Hokies Lose Michigan Tournament

Turnovers caught up with Virginia Tech again and proved the ‘Hokies’ undoing as Tech lost to host Michigan, 84-63, in the first round of the Michigan Invitational Friday, December 20.

The loss put Tech into the consolation game on Saturday against Washington which had been beaten by Manhattan, 81-73.

The Gobblers actually held the lead for much of the first half, drawing quickly to an 11-4 margin and eventually spreading the bulge to 11 points at 27-16.

But then Wolverine coach Johnny Orr slapped a press on Tech and it resulted in 12 straight Michigan points to put the home team on top, 28-27.

By halftime Michigan had edged in front, 38-35.

The game remained close for the first part of the second half, but Michigan put it out of reach in the final 10 minutes.

Russell Davis, with 19 points, and Dave Sensibaugh, with 16, were the only two Hokies in double figures. Tech hit just 23 of 54 shots, and three players, Mike Collins, Kyle McKee and Larry Cooke, fouled out.

The loss dropped Tech to 5-2 for the year heading into the contest with Washington, which the Hokies won over the 13th-ranked Huskies, 88-77.