



Wieters, Nationals agree to contract

Catcher spent first eight seasons of career in Baltimore. **Page C4**

VCU seniors will play game of century

VCU senior Mo Alie-Cox (12) says getting to 100 wins tonight would be evidence of the Rams' "winning culture."



JAMES H. WALLACE/TIMES-DISPATCH

Rams class could reach 100 wins against Saint Louis

BY TIM PEARRELL
Richmond Times-Dispatch

VCU senior forward Mo Alie-Cox said he hadn't thought much about being part of 100 wins until Darius Theus brought it up a few weeks ago.

Theus, now VCU's director of student-athlete development,



SAINT LOUIS AT VCU

Today: 7 p.m. TV: WRLH-DT2
Radio: WRNL (910), WRXL-HD2 (98.5)

was part of the 2012-13 senior class that won more games (111) than any in Rams history. Briante Weber mentioned it to Alie-Cox on Monday. Weber's 2014-15 senior class won 108 games.

Seven consecutive VCU senior classes have reached the 100-win mark. The group of Alie-Cox, JeQuan Lewis, Doug Brooks, Jordan Burgess and Torey Burston can make it eight by beating Saint Louis (9-18, 4-10) tonight in an Atlantic 10 game at the Siegel Center. VCU is 22-5, 12-2 and tied for first with Dayton in the A-10. The Rams went 25-11, 26-10 and 26-9 in the three previous seasons. "Getting to 100 is a big accomplishment," Alie-Cox said. **RAMS, Page C2**

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Freshman buoys UR

Buckingham makes key contributions in 3-point battle with Davidson

BY JOHN O'CONNOR
Richmond Times-Dispatch

De'Monte Buckingham needed to be carried off the Robins Center court by teammates the last time Richmond played, a Friday loss to VCU. Buckingham strained a calf muscle and couldn't walk for a few minutes.

Tuesday night at the same arena, Buckingham helped carry the Spiders in a 3-point palooza. There were 22 3-pointers (52 attempts) in Richmond's 84-76 win over Davidson, which had 14 of them. Buckingham did a bit of everything, including hit 3s.

Buckingham, a 6-foot-4 freshman from Henrico High, scored 10 points, had five assists, five rebounds and four steals. He also took a charge. Several of those contributions came during the most pivotal moments, and that wasn't all Buckingham supplied.

"He makes so many intangible plays that really equal winning," said UR coach Chris Mooney.

The Wildcats took a 65-60 lead with 9:10 left. Richmond (16-11, 10-5 A-10) held Davidson (14-12, 7-8 A-10) to 2 points in a seven-minute stretch soon thereafter. The Spiders went on an 11-0 run to retake command, with Buckingham dishing a lob assist to T. J. Cline (18 points, eight assists) and collecting one of his steals.

"We kind of emptied our tank," said Davidson coach Bob McKillop, speaking of the Wildcats' rally from a 12-point deficit.

SPIDERS, Page C3



DANIEL SANGJIB MIN/TIMES-DISPATCH

Richmond's De'Monte Buckingham made a first-half steal as Davidson's Jack Gibbs trailed the play. Buckingham, a freshman, chalked up 10 points, five assists, five rebounds and four steals.



View photo highlights from Richmond's Atlantic 10 victory against Davidson at Richmond.com.



VIRGINIA TECH 71, CLEMSON 70

Saturday: Virginia Tech at Boston College, 4 p.m.

Tech gets needed win over Clemson

Allen drills clutch 3-pointer as Hokies continue hot streak

BY MIKE BARBER
Richmond Times-Dispatch

BLACKSBURG — After his 3-pointer with 3.8 seconds left lifted Virginia Tech to a 71-70 win over Clemson, senior guard Seth Allen said, "We were just playing."

Playing, and winning.

After Allen missed a layup on a designed play out of a timeout, the Hokies didn't have another timeout to set up his game winner. So coach Buzz Williams shouted out to run an inbounds play they had used earlier in the game.

Allen broke off the low block to catch the inbounds pass outside the 3-point arc, using a high screen from Zach LeDay to get open and hit Tech's 12th 3-pointer of the night.

"It's something we've been

HOKIES, Page C3



MATT GENTRY/THE ROANOKE TIMES

Virginia Tech's Seth Allen shoots the winning basket over Clemson's Marquise Reed. Allen connected with just 3.8 seconds left in the game.

VCU baseball liked opener, not others

Rams had shutout against Seminoles, then lost next two

BY TIM PEARRELL
Richmond Times-Dispatch

The VCU baseball team got a map during its season-opening series at No. 2 Florida State.

Coach Shawn Stiffler would like the Rams to more closely follow the route of the first game as



VCU AT CHARLESTON SOUTHERN

Baseball
Friday: 6 p.m.

the season progresses.

Pitchers Sean Thompson, Matt Jamer and Sam Donko combined on a one-hitter as the Rams

BASEBALL, Page C2



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente dealt with the challenge of replacing productive starters while he was at Texas Christian.

Fuente facing familiar fact

Tech coach knows rebuilding team is nature of the beast

BY MIKE BARBER
Richmond Times-Dispatch

BLACKSBURG — The challenge of replacing six offensive starters — including a record-setting quarterback and record-setting wide receivers — might seem daunting.

But football coach Justin Fuente of Virginia Tech has had offseasons like



VIRGINIA TECH VS. WEST VIRGINIA

Season opener
Sept. 2: Time TBD
Where: FedEx Field

this before. In 2011, while the co-offensive coordinator at TCU, Fuente had to rework a unit that lost star quarterback Andy Dalton along with most of its top

receivers and offensive linemen.

"You've got to mold it to fit where you're at," said Fuente, who won ACC coach of the year in his debut season with the Hokies. "You have to be honest with yourself and see where you're at. You've got to kind of start closer to square one."

Fuente had great success with his rebuild at TCU.

A year after going 13-0 with Dalton behind center,

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