Moir Is Pleased, But Team Must Get Smoother Soon

BLACKSBURG—"I'm pleased with the way they played. They just played on guts tonight and got the intensity flowing. They'll have to get smoother by next time. They'll need it regardless of which team we play (Alabama or Memphis State). We know them. We've played them both," said Virginia Tech head basketball coach Charlie Moir after his team bumped Georgetown to advance in NIT play.

"Under the circumstances we played well. When we had a six or seven point lead we took some bad shots, I didn't like seeing those 20 and 22 footers," Moir continued.

"Ronnie Bell played a real fine basketball game, especially in the first half. Marshall Ashford must have hit on seven or eight shots at one stretch in the second half."

Asked about the turnovers and missed free throws (Tech made only 15 out of 20) he said, "We were tired obviously. We had only two days of practice and yesterday (Tuesday) I let them go easy." Tech was notified of its NIT bid on Sunday, only three days before the game.

When asked why Tech didn't use the four corners ball control tactic more Moir said "I didn't want to go to four corners with a two point lead when we had been handling the ball so poorly."

Moir added, "Georgetown is a good club. Quicker than I had thought. They got a great effort from Martin and Mackie is a helluva shooter. The coach plans plenty of practice before Monday night."

LAYUP—Marshall Ashford goes in to hit a layup in Wednesday's NIT opening round in Blacksburg. Marshall was sporting a new hair style for the tournament opener.

UP AND OVER—Phil Thielen of Virginia Tech goes up and over a Georgetown player to score. Thielen scored only three points during the game, but his defensive play made up for the lack of points on the board.

BIG "E" SHOOTS—Ernest Wansley shoots from the side over a Georgetown player. Wansley was able to get some key shots in the game as Tch went on to win and advance in the NIT.