Gobblers Blitzed
By 49-12

By Ray Filegar
Times-Dispatch Sports Writer
BLACKSBURG — Richmond, scoring more points in the first 35 minutes against Virginia Tech than it had in three previous games, drubbed the Gobblers, 49-12, at Lane Stadium Saturday before a Governor's Day crowd of 30,000, which included, actually, Gov. Mills Godwin.

Led by the ballering running of sophomore back John Housman, who rushed for 117 yards and two touchdowns, the Cougars evened their season mark at 2-3 as they continued the winless Hokies (0-4). And, in so doing, Houston put big dent in Tech's avowed philosophy, "continuous improvement."

There was no little visible improvement for the Hokies — who one week earlier had extended Southern Methodist before dropping a 25-22 decision — that Tech coach Jimmy Sharp withstood a really definitive statement on his team's play unit, "we've seen the game film. We're bound to have played some good things happen out there."

The camera may not be too kind. And Sharp probably won't be all that surprised. He did say, to no one's surprise, "The kicking game was terrible!" Later, he added, "We certainly didn't have it offensive."

And up in those two facets of the game, the Hokies certainly handicapped themselves against a Cougar team that, although heavily favored, has not yet gotten its ship in order.

"Our frame of mind was a little bit better," said Houston mentor Bill Yeoman. "We were more intense. "We weren't in any of the first three games (lost to Arizona, State and Miami of Florida) from a mental standpoint," said Yeoman. "We did play with some enthusiasm against Rice."

The score rolled up against

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Houston — 24 3 14 — 49

Virginia Tech — 0 0 0 12 — 12

First downs — 30 22

Rushes — 60 123

Passing yards — 304 234

Penalties — 1 1

SANDING — 10 13 13 13

HOU — Black (DN V) 42 32 42 42

SAND — Black, 44 32 32 32

Tech — Houston, 66-pass from Fairman (DN K)

Tech — 4-3 4-3 4-3 4-3

Houston — Techs