Mountaineers ‘Fall In’
On Gobblers by 24-10

By Harold Pearson
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MORGANTOWN W. Va. — Virginia Tech is beginning to make Charlie Coffey feel a bit like a roofer.

"You get one leak (mistake) fixed," said the Gobbler coach, "and up springs another."

Saturday, with an estimated 35,000 filling Mountaineer Field for the show, it was more a matter of the entire roof caving in on Tech in the second quarter of its outing with West Virginia.

Touching the ball just four times offensively during that 15 minutes, the Mountaineers managed three touchdowns and a field goal, then made them stand up for a 24-10 decision over Tech.

Over that 14-minute span, the Mountaineers capitalized on such Gobbler mistakes as a pass interference, failure to defend an option, interception and fumble recovery, among others.

And, for the first and only really significant time, the home team quarterback, Ado Dillon, didn't throw the ball behind wide receiver Danny Buggs.

"Mostly," said Coffey, "it was a failure to recognize and defend the option. We stopped them early, but we could just never get any momentum going."

He felt that maybe three or four times that "this is it, there were several things that could set you on fire, but they didn't, we would just settled back into the same problems."

First of these was shortly before the first quarter ended, when senior linebacker Kent Henry forced a fumble out of Artie Owens and Morris Blueford recovered for the Gobblers at the WVU 42. They managed only a 33-yard field goal by Richmonder Wayne Latimer, who missed earlier from five yards closer.

The hit seemed to open the Mountaineer floodgate. Aided by that pass interference, the Mountaineers needed but five plays to cover the 69 yards for

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Virginia Tech 0 3 7 10
West Virginia 0 24 0 24
Tech—FG Latimer 33
WVa—Woods 38 run (Nestor kick)
WVa—FG Nestor 36
W.Va—Owens 5 (Nestor kick)
Tech—Hardie 10 pass from Popp (Latimer kick)
A—35,000

Virginia Tech West Virginia
First downs 23
Rushes-yards 43-147 44-267
Passing yards 75 162
Return yards 26 3
Passes 13-21-1 11-25-3
Punts 6-38 4-40
Fumbles-lost 3-1 1-1
Penalties-yards 5-52 8-104