Tech Hits Road Snag; Furman in SC Lead

Virginia Tech’s hopes of topping last year’s 14-11 winner are rapidly going down the drain – or rather the road.

And new coach Don DeVoe would like to pin part of the rap on the schedulemaker who set up only 10 home games and 16 on the road.

The Techmen as seen by Blacksburg fans have been on the awesome side. But this far Tech has played only two home games.

The road show hasn’t been all bad. There was a near miss against South Carolina. But offsetting this have been losses to the likes of VMI, Davidson and last night Duke.

The defeat dropped the Gobbler to 4-5 and there are a lot of tough road stops left.

Thanks to Allan Bristow the Gobbler managed to scare the Blue Devils on the neutral court at Charlotte, N.C.

Behind by 16 points at one stage of the second half Tech pulled to within seven points only to have Duke pull off an 83-73 triumph.

B r i s t o w finished with 23 points while Richie O’Connor had 26 for the Blue Devils.

In other action involving the Big Five, Virginia Military was drubbed 111-71 by national small college power Eastern Illinois on the road.

Meanwhile, in Southern Conference basketball, the league has returned to the course prescribed in the preseason viewing — Furman is on top.

The Paladins suffered an early shock at William and Mary when several starters were out of the lineup.

But now the defending champions are 3-1 and looking down at the rest of the league.

It was a convincing win at that— a 101-86 conquest of The Citadel, strong enough last week to hold Virginia to a four-point verdict.

The towering Paladin front line of Russ Hunt, Roy Simpson and Bud Bierly combined for 57 points. Bierly had 25 for the host Paladins while John Sutor collected 25 for the Bulldogs.