From Wire Dispatches

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Suppose your upcoming opponent has just suffered a 71-point defeat. Do you worry?

You bet your life, says Memphis State coach Fred Pancoast.

Pancoast insists he has just as much a right to run scared as Alabama’s Bear Bryant who said he was “scared to death” of Virginia Tech a few days before the Tide clobbered the Gobblers 77-6.

“We’re catching Virginia Tech at the worst possible time,” he said. “They were embarrassed by Alabama and they are going to try to redeem themselves against us.”

Tech coach Charlie Coffey takes a dim view of the Saturday night date here.

“We just aren’t very good defensively,” he said. “We’ve been far more consistent on offense. And all you can do is tell the players it’s another game and another week...I’m still living but that’s about all...”

Memphis State is 5-2 and Tech 1-7 for the game.

Freshman Eddie Joyce is slated to start at quarterback for the Hokies who’ll rely heavily on the one-two rushing punch of Phil Rogers and James Barber who have divided 1341 rushing yards almost equally.