Hokies' Sheehan: Stats Tell Story

Jerry Sheehan's statistics against William and Mary Saturday bordered on the unbelievable — 19 tackles, 12 assists, two fumbles recovered and one pass deflected — but then press box stats aren't always accurate.

A breakdown of the game film, however, did little to minimize the efforts of the Virginia Tech linebacker in a 17-8 Tobacco Festival game victory over the Indians.

Sheehan's statistics as taken from the game film were 17 tackles, eight assists, two fumble recoveries and two deflected passes. That impressive performance earned him the highest grade (110, including bonus points) for a Tech linebacker this season.

"THE MAIN THING was he gave 100 per cent throughout the whole game," said assistant coach Wayne Hall, who conditions Hokie linebackers. "From sideline to sideline, it was a super effort.

"In the past, he was kind of clumsy. But, Saturday, he was hurdling people, running around them and running through them. He's come a long way."

A 6-1, 212-pound redshirt junior from Wilmington, Del., Sheehan saw little playing time until this season, when he succeeded Steve Cannon in the starting lineup. "Most kids who have been red-shirted leave after their third year, but Jerry has become a starter and done a heckuva job," Hall noted.

For sticking around and doing a number on the Indians, Sheehan has been selected The Times-Dispatch Defensive Player of the Week.