Maryland slips by Baby Hokies, 14-12, evens Frosh record at 1-1

By Ron Miller
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Virginia Tech's freshman football team was shown the distinct advantages of blazing speed last Friday, as Maryland defeated them 14-12.

Richard Jennings, Maryland's 9.5 back, put on quite a display. Tech almost compensated for him by leading in practically all statistics. "Almost" was the word, as a costly interception late in the game gave the Baby Terrapin's a victory.

This evened the Baby Hokies record at 1-1, after their 20-3 season opener victory over VMI. Their next contest is this Saturday at South Carolina.

Frosh possess wealth of talent

Expansion '72, that long awaited rise in Tech football, has finally surfaced at the froshman level. Through the efforts of an intensive recruiting drive, Tech has brought together 44 talented froshman athletes.

The coaches searched for qualified players through eight states. Only 14 of the squad are non-Virginians, however. This reflects the trend in Tech recruiting to the Virginia players first, and then go out-of-state. Over half of the freshman teams exceed 200 pounds, and a vast majority are over 6' tall.

Although a few froshmen have moved to the varsity (Don Testerman, Paul Adams, Phil Rogers, and Chuck Perdue), several other players anchor the team.

Sandy Johnson at running back and Billy Hardee at split end head the offense, under an alternating quarterback system. Standouts at defensive backs include Morris Blueford, David Miller, and Jay Neal.

The froshman team originally began as a separate unit, working their own plays. Problems in the varsity B-team, however, changed their purpose. They now spend most of their time running the upcoming opponents' plays for the varsity defensive and offensive teams. When the Baby Gobblers do practice alone, the shortage of time forces the coaching staff to emphasize simple plays.

Unlike many other universities, Tech does not have a junior varsity team. Rather it has a purely froshman team. The junior varsity system allows a school to play sophomores, juniors, and seniors along with freshmen.

Although sometimes at a disadvantage, Tech coaches feel that the froshman need to form a united team attitude among themselves and to be challenged with older players. The only truly "froshman" team that Tech plays is Penn State, the others being junior varsity squads.

Head freshman coach T.D. Phillips states the following objectives of his team: (1) to achieve a sound academic footing in the school, (2) a successful season, and (3) a smooth transition from high school to college athletics.

Headline

| First Downs | 22 | 10 |
| Rushing     | 224 | 255 |
| Passing     | 221 | 73  |
| Return Yds. | 5  | 154 |
| Passes      | 34 | 15-2 15-5-1 |
| Punts Avg.  | 6-47.7 | 9-39.1 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 2 | 0 |
| Penalties-Yds. | 5-6 | 11-139 |

Scoring summary:
1:21 first Md. touchdown, Jennings (70, run) Tim Flynn kick good.
0:53 second VPI touchdown, Hardee (52, pass from Kinsey) kick wide.
9:08 third Md. touchdown, Jennings (60, run) Flynn kick good.
7:48 fourth VPI touchdown, Kinsey (1 run), pass failed.