

STATE I-AA SCOUTING REPORTS

RICHMOND

Last year: 9-4 (7-1 Atlantic 10; lost to Furman in second round of I-AA playoffs)

Coach: Dave Clawson, 3rd year (12-12; career, 41-41)

Key players back: LB Adam Goloboski; DLs Sherman Logan and Johnny Campbell; RBs Tim Hightower and Josh Vaughan; WRs Arman Shields and Matt Hale; OL Judd Altman

Hardest to replace: QB Stacy Tutt; OL John Gromin; DL Dan Mangiero; LB Brian Burnette; PK Joseph Fore

Strengths: Nine offensive starters and seven on defense return from a team that won the A-10 title last season.

Question marks: The inexperience at QB should be minimized by all the experience and talent surrounding him. The entire kicking game needs replacing.

JAMES MADISON

Last year: 7-4 (5-3 in Atlantic 10)

Coach: Mickey Matthews, 8th year (47-37)

Key players back: QB Justin Rascati; DB Tony LeZotte; OL Corey Davis; DL Kevin Winston; LB Akeem Jordan; KR L.C. Baker; RBs Maurice Fenner and Alvin Banks

Hardest to replace: OL Matt Magerko; DB Clint Kent; DL Isai Bradshaw

Strengths: Eight starters return on offense, with five more on defense. LeZotte was the conference's defensive player of the year.

Question marks: The Dukes need Ardon Bransford (28 catches, 4 TDs), Baker (16 catches, 2 TDs) or someone else to become a big-play receiver to open things up for Rascati.

WILLIAM AND MARY

Last year: 5-6 (3-5 Atlantic 10)

Coach: Jimmye Laycock, 27th year (175-119-2)

Key players back: QBs Jacob Phillips and Mike Potts; RB Elijah Brooks; WR Joe Nicholas; OL Cody Morris; TE Matt Trinkle; LBs Josh Rutter and T.J. O'Neill

Hardest to replace: PK Greg Kuehn; OL Pat Mulloy; DB/KR Stephen Cason; DBs John Shaw and James Miller; DL Larry Pendleton

Strengths: The return of Brooks (944 rushing yards, 10 TDs) and Nicholas (52 catches, 5 TDs) will help. Phillips started six games in 2005, Potts five, and they completed 63 percent of their passes for 19 TDs, but threw nine interceptions.

Question marks: The loss of three players with a combined 88 career starts means the secondary will be inexperienced.

HAMPTON

Last year: 11-1 (8-0 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; lost to Richmond in first round of I-AA playoffs)

Coach: Joe Taylor, 15th year (120-42-1; career, 181-71-4)

Key players back: QB Princeton Shepherd; RB Alonzo Coleman; WRs Marquay McDaniel and Onrea Jones; LB Justin Durant; DLs Kendall Langford and Marcus Dixon; PK Andrew Paterini

Hardest to replace: OL Gerell Golightly; LBs Kensley Dougan and Rudolph Foye; P Cameron Muro

Strengths: Coleman needs 242 yards to become the school's career rushing leader, and McDaniel (42 catches, six TDs) will only be helped by the emergence of Jones (11 catches, 192 yards in playoffs).

Question marks: Three starters must be replaced on the offensive line.

NORFOLK STATE

Last year: 4-7 (2-6 Mid-Eastern Athletic)

Coach: Pete Adrian, 2nd year (career, 40-44-1)

Key players back: RB Daryl Jones; LB Dontae Anderson; OLs Emanuel Swindell and Jason Kressen; DB Daniel Hammett; PK Antonio Gomez

Hardest to replace: QB Brandon Brooks; RB Terrell Johnson; OL Tyrus Lassiter

Strengths: Jones (734 rushing yards, 10 total TDs) is a threat running and catching. The offensive line returns four starters, and most of the defensive starters also are back.

Question marks: The Spartans always are huge on the lines, but that doesn't always translate to effective.

LIBERTY

Last year: 1-10 (0-4 Big South)

Coach: Danny Rocco, 1st year

Key players back: RB/QB Zach Terrell; OL Jarrett Winfrey; TE Chris Luck; DL Jason Horn; LB Manny Rojas; DB Patrick Calvary

Hardest to replace: OL Markus Ferguson; WR Lauren Williams; LB Kenneth Kemp; DB C.J. Moore; QB Brock Farrel; P Noah Crouch

Strengths: Rocco is probably the most skilled coach at Liberty since former NFL head coach Sam Rutigliano, and the Flames return 15 starters.

Question marks: Having starters back from a 1-10 season is not necessarily a positive, although Rocco should take a page from the book of ex-boss Al Groh at UVa and make everyone earn their spots.

— Associated Press