BY BILL BRILL
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TUSCALOOSA, Ala.—Hapless Tech, Cincinnati of the Midwest, was caught in the middle of a crunching poll bow Saturday night.

Taking note of No. 1 Ohio State’s afternoon victory over Northwestern, Alabama endorsed its own credentials by destroying Tech 77-4, and in so doing rewrote the NCAA record book.

Taking advantage of Tech’s total collapse on defense, Alabama gained more yards in one game than any other major college team in history.

Bama, meeting absolutely no resistance, rushed for 764 yards and had a total offense of 128 yards.

The old offense record of 798 was set by Vanderbilt against Davidson in 1969. Oklahoma’s 1971 powerhouse rushed for 711 yards against Kansas State.

Bama’s seventh straight was recorded as soon as the Tide got the ball. On its fifth play, Alabama sent splendid halfback Wilbur Jackson spinning down the sideline for 61 yards and the first of many, many touchdowns. Once the Tide discovered how easy it was to run against Tech, Alabama decided that was a lot of fun.

Moving long distance most of the time, Tech actually had a no-touchees—Alabama scored the first four times it had the ball, on drives of 72, 84, 59 and 80 yards. By this time, Alabama actually had five touchdowns, because sophisticated Dick Turpin blocked a Bruce McDaniel punt.

Bama got a lot of its TDs on short scoring passes from Richard Todd to Warren Byar and an 80-yard dash by fourth-stringer James Taylor in the first half.

Jackson started the last 100-yard drive with a 74-yard non-scoring jaunt, and later third-stringer Calvin Culliver deep a 67-yarder for a touchdown.

The way Tech was playing defense, it was no trouble at all and the 37,000 fans in Denby Stadium enjoyed every minute of it.

Alabama broke both the total offense and rushing records on third-string quarterback Jack O’Rearn’s 29-yard run midway in the final period for the game’s final score.

I wasn’t that Alabama Coach Bear Bryant was trying to put it on the Tide.

Despite the 42-4 halftime score, Tech moved the ball well, behind the running of Phil Rogers and the passing of Eddie Joyce Rogers, who scored the only TD from six yards out, had 81 yards in the first half, more than any runner made against Alabama in a full game all season.

After intermission, however, Tech simply could not do anything. The Hokies, losing for the seventh time in eight games, did not make a first down until a roughing the kicker penalty midway in the fourth quarter.

Everything Bama tried worked. On one of the rare occasions that Tech appeared to stop the Tide, Todd faked a punt and ran for the first down.

Alabama never did have to punt in the game. The Tide scored on 19 of 14 ball possessions. Once it was stopped by an interception, another time by a fumble, and a third time a pass dropped at the Tech 21. The clock mercifully put an end to the last Alabama drive.

It was the most points that Alabama had scored since its school record of 89 against Delta State in 1963. Georgia Tech wasn’t quite Delta State, but nobody could say the Hokes didn’t give it a whirl.

The most most harried man around, if it wasn’t Tech Coach Charlie Coffey or his defensive coordinator, George McKinney, was the guy looking through the Alabama press book for records. There were a bushel of them.

Among the more impressive was the fact that four different Bama players rushed for more than 100 yards. Taylor led the way with 142, Jackson had 136, Culliver 127 and Todd 107. Pointing out just how good and deep Bama actually was, those men represent each of the first four teams. Taylor is on unit No. 4, Culliver the third, Todd the second and Jackson is the only starter.

There was little that Coffey could say after the debacles. He really wasn’t very surprised because of the way Tech has been playing defense all this long, lonely year.

“We’ve played a lot of teams that weren’t in our class and had trouble stopping them,” Coffey said. “We had hoped they would make more mistakes, but we couldn’t get the ball from them.”

The only time Alabama wanted to give it up came on a kickoff. After all, when you are No. 2, you try harder. Fortunately for Tech, it does not play Ohio State.

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First Downs
Alabama--42.
Tech--14.

Rushing
Alabama--247.
Tech--16.

Passing
Alabama--124.
Tech--206.

Total Yards
Alabama--784.
Tech--154.

Turnovers
Alabama--2.
Tech--4.

Penalties
Alabama--18.
Tech--12.