Virginia Tech Rips Deacons

By CHARLES KARMOSKY
Daily Press Sports Editor
WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Field goals of 39 and 32 yards by South American-born booteer Paul Engle in the second quarter and two touchdowns in a 65-seconds span in the third quarter enabled Virginia Tech to end a “losing streak” stretching back to 1967.

The Gobblers hadn’t won an opener since that year, but Saturday night’s 23-6 conquest of Wake Forest snapped the jinx against the much-improved but outmanned Deacons.

After Engle’s first-half scores, Virginia Beach speedster Roscoe Coles skirted right end from six yards out to climax a 67-yard drive started on the second half kickoff.

On the first play after the ensuing kickoff, cornerback Gene Bunn intercepted a pass and returned it 21 yards to the Deacons’ 18. A holding penalty temporarily held up the Techmen, but on the third play after the pass theft, Mitch Barnes connected with a 29-yard pitch on which Moses Foster made a diving catch for six points.

Engle converted the extra points, then kicked another field goal (27 yards) on the first play of the final quarter to wrap up the decision neatly.

The Deacons averted a whitewashing with a scoring pass taken in by Al Zyskowski with 1:54 of action remaining.

Virginia Tech’s first-half success and 6-0 lead was not only attributable to the kicking accuracy of soccer-stylist Paul “Chili Bean” Engle but also to the ability and pressure of its defense in thwarting the host Deacons’ offense.

Wake Forest’s busiest ball-carrier was John Zeglinski, but for the most part he was stopped in his tracks. As a result, the bulk of whatever ground was gained by the Deacons was netted through the air.