Squires Are Interested
In Tech's Allan Bristow

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NORFOLK — The Virginia Squires would be interested in making Allan Bristow of Virginia Tech their No. 3 draft choice later this month.

But there is one problem. The Squires don’t know if the 6-7 Bristow, a native of Richmond, already has been selected by an American Basketball Association team.

The ABA teams made two rounds of secret selections in January. Most of the draft choices already have been learned, but not all.

It was speculated Bristow was taken by either New York or Indiana. But neither club is saying.

The Squires took Eastern Michigan’s George Gervin, who they signed immediately and began playing, the University of Virginia’s Barry Parkhill, who has not “officially” been named.

“I told Bristow to call me at the end of the season,” said the Squires’ recruiter, President John Kerr, “and he did right after the National Invitation Tournament.

“But I really don’t know if he is still available,” said Kerr.

Bristow, one of the nation’s top scorers this season, improved his status among professional scouts considerably when Virginia Tech won the NIT.

The remaining rounds of the ABA draft will be held April 17, a day after the NBA makes its selections.

Kerr said he likes how Bristow can both score and hit the open man with his passes. Kerr also was impressed by Tech’s Craig Lieder, but said Lieder’s size (6-5) was against him.

“He has a nose for the ball, though,” said Kerr. “He comes up with the rebound and he knows how to get the ball in the hoop.”

The Squires’ are seeking mainly a “tall guard who can direct the team and penetrate”—which describes Parkhill—and a strong forward who can run, score, and pass on the break.

Swen Nater, the reserve center from UCLA, was drafted last season by the Squires. But Coach Al Bianchi said no great effort would be made to sign him.

“He turned down a considerable offer from Portland (of the NBA) last year,” said Bianchi, “and we are not interested at that price.”

Other than UCLA’s Bill Walton, Kerr said he did not know of a center in college that would be available who could help the Squires.