**Gobblers Fall 20-14; Aerial Theft Foils VPI**

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. (Special to Daily Press) — West Virginia University's 20-14 victory over Virginia Tech here on a cold, snowy Saturday turned into an even more frigid afternoon for Gobbler Coach Jimmy Sharpe.

Tech's record slipped to 1-7-1 with home games against equally unlucky Wake Forest and arch-rival Virginia Military Institute in the offing.

The defeat was the same old story for the Gobblers—so close yet so far away. Virginia Tech was in the game all the way until a costly pass interception by WVU defensive back Tom Pridemore with 59 seconds left squelched a drive.

Tech's woes began on the opening kickoff when Larry Fallen fumbled into Mountaineer kicker Bill McKenzie's hands at the Gobbler 22.

Four plays later Mountaineer end Rich Duggan fell on a Paul Lumley fumble in the end zone for a WVU touchdown. The try for the conversion from placement failed due to a bad pass from center and left the hosts in front 6-0 with 12:58 remaining in the opening period.

Sharpe's Gobblers knotted the score early in the third quarter. A 16-yard pass from quarterback David Lamie to wide receiver Ellis Savage put the Virginians in business on the WVU 31.

Sophomore fullback Mickey Fitzgerald then bolted loose for 11 yards to the 20. Three plays later Roscoe Coles found daylight around the West Virginia defense and raced for paydirt.

Paul (Chili Bean) Engel's conversion put the Techmen on top with 9:48 left in the period.

West Virginia wasn't long in bouncing back, using a sustained march that was suddenly climaxed by a 57-yard scoring pass from quarterback Dan Kendra to running back Walter Easley of Charlottesville, Va.

A pass for the two-point conversion went from Kendra to Duggan and sent West Virginia ahead 14-7 with 2:58 left in the quarter.

Fitzgerald's 22-yard run to the West Virginia 18 highlighted the ensuing action and four plays later Lamie faked a pitchout and found the end zone from seven yards out. Engle added the extra point, tying the contest at 14-14.

Freshman Robert Alexander's 12-yard run with 9:16 remaining in the contest enabled the Mountaineers to break the deadlock and eventually win the back-and-forth battle.

Alexander scored his first collegiate See Late, D-3, Column 4

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<th>First downs</th>
<th>VPI</th>
<th>WVU</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rushes-yards</td>
<td>63-251</td>
<td>50-186</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passing yards</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Return yards</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passes</td>
<td>5-10-1</td>
<td>11-19-0</td>
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<td>Punts</td>
<td>3-36</td>
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<td>Fumbles-lost</td>
<td>1-1</td>
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<td>Penalties-yards</td>
<td>4-40</td>
<td>4-36</td>
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**Virginia Tech**

0 0 7 7—14

**West Virginia**

6 0 8 6—20

WVU — Duggan recovered fumble in end zone (kick failed)
VPI — Coles 4 run (Engle kick)
WVU — Easley 45 pass from Kendra (Duggan pass from Kendra)
VPI — Lamie 7 run (Engle kick)
WVU — Alexander 12 run (kick failed)
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WEST VIRGINIA PASSER DAN KENDRA HARRIED
Virginia Tech's James Johnson Attacks On Snowy Mountaineer Field