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RICHMOND — Under
gloomy skies and on a
muddy terrain, Lady
Luck finally shone on
William and Mary.

It couldn’t have come at a
better time or occasion than
Saturday in Richmond’s City
Stadium where the heavy-un
dertakers Indians stunned rival
Virginia Tech, 17-16, in the
Tobacco Bowl before some
20,000 fans.

The issue wasn’t decided
until halfback John Hostel
ter’s play on defense broke up
a pass in the end zone on a
two-point attempt by the
Gobblers with 13 seconds left.
That followed a gallant effort
by Tech, which drove 84
downs with 2:18 remaining to
pull within one point of the
Tribe.

The touchdown came on a
six-yard pass from Tech an
tial artist Don Strick to Flan
ker Ricky Scales. “We never
considered going for the tie,”
said a subdued Coach
Charlie Coffey after the upset.

On the passing try to win
the game, Strick rolled out left
and attempted to hit wide
receiver Steve Galloway, but
Hostelte made the save. Coff
ey saw it differently, saying:
“Our man (Galloway) had the
ball but couldn’t hang on to it.”

Regardless, the Indians had
their biggest win of the year
in their pocket and the first
over the Gobblers in 19 years.

“How sweet it is! How
sweet it is!” exclaimed an
overjoyed Coach Jim Root
after the victory. “Things had
to turn around for us some
time and it did today. You
need some luck to win football
games and I’ll be the first to
admit we had some luck
today, but we also had one
helluva effort. We couldn’t
have played any better.”

With 5:10 left in the game
and the score knotted at 10-10,
the Indians mounted their
winning thrust, going 60 yards
in 10 plays. The payoff was a
32-yard touchdown pass from
quarterback Bill Deery to tight
end Mark Smith.

Smith, a 6-foot-3 junior, was
closely guarded by halfback
Bobby Dobbs of Newport
News on the play, but the
Tribe receiver took it away
from him around the 10 and
scampered into the end zone.
Steve Regan booted his 18th
stright extra point and the
Indians had a 17-10 cushion
with 2:18 to go.

They soon went to work
through the air, completing five
of 11 passes in the scor
ning drive, but Coach Root

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VPI Upset, Furgon’s
Duo Shines

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troops weren’t to be denied
this time. On 18 other occasions
in the last 21 games, the
Tribe had bowed in the final
quarter.

Hoste crafted his defense
with a “super” effort and one
could hardly argue that
since the Indians held the
Gobblers to mere three
points in the first three
quarters. That’s something no
one else had been able to do
this season.

Tech spent a lot of the first
half in Tribe territory, but
couldn’t put it in and had to
settle for a 46-yard field goal
by Dave Strock.

After two serious threats in
the third quarter, the Indians
finally went all the way as
Deery directed a 69-yard
drive in nine plays. Passes to
Smith of 14 and 11 yards and
15 of flanker David Knight
sparked the assault.

And back Doug Gerhart
cracked through the left side
of the Tech wall from the
three for the score. Regan’s
kick made it 7-2 with 25
remaining in the third period.

Less than two minutes
later, a pass interception by
linebacker Randy Rovesti put
the Indians in position for
other tally, but they had to
settle for a 20-yard field goal
by Regan. That left the score
10-2 with 13:25 to go.

VPI safety Jerry Scharnus,
like Dobbs a graduate of Fer
guson High in Newport News,
soon took the spotlight as he
dashed 37 yards to the Tribe
20 on a punt return to raise
the Gobblers’ hopes for a
comeback.

It took only four plays for
them to score, with Strick
going the final yard on a
snatch. The kick by brother
Dave was good, leaving the
score 10-9 with 9:29 left.

The Gobblers’ defense
slandered the door on the
Tribe on its next series and
the Indians had to punt.
Scharnus bailed it in on the
VPI 44 and was off to the
races again, finally being
downed on the Tribe 15.

The Indians’ defense also
took the challenge and
Tech couldn’t muster a point
to Dave Strock’s 31-yard field
goal on fourth down with 1:56
to go was wide. That set
the stage for the final Tribe
drive, and drives by both teams.

Statistics bore out the cle
ness of the match, with Tech
taking a 401 to 382 edge in
total yardage. Strock was 24
of 43 with two interceptions
through the air while the
Indians struck for 707 yards
on the ground and 175 in the
air. Gerhart led the Indians’
rushing with 88 yards on 21
attempts while Knight was
the top pass receiver with 81
yards on six catches.

By winning, the Indians
broke their record to 4-4 while
the loss by Tech (3-5-1) fol
lowed wins over Southern
Methodist, Oklahoma State
and Ohio University and a tie
against Houston.