Coffey Fires 2, Reassigns Coach At VPI

By STAN SHALETT
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Virginia Tech football Coach Charlie Coffey “dropped the other shoe” Monday, relieving defensive coaches Tommy Brasher and Monty Crook of their jobs and reassigning Carl Ellis to other duties.

This move, coupled with the resignation of defensive coordinator George McKinney, wipes out the defensive coaching staff.

The move had been expected as the Gobbler struggled to a two victory, nine loss season. This was the worst record since 1951 when the Gobbler were 2-2.

The defense took most of the blame, especially in high scoring games, by Alabama (77-6), Southern Methodist (77-6), Houston (74-27) and Delaware State (48-16).

While disgruntled alumni are muttering about firing Coffey, he has the security of a four years left on a five year contract at approximately $30,000 a year.

The Head Coach now on the road, recruiting, issued a statement saying, “It could be some time before I

BRAsher CROok

make a move to hire a new defensive coordinator because some of the people I have in mind as candidates are still involved in the continuing college season or in Bowl games.

“If I have the final decision on staff members, I feel that the coordinator should have a definite hand in selecting his staff.”

McKinney, who will be 35 on Friday, said he decided to leave the coaching ranks before the season started.

“It’s time for me to make a move. I’m only sorry that I couldn’t go out on a winning note.”

Both Brasher and Crook, who are younger, 33 and 31, respectively, still want to remain in coaching.

None of the three felt hit ter. All agreed that in such a situation this type of thing happens. “It’s part of the risk of the business,” Crook noted.

Brasher coached linebackers this year, taking the job when Bill Clay departed to join the staff at South Carolina, just before Fall practice started. “I think I did my job with the linebackers, but I had the feeling toward the end of the year that I would be out of a job when the season en-

Crook also was not sur
tised when the pinch drop came on Monday. “I have to look ahead not backward. I still feel I can coach in college football.”

Crook coached the defensive ends. This was his first assignment in college rank.

The retention of Ellis also was no surprise, The trio agreed Ellis is an outstanding recruiter.