

VIRGINIA TECH[®]

MEN'S BASKETBALL



#16/15 VIRGINIA TECH
(25-8, 12-6 ACC)

vs.
Liberty
(29-6, 14-2 ASUN)

2019 NCAA Tournament

SAP Center (17,496)
San Jose, California
March 24, 2019



2018-19 SCHEDULE

(25-8, 12-6)

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
11/ 4	Hurricane Relief Exhibition (Lynchburg, Va.) at Liberty	W	86-70
11/ 9	GARDNER-WEBB (ACCNE)	W	87-59
	Charleston Classic (Charleston, S.C.)		
11/15	vs. Ball State (ESPN2)	W	73-64
11/16	vs. Northeastern (ESPN2)	W	88-60
11/18	#23/22 PURDUE (ESPN2)	W	89-83
11/24	ST. FRANCIS (PA) (ACCNE)	W	75-37
	Big Ten/ACC Challenge (University Park, Pa.)		
11/27	at Penn State (ESPN2)	L	62-63
12/ 1	CCSU (ACCNE)	W	94-40
12/ 5	VMI (ACCNE)	W	89-68
12/ 9	SC STATE (ACCNE)	W	81-44
	Boardwalk Classic (Atlantic City, N.J.)		
12/15	vs. Washington (ESPNU)	W	73-61
12/19	NC A&T (ACCNE)	W	82-60
12/28	UMES (ACCNE)	W	85-40
1/ 1	NOTRE DAME* (ESPNU)	W	81-66
1/ 5	BOSTON COLLEGE* (RSN)	W	77-66
1/ 9	at Georgia Tech* (RSN)	W	52-49
1/15	at #4/1 Virginia* (Raycom)	L	59-81
1/19	WAKE FOREST* (RSN)	W	87-71
1/21	at #11/12 UNC* (ESPN)	L	82-103
1/26	SYRACUSE* (ESPN)	W	78-56
1/30	at Miami* (ESPN2)	W	82-70
2/ 2	at #23/22 NC State* (Raycom)	W	47-24
2/ 4	#16/17 LOUISVILLE* (ESPN)	L	64-72
2/ 9	at Clemson* (ESPN2)	L	51-59
2/13	GEORGIA TECH* (Raycom)	W	76-68
2/16	at Pittsburgh* (RSN)	W	70-64
2/18	#3/3 VIRGINIA* (ESPN)	L	58-64
2/23	at Notre Dame* (ESPN)	W	67-59
2/26	#3/2 DUKE* (ESPN)	W	77-72
3/ 5	at #14/13 FSU* (ESPNU)	L	64-73 (OT)
3/ 8	MIAMI* (ESPN2)	W	84-70
3/13	vs. Miami^ (ESPN/Raycom)	W	71-56
3/14	vs. #12/13 FSU^ (ESPN/Ray)	L	63-65 (OT)
	NCAA East Regional (San Jose, Ca.)		
3/22	vs. Saint Louis (truTV)	W	66-52
3/24	vs. Liberty	7:10 p.m.	TBS

* - Atlantic Coast Conference Games
^ - ACC Tournament Games

HOKIE NOTES

Entering Today's Game

The Hokies enter the game 25-8 on the season ... Liberty is 29-6 overall ... The Hokies are 16th in the AP poll and 15th in the USA Today Coaches poll ... Tech is the 4th seed in the East Region and Liberty is the 12th seed ... The game will be played in San Jose, California.

Last Game: #16/15 VT 66, SLU 52

The Hokies won their first NCAA Tournament game since 2007 with a 66-52 victory over Saint Louis on Friday night in San Jose ... **Nickeil Alexander-Walker** led all scorers with 20 points and **Kerry Blackshear Jr.** added 15 points in the win ... **Ahmed Hill** added 10 points in the win ... The Hokies led for more than 37 minutes and forced SLU into 18 turnovers.

The Hokies vs. Liberty

The Hokies are 14-3 all-time against the Flames ... Tech has won the last two meetings, most recently, a 73-63 victory on Nov. 19, 2014 in Cassell Coliseum ... The Hokies have never faced Liberty in the post-season.

He's Back

Sunday March 17 was a day of big news for the Hokies ... Not only did Tech receive its third consecutive NCAA Tournament bid, the Hokies also received word that senior point guard, **Justin Robinson**, had been cleared by the medical staff to return to action ... Robinson has missed the last 12 games with a left foot injury ... The school's all-time leader in assists, Robinson played more than 27 minutes, scored nine points and had two assists.

It's Been a Long Time

The Hokies defeated Saint Louis, 66-52, in the first round of the NCAA East Regional in San Jose, California on Friday night ... The win marked the Hokies' first NCAA Tournament victory since defeating Illinois, 54-52, on March 16, 2007 ... Tech is now 7-10 all-time in NCAA Tournament games.

An Exhibition

The Hokies and Flames met this season in an exhibition game on Nov. 4 to benefit hurricane relief efforts ... Tech won, 86-70, in Lynchburg ... **Justin Robinson** led five Hokies in double figures with 20 points, while **Isaiah Wilkins** added 16 points in his first collegiate action.

TOP TOPICS

- ❖ The Hokies are No. 16 in the AP poll and No. 15 in the USA Today/Coaches poll
- ❖ The Hokies are the 4th seed in the East Region of the NCAA Tournament
- ❖ This year's 4th seed is the highest in school history
- ❖ The Hokies have tied the school record for wins in a season at 25
- ❖ **Justin Robinson** returned to action in the win over Saint Louis after missing the previous 12 games with a left foot injury.



Virginia Tech Hokies

Buzz Williams

Overall:	252-154 (12 years)
School:	99-68 (5 years)
ACC Record:	44-46
Home Record:	66-22
Road Record:	19-34
Neutral Record:	14-12

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: @hokiesports & @HokiesMBB

Instagram: HokiesMBB

Snapchat: Hokiesports

#Hokies

BROADCAST

Radio

Virginia Tech IMG Sports Network
Jon Laaser & Mike Burnop

Sirius: 138 **XM:** 207 **Internet:** 974

TV/Internet

TBS/NCAA.com

Spero Dedes, Steve Smith, Jim Jackson & Ros Gold-Onwude

National Radio

Westwood One

Chris Carrino & Mike Montgomery



GAME 34



VIRGINIA TECH[®]

MEN'S BASKETBALL

San Jose and the NAAs

The Hokies is playing in the East Regional at the SAP Center in San Jose, California ... This is Virginia Tech's third consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance and its fourth as a member of the ACC ... This is the Hokies' first appearance in San Jose ... This is the Hokies' fourth all-time appearance in the East Regional, and third consecutive ... Tech is 7-10 all-time in NCAA Tournament games.

Odd & Ends from Friday Night

Tech led, 40-18 at the half ... The 18 points by Saint Louis are the fewest points Tech has allowed in any half in an NCAA Tournament game ... The 22-point lead is the largest halftime lead for the Hokies in any NCAA Tournament game ... The 52 points by SLU is tied for the second fewest (along with the Illinois game in the 2007 tournament) allowed by the Hokies in an NCAA Tournament game ... Tech allowed Wisconsin-Green Bay 48 points in the first round of the 1996 NCAA Tournament.

This is New

Two years ago, the Hokies made the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 10 years ... Last year made it two in a row ... With this season's bid, Tech will be making an NCAA appearance in three consecutive seasons for the first time in school history ... **Buzz Williams** has led the Hokies to three NCAA Tournament appearances, second only to Charles Moir, who took Tech to four NCAA Tournaments.

They Are the Champions

The Hokies had great success against conference champions this season ... Tech is a combined 7-3 against both tournament and regular season champions from Division I conferences, including a perfect 4-0 against tournament champions ... Although it doesn't count, Tech defeated the ASUN champion, Liberty, in an exhibition game on the Flames' home court.

Tournament

ACC (Duke).....	1-0
Big South (Gardner-Webb).....	1-0
Colonial (Northeastern).....	1-0
Atlantic 10 (Saint Louis).....	1-0

Regular Season

ACC (UVa/UNC).....	0-3
Big Ten (Purdue).....	1-0
Northeast (St. Francis PA).....	1-0
PAC 12 (Washington).....	1-0

A New High

The Hokies are the fourth seed in the East Region ... That marks the highest the Hokies have ever been seeded in an NCAA Tournament ... The previous high was a fifth seed in the 2007 tournament.

The Hokies vs. NCAA Field

Virginia Tech has played 11 teams in the 2019 NCAA Tournament field, the six others from the ACC, plus Northeastern, Washington, Purdue, Gardner-Webb and Saint Louis ... Tech is a combined 7-6 in those game ... Tech defeated top East Region seed, Duke this year ... Tech now 2-1 vs. teams in the East Region.

Do We Know the Way to San Jose?

The Hokies have made the cross-country trip to San Jose for the first time ... Dallas, Texas was the farthest west Tech had ever played an NCAA Tournament game before the win over Saint Louis ... The last time the Hokies played a game in California was two seasons ago, when Tech played in the Wooden Legacy in Anaheim.

Buzz in the NCAA Tournament

This is the eighth time that **Buzz Williams** has led his team to the NCAA Tournament in his 12th season as a head coach ... Williams has also led his teams to two NIT appearances ... Williams is 9-7 all-time in NCAA Tournament competition ... Below is a list of his opponents in NCAA Tournament play:

Alabama	0-1
Butler	1-0
BYU	1-0
Davidson	1-0
Florida	0-1
Miami	1-0
Missouri	0-1
Murray State	1-0
North Carolina	0-1
Saint Louis	1-0
Syracuse	1-1
Utah State	1-0
Washington	0-1
Wisconsin	0-1
Xavier	1-0

A More Veteran Group

Entering the 2019 NCAA Tournament, seven Hokies had appeared in an NCAA Tournament game ... **Justin Robinson, Kerry Blackshear Jr., Ty Outlaw, Nickeil Alexander-Walker, P.J. Horne, Wabissa Bede** and **Ahmed Hill** have appeared in an NCAA Tournament game during their Virginia Tech careers.

Tech on a Neutral Court

Following the win over Saint Louis, Tech is 6-1 in neutral court games this season ... Tech is 11-6 in neutral site games under **Buzz Williams** ... The Hokies are 30-22 in neutral site games since joining the ACC in the 2004-05 season and 33-26 since 2000-01, the season Tech joined the Big East Conference.

The Hokies vs. Atlantic Sun

The Hokies have never played an Atlantic Sun Conference member in the NCAA Tournament, but are 1-0 against teams currently in the league ... In the 1979 tournament, Tech defeated Jacksonville, 70-53, in Lawrence, Kansas ... This will be the first ASUN team Tech has played this season ... Tech is now 18-4 all-time against teams currently in the ASUN.

Compare & Contrast

VT	LU
73.8.....	Points..... 74.2
61.8.....	Points Allowed..... 61.2
47.4%.....	FG%..... 49.0%
40.4%.....	FG% Defense..... 41.7%
39.4%.....	3FG%..... 37.1%
32.8%.....	3FG% Defense..... 32.1%
76.0%.....	FT%..... 77.3%
32.5.....	Rebounds..... 32.6
+2.4.....	Rebound Margin..... +2.1
15.2.....	Assists..... 14.9
11.4.....	Turnovers..... 10.9
6.7.....	Steals..... 6.3
2.2.....	Blocks..... 2.6

VT in the NCAA Tournament

Here is a list of Virginia Tech vs. opponents in the NCAA Tournament.

VT versus...

Alabama.....	0-1
Dayton.....	0-1
Illinois.....	1-0
Indiana.....	1-1
Indiana State.....	0-1
Jacksonville.....	1-0
Kentucky.....	0-1
Saint Louis.....	1-0
Southern Illinois.....	0-1
Temple.....	0-1
Toledo.....	1-0
Villanova.....	0-1
Western Kentucky.....	1-0
Western Michigan.....	0-1
Wisconsin.....	0-1
Wisconsin-Green Bay.....	1-0
Total	7-10

VIRGINIA TECH[®]

MEN'S BASKETBALL



ACC Honors KJ & NAW

Kerry Blackshear Jr. and **Nickeil Alexander-Walker** have been named to All-ACC teams, in voting by a panel of coaches, media and broadcasters ... Blackshear was named to the second team All-ACC, while Alexander-Walker was named to the third team ... This is the first time either player has been named to an All-ACC team.

Being Ranked

The Hokies are currently ranked 16th in the AP poll ... Tech is ranked for the 20th consecutive week (including the preseason poll), the longest streak in preseason and the regular season in school history ... Tech was ranked for 17 consecutive weeks in the 1995-96 season, plus the Final AP Poll of that season.

The Big 250!

The Hokies defeat Miami, 84-70, on Friday night, March 8, 2019 ... In doing so, **Buzz Williams** earned his 250th career victory ... Williams earned his 200th career win in 2017, in a home win over Boston College ... Williams needs just one win to reach 100 victories at Virginia Tech.

Thank You Seniors

In the Hokies' 84-70 win on March 8 in the team's Senior Night game, two seniors came up BIG for Tech ... Making their final appearance on Carilion Clinic Court at Cassell Coliseum, both **Ahmed Hill** and **Ty Outlaw** lit up the arena ... Outlaw was 5-of-9 from three-point range, scoring 19 points and Hill was 5-for-5 from three, scoring 17 points ... The duo shot a combined 61.1 percent from the field, including 71.4 percent from beyond the arc ... **Justin Robinson** got the ceremonial start after missing the last nine games with a foot injury.

Big Classroom Honor

When the ACC announced its 2019 All-Atlantic Coast Conference Academic Men's Basketball team on March 8, four Hokies were on the 25-man team ... Graduate students **Ahmed Hill** and **Justin Robinson**, along with sophomores **Nickeil Alexander-Walker** and **Wabissa Bede** were honored for their work in the classroom ... Tech's four players on the team is the second-most of any ACC team, trailing only Louisville's six honorees ... This is the second time that Robinson has been named to the team.

ACC Tournament Odds & Ends

In the win over Miami in the ACC Tournament, Tech made 11 three-point field goals, topping the school's previous record for three-pointers in an ACC Tournament game of 10, set two years ago against Wake Forest ... **Kerry Blackshear Jr.'s** double-double was the Hokies' first double-double in an ACC Tournament game since Zach LeDay had 31 points and 15 rebounds in the win over Wake Forest in 2017 ... Tech has had a total of nine double-doubles in ACC Tournament play ... The Hokies' 65-63 overtime loss to Florida State was Tech's first-ever ACC Tournament overtime game.

That Makes 3

The Hokies defeated Miami, 71-56, Wednesday in the ACC Tournament ... This marked the Hokies' third win over the Hurricanes in as many tries this season ... It is the first time Tech has a 3-game season sweep on an opponent since Tech joined the ACC in the 2004-05 season and the first time since Tech beat Southern Miss three times in the 1982-83 season while a member of the Metro Conference.

Big Honor on a Big Day

Ty Outlaw was named the recipient of the 13th annual Bob Bradley Spirit and Courage Award from the Atlantic Coast Sports Media Association (ACSMA) and the Atlantic Coast Conference ... A joint venture of the ACC and ACSMA, the Bradley Award is given annually in memory of Bob Bradley, the Hall of Fame sports information director at Clemson University whose positive attitude inspired all who knew him as he battled cancer ... The award goes to an ACC student-athlete, coach, administrator, or other personnel in men's or women's basketball who has overcome significant hardship to contribute to his or her team, or to society as a whole ... The award was presented before the Hokies' game against Miami in the first round of the ACC Tournament ... Outlaw went out and scored 14 points in the Virginia Tech win, going 4-8 from three-point range.

Uncharted Territory

The Hokies finished the regular season 12-6 in ACC action ... That marks the most ACC wins in a season for the Hokies since joining the league in the 2004-05 season ... Tech had won 10 games in an ACC season five times previously, including each of the last three years.

NAW on Offense vs. MIA

In the win at Miami, **Nickeil Alexander-Walker** scored 25 points, tying his career-high in an ACC game ... For the ninth time this season, Alexander-Walker dropped 20 or more points ... In the home win over the Hurricanes, NAW recorded his first career double-double, with 21 points and 10 rebounds, to go along with eight assists... The Toronto native averaged 19.3 points, 5.7 rebounds and 6.3 assists in the three games against Miami this season.

KJ Reaches 1,000

Kerry Blackshear Jr., scored his 1,000th career point in the home UVa game, becoming just the 48th player in Virginia Tech history to reach 1,000 points ... He joins teammates **Ahmed Hill** and **Justin Robinson** on the 1,000-career point list at Tech ... He grabbed his 500th career rebound at Clemson ... The Hokies are one of only 11 teams in Division I to boast three players with 1,000 career points ... Blackshear is tied with Brian Chase for 41st place in school history with 1,115 points.

The Big 24 and 12

The Hokies won their 25th game of the season on March 22, in the NCAA Tournament against Saint Louis ... This is the earliest the Hokies have reached the 25-win mark in school history and only the third time Tech has ever won 25 games in a season ... The Hokies also won their 12th ACC game in the home win over Miami ... This marks the most ACC wins since joining the ACC in the 2004-05 season.

Virginia Tech Wins in a Season

25	1994-95
25	2009-10
25	2018-19

Regular Season Wins

The Hokies finished the 2018-19 regular season 23-7 overall ... The 23 victories are tied for the most victories in a regular season, tying the 23 regular season wins in the 2009-10 season.

Climbing the Lists

Ahmed Hill is now in 19th place in career scoring at Virginia Tech with 1,444 career points, after passing Deron Washington in the home win over Miami ... **Justin Robinson** is 23rd in career scoring at Virginia Tech with 1,356 points ... **Kerry Blackshear Jr.** is in 41st place with 1,115 points.



VIRGINIA TECH[®]

MEN'S BASKETBALL

More About the Numbers

With the 25 wins this season, Tech has recorded four consecutive 20-win seasons, second-best in school history ... Tech recorded five consecutive 20-win seasons from the 1981-82 season through the 1985-86 season ... With the 12 conference wins, Tech will have a winning conference record for the fourth consecutive season ... That is the longest such streak since joining the ACC in the 2004-05 season.

Getting on Track

In the win over Saint Francis, **Ty Outlaw** was 5-of-9 from three-point range ... Outlaw entered the game with just four made three-pointers in the first four games ... Outlaw followed that by going 4-of-5 from behind the arc at Penn State and followed that with a 3-of-5 effort in the win over Central Connecticut State ... He was 6-of-12 in the home win over Georgia Tech and 5-9 in the Senior Night win over Miami ... He is 133-of-282 in this Tech career, for 47.2 percent ... He is on track to become the Virginia Tech career leader in three-point percentage, surpassing former teammate Justin Bibbs' record of 42.4 percent.

Looking in the Mirror

This season, the Hokies had Georgia Tech and Notre Dame as its mirror opponents, along with permanent rivals Virginia and Miami ... Tech finished the regular season 6-2 in those eight games and swept the Yellow Jackets, Fighting Irish and Hurricanes in the process ... Tech added to that with a win over Miami in the second round of the 2019 ACC Tournament.

Board Talk

Virginia Tech grabbed an ACC game season-high of 18 offensive rebounds at Notre Dame ... The last time Tech had more than 18 offensive rebounds in an ACC game was Feb. 27, 2010, when it grabbed 20 offensive rebounds at home against Maryland, in double overtime ... The school record for offensive rebounds in a regulation ACC game is 20, set on Jan. 26, 2008 at Boston College ... Tech grabbed a season-high 49 rebounds at Notre Dame ... The last time Tech grabbed at least 49 rebounds in a non-overtime ACC game was on Feb. 17, 2005, 49 rebounds in a home win over Duke ... The last time the Hokies had more than 49 rebounds in a non-overtime ACC game was on Feb. 26, 2008, 50 rebounds in a road win at Boston College.

KJ in February

Kerry Blackshear Jr. averaged 20.5 points and 9.4 rebounds per game in the month of February ... He scored in double figures in all eight games in February and scored at least 20 points in four straight of the eight games ... Blackshear played all 40 minutes against Duke for just the second time this season and the second time in the past three games.

Take a 3, Make a 3

Virginia Tech is eighth nationally and second in the ACC in three-point field goal percentage, at 39.4 percent ... Tech has made at least 10 three-pointers in 17 of the 33 games this season, including a school-record 18 made three-pointers in the win over Central Connecticut State.

KJ Doubles

In the win over Central Connecticut State, **Kerry Blackshear Jr.** recorded his first double-double of the season, with 12 points and 13 rebounds ... It was the first for the Hokies this season and the first by any Hokie since **Justin Robinson** had 10 points and 12 assists at Boston College on Jan. 31, 2018 ... With his 23 points and 10 rebounds in the win over Duke, Blackshear now has seven double-doubles this season, including double-doubles in the last three games ... He has six of his double-doubles this season against ACC competition and has 11 double-doubles for his career ... This is the first time a Hokie has had double-doubles in three consecutive games since Jeff Allen in the 2010-11 season.

From The Line

The Hokies have made 435 of 572 free throw attempts (76.0 percent) ... Tech shot 78.2 percent from the line in ACC regular season competition, setting a new school record ... This broke the old mark of 75.5 percent set in the 2010-11 season ... The school record for overall field goal percentage in a season is 75.0 percent in the 1980-81 season ... Tech is second in the ACC in free throw percentage overall and in conference games.

Buzz Williams Facts

Buzz Williams has a record of 252-154 in his 12th season as a collegiate head coach ... He is 99-68 at Virginia Tech ... With the 99 wins, Williams is sixth in career wins at Tech.

More from the Line

Virginia Tech set a season high at Clemson, making 16 of 17 from the line for 94.1, bettering the game at North Carolina, when Tech was 15 of 16 from the line, for 93.8 percent ... The 94.1 percent is the second-highest free throw percentage for the Hokies in an ACC game and the best percentage when attempting at least 15 free throws ... Tech shot 92.3 percent from the line in the regular season finale win over Miami, seventh-best in school history in ACC games ... The free throw percentages of the Clemson, North Carolina and Miami games are in the Hokies' top ten in ACC games ... Tech has made better than 80 percent from the line in 13 games so far this season and seven of its ACC games.

Vs. Ranked Teams

With the loss to No. 12 Florida State in the ACC Tournament, the Hokies are 3-6 against ranked teams this season ... Before the win at NC State, Tech's last previous road win vs. a ranked team was Feb. 10, 2018, when Tech defeated No. 2 Virginia in Charlottesville, 61-60 in overtime ... Before the Duke win, Tech's previous win over a Top 5 team was on Feb. 26, 2018, a 64-63 home win over No. 5 Duke, exactly one year earlier ... The Hokies have now defeated at least one Top 5 ranked team in each of the last four seasons.

Wins over Top 10 Teams Under Buzz Williams

Feb. 26, 2019	77-72 vs. #3 Duke
Feb. 26, 2018	64-63 vs. #5 Duke
Feb. 10, 2018	61-60 (OT) at #2 UVa
Jan. 22, 2018	80-69 vs. #10 UNC
Dec. 31, 2016	89-75 vs. #5 Duke
March 5, 2016	77-62 vs. #7 Miami
Jan. 4, 2016	70-68 vs. #4 UVa

More About 5

In the record-breaking night against Syracuse, **Justin Robinson** also set a new Tech record for three-point field goals in a game, with nine ... The nine 3s is tied for fourth-best in ACC history ... That breaks the old mark of eight, set two seasons ago against Miami by teammate **Ty Outlaw** ... Robinson's 35 points is also a career-high and is tied for second in Virginia Tech school history for points in an ACC game, trailing on Malcolm Delaney's 37 points against Clemson in 2009 ... The 35 points is tied for the fourth-highest total by an ACC player this season and the nine three-pointers are the most by an ACC player this season.