Who's Upsala?

Just Ask Virginia Tech's Basketball Fans

You can almost hear the barking from here.

Virginia Tech's 1977-78 basketball schedule is complete, and the Gobblers should be checking with the American Kennel Club to register the list in the next few weeks.

The first 26 games announced by Tech included home contests against formidable visitors like Ohio Northern, Ohio Wesleyan, New Hampshire, Brown and Arkansas-Little Rock.

But apparently, the dog catcher wasn't through with his work. The Gobblers have completed their home slate with a Jan. 25 game against Upsala College. Last season, Upsala—a Division III school located in East Orange, N.J.—posted an 11-14 record playing powerful opponents like Kean, Lycoming, Drew, Susquehanna and Albright.

Tech's road schedule saves the Gobblers' face, with Coach Charlie Moir's team going against North Carolina, N.C. State (both in the North-South doubleheader), South Carolina, Vanderbilt, Oral Roberts and West Virginia on foreign courts. And Tech will face Virginia and Duke on neutral courts in addition to playing in the Richmond Times-Dispatch Invitational.

But the home card makes Cassell Coliseum into little more than a stopping off point for wayward canines. In most cities, a fire plug serves that purpose.

The Blacksburg kennel club is not to be confused with the one up I-81 in Lexington, where VMI will once again bring the pits into The Pit.

Playing the Keydets at home this coming winter will be Salem College, Liberty Baptist, Central Wesleyan and Radford. In their own leagues, these are decent clubs—but hardly fitting as opponents for a school that has been to the final eight and final 16 of the NCAA Division I tournament in the last two years.