VPI Tops UVa For First Win

BLACKSBURG, Va. (UPI) - Tailback Phil Rogers threw to flanker Ricky Scales on the third play of the game for an 80-yard touchdown Saturday and Virginia Tech went on to down arch-rival Virginia, 27-15, for Tech's first win of the season.

Fullback James Barber and freshman quarterback Eddie Joyce scored the other two Tech touchdowns and Wayne Latimer kicked field goals of 55 and 19 yards to round out the Virginia Tech scoring.

Virginia quarterback Scott Gardner threw two long touchdown passes but could not get a sustained fourth period drive going because of bad pitchbacks.

Tech coach Charlie Coffey, who called every play, surprised the Virginia defense at the start of the game when Rogers, who had thrown only one pass the entire season, took the ball from quarterback Ricky Popp and threw to Scales who outraced Virginia defenders for the score.

Virginia on its first possession, got on the scoreboard with a 48-yard field goal by freshman kicker Gerald Jenkins, a school record. The Cavaliers took the lead with 6:45 to go in the first quarter when Scott Gardner hit Jim Colleran on a 63-yard pass. Billy Maxwell's extra point attempt failed.

Tech regained the lead for good when Barber scored from the 13 yard line with just over three minutes left in the first half. The touchdown capped an eight play eight yard drive and made the score 13-9.

Virginia, following a Latimer field goal in the third quarter, pulled to within two points, 17-15, on a 52-yard pass from Gardner to Harrison Davis. A Gardner pass attempt for two extra points was batted down and that was as close as Virginia was to get.