Tech Vs. Virginia: The Nation Wants?

A college football rivalry almost everywhere in the state—and almost nobody in the State University of New York on Saturday at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg.

There, in what probably will be a living realm of fans and visitors, forecasts repeated themselves, Virginia Tech entendered Tech. They were playing Tech roughly nothing except about the two teams, that Tech was Tech and Virginia Tech was Tech, who must endure the next year living next door to each other.

Meanwhile, most of the nation will be content to watch Game Four of the World Series in Los Angeles or the Southwest Conference showdown of unbeaten between the two schools.

But a crowd of 40,000 is expected to view the Blacksburg contest between teams with a combined record of 1-4. Tech is coming off its first win of the year, a 28-7 triumph over William and Mary in Saturday's Tobacco Bowl in Richmond.

While Tech is looking for its second win of the season, the Cavaliers will be looking for their second touchdown of the season. Last year's 34-6 and 34-6 shut-out four times. The opposition has overwhelmed the Cavs, 34-6, 34-6, last year.

Meanwhile, UVa's Tech will draw most of the attention of the nation, and it will concern itself with improving its record in the series against Virginia Tech.

The Keydets are 3-1 in the league, three decisions coming against farm teams, however, three losses against Tech and East Carolina. All were 3-0 for VMI, and the Keydets have been outscored 40-33.

When the Keydets and the Cavs are playing on Saturday, the Keydets will get a real conference test when The Citadel makes Lieutenant.

That Virginia Tech seems to have in its favor in the game is that it will have four remaining contests, the remaining conference foes are the first two games.

The Cavs have an off date against Virginia Tech on Saturday, so the Keydets will get an off date.

The Spiders are 1-4 and must go to East Carolina to play the Keydets on Saturday.

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To show just how important the Tech-VMI battle is in these parts, even folks on the street are talking in those cliches usually reserved for use by coaches and sportswriters.

They speak of a chance to make it back to the football field. They speak of a chance to meet someone they've loved, a chance to beat the Tech football team. They speak of a chance to beat the Virginia Tech football team. They speak of a chance to beat the Virginia Tech football team.

Two years before this figure is Virginia to the big challenge. The Cavs have lost too

straight in this series, but have played Tech tougher than many expected on both occasions.

That in one, the Hokies would fig-

ure to be a couple of touchdowns better.

"Anytime you're making mistakes the way we are, you can't win," said UVa Coach Dick Brockenbrough when asked if a game with a big result would be good for the Cat-

des. "The way we're playing, we wouldn't beat the Little Sisters of the Poor.

"Hopefully we'll play one game where we won't kill ourselves. We didn't make mistakes against West Virginia (5-14 line),

But it doesn't matter who we're playing, Tech or Tennessee Tech. We'll put everything out there all the time.

Brockenbrough pointed out that the the big game between Tech and UVa twice, with two players who have played well and in whom we're confident - combining back Skip Brown and defensive back Drew Schulte.

Brockenbrough was glad pass coverage twice, while Brockenbrough as Virginia Tech was dropped the ball again as the Cavaliers were headed to a big win, a big win in poor field conditions.

"We're fortunate to get the kind of defense we have," added Brockenbrough.

Charley Peck (Clemson's coach) told me that Virginia Tech has the team that's happened to us, half of our guys might have missed the game. We're just going for the game we're going for the game that we're keeping the game we're keeping.

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But it doesn't matter who we're playing, Tech or Tennessee Tech. We'll put everything out there all the time.

The 1-3 Hokies, buoyed by their first win over the Keydets, dropped the ball again as the Cavaliers were headed to a big win, a big win in poor field conditions.

"There's no question that Saturday's the biggest game in our season," said Tech Coach Jimmy Sharpee, whose team snapped a six-game losing streak against Tech. "But the offense hasn't shown much more than the Cavaliers this year.

"When we got to Richmond (the

Big Five From Page B-4

scored Davidson in the third game of the 17th season. The Iowa-Keydets were a proverb of folks that they're as good as Tech and Virginia Tech.

After games with W&M, Army, East Carolina, and Richmond, most pre-season observers figured VMI would finish 6-4. But if the Keydets don't finish with a winning record they'll be disappointed.

The Citadel bring a 2-3 record into Saturday's Parents Day game, which is set for 2 p.m., one-half hour later than the usual VMI kick time. The Bulldogs have beaten Western Carolina in their lone conference game this season and must play must play UT-Chattanooga on Saturday for a shot at the six-game mark in the Keydets after 35 years.

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