W&M Pursues ‘Reversal’ Against Invading Gobblers

By ED RICHARDS
Daily Press Sports Writer

William and Mary’s Indians will have to follow up their worst basketball performance of the year with perhaps their best if they have any upset intentions over invading Virginia Tech at 8 tonight in W&M Hall.

To put it mildly, the Indians went through the torture chamber at East Carolina’s Minges Coliseum before being released a 30-point loser to the Pirates Saturday night.

Perhaps the Indians’ biggest mistake was underestimating East Carolina’s talent. Whatever, they must let bygones be bygones and get in the right frame of mind for the tough Gobblers.

Despite strong showings by the Indians against highly-touted Rutgers and Pittsburgh in their past two home games, the Gobblers have to rule a strong favorite.

History dictates this because the Gobblers haven’t lost a verdict to W&M on the Indians’ home floor since the 1962-63 season. In fact, the Tribe has salvaged only one triumph over VPI in their past 20 meetings. That was an 84-79 decision in the Big Five tournament in the Hampton Roads Coliseum four years ago.

Regardless of the 80-61 licking the Gobblers administered to the Indians 11 days ago in Blacksburg, Coach Don DeVoe knows his troops can’t let up.

“We can’t afford to lose any more games either,” says DeVoe, whose defending National Invitational Tournament champions have struggled to amass a 11-8 record.

The Techmen will be well rested. They haven’t seen action since pounding a good Toledo club, 80-69, last Wednesday.

West Point folks will get a fine opportunity to see one of their “favorite sons” play. That’s former All-State Pointer Duke Thorpe,

See VPI, Pg. 14, Cols. 2-4

DOUG REICHERT
Improving W&M Guard

CHARLIE THOMAS
VPI Defensive Whiz