BLACKSBURG, Va. - A near sellout for the Virginia game is leading a sudden surge in Virginia Tech's 1973 football ticket sales.

With less than 2,000 tickets remaining for the October 20 contest against the Cavaliers, the game is virtually assured of being a sellout and Tech officials already are making plans for additional bleachers.

Although most orders have been by phone (951-6731) or mail (Box 153, Blacksburg 24061), window sales have picked up sharply since the ticket office in the lobby of the Coliseum has resumed in-season hours: 8:30 a.m. straight through to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:30 to noon on Saturday.

In Radford, tickets for Tech's games can be purchased at the Recreation Department.

This Saturday, Tech opens against Wm & Mary here in Lane Stadium and offers an exceptional opportunity to fans because the university is not in session and most of the good seats in the student section (east side) are available to the general public.

In addition to home games (Wm & Mary, Sept. 8; South Carolina, Oct. 6; Virginia, Oct. 20; Florida State, Nov. 10; and VMI, Nov. 17), Tech has a limited number of tickets for each of the away games. Of those, the ones at Kentucky, Sept. 15, and at West Virginia, Sept. 22, are selling exceptionally well.