Proud Of Team

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COLLEGE STATION — Texas A&M's "Aggie War Hymn" thundered from the confines of Kyle Field. But inside the Virginia Tech dressing room, there was no joy. Tech guard Earley's early national pronouncement was silenced temporarily, 19-9 Saturday by one of the nation's strongest defensive teams.

"It's a challenge of my players," said Tech Coach Jim Sharpe. "Obviously they were a big and strong football team. But we're not going to close down shop. We've been here before. Now we have to go back and correct our mistakes."

The Aggies' "D" did have one major Tech's wishbone offense by stopping it at the very—the fullback. The key to any wishbone attack is to first establish the fullback, make your opponent respect that phase. But A&M's defense, tops against the rush in the nation in 75, took up where it left off, yielding only 65 yards on the ground.

"I'm proud of our players. We were defeated," said again.

"A&M is a great team, a very physical football team. Our defense was on the field too long. That big fullback (Geronie Woodard), is something else.

Over in the winners' dressing room, Coach Emory Bellard, the man who invented the wishbone, while an assistant at Texas years ago, was pleased with his team's efforts.

"I thought we played real hard. We got better as the game went along. Tech is to be commended. I think they will do well the rest of the season."

Many thought that if Tech had survived this test, the Hokies could possibly go 9-1. But Tech's offense, which rolled over Wake Forest in the opener a week ago, could never sustain a lengthy drive against the Aggies. Quarterback Bob Brault echoed Tech's offensive line's sentiments. "We always try to establish our fullback up the middle. But, we couldn't put it altogether. The fullback's starting to do his stuff as we stopped ourselves. We made mistake, after mistake on offense. They were very physical, but I think we could have beat them," said the blonde haired versatile lineman.

Bobby Razzano, the Tech linebacker who impressed the entire 44,000 plus in Aggieeland under the sun's 85 degree rays, sat alone, detached. "This is definitely the best team I've played against. There's better teams in the country than A&M, I'd like to see them."

Razzano led Tech's defensive charge with 14 tackles and six more assists.

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