Morgan cagers in South America

Morgan State College coach Nat Frazier and 12 members of his basketball squad open a weekend series in Buenos Aires, Argentina today (Friday), as the beginning of a 10-day South American tour.

The trip, which terminates Jan. 3, at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is being sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

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It is a furtherance of this country's determination to solidify good neighbor relations with Central and South American nations.

Argentine and Brazilian diplomatic representatives were on hand as the Morgan entourage was briefed at the State Department in Washington Monday afternoon. They laid out plans indicating red-carpet treatment for the American cagers at all of their stops.

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Making the trip were Tony Blount, just back from a forced absence due to scholastic problems, and 11 others, headed, of course, by the 1973-74 Player of the year, Marvin Webster.

Joining these two and coach Frazier were: Pat Edwards, Billy Newton, Mike Streety, Jethro Crum, Ivan Young and five freshmen, Kenny Austin, Eric Evans, Maurice Jennings, Teddy Henderson and Jimmy Gorman.

• • •

The south-of-the-border tour took much of the Bears' Yule vacation from school, since the party departed early Christmas morning.

They resume their regular schedule at Brockport State, N.Y., on Jan. 11.

The team will not return to the Hill Fieldhouse until Feb. 1, when they entertain S.C. State.

Tony Blount back just in time

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SUNDAY AFTERNOON

LOS ANGELES AT MINNESOTA

Rams No.	Player	Pos.	Vikings No.	Player	Pos.
12	James Harris	QB	25	Jackie Wallace	CB
29	Harold Jackson	WR	32	Oscar Reed	RB
20	Lawrence McCutcheon	RB	42	John Gilliam	WR
32	Cullen Bryant	RB	43	Nate Wright	CB
35	Tony Baker	RB	44	Chuck Foreman	RB
36	Ken Geddes	LB	54	Fred McNeill	LB
37	Bill Drake	S	55	Amos Martin	LB
41	Eddie McMillan	CB	68	Charles Goodrum	T-G
44	Al Clark	CB	70	Jim Marshall	DE
47	Charlie Stukes	CB	81	Carl Eller	DE
58	Isiah Robertson	LB	88	Alan Page	LB
73	Charlie Cowan	T			
75	John Williams	T			
76	Cody Jones	DE			
81	Willie McGee	WR			
88	Terry Nelson	TE			
90	Larry Brooks	DT			

PITTSBURGH AT OAKLAND

Steelers No.	Player	Pos.	Raiders No.	Player	Pos.
17	Joe Gilliam	QB	21	Cliff Branch	WR
24	J. T. Thomas	CB	23	Charles Smith	RB
25	Ron Shanklin	WR	24	Willie Brown	CB
27	Glen Edwards	S	26	Alonzo Thomas	DB
31	Donnie Shell	S	27	Ron Smith	DB
32	Franco Harris	RB	28	Clarence Davis	RB
35	Steve Davis	RB	32	Jack Tatum	S
43	Frank Lewis	WR	34	Harold Hart	RB
45	Jim Allen	CB	43	George Atkinson	S
47	Mel Blount	CB	48	Nemiah Wilson	DB
57	Sam Davis	G	60	Otis Sistrunk	DT
62	Jim Wolf	DE	63	Gene Upshaw	G
63	Ernie Holmes	DT	70	Henry Lawrence	T
68	L. C. Greenwood	DE	77	Bubba Smith	DE
75	Joe Greene	DT	78	Art Shell	T
77	Charli Deavis	DT	82	Horace Jones	DE
78	Dwight White	DE	85	Frank Pitts	WR
82	Joh Stallworth	WR	86	Gerald Irons	LB
88	Lynn Swann	WR			

Rams trio vows trouble for Foreman and Vikes

Three black stars — Isiah Robertson, Lawrence McCutcheon and James Harrison — sounded warnings to the Minnesota Vikings, whom they meet Sunday in the National Football Conference title game.

Robertson, the linebacker ace of the Los Angeles Rams, singled out the Vikes' running ace, Chuck Foreman, for his message:

"Foreman will have his work cut out for him Sunday," Robertson prothised. "The same thing will happen to Foreman that happened to Larry Brown."

In a rematch of two teams that met here Nov. 24, the Rams and the Vikings will go at each other at Bloomington, Minn., but there's more at stake this

They'll be battling for the NFC title and a trip to New Orleans for the Super Bowl, Jan. 12.

"We'll be well prepared for them," said Rams rushing star McCutcheon, "and I think we'll take it from them."

"We've just got to forget about the weather there," added quarterback Harris. "I think we can win."

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CCC to host mat tourney Friday

Catonsville Community College will be going for its third team title, in the annual Metro wrestling tournament, today (Friday) beginning at 1 p.m. Finals will begin approximately at 5 p.m.

Entered in this year's tourney are the five junior college wrestling teams from the Baltimore area: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Essex, Harford and host Catonsville.

According to CCC coach and Metro tournament director, Bucky Workman, Catonsville is again a heavy favorite, but all of the entered teams have gained strength.

Roanoke, Baltimore poor to get Foreman's help

ROANOKE (UPI) — Former heavyweight boxing champ George Foreman has selected Roanoke as one of 13 he intends to give $1,000 to help feed the poor this holiday, the Roanoke Times reports.

The paper quotes Foreman's publicity manager, Don King, as saying Foreman will give the money to a not yet identified radio station for distribution.

"George is so concerned many may go hungry that he has authorized me to send $1,000 checks to feed the needy in those cities," King told the paper.

Other cities where Foreman plans donations include Baltimore, New York and Detroit, King said.

Foreman is said to have become interested in sending a check to feed Roanoke's poor after being formed of a food program being run by a local black radio station, WTOY.

King said the money is from Foreman's earnings from his recent bout with Muhammad Ali in which he was upset and lost his crown.

He said the checks would be sent to radio stations "according to the size of their listening audience."

King said the checks would be distributed within the next few days.

Classy double in Largo ring

LARGO, Md. — Two exciting, young middleweights — both undefeated — will be featured in separate scheduled 10-round bouts on promoter Eli Hanover's operation boxing promotion of the New Year at the Capital Centre here Tuesday night, January 21.

Mike Rossman, Jewish sensation from Turnersville, N.J., and Leo Saenz, hard hitting Mexican-Indian from Potomac, Md. — each 20-years-young — both will be soundly tested.

• • •

Rossman, conceded championship potential by experienced boxing authorities, is to oppose Matt Donovan, a respected veteran now in his 10th year of competition, while Saenz has — through popular demand — been re-matched 10 rounds with Bruce Cantrell, a crowd pleasing club fighter from Spartanburg, S.C.

This, following Cantrell's impressive losing stand against Saenz at the Capital Centre recently.

• • •

Rossman reportedly has a great left, effective right hand and boxes well and has been victorious in 18 of 19 pro battles — 12 by knockout — while recording one draw.

Saenz had swept 20 successive fights — 14 via knockout — before being beaten to a draw by New York's Willie Mack in Baltimore on December 17.

Additional bouts will be announced.

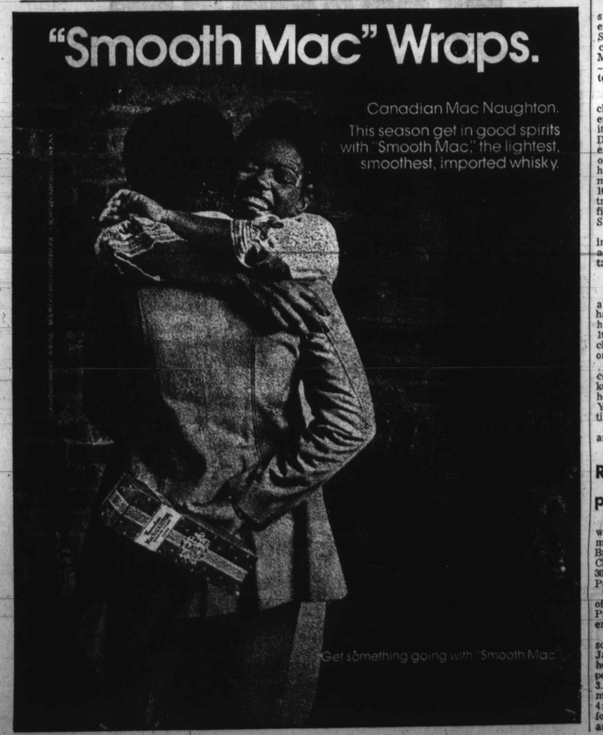
Richest women's pin event coming

The richest professional women's bowling tournament, the second $25,000 Brunswick Red Crown Classic, will be held Dec. 30-Jan. 4, at Brunswick Perry Hall Lanes.

The field will include all of the top bowlers of the Professional Women Bowlers Association.

Qualifying rounds are scheduled for Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, with the head-to-head match play competition set for Jan. 2 and 3. The five finalists will meet on Sat., Jan. 4, at 4:30-6:00 p.m. (EST) before a nationally televised audience.

"Smooth Mac" Wraps.



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Get something going with "Smooth Mac"

Gate City Bowl ruined by telecast of pro playoff

By David Moffit

ATLANTA (UPI) — The Gate City Bowl was an artistic success, but a financial flop.

The bowl, first featuring two black colleges to be sanctioned by the NCAA, was the brainchild of Joe Fife, general manager of an Atlanta radio station (WIGO) which aims its broadcasting at the huge black market in the area.

Fife is the same man who four years ago announced the establishment of Atlanta Black Charities (ABC), a non-profit organization which raises money to help Atlanta's black community.

Fife saw the Gate City Bowl as a shot in the arm for the charitable organization and counted on the bowl's profits to fatten ABC's bank account.

It didn't work out that way.

Fife had optimistically predicted 35,000 would turn out Saturday to watch SIAC champion Tuskegee Institute play CIAA champion Norfolk State. Only 6,252 showed up, and, instead of raising money for charity, the Gate City Bowl will be hard pressed to meet its expenses.

People who considered going to the game and changed their mind — probably because there were two NFL playoff games being televised Saturday — missed a pretty good football game.

Heavily favored Tuskegee needed a 30-yard field goal in the closing seconds on the play following a blocked Norfolk State punt to pull out a come-from-behind 15-14 victory.

Who could ask for a more dramatic finish than that?

Schools like Tuskegee and Norfolk State don't get the sort of publicity afforded to the University of Alabama. But check with the scouts and you'll learn that the pros are just as interested in some of the top seniors in a game like the Gate City Bowl as they are in some of the better known bowls.

Norfolk State's 250-pound defensive tackle Moses Trotter and 265-pound defensive end Steve Robinson, tight end Robert Cook and linebacker Richard Harkins, all of Tuskegee, figure to go high in next month's pro draft.

And the scouts are sorry they have to wait a year before going after Emmanuel McGhee, Tuskegee's 262-pound junior defensive tackle.

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One billion live in hunger as last quarter of century begins

By Peter J. Shaw

ROME (UPI) — The world enters the final quarter of the 20th Century with almost one billion persons not getting enough to eat, and the outlook for any major improvement in the year ahead doubtful.

An estimated 500 million persons are suffering from chronic hunger and hundreds of thousands more face actual starvation. Persistent and acute undernourishment beset more than 400 million others, half of them children.

The global food crisis touches about 40 developing countries inAfrica, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Among the worst hit are Bangladesh, India, and the Sahelian belt countries of Africa.

Causes of the food shortages range from bad weather and poor harvests to lack of funds for food aid purchases and problems in transporting bulk amounts of food from source to hungry mouths.

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The World Food Conference agreed that 7.5 million tons of emergency aid was necessary to feed the world's hungry until summer 1975 crops are in.

How to help pay for it remains a problem. Experts say it would cost $1.8 billion to buy and distribute 7.5 million tons in the Far East, Asia and Africa.

Canada and the United States each pledged a million tons of grain.

The World Food Conference set up extensive permanent machinery to deal with future shortages and famines, but its effectiveness has yet to be demonstrated.

One major decision was to set up a fund for agricultural development in nations that account for 70 per cent of the world's population but only 40 per cent of its food production. But the conference ended without any concrete pledge being made to the fund by traditional donors or oil producing countries.

• • •

The major oil producers were among the sponsors of the proposal for the development fund, which would finance farming projects in developing countries. Oil producing nations lindicated they were willing to provide a large share of the money but the exact amount of national contributions was to be worked out later.

The food conference also recommended an internationally coordinated system of nationally held grain reserves to meet emergencies anywhere in the world. Participants agreed to make available 10 million tons of grains a year.

With the world's population increasing at a rate of nearly 2 per cent a year and an increase of 2 billion persons predicted by the year 2,000, the world's food production willl have to be nearly doubled.

According to a new report on the world's food supply, nations must face the fact that population gorwth has to be slowed while at the same time their citizens are offered programs for basic social needs.

"Without a doubt, the world's food production can and will be increased. But . . . there are very distinct limits to the amount by which it can be increased," the Public Affairs Committee, Inc. reports.

In the report, "Food for the World's Hungry," chairman of the non-profiit organization Maxwell S. Stewart notes that birth control goes hand in hand with economic opportunities.

Family planning obviously is needed, Stewart writes, but reducing population growth alone will not feed the hungry.

"This . . . can only be done by a comprehensive program that includes expansion of irrigation facilities, a broadened program of research, expanded fertilizer production, research management of ocean fisheries, a modernization of agricultural methods in the developing countries, land reform."

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The 1974-75 crop year outlook is not bright. Experts predict a world shortfall of about 17 million tons of wheat and about one million tons of fertilizer.

"In the 1974-1975 short-term crisis period it is likely that only a reduction of consumption can meet needs," Prof. Jean Mayer of Harvard University said. Mayer was general coordinator of the 1974 U.S. Senate Study on Nutrition Policy.

Signs for 1975 in hunger-afflicted areas are mixed. FAO said in mid-December that the drought-stricken countries of Africa's Sahelian zone would need two-thirds less food aid in the year ending Oct. 31, 1975, than they received the previous year.

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Rain has given some relief to the Sahel countries — Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Upper Volta — after six years of drought.

But FAO officials inserted a cautionary note, saying rainfall remained below normal in some areas and "one should not therefore take it for granted that the lean years might soon be over."

As if to dramatize that warning, a report a few days later cited heavy cron damage by locusts in several Sahelian areas.

African bank makes loan to 11 states

ABIDJAN — As part of a program of encouraging more rapid development of African states, particularly during this period when the economies of most African countries have been hit by the fuel and energy crisis, the African Development Bank has approved loans of nearly $45 million to African states.

The board of directors of the Bank, a regional development institution owned by 39 African governments, approved the loans.

The beneficiaries are Senegal, Gabon, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Burundi, Liberia, Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania and Sierra Leone.

• • •

The largest loan, $6 million, went to Egypt to finance part of the power extension program of the General Egyptian Electricity Corporation.

Morocco will get $4.8 million for financing the foreign exchange costs of a scheme for the enlargement of the Doukala canal, and Tunisia will get $360,000 for financing a comprehensive study of an integrated development project for the Kef region.

A loan of $4.8 million goes to Gabon for financing the telecommunications network and signals for the Trans-Gabonese railway.

Zambia will receive nearly $5 million dollars for the expansion of its telecommunications system so as to connect the national network to its neighboring countries.

More than $5 million dollars was approved for Uganda to rehabilitate and expand 30 existing cotton ginneries and to establish 3 new ginneries.

A line of credit of nearly $5 million dollars was opened to the Banque Nationale de Developpement Economique du Burundi for financing the construction of a first class international hotel, with 150 beds, at Bujumbura, capital city.

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The loan of $4.5 million to the Tanzanian government will help finance the construction of the 118 kilometer-long Mingoyo-Masasi highway, which will help in fast evacuation of agricultural products for export.

A line of credit amounting to $1.5 million was granted to the National Development Bank of Sierra Leone, while the credit line to the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment amounted to about $2.5 million.

Senegal received about $240,000 for financing construction studies for a new highway.

Because of the increase in the subscriptions of member states, the bank plans to provide loans of about $300 million between now and 1976 for the development of African states.

LIFESAVING PRESENT — With the full cooperation of the California Department of Corrections, honor prisoner Eddie Snowden, 36, gave the best possible Christmas present to his younger brother, Albert, 32,—a new kidney. Eddie (L) is shown with his brother who is recovering at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco. (UPI Telephoto)

U.N. VOTES

Aggression definition exempts lib struggles

UNITED NATIONS (UPI) — The U.S. General Assembly has unanimously approved a definition of aggression that promises to be a landmark in international law despite a number of loopholes.

The document exempts liberation struggles of suppressed peoples, "particularly peoples under colonial and racist regimes or other forms of alien domination," from a charge of aggression.

It also gives the Security Council, where five major powers have a veto, the right to clear a country of an accusation of aggressi n "in the light of other circumstances," including insufficient gravity.

• • •

The eight-article document defines what constitutes an armed attack by one state against another and specifies measures against the culprit.

"Aggression is the use of armed force by a state against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the charter of the United Nations," the document says.

It says, "The first use of armed force by a state in contravention of the charter shall constitute prima facie evidence of an act of aggression."

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Keeping troops on foreign bases beyond the expiration date of bilateral agreements, using foreign bases for attacks on third countries or sending mercenaries into another country are also acts of aggression, the U.N. said.

The definition also stipulates that the Security Council may determine further acts as aggression.

Another article says that no political, economic or military consideration "may serve as justification for aggression," and no territorial acquisitions or advantages resulting from aggression "are or shall be recognized as lawful."

Ethiopian students march against conscript farming

ADDIS ABABA (UPI) — Warplanes flew overhead and Army troops stood by watching as tens of thousands of students marched through the Ethiopian capital Saturday to protest the military government's new land reform program.

In a plan announced Friday, the army said it intended to form a single ruling political party, take over all urban industries, and organize peoples' communes and collective farms similar to those in China.

Police estimated 40,000 to 50,000 youths took part in the peaceful march and rally. No incidents were reported.

About 16,000 of the demonstrators have been called up by military authorities to work in the countryside with Ethiopia's largely peasant population to help eradicate the effects of a disastrous drought.

The students will help organize farmers into Chinese-style people's communes and begin land reform programs, the government said.

The government allowed the students to demonstrate and make speeches in Addis Ababa before sending them out of the cities this week.

The program of "Ethiopian Socialism," announced by Radio Ethiopia, indicated moderate army officers have been edged out of power in the slow-moving coup d'etat that started in February and culminated 100 days ago with the ouster of Emperor Haile Selassie, now held under house arrest.

Selassie remained in military detention.

On Nov. 23 the revolutionaries executed 59 aristocrats suspected of opposing the new regime.

The army statement said the country's political life will be regulated through one political party named the Supreme Progressive Council.

All property and industry vital to the nations progress "will be under strict government control" the statement said, though the country will continue to encourage foreign investment.

It also promised to decentralize government, allowing local administrations greater say in the running of their regions.

U.N. fund seeks $12.3 million

GENEVA (NBNS) The United Nations high commissioner for refugees, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, has proposed a record financial target of $12.3 million for 1975 and called on governments to help avert a "famine of hope" for the world's uprooted people.

He told his 31-nation executive committee, which began its annual session here, that more funds would be needed for special programs in Cyprus and Indochina.

Reviewing the commission's work in 1974, he said problems in Africa continue to be of primary importance and to absorb the largest fraction of the funds devoted to normal assistance activities.

He singled out problems of refugees from Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda and Zaire.

People

NEW YORK — Alfred S. Mills, chairman of the New York Bank For Savings, has announced the selection of Robert L. Cook, well-known Harlem civic and business leader, as the new chairman of the bank's 135th Street office Advisory Committee for 1975.

At the same time, he announced that George M. Brooker, prominent realtor and civic leader, has been named as new member of the committee.

Cook replaces Miss Dorothy Gordon, prominent community and civic leader, who remains a member of the Advisory Committee.

• • •

LITTLE ROCK — Jerome Muldrew, chairman of the social studies department at Central High School, is the new president of the Arkansas Council for Social Studies for 1975.

• • •

LITTLE ROCK — Dr. Garman P. Freeman of Little Rock, a dentist, is the first black to be appointed to the State Parks and Tourism Commission.

The 30-year-old Freeman, named to his post by Gov. Dale Bumpers, is replacing Franklin Collier of Augusta. Freeman, who aided in the organization of the Opportunities Industrialization Center, was appointed until January, 1983.

• • •

ATLANTA — State Sen. Leroy Johnson, who faces charges of income tax evasion, was re-elected on a 5-4 secret ballot to his post as vice chairman of the Atlanta-Fulton County Recreation Authority.

Johnson was re-elected despite the nominating committee's recommendation that the position be given to black businessman Warren Cochrane.

• • •

CHICAGO — Alfred Duckett, co-author of the late Jackie Robinson's autobiography, "I Never Had It Made," has been elected president-board chairperson of the Chicago Society of Writers and Editors Inc. (WE).

Ethel L. Payne, associate editor and syndicated columnist for the Chicago Defender, was named the executive vice president of the society.

• • •

GARY — Mrs. Daisy Stone has been sworn in as president of the Gary chapter of the NAACP. She was unopposed in her election to the top post.

Also sworn into office at the Downtown Gary Holiday Inn were 24 directors. The chapter has 1,300 members.

• • •

LOUISVILLE — Milburn T. Maupin, 48, has been chosen interim school superintendent of the Louisville Independent School district — a first for any black.

• • •

HARTFORD — On July 1, Edythe Gaines, executive director of education planning and support for the New York City board of education, will become superintendent of public schools here.

Dr. Gaines, selected for the post by the Hartford board of education, had at one time served as superintendent of School District 12 in the Bronx.

The holder of a Ph.D. from Harvard University, she first began teaching in the Joan of Arc Junior High School in New York.

Married, the mother of two sons, she resides with her husband in Montclair, N.J.

• • •

LITTLE ROCK — Former Gov. Sid McMath was among the dignitaries who paid tribute to Mrs. Austine Williams, the first black member of the state Cosmetology Board, at a ceremony at Wesley United Methodist Church.

Appointed to the board in 1967 by the late Gov. Winthrop ockefeller, Mrs. Winthrop Rockefeler, Mrs. Williams was reappointed in 1972 by Gov. Dale Bump-

WARNS U.N.

S. Africa threatens pullout over Namibia

CAPE TOWN — South Africa's foreign minister has warned his country may withdraw from the United Nations because of "a whole series of absurdities," including pressure from the U.N. Security Council to leave South West African states, now known as Namibia.

Foreign Minister Hilgaard Muller responded to a Security Council resolution asking South Africa to commit itself to withdrawal from Namibia, a territory twice the size of California.

"The illegal and unheard-of action in regard to South Africa is only one of a whole series of absurdities which have shocked all right - thinking people," Muller said.

• • •

Namibia has been administered by the white supremacist government of South Africa since 1915.

Soith Africa was barred from participating in the latest General Assembly session, and only a triple veto by Britain, France and the United States blocked a Security Council resolution to completely expel South Africa from the world body.

"The government has not yet decided if South Africa will continue its membership of the United Nations," Muller said. "It is a weighty matter and the advantages and disadvantages will have to be weighed against each other realistically."

• • •

The Security Council said in a resolution last Tuesday it would consider appropriate measures" if South Africa did not deliver a plan by May 30 showing its intention of withdrawing from South West Africa.

Prime Minister John Vorster has said his policy is to encourage self-determination for the 746,000 people of South West Africa, where whites control the government but are outnumbered by blacks six to one.

A constitutional conference attended by all ethnic groups is to be convened for that purpose next year.

• • •

Meantime, study of the attitudes of young white South Africans (16 to 24 year-olds) indicated the majority of them still favored the rigidly racist philosophy of total separation of the races.

Conducted by South African professor Lawrence Schlemmer, the study found young Afrikaners (descendants of the original 17th century Dutch settlers at the Cape of Good Hope) were only marginally more liberal than their parents in racial matters and in some cases, they were even more conservative than their parents.

Prof. Schlemmer noted that the conservativism is completely contrary to the trend in other Western Countries and asserted the "backward looking conformist attitude among South African youth can be explained by the government we have in this country."

He wrote that "youths who do not go to university are not exposed to the attitudes of people who criticize the government policies."

• • •

The study found also that the Afrikaner youths are more conservative than their parents on the question of raising wages for blacks.

Specifically asked: "Should nonwhites receive higher pay?" only 18 per cent of the 16 to 24 year age group replied "yes," compared with 20 per cent of persons over 55.

Professor Schlemmer said the survey showed that "younger Afrikaners seem to be slightly more pragmatic than others, but certainly no less discriminatory in their views on race policies."

Although the survey found younger people too be more aware than others of black discontent, "this awareness," Professor Schlemmer discovered, "does not translate itself into any greater sense of urgency in regard to the needs for whites to come to terms with the basic racial conflicts which are inherent in South African society."

REPORT FROM EUROPE

UNESCO changes scare ex-bosses

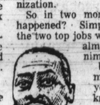
By Ollie Stewart

PARIS — During the last month of the year, a lot of people look back over 12 months and wax philosophical.

I don't. I give a sort of whistle and say to myself, "I wonder what they'll do next?"

Example of something unusual and unexpected: Last January probably no more than half the people in the USA even knew about UNESCO — and only a few of those had the slightest interest in the reorganization.

So in two months what happened? Simply this: the two top jobs were given almost unanimously to black men. Bet you didn't know that. Well, the middle of November saw the confirmation of a Senegalese, Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, as director general. His term: six years.



Then, 10 days later, a Jamaican, Hector Wynter, was elected chairman of the executive board, for two years.

Almost the same day, sanctions were taken against Israel — and immediately howls went up in almost every white European country, with several of them (the United States leading the pack) urging a cut in UNESCO appropriations.

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That's the background. But I hear from the Backroom boys that Israel is not the real reason for the uproar and anger at UNESCO.

What I hear is that two blacks getting the top jobs is what's scaring the pants off the former bosses of UNESCO. It is no longer a white cultural group.

Europeans are now simply allowed to take part — after policy has been decided.

That hurts. That rankles. That makes certain people want to break up "the damn thing" — while they wonder what will happen next.

Me, sitting here watching and listening — I wonder the same thing.

The best comparison I could make with this would be if the president of the United States, and his secretary of state, should both go out of office, and two black men take their jobs.

But life goes on in Europe as 1974 draws to a close, and the papers give you some eye-popping things to read.

For instance, it's been widely reported that sexual relations before competition drains an athlete's energy and inhibits his or her performance.

"Not so," say three Czechoslovak researchers, after a poll of 600 of their athletes. "Both sportswomen and sportsmen note a favorable effect which regular sex relations produce on their capacity."

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This next item interested me on sight. Because it came from Catanzaro, Italy — a dirt-scratching place I never imagined could arouse any real emotions, sexual or otherwise.

But a story says that 700 men threatened to tear down the town's only theater when a striptease dancer suddenly stopped her act (advertised as a "complete strip") when she got down to "bare" essentials.

More than 100 policemen were needed to save the theater from destruction by angry men who yelled that they'd been cheated.

And they weren't even pacified when the manager gave them their money back.

Sign of the times? I wouldn't call it that. To me, it's just one more thing the USA has to answer for because where did the striptease originate? Right in what's called "God's Country."

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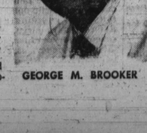
And finally I've just read this ad: "Visiting Paris? To find out where to get anything day or night, read Paris Connection."

Would have saved me a lot of questions a few years back when a lot of tourists were on hand.

ROBERT L. COOK



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