Halverson Hurt As Spring Football Practice Begins At Virginia Tech

By BILL MASON
Sports Editor
BLACKSBURG—Spring football practice began in pads and in earnest for Virginia Tech Monday and before they had ended a massive lineman had joined the injured list which already included three top players.

Freshman Steve Halverson, 6-5 220 of Wheeling, W. Va., received a knee injury near the end of Monday’s practice session and underwent surgery Tuesday. He is expected to miss all of the spring practice season.

Halverson was an All-State selection in football and honorable mention All State in basketball at Linsly Military Institute. He was considered a prime candidate for a defensive starting position on the line.

Injured before the start of practice but on hand to encourage teammates were linebacker Rick Razzano, still not over a back problem he has had for about a year, noseguard Bill Housewright, also injured, and defensive back Henry Bradley who had an injured foot in a cast.

Battling it out for quarterback are David Lame, Don Larrue, Allen Brown and others.

Head coach Jimmy Sharpe and his assistants considered Monday’s workouts “not bad for a first day of practice.”

Six Saturday game type scrimmages are planned, the first one coming up next Saturday. A starting time was not expected to be set before Friday afternoon for the first scrimmage.

The squad was broken into specialized groups for drills in running, passing, blocking defensive line and secondary play, place kicking, punting and other “O” and “D” areas.

A walk-on from Hilsville, Steve Tempeny, was among the kicking team candidates. Tempeny, a soccer style kicker, played for the Carroll County Cavaliers of the New River Districts.

Bruce Atkins and Mike Yeager, both graduate assistants last football season, have been elevated to assistant coach positions since the departure of former offensive line coach Danny Ford.

The session Monday opened the series of drills that will climax with the spring game on Saturday, May 7.