

Virginia Tech Lacrosse

Head Coach John Sung Highlights on the 2020 Schedule

On the schedule this year we've got some really exciting things. Obviously, the way our schedule lays out is a little bit different this year. Opening up at home is always nice to get a nice home game in front of us. Getting Davidson here will be a great way to open up the season. We put some teams back on our schedule that we haven't had. Obviously our JMU game is always important.

Winning the state is something that we've always talked about, making sure that we can take care of all those teams that live in Virginia is really important for us. I think if we can do that and win the state, you're going to be pretty successful. James Madison has a national championship, UVA has won championships in the past and they've been two teams that have made the tournament consistently. If we can knock James Madison off, I feel like that's been something that's been kind of on our back the whole time but every year we've gotten better and every year we've gotten closer. That's a game that's definitely circled on our schedule. We're not looking past Davidson; all of our effort right now is to be prepared for that February 8th game. Right after that, we've got to turn around and get ready for James Madison.

We've got a couple of trips planned this year. One to see Cincinnati and Louisville which I think will be a good test for us to be on the road for a couple of days and really having to prepare on the road. That's tough but that will help us when it comes down to the months of April if we've got to go on the road for ACC's I think being able to prepare and travel to have a little week like that will be good to get that under our belts.

We've got something really exciting in participating in the Crown Classic in Charlotte to play Syracuse in between two men's lacrosse games. I think that is really going to be a ton of fun, being able to have Penn State and Cornell play after us and having Limestone College and Lenoir-Rhyne play before us and kind of being a part of a day of lacrosse is going to be great.

From there, we're heading back on the road for Spring Break going up to the New England area which we've really focused in that area and tried to be successful in that area. We're playing Brown, we haven't played an Ivy League team since I've been here, so it's nice to finally get one on the schedule. They are a team that upset Princeton last year, they can beat anyone I think. They're a team that is going to be a good test for us. Then getting ready for Boston College who has played in that national championship game the last couple of years and really has changed the identity of that program which I think is great.

Getting High Point on the schedule is great, we haven't played them since I've been here. When I was at Winthrop, that was our nemesis, so it's always fun to see some of that Big South rivalry and we know the coaching staff pretty well and it's kind of nice to get them on the schedule. We will do a home-and-home with them the next couple of years but they are always a great mid-major. I think they do a great job, so being able to play them is great.

One of our last trips is heading back to Nashville to play Vanderbilt. They have a new coaching staff and have really upgraded. Vanderbilt will be a fun game, will be a good test before we kind of get into the heart of our ACC season.

Finishing off our last four with Duke, North Carolina, Notre Dame and UVA - I think how we finish those last four games is going to be really important for how we move into the tournament. Those are all going to be NCAA caliber teams. If you can go 3-1 or 4-0 and beat those teams, then you know you are battle tested. To have three out of our last four at home is a really huge deal for us and can be a big advantage to us. Our only away game is Carolina, but being in that facility for ACC's I think is going to be really important for us.

Our schedule really sets up for us to have success if we can take care of business.