NEW YORK, N. Y.—Virginia Tech players and coach Charlie Moir commented on the team’s NIT participation and the results of the ’76-’77 season following the loss to Alabama in the team’s second NIT game Monday night.

Center Ernest Wansley said, “They (Alabama) put on a little more pressure. Our guards went one on one with them. In the first half Alabama missed a few one and one shots.

“Most teams put a guard on me and he is almost in my lap. They feel he can block the ball. This time the team got it to me better.

“We tried to work on our press, tried to keep (Reggie) King down. I tried to front him. I guess we didn’t want to be embarrassed like were were at Dayton. We played a good game.”

Duke Thorpe observed:

“We tried to play our kind of game. All of the (Alabama players) were super quick. If “E” and I hadn’t gotten in foul trouble we would have put up a better battle. Everybody thought we would win. We proved to them that we could play tough to the end.”

Reserve center Sam Foggin, asked about the difference between this game and the earlier big loss to Alabama, said, “It was just a matter of things going the way we wanted them to. We played tonight the way we are capable of playing and at Dayton we didn’t. Fouls were not a factor here.

“It was definitely a physical game. Maybe not as physical as Carolina. It was more physical maybe than I thought it should have been.”

Sophomore guard Marshall Ashford volunteered: “They have a good team. We had been leading them almost the whole game. They used four guards.

“I wanted to play them again. I figured we could beat them. I have a lot of respect for their ball club. I’m always glad to play against a top notch team like that.

“I felt it showed our improvement. We executed well. In the first half we played hard nosed defense. They have some guard freshmen, (Kent) Looney and (Bob) Scott. We wanted to foul Scott. He wasn’t doing well on foul shots.”

Concerning the season outcome Thorpe said, “We proved a few people wrong. Some thought we would be 13-13. We won 19 games and went to a post season tournament. Tech will lose only three seniors (himself, Phil Thieneman and Wansley) and can have a super team next year.”

Asked about his future basketball plans he said, “I’m not going to quit. I feel I have a chance in the NBA draft. I have no team preference just as long as I get to play. Mom and Dad came up to see me play. I played before them in Richmond and again in Hampton and there was no way I was going to let them down.”

Foggin stated, it was a better season than most people thought we would have. We finished 19-10 overall and had a post season tournament.”

Moir summed up: “I’m pleased with the season. The kids played hard and gave a tremendous effort. We did as well as we are capable of doing.

“I felt we played a great ball game and we could have won. In the second half we

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