Dodson graded 100 percent

THERE WEREN'T too many highlights in the Virginia Tech football season. There were only two wins—over Virginia and Florida State.

After the 36-13 victory over Florida State, coach Charlie Coffey said, "Aside from winning, the most satisfying feeling was that the defense for the first time this season played with the kind of enthusiasm that we've been anticipating all season.

"I give Dennis Dodson a great deal of credit for the mental preparation. When the squad saw films of the Memphis State game and realized what a super effort he had given (in a 49-16 loss), I believe it made them realize what it takes. And Dennis graded 100 percent against FSU. That's the first time I've ever had that."

There was no immediate word on Dodson's grade in the 22-21 loss to VMI in the season finale, but it must have been pretty high. Dodson had 13 tackles, eight assists, broke up a pass and sacked the quarterback.

DODSON WAS presented the Frank P. Loria award Monday because "he played the game with the same dedication, intelligence and selflessness for which that honor was established."

That was the same way Dodson played football, basketball and baseball at James Monroe High School. It's too bad that Dennis' final season couldn't have been a winning one. He is a winning athlete in every since of the word.

Dodson, incidentally, is interested in landing a coaching job in this area after graduation. He's expected to get his degree after the fall term of the next school year.