

RGINIASOFIE

2021 VIRGINIA SOFTBALL GAME NOTES

@UVASOFTBALL

2021 SCHEDULE

FEBR	UARY	
RED & 13	BLACK SHOWCASE (Athens, Ga.)	1.25
13	at #14 Georgia South Alabama	L, 2-5 W, 9-4
14	South Alabama	CANCÉLED
	at #14 Georgia	CANCELED
	OD (Raleigh-Durham, N.C.) - All Ga	
18 19	vs. Louisville*(Raleigh, N.C.)	CANCELED
20	vs. Pittsburgh* (Durham, N.C.) vs. Louisville* (Durham, N.C.)	L, 4-7 L, 4-5
20	vs. Pittsburgh* (Durham, N.C.)	W. 4-2
21	vs. Louisville* (Raleigh, N.C.) vs. Pittsburgh* (Raleigh, N.C.)	L, 0-4
	vs. Pittsburgh* (Raleigh, N.C.)	W, 12-3
CAVAL	IER CLASSIC (Charlottesville, Va.)	
27	JMU CEODOE WASHINGTON	L, 1-5
28	GEORGE WASHINGTON GEORGE WASHINGTON	W, 3-2 W, 4-3 (9 Inn.)
	GEORGE WASHINGTON	W, 3-1
MARC	н	
5	CLEMSON*	L, 1-9 (5 Inn.)
6	CLEMSON*	L, 3-5
7	CLEMSON* CLEMSON*	L, 2-4 L, 1-8
9	VIRGINIA TECH	POSTPONED
12	at Duke*	5 PM
13	at Duke*	1 PM
14	at Duke* at Duke*	3 PM 1 PM
19	NC STATE*	5 PM
20	NC STATE*	1 PM
	NC STATE*	3 PM
21 23	NC STATE* at Liberty	12 PM 6 PM
23 24	at Virginia Tech	4 PM
30	VIRGINIA TECH	6 PM
APRIL		
1	BOSTON COLLEGE*	5 PM
2	BOSTON COLLEGE*	3 PM
•	BOSTON COLLEGE*	6 PM
3	BOSTON COLLEGE*	1 PM

	DUSIUN CULLEUE	O PIVI
3	BOSTON COLLEGE*	1 PM
6	LIBERTY	4 PM
9	at North Carolina*	TBA
10	at North Carolina*	TBA
	at North Carolina*	TBA
11	at North Carolina*	TBA
16	at Notre Dame*	5 PM
17	at Notre Dame*	1 PM
	at Notre Dame*	3 PM
18	at Notre Dame*	12 PM
23	SYRACUSE*	6 PM
24	SYRACUSE*	1 PM
	SYRACUSE*	3 PM
25	SYRACUSE*	12 PM
30	at Georgia Tech*	4 PM
MAY		
1	at Georgia Tech*	2 PM
-	at Georgia Tech*	5 PM
2	at Georgia Tech*	12 PM
	5	



LEADING OFF

· Virginia returns to the road this weekend, traveling to play a four-game series at Duke against the 13th-ranked Blue Devils.

· It will be the second trip to play at the Duke Softball Stadium this season after Virginia opeend ACC competition in ACC pod play at Duke against Pitt and Louisville.

- · Virginia scored first in the final three games of the four-game series against Clemson last weekend, though the Tigers rallied to win each game in that stretch.
- · Duke and Virginia have faced each other six times since the inception of the Blue Devil program in 2018 with Duke holding a 5-1 lead in the all-time series.

·Virginia's win in the series came in the middle fame of the three-game set in 2019 at the Park when the Cavaliers took a 2-1 victory.

HOO TO WATCH

SAVANA AVILLA • SR • IF/OF

·The senior infielder/outfielder has found a rhythm at the plate, hitting safely in eight of the last nine games.

· Avilla had a seven-game hit streak snapped in game two of the doubleheader against Clemson last weekend.

· In her current stretch at the plate, she has gone 10-for-26 and is batting at a .385 clip. · Avilla enters the weekend haivng reached

base safely in nine consecutive games.

· Opened the 2020 season with an 11-game hit streak in the shortened season.



PALMER PARK

• Virginia opened its new stadium, Palmer Park, on March 3, 2020 against JMU. Palmer Park is named after former Cavalier pitcher Lisa Palmer and her mother Fran. The Palmers were the lead contributors to the stadium project.

 The Cavaliers hosted a dedication ceremony for Palmer Park prior to Virginia's matchup against Virginia Tech on Friday, March 6, 2020.

• Palmer Park is a state-of-the-art facility which houses all of the Cavaliers' needs. Within the confines of Palmer Park is the team locker room and lounge, athletic training room, meeting rooms and a brand new indoor facility.

• Lisa Palmer pitched for the Cavaliers from 1986-89, establishing school records in wins (74), innings pitched (861.2), complete games (102) and games started (112). She still holds the UVA single-season records for wins (27), shutouts (14) and assists (221).



RECORD WHEN

Overall6-9

Conference2-7

Home Games......3-5

2021 VIRGINIA SOFTBALL GAME NOTES

IN THE CIRCLE

8 MORGAN MURPHY | RHP | So. | Chesapeake, Va. | Grasslands

- Picked up her first win with a start against George Washington (2/27) this past weekend
 Did not see action in 2020 as she planned to redshirt
- · Ranked as the No. 97 prospect by Extra Inning Softball and No. 113 by FloSoftball
- Four-time 6A Region Player of the Year and All-State selection
- · Four-time All-Conference and All-Tidewater
- · 2017 Chesapeake Sports Club Player of the Year

· 2019 Chesapeake Sports Club Female Athlete of the Year

16 CLARE ZUREICH | LHP | Jr. | Cary, N.C. | Cardinal Gibbons

• Ranked as the No. 70 prospect in the class of 2018 by FloSoftball • Came in as the No. 80 prospect in the ExtraInning Elite 100 • PGF Southeast All-American Team selection

17 MOLLY GRUBE | RHP | So. | Chesterfield, Va. | Manchester



VIRGINI

- · 2018 & 2019 VHSL All-State selection
- · 2019 Class 6, Region B Player of the Year
- · 2019 Richmond-Times Dispatch All-Metro Player of the Year
- $\cdot\,2019$ RTD and Richmond Sports Backers Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year

18 ALY RAYLE | RHP | Jr. | Herndon, Va. | South Lakes

- Finished 2020 second in ACC with 9.0 strikeouts per seven inning (50th nationally)
 Opponents hit just .188 off her in the shortened 2020 season and held a 2.91 ERA
 Went 10-13 as a freshman in the 2019 season
- \cdot Earned all three wins at NC State in 2019, first UVA pitcher to sweep a series since 2010 \cdot Threw UVA's first 1-hitter since 2013 and her first career shutout in game one against NCST \cdot Went 5-5 against non-ACC foes with a 3.59 ERA
- $\cdot \text{Allowed}$ more than three runs just once against non-conference foes in 18 outings

19 MACKENZIE WOOTEN | RHP | So. | Windsor, Va. | Isle of Wight

Earned first collegiate win against Charlotte (2/7/20) throwing 4.2 scoreless relief innings
 Made 15 appearances and two starts in the circle in the shortened 2020 season
 2018 & 2019 All-Metro Conference MVP

Four-time All-Metro selection

• Helped IWA to 2018 state title with a 0.96 ERA in 116 2/3 innings while striking out 159 • Three-sport star at IWA, earning all-conference in softball, basketball and cross country • Three-time VISAA Division II All-State selection

24 MADISON HARRIS | RHP | Fr. | Forest, Va. | Brookville

- \cdot Picked up a win and a save last weekend in Cavalier Classic both against GW
- No. 91 Overall recruit in the class of 2020
- 2019 Seminole District Pitcher of the Year • Two-time All-Region and All-District selection
- Struck out 182 batters in 119 innings as a junior to record a 0.82 ERA

• Pitched for the inaugural Team USA U17 squad in the Pan-American Games in 2019 • Struck out 22 batters in 11 innings to help the U.S. to a gold medal

25 MIKAYLA HOUGE | RHP | Fr. | Collina, Iowa | Collins-Maxwell

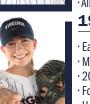
Struck out 12 in 6.1 innings in her start against Pittsburgh (2/20) for her first career win
 2019 Iowa Gatorade HS Player of the Year & 2019 Ames Tribune Female Athlete of the Year
 Led Collins-Maxwell to two Iowa state championships and another runner-up finish
 NFCA High School All-American and first team pitcher

- Four-time first team All-State selection
- Three-time all-state tournament team and two-time captain • 103 career wins and 1.102 career strikeouts
- 103 career wins and 1,102 career strikeouts

Away Games......0-1 Night Games.....1-0 vs. Left Starter0-1 5+ Run Games......2-2 Shutouts.....0-1 Scoring 10+ Runs1-0 Scored in 1st Inning......2-2 Opp. Scored in 1st......0-2 Trailing.....2-4 Tied0-1 After 6 Leading5-1 Trailing......0-7 1 Home Run......0-2 1 Home Run......2-5 2+ Home Runs0-1 Made 0 Errors.....1-1 Opp. Made 0 Errors.....0-4 2+ Errors.....0-2 Out-hit by Opponent2-6 Hits are Tied0-0 In Doubleheader.....2-2 vs. Ranked Teams.....0-1 On Monday......0-0 On Tuesday0-0 On Wednesday0-0 On Thursday.....0-0



2021 VIRGINIA SOFTBALL









2021 VIRGINIA SOFTBALL GAME NOTES

RETURNING HOOS TO WATCH AT THE PLATE

WORTH A NOTE



2021 VIRGINIA SOFTBALL



WEEK 5 - at Duke

NOTING THE HOOS

TRIO LEAD UVA IN OPENING WEEKEND

 \cdot Kate Covington, Donna Friedman and Katie Goldberg led the Hoos at the plate in the opening weeked as the trio hit for power and average.

•The three players all hit over .400 and combined for two doubles, three home runs, four runs scored and eight RBI.

 \cdot In all, the three players provided eight of the 11 hits on the weekend and eight of the nine RBI.

HOOS BACK

•Virginia returns 18 players from a year ago and nine position players who made at least 18 starts through the 22 games played.

•At the plate, Virginia's returning players accounted for all 14 home runs and 77-of-78 RBI. The returning crew scored all 89 runs last season for the Cavaliers.

• In the circle, Virginia's returning staff accounted for

136.2 innings of work out of 151.1 last season. • That group of four returning hurlers amassed 140-of-148 strikeouts.

NEW FACES IN THE CROWD

• Virginia welcomed five signees to Grounds for the 2021 campaign that comprised a top-30 recruiting class. • Among the signees were three players ranked among the top 100 recruits with Leah Boggs (No. 55), Madison Harris (No. 91) and Lauren VanAssche (No. 95). • Virginia also added a transfer prior to the start of the 2021 campaign with Gabby Baylog from Coastal Carolina.

HOOS NEW IN THE CIRCLE

•Virginia welcomes a pair of new faces to the circle this season with the addition of Madison Harris and Mikayla Houge.

• Harris was the No. 91 overall recruit in the 2020 class and was a member of the inaugural Team USA U17 squad in the 2019 Pan-American Games - striking out 22 batters in 11 innings as the US won gold. • Houge was the 2019 Iowa Gatorade HS Player of the

Year and the Ames Tribune Female Athlete of the Year. She was also a four-time All-State selection with 103 career wins and 1,102 career strikeouts.

 \cdot Hogue also earned NFCA High School All-America honors as she was selected to the first team.

SCHEDULE CHANGES FOR 2021

• The schedule will look a little different for the 2021 season as programs and leagues around the country work to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic and protect student-athlete welfare.

• The ACC announced it will play a 38 game schedule with teams playing four-game series throughout the year that includes single games on Friday and Sunday along with Saturday doubleheaders.

• In addition to the four-game series format, the second weekend of the season will feature competition in pod format to bring teams to one area.

 $\cdot As$ part of the pod format, the Cavaliers will face Louisville and Pittsburgh in ACC contests at Duke and

NC State. The games will count in the ACC standings despite being played a a neutral site. • The Hoos do not see Florida State or Virginia Tech as part of the ACC schedule this season.

CHALLENGING SCHEDULE AWAITS UVA

•Virginia will face a challenging slate as part of its 50game schedule this season.

• The Cavaliers open up the year with No. 14 Georgia and will face the Bulldogs twice in the opening weekend. • As part of the 50-game slate, the Cavaliers are set to play 19 games against teams ranked or receiving votes in the preseason NFCA coaches poll.

HOOS AND HOKIES GO NON-CON

• Virginia will play limited non-conference action this season with only 12 games outside of league competition and only four in the midweek. • With the Hoos and Hokies not meeting as part of the ACC schedule this season, the squads will meet twice in non-conference matchups with one game at each stadium.

COVINGTON COMES THROUGH AT UGA

• Kate Covington came up with perhaps the biggest hit of her career in the 6th inning against South Alabama on Saturday (2/13)

 \cdot Covington broke open a 4-4 game with the Jaguars when she hit her first career grand slam to vault the Cavaliers to an 8-4 lead.

• The grand slam was part of a six-run inning for the Cavaliers who trailed 4-3 after 5.5 innings of play. Virginia would go on to win the game 9-4.

...AND AGAIN AGAINST PITTSBURGH

 \cdot Covington again came through with a powerful shot in the arm for the Hoos in the finale against Pitt with a three-run home run.

Covington's three-run shot snapped a 3-3 tie and vaulted the Hoos into the lead as Virginia would go on to clinch the series with a 12-3 win last Sunday.
Both of Covington's home runs have come in tie games and launched the Cavaliers on to victory so far this seaosn.

HOGUE'S 12 STRIKEOUT OUTING

Mikayla Houge's 12 strikeout performance agianst Pitt helped the right-hander pick up her first win.
It was the most strikeouts against an ACC foe since Melanie Mitchell fanned 13 vs. BC on March 30, 2013.
Houge retired the first 13 batters faced and struck out eight batters in that time against Pitt.

SWIPING BAGS

 \cdot With 28 steals in 2020, the Cavaliers swiped the most bags since 2016 when UVA tallied 56 steals.

- Virginia was 28-for-32 on stolen base attempts in 2020 • Bailey Winscott (Clinton, Miss.) was a perfect 7-for-7 in
- stolen base attempts to lead Virginia.
- Tori Gilbert was a perfect 5-for-5 in steal attempts. • Ten different Cavaliers recorded a stolen base in 2020.

COACH **JO HARDIN** at UVA: 66-116 (5th) | Overall: 145-150 (7th)

Education

College:Biola University (La Mirada, Calif.)Master's:Liberty University

Coaching Experience

2015-16	McNeese State (Head Coach)
2013-14	McNeese State (Assistant Coach)
2007-09	Liberty University (Assistant Coach)
2005-07	Whittier Christian HS (Head Coach)

Playing Experience

2002-05 Biola University

Accolades

2002	NAIA/NFCA 1st Team All-American
2002,04-05	Golden State Athletic Conference All-Conference
2013	Southland Conference Regular Season Champions
2014	Southland Conference Regular Season Champions
2016	Southland Conference Regular Season Champions
2016	Southland Conference Tournament Champions

Hardin as a Head Coach

Year	School	Record (Conf)	Postseason		
2015	McNeese St.	36-20 (21-5)	Southland Tourney		
2016	McNeese St.	43-14 (23-4)	NCAA Regional		
2017	Virginia	22-32 (9-15)	ACC Quarterfinals		
2018	Virginia	12-41 (3-21)			
2019	Virginia	22-31 (8-16)	ACC Tournament		
2020	Virginia	10-12 (0-6)			
2021	Virginia	6-9 (2-7)			

72-125 at Virginia 151-159 Overall



2021 VIRGINIA SOFTBALL GAME NOTES

· Kailyn Jones (OF) is the No. 22 recruit overall and a

top-10 outfielder. She hit .495 at Grayson High School

this past season and has been an All-State selection.

· Shelby Barbee (Util.) is the No. 28 player and helped lead her high school to the North Carolina state

· Reece Holbrook (IF) is the No. 45 player and has been an All-State selection as she helped lead Wesleyan High

· Sydney Hartgove (C) is the No. 48 player and is also a two-time All-State selection who hit above .400 as both

championship and twice earned All-State honors.

School to a pair of Georgia state championships.

MURPHY COMES UP BIG VS. GW

· Morgan Murphy made an immediate impact in the

• The sophomore picked up her first win in the circle in

· In game two against George Washington, Murphy went

3-for-5 at the plate and drove in the game-winning run with a walk-off double to score Donna Friedman in the

game one against the Colonials, working 6.2 innings and

a freshman and a sophomore.

weekend of the Cavalier Classic.

striking out six in the 3-2 win.

ninth inning.

·This season, the Cavaliers are already 14-for-16 in steal attempts with only seven runners making attempts. ·Winscott has continued to be efficient in steal attempts this year, going 5-for-5 and is a perfect 16-of-16 for her career.

FRIEDMAN PROVIDES POP FOR HOOS

· Junior Donna Friedman has provided pop for the Cavaliers as she has played catcher and DP.

· Friedman led the squad with a .324 batting average a year ago and a team-leading 13 RBI through 22 games. · Her 23 hits last year was one off her freshman total in 20 fewer games - though she did drive in 19 runs on 24 hits in that freshman campaign.

· Friedman also tied for the team lead in home runs with three in that time.

· She picked up right where she left off in 2021, notching a first-pitch home run in the first inning of

UVA's season-opener at No. 14 Georgia.

•The sophomore junior has two home runs this season.

RAYLE RACKED UP K'S IN 2020

· Sophomore Aly Rayle got off to a hot start in the circle, amassing 74 strikeouts in a shortened 2020. · Averaging 9.0 strikeouts per seven innings, Rayle was second among ACC hurlers and 50th nationally in the category.

· Rayle was just six strikeouts away from matching her 2019 season total when the season was canceled. · Rayle also ranked among ACC leaders by holding

opponents to just a .188 average a year ago.

· She saw her first action of the 2021 season when she

came to the circle in relief in game one against Clemson last weekend.

UVA SIGNS NO. 31 CLASS FOR 2021

· Virginia head coach Joanna Hardin followed up on the recruiting success for the 2020 class with another strong class for 2021.

• The Cavaliers signed six players for 2021, including four players ranked among the top 50 nationally which tied Virginia for the most top-50 recruits in the ACC for the 2021 signing class.

ACC STANDINGS					
School	Conf	CPct.	Overall	Pct.	Streak
North Carolina	5-1	0.833	9-6	0.600	L1
Clemson	8-2	0.800	13-2	0.867	W10
Duke	4-1	0.800	15-1	0.938	W9
NC State	6-3	0.667	11-3	0.786	W1
Virginia Tech	4-2	0.667	7-2	0.778	W2
Florida State	4-2	0.667	11-4	0.733	W1
Louisville	3-2	0.600	7-7	0.500	W1
Syracuse	2-2	0.500	4-3	0.571	W2
Notre Dame	1-3	0.250	7-5	0.583	W3
Virginia	2-7	0.222	6-9	0.400	L4
Pitt	1-4	0.200	6-9	0.400	L1
Boston College	1-4	0.200	3-7	0.300	W1
Georgia Tech	1-8	0.111	6-13	0.316	L1

VERSUS RANKED FOES

VERSUS RANKED FOES
All-Time vs.Top-25 in NFCA Poll (1995-)
Last win over ranked team April 4, 2017 - 5-4 vs. #14 JMU Last win over top-10 team March 8, 2014 - 11-9 vs. #9 Florida St. Last win over top-5 team March 21,2010 - 2-1 vs. #2 Arizona
Highest-ranked win March 21,2010 - 2-1 vs. #2 Arizona April 17, 2004 - 5-4 vs. #2 Florida St.
Largest win March 18,2010 - 10-4 vs. #23 Louisiana Largest defeat May 11, 2017 - 0-16 vs. #4 Florida State
VERSUS THE NFCA POLL (STARTED 1995)
No. 10-7
No. 2
No. 30-9
No. 4
No. 50-4
No. 60-9
No. 70-5 (1-0 prior to NFCA poll)
No. 80-3
No. 9
No. 100-7
No. 111-7
No. 120-4 (0-1 prior to NFCA poll)
No. 13
No. 14
No. 151-11
No. 160-5
No. 171-7
No. 181-4 (1-0 prior to NFCA poll)
No. 19
No. 200-6
No. 21
No. 22
No. 231-11
No. 240-1
No. 25

		NFCA TOP 25				
	RK.	TEAM	2021 RECORD	POINTS	LAST WEEK	
	1	Oklahoma (31)	17-0	700	1	
	2	Arizona (1)	12-0	757	2	
	3	UCLA	10-1	731	4	
	4	Alabama	19-1	705	3	
	5	Oregon	13-1	658	6	
	6	Florida	14-1	655	5	
	7	Oklahoma State	18-1	580	9	
	8	Washington	16-2	563	8	
	9	Kentucky	19-0	516	10	
	10	Texas	10-2	512	7	
-	11	Arizona State	15-1	396	11	
	12	LSU	13-6	390	13	
	13	Duke	15-1	396	14	
	14	Louisiana	13-4	390	12	
	15	Florida State	11-4	353	16	
	16	Virginia Tech	7-2	290	15	
	17	Missouri	15-4	267	18	
	18	Georgia	14-2	233	19	
	19	Arkansas	16-2	212	20	
	20	South Carolina	12-3	205	17	
	21	Auburn	15-1	141	24	
	22	Tennessee	17-1	126	25	
	23	Michigan	4-2	100	21	
	24	UCF	12-3	70	22	
	25	Clemson	13-2	58	NR	
	Othe	are receiving votes				

Others receiving votes:

Baylor (28), Southern Illinois (27), Iowa state (26), Illinois (23), Northwestern (16), Liberty (8), Stanford (6), Mississippi State (4), Notre Dame (3), South Alabama (2), Texas State (2), Wichita State (2), James Madison (1).