BLACKSBURG, VA UPI - Virginia Tech announced today that Frank O. Moseley, Athletic Director for the past 23 years, will retire on July 1.

Wilson Bell, development director and faculty chairman for athletics, said a nationwide search would begin for a successor to Moseley.

Moseley said his decision to retire was unrelated to Tech’s recently completed 2-9 football season.

‘I had made up my mind some time ago to retire next year,’ Moseley said.

VPI President T. Marshall Hahn said he had accepted Moseley’s resignation with reluctance.

‘I can understand Frank’s desire to be relieved to the often times severe pressures in the athletic programs,’ he said.

A native of Montgomery, Ala., Moseley is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, to which he transferred after studying at Alabama.

He played football at Alabama and served as assistant football coach at Kentucky.

Moseley coached under Paul ‘Bear’ Bryant at the University of Maryland, and moved back to Kentucky with Bryant. He left Kentucky in 1951 to become football coach at Athletic Director at Virginia Tech.

He kept both jobs until 1961, when he brought in Jerry Claiborne, chief assistant to Bryant at Alabama, as head football coach.

Claiborne resigned in 1971 and was succeeded by Charlie Coffey, the present head coach.