Hokie Frosh Impresssive

BLACKSBURG — For the third straight week Virginia Tech’s Charlie Coffey found some good news and some bad news in the Saturday scrimmage which culminates the week’s spring football practice.

Among the particularly good news items: Tech might have found an unusually good punt returner in freshman Morris Blueford; Tech’s wide receivers did an exceptionally fine job of downfield blocking, thereby setting up several long runs (a department in which the Hokies have been lacking for several years); overall, the offense moved the ball well, partly because freshmen Phil Rogers and Paul Adams continue to show improved running form; freshman Tom Turner had some outstanding moments on defense; and a couple of newcomers — Wayne Latimer, field goal and extra-point specialist, and Bruce McDaniel, punter, demonstrated that they have the talent to help rebuild the kicking game.

On the minus side: there were a lot of penalties; the offense often killed its own momentum with mistakes inside scoring territory (“a hard blowing wind definitely effected the offense”); “we have a lot of work to do on our kicking game, and we still need a lot of game-condition practice; and defense.

Jim Heizer sustained an ankle injury, the extent of which as yet isn’t known; and the Hokies need to eliminate fumbles.

It was Tech’s 11th practice session, “and six of them have had to be in the Fieldhouse,” Coffey pointed out. The Gobblers will conclude spring drills with an intrasquad game on May 12.