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Terry Holland is a young man on the go. He believes the best road to success is hard work.

With that belief in the front of his mind, the University of Virginia's new head basketball coach plans to put the lowly Cavaliers on the high road to success in the toughest college basketball league in the nation, the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The former Davidson player and coach is stepping into high cotton. Bill Gibson, now at South Florida, tried unsuccessfully for years to compete with the likes of N.C. State, North Carolina and Maryland. But all he ever got was one good season and a lot of beefing from the alumni.

Eyes Immediate Success With Cars Holland Welcomes Challenge

"I don't believe in talking about a three or four year rebuilding program," says Holland. "We're going out there next year and do our dead-level best to win the ACC championship and nothing less will satisfy me." Holland knows his job won't be easy. Although he'll have four starters

he'll have four starters back from last year's 11-16 team, he's thus far minus a big man which is a necessity for ACC

teams.

TERRY HOLLAND

"We got a late start recruiting," noted Holland, "but it's really going well. I think we can sign three or four good players and we have a good nucleus to work with."

With talent like Gus Gerard returning and a new energetic young coach like Holland, one can't help but be optimistic about Virginia's chances. "The name of the game is to improve," he noted, "and I think we can be competitive next year. Virginia lost some real close games last year. They could have easily been a contender. Seven of their losses were outside the league.

"The big thing we'll have to improve on is defense," he continued. "I've been watching films and the Virginia defense leaves a great deal to be desired."

That's where a big man is definitely needed.

"We'll need someone to play the middle and I might end up doing it," he said jokingly. "But seriously, it should be easier to find someone next year since Len Elmore, Bobby Jones and Tommy Burleson won't be around. In those three, you have two Olympic gold medal winners (Jones and Burleson) and another that could have been."

Holland admits it would be nice to have a state of Virginia product likes Moses Malone playing in the middle but added that kind of thinking is entirely out of the question. Virginia has absolutely no chance of landing Malone due to the Petersburg standout's poor grades. Rumor has it the 6-11 great will go to either Maryland or N.C. State but that's out of the question too unless he really hits the book between now and June. The Virginia coaching situation, Holland feels, will be no different from his Davidson job.

"At Davidson, we played most of the ACC teams, plus national powers like Notre Dame," he said, "so the only difference, I guess, is that we'll be playing teams like North Carolina, Maryland and State twice. There's not that much difference in the total schedule. Winning in the ACC is what's so tough."

Holland admitted it was tough to leave Davidson, a school which he had been associated with for 14 years as player and coach. "We had close ties there and had just bought a new home, so that gives you a good idea of how good this Virginia job really is. The Virginia situation itself was the only factor of any consequence in my decision.

"I think we left a good nucleus at Davidson. They'll return four starters, so they're certainly not in bad shape."

But, getting back to next year's ACC fight, Holland says it'll be tough to dethrone national champion N.C. State after its great two year record and with the wealth of talent Norm Sloan has returning.



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