BLACKSBURG—"We played with the way they played. They just played on us all afternoon flowing. They'd be in it again next time. They'll need it.

negligence of which team we play (Alabama or Memphis State). We know them. We've played them both. I think Virginia Tech had basketball coach Charlie Mokr after his team burned Georgetown to advance to the NIT.

The coach continued, "Under the circumstances we played well. When we had an eight or seven point lead we took some bad shots. I didn't see the wrong shots and 23 points." Ronnie Bell played a real good basketball game, especially in the first half. Marshall Ashford must have hit or scored out of seven of our minutes in the second half.

"Asked about the turnovers and missed free throws Tech made only 15 out of 23 free throws. In the second half we made only six. We had another two-point lead in the last minutes. We went over and over, they had two shots with a two-point lead, and we had been holding the ball so poorly," Mokr added. "Georgetown is a good club. Quicker than I had thought. They get a good effort from Martin and Johnson is a tall, strong player. Our defense shows up in 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.

Wansley's Play Was Turning Point In Hoya Game, Bell Says

BLACKSBURG—"The turning point was the way I (Ernest Wansley) played. He had seven or nine in the second half. We held him back and we held him the last two minutes. It was a turnover. He had no field goals and three of them were out of four from the free throw line where his percentage puts him among the nation's leaders.

Normally in double figures for the Hoyas, Thimhannmann had 13 points, 10 rebounds, 13 assists, 17 steals, 16 points and 10 steals. I had 20 points, 10 rebounds, 10 assists and 10 steals. I really think that I'm in better shape than the man I play against but I don't have that confidence.

Our guard hit red. Wansly took some bad percentage shots but what can you say? They went in. That's what counts. On the fourth shot, I decided to put in. It was a good shot.

Ernest Wansley commented, "I think I played well in this game. I had a few more rebounds in the second half and I just wanted to play better in this game, but I didn't do that.

We're going to work on free throws. We're going to work on defense. We're going to work on every aspect of our game.

Marshall Ashford commented, "I think we could have been a lot better team if I had come in earlier. The second half we were behind and we pushed for us and we couldn't get it down.

In response to a question, Ashford said his new haircut—short—was his "saying haters" and explained, "I didn't know we were going to be with the Hoyas this year. We hear you. Ask Furgiott said, "I'm looking forward to Malason Square Garden. I've never been there before."

"Marshall had the eye in the basket. He just hit another shot there. We had a flurry of turnovers under the basket.

HIGH FLYING BELL—Ron Bell goes through the air and is called for a charging violation in Wednesday's NIT game in Blacksburg.

BELL SCORES—Ron Bell does some fancy leaping as he goes under the basket to score.