Turning Point

Staff Writer

Every game has its “turning point”.

Each week, New River Newspapers will focus in briefly on the turning point of the Virginia Tech game.

Against Wake Forest Saturday, the halftime could have been the turning point. That’s when Tech Coach Jimmy Sharpe and his staff made the necessary adjustments to go out and break open a 6-0 lead at the intermission, going on to win 23-6.

“It was very obvious that the third quarter was the turning point since we controlled the football for 13 of the 15 minutes in that period,” Sharpe said today.

The Hokies coach made the adjustments in their offensive line blocking assignments, went over the penalty situations and told quarterback Mitchelal Barnes, “we’re gonna turn you loose and let you call the game unless we see something from the sidelines. Just go out there and run it down their throats.”

Tech punched in a touchdown, then intercepted two plays later and drove for another score and a 20-0 lead. “If it hadn’t been for a couple of penalties and a mistake or two, there’s no doubt we could have had 33 or 40 points.”