Continued From Page 1

of it (49 yards), and 20 yards through the airways.

But Tech realized its defensive scheme was working out as planned. Sharpe admitted that he felt Wake’s game plan would be to run star back John Zeglisinski at his Hokies, but Tech had shut off the multi-purpose senior to 20 yards on 13 rushes in the first half.

Tech’s ball control habits took effect in the third period when the Gobblers went more to their new look of the wishbone set. The double wing, with both backs shifting just behind the linemen on the two corners, began to put pressure on the Deacons’ corners.

Sharpe realized that it was just a matter of time before his team’s ground game would break through.

Wake didn’t get its hands on the ball until eight minutes had passed in the second half.

Tech methodically drove down the field in a nearly seven minute drive climaxing by Colley taking a pitch and sweeping the right side to score the game’s first touchdown, giving Sharpe’s Hokies a 13-0 advantage.

Tech’s time of possession in the third period was an amazing 13 minutes compared to only 1:59 for Wake, proving you can’t score if you don’t have the ball.

Tech’s defense wasn’t satisfied. Wake’s first play of the second half, a pass from quarterback Jerry McManus was intercepted by Gene Bunn and returned 21 yards to the Deacons 22.

Three plays later Tech was in “Touchdown City” again when Foster making a spectacular diving catch of a Barnes’ scoring dart to put Tech in near insurmountable control. 36-0 Mils switched McManus and Mike McClaney through the game but neither could sustain a drive until late in the game when Wake averted the shutdown.

Engle’s final good boot of the night gave Tech a 23-0 advantage only four seconds into the fourth period.

He later missed on a 21-yard kick that hit the cross bar and bounced away no good.

Wake’s only scoring drive came with less than two minutes to play. Sophomore quarterback Bob Hely was Mills’ third field general of the night, and the young Deacon drove his team 66 yards in eight plays with his pass to Zyskoski from two yards out scoring. The highlight of the drive was when James McDougald raced 46 yards around the right side to the Tech 49.

Hely tried the two-point conversion but was sacked by Keith McCarter and Tom Beasley, who had superb nights defensively, to thwart the effort.

Before a crowd of 35,600 in Groves Stadium, the Hokies defense drew most of the praise from an elated Sharpe. Wake managed only 160 yards on the ground and 101 in the air against a stingy “D” which was gearing for an opening game shutdown.

Tech on the other hand had 350 yards total offense, including 274 yards rushing.

Coles led the charge with 68 yards in 14 carries, while second quarterback Eddie Snel came through with 56 yards. Barnes passed perfectly, connecting on all four aerials for 56 yards.

Wake’s Zeglisinski finished with only 21 yards rushing on the night.

Tech broke the jinx. But looming ahead is tough Texas A&M, and Sharpe hopes his new offensive look and defensive readiness and aggressiveness can pass the second test.