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Virginia Basketball unlocks a Key to their season

Gaining some national recognition this week both on the football field (No. 23) and the basketball court (No. 5), Virginia fans are stoked for what the upcoming weeks will bring for Wahoos in both sporting arenas.

Last week, the Virginia head coach Tony Bennett announced some exciting news for his basketball program. Alabama transfer, Braxton Key, has been granted an NCAA waiver and is eligible to play immediately for the Virginia Cavaliers for the 2018-2019 season.

What does this mean for the Wahoos? Looking for a change of scenery, the Crimson Tide transfer has two seasons of eligibility remaining. A 6-8 guard/forward from Charlotte, NC, Key has a lot to offer for the Cavaliers.

Although his season was cut short due to a knee injury that occurred towards the beginning of his last season with the Tide, Key comes healthy and ready to play for Bennett. After his first year, the 2016-2017 season, Key earned ALL-SEC freshman honors averaging 12.0 points and 5.7 rebounds.

As a sophomore at Alabama, Key averaged 7.0 points, 5.3 rebounds and 1.8 assists per game for the Tide last season. His stats and style of play remind dedicated followers of the 'Hoos of former Virginia Men's basketball stars, Devon Hall and Isaiah Wilkins. Key's talent will likely earn him a starting spot on Bennett's lineup featuring returners Kyle Guy, Ty Jerome, De'Andre Hunter and Jack Salt.

Last week's AP preseason polls have Virginia ranked as No. 5 in the top 25 and No. 2 in the ACC. With the addition of Key and the high rankings, the 'Hoos are looking forward to tip off in eight days against Towson.

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