Army Visits HokieLand

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There are some big games in the state and neighboring “Tobacco Road” Saturday on the college basketball scene.

Locally, Virginia Tech, coming off that unbelievable 25-point come-from-behind victory over Memphis State Wednesday night, hosts a very good Army team. The Black Knights of the Hudson hold a 16-5 record, their best since 1945, coming into the game, fresh off a two point loss to St. John's in overtime. That game will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Just across the state line, Wake Forest co-leader of the Atlantic Coast Conference, hopes to get back to its winning ways against dangerous N.C. State. In the 8 p.m. matchup, Wake will try and rebound from a loss to Clemson Tuesday night while State is a coming team.

Elsewhere in the area, VMI puts its long winning string on the line against Richmond in Lexington. The Keydets, ranked 20th in the nation in one poll, are supposedly the best team in the state.

Others say that Old Dominion University is the best. The Monarchs have a chance to persuade a few more people of that fact Saturday when they take on the University of Virginia at Charlottesville. VMI's lone loss of the season came at the hands of the Cavaliers.

Elsewhere Maryland and Clemson tangle while North Carolina meets Tulane in the Greensboro Coliseum. Last year Charlie Moir (now Tech’s head coach), and his Tulane team took UNC into four overtimes before losing.

At Blacksburg, Tech will face a very disciplined Army team. “They’re not as big and as physical as Memphis,” says Moir, “but they’re very disciplined and have one of the best players in the country in Gary Winthrop.”

Winthrop is 6-7 and scores over 20 points per game. Army's talent doesn't end there. The Cadets have 6-2 guard Pat Harris who runs the show and is a great defensive player.

Other starters are 6-5 guard Matt Brown, 6-7 forward Scott Eaton and 6-5 forward Glenn Broughton.