Tie Disappoints

Va. Tech Players

By Mark Bullock
Staff Writer

B. LACKSBBURG—There was no joy in the Virginia Tech clubhouse following the 14-14 tie with visiting Virginia Saturday.

Quarterback David Lamie slowly stripped his gear, and stood as if in a trance, "It feels like we wasted a whole week of practice," he lamented.

"A tie is better than a loss, but not much. It feels like a loss to me."

Lamie engineered a 70 yard scoring march in the final four minutes of the game, and tossed a two point conversion pass to halfback Kenny Lewis to cap an 11 point fourth quarter and preserve the tie.

"There is some consolation in the fact that we were able to come back and at least tie," he noted.

The Hokies were no doubt pleased that they staged the late-game comeback, but the general attitude was one of disappointment.

Lewis bagged up his equipment and occasionally shook his head in disbelief, "I feel very frustrated," he said. "My pride has been hurt—real bad."

"We looked like we would blow 'em out in the first quarter," Lewis continued, "but then we gave it away."

He was referring to the problem that has cost the Hokies more points than anything all year: fumbles.

At least two fumbles erased possible Tech points. The first came on the Hokies' second possession of the game, when they were driving toward their second scoring possibility.

Then, as has happened more than once in the five game season, Tech fumbled the ball away at the Virginia 11 yard line.

"We would get down in their territory and give it (the ball) back to them," Lewis complained. That happened again in the second quarter when Tech coughed up the ball on the Cavalier 33 on a first down play.

Lewis said the Hokies "were ready in the beginning. Our confidence level was off when they started moving the ball, and then they knocked us down more by scoring so easily."

Head Coach Jimmy Sharpe was very disappointed with the Hokie effort. "I just feel empty," he said.

"I don't want to take anything away from them," Sharpe continued, "but we gave it to them. We didn't give up. I just waited too late to get started, and time ran out on us."

"A tie is certainly better than a loss," he concluded. "But winning is the ultimate."

The Hokies will try to get back on the winning track when they travel to Richmond for their third straight in-state game. Tech's only win of the season came in City Stadium on the artificial turf so that alone could prove to be a good sign.

TECH TOUCHDOWN—Virginia Tech's Roscoe Coles has just scored Tech's only touchdown of the day against the tougher-than-expected Virginia Cavaliers.