Former Virginia Tech assistant and now head basketball coach at East Tennessee State Sonny Smith handshook his way through the VHSL hospitality room. Smith said he hopes to recruit a good, big man before next season but named no names.

Smith is engineering a turnaround at ETSU, which has shown improvement in his one season there.

At least two schools are interested in Tony White, whose scoring and rebounding kept Henrico in the game until the last seconds against Williams. Old Dominion may have the inside track, but Ferrum isn’t conceding anything.

Research Dept.

In a never-ceasing effort to keep weekend golfers informed, some research at Pen Park municipal course was conducted on Friday when Blacksburg wasn’t playing any basketball.

Pen Park is an attractive layout and will become more so when reseeding and other beautification work now underway is completed.

In the long run the improvements will make the course more attractive. In the short run Charlottesville should think about putting hard hats on some of its workers whose position on the fairway puts them in the line of fire.

Hole No. 2 has a deep, fairly wide pond as a lateral water hazard and on no. 6 an insolent creek insinuates its way between golfer and green at the foot of a steep hill. The geography of the hole is such that the second shot that looks the best gets the wettest.

Lots of fun things can happen to the golfer whose drive goes astray. Among the attractions surrounding the fairways are a river, a sewage treatment lagoon, a paved street behind holes 7 and 9, an occasional pickup truck and front-end loader.

But the challenge is part of the game. Give a passing mark to Pen Park.

The Orange Cinderella

As of this deadline, the Hokies were boarding a great silver bird for the flight to New York, there to try to settle an old score with awesome Alabama, one of the top teams in the college game.

The task looked like a big one. Alabama, which routed Tech in the finals of the UDIV at Dayton last December, was the favorite to win the NIT and if there was a Cinderella team around, its colors were maroon and orange.

Four years ago Tech clobbered a lot of people with a glass slipper and Hokies hopes in the ’77 event were high.

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**Messenger Sports**

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