V.P.I. POT STILL STIRRIN'

"It could take another week... 10 days. Maybe as long as two more weeks. But, look, something might break in the next few days." This statement, coming from Frank O. Moseley, best exemplifies the close, guarded approach Virginia Tech is taking in search of a new head football coach.

"Considering all facets of the matter," says Moseley, himself scheduled to retire July 1, "the plant, our location, the financial and material resources, and what I think is the strong, ready support awaiting the new man, we feel the people who've made all this possible deserve the best man we can get for them."...

Roughly, the search-and-screen task force Moseley heads is poring over three lists of candidates. One has "upwards of 50" head coaches and assistants from all levels, including ambitious high school mentors. A second list candidates "purely by recommendation." A third list candidates "looking for two men." While the second group is not at all discounted, since it includes men of high capabilities not actively seeking new jobs because they are currently well-positioned, the third bag of names may be the one undergoing closest scrutiny. Those names fit people the screening group itself compiled as having the kind of qualifications who might render Tech best service.

It's this list (already down to 68), which, if negotiations or interviews turn up hopeful signs, could curtail or sharply trim the committee's work and turn up a man for the duties, "almost overnight." Even then, Moseley cautions, a quick announcement is not indicative until details of the working agreement are carefully evolved to satisfy both parties.

Moseley didn't (wouldn't?) come close to divulging names in any of the three categories. The only fear of which he was certain, "about 99 per cent," is that there'll be no package deal—one man for both jobs, athletic director and coach. "Right now we're looking for two men," he says.

LEFT-BEHIND SQUAD 'STABILIZED'

Moseley was fairly confident, too, that his department has "stabilized" one of the factors which could go a long way toward convincing the "man we finally decided on" to accept the position abruptly opened up by the resignation of Charlie Coffey. That factor is playing personnel—those on hand and those in a suspended state of recruitment.

"I've talked a few times to them (the squad, Coffey left behind)." volunteers Moseley. "They seem as ready as they or anyone could be about getting to work with the new coach. A lot of talk has gone around about wide disbandment and people leaving. It's not true. Only two have gone, and one we knew about beforehand, so the squad is in good shape, and morale is good."

As to athletes being recruited, Moseley reports "we have signed about a dozen or so and, again, the talk about defections among boys we wanted and on the (Coffey) staff's list's is exaggerated. We've contacted all or most, and many are not jumping us—they're willing to wait." All in all, Moseley is satisfied: "It's all calmed down and progress in the search is good, though slow."