Don Strock To Be Honored
Friday By Local VPI Alumni

By STAN SHALETT
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The Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association will honor Gobbler quarterback Don Strock Friday night.

“Don Strock Night” will be held at the Daily Press Building on Warwick Boulevard beginning at 8 p.m.

Strock, who completes his academic career at the Blacksburg institution earlier Friday, will be the guest of honor at the reception which is open to the public. Especially invited to attend are alumni, their families and friends.

Strock’s feats on the gridiron in the past season earned Virginia Tech the national championship in forward passing. The 6-foot-5 quarterback wound up as the nation’s total offense leader and the No. 1 passer. Strock’s accomplishments led the Gobblers to a 6-4-1 record with wins over Oklahoma State, Southern Methodist and South Carolina.

Strock set 17 school records for passing and had one-game NCAA records for the season with a 34-53 day against Houston. The passes accounted for 527 yards.

For the season he threw 427 passes and completed 228. He ended with 3,243 yards through the air and tossed 16 touchdown passes.

Strock, a native of Warwick, Pa., was recruited for Tech by Jerry Claiborne. Under Claiborne, the Gobblers played a ball-control offense and didn’t utilize Strock’s passing ability. He was red-shirted for a season.

The Gobblers made a coaching change and in 1971 Charlie Coffey, the new man at the helm, found he could exploit Strock’s passing ability.

In his second varsity season, Strock threw for 2,695 yards. He finished with 6,127 yards passing and 5,871 yards in total offense.