Shelton Steals Show; Hokies Humble Howard

By Bill Mason
Sports Editor
BLACKSBURG—Freshman catcher Wayne Shelton of Danville took command early with strong defensive play and helped pave the way for senior Mike Arrington's eighth win of the season—a new Virginia Tech record—as Tech edged Howard University by the narrow margin of 4-3 Wednesday.

Howard's left fielder, Elwood Holland, entered the game as the nation's fourth ranked base stealer with 44, and had never been thrown out of a steal attempt.

Shelton threw him out twice and caught another Bison in a base theft attempt.

To show his offensive credentials, Shelton belted a solo home run in the fourth inning which went through a window at the rear of Tech Coliseum, about twenty feet high. It was one of the longest home runs ever hit at Tech Field.

Arrington handcuffed Howard until the fifth inning when the Bison scored two runs and yielded an unearned run in the ninth. Reliever Bob Fisher of Roanoke came in to save the win in the ninth.

Sophomore Tom Actee of Richmond hit a solo home run in the seventh. First baseman Lewis Dillon singled to score designated hitter Paul Adams in the seventh to tie it up and a single by Shelton in the eighth drove home the winning run.

Tech's record moved to 26-10 and the Bison dropped to 28-12.

SHELTON'S BIG DAY—Freshman catcher Wayne Shelton strides toward first base after blasting a monumental home run that crashed through a window at the rear of the Virginia Tech Coliseum as the Hokies beat Howard University. Shelton also had an excellent day defensively. (Staff photos by Bill Mason)

MIKE SETS RECORD—Pitcher Mike Arrington of Hampton, a senior, pitches to a Howard hitter. Arrington set a new Virginia Tech record Wednesday when he chalked up his eighth win, more than ever recorded by a Tech pitcher in one season. Arrington got help from a reliever late in the game.