Loyalty to school, aides keeps Merritt at Tenn. State

Tennessee State football coach John Merritt proved early this week that he is a man a great moral fiber as well as an outstanding gridiron teacher.

The rotund leader of the nation's No. 1 small college team declined the head coaching job at Wichita State University because he didn't want to turn his back on Tennessee State, his coaching associates there and the young men who are in school at Nashville because of him.

* * *

"I have decided to remain at Tennessee State basically because of my loyalty to my coaches, to the boys we have recruited recently who expected us to be here and to the university, which I feel at this time particularly, needs me more than Wichita,' said Merritt.

The 48-year-old head coach, wearing deep blue aviator sunglasses and puffing a hefty cigar, said it was "a great honor" to be offered the post at Wichita.

* * *

He said "The financial return from such a postion made it very worthwhile."

"But I feel that obligations to Tennessee State, which gave me opportunity for much Growth, are such that I must inform the officials at WSU that I cannot accept the offer.

"I feel I must stay at Tennessee State to help this university maintain its stature and achieve further greatness," he added.

Merritt said another factor that entered into his decision was that three of his assistant coaches would not be able to follow him to the central Kansas school. He did not identify the three.

"You've got to realize they've got to make a living too, "Merritt said. "I hired them and I'm obligated to them. I don't know what their status would have been had I gone."

* * *

Merrit said the athletic facilities at Wichita were "tremendous" but the team had a lot of rebuilding ahead of it.

During Merritt's 11 years at Tennessee State he has a record of 93-13-2. Last year his team was 10-0 and was UPIs national small college champion.

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Bobby Darin songs ended

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Bobby Darin the brash ambitious teen idol of the 1950s who sang "Mack The Knife" and "Splish-Splash" and married Sandra Dee for six years died Thursday after his second open heart operation. He was 37.

"He never really came around after the operation," a spokesman said. "He was just too weak to recover."

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Milton Allen speaks at Morgan Rights Day

"It's taken the United States 200 years of court battles, several wars and a number of constitutional crises to come to a point where the full meaning of the Bill of Rights is accepted;" said the Hon. Milton B. Allen in his address to the Morgan State College annual Bill if Rights convocation.

Before a crowd of 300, Allen stated that the oppression of the "poor, black and unpopular" has brought about judicial decisions that illuminated the importance of the Bill of Rights.

"The disadvantaged has emerged from this constitutional crucible as the strongest hopes of these United States to eventually bring this country to the fruition of its hopes of 200 years ago," said he the States attorney.

Allen continued that the constitution, believed by many to be the most perfect legal document known to man, was written in a clear, concise manner to eliminate all possibility of misunderstanding.

"How then," he furthered, "do we, 200 years later, come to a point where the scourge of racism, is the most destructive factor in our existence? How, then have we come to a point where a mere handful of greedy men are allowed within a breath of subverting our most precious national ideals?"

Folkwing Allen's address, Dr. C. Vernon Gray, chairman of the political science department, presented a plaque to Dr. Fleming commemorating his years of service to Morgan State College (he is to retire after this year) and his origination of the Bill of Rights convocation in 1944.

Bands hold fund-raiser for school

Two local bands are pooling efforts by sponsoring a "Funky Super Rock New Year Thing," in hopes of raising funds to enable the community school of Gwynns Falls Junior High, No. 91, to continue its services.

The community school once remained open for four days-a-week but has reportedly been cut down to two-days-a-week.

Ronald Cobert, spokesman for the Supreme Court Band, and Joseph Cobert, of the Salt and Pepper Band, say that all proceeds from the affair will go to the community school.

The show will be held Jan. 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Morley and Hilton Streets.

For information contact the groups by calling 947-9302.

Deaths seen tied to methyl alcohol

Reports spread that hundreds may have died in Mozambique as a result of drinking methyl alcohol in the belief it was whiskey.

Several weeks ago it was noted that 58 died after drinking the spirits which were in drums that washed up on the coast.

Public Service Commission of Maryland

In the matter of the application of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company for revisions in electric and steam rates.

CASE NO. 6700

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given by the Public Service Commission of Maryland that six (6) public hearings will be held in the above entitled matter at six (6) different locations during the period January 7, 1974 through January 17, 1974.

At these hearings, customers of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company will be given an opportunity to offer testimony relative to the rate proceeding. The following schedule of evening sessions and one Saturday morning session has been adopted by the Commission:

Monday, January 7, 1974 — Room 301, County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, Maryland.

Thursday, January 10, 1974 — Courtroom No. 1, Courthouse, Church Circle, Annapolis, Maryland.

Saturday, January 12, 1974 — Roll Call Room, Western District Police Station, 1034 North Mount Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Monday, January 14, 1974 — County Council Meeting Room, 45 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland.

Wednesday, January 16, 1974 — Grand Jury Room, Courthouse, Ellicott City, Maryland

Thursday, January 17, 1974 — Roll Call Room, Southeastern District Police Station, 5700 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

On January 7, 10, 14, 16 and 17, 1974, all persons wishing to testify publicly shall register at the place of public hearing between 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. on the evening that the session is scheduled, and the hearing will commence at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, January 12, 1974, all persons wishing to testify publicly shall register at the place of public hearing between 9:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., and the hearing will commence at 10:30 a.m.

Robert L. Sullivan, Jr.
H. Reese Shoemaker, Jr.
William S. Baldwin
Commissioners

AFRO Sports

Heavy champ Foreman hit by $10 million suit

SAN FRANCISCO — World heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman was named in a $10 million damage suit for allegedly withholding assets from the partnership which shares his ring earnings.

Foreman, 24, was named as a defendant in a suit filed in U.S. District Court here by George Foreman Associates, LTD., a Philadelphia, Pa., partnership. The action seeks recovery of what Foreman Associates termed hidden assets from the Sept. 1 two-minute fight with Jose Roman and sought to impose $10-million in punitive damages and relief.

* * *

Foreman's attorney said last summer that the Tokyo defense of his title would earn the Hayward, Calif. fighter $250,000 plus $10,000 for training expenses.

The suit alleges that Foreman's business manager, Leroy Jackson and his manager, Dick Sadler, both named as defendants, received $360,000 and fees, but the money was not reported or shared with Foreman Associates.

* * *

In a pre-trial disposition, Jackson said he received "in the neighborhood of $300,000" from the Japanese promoters as compensation for the TV rights.

Jackson also said he received $100,000 in cash from the promoters, plus $10,000 as consultant fee from Video Techniques, a New York closed circuit television firm.

Sadler testified he negotiated for a $500,000 purse, but at Foreman's insistance, another $100,000 was added. The extra money was compensation, he said, for a cancelled tour of Asia.

Foreman Associates alleges the $100,000 given Jackson was never paid to Foreman and the $250,000 should be part of the purse and deposited with the general receipts to be shared.

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AFRO Sports

Sugar Bowl boycott won't pressure players

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — Disgruntled black leaders Wednesday began a series of demonstrations led by the Rev. Ralph Abernathy to protest what [illegible]

mittee.

But they said the protests would be peaceful and would probably stop short of asking black players on the top-ranked Alabama and third-ranked Notre Dame football teams, or on the four basketball tournament squads, to stage a boycott.

The Rev. Mr. Abernathy, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), addressed a rally Wednesday night which inaugurated the protests.

Protest leaders are demanding black membership of the prestigious executive committee of the Mid-Winter Sports Association, the Sugar Bowl sponsor. The association agreed under pressure and threat of legal action to accept six blacks as associate members but it steadfastly refused to desegregate its executive committee.

Pickets definitely will be stationed outside Tulane Stadium before the New Year's Eve football game and at Municipal Auditorium during the basketball tournament this weekend, the leaders said.

Demonstrations at various other locations which are centers of Sugar Bowl activity were also being considered, they said.

"There are contingency plans for picketing elsewhere — hotels and such," said Dr. Guy Gipson, president of the New Orleans NAACP.

But he said that violence was not part of the plan and that the leaders were interested "in assuring a peaceful demonstration."

* * *

The Sugar Bowl was not the only target of the protests. Tyron Brooke, a spokesman for Abernathy, said the SCLC felt "part of our program is to force ABC to project some black faces across that screen in football season."

The American Broadcasting Co. telecasts college football games weekly and carries a nationwide broadcast of the Sugar Bowl. Brooks said all the network's game announcers are white.

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Black QB key in South win

Don Woods — One of a rash of black college quarterbacks to surface in post-season play — Steered the South to a 27-6 win in the Orange Bowl's North South Shrine game Christmas night at Miami.

The young signal-caller from New Mexico took the QB duties after a colorless first half and led the way after the South defense had limited the North, which included Rutgers' brilliant back runner, J. J. Jennings, to 65 yards.

* * *

Breaking open a dull battle of defenses and errors, the South Scored twice in the fourth quarter after Kentucky's Frank Lemaster fell on a Jennings fumble. Woods passed 29 yards to Arkansas's Jack Ettinger and then followed a 24-yard scramble, Willie Burden, of North Carolina State got the score on a one-yard plunge.

The south scored a final touchdown with the clock running out when Sam Johnson of North Carolina went over from the four capping a 34-yard drive.

* * *

The North's only scores were field goals of 37 and 32 yards by John Phillips of Xavier.

The South, piling up 136 net yards on the ground to 98 for the North, marched 31 yards on its second series capped by a four-yard scoring plunge by Alfred Thompson black speedster from Eastern Kentucky.

Holiday music featured at School No. 93

Over 1,000 people from Region IV of the Baltimore City Public Schools came to take part in "A Holiday Music Festival" held at Northern Parkway Junior High School No. 93 recently.

Dr. Joel Carrington, regional superintendent in Region IV, noted that "this was a beautiful expression of the holiday spirit in the community. This festival is also an indication of the success of the reorganization of the school system and the increased community participation in the activity participation in the activity participation in the ac-

Thirteen school in Region IV wede represented in the music and art festivities, including the Northern High Concert Band, the Woodbourne Junior High Chorus, the Leith Walk and Northwood Elementary Orchestra, the Northern Parkway Junior High Concert Choir, the Northern Parkway Junior High Band and the Hamilton and Yorkwood Elementary Chorus.

Also the Combined Instrumental Ensembles of Glenmount, Waverly, Winston, and Woodhome Elementary, Northern Parkway Junior High, and Northern Senior High Schools, the Leith Walk and Woodhome Handbell Ringers, the Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical Senior High Choir, and the Glenmount, Waverly, Winston and Woodhome Elementary Orchestra.

IS THIS YOU whom AFRO photographer Ben Philips snapped at a recent Baltimore sports event? If so, clip this picture and present it to Mrs. Gertrude Steele with proper identification, on the 3rd floor of the AFRO building BEFORE NOON Tuesday. By following these directions, you may receive $5 for being in the right place at the right time.

FOOTBALL ON TV

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

OAKLAND AT MIAMI

Raiders No.	Raiders Player	Pos.	Dolphins No.	Dolphins Player	Pos.
20	Jimmy Warren	CB	22	Mercury Morris	RB
21	Cliff Branch	WR	23	Charlie Leigh	RB
23	Charlie Smith	RB	26	Lloyd Mumford	CB
24	Willie Brown	CB	42	Paul Warfield	WR
26	Al Thomas	S	45	Curt Johnson	CB
28	Clarence Davis	RB	48	Bob Stuckey	CI
31	Jack Tatum	S	65	Maulty Moore	DT
43	George Atkinson	S	66	Larry Little	G
47	Jeff Queen	RB	80	Mary Fleming	TE
48	Nemiah Wilson	CB	82	Bo Rather	WR
60	Otis Sistrunk	DT	86	Marlin Briscoe	WR
63	Gene Upshaw	G			
76	Bob Brown	T			
77	Bubba Smith	DE			
78	Art Shell	T			
82	Horace Jones	DE			
86	Gerald Irons	LB			
88	Bob Moore	TE			

MINNESOTA AT DALLAS

Vikings No.	Vikings Player	Pos.	Cowboys No.	Cowboys Player	Pos.
32	Horace Reed	RB	20	Mel Renfro	CB
34	Al Randolph	S	22	Bob Hayes	RB
40	Charlie West	S	27	Bill Thomas	RB
42	John Gilliam	WR	31	Ben Barnes	CB
43	Nate Wright	CB	33	Cyril Pinder	RB
44	Chuck Foreman	RB	34	Cornell Green	CB
55	Amos Martin	LB	35	Calvin Hill	RB
68	Charley Goodrum	G	44	Bob Newhouse	RB
70	Jim Marshall	DE	46	Mark Washington	CB
81	Carl Eller	DE	70	Rayfield Wright	T
82	Jim Lash	WR	75	Jethro Pugh	DT
86	Joe Dawson	WR	77	Bill Gregory	DT
88	Alan Page	DT	79	Harvey Martin	DT
			84	Jean Fugett	TE
			88	Drew Pearson	WR
			89	Billy Joe DuPree	TE

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D78-14 (6.95x14)	$29.00	11.60	$33.00	13.20	$2.09
E78-14 (7.35x14)	$31.00	12.40	$35.00	14.00	$2.22
F78-14 (7.75x14)	$33.00	13.20	$37.00	14.80	$2.37
G78-14 (8.25x14)	$36.00	14.40	$40.00	16.00	$2.53
H78-14 (8.55x14)	—	—	$43.00	17.20	$2.75
G78-15 (8.25x15)	$38.00	15.20	$42.00	16.80	$2.60
H78-15 (8.55x15)	$41.00	16.40	$45.00	18.00	$2.80
J78-15 (8.85x15)	—	—	$50.00	20.00	$3.01
L78-15 (9.00x15)	—	—	$52.00	20.80	$3.13

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