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Virginia Wahoos are Fired Up after their First Victory of the 2018-2019 Season

The Cavaliers checkoff their first win in their home-opener Tuesday night Against Towson

It may have been a cold rainy day here in Charlottesville, but the Virginia Men's Basketball team brought the heat to the John Paul Jones Arena Tuesday night in their home opener against Towson. Meeting for the sixth time in a series that dates back to 1985-86, the No.5 Virginia Cavaliers rolled past the Towson Tigers in a 73-42 victory in their season opener making the Hoos' all-time record against the Tigers 6-0.

Although the game started out rather slow for the Wahoos, the final score of the first period being 28-19, UVA, they quickly found their familiar rhythm in the second half. Reminding fans of their infamous defense, the 'Hoos totaled 18 points from capitalizing on turnovers.

Culminating a total of 20 points, veteran guard Ty Jerome lead the Cavaliers to their first victory of the 2018-2019 season. In the postgame press conference, Virginia head coach Tony Bennett admitted, "some nights, your offense just has to ignite your offense. Ty has a pretty deep range and he is not afraid to shoot it." (

<https://twitter.com/UVAMensHoops/status/1059994003230392324>) Other returning players who helped ignite the Virginia offense include De'Andre Hunter totaling 13 points and Jay Huff totaling 8 points.

New Faces on the Court

Freshman Kihei Clark showcased his almost natural ability to assimilate into Tony Bennett's squad by leading the 'Hoos in assists (6). The 'Hoos doubled the Tigers points from off the bench (22-11) and as if the crowd weren't fired up enough, Bennett spiced things up a bit for the last few minutes by taking Austin Katstra, Jayden Nixon, Kody Stattmann and Grant Kersey off the bench.

The Charlottesville native and newest member of the UVA Men's Hoops roster Kersey, in his third year as one of the Hoos manager, dressed in uniform and got to step into play for the last minute and a half of play in the second period. Bennett's decision to put Kersey on the court overjoyed the crowd and many cheers and applause filled the arena.

<https://twitter.com/DamonDillman/status/1059954030431100929>

Bennett said, "it's a new year and it's a new team, it didn't feel any different to me than any other starts to the year. I was just excited for Kody, Kihei, Jayden, and Grant, it is really awesome for them the first time in a college game that they touch the floor."

<https://twitter.com/UVAMensHoops/status/1059992616157265920>

On the Horizon

It was definitely an exhilarating day to be a Wahoo and experience the joy that comes with being a UVA men's basketball fan. After a few days off, the Hoos will once again open the doors of JPJ to fans on Sunday when they take on the George Washington Colonials.