INDIANS SEEK 8TH VICTORY

William & Mary At Home Against Improved Gobblers

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When two basketball teams collide who have trouble winning away from home, the home team logically has an advantage.

William and Mary Coach Warren Mitchell hopes to add support to this logic tonight as his Indians, 7-12 overall but 2-9 on the road, take on Virginia Tech's Gobblers. The Techmen are 11-9 in all games, but have won only three of nine on hostile courts and two of five on neutral floors.

"The contest is only one of two on a meager State college basketball slate. Emory and Henry visits Clinch Valley on the small college front.

"This is going to be a rough ball game," claims Mitchell. "Tech has a big, rough, aggressive ball club, particularly under the basket and that's where they really hurt us in the earlier game."

The gobblers added William and Mary to its growing list of State and Southern Conference victims, 87-65, just 12 days ago.

"Defense and rebounding are going to be the things we're going to have to emphasize if we're going to beat Tech," says Mitchell, pointing to the Blacksburg meeting.

"Of course, the keyman for them is Allan Bristow. He killed us last time....36 points, 16 rebounds. We'll have to stop him without letting up on the rest of them because,

now that Tom Trice is back, there are about five or six others who can score like crazy if you don't stay with them."

"William and Mary will definitely be up for us," counters Tech Coach Don DeVoe. "To begin with, the score of the other game will fool you. They were within reach of us until the last few minutes when we hit 12 straight points to break it open.

"They're a well-disciplined team, the kind that won't give you too many opportunities and they looked really good in their last game (a 73-68 victory over Pittsburgh)."

DeVoef eels a victory tonight would put his team in a position for its best season in recent years.

"We need this one," he explains. "If we can win it, we'll be 12-9 with four of our remaining five games at home.

"We seem to play better in Blacksburg and the opposition never seems to play up to par. We have teams come in here shooting 50 per cent for the year and they shoot 30 per cent in our coliseum.

"Of course, we do things to cut their shooting percentage, but we seem to play so much better at home."