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Va. Tech Trounces E. Kentucky 92-65

By DAVE J. BISSET

With Craig Lieder hitting underneath and Charlie Thomas's fine defense on Eastern Kentucky's Carl Brown, the Techmen started off '74 in fine fashion with a trouncing 92-65 win over the Colonels of Eastern Kentucky. 'The first half was a coach's dream', said an enthusiastic Don DeVoe after the game. 'We zoomed out to an early nine point lead and never stopped until the buzzer sounded ending the half. With Craig (Lieder) playing smart offense basketball (high man with 30), we took command early and the Colonels who had a six minute field-goal drought mid-way in the opening half gave us the opportunity to build a 25-point lead by the half.'

As far as the second half went we wanted to try out many of our players and use different combinations to see who did the best in different solutions added DeVoe.' Kyle McKee had his best game of the year with eight points, seven rebounds, and two assists in his 24 minutes of playing time. Dennis Shrewsberry (former PHS standout) showed his quickness tonight as he added six points in five minutes. ...while frosh Duke Thorpe who came in early in the first half sparked us again with his good performance before fouling out with five minutes remaining,' stated DeVoe.

It was Tech all the way in this contest as Lieder hit the first bucket of the night from underneath the basket for a quick 2-0 lead. Robert Brooks, a 6-6 senior added two free throws and Carl Brown hit a bucket for Eastern's only lead in the contest. From then on the Hokies took over as Lieder did a sweeping hook for two Bobby Stevens hit a bucket and Kyle McKee added another two for a 10-6 lead.

Tech patiently found the open man and saw their margin increase from 4 points to 13 points with 10 minutes left in the first half. Then the Colonels couldn't find the range as they went nearly six minutes without a field goal. Meanwhile Tech increased their margin until freshman guard Larry Blackford sank a 10-footer with 3:16 left. At this point Tech's lead was 43-20. The half ended with the Hokies going into the locker room ahead by 25 points.

The second half started out just like the first as Thomas drove for a layup, Frazier bombed one from the corner and Tech lead 55-25. From then on DeVoe sent in many different players.

Three minutes went by before Colonels managed a bucket but, then Eastern Kentucky started their rally which saw Tech's lead cut to 17.

But that was it as the Colonels ran out of steam as it was too much of a lead to overcome as the Hokies continued their game plan and won going away. Tech now (5-5) for the season meets St. Bonaventure (9-2) Saturday night in the Tech Coliseum.

Hitting 50 percent-not bad at all!

Line Score follows: