Root Forecasts Tossup Bout In Tobacco Bowl

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Tech can beat you to the corner and turn it up.”

Walton is mainly concerned about putting the clamps on Mercury-footed Roscoe Coles, who eclipsed the 3,000 yard mark rushing in the loss to Clemson last week.

“When they run the option, I’m responsible for the pitch-man, and that’s usually Coles,” explains Walton. “He’s a super runner and impresses me with his strength for such a little guy. I’ve seen him go into a pile of people and come out of it.”

Though the Gobblers are 0-3, they are picked a six-point favorite by “Kickoff,” a widely-read sports dope sheet.

“That doesn’t make too much sense to me,” says the former Peninsula District All-District safety. “We don’t mind being the underdog, though. If you look back, we’ve played many of our best games as the underdog. It makes us that much more motivated.”

Tribe Head Coach Jim Root lauds Walton for “carrying right on with winning performances in the absence of Hays.”

“David has done a super job on the blitz and has been in the right place at the right time. The past two weeks as a starter, he has also won Scalper awards (for superior play).”

Root is looking at Saturday’s Tobacco Bowl game in Richmond against the Gobblers as a toss-up.

“Tech had a very good game against A&M. They have been physical and aggressive. They have just needed to hang on to the ball more.”

Against Memphis State, the Gobblers had the game in the bag until a costly fumble in the last three minutes. Despite Tech’s record, Root knows the Indians are in for a tough fight.

“The turkey is not going to lay down, roll over and let us pluck his feathers,” he quips.

More than anything else, the Indians are hungry for a victory, but, like Walton, they want to prove they are no “lemon.”