Gobblers Halt W&M Rally, Triumph, 9-7

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Right fielder Jay Fleischer's grand-slam homer in the third inning culminated a five-run Virginia Tech uprising, getting the Gobblers winging to a 9-7 verdict over host William and Mary Tuesday.

Former Warwick High star outfielder Mike Dixon broke open an early pitcher's battle between Tech's Jack Tatem and Indian Mike Bujakowski with a lone-drive single in the third.

With one unearned run already across the plate on a second base hit and an error by W&M third baseman Hunter Robinson, the Techmen loaded the bases to set up Fleischer's four-run rap.

The 5-foot-10 senior outfielder from Richmond smacked a hard-hit single to right field that scooted through right fielder Bernie Marron's legs and caromed off the fence, allowing Fleischer to circle the bases before Marron could recover for the throw.

The Tribe retaliated in the fourth on a single by Robinson, a towering double by Greg Bostick, Charlie Bish's sacrifice fly and a two-bagger by Ferris Allen for a pair of runs.

Vince Carbaugh led off Tech's fifth inning reaching base on an error, followed by singles by Tony Varboncoeur and Fleischer, scoring one tally. Varboncoeur crossed the plate on VanArnhem's sacrifice fly to center field.

Dave Wisbauer singled in Fleischer to end the scoring and give the Gobblers an 8-2 advantage.

W&M scored one in the bottom of the sixth on a sacrifice fly by Allen, then drew closer to the lead with two runs in both the seventh and eighth innings.

VPI had tallied an insurance run in the seventh, but it appeared that the Indians were mounting a determined drive to usurp the lead from the visitors.

Three consecutive base hits with one out in the eighth by Allen, pinch hitter Reggie Kidd and Corky Bishop, pushed across W&M's sixth and seventh runs.

Sanford Boiseau, batting for Bujakowski, hit a long drive to Dixon in center for the apparent sacrifice, but Dixon brought the crowd to its feet with a pinpoint bullet throw to put out Bishop who was sliding home to end the threat.

Tatem, now 3-1, gave up six hits, five runs and struck out eight before being relieved in the eighth. Loser Bujakowski (0-3) allowed the Gobblers 11 hits and nine runs before bowing to Bill Deery in the ninth.

W&M travels to Old Dominion Thursday while the Gobblers visit Richmond's Spiders today at 2 p.m.