Tech's Allan Bristow Accepts 76ers' Offer

By BILL CATE
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Allan Bristow, possibly the best college basketball player to ever play for Virginia Tech, signed a three-year contract Wednesday to play for the Philadelphia 76ers of the National Basketball Association.

Bristow, who signed for something in excess of $200,000, chose Philadelphia over the Virginia Squires of the American Basketball Association because "of the stability of the NBA."

Called the "best passing forward in college basketball" by 76er general manager Don DeJardin, Bristow almost totally rewrote the Virginia Tech record book and was the principal figure in Tech's National Invitational Tournament championship.

DeJardin said Bristow had the "potential to be another Bailey Howell." Howell was a leader for the Boston Celtics during their great championship years. Bristow, however, said he didn't remember seeing Howell play.

"Bristow said there wasn't a great deal of difference in what the Squires offered and what he got from Philadelphia "but you have to wonder how long the Squires will be around."

"There comes a time when you have to think of yourself and I just feel I'd be better off playing in the NBA. I think Julius Erving is one of the great players in the game today and he doesn't get the attention he deserves. I think that is probably because he plays in the ABA."

DeJardin said the best thing Bristow has going for him is his hands. "He has unbelievably quick hands," DeJardin said. "He can do some things which amaze you.

"Another thing which impresses me is his endurance. We think he'll be able to play every night. He has never had any trouble with injuries."

Don DeVoe, Bristow's coach at Virginia Tech for the past two years, said "Allan is an unrelenting worker. He never gives up and he goes full-speed all the time. He will be almost impossible for us to replace."