Frank Moseley To Retire As VPI Athletic Director June 1

Frank O. Moseley, athletic director at Virginia Tech for the past 23 years, will retire next July 1, following the selection of a successor to head the University's intercollegiate athletic programs. The retirement, granted at Moseley's request, is being announced in advance so there can be wide-ranging search for a successor, University officials noted.

The announcement followed Moseley's discussions with President T. Marshall Rake Jr., Stuart K. Caswell, vice president for administration; W. B. Bell, development director and faculty chairman for athletics, and others.

Bell said Virginia Tech promptly will begin a national search for qualified candidates for the AD position. The athletic director said he regretted announcing his impending retirement soon after the close of an unsuccessful football season. "The decision was unplanned for the outcome of the season," he said; "indeed I had made up my mind some time ago to retire next year."

Moseley said he had no specific plans for retirement, other than "to remain in Blacksburg, and enjoy our retirement years," and added: "Virginia Tech and its athletic programs have been so much a part of my life so long, I'll have to think about retirement after it comes. But first, we have to get busy finding a new man."

President Rake said he had accepted Moseley's decision to retire with reluctance, "I can understand Frank's desire to be relieved of the oftentimes severe pressures of the athletic programs," he observed.

"Everyone at Virginia Tech, I am sure, will be extremely sorry to see Frank go into retirement," Rake said.

"I have a deep appreciation for the progress made under his leadership, and some sensitivity to the difficulties of the task. He is a good personal friend, completely supportive of the University's efforts in all athletic programs," the president added.

Since Moseley will be replaced in July, President Rake noted, it is anticipated that he will be available from time to time for special assignments on behalf of the athletic programs.

Moseley will retire under a plan worked out with the Athletic Association for all of his long-term staff members, parallel to the State Supplemental Retirement System for state employees.

A native of Montgomery, Ala., Moseley is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, to which he had transferred after attending the University of Alabama. Long interested in athletics, he played football for the University of Kentucky, and coached basketball and boxing, and to serve as assistant football coach under Coach Chet Wynne.

Following naval service in World War II, Moseley joined the University of Maryland as assistant football coach under Coach Paul (Omar) Bryant. A year later both he and Bryant moved to Kentucky, Moseley coached baseball as well as assisting with the football program.

He left Kentucky in 1951 to become football coach and athletic director at Virginia Tech. Earlier he was married to the former Edythe Algie of Lexington, Va. The Moseleys have a son and a daughter. Moseley served as both head football coach and athletic director until 1971, when he brought in Jerry Claiborne as chief assistant to Bob Bryant at Alabama, to take over the football coaching responsibilities. Claiborne resigned in 1971 and was succeeded by Charlie Coffey. During Moseley's tenure the