Paced By Thorpe, W&M Rips Virginia Tech

By ED RICHARDS
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BLACKSBURG — Freshman star Duke Thorpe from West Point High School turned "Indian killer" Thursday night as Virginia Tech's Gobblers thrashed William and Mary, 80-61.

Thorpe, already an object of deep affection for Virginia Tech fandom, struck for 26 points after coming off the bench with 9:02 remaining in the first half.

The 6-foot-5 leaper who led West Point to the State Group "A" high school championship last season, responded to the chant of "Duke, Duke" sounded by the fans with 29 minutes of sweet music.

"Thorpe is really starting to come around now and the other players are gaining confidence in him," commented Gobblers' Coach Don DeVoe after his team's victory in 17 games.

"Duke has put himself in the position of a super-sub. That's the second straight game he's scored over 20 points and he's only got a six-point average."

Thorpe was all smiles after the game.

"It felt great out there tonight. I have to say that I got some great passes from other guys. I really don't care whether I start, just as long as I can contribute and help the team win."

Little senior guard Bobby Stevens had another picnic against the Tribe. The former Norfolk Catholic star tallied 20 in Williamsburg last year against the Indians and came up with a 19-point effort Thursday.

Stevens entered the contest with a mere 34 per cent shooting average on field goals, but that appeared difficult for some people to believe in this game he connected on 9 of 14 and added a free throw for a personal season high of 19 points.

The triumph hiked the Techmen's streak to 32 in a row over a State adversary.

For the second straight game, the Williamsburg Tribe went to sleep during the early part of the second half and let the game get away from them.

The Indians played almost even with the Gobblers in the first half, trailing by a mere two points (21-23) at halftime.

Sophomore Mike Arizin knotted the score, 31-31, on See Thorpe Pg. 26, Col. 1

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W&M G F T

Azirin 3 3 3 13 Lieder 5 5 5 17
Salters 4 4 4 14 Thomas 1 0 0 6
Museman 3 0 0 6 Frasier 1 0 0 2
Vail 1 0 0 3 Starks 1 1 1 2
Byrd 2 0 0 4 McKee 2 0 0 4
McDonald 3 1 3 Wade 0 0 0 7
Ritter 3 0 0 6 Thorpe 10 6 7 26
Chow 1 1 2 17 Seabrook 1 2 2 4
Reichert 0 0 0 6 Strayhorn 0 0 0 0
Pambruck 0 0 0 6 Harvey 0 0 0 0
Collins 0 0 0 6 Matthews 0 0 0 0

Totals 26 9 9 61 Totals 23 14 15 50

William and Mary 79 22-27
Virginia Tech 71 24-40