A Look Passer

Record Books Are Re-Written At Tech

By Bill Hall

Don Strock completed his college football career Saturday beating the Virginia Tech Gobbler to a 44-9 win over Wake Forest and in route became the nation's passing and offensive record holder for the 1972 season.

Strock was into the game at the second quarter and made history marking Tony Adams of Utah in the passing and offensive teams.

In 1972, Strock spent 34 minutes to complete four passes which put him as the passing lead. The offensive end came in the second half.

During the game Saturday Strock passed for 357 yards, accumulating 21 of 47 passes, two for touchdowns.

In 1972, Strock's passing over 1,930 and each time in total offense to become one of the players to achieve the NCAA mark.

Strock ended the 1972 season with 221 completed passes of 427 attempts for 2,846 yards and 16 touchdowns.

Strock, in his first year as a backup quarterback until Coach Charlie Coffey came on the Tech scene. Many experts feel if Strock would have played four years instead of only two he would have rewritten the entire NCAA passing and total offense record books.

Virginia Tech round books and many of the record numbers went down in the record books because of the passing and offensive leadership.

On Saturday Strock threw touchdowns to sophomores Ricky Scales and eight others for a total of 283 yards. Both the number of passes and yards were Tech records. Strock, for the most part, Tech records on touchdowns by Strock.

The quarterback threw 427 passes during the 1972 season hitting on 221 for a 52.4 percentage. This gave him a third place in the official NCAA record list of passing yards and completed passes. Strock attempted 356 passes and completed 195 for a percentage of 54.7. The average gain was 7.2 yards with 17 passes being for touchdowns.

Strock's career passing round book shows 446 completions, 829 attempts, 4,371 yards and 22 touchdowns. His percentage for the career stands at 51.4, and 47 passes intercepted.

The career record gives Strock a seventh place finished in all-time completions and sixth in total passing yards.

A career total offense of 5,371 yards gives Strock a seventh place overall NCAA total offense.

Strock, who was 22 Monday, is expected to see action in next season some games. He is also expected to be a first-round pick choice of the pro football teams.

Strock was voted as All-American honors in many contests and many sports writers who is remembered for outstanding on the top quarterback at Virginia Tech.

He was also remembered that Strock finished his career as a winning man as the Gobblers finished 6-4.

TOP IN NATION—Don Strock lets go of a pass and becomes the top passer in the nation. Before the day was over he was also the top offensive leader in the nation. Strock finished the season Saturday with an excellent performance against Wake Forest. He threw 47 passes and completed 26 for 265 yards to give him the national titles.

HAPPINESS IS WINNING—Don Strock, 15, with ball, leads the Tech offensive unit off the field showing jubilation after a 13-10 win over SMU. Strock on the final play of the game fell on the ball to run the clock out and then took the game ball to Coach Charlie Coffey and presented it to him as a gift as it was the first for Tech in the 1972 season.

STROCK DUNKED—Don Strock, 15, is pulled down by University of Virginia players in the opening game of the 1972 season. U. Va. won the game to give the Gobblers and Strock a bad season start.

LET'S GO—Don Strock, protected by Steve McGowan, lets go of a pass during a 27-14 victory over Southern Mississippi.