Tech Offensive Surge Made Up For Early Defensive Slump Sat.

RICHMOND—Basketball coach Charlie Moir of the Hokies was disappointed with his team’s defensive efforts, notably in the first half but had words of praise for the offensive drive that provided an unbeatable lead in the final 20 minutes.

“We went to sleep at half court, especially in the first half,” he said, adding “Richmond played better than an 0-3 ball club. They outscored us on the boards in the first half. When they went to the zone we got no penetration.”

“Wayne” Robinson did a super job and Bell did well running the offense. I give credit to (Richmond) coach (Carl) Shan. They were well prepared for us.

It was a good win. It’s especially good to get the first road win. For the first 10 minutes we stood around. I thought we were very tired at times.

“When we went ahead early in the second half it was the best stretch we’ve played all year. Robinson has improved a lot. He’s a super athlete. Les (Henson) got three quick fouls. Tic (Price) gave a good effort on the boards.

“I’m pleased with the way he (Robinson) is doing in the middle but I doubt that I’ll make him the center. Sam (Foggins) will come back soon to play there. This is the finest group I’ve coached. They are super individuals and more disciplined than any team I’ve coached.”

The coach said that he was at a loss to explain the poor free throw shooting accuracy, adding “we have shot well in practice.

Commenting on the fact that Tech loses a few players on fouls in each game he said “We’re pressing more, playing a little tighter. We’re young and make more defensive mistakes and foul more than we used to.”

December Will Give Reading On Hokies

RICHMOND—In the latter part of December and early January we’ll find out what kind of a ball club we have.”

“Virginia Tech front court man Wayne Robinson in locker room comments following Tech’s win over Richmond in which he scored 31 points.

“I actually had three forwards in the front.” The Greensboro, N.C. sophomore has excelled while playing in the middle in place of injured Sam Foggins who is expected to return to the lineup within about two weeks.

Asked about Tech losing 11 points of its lead to Richmond in the closing minutes of the game he replied “Psychologically we relax when we get far ahead, especially on defense. Most teams will do that. Richmond played very well in the second half.”

Robinson said that when he wasn’t the shooter he was in good position to get rebounds.

Robinson smiled and admitted that it was “Pretty embarrassing” when his attempted dunk shot in the first half hit the back side of the rim and bounced out. “But I didn’t think about it and I made sure the next one went in.”

Guard Ron Bell said he believes that Tech will go 8-0 in early season games. Concerning the Spiders he said “That Mike Perry dude will be great.” (Perry, a freshman, scored 25 points).

Bell added “Wayne Robinson is a great ball player.”

Asked about Tech’s improved showing in the second half he said “We came out more aggressively in the second half and penetrated their 1-3-1 zone and put them back in man (man to man). We can outrun them one-on-one. Tic (Price) and Les (Henson) can play with any two forwards.

“When we got up by 20 I thought we’d win by 30 but they came back. In the next few games Richmond will get a win. They’re not a bad ball club.”

Guard Marshall Ashford said of the Spiders “They’ve got a lot better talent than they showed in the first half. They forced us into a few turnovers and they were turning it over because of our defense.”

Asked whether a succession of big, comparatively easy wins would cause a letdown he replied “I don’t think there’s any chance of a letdown. We have pride in ourselves.”

Ashford said of the second half surge that put the game out of reach for Richmond: “We stuck to our offense and got a few steals and a few quick scores.”

The junior from Durham, N.C. also praised Spider forward Perry saying “Perry is a good ball player and definitely strong around the basketball.”