Things Get Tough Today At Virginia Tech

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Whatever you want to call it, Virginia Tech's football team gets down to the nitty-gritty today after its second straight embarrassing weekend of football.

The Gobblers are ill-gridwise, and Doctor Charlie Coffey aims to do something about it beginning today.

Tech, which is apparently loaded with talent, lost to Kentucky Saturday, in what Coffey calls one of only two embarrassing moments in his coaching career. Oddly enough, both of those moments were at Tech (two years ago against Tulsa). You see, Kentucky, who many say was not as good as William & Mary (the team that beat Tech the first game) scored 31 points in the first half alone.

In that first half the Hokies were not tackling like Coffey has taught. In fact, the Gobblers defense probably could not have hemmed up a beachball rolling down a one-way ditch.

Coffey promises changes though. "Today we'll be putting on pads and we'll find out who wants to hit like football players should hit, we'll find out who wants to make the big play, who will make the important block, who will make the big run."

Coffey said he has been too easy on his players and his coaching staff. He added, in a 45-minute, high volume lecture to his team after the Kentucky game, that this week he would find out who wants to play football and who wants to coach.

Coffey, in his third year at Tech, said that he dressed down each player, each coach and himself, and that all of them rededicated themselves to play football and coach football like it should be.

Coffey said that after the Kentucky game and added that he was at the crossroads of his coaching career (18 years) and that it was time to start winning and doing it right now. It took a lot of guts to do what Charlie Coffey did. He had only one other choice—but Coffey has always been a winner, associated with winners and won't have things any other way.

Like someone said, "for those of you going to the West Virginia game at Morgantown this Saturday, you had better buy a program."