Slugging Spiders Hand Tech Eighth Defeat: 15-14

BLACKSBURG — The Richmond Spiders, hitting the ball like anything but a 13-15 team, chased three Tech pitchers and scored 11 runs in the first three innings en route to a 15-14 win Wednesday.

Tech, down 5-0 before coming to bat for the first time made a game rally which included four hits by designated hitter Paul Adams, including two home runs, driving in a total of 4 runs.

Spider pitching was belted for 19 hits, including another four by third baseman Tony Varboncoeur but the rally fell short and Tech absorbed its eighth loss against 18 wins.

Starter John Nielson gave way to Dave Tinsley in the second, who yielded to Bob Fisher in the third. Starter Mike Arrington came in to relieve Fisher in the fifth and stopped the Spiders, but the damage had been done.

Bob Gillette was the winner for Richmond and Nielson was the loser.

Tech had road games at William and Mary, Old Dominion, Richmond and Marshall on the schedule before returning Thursday for a scheduled doubleheader with West Virginia in a series rained out for the past three seasons.

TWO HOME RUNS — Senior designated hitter Paul Adams of Dante prepares to touch third base as he is homeward bound after hitting his second home run of the game Wednesday against Richmond. Tech lost by a run to the fired-up Spiders. (Staff photo by Bill Mason)