W&M Defense Scores Points

From Wire Dispatches

One of William and Mary's major objectives this football season is to score points on defense.

That's something the defensive brigade accomplished Tuesday during workouts, thus drawing praise from assistant coaches Bob Sherman and Lou Tepper.

Even though it was only during practice, linebacker Mickey Outten and halfback Mike Stewart got thrills converting interceptions into touchdowns. Also playing the part of an aerial thief was sophomore end Steve Dalton.

"Stewart's doing an excellent job in general, Outten graded out the highest of our linemen in last Saturday's scrimmage and Dalton is pushing Ron Gilden for a starting job," noted Sherman.

"We've got a lot of battles going on for starting roles on defense; nobody can really sit back and think he's got it made," added Sherman. "Depthwise, we're looking pretty good."

The highest-graded defensive lineman in last weekend's scrimmage was 6-foot-2, 230-pound Rich Hodsdon. Another noteworthy performer has been sophomore Mickey Carey, a Chesapeake youngster trying to secure a No. 1 post with the secondary.

The latest member of the mustache crowd for the Tribe is none other than Head Coach Jim Root. He became a convert over the weekend.

In Blacksburg, mounting minor injuries caused Virginia Tech Coach Charlie Coffey to postpone a scheduled goal-line scrimmage. In fact, the Gobblers didn't practice in full gear during the afternoon.

Practice for East Carolina's Pirates was "not that bad, but not that good," according to Coach Sonny Randle. "I'd say our workouts were very representative considering the heat factor. That's not an excuse, but 98 degrees is a fact."

University of Virginia skipper Don Lawrence handed out praise to his younger players. "A lot of our youngsters are looking real good. We have a lot of young talent fighting for recognition, and a number of these players are going to receive it before the dust settles."