VPI Head Dislikes Brand Of Favorite

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Virginia Tech Football Coach Charlie Coffey is worried. His Gobblers are solid favorites to defeat Wake Forest (2-8) in the season’s finale Saturday.

"We don’t do as well when we’re favored as we do when we’re underdogs," Coffey explained. He could have added his team has troubles on the road as the Techmen will be Saturday.

The Gobblers have a 5-4-1 record, but 1-4 on the road.

"Certainly, we’re capable of winning Saturday, but we were capable of beating William and Mary and we didn’t."

The loss to the Indians ranks as the worst disappointment of the season for Tech’s coach. Coffey ranks the development of the young receivers, especially Ricky Scales along with the improvement of the defense as the things that pleased him most.

"In 1971, our defense was almost non-existent, but this year has set up about a touch- down a game through fumbles, recoveries and interceptions."

Coffey said Wake Forest presents a stiff challenge. "They proved they can win when they defeated Duke. They move the ball well especially on the ground. They’ll be up for the game as this is the last one for their coach, Tom Harper."

"You know football is an emotional game. If a team can get itself up, it can be tough."

What Coffey left unsaid is his team might be emotional about Saturday’s game. This will be the last time Don Strock leads a Virginia Tech ball club in action. Strock, the 6-5 quarterback, heads the nation in passing with 203 completions in 10 games for an average of 20.3 yards. He is second in total offense with 2,784 yards.

Don owns just about every Tech passing record and regarded a shoo-in to go high in the pro draft, probably on the first round.

This also is the last game for Don Strock, who started out the year known as "Don’s brother" but whose prodigious kicking earned him recognition in his own right.

Dave has kicked 23 of 25 extra points and made 14 of 27 field goal attempts for 65 points. Dave is fifth in the nation in kicking scoring.

All the Tech statistics took a beating last weekend when the Gobblers were blasted by mighty Alabama, 32-13. Despite the beating, Coffey feels

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