Gobblers To Land
2 State Grid Stars

PULASKI (UPI) — Two Virginia high school football players who rushed for a total of nearly 8,000 yards during their four-year careers are expected to agree to play for Virginia Tech next year.

The two, Sidney Snell of Blacksburg and Lewis Stuart of Floyd County, have both reportedly chosen independent Tech over the University of North Carolina, an Atlantic Coast Conference school, according to New River Newspapers.

Snell was expected to sign with Tech Tuesday night and Stuart on today or Thursday.

Snell, a 6-foot-1, 210-pound running back, also plans to play basketball at Tech. He averaged 20 points per game in high school.

Stuart, slightly smaller at 6-feet, 190 pounds, ran for 3,019 yards in four years at Floyd County. Snell gained 4,771 yards for Blacksburg and was four times named to the All-New River District team.

Both players say they have been wooed by Tar Heel football coach Bill Dooley, the newspapers said.

Stuart, who wants to major in communications, said the recognition afforded by an ACC team is appealing, but added, "I tried to look at education more than football because that's why I'm going to college."

Snell said he is undecided whether to study business or recreation at Tech.

"I do know I want to play offensive back," he said.

Some coaches think Snell may have put on too much weight to run in a major college backfield.

Snell, however, said he knows he will have to lose weight but believes that he and Stuart — a longtime friend — will give Tech "a potent backfield."