WVU game key for Tech

By JACK BOGACZYK
Sports Writer

BLACKSBURG — Will the real Virgin-
ia Tech please stand up?

Charlie Moir hopes it happens soon. . .like by Wednesday night.

Today, the Gobbler departed here on a long bus ride to Morgantown, W. Va., to meet West Virginia Wednesday night. There, Moir expects to find out what kind of basketball team his first one at Tech really is.

Tech manhandled Charleston Baptist, 96-70, at Cassel Coliseum Monday afternoon, the Gobbler's second straight easy win. But Moir figures those days of showing up and winning are over, considering the Mountaineers are next.

WVU beat Massachusetts and Syracuse to win the Hall of Fame Tournament in Springfield, Mass., last weekend. The two wins were certainly more impressive than Tech's triumph, considering the opposition.

"We scooted West Virginia over the weekend," said Moir, after five Gobbler bit double figures for the second straight game. "We are going to have to play hard-nosed defense for the entire 40 minutes.

"The kids are anxious to play (West Virginia). We needed to play a couple more games like Marquette and Charleston Baptist. This team (theuccacueers) had better personnel than Marquette.

"But we couldn’t hide the fact that Charleston Baptist was 2-24 year last year. And we played like we were playing a 2-4 team.

Charleston Baptist stayed close until midway through the first half when Moir substituted for his entire starting lineup. The subs—Sam Fogg, Ronnie Edwards, Chris Scott, Les Henson and Wayne Robinson—ran on four straight points in a stretch of 1:09 to increase the Gobbler's lead to 29-16.

The visitors, coached by former Roanoke College player Danny Monk, then were outscored 18-2 in the opening four minutes of the second half. And when Marshall Ashford and Ernst Wansley bomed home consecutive dunk shots for the Gob-
bler almost midway through the second 20-minute session, Tech lead grew to a comfortable 74-46—achieving the final differ-
ce.

Ashford, the sophomore guard who shot only 33 per cent from the floor last season, hit 8-for-13 and finished with 17 points for Tech—one less than game scor-
ing leader Duke Thorpe.

"For the guards, this is a better offense than what we had last year," said Ashford, who started early last season before suffering a broken finger and losing his spot—and confi-
dence—to Dave Sensabaugh.

"This isn’t the same Marshall Ashford as last year. I didn’t have too much confi-
dence at all then. Now, I’m not afraid to shoot the ball.

The win was the Gobbler's 17th straight on their home floor, dating back to a February, 1973, loss to North Carolina.

Not all the 7,000 fans in the stands were pulling for the Gobblers. Dan Wil-
bourne, the former Metro Player of the Year from Glenmar, played 13 minutes for the Buccaneers and hit six points. The loss left Monk's team with a 1-4 record. The opening win came against South Carolina Spartanburg.

"We played well in the first half," said Monk. "I’m sure Tech took us lightly. I really can’t say how good they are, because the first half was slow paced (the Bucs played a zone.) But they get up and down the floor and boarded (rebounds well)

"I don’t know whether they can handle pressure, because we didn’t pressure them.

-Moor—and Monk—won’t have to wait long to find out. The answer should come in Morgantown.

Roanoke, Va., Tuesday, November 30, 1976

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