By Jerry Lindquist
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BLACKSBURG — Bowl hopeful Florida State edged Virginia Tech yesterday, and everyone knows where the Hokies are going at regular season's end. Back to the drawing board.

The final was 23-21 and Bruce Harrison, Seminole offensive guard, said, "Was that a narrow escape or what?"

When it was over, and Dave Cappeloni had kicked the 29-yard field goal that brought State from behind with 4:57 to go, Seminole coach Bobby Bowden entered the dressing room. "Let's give thanks to the Lord," Bowden said.

"Let's thank Him a lot, someone holier."

It was that kind of game. With quarterback Wally Woodham passing for 219 yards and one touchdown, and flanker Mike Shumann doing a little bit of everything, Florida State denied the Tech defense for 442 yards and still found itself requiring late heroics from a 5'-10", 180-pound sophomore. An all-week rain, including heavy second-half showers, left the Lane Stadium turf slick and treacherous and Cappeloni wondering to himself if he could handle the elements as he trotted onto the field, after another in a seemingly never-ending series of State drives bogged down on the Tech 13.

And the Hokies, hoping to add to Cappeloni's discomfort, called a time out to make him think about it. The pressure was on, but Cappeloni, who booted a 42-yard field goal to open the day's scoring, missed one from 49 and another from 29, figured the delay couldn't have been more appropriate.

"It didn't bother me. In fact, it helped me," Cappeloni insisted. "It gave me more time to think about what I had to do. Look at the ball. Follow through ... (and) I knew I had to shorten my stride because of the conditions."

Tech's Henry Bradley, charg- ing in from the right side and diving headlong, almost got a piece of the ball. Under the circumstances, with the goalposts only faintly visible because of a stiff downpour, Cappeloni was glad I didn't have to kick it any longer.

Until then, a thoroughly soak- ed homecoming crowd of 30,500 had visions of an upset built largely around a new face in the Tech backfield and a defense that proved at its best when backed against the goal line.

Mickey Fitzgerald, a sophomore from Lynchburg, made his starting debut at fullback and carried 21 times for 112 yards, almost half Tech's total offensive bag and a touchdown.

A right end and sometimes defensive tackle earlier in the season, Fitzgerald rambled 19

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