Hokies Lose 3rd Straight 82-71

By BILL CATE
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COLUMBIA, S.C. — A few years ago, the people who write the rules for college basketball got together and decided to outlaw the dunk shot. At the same time they put into a rule called goallending.

Virginia Tech coach Don DeVoe, almost livid after again losing here Wednesday night, was wondering whatever happened to the goallending rule.

South Carolina, a team of high jumpers if there ever was one, played above the rim all evening and expanded its record to 16-4, defeating Virginia Tech 82-71 and handing the Hokies their third consecutive loss.

"If they're going to disband the goallending rule," said DeVoe, "they ought to do it everywhere. I just can't believe the officials (Chandler Owens and Jim Burch) allowed South Carolina to play on the rim like that."

DeVoe, usually not critical of officiating, had a legitimate complaint. South Carolina's Alex English and Nate Davis played above the basket all evening.

Tech's Craig Lieder, who was the victim of several interpretations, said, "I'd just like to get the taste of leather out of my mouth. Those people can really jump. Their timing was good and when the officials refuse to call goallending it's very difficult to do much."

"May have been questionable (South Carolina shot 21 free throws, Tech shot six), there was no question that the gamecocks were the superior outfit."

South Carolina gets away with goallending."

"We knew we'd have to play well to have a chance," said Lieder. "Obviously, we didn't play well enough."

"Nate played so well against Notre Dame that I decided to start him," said Ga-me-cock coach Frank McGuire. "Tech's scouting report probably said that (Mark) Greiner (who usually starts) didn't score much and they played the scouting report. The only thing was Nate was playing instead of Greiner and he had the open shots."

Actually, Tech was never in the game. South Carolina opened in a 5-3 zone and the Hokies passed over the half around the perimeter and shot well enough to trail by 12 at the half. Almost half of South Carolina's 42 first-half points came from Brian Winters (who scored 20) who was guarded by Tech's Mr. D, Charlie Thomas.

"We put our best (Thomas) on their best (Winters)," said DeVoe. "Winters just had the best of it in the first half."

In the second half, however, the South Carolina senior didn't scratch from the field.

South Carolina went to the man-to-man defense in the missisipi, second half, mostly because Tech sophomore Mark Carwright, a transfer from South Carolina, was bombing from the outside.

"We also needed to have more movement on offense," said McGuire. "Sometimes when you play a zone, you go out and start offensively."

Cartwright started in place of Bobby Stevens. Calvin Wade was also a starter and Thorpe didn't play. Thorpe didn't play.

"Tech's next game is Saturday in Blacksburg against Mer-