

WEEK FOURTENN
VIRGINIA TECH at VIRGINIA

Perkins, late FG lift Virginia past No. 23 Hokies, 39-30

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. -- Bryce Perkins put up 475 yards of offense, Brian Delaney kicked a go-ahead 48-yard field with 1:23 to play and Virginia sealed it with a defensive score, beating No. 23 Virginia Tech 39-30 Friday to end a 15-game losing streak in the rivalry and earn the Cavaliers' first trip to the ACC championship game.

Perkins ran for two long touchdowns and passed for another for the Cavaliers (9-3, 6-2), who became the seventh different winner in as many years to claim the Coastal Division. Delaney also kicked a 25-yard field goal for Virginia, and his last kick made up for a missed extra point early.

"How fitting after a missed extra point early that I thought was going to haunt us," Virginia coach Bronco Mendenhall said.

It was also a day of redemption for Perkins.

Last year, after a wild finish to regulation that forced overtime, Virginia's defense limited the Hokies to a field goal, but Perkins was charged with a fumble on a botched handoff and Virginia Tech won, 34-31.

"I was the last play that ultimately ended up losing us the game," Perkins said. "I had to sit with that all year and it hurt so much."

Hendon Hooker ran for one touchdown and threw for another for the Hokies (8-4, 5-3), who came in having won six of seven games to surge into championship contention.

The Cavaliers' winning drive began with Noah Taylor's interception of Hooker's pass at the Virginia 35. Virginia moved steadily downfield, not facing a third down play until it was third-and-15 from the Hokies' 40. Perkins hit Tavares Kelly for nine yards and Delaney converted the kick, setting off a cautious celebration.

On the Hokies ensuing possession, the Cavaliers sacked Hooker on three straight plays. Mandy Alonso had the last one, forcing a fumble that Eli Hanback recovered in the end zone, finally giving the Virginia faithful enough cushion to celebrate the end of the Hokies' decade-and-a-half of domination.

"We got in a situation there at the end of the game where everybody knows we're throwing the ball. That's not our strength," Hokies coach Justin Fuente said.

Virginia led 13-6 after a defensive first half, but then the offenses took over.

"For a while there, it looked like nobody was going to score. Then it looked like everybody was going to score," Fuente said

Hooker ran 34 yards to tie the game at 13. The next three series ended in punts before the Hokies drove 71 yards to take their first lead at 20-13 on Deshawn McClease's 1-yard run. Virginia answered with a 79-yard march, Perkins hitting Joe Reed early in the drive for 42 yards to the Virginia Tech 35 and later connecting with Billy Kemp for the last 30 yards and the tying touchdown.

A 39-yard pass from Hooker to Tre Turner made it 27-20, and three plays into the fourth quarter, Wayne Taulapapa's 2-yard run tied it at 27.

The ensuing possessions produced field goals for each team, making it 30-30 and setting up the finish.

Perkins ripped of touchdown runs of 39 and 67 yards in the first half to make it 13-3. He had 137 rushing yards in the opening quarter.

THE TAKEAWAY

Virginia Tech: The Hokies had been 6-0 with Hooker as the starter, in part because of a surging defense and Hooker's efficiency. He came into the game having thrown for 10 touchdowns with no interceptions in those starts, and while his streak ended at 124 passes without a pick on a Hail Mary throw to end the first half, the interception by Taylor on a deep ball proved the critical play of the game.

Virginia: Perkins started slowly throwing the ball but used those two huge draw play runs to cause the Hokies to have to adjust. He finally found his rhythm in the passing game and finished 20 of 33 for 311 yards. He also ran for 164 yards with 137 of those coming in the opening quarter.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
VT	3	3	21	3	30
UVA	13	0	7	19	39

Scoring Summary -----

FIRST QUARTER	VT	UVA
UVA TD 12:14 Bryce Perkins 39 Yd Run (Brian Delaney PAT failed)	0	6
8 plays, 75 yards, 2:46		
VT FG 3:26 Brian Johnson 21 Yd Field Goal	3	6
8 plays, 53 yards, 4:39		
UVA TD 2:32 Bryce Perkins 67 Yd Run (Brian Delaney Kick)	3	13
3 plays, 75 yards, 0:54		
SECOND QUARTER	VT	UVA
VT FG 2:06 Brian Johnson 26 Yd Field Goal	6	13
7 plays, 20 yards, 2:49		
THIRD QUARTER	VT	UVA
VT TD 12:52 Hendon Hooker 34 Yd Run (Brian Johnson Kick)	13	13
5 plays, 75 yards, 2:08		
VT TD 4:42 Deshawn McClease 1 Yd Run (Brian Johnson Kick)	20	13
8 plays, 71 yards, 4:22		
UVA TD 2:24 Billy Kemp IV 25 Yd pass from Bryce Perkins (Brian Delaney Kick)	20	20
7 plays, 79 yards, 2:18		
VT TD 0:48 Tre Turner 61 Yd pass from Hendon Hooker (Brian Johnson Kick)	27	20
4 plays, 75 yards, 1:36		
FOURTH QUARTER	VT	UVA
UVA TD 13:30 Wayne Taulapapa 2 Yd Run (Brian Delaney Kick)	27	27
5 plays, 75 yards, 2:18		
VT FG 10:58 Brian Johnson 47 Yd Field Goal	30	27
6 plays, 27 yards, 2:32		
UVA FG 7:35 Brian Delaney 25 Yd Field Goal	30	30
5 plays, 67 yards, 3:23		
UVA FG 1:23 Brian Delaney 48 Yd Field Goal	30	33
9 plays, 34 yards, 3:24		
UVA TD 1:01 Eli Hanback 0 Yd Fumble Return (Two-Point Run Conversion Failed)	30	39
3 plays, -17 yards, 0:22		

Team Stats	VT	UVA
First Downs	25	14
Passes for First	11	8
Rushes for First	12	5
Penalties for First	2	1
Third Down Efficiency	4-15	5-14
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-0	0-0
Total Yards	483	492
Total Plays	75	58
Avg Gain Per Play	6.4	8.5
Net Yards Rushing	172	181
Rushes	45	25
Yards Per Rush	3.8	7.2
Net Yards Passing	311	311
Comp-Att	18-30	20-33
Yards Per Pass	10.4	9.4
Times Sacked	6	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-45	-8
Interceptions	2	1
Punts	4	6
Punt Average	45.8	43.3
Penalties	8	7
Penalty Yards	67	62
Fumbles	2	0
Fumbles Lost	2	0
Time of Poss	33:39	26:21

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
VIRGINIA TECH	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Deshawn McClease	16	86	5.4	1	22		
Hendon Hooker	21	44	2.1	1	34		
Tre Turner	3	25	8.3	0	16		
Keshawn King	3	11	3.7	0	10		
Dalton Keene	2	6	3.0	0	3		
VIRGINIA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Bryce Perkins	19	164	8.6	2	67		
Wayne Taulapapa	6	17	2.8	1	5		
PASSING							
VIRGINIA TECH	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Hendon Hooker	18	30	311	10.4	1	2	--
VIRGINIA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Bryce Perkins	20	33	311	9.4	1	1	86.4
RECEIVING							
VIRGINIA TECH	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Tre Turner	7	134	19.1	1	61		
Damon Hazelton	7	118	16.9	0	30		
Tayvion Robinson	3	45	15.0	0	22		
Dalton Keene	1	14	14.0	0	14		
VIRGINIA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG		
Hasise Dubois	4	139	34.8	0	67		
Joe Reed	5	66	13.2	0	42		
Terrell Jana	4	56	14.0	0	37		
Billy Kemp IV	3	32	10.7	1	25		
Tavares Kelly Jr.	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Tanner Cowley	3	9	3.0	0	4		