Robinson, Hokies Subdue Richmond

By Bill Mason
Sports Editor

RICHMOND-Virginia Tech needed a strong boost to get past error-prone but stubborn Richmond Saturday afternoon and got it in the form of 31 points from Wayne Robinson-including 10 in a five minute stretch-to win 86-76 for their third season at the Richmond Coliseum.

Robinson's hot streak came when the Hokies needed it most, early in the second half. Tech and the Spiders were seldom separated by more than a few points in the first half and led by only 43-41 at intermission after being unable to penetrate a tough zone defense.

Tic Price, former VCU player, turned in an excellent performance before the home town crowd, getting eight rebounds and 18 points second in both departments to Robinson who led all rebounders with 13.

Tech's full court pressure and the Spiders zone each contributed to Tech's 12 first half turnovers, which were bad and UK's 19, which were terrible.

Fumbling was contagious and the game yielded a grand total of 51 turnovers, 31 by the young and slightly game-shy Spiders.

The Hokies surge of about the first eight minutes of the second half threatened to turn the game into a rout but Richmond fought its way back from a deficit of more than 20 to lose by 10 to Tech, firmly in command but suffering from erosion of the lead.

Coach Charlie Moir of 3-4 Tech said of the early second half hot streak "It was the best stretch we've played all year."

The Spiders played better than their record, 6-3 coming into the Tech game, but proved to be their own worst enemy with costly ball-handling mistakes.

Lee Henson, another Capital City returnee (he played high school ball at Benedictine) contributed nine points but played a total of only 19 minutes before leaving the game on five personals. Price, who played all but six minutes of the game, also left on a disqualification as Tech's problem of starters fouling out continued. Guard Ron Bell had four personals when the game ended.

One of the highlights of the racehorse Tech comeback in the second half was a perfectly-executed Alley Oop pass inbounds by Bell and snowbird score by Marshall Ashford who wasn't hindered by an old knee bruise reinfured during practice here Friday. The crowd-pleasing play brought a cheer from the small but pro-Tech gathering of approximately 3,000.

Attendance was hurt by the Gold Bowl football game, played at City Stadium Saturday afternoon.

A layup by Price, coming at the end of Robinson's second half outburst put Tech ahead 69-49 with 12:30 left to play. From that point on it was a matter of Tech holding, going to a stalling tactic for a short time to protect lead and Richmond almost threatening to take the (Continued On Page 3)

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RICHMONDTexas
fe-fga ft-pts reb pf tot
Perry 12-18 1-4 10 4 25
Burler 2-6 0-1 5 3 4
Boehling 4-6 0-0 5 2 8
Campbell 1-4 2-2 5 3 4
Washington 3-5 1-1 5 5 7
Dow 2-6 4-4 12 5 8
Cowan 4-9 1-2 2 2 9
Rizbo 0-0 2-2 0 1 2
Harrison 3-5 1-2 2 0 7
Redd 0-2 2-2 2 1 2
TOTALS 31-61 14-20 49 26 76

VIRGINIA
fe-fga ft-pts reb pf tot
Henson 3-5 3-5 2 5 9
Price 7-14 4-6 8 5 18
Robinson 14-20 3-6 13 3 31
Ashford 3-13 2-5 2 3 8
Bell 6-12 5-8 4 3 17
Reid 1-6 0-0 0 0 2
Bennett 6-5 1-2 6 2 1
Henderson 0-0 0-0 0 0 2
TOTALS 34-75 18-32 40 21 86

Team Turnovers: Richmond 31, Virginia Tech 20.
Halftime Score: 43-41, Virginia Tech.
Attendance: 3,000.

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PRICE FROM DOWNTOWN-Firing from downtown is Tic Price of Virginia Tech. Price hit on seven of 14 field goal attempts and four of six at the line for 18 points.

IT'S MINE-Gripping the basketball tightly while in a prone position in a scramble for possession is Tech's Tic Price (right) as Richmond's Miller Butler tries to pry it away.

DUNK BY WAYNE-Dunking the basketball is Tech's Wayne Robinson, scoring two of his game-high 31 points in the season's third win.