Tech after more from Cartwright

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WILLIAMSBURG—Virginia Tech Coach Don DeVoe hopes to get another good game out of sub guard Mark Cartwright.

The 6-5 junior is a day-to-day case for the Hokies, according to DeVoe. The reason is that illness and injuries force him to miss a lot of playing time.

"Just like the commercial," said DeVoe, "he gets the old one-two. We have to use Mark while the sun is shining."

The Gobblers visit Southern Conference rival William and Mary here tonight at 7:30. Tech, 11-5, is in a situation where it must win all the games it can in order to be considered for a post season tournament.

"I anticipate William and Mary using a zone, so I look for Mark to play a lot," said DeVoe.

Richmond tried a zone against Tech Saturday night. Cartwright loped off the bench and helped destroy it. The Martinsville native hit 14 points on a dazzling display of shooting.

"I don't know that that was his best game this year," DeVoe explained. "He played super at Florida. He had only 10 points, but he had a heck of a floor game."

Before the Richmond game, however, it was another story. Cartwright had been slowed for more than two weeks. "He has respiratory problems (catches colds easily), a knee that bothers him if he gets hit on the shin and a bad back," explained DeVoe.

But the walking hospital case isn't about to let it get to him. "I guess he was playing very close to his potential at Richmond. He shoots the ball so very well," said DeVoe.

"He also handles the ball well. Sometimes Mark doesn't get in until late in the half, so he doesn't have very many minutes of playing time. But he's capable of getting double points because of his range."

Cartwright admits he is sometimes a bit nervous. "I hadn't played a lot before the Richmond game. I wasn't as relaxed as I normally am. But I had shot well all week and I feel I am getting better," he stressed.

DeVoe's teams at Tech have never lost to William and Mary in six meetings. However, this might be the best Indians' basketball team to face the Hokies since DeVoe took over four years ago. William and Mary currently has an 8-6 record.

Tech must stop 6-3 sophomore guard Ron Satterthwaite. "He played well against us last year and he's a damned good one," said DeVoe.

The Indians will be taller than Tech with 6-5 Mike Enoch opening at the other guard; 6-10 Matt Courage going at center; and 6-7 John Lowenthal and 6-5 Gary Byrd starting at forwards. But if 6-10 Dennis Vail is ready, he will replace Byrd giving the Indians more height.

Tech has a front line that includes 6-9 Kyle McKee at center, and 6-6 Duke Thorpe and 6-5 Russell Davis at forwards. In the backcourt are 6-0 Dave Sensibaugh, who had 14 first half points against Richmond, and 6-3 Larry Cooke.

"If Dave had had a second half like the first half," DeVoe joked, "we'd have given him the game ball."

Tech also has 6-4 Sam Foggia available for reserve duty tonight. Foggia was playing well before being sidelined in the West Virginia game by a sprained ankle. "We hope to get 10 minutes total playing time out of him, but he's out of shape," admitted DeVoe.

Tech will be off after tonight's game until a weekend road series at Wake Forest (Saturday) and Eastern Kentucky (Monday).