Harman returns

Roanoke's Rick Harman is back on the football team at Virginia Tech.

Actually, Harman was back on the team last Saturday against VMI when he came in to hold for placement kicks. But he wasn't listed on the roster given the press and no one really noticed the holder on field goal and point after touchdown attempts.

The former all-state safety at Patrick Henry was ruled out of action by doctors earlier this year because he couldn't take a severe blow to the head.

"Actually," said Tech Coach Jimmy Sharpe, "we practice our kicking game the same time every day as we do our passing game. Believe me, we do have a passing game."

That created a problem since first string quarterback Mitch Barnes was holding for Paul "Chili Bean" Engle on placements.

"We'd have to yell for Barnes to come down and help on the passing," said Sharpe, whose team didn't throw a single pass last week against VMI.

"Coach Jack White (an assistant) asked why we couldn't use Rick to hold," Sharpe related.

So, with an O.K. by the doctor, Harman became Tech's holder. He'll get into the game just as often as Tech scores.

"Rick asked if we really needed him," said Sharpe. "He didn't want me to do it just to cheer him up.

"I told him we wouldn't risk putting someone in there where a point could win or lose a game."

Harman isn't new at holding. He held for Tech a year ago while playing defensive back. He also was a holder at Patrick Henry. —BOB TEITLEBAUM