**‘D’, Movement Key Says Moir**

By JERRY VERNON

Sports Writer

If Charlie Moir and the writers of ‘Street and Smith’s Basketball Yearbook 1976-77’ get together an argument would probably ensue.

The first year Virginia Tech coach described the Hokies next two opponents, West Virginia and Ohio State, as “tough” Monday. On the other hand, “Street and Smith’s” used no superlative terms in previewing the two squads.

While the publication can afford to take West Virginia and Ohio State lightly, Virginia Tech lacks the same luxury. After two season opening landslide wins over outclassed Marietta and Charleston Baptist the Hokies begin their real season tonight in West Virginia before returning home Saturday for an encounter with the Buckeyes.

“I know the players are enthused over the two wins,” said Moir who isn’t complaining himself. “We were a confidence builder, but this week we face stronger competition.”

The roughest of Tech’s two games this week should come in Mountainier country because, as Moir put it, “anytime you play on the road you miss your home crowd.”

And another big reason leftover from last year shows why J.C. Gardner’s Mountaineer squad looks meaner than Ohio State, West Virginia finished 13-13 last season while the Buckeyes settled for the dregs of a 6-20 mark.

“The West Virginia coach is comparing (6-3 guard) Tony Robertson to Oscar Robinson,” warned Moir. “If he’s as good as the big ‘O’ we’ll have our hands full.”

According to last year’s Mountainier scoring statistics the Hokies should have plenty of hands to cover hot-shot Robertson. His returning cohorts, Bob Huggins, Russell Chapman and Sid Bostick, averaged a mark total last season, 19 points per game for the trio.

But that was last season and after the Hall of Fame tourney this past weekend West Virginia stands 2-6 and Bostick earned the MVP award for the wins.

“Their coach has predicted 20 wins,” warned Moir. “And they deserve the praise they have given him.”

The Tech coach described the Mountaineers as a team “that likes to run and hits the boards hard.” He admitted the Hokies must play better tonight than they did in the openers.

“We’re going to have to get back on defense,” he said.

“We’re going to have to be more consistent on the boards. We’ve been doing a lot of standing around.”

Moir will probably bring out a new face at tipoff time in West Virginia. That means one of three players, Sam Foggia, Wayne Robinson or Les Henson, could send Phil Thienemann to the bench.

Thienemann need not despair if he sits on the bench when the action starts against the Mountaineers because the 6-6 senior should come back Saturday when the Buckeyes hit Cassell Coliseum.

“They start a smaller lineup (than West Virginia),” said Moir, “so we may come back with a smaller lineup against Ohio State.”

Edlon Miller has taken over the downtrodden Buckeye program this year, a job former Tech Coach Don DeVoe wanted, but never landed. Miller turned a dormant Western Michigan program into a winner in six years. He probably will not be able to do the same for Ohio State in two months.

The Buckeyes lack one ability Miller considers essential in basketball-winning. Of the four most productive players returning, 6-5 sophomores Fred Poole stands the tallest. Seniors Larry Bledsoe and Mike Daughtery and junior Jud Wood barely transcend the six-foot barrier. The first move Miller made at Buckeye was to grab a 6-8 and 6-9 recruit.

This combination of short height and limited experience whipped Butler University over the weekend, but may not fare as well against the bigger T'chemers.

“If we could win these two it would mean a lot to myself and the team,” admitted Moir. “But if the opposite happens we’d have to go back to the drawing board. We’re optimistic.”

**West Virginia’s 6-5 Tony Robertson (14) Has the Wheels**

Tech Must Stop What Pro Scouts Term “Best Big Guard In Nation”

By DAVID J. BISSET

Sports Writer

On Saturday the Va. Tech Gobblers will be facing Ohio State under the leadership of new coach Edlon Miller.

The new Buckeyes boss, who formerly coached at Wittenburg University (Ohio) and most recently at Western Michigan before coming to the Big Ten, believes it will take OSU two solid years of recruiting to turn the basketball program around.

“Our basketball program is really down and it will take me two or more years to get the team back into the first division of the Big Ten,” declared Miller.

“I got a late start on the recruiting circuit and that has hurt the Buckeye cause,” he added.

“I didn’t arrive here (Columbus, Ohio) until March 25 and that’s way too late to get any high chippers,” he added.

But Miller did manage to come up with 6-7 Jim Elling Hausen from Plymouth, Michigan, and guard Kelvin Ramsey from Toledo (Ohio), both starters on a team that features three seniors and two freshmen.

Along with these two freshmen, Miller has veterans and seniors with Mike Daughtery 6-3 forward, Glen Hammond 6-6 center, and co-captain Larry Bolin, a 6-0 guard.

“Daughtery scored 13 points and grabbed 10 rebounds in our home opener against Butler. And Hammond had 21 points which is by far his best point production ever and he chipped in with nine rebounds,” declared Miller.

“Larry Bolin is my point guard on the 1-3-2 offense. He directs the traffic and is more valuable in this capacity than scoring points.”

“Bolin was one of the reasons we were able to come from a 10-point second half deficit to nip Butler, 69-66,” added Miller.

With this tentative starting five of Daughtery, Ellinghausen, Hammond, Ramsey and Bolin, the OSU boss will use veteran Judd Wood, a 6-3 guard-forward as his number six man.

“Tech will see a lot of Jud and also Mark Hitz, a beefy 6-8, 250-pounder who is not ready for a starting role but is slowly rounding into shape.”

“I think our wins will be few and far between because there’s a lot of shortcomings on this team.”

“From past experience, I know that Tech is a team with three good players. (Duke) Thorpe, (Ernest) Wamsley and (Phil) Thieneman, returning and that size and quickness is going to be hard to stop especially under the bucket,” Miller remarked.

“We usually play a man-to-man defense, but matching up with them (Tech) may cause us problems since Ellinghausen is our tallest starter at 6-7.”

After Miller’s Buckeyes play at Evansville (Ind.) tonight, they face Tech on Saturday in the Cassell Coliseum.

“We’ve got a couple of kids that are showing promise and the team showed poise in our first game, but they’ve got to shoot more than 50 times for us to win.”

“Charlie Moir’s Tech team will be a test for us as well as being a team that OSU has never beaten. But the kids will be ready,” Miller declared.