Norense Odiase got fouled and made two free throws to make it 68-65.

The nation's best defense couldn't afford to give up a 3, but Jerome skipped a pass to Hunter, who was open on the wing — and spotted up and drained it. Culver missed a 3 with Braxton Key in his face with a second left, and we were headed to overtime, the first extra session in the final since Kansas beat Memphis in 2008.

The last five minutes of regulation and the OT featured several one-on-one matchups between the two NBA-bound stars, and Hunter came out the winner. He finished 8 for 16 after an 0-for-7 start. Culver, who stayed in his hometown of Lubbock to see how far he could take Tech, went 5 for 22 for 15 points, continuing a cold-shooting Final Four; he went 8 for 34 over the weekend.

Both will likely move on to the NBA. Hunter will go there with a title.

And somebody on Virginia ought to grab that sign.

In the stands, a fan made a cardboard sign with the capital letters "UMBC" running vertically, and this spelled out after each letter. "Uva." "Makes." "Big." "Comeback."

The Cavs couldn't have written it any better themselves.

Hillman

From Page B1

Against the Salem Red Sox on Monday, it was the 6-foot-2 lefty's turn. And despite facing early adversity, he delivered, powering Lynchburg to a 5-2 victory.

"I knew they got my back and I have theirs," Hillman said of his team, "so I wanted to give my best effort."

In the fifth inning, Hillman (1-0) faced Salem's Ryan Fitzgerald with just one out on the board and a runner at first. Thanks to a pair of defensive lapses by his teammates early on, Hillman and the Hillcats (3-1) trailed 2-1.

Fitzgerald, who entered hitting .364, had been the most successful against Hillman so far. The shortstop singled in each of his first two at-bats against Hillman. With his pitch count rising, Hillman just wanted to get out of the frame quickly.

"One out, just wanted to get a ground ball," Hillman said of his mindset at that point. "... That gives me what I need to be able to throw one more inning for the team."

Against a 1-2 count, Fitzgerald once again made contact, smoking it back up the middle toward Hillman. And somehow, Hillman made the play of the night, getting out of the inning in odd fashion.

Hillman turned and made the snag behind his back, then quickly tossed to second to get the lead runner. His teammates finished the play from there, turning it for a 1-6-3 inning-ending double play.

"... I was kind of shocked that I caught it. If it was on video, you can see I kind of looked

at the ball and looked at my glove like, 'Oh, I really caught it,'" he said.

Hillman allowed just one more hit after that, finishing the night allowing seven hits in six innings.

The Red Sox (2-3) scored once in the first and once in the fourth to take an early lead, but neither of those runs were earned. With Hillman's outing Monday, the Hillcats' starting rotation is down to a 0.69 ERA.

"It felt pretty good. I just wanted go out there and compete for the team first start of the season," Hillman said. "Our last few games, pitching's been phenomenal, so I just wanted to continue it."

The rest of the Hillcats' pitching staff has fared well, too. As a whole, the Hillcats sport a 0.82 ERA after giving up just four earned runs, which leads the Carolina League by a wide margin. Salem's staff is second in the league with nine earned runs allowed.

"I can't imagine another club having a better start with their starting pitching," first-year Hillcats manager Jim Pankovits said, "and I think our whole staff has done a good job."

The Hillcats' offense delivered Monday, too, to come back from a deficit thanks to two early mistakes.

In the first, Fitzgerald (2 for 4) singled, then scored from first on a passed ball with Tanner Nishioka at the plate. A pitch got away from Gavin Collins, and the Hillcats thought the play was dead before third baseman Nolan Jones found the ball near the home dugout. Jones made the throw home to Collins, but Fitzgerald slid in just before to make it 1-0.

And in the fourth, a

fielding error by Luke Wakamatsu — his third error of the season — gave Nishioka a chance to score after reaching on a hit by pitch.

Then, though, the Hillcats' offense broke through.

Tyler Friis, who walked, scored in the bottom of the fourth on Trenton Brooks' sacrifice fly to make it 2-1, and then delivered the game-winning RBI double off the center-field wall an inning later.

Steven Kwan had the game-tying RBI single in the fifth. Kwan went 2 for 5 Monday to drive his average up to .524 and has multiple hits now in all five games.

The Hillcats added a pair of hits and runs in the eighth for insurance. Jonathan Laureano recorded a two-out single, and Austen Wade batted him home with a triple to right.

Wade scored on the play, too, when Marino Campana committed an error on the throw.

Friis went 2 for 2, and he and Kwan combined for four of the Hillcats' nine hits.

"Nothing crazy," Friis said of his approach at the plate, adding the team's pitching staff made it easy for the lineup to come up with enough offense for the win. "... When [our] pitchers throw it well, it makes our job easy as an offense. Put up four, five runs, you have a chance to win with how well those guys have been throwing it lately."

Kyle Nelson picked up the save after striking out four in his one scoreless, hitless frame.

Daniel Gonzalez (0-1) took the loss for Salem, allowing three runs (all earned) on six hits in 5 2/3 innings. He walked three and struck out three.

Young

From Page B1

felt this building shake on a number of occasions.

"To be standing over there as your basketball coach for a long time is meaningful to me. I am so excited, I can't stand it.

"To be a head coach at Virginia Tech and in the Atlantic Coast Conference truly is a dream come true."

Young, 55, attended Tech games in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

"My love for ball originated in this building," Young said.

Young said that when he attended an all-sports camp at Tech, he was befriended by then-Hokies basketball star Allan Bristow. He said Bristow left Young and his father tickets to games at Cassell.

He recalled watching the 1972-73 Tech team that wound up winning the NIT championship.

"Craig Lieder, Ed Frazier, Charlie Thomas, Bobby Stevens, Allan Bristow was their starting lineup," Young said.

Young succeeds Buzz Williams, who stepped down last Wednesday after five years at the helm of the Hokies to take the reins at Texas A&M.

"He won't job-jump," Tech athletic director Whit Babcock said of Young. "He's coming home.

"He's ... confident and hungry — and he wants to be here. I really like that."

Young's father, Robert Young, was an assistant football coach at Dublin High School for 10 years and also had a stint there as the baseball coach. Robert Young's sister is married to Norman Lineburg, the former Radford High School football coach and athletic



THE ROANOKE TIMES

Joined by his wife Margaret, Mike Young is introduced as the next men's basketball coach at Virginia Tech.

director.

"Everybody in my family are football people. They say I'm a wimp because I don't like the cold. I'm an inside guy," Young said.

Young's parents, who still live in Radford, attended the news conference.

"It's exciting," Robert Young said. "I haven't been to a Tech basketball game in years. I'll have to start coming to some."

Mike Young's wife, Margaret, and their son also attended the news conference; the couple's daughter was away at college. Lineburg and his wife also were in attendance.

Young agreed to a five-year, \$11.5 million contract. He will reap \$2 million in total pay in each of his first two years. He will make \$2.75 million in his fifth year. That does not include bonuses, such as a \$100,000 bonus for making the NCAA Tournament.

Young said he has been pinching himself over his new job.

"We're going to Maul next year [for the Maui Invitational]. We went to the Claytor Lake Invitational when I was at Wofford," he cracked.

Southern Conference member Wofford has only

1,650 students. The Spartanburg, South Carolina, school moved up to NCAA Division I in 1995 — just seven seasons before Young became the team's head coach.

Young was a Wofford assistant for 13 years before being promoted to head coach. He won 299 games in 17 seasons at the helm of the Terriers. He guided the Terriers to eight winning seasons in the last 11 years.

"I had some dark, tough times, but just kept grinding," Young said. "I have had some other opportunities that I didn't think were a fit for Mike Young. ... This one made a lot of sense.

"I've had a great 30 years at one place. And I hope I've got another 15, 16 here."

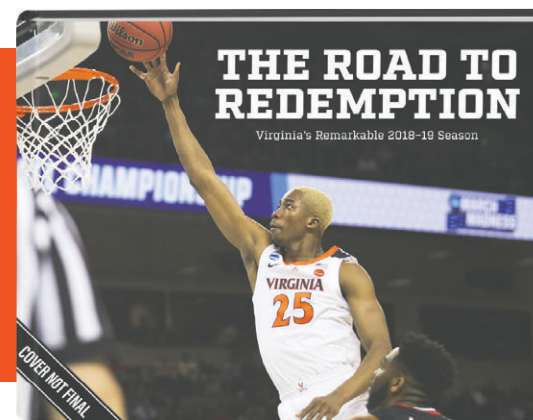
While at the helm of Wofford, Young led the Terriers to a number of wins over teams from major conferences, including North Carolina, Virginia Tech, North Carolina State, Wake Forest, Georgia Tech and South Carolina.

Young led Wofford to the SoCon tournament title and an NCAA Tournament bid this year for the fifth time in the last 10 seasons.

The Terriers went 30-5 overall and 18-0 in SoCon play this year.

RELIVE THE CAVALIERS' MAGICAL SEASON WITH THIS HARDCOVER COLLECTOR'S BOOK.

Get the limited-edition collector's book that captures UVA basketball through this exciting year, **"The Road to Redemption: Virginia's Remarkable 2018-19 Season."** From early-season momentum to the Cavaliers' first tournament semifinal appearance in 35 years, this 144-page hardcover book puts you inside the action with stories and photos from the writers and photographers of The Daily Progress.



PRE-ORDER NOW
\$29.95
~~\$39.95~~
plus tax & shipping
offer expires 4/15/19

Pre-order your copy now at

NEWSADVANCE.UVABOOK.COM

Pre-order by mail now (discount expires 4/15/19):
 Ship my order to me: \$29.95 plus 1.96 tax and \$6.95 shipping and handling per book. Order will be shipped to the address below **after 5/22/19. Quantity: _____ x \$38.86 = \$_____ total**

Payment method: Check/Money Order Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

Card # _____ **Expiration** _____

Signature _____ **Verification Code** _____

Send form and payment to:
 The News & Advance UVA Book
 c/o The Daily Progress
 685 W. Rio Road
 Charlottesville, VA 22901

NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S LACROSSE: VIRGINIA 13, YALE 9

Six for Virginia sticks

Moore scores four goals as Cavaliers earn first national championship since 2011



Virginia's Ryan Pride raises the trophy after defeating Yale in the NCAA men's lacrosse championship in Philadelphia on Monday.

By Dave Zeitlin
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Sitting at the podium for the post-game press conference, Matt Moore and Michael Kraus bobbed their head along as music blared down the hall.

They were eager to rejoin their teammates for a celebration eight years in the making.

Moore scored four goals and Virginia won its sixth NCAA lacrosse champion-

ship, beating defending champion Yale 13-9 on Monday.

"It was a perfect ending to a great story," Moore said.

Kraus added three goals and Alex Rode made 13 saves for the Cavaliers (17-3), who stifled Yale's high-powered attack to dethrone the Bulldogs in front of 31,528 fans at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field.

Many of the spectators wore Virginia orange, cheering loudly as the Cavaliers

took home their first championship since 2011. They previously won in 1972, 1999, 2003 and 2006.

Freshman Matt Brandau led the Bulldogs (15-4) with three goals, including one with 4:30 left that gave them the record for most goals in a single NCAA tournament. Yale finished with 68 goals across four NCAA tourney games, but the nine it tallied Monday was a season low.

The Cavaliers limited their chances by slowing the game

and holding the ball deep into the shot clock throughout the contest.

"That was very frustrating," Yale coach Andy Shay said. "We like to run and we like to play fast."

The Bulldogs, seeded fourth, had stormed past top-seeded Penn State 21-17 in Saturday's semifinals after the third-seeded Cavaliers nipped second-seeded Duke 13-12, snapping an 11-game losing streak to their ACC rival.

REGION 4D BOYS SOCCER

Blacksburg, JF renew prep rivalry

Winner of region semifinal will earn automatic berth in upcoming state tourney

By Ben Cates
bcates@newsadvance.com

On Friday, Scott Zaring showed his Jefferson Forest soccer players a video from 2011, when the Cavaliers won the state championship.

Their opponent that day: The Blacksburg Bruins.

The two teams already had a long history, mostly consisting of intense playoff games, by the time they met for that match eight years ago.

Tonight they'll clash in another elimination game, the Region 4D semifinals, which also will determine which squad grabs an automatic berth in the state tournament.

Blacksburg and JF last met in 2015, so current players don't have personal ties to the rivalry. That video, though, coupled with Blacksburg's ability to bounce the Cavaliers from the playoffs more than a handful of times over the years, would be enough to light a fire under any athlete.

"It was cool for them to see the history of the program, to see a team that won a state championship, and to be able to compare themselves to that team," Zaring said of the 2011 film. "It just put a little reality on the situation."

Now Forest (17-1-2) and the Bruins (19-2) will renew the rivalry at Sabre

SEE JF | B4



Zachary Hinton has helped Jefferson Forest to a 17-1-2 record this season.

Another wave of games

Twenty-five Lynchburg-area teams are still in high school playoff hunts across four divisions, while individual sports like singles and doubles tennis and track and field are still in full swing.

Tonight, 21 events are scheduled both in and out of the Lynchburg area. The heavy slate follows last Thursday's schedule, which featured nearly 30 events. Some teams hope to keep their dreams alive tonight in region quarterfinal events, while others can receive berths in upcoming state tournaments by virtue of winning region semifinal bouts. For a complete schedule of events, see B2.

FRENCH OPEN



Serena Williams plays a shot against Vitalia Diatchenko, of Russia, during their first-round match of the French Open on Monday.

Serena stomps to romp

By Howard Fendrich
The Associated Press

PARIS — This was one mistake too far for Serena Williams.

Sure, the bad backhand put her behind only 15-30 at the outset of the second set of her opening match at Roland Garros on Monday. What made the miscue so bothersome? She'd already

dropped the first set against 83rd-ranked Vitalia Diatchenko — and Williams' unforced error total already was

SEE SERENA | B4

LIBERTY BASEBALL

Region pairing reunites Jackson with mentors

By Damien Sordelett
dsordele@newsadvance.com

The emotions began bubbling up the moment Liberty baseball coach Scott Jackson saw the Flames' placement as the No. 3 seed in the Chapel Hill Regional Monday afternoon.

Jackson spent eight seasons as an assistant at North Carolina and considers

Tar Heels coach Mike Fox a mentor. Then the feel-good moment took another turn when UNC Wilmington was announced as the fourth seed, and Jackson was going to be reunited with Mark Scalf, the man who put him on the trajectory to be a successful Division I coach.

"It was a little bit emotional when those names popped up there because those two guys — Mike Fox and Mark

Scalf — they've meant a lot to me and have changed the course of my career," Jackson said Monday.

Jackson and the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament champion Flames (42-19) open regional play at 7 p.m. Friday against second-seeded Tennessee (38-19). The Tar Heels (42-17) are the

SEE MENTORS | B4

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

For LU, sixty minutes for 60 more



LEE LUTHER JR./FOR THE NEWS & ADVANCE

Liberty running back Frankie Hickson races downfield in front of Virginia defender Heskin Smith during the Flames' loss Saturday in Charlottesville.

Flames need a second victory over Aggies to become bowl eligible

By Damien Sordelet
dsordele@newsadvance.com

Sixty minutes for 60 more. Liberty football coach Hugh Freeze uttered those words Saturday to break the palpable disappointment in the Flames' locker room at Scott Stadium. The four-touchdown loss to Virginia particularly stung for the players, and Freeze wanted to shift the focus to a bigger picture. The Flames still control their destiny in becoming bowl eligible, and the



NEW MEXICO STATE (2-9)
AT LIBERTY (6-5)
College Football
2 p.m. Saturday; TV: ESPN+

regular-season finale at home Saturday against New Mexico State serves as the final opportunity to pick up the elusive seventh victory for a chance to play in a bowl game for the first time in program history.

"We've got 60 that are on the schedule and we've got a shot if we win those 60 to have 60 more to play together," Freeze said. "It should be fun to do, especially for these seniors."

Liberty is 6-5 and needs to defeat the Aggies to become bowl eligible in the program's first season as a full-fledged member of the Football Bowl Subdivision. The Flames need to reach the seven-win mark because two victories have come against Football Championship Subdivision programs (Hampton and Maine), and only one triumph counts toward bowl eligibility.

Freeze laid out his goals for the program when he met with the media during his introductory press conference nearly one year ago, and the one at the top of the list was getting Liberty to its first bowl game.

When he reiterated the team's primary objective following Saturday's

SEE LU | B3



NO. 23 VIRGINIA TECH (8-3, 5-2 ACC)
AT VIRGINIA (8-3, 5-2)
ACC Football
Noon, Friday; TV: ABC

Rivals are now focused on other

Virginia Tech, UVA also playing for ACC Coastal Division title

By Doug Doughty and Mike Niziolek
The Roanoke Times

ROANOKE — Virginia coach Bronco Mendenhall was not hesitant to move on to Friday's game with No. 23 Virginia Tech in the aftermath of the Cavaliers' 55-27 victory over Liberty on Saturday. There was more than one reason to address the subject.

Most importantly, Friday's Hokies-UVA game at Scott Stadium holds a winner-take-all scenario when it comes to claiming the Coastal Division title and a trip to the ACC Championship, where defending national champion Clemson awaits.

And then there's the streak — the one that tends to be a morale booster to Hokies' fans, but somewhat the opposite to Cavs' backers. Virginia Tech has not lost to Virginia since it joined the ACC in 2004 — a run that now includes 15 games.

That streak needs to end Friday if UVA wants to advance to a title game it has yet to play in since it was first played after the 2005 regular season.

Mendenhall had spoken about the Hokies on earlier occasions but clearly had morphed into Tech mode by the end of his press conference Saturday.

SEE FOCUSED | B3

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MAUI WOWIE



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

The Virginia Tech bench reacts to their team making a 3-point basket against Michigan State on Monday in the Maui Invitational in Lahaina, Hawaii. BELOW: Virginia Tech forward Landers Nolley II tries to get around Michigan State forward Malik Hall in the second half.

Hokies stun No. 3 Michigan St. in Hawaii as Nolley scores 22

By John Marshall
The Associated Press

LAHAINA, Hawaii — Landers Nolley II peeled off a screen and, without hesitation, let a 3-pointer fly from the wing. The ball dropped, giving Virginia Tech the cushion it needed to hold off No. 3 Michigan State.

One big shot, one massive victory for the Hokies.

Nolley hit that crucial 3-pointer in the final minute and scored 22 points, helping Virginia Tech outlast the Spartans 71-66 at the Maui Invitational on Monday.

"They believed in me," Nolley

said. "And I hit the shot."

Virginia Tech (6-0) had low expectations — at least outside the program — in coach Mike Young's first season in Blacksburg, picked to finish 14th in the Atlantic Coast Conference preseason poll.

The Hokies grinded through a back-and-forth second half before going up 10 with 4½ minutes left. Michigan State fought back to pull within one, but Nolley responded with a 3 for a 68-64 lead with 47 seconds left.

Virginia Tech made just enough free throws down the



SEE MAUI | B3

A holiday gift so good, you'll jump for



BOOK DETAILS: Hardcover, 144 pages • Historic photos of Central Virginia (Lynchburg and counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell) • Available now, while supplies last!



Order online and save with flat-rate shipping
CentralVirginia.PictorialBook.com
Expedited shipping available for Christmas delivery



Just released!
The News & Advance

Maui

From Page B1

stretch to earn a spot in today's semifinal against Dayton.

"That's a really good player making a big-league play," Virginia Tech coach Mike Young said. "It probably went a long way in getting us out of here with a win."

Michigan State (3-2) trailed 32-28 at halftime after preseason All-American Cassius Winston was limited to eight minutes because of two fouls.

Winston helped sparked a late run, but the Spartans couldn't finish it off. Aaron Henry led Michigan State with 18 points and Winston was held to seven on 2-of-8 shooting.

Michigan State has had a rough start to the season. The preseason AP No. 1, the Spartans lost starting guard Joshua Langford to a foot injury before the first game, and a week later, Winston's brother, Zachary, was hit and killed by a train.

"He was a shell of himself today," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said of Winston. "I think it's been a lot on him. I couldn't have gone through what that kid has gone through, no way. He just looked tired the whole time; I think because of the mental stress he's going through."

Michigan State lost its opening game to No. 9 Kentucky, but bounced back with three straight wins, including a hard-fought victory at No. 13 Seton Hall.

"That's a really good player making a big-league play. It probably went a long way in getting us out of here with a win."

— Mike Young,
on Landers Nolley's 3

Virginia Tech started the season 5-0 for the second straight season — a first since 1981-82 — but has a revamped roster under Young, who took over after Buzz Williams left for Texas A&M.

The new-look Hokies made a school-record 21 3-pointers against Delaware State in their previous game but had to play a more grinding style against the gritty Spartans.

Taking advantage of Winston's foul trouble, Virginia Tech pressured the Spartans into numerous mistakes, scoring 12 points off 11 turnovers before halftime.

"It's difficult to sit that long," Winston said. "I've got to be smarter than that, make better decisions for my team."

Big picture

Virginia Tech picked up the kind of determined, resume-building win that could look awfully good when Selection Sunday comes around.

Winston was not able to conjure up any magic and the Spartans clearly have some flaws to work out until Langford returns in January at the earliest.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Spiders bite Wisconsin

NEW YORK — Blake Francis scored a game-high 19 points to lead Richmond to a 62-52 win over Wisconsin in the first game of the Roman Legends Classic on Monday night at the Barclays Center.

Grant Golden added 16 points and 12 rebounds for Richmond (5-0), and Nathan Cayo had 10.

The loss snapped Wisconsin's (4-2) four-game winning streak. Nate Reuvers led the Badgers with 17 points, and Kobe King finished with 10.

George Mason 60, Old Dominion 53

GEORGE TOWN, Cayman Islands (AP) — Javon Greene posted 19 points as George Mason defeated Old Dominion in the Cayman Islands Classic.

AJ Wilson had 18 points for George Mason (6-1).

Xavier Green and Marquis Godwin added 12 points apiece for the Monarchs (3-3).

No. 20 VCU 78, Alabama State 62

RICHMOND — Marcus Evans scored 25 points and No. 20 VCU closed the first half on a big run in a victory against Alabama State.

Evans had 18 points in the first half, including 10 during the 26-7 burst that gave VCU (6-0) a 46-28 lead. The Rams led by 19 after halftime, and when the Hornets closed within 12 with nine minutes left, the Rams turned up their defense and scored the next seven points.

Tobi Ewuosho scored 17 points and Keivon Stewart 14 for Alabama State (0-5), which has played three AP Top 25 teams in its first five games.

ACC

Pittsburgh 63, Kansas State 59

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Xavier Johnson made a short jumper for the lead with 10.1 seconds left and then made two free throws at 4.6 seconds to help Pittsburgh top Kansas State in the Fort Myers Tip-Off.

After seeing a 57-51 lead disappear as they couldn't score for 3:56, the Panthers scored six points in the last 10.1. Two more free throws by Justin Champagnie after a K-State layup clinched it with 0.1 seconds left.

Ryan Murphy and Eric Hamilton, who had 12 rebounds, both scored 13



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Richmond guard Nick Sherod shoots over Wisconsin guard D'Mitrik Trice during the Legends Classic on Monday.

points for Pitt (5-2) while Johnson and Champagnie added 12 each.

Cartier Diarra scored 13 and Dajuan Gordon 12 — 10 straight in the first half — for Kansas State (4-1).

Arkansas 62, Georgia Tech 61, OT

ATLANTA — Mason Jones banked in a 3-point shot from the right wing with one-tenth of a second left in overtime, helping Arkansas stay unbeaten with a victory over Georgia Tech.

Georgia Tech took its first lead since the midway point of the first half on James Banks' short turnaround jumper with 22.3 seconds remaining, but Arkansas did not call time-out before Jones launched 25-footer to send the Yellow Jackets to their second straight loss.

Jones scored 24 points and Isaiah Joe had 13 for Arkansas (6-0), which won its first road game under coach Eric Musselman.

Banks had 20 points and 13 rebounds for Georgia Tech (2-2).

Florida State 113, Chicago State 56

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Devin Vassell and Patrick Williams scored 16 points apiece as Florida State had its best shooting night of the year in a win over Chicago State.

Nathanael Jack added 14 points for the Seminoles (5-1), who shot 73.3% in the first half as they took a 65-29 lead at the break.

Andrew Lewis scored 18 points for Chicago State (3-4).

TOP 25

No. 10 Ohio State 71, Kent State 52

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Kaleb Wesson scored 17 points and Ohio State recovered after a furious second-half rally from Kent State to pull away for a win.

The Buckeyes (6-0) led by as many as 17 points early in the second half. But the Golden Flashes (5-1) rallied to tie it midway through the second half. Ohio State then answered with 17 straight points to regain control.

Duane Washington Jr. added 16 points and Luther Muhammad chipped in 13 for the Buckeyes.

Danny Pippen had 19 points and Antonio Williams scored 17 for Kent State.

No. 17 Tennessee 58, Chattanooga 46

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Lamonte Turner had 17 points and 12 assists as Tennessee beat Chattanooga to extend the longest active home winning streak in Division I to 30 games.

Tennessee (5-0) hasn't lost at Thompson-Boling Arena since a 94-84 defeat to Auburn on Jan. 2, 2018.

ATLANTIC SUN

Lipscomb 78, Tennessee Tech 65

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. — KJ Johnson had 23 points while dishing out eight assists as Lipscomb topped Tennessee Tech.

Carson Cary nailed 5 of 8 from beyond the arc to total 15 points for Lipscomb (3-4).

From wire reports



ROANOKE TIMES FILE

Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente (left) and Virginia coach Bronco Mendenhall meet again Friday in Charlottesville for the Commonwealth Cup and the ACC Coastal Division title.

Focused

From Page B1

"It's a delicate balance because the reality is that the University of Virginia has not had much success in that game," Mendenhall said.

"Managing that could certainly be a contributing factor. However, we're talking now about an opponent that has qualified for [27] straight bowl games and has made a commitment to football that has lasted for a long time.

"We are making that commitment and are resurgent. Now that we've said all that, it becomes interference."

This is the third time the Cavs and Hokies have played with the championship game on the line. The Hokies won 33-21 at Charlottesville in 2007, and 38-0 in 2011, again at Scott Stadium.

Mendenhall is 0-3 against the Hokies, but things have improved since his first team lost 52-10 at Blacksburg in 2016. That was followed by a 10-0 loss at home in 2017 and a 34-31 overtime setback at Lane Stadium last

year.

"It really is all about the games, not anything else," he said. "Anything that allows us to drift out of that really works counter to our preparation."

Virginia Tech is going for its seventh trip to the title game. The Hokies were last there in 2016, but haven't been crowned ACC champions since beating Florida State 44-33 in the 2010 edition.

Certainly after their 45-10 home loss to Duke on Sept. 27 that dropped them to 0-2 in ACC play, the outlook at the time was not good for the Hokies. Since then, they have won six of seven and shut out their last two opponents to reach this point.

"I'm enjoying every moment with them," Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente said after his team's 28-0 win over Pittsburgh.

"They're a special group of young men. They've been through special circumstances and stuck together. So my feelings toward them haven't changed because they're winning games now. I'm more happy for them because they are getting some affirmation for their hard work."

LU

From Page B1

loss to UVa, the seniors understood the magnitude of what was in front of them and the need to quickly regain focus and prepare for the team's second meeting against NMSU this season.

"This is the biggest game of the season," senior quarterback Buckshot Calvert said. "... We've got to come out swinging and make big plays. Coach Freeze said it: Play 60 minutes for another 60 minutes. I think we've just got to have that mindset to play a whole 60 minutes, therefore we can reach our goal and play another 60 minutes after the regular season is over."

Liberty is one of 14 teams that can become bowl eligible with a victory this weekend.

Seventy-two teams have reached bowl eligibility with six spots avail-



LEE LUTHER JR./FOR THE NEWS & ADVANCE

Liberty wide receiver Noah Frith lands in the end zone after making a catch in the second quarter to give the Flames a short-lived 14-10 lead over Virginia on Saturday.

able in the 39-bowl game schedule.

The Aggies (2-9) enter the important matchup for Liberty as winners of two straight over Incarnate Word and Texas-El Paso.

The Flames opened as 14-point favorites and won the season's previous meeting 20-13.

"If we don't win, it's my last game ever in the collegiate ranks," redshirt senior running back Frankie Hick-

son said. "This game means a lot to the seniors, and it means a lot to all the other guys, too, for the seniors who have looked out for them and tried to make sure they are starting in the right direction. The game means a lot."

Liberty has a secondary tie-in agreement with the Cure Bowl that will open the door to an invite for LU to the Dec. 21 game in Orlando, Florida, if the American

Athletic and Sun Belt conferences can not fill their respective bowl slots.

Both conferences have enough bowl eligible teams to fill their slots (AAC with seven and Sun Belt with five), and if either Memphis or Cincinnati remains as the top Group of 5 team in the final College Football Playoff rankings, that would open the AAC's slot for the Flames to go bowling.

"It's definitely important to get another chance to play another football game," redshirt senior rover Elijah Benton said.

"It really is bigger than me; it's bigger than the seniors. It's what a win would do for the program to make it to the first bowl game. It's a legacy that will never be able to be erased. It's the first time that we'll be bowl eligible to make it to a bowl game. That's really the biggest goal."

Damien Sordelett covers Liberty athletics for The News & Advance. Reach him at (434) 385-5550.