Beasley to See Postseason Play

By JERRY VERNON
Sports Writer

Three Virginia Tech football players have been selected to the Associated Press (AP) All-American honorable mention team and to the AP All-South Independent team.

Juniors Roscoe Coles and Rick Razzano earned honors on both teams for the second consecutive year while senior Tom Beasley repeated on the honorable mention team, but was selected first string All-South for the first time.

Beasley who played defensive tackle has also been chosen to perform in the Blue-Grey game in Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 24 and in the American Bowl in Mobile, Ala. on a yet undisclosed date, according to the Tech football coaching staff.

The 6-5, 227-pound professional football prospect was unavailable for comment over the weekend.

Both running back Coles and linebacker Razzano said this year’s selection to the teams “helped some” during the aftermath of a disappointing Hokie season. Tech began this year with hopes for a 9-2 mark and then dropped its last three games to settle for a 6-6 record.

“The wounds are still there,” lamented Razzano who scored 14 tackles this season. “The guys come up and congratulate me and it’s just not the same as last year. I’m just hoping we can come back next year and not make the mistakes that hurt us so drastically this year.”

Despite a late season leg injury, the 5-11, 225-pound linebacker continued his string of consecutive games played - 35 - this season. “That’s been a goal of mine since I’ve been here,” said the stocky Pennsylvania native who started his first game during 1974 in his freshman year. “I said I’d love to start every game in my career. I don’t know anyone who had done that here who started as freshman.”

Razzano also has his share of other physical problems as the bottles of pills laying on his dresser in Hillcrest dormitory indicate.

“I’ve had some problems with my back,” he admitted. “It gave me a hard time this summer and I’ve been taking pills for it. I’m going to be taking those soon and see how it feels.”

Coles is another Hokie who has spent the past season carrying around a lot of physical problems—a leg injury and a shoulder dislocation.

“I guess I did as well as could be expected this year for the condition I played in,” said Coles who stands as Tech’s career rushing leader (2788) with one more year to play. “I guess it feels pretty good getting selected to the teams again.”

Coles agreed with Razzano saying last year’s selection was “a lot happier” than this winter’s performance.

“It was something new then,” recalled the 168-pound back who rushed for a Tech season record of 1119 yards this year. “It would have been nice to have scored a lot, I don’t feel that bad about our record. I would have felt a lot better if we had went 9-2.”

Both Razzano and Coles have set goals they hope will make next season a more prosperous venture, not on the first step a professional career. The classmates are eyeing the pro ranks and both figure selection to postseason teams could help their chances some.

“Just by getting my picture in magazines or something helps,” said Razzano. “Maybe they would run some statistics or something with it, but like I said there are a lot of guys who are in the pros who were never in the magazines.”

Coles agreed, “I hope these selections will help, but I don’t

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RICK RAZZANO
Repeats On All-South

ROSCOE COLES
All-South Independent

TOM BEASLEY
Perform In Blue-Grey

Beasley

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know that much about what persuades the scouts about their draft picks.”

Razzano and Coles have laid down expectations that differ somewhat for next season.

“I’d like to repeat that first team (All-South) again,” admitted the running back, “and as far as All-American goes I’d like to be on the first team. In order for me to be selected on the first string I would have to rush at least for 1300-1400 yards and also the team would have to have a good year.”

On the other hand, Razzano is concentrating on more personal goals for himself.

“I’m not worried a whole lot about being All-American,” he explained. “My objective is to be a leader next year and I’m hoping this team does the job. Politics plays a big part in those bowl selections and postseason honors.”

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