

AMERICAN

MEN'S BASKETBALL 2004-05



PRESEASON PROSPECTUS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location Washington, DC 20016
 Founded 1893
 Enrollment 5,500 men & women undergraduates
 Nickname Eagles
 Colors AU Red & Blue
 Affiliation NCAA Division I
 Conference Patriot League
 Home Court (Capacity) Bender Arena (4,500)
 President Dr. Benjamin Ladner
 Vice President, Development Al Checcio
 Director of Athletics Joni Comstock
 Associate Director of Athletics / Business Operations Rob Andrey
 Associate Director of Athletics / SWA Athena Argyropoulos
 Associate Director of Athletics / External Ops. Ed McLaughlin
 Assistant Director of Athletics / Compliance Robert Acunto
 Assistant Director of Athletics / Communications Shaun May
 Athletic Department Phone (202) 885-3001
 Academic Coordinator Meredith Basil
 Head Athletic Trainer Sean Dash
 Director of Facilities & Operations Makonnen Afework
 Equipment Manager Eugene Logan

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Asst. AD for Communications / MBB Contact **Shaun May**
 E-Mail smay@american.edu
 Office (202) 885-3079 Cell (484) 433-0074
 Fax (202) 885-3033 Press Row (202) 885-8232
 Asst. Director of Athletic Communications **Anthony Wilson**
 Athletic Communications Assistant **Greg Viscomi**

BASKETBALL INFORMATION

Head Coach **Jeff Jones** (Virginia '82; Fifth Season)
 Record at American / Seasons 59-59 / 4 seasons
 Overall College Coaching Record / Years .. 205-163 (.557 / 12 years)
 Assistants
 Kelvin Jefferson (Southern Connecticut St. '95; Fourth Season)
 Kieran Donohue (Virginia '97; Fifth Season)
 Greg Lyons (Virginia '01; Second Season)
 Graduate Manager **TBA**
 Basketball Office Phone (202) 885-3010
 Best Time to Reach Coach Jones Contact SID Office
 2004-05 Season 79th since 1926-27
 All-Time Record 950-892 (.516)
 2003-04 Overall Record/Conference/Finish 18-13/10-4/ t-1st Patriot
 2003-04 Captains **TBA**
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost 15/11
 Starters Returning/Lost/Shared position 2/2/1
 Newcomers 2

2004-05 SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

15 Mon. at Virginia Commonwealth TBA@
 18-19 Thu.-Fri Preseason NIT 2nd Round TBA@
 20 Sat. at Niagara 2 p.m.
 23 **Tues. WAGNER** **7 p.m.**
 24 Wed. NIT Semifinals TBA@
 26 Fri. NIT Finals TBA@
 29 **Mon. ST. FRANCIS** **7 p.m.**

DECEMBER

4 **Sat. VERMONT** **2 p.m.**
 8 Wed. at Towson TBA
 11 **Sat. OHIO UNIVERSITY** **1 p.m.**
 23 Thu. at Maryland TBA
 28 **Tue. LA SALLE** **7 p.m.**

JANUARY

2 Sun. at Delaware TBA
 4 Tue. at Missouri TBA
 8 **Sat. LEHIGH*** **2 p.m.**
 10 Mon. at Yale TBA
 12 Wed. at Navy* TBA
 15 **Sat. LAFAYETTE*** **2 p.m.**
 21 Fri. at Army* TBA
 23 Sun. at Holy Cross* TBA
 28 **Fri. BUCKNELL*** **7 p.m.**
 30 **Sun. COLGATE*** **2 p.m.**

FEBRUARY

4 **Fri. ARMY*** **7 p.m.**
 6 **Sun. HOLY CROSS*** **2 p.m.**
 11 Fri. at Bucknell* TBA
 13 Sun. at Colgate* TBA
 19 Sat. at Lafayette* TBA
 23 Wed. at Lehigh* TBA
 26 **Sat. NAVY*** **2 p.m.**

MARCH

Patriot League Tournament

4 (Fri.) Quarterfinals TBA
 6 (Sun.) Semifinals TBA
 11 (Fri.) Champ. Game (ESPN2)4: 30 p.m.

* indicates Patriot League Game
Bold CAPS indicate Home Game

2004-05 AMERICAN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/High School or Last School
0	Sekou Lewis*	F	So.	6-5	200	Cleveland, Ohio/Pendleton School
4	Brayden Billbe*	C	So.	6-10	210	Mercer Island, Wa./Mercer Island
11	Craig Weinstein**	G	Jr.	6-0	180	Tarzana, Ca./Harvard Westlakes School
12	Jason Thomas***	G	Sr.	6-3	190	Herndon, Va./Notre Dame Academy (Mass.)
14	Ryan Graham***	G	Sr.	5-8	160	St. John, New Brunswick/Brewster Acad. (N.H.)
15	Raimondas Petrauskas**	F	Sr.	6-7	215	Mazeikiai, Lithuania/Lithuanian Physical Culture Academy
20	Andre Ingram*	G	So.	6-3	190	Richmond, Va./Highland Springs
21	Arvydas Eituvicius*	G	So.	6-1	185	Klaipeda, Lithuania/Laurinburg Institute
34	Travis Lay	F	Fr.	6-5	210	Rockville, Md./Bullis School
40	Patrick Okpwae**	F	Sr.	6-6	220	Yaounde, Cameroon/Berkshire School (Fla.)
41	Matej Cresnik**	F	Sr.	6-8	230	Velenje, Slovenia/Univerza V Ljubljani
43	Linas Lekavicius*	G	So.	5-11	185	Charlottesville, Va./The Miller School
50	Coleman LeClair	F	Fr.	6-9	240	River Forest, Ill./Brewster Academy

* Letters earned

HEAD COACH: Jeff Jones (Virginia '82; Fifth Season)

ASSISTANT COACHES: Kelvin Jefferson (Southern Connecticut St. '95; Fourth Season)

Kieran Donohue (Virginia '97; Fifth Season)

Greg Lyons (Virginia '01; Second Season)

GRADUATE ASSISTANT: TBA

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

No.	Name	Pronunciation
0	Sekou Lewis	SAY-Koo
4	Brayden Billbe	BILL-BEE
15	Raimondas Petrauskas	ray-MON'-dass peh-TRAUW'-skiss
21	Arvydas Eitutavicius	aR-Vee-dis A-TU-TA-VICH-us
40	Patrick Okpwae	Oak-pie
41	Matej Cresnik	muh-TAY' KREZ'-nick
43	Linas Lekavicius	LINN-us la-KA-vish-us

2004-05 PRESEASON ROSTER BREAKDOWN

BY RETURNING PLAYERS (11):

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	2003-04 Statistics / Honors			
0	Sekou Lewis	G	6-5	200	So.	0.0 ppg.	0.5 rpg.	0.0 apg.	0.0 spg.
4	Brayden Billbe	C	6-10	210	So.	0.0 ppg.	0.3 rpg.	0.0 apg.	0.0 spg.
11	Craig Weinstein	G	6-0	180	Jr.	0.2 ppg.	0.2 rpg.	0.4 apg.	0.0 spg.
12	Jason Thomas	G	6-3	190	Sr.	6.9 ppg.	4.2 rpg.	0.9 apg.	1.0 spg.
14	Ryan Graham	G	5-8	160	Sr.	0.8 ppg.	0.0 rpg.	0.1 apg.	0.0 spg.
15	Raimondas Petrauskas	F	6-7	215	Sr.	7.3 ppg.	3.8 rpg.	0.4 apg.	0.7 spg.
20	Andre Ingram	G	6-3	190	So.	13.6 ppg.	4.0 rpg.	1.1 apg.	0.7 spg.
21	Arvydas Eituvicius	G	6-1	185	So.	0.0 ppg.	0.3 rpg.	0.0 apg.	0.0 spg.
40	Patrick Oakpweae	F	6-6	220	Sr.	2.8 ppg.	2.1 rpg.	0.1 apg.	0.3 spg.
41	Matej Cresnik	F	6-9	225	Sr.	7.8 ppg.	3.5 rpg.	0.7 apg.	0.5 spg.
43	Linas Lekavicius	G	5-11	185	So.	5.3 ppg.	1.8 rpg.	1.0 apg.	0.9 spg.

TOTALS 44.7ppg. 20.7rpg. 4.7apg. 4.1spg.

BY NEWCOMERS (2):

No.	Player	Pos.	Class	Ht.	Wt.	Previous Statistics / Honors
34	Travis Lay	F	Fr.	6-5	210	17.8 ppg., 13.2 rpg., 4.5 apg.
50	Corey LeClair	C	Fr.	6-9	240	10.0 ppg., 8.0 rpg., 2.0 bpg.

BY HOME STATE / DISTRICT / PROVINCE / COUNTRY:

Virginia (2) Ingram & Thomas
 California (1) Weinstein
 Illinois (1) LeClair
 Maryland (1) Lay
 Ohio (1) Lewis
 Washington (1) Billbe
 Cameroon (1) Okpweae
 Lithuania (3) Eituvicius, Lekavicius, Petrauskas
 New Brunswick (1) Graham
 Slovenia (1) Cresnik

BY HEIGHT:

6-10 Billbe
 6-9 LeClair
 6-8 Cresnik
 6-7 Petrauskas
 6-6 Okpweae
 6-5 Lay, Lewis
 6-3 Ingram, Thomas
 6-1 Eituvicius
 6-0 Weinstein
 5-11 Lekavicius
 5-8 Graham

BY CLASS:

Seniors (5) — Cresnik, Graham, Petrauskas, Okpweae, Thomas
 Juniors (1) — Weinstein
 Sophomores (5) — Billbe, Eituvicius, Ingram, Lekavicius, Lewis
 Freshmen (2) — Lay & LeClair

BY POSITION:

Guard (6) — Eituvicius, Graham, Ingram, Lekavicius, Thomas, Weinstein
 Forward (5) — Cresnik, Lay, Lewis, Okpweae, Petrauskas
 Center (2) — Billbe, LeClair



Jason Thomas returns as AU's top defender.

2004-05 PREVIEW

After three straight appearances in the Patriot League Championship game, the American University men's basketball team has high expectations going into the 2004-05 season. Despite losing two key players to graduation, the team has a strong mix of seniors and fresh faces that have the talent to compete for the Patriot League title. **Andres Rodriguez** leaves American after leading the team in assists and as the heart and soul of the offense. **Jernavis Draughn** produced on both ends of the floor and his rebounding ability and athleticism will be missed. However, head coach **Jeff Jones** and his team are prepared to do whatever it takes to once again rise to the top of the Patriot League and break into the NCAA tournament.

THE BACKCOURT

After a tremendous rookie season that earned him Patriot League Freshman of the Year honors, **Andre Ingram** will carry the scoring load as the shooting guard this year. In his first season with AU he led the team with 13.6 points per game while proving to be an effective rebounder for a guard averaging four per game. However without Rodriguez distributing the ball from the point, Ingram will increasingly

have to help out with the ball handling load and work off the dribble to create his own shots. Opposing teams this year will be very aware of Ingram's ability and will force him to work even harder game in and game out.

Controlling the offense as the point guard alongside Ingram will be fellow sophomore **Linas Lekavicius**. Lekavicius is a very talented guard whose potent scoring ability will make for a dangerous backcourt combination. He played in every game last year and has gotten assimilated to the everyday level of play in college. He is also capable of making an impact as a defender; last year he set an AU record for steals in a game with nine against Bucknell. Senior **Ryan Graham** and sophomore **Arvydas Eitutavicius** will also contribute minutes at the point. Graham saw action in 10 games last year while Eitutavicius played in just three but has played extremely well in the Global Games this summer.

The Eagles primarily line up in a three-guard offense which features senior **Jason Thomas** as the wing player. Thomas has the ability to run the floor and use his athleticism to create offense in transition. He is effective at both driving to the basket and hitting a jumper. Thomas is also an outstanding rebounder. His leadership and intensity will be a tremendous asset to the team this year. **Sekou Lewis** also has the ability to step in at the wing position and contribute.

THE FRONT COURT

The Eagles have three seniors returning up front, all with plenty of experience in the program. **Matej Cresnik** is a versatile big man who finished second in the Patriot League in three-point shooting with a .457 percentage in 2003-04. Cresnik was even better from the free throw line as he shot 81 percent from the charity stripe. His ability to play inside and out creates a tough match up for opposing big men.

Lithuanian **Raimondas Petrauskas** has gotten fully adjusted to the physical play in the states and is prepared for a big year in 2004-05. He will be the primary inside presence and must set the tone for the team with his intensity in the paint. He shot nearly 52 percent from the field (.519) and made opponents pay when they sent him to the

line as he shot 79.8 percent from the line. Defensively, the team will need his shot blocking ability to flourish once again after he swatted 18 shots.

Also helping out up front is **Patrick Okpwa** who shared the team lead in blocked shots last year with 18. Okpwa has tremendous athletic ability, which enables him to be a very versatile inside threat. Another player who will compete for time is Brayden Billbe who will bring much needed size to the lineup. Billbe possesses very good ball skills and gained much needed strength in his first year in college. Freshmen **Travis Lay** and **Coley LeClair** will provide size and depth to the Eagles frontcourt.

THE SCHEDULE

One sign that a basketball team is gaining respect as an up-and-coming program is when the schedule begins to take on a national flavor. Last year AU made their first appearance in the 40th annual Rainbow Classic in Hawaii and this year they will mark another first as they open the 2004-05 season in the prestigious Preseason NIT tournament. The Eagles will play Nov. 15 at Virginia Commonwealth University. After a quick trip to upstate New York to play Niagara AU will open up the home portion of its schedule when they host Wagner on Nov. 23.

After Thanksgiving the Eagles will host St. Francis (Pa.) before starting a very tough stretch of games in December. Vermont, an NCAA tournament team last March, comes into town for a Dec. 4 game at Bender to start the month off before the Eagles head to local rival Towson the following week. After a Dec. 11 home contest against Ohio University the team will head to College Park to take on the perennial powerhouse Maryland Terps on Dec. 23. American finishes off the month with a home contest against LaSalle on Dec. 26.



The team has little chance to relax before they travel to Delaware for a showdown with the Blue Hens to start off the New Year on Jan. 2. Two days they will travel to Missouri for a game against the nationally ranked Tigers before starting up Patriot League competition. On Jan. 8 the Eagles host Lehigh in an afternoon game that matches the Eagles with the team that defeated them in last year's League Championship. AU's last out-of-conference game will be on the road Jan. 10 at Yale.

Following the conclusion of the Patriot League regular season schedule the first two rounds of the PL Tournament will be held on March 4 and March 6 at the home of the higher seeds. The title game will return to the Friday afternoon slot, after a one year hiatus in which the game was played on a Sunday. Therefore, the title game will be played on the home floor of the highest remaining seed on Friday, March 11, 2005 at 4:30 pm (EST) on ESPN2.

Linas Lekavicius looks to take over the point guard position in 2004-05.



Matej Cresnik was the second-best three-point shooter in the Patriot League last season.

2003-04 Review

After two straight appearances in the Patriot League final, the Eagles had high hopes for the 2003-04 campaign. However, after 24 games the Eagles were just 12-12 and it looked like a third straight trip to the Patriot League championship game looked doubtful. Yet, that is exactly where American found themselves after head coach Jeff Jones led the Eagles to six consecutive wins to put them back into the national spotlight in March. In fact, just one last second basket separated American from an NCAA tournament bid. Although they were unable to break through to the big dance, last season was further indication that the program is headed in the right direction. The six straight wins is the longest streak for AU hoops since 1989-90 and last year marks the third straight winning season for the program, a feat that has not occurred since a stretch between the 1988-89 and the 1990-91 seasons.

This year's Patriot League Championship pitted the regular season champion Eagles with co-champion Lehigh, a Lehigh team they were unable to overcome twice during regular season play. American got off to a fast start from the opening tip and led by as many as seven points in the first stanza. However, a late Lehigh bucket gave the Mountain Hawks a one-point edge at the halfway mark (30-29).

In a second half in which the score was tied five times and the lead changed four times it was **Andres Rodriguez's** leadership down the stretch which kept the Eagles' NCAA dreams alive. Rodriguez scored the Eagles' last 10 points of the game and his triumphant three-point play with 21 seconds left tied the game up at 57 apiece. But in heart wrenching fashion, a Jose Olivero bucket with four seconds left gave the Mountain Hawks the win and once again kept American out of the field of 64.

The 2003-04 season was filled with so many highlights it would impossible to deem it a disappointing one by the way it ended. For the first time since the 80's the Eagles headed to South Bend to face the Top 25 Fighting Irish, this time nearly coming away with a monumental victory. The game was tied at 69 apiece with 2:02 remaining before the Irish pulled out the four-point win. The Eagles made their first appearance in the 40th annual Rainbow Classic in Hawaii where they beat East Tennessee St. to secure fifth-place out of the eight teams competing and the consolation championship. In the last game of the regular season the Eagles snared a share of the Patriot League regular season title when they outscored a high powered Lafayette offense 90-82. It was the second time in three years that the Eagles claimed at least a share of the regular season title.



Andre Ingram had a standout season as a freshman for the Eagles.

As expected it was Andres Rodriguez who filled up the stat sheet in his final year at American, making first team All-Patriot league. Fellow senior **Jernavis Draughn's** play in the Patriot League tournament earned him a spot on the All-Tournament team. Newcomer Andre Ingram burst onto the scene as one of the leagues top performers and as a freshman he earned Patriot League Rookie of the Year honors.

In just three seasons with American, Rodriguez did a major job rewriting the record books. On January 14th against Navy, he tallied an amazing 19 assists, which proved to be the best single game total in Division I last year. The 19 assists versus Navy is both the single game American University and Patriot League assist record. His season total of 225 assists was second most

for an AU player in a season, and he places third on the all-time AU career assists list with 465. The final number of 465 is good for sixth all-time in the Patriot League. Not only adept at passing, Rodriguez holds the fourth-best single season steals record with 82. Rodriguez finished with 168 career steals, which is good for ninth all-time both at American and in the Patriot League. Rodriguez has made a name for himself as a valuable contributor in his three seasons at AU, but in his final year his value to the team was immeasurable. It was Rodriguez's ability to lead a team and make those around him better that made him the catalyst of the program's success.

Rodriguez's backcourt play was complemented by **Andre Ingram**, who was a major scoring threat all year long. Ingram started every game for American, a tremendous accomplishment for a freshman. He led AU in scoring twelve times and overall averaged 13.6 points per game. His scoring average was the fourth-best in the league. In the last regular season game of the year he scored a career-high 30 points in a win against Lafayette. Ingram finished the year with 78 threes, which is the sixth-best single-season in AU history. He also needs just 13 treys to break into the career-list for threes made.

Draughn was a major force in his final year at American. He started every game of the season and was a consistent rebounder and scorer with 11.5 points and 6.5 rebounds per game. Draughn was the top rebounder in the Patriot League (6.6 RPG) and fourth in field goal percentage (.557) respectively. Although the season ended on a team low, his play in the Patriot League tournament earned him All-Tournament team honors and he goes out with the sixth-best career field goal percentage in American history (.537) to end his career on a high note. Juniors **Raimondas Petrauskas** and **Matej Cresnik** provided a dynamic forward combination for the Eagles. Petrauskas scored a career-high 24 points in a win against Army while Cresnik was a consistent threat from behind the three point line, ending the season as the Patriot League leader in three point percentage (.457). **Patrick Okpwae** also had a strong 2003-04 campaign on both ends of the court at both the center and forward position. Okpwae had the highest field goal percentage on the team (.576) and shared the team lead in blocks (18) along with Draughn and Petrauskas.

Junior **Jason Thomas** was a mainstay in the starting lineup at the wing forward position. He provided intensity on both ends of the floor and had the season's best rebounding effort with 16 boards against FDU. Sophomore **Jamaal Caterina** also emerged as a contributor at the wing position and played some of his best basketball down the stretch. Freshman **Linas Lekavicius** provided a spark off the bench for the Eagles both offensively and defensively. Lekavicius proved himself as a scorer in the Rainbow Classic where he scored in double digits all three games, capped off by a 22 point effort against ETSU. Against Bucknell he set an AU single game steals record (9) and almost single-handedly helped American rally back for a road win.

Although a heartbreaking loss put a damper on an otherwise highly successful season, this was another year in which AU basketball fans witnessed **Jeff Jones'** program make great strides.



Andres Rodriguez had a standout senior season for the Eagles in 2003-04.

American Head Coach Jeff Jones



In just four seasons as head coach, Jeff Jones has put his stamp on American University basketball, molding and rejuvenating a program that has a proud past, and is now looking at a bright future.

Three words have been associated with Jones since his days as a top-level student-athlete — Leader, Teacher, and Winner — and those could not be truer today as he begins his fifth season at the helm in 2004-05.

In 2003-04 Jones led AU to the Patriot League Championship game for the third straight year and helped the Eagles to their second Patriot League regular season title in three years. AU finished with its third consecutive winning season, something that had not been accomplished in 13 years and a six-game winning streak, something that had not been done in 14 years.

Jones joined the exclusive 200-win club last year and the Eagles earned an invitation to the Rainbow Classic, where they went 2-1, including a win over NCAA tourney team East Tennessee State. Jones' reputation has also led to an invitation to compete in the 2004-04 Preseason NIT.

During the 2002-03 Jones led the Eagles to a victory over crosstown rival George Washington and a regular season win over Holy Cross. The Eagles finished second in the regular season and reached the Patriot League championship game for a second time.

In just his second season at AU Jones mentored the Eagles to the second largest turnaround in the NCAA Division I, finishing with an 18-12 overall record. The 11-game improvement from 2000-01 was second only to Bob Knight's Texas Tech squad that featured a 14-game turnaround. The 18 victories were the highest win total for the program since 1989-90 (which they would repeat in 2003-04), and its first winning campaign since 1990-91. The Eagles went on to capture the Patriot League regular-season title, fashioning a 10-4 record in the process. The top seed in the league tournament, the Eagles advanced to the championship game, where it fell to Holy Cross, 55-52, before the largest championship crowd in league history and just the second sellout in the history of AU's Bender Arena. The game was played in front of a national audience on ESPN.

The accomplishments did not begin and end within the confines of the Patriot League by any stretch of the imagination in 2002-03. AU gained national recognition with a 77-72 win at Florida State on Dec. 22, becoming the first Patriot League school to ever defeat a member of the renowned Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC).

One of the most respected teachers in the collegiate ranks, Jones took the helm of American basketball on April 17, 2000, becoming the 17th coach in the school's history.

Jones has made his mark on the national college basketball scene as both a student-athlete and as a head coach. Following a storied high school career, he went on to star at point guard for the University of Virginia from 1978-82. After graduation he served eight seasons as an assistant coach at his alma mater before being tabbed the Cavaliers' head coach prior to the 1990-91 campaign. He would go on to lead that program for eight seasons.

Just prior to coming to American, Jones served as an assistant on Jerry DeGregorio's staff at the University of Rhode Island during the 1999-2000 season.

Named the eighth coach in Virginia men's basketball history at the tender age of 29, Jones became the youngest coach in the history of the Atlantic Coast Conference. In eight years at the helm, he compiled a record of 146-104 for a .584 winning percentage. He led Virginia to six postseason appearances (five NCAA, one NIT), one

regular-season ACC Championship and four 20-win campaigns. Virginia's win over Virginia Tech during the 1994-95 regular season gave Jones his 100th career victory, making him the second-fastest in school history and fifth-fastest in ACC history to accomplish the feat.

A coach with a distinct style, the cornerstone of Jones' teams has been their defensive prowess. During his tenure at Virginia, he led the Cavaliers to five of the top six seasons for field goal percentage defense.

Virginia made its fifth NCAA Tournament appearance in seven seasons under Jones in 1996-97. Finishing that season with an overall mark of 18-13, the Cavaliers fell to Iowa in a West Region first-round game.

Jones enjoyed one of the finest seasons of his coaching career in 1994-95, leading Virginia to a final mark of 25-9. The program advanced to the NCAA Tournament's "Elite Eight" and earned a share of its first ACC regular-season crown since 1983. Virginia finished that season ranked eighth in the final CNN/USA Today poll, and 13th in the final Associated Press media poll. Those were the highest final national rankings by a Virginia team since 1983.

In 1992-93 Jones became the only coach in conference history to win at least 20 games in each of his first three seasons. He led Virginia to a 21-10 record (9-7 ACC) and a trip to the 1993 East Region semifinals in the NCAA Tournament.

In 1991-92, Jones' Cavaliers posted a 20-13 record and went on to win the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) championship. As a result, Jones became the first individual to win an NIT title as both a player and a coach; he is still the only person to accomplish the feat. In his first season as the head coach at Virginia, Jones led the 1990-91 squad to a 21-12 overall record. He was the only rookie coach in the nation that year to have his team in the NCAA Tournament.

Prior to his eight-year run as head coach, Jones was a full-time assistant on Terry Holland's staff at UVa from 1986 to 1990, a part-time assistant for three seasons and a graduate assistant for one. The Cavaliers compiled an incredible overall record of 162-95 (.630) during those eight seasons as an assistant, participating in six NCAA Tournaments, while advancing to the Final Four in 1984 and the Final Eight in 1989. Virginia also competed in one National Invitation Tournament (NIT) during his tenure.

As a four-year starter (1979-82) at Virginia, Jones was known as a leader and prolific passer. With Jones at the controls of a potent offense, UVa compiled an overall record of 102-28 (.785), while he led the Cavaliers to two NCAA Tournaments and two NITs during his career. Virginia captured the 1980 NIT title, and advanced to the NCAA Final Four in 1981. Jones graduated from Virginia in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology.

Jones finished his career as Virginia's all-time assists leader (598), and his 200 assists during the 1979-80 season was UVa's single-season record until both marks were later broken by John Crotty. Jones served as the team captain as a senior during the 1981-82 season and played in 129 games during his career. For his career, he averaged 6.6 points and 4.6 assists per game, while shooting 52.2 percent from the field and 74.3 percent from the free-throw line.

A native of Owensboro, KY, Jones is a member of the Apollo High School Hall of Fame. His father, Bob, is a former coach of Kentucky Wesleyan University, which he led to the 1973 NCAA Division II title.

Jones and his wife, Danielle, reside in Arlington, VA. He is the father of three children - Meghann (15), Madison Perry (13), and Jeffrey Robert (10).