Tech Booters Defeated

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The Virginia Tech soccer team and the Hokie football team have a lot in common.
Both hit the playing turf with strong defenses, but lack determined attacks offensively.
For the Gobbler booters that means a three game losing streak, dropping the Hokies' record to 1-3 after a season opening triumph over West Virginia Tech two weeks ago.
Since then the Hokies have gone three games — four hours and 30 minutes — without scoring a goal.
Last week Tech was caught looking past Eastern Mennonite to Navy and Randolph Macon and were defeated by the Harrisonburg club 2-0.

On a two game weekend road trip Tech couldn't use the same excuse.
Sunday afternoon in Ashland the Hokies lost to the Randolph Macon Yellow Jackets 1-0 and Friday afternoon in Annapolis they lost to the United States Naval Academy Midshipmen 4-0. The victories improved Randolph Macon's record to 5-1-0, and Navy's to 3-1.

Commenting on the losses Tech Coach Jerry Cheynet said, "We're pressing a little now. Sometimes when we should be trying to dribble around a man, we'll shoot it and vice-versa. I think when we get a goal it will open the doors up for us.
"We'll make some personnel changes to try to shake things up and get them moving again."

Although he is thinking about a number of adjustments, one maneuver Cheynet has decided on is to place fullback Scott Lindquist on the front line rotating him with center forward Chris Burkett.

According to the coach, the losing streak hasn't helped the Hokies' situation. But it hasn't hurt it as much as one might think at first glance because none of the losses came against teams in Tech's division.
"We're still in the running for the state playoffs because we haven't lost to anyone in our division," Cheynet said. "Our next two games against Radford College today and against Lynchburg Saturday are the most crucial.
"Against Radford, which is 1-2-1, we should get our offense in tune for Lynchburg which is 4-2 and very strong. Randolph Macon beat Lynchburg 2-0 and if we can beat them we should win our division, assuming we don't overlook Radford."

The two weekend games did have some bright spots for Tech. Once again, the defense turned in good performances in both games.

Against Randolph Macon Tech goalie Ken Nelson had his best game of the year coming up with 13 saves. The Yellow Jacket's tally didn't come until the 83:00 mark (seven minutes remaining in the contest) when Jim Stepak scored with an assist from Mark Spacek.

Cheynet said, "Randolph Macon dominated the game offensively taking 33 shots to our 14 but we played super defense."

Commenting immediately after the Navy game a disappointed Cheynet said, "We played up to our potential in the first half, but Navy is very good and well conditioned. They wore us down in the second half."

At halftime Tech trailed by a slim 1-0 margin as a result of a Middie R. Decker's goal at the 30 minute mark. But as Cheynet said, Navy wore Tech down in the final period.

Dennis David scored for the Midshipmen at 52:00. Decker notched his second goal at 55:30 and Larry China wrapped up the scoring with a tally at 63:28.