Tech Starters Are Injured

BLACKSBURG—No campaign is without casualties, and so it is with Virginia Tech's football campaign. And when injuries hit, one result is usually the moving up of fresh troops from the freshman squad, as reserves.

The injury of monster man (strong safety) Chuck Perdue in the William and Mary game added a fourth major name to the injured corps.

The Bluefield freshman suffered a knee injury and has been taken to a specialist in Roanoke to determine the extent of the injury.

Coach Charlie Coffey has two Pennsylvanians to pick from—Randy McCann (6'0" 196) from West Mifflin, and Barry Garber (5'10" 196) of Butler. McCann, a junior, appears to have the edge over Garber, a sophomore. A freshman may be called up to understudy Garber.

Offensive guard John Schneider, a senior and leader (6'2" 234 of East Meadow, N.Y.) was the first injury victim, in an early season contest and has not played since.

Two fire-eating sophomores were the next to go the injury route. Rich Easterling (6'2" 214 of Richmond) and Tom Shirley (6'2" 222 of Roanoke) both were just hitting their menacing stride when injuries cut them down.

The injuries in all cases were knee or other leg injuries. The injured are trying to work themselves back into playing shape as soon as their wounds heal, and at least one linebacker may make it back to the battles before the end of the season.

While all are missed (Shirley made the crushing tackle that caused a fumble that led to a Tech win and Perdue was one of the key men in keeping Alvin Maxson of SMU from running to the outside, where he does much of his major damage) their replacements are doing a good job of holding down the fort.