Hokies Stun Seminoles

By Bob Rapaport
Sports Editor

Well, if Tech does have the lowest ranked defense of all N.C.A.A. major colleges, then F.S.U. has the worst offense for sure. The fighting Gobbler defense toughed out everything the offensive Seminoles could throw at them. Probably their best performance of the season. The Gobbler defense has been no less than sensational on punt returns, carrying this one back 45 yards. Quarterback Eddie Joyce put together a 37-yard drive and Tech was on the board 6-0. J. B. Barber picked up the last 19 yards on his own for the score. The hold for the extra point was poor, and Wayne Latimer missed his first PAT of the season. Latimer later tied the school record for field goals kicking, three in one game. One of these was a 30-yarder which put Tech up 9-0, but Florida got hot for the first and last time all game. Quarterback Mark Orlando hit his tight end for 15 yards and a touchdown. Arnett Akin made it 9-7, and then the game belonged to Tech.

Latimer kicked his second field goal of the day, this one a 27-yarder, to make the score 12-7. Then, after a F.S.U. 17 yard punt, Latimer kicked a 28 yard fielder.

Not only did field goals come in threes, but interceptions as well, and all by John Bell. With a 15-7 lead, Bell intercepted an Orlando pass and scurried back to the one where Barber went over the top for 6. Latimer made it 22 to 7.

By now the crowd had pretty well thinned out due to the freezing wind, and had run out of anti-freeze, but the best was yet to come. Joyce screened to Scales on Tech's first series of the second half, but scales dropped the ball. What do you do when you drop one? Pick it up and run, right? So he did, for 47 yards and another touchdown. The officials ruled it a lateral because Scales was said to be behind Joyce when it was thrown. Latimer again made the extra point attempt good, and Tech led 29-7.

When Bell intercepted the next pass, he saved Barber the effort of carrying it in by going all 33 yards for the score himself. The extra point was good and the Hokies were well ahead 36-7. F.S.U. got another touchdown later.

Rogers stretches for extra yardage. (Photo by Garrett)