Indians upset Hokies 17-16, paling Strock's passing feats

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Scalped, ugh!
There seems little justice in another of Don Strock's commonly fantastic performances being paled by defeat.

From Wm & Mary's standpoint there has to be some poetic justice in winning after losing in some games they probably deserved to win from the Gobbler during the last decade.

The spotlight still has to remain on the amazing Mr. Strock who unquestionably has to be one of the greatest collegiate passers of all time.

Check his game-by-game figures of the last six Saturdays:
vs. Florida State—Comp. 22, Att. 48, Pct. .458, Yds. 276, TD 1, Int. 2.
SMU—Comp. 16, Att. 29, Pct. .551, Yds. 206, TD 1, Int. 3.
Houston—Comp. 34, Att. 53, Pct. .641, Yds. 527, TD 0, Int. 2.

Don Strock
Oklahoma State—Comp. 20, Att. 40, Pct. .500, Yds. 355, TD 2, Int. 3.
Ohio University—Comp. 14, Att. 24, Pct. .583, Yds. 307, TD 4, Int. 1.
Wm & Mary—Comp. 24, Att. 43, Pct. .558, Yds. 339, TD 1, Int. 2.
TOTAL: Comp. 130, Att. 237, Pct. .548, Yds. 2010, TD 9, Int. 13

If he continues at his present rate—which every week seems nearly impossible, he'll wind up in the top five or 10 of the all-time collegiate greats, even though his sophomore year contributed very little to his marks.

This week Strock and mates have to regroup themselves for Southern Mississippi, a team that not only dumped the Techmen, 17-8, here in Lane Stadium last season but also gave Strock one of his toughest afternoons of the 1971 season.

Coach Charlie Coffey foresees little trouble in getting ready mentally for the Southerners simply because the Techmen suffered a quite obvious letdown against Wm & Mary.

"That's the life of a football team. You're constantly trying to overcome the psychology of the game; sometimes you do, and sometimes you don't. And we didn't peak for the Wm & Mary game."

While taking the blame himself for the lapse, Coffey well might have pointed out that the Gobbler underclassmen in particular learned a for-sure lesson in the psychology of the game: while coaches and senior leaders are supposed to provide a weekly miracle of getting the entire squad "up," it behooves every squadman to get himself mentally ready to play.

Playing conditions last Saturday were far from ideal, but it's the time of year when a team can't count on anything approaching ideal conditions, and the Techmen, still confident of a winning season, will have to gear their thoughts to doing their best, whatever.

Strock already this season has appeared oblivious to wind and rain. His constantly growing confidence has kept the Fighting Gobblers on the wing and Tech's "house of thrills" football on the marquee of the college football scene.