so, a year ago this fall, Pike entered Ferrum College.

His hope then was to play two years at Ferrum and then go on to a career with a four-year school—probably Tech.

Now he's not so sure. In fact, to be blunt, Pike says he probably won't go to Tech and that Richmond is now No. 1 in his mind for continuing his career.

Two weeks ago Pike was still thinking about Tech. But he admits the events of the last two weekends, especially this past Saturday when Tech Coach Charlie Coffey sounded off at his team in the locker room after a loss at Kentucky, has caused him to stop considering Tech.

"I guess it's because of the falling apart of the team—coaches and players," said Pike. "I don't know whether I could be happy. But when I came to Ferrum I was certainly still thinking about Tech.

"I don't know what happened at Tech. They were a powerhouse and growing. After a good season last year I was thinking about going there. Even two weeks ago I still considered it even though I talked to some sophomores there over the summer and they said they were unhappy.

"They didn't say why they were unhappy. I didn't ask what it was because it was none of my business. I figured I'd just wait and find out. But after the last two weeks it makes me wonder. Anyone would wonder if they were thinking about going to Tech."

Just how valuable is Pike as a prospect? Well, he gained 137 yards in seven carries last Saturday as Ferrum beat Nassau 20-13. He figures to have a big part in Saturday's game at Wesleyan in Dover, Del., when the Panthers go for their second win.

Pike admits he talked to Richmond assistant coach Ray Tate last spring about becoming a Spider. He says now that he prefers a small campus, something like the one at Ferrum, and that Richmond has the business course he would want to take.

"It's still early in the season and anything can happen. I've had one good game, but there are nine more to go," he pointed out.

Pike also realizes that he won't be churning out 137 yards every week. The biggest reason is that he's a wingback who will probably only run the ball five or six times a game. His other duties include catching passes and blocking for other runners.

"The best game I had in high school was 235 yards," said the Richmond native who played at Manchester. "But I carried the ball a lot more. I never had an average 19.6 yards per carry like this."

Pike says so far only North Carolina State has shown any definite interest in him this fall. He hasn't heard from Richmond since last spring, but it doesn't worry him since he feels the school indicated then that they wanted him.