Fast Starting Hokies Roar Over Keydets

By Bill Mason
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LEXINGTON—Accuracy, shooting, and defense with more teeth as it than might be expected for an opening game powered Virginia Tech to a stunning 96-64 win over cold-shooting outmatched VMI despite a minor third quarter lull.

The combination of early scoring by junior college transfer forward Russell Davis, who hit 13 of 25 field-goal attempts and a tight defense that all but denied the inside game to the Keydets nearly pulled VMI off the court before the midpoint of the first quarter.

Tech, plagued by dismal foul shooting last season when it escaped with a 1-15 record, showed 51 percent field goal accuracy in the first half and 35 percent for the game overall, a solid 12 of 14 free throws attempts.

VMI managed only 14 percent from the field and a miserable 20 percent from the free throw line. "We had a big lead because of our defense," said coach Roy McCray.

"This is the third game in a row we have scored in the first quarter," McCray said.

D-Voc pointed out that Virginia Tech "hit our first four shots," had the lead and "just played their game right out of the gate from the beginning.

"We're not going to be able to play the game they played because we're just way behind."

D-Voc said Tech 'hit' 36 percent from the field and 20 percent from three-point range.

The coach said, "They hit 51 percent from the field and 45 percent from three-point range.

"We're not going to be able to do that."