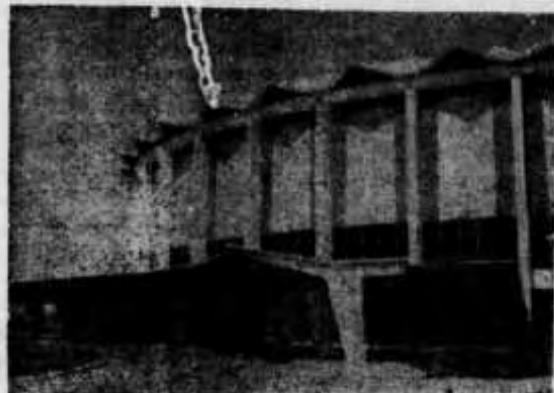


'Hoss' Won't Come

Bonanza Star Refuses To Attend All-White Show



No Hoss Here

"Hoss," the star of the television show "Bonanza," refuses to come to Jackson and perform before a segregated audience.

In response to a letter from Charles Evers, NAACP Field Secretary, Dan Blocker cancelled his engagement to perform at the Mississippi Industrial Exposition at the Jackson Coliseum.

Replying to Evers' statement that Negroes have no choice of seating at the coming exposition, "Hoss" stated ". . . please be assured sir, that I will not be there. I have long since been in sympathy with the Negro

struggle for total citizenship, therefore I would find and appearance of any sort before a segregated house completely incompatible with my moral concepts. . . ."

Evidently, Blocker had been led to believe that the audience at the Coliseum would be desegregated. "In signing the original contract to appear in Jackson on February 1st and 2nd," Blocker replied, "I had been assured by the powers to be in Jackson that the function would be absolutely desegregated; however, thanks to your letter, a

(Continued on Page 8)

Mississippi FREE PRESS

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

Vol. 3, No. 7

38

Jackson, Mississippi — January 25, 1964

10c Per Copy

With Selective Buying

Canton Fights Back

Henry Denounces Negro Rec Center

In a subtle move to divide the Negro community of Clarksdale on the issue of integration, white residents of the city encouraged Negroes to ask a recreation center to be used by Negro children.

A single Negro responded and brought an appeal for the separate facility to the city council in the form of a PTA request. The council accepted the request and approved the construction of the facility.

Stating the position of the majority of the Negro community, Aaron Henry, President of the Council of Federated Organizations, declared:

"We do not disagree with the need for a recreation center," Henry stated. But anybody who asks for separate facilities for Negroes is out of step with the times."

Henry said he was informed that the idea for the separate center arose a few weeks ago when a group of local whites were discussing ways to combat integration. He pointed out that segregationists thought they would better be able to influence the public if they could persuade Negroes to ask for segregated facilities.

The issue came to a head recently because the local Clarksdale chapter of the NAACP filed suit a short time ago to desegregate all the Clarksdale facilities serving the public, Henry said.

"I understand that the legal minds working for the city wanted to use the request in their case against our omnibus desegregation suit. Although it would have no legal bearing on the case, it would be a factor in influencing public opinion," Henry stated.

Henry declared that this tactic of trying to split the Negro community by using Negro pawns was an insult to the Negro.

In Jackson Mayor Thompson has tried repeatedly to split the Negro community by luring Negro shoppers to Capitol St. with promises of police "protection." Going against the campaign for a Black Christmas, the Mayor announced a separate but equal Christmas decorations contest. His failure testifies that trickery will not divert the Negro from his equality drive.

Negroes Unite To Protest Unequal Treatment, Jobs

Unleashing the untapped power of the Madison County Negro population, Negro citizens of Canton have declared a non-violent boycott on 18 white owned stores in Madison County in protest against the separate and unequal economic system.

Expressing the pent-up indignation that has long awaited a non-violent and organized outlet, Canton citizens have put into action a boycott that has been "75%" effective.

Leaflets stating the names of the stores to be boycotted were distributed by the leaders of the Negro community.

"We will not give our money to businessmen who don't respect us," one citizen said.

Mosby's Milk, Hart's bread, and Barq's Drinks are on the selective buying list.

At heavily attended mass meetings, Negro citizens vowed to confront "white rule" in the face of intimidation and reprisals. A letter to the Canton Chamber of Commerce which strikes out at the injustices which the citizens of Canton have suffered, states, "Negroes will boycott until they gain equal protection and treatment before the law."

"It is not too much to ask for decent treatment in your places of business," the letter continued. "The Selective buying campaigning expresses the deep-seated resentment of your Negro customers at being insulted, ignored, and slapped around."

"Seven out of every ten people in Madison County are Negroes. We know that it is our money that keeps the businesses of Madison County

(Continued On Page 5)

Free Press Regrets Headline Mistake

The FREE PRESS deeply regrets that last week, a printers mistake caused a headline to be set with the wrong article. The line "Middle-of-the-Road" was supposed to follow "D-J Told To Walk" on page eight. Instead it was placed on top of a headline about a school desegregation case, so that it read: "Middle of the Road Lawyers Push For School Equality."

Since the article was about Derrick Bell of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, nothing could be further from the truth.

The NAACP Legal staff have courageously fought for justice in the courts all over this country—many times in the face of outright hostility.

Bell was one of the attorneys who fought the long battle to get James Meredith admitted to the University of Mississippi last year.

Editorial Page

WE STAND FOR . . .

**GOOD GOVERNMENT
HIGHER LIVING STANDARDS
BETTER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
SOCIAL JUSTICE . . . IN MISSISSIPPI**

What Just A Few Votes Can Do

We have all heard the tall tales Texans will tell about how big and great their state is. It is true, of course, that it is a big place and there are a lot of people there.

A couple of years ago, however, the election of the U. S. Senate from that big state in which one million people voted was decided by just 87 Texans. That is a mighty **SMALL** number. Just 87 Texans with the might of their ballot made the deciding difference and elected their choice to the Senate where he became famous. Now he is very important to all of us. He is Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States.

Freedom Day—A Demonstration In Johnson's Back Yard

On Tuesday of this week Paul Johnson was inaugurated Governor of Mississippi. On Wednesday civil rights leaders mounted a registration drive in the new Governor's own back yard—his home town of Hattiesburg.

During his first full day as Governor, Mr. Johnson went about his business as if nothing special was happening in his home town.

But whether Mr. Johnson knew it or not, something special was happening, something that would eventually bring down the whole white power structure that he represents. For that day in Mr. Johnson's home town was Freedom Day, a step toward the emancipation of the Negro, an event that marks a turn toward democracy in Mississippi and a turning away from the present totalitarian political system.

Mr. Johnson probably will not feel the impact of the change beginning to stir in his home town. This week's Freedom Day is but one day, and it will take many more to register enough Negroes to put Mr. Johnson out of office. Nonetheless, this day is one, where last year there were none.

And there will be more, enough that four or eight years from now Mr. Johnson's successors may well be deeply indebted to Negro votes for their election. We do not expect our present governor to do anything for the Negro. But we can expect that his successors will.

Your Vote Counts So Pay Your Poll Tax

Although only one more vote is needed to ratify the Constitutional amendment to outlaw the poll tax as a requirement in federal elections, it is still necessary to pay the tax for two years to be eligible to vote in state and local contests.

Either the Arizona or South Dakota state legislatures which are now in session could provide the two-thirds majority necessary to enact the amendment. Should one or the other vote favorably, poll tax receipts would not be required to vote for President, Senator, or Representative.

But your vote is just as important, and in some ways more powerful, in contests for sheriff, mayor, and state legislator. With fewer people voting, one vote has more direct impact on the outcome of the elections.

For example, a candidate for state legislator in Connecticut won the primary election 609-608. Six weeks later he won the general election by a similar one-vote margin, 4164-4163.

The deadline is February 1; the cost in most counties is \$2; it is not necessary to be registered to pay the tax. But it is necessary to pay it to be able to vote.

Mississippi Free Press

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FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM

District Court Judges Often Show Prejudice

Like the state court system, the federal courts are set up as a pyramid of judicial authority. At the top of the pyramid is the U. S. Supreme Court, which has the final word in the administration of justice in America. Immediately under the Supreme Court are the eleven Circuit Courts of Appeals, which hand down decisions on cases appealed from the third level, the District Courts.

The Supreme Court and the Federal Circuit Courts will be treated in future Free Press articles, while this discussion will concentrate on the functions and some of the failings of the 86 Federal District Courts.

As the lowest level in the Federal System, district courts have only original jurisdiction. Normally, they hear cases involving federal laws, such as suits under the national postal, copyright, and bankruptcy laws. They also consider federal crimes and cases where civil rights have been denied.

Each district court in the

country has at least one judge who is assisted by a staff of clerks, bailiffs, court reporters, and other officials. Each court also has a U. S. Marshall, a hold-over from the days of Wyatt Earp, who has lost his general police powers. Normally, the Marshall's duties are restricted to maintaining order during court session, making arrests, and guarding prisoners.

However, in severe cases, such as the crisis surrounding James Meredith's admission to Ole Miss, the U. S. Marshalls have the responsibility of carrying out federal court orders in the face of violence.

Local Bias Chooses Judge

District court judges are appointed by the President to hold office during good behavior. On the surface it would seem that this would insure that the District Courts would uphold the decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court.

However, in practice this is often not the case, especially in

the South. Although the President actually makes the appointment, his decision is not effective without the consent of the Senate, and the Senate is under severe pressure from dominant local groups. Thus, unless the President appoints an individual who is acceptable to local politicians, his choice has a good chance of being defeated.

In this way, federal district judgeships often go to individuals who put Southern tradition before Supreme Court action in matters concerning civil rights.

Unequal: Even In Federal Court

The prejudice of these judges is reflected in their decisions against civil rights cases, and their statements indicating a blindness toward the situation of the Negro. In a decision handed down last summer, District Judge Sidney Mize said that Mississippi was "not enforcing its segregation laws."

But perhaps the most common index of prejudice is the unwillingness to take prompt action on civil rights matters. District Judge Harold Cox, for example, delayed action for three months on a request for an injunction to stop kneel-in arrests. His delay made it impossible for the persons requesting the injunction to appeal the case to the 5th Circuit Court—where a favorable decision was more likely.

District Judges sitting on a special three-judge panel to consider the legality of Mississippi's constitutional interpretation test and other voting laws, are delaying action on the suit, thus thwarting efforts to take the case to the Supreme Court.

When a plaintiff or defendant is dissatisfied with a decision in a District Court, he can take the case to a Circuit Court of Appeals, where he can hope to obtain a more favorable ruling. Next week, the FREE PRESS will discuss the Circuit Courts, the second level of the judicial pyramid.

Man Of The Year Honor To Martin Luther King

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been picked by Time Magazine, (one of the nation's largest circulating magazines) as the Man of the Year. There is no question that 1963 was the year in which the Negro's discontent about the injustice he suffers and his desire for equality come into clear focus—and that Dr. King was The Man most prominent in the year's struggle.

At this time, we wish to reprint the following eloquent passage from a letter that Dr. King wrote from a Birmingham jail:

"Before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, we were here. Before the pen of Jefferson etched across the pages of history the majestic words of the Declaration of Independence, we were here. For more than two centuries, our forefathers labored in this country without wages; they made cotton 'king,' and they built the homes of their masters in the midst of brutal injustice and shameful humiliation—and yet out of a bottomless vitality, they continued to climb and develop. If the inexpressible cruelties of slavery could not stop us the opposition we now face will surely fail. We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands."

Letters To The Editor

Grocery Store Still Sells Hart's Bread

To The Editor:

I think that white business men who cater to 100% Negro business should have the decency to respect other human beings.

Last Thursday I sent a boy to buy a certain brand of bread from LYNCH STREET GROCERY & MEAT MARKET. The boy returned with the bread. The brand of bread which he brought me was a brand that was on the selective buying list, (HART'S BREAD). Immediately I sent the boy back to the store to exchange the bread.

Owner Curses

The store owner cursed the boy and told him not to come back in his store. I immediately carried the bread back with good intentions and good faith and was bodily shoved out of

the store and told to keep my ~~d—~~ a— out of the store. So my husband went to the store to demand an explanation. He offered to exchange the bread and to apologize; neither was accepted.

I do wonder how many self respecting Negroes will continue to do business with white people who do not respect us!

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. M. V. Duncan

Fear Stalks Mississippians

To The Editor:

I recently rediscovered something I already knew about people in Mississippi. They are, at times, gripped by fear. My concern here is with the fear I see

in too many black people.

Black people in Mississippi will talk—off the record. But the moment you start to take notes, they clam up.

Take, for example, an elderly lady I recently talked to. She talked freely at first. But her attitude changed abruptly when I started to take down what she said. "I have a daughter who teaches in the public schools. I had better check with her first," she said.

Fear had leaped in. I met others who also refused to speak.

When do we learn that unless we speak out, unless we stand up to be counted, we'll never be free?

For freedom,
An observer.

FREEDOM WRITER**Walking The Bus**

Andy Mitchell

Riding the city bus is like riding nowhere. This bus system is probably the most expensive one in the world. Not only do you have to pay 20 cents to ride it, but you also have to buy a new pair of shoes each month because you have to walk everywhere you really want to go.

Now take yesterday. Yesterday I wanted to see some friends of mine who live on Lucedale. So, I caught the no. 6 bus with the idea of being delivered right on the doorstep of my friends' house. (And was number 6 packed. I didn't find out until later that it was the only bus that went in that direction.) I soon realized that I could more easily go swimming at the State Street YMCA than ever go anywhere that I could go by bus.

When I saw that the bus driver was returning to town, I got off at Lynch and Valley and started to wear out my dunnaps. The more streets I passed the more I wondered how people got around in this city. If you don't have a car, you're stuck.

Then I remembered all the kids that I have seen hitchhiking home from school. What a scene. Not only do they have to stand in the streets because there are no sidewalks, but if they want to get home quickly,

they have to thumb a ride.

Well, I really didn't want to see my friends anyway . . . especially after I found out the distance I had to walk to Lucedale.

Then, I thought I'd go shopping. Since I wasn't going to Capitol street, I'd catch a bus and take a look-see at Miller's. "What yuh trying to do, get uppity? This bus don't go to Millers," the kind and gracious bus driver said.

Then, I figured out the whole plan. The whole city bus routes are made-out in such a way that the only place you can go is Capitol Street. It seemed as though the city lines weren't concerned about getting you home, only taking you downtown to shop!

Well then, I guess I'll have to walk.

Now that the last host of Hallelujah Train refused to get in sway

with WOKJ

I guess we're all doomed to a station which blasts a lot of noise to say absolutely nothing. But there's a lot more to say about this station. Do you realize how mass communication makes money? They give the people what they think the people want. And then, they make sure that the people don't want anything but what they give them. In other words: they keep us happy.

Now where have you heard that statement before?

Mississippi politicians have found a political ally which apparently they think operates on their level of thought. This quote from a speech of our new governor, Paul Johnson explains who that ally is: "The cow will be recognized as an ally which will not force us to change our beliefs or our way of life."

While the majority of white clergymen in Jackson have let police officials arrest integrated groups seeking to worship in their churches, some are deeply concerned about this denial of the right to worship.

Growing out of this concern, the Mississippi Council on Human Relations has organized an all-day session at Tougaloo College January 28 to discuss the topic "The Freedom to Worship." The session will be based around a panel discussion involving Rabbi Perry E. Nussbaum, Father Bernard Law, and Rev. T. B. Brown.

"We decided to do this after the interference and arrests made by police at church doors," stated Donald Thompson, secretary of the Council on Human Relations.

Thompson went on to say that the purpose of Wednesday's meeting, as well as the general purpose of the Council, was to "bridge the gap between the Negro and non-Negro populations."

Through meetings and publications the Council intends to bring problems common to both races into the open, to combat "the hostility between the

races, which is fomented by officials," he said.

The Council on Human Relations has been active since 1962, with Medgar Evers one of its chief supporters. Membership is open to any Mississippian.

The meeting this Wednesday will begin at 10 a.m. and last until 3 p.m., including a special speech during lunch.

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Loans on Savings Accounts	65,471.67
F. H. A. Title I Improvement Loans	73,432.91
Investments and Securities	5,500.00
Cash on Hand and in Banks	103,770.19
Accrued Interest Receivable	2,000.00
Office Furniture and Equipment, less Depreciation	3,144.92
Prepaid Insurance Premium - FSLIC	4,074.32
Other Assets	60.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$938,907.21

LIABILITIES

Savings Capital	\$856,669.07
Advances from F.H.L.B.	65,000.00
Other Liabilities	3,801.83
Deferred Credits	11,844.78
General Reserves and Surplus	1,591.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$938,907.21

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CAKE MIX Yellow, White or Chocolate 3 Boxes \$1.00

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Tougaloo Conference Watches Space Jobs

Marking the first joint effort to set up a job-training program, businessmen and educators will meet at Tougaloo College this Saturday to discuss ways of insuring employment of Negroes at the space center in southern Mississippi.

Federal Hiring

Since the (NASA) National Aeronautics and Space Administration facility will be built with federal government money, the contractors will operate under a policy of non-discrimination in hiring. However, contractors frequently get around this by saying that Negro applicants are not qualified.

To make sure that qualified applicants are ready to work when the jobs open, the Tougaloo conference will seek ways to train people for skilled work.

End Discrimination

In a letter to members of the Metropolitan Chamber of

Commerce, I. S. Sanders, President of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, urged all members to attend the conference. Sanders' letter stated that the purpose of the conference was to inform people that the jobs exist, train them for the jobs, and prevent discrimination by the contractors. At a second conference two weeks later, the program that is decided upon will be presented to NASA, building contractors and suppliers, and various federal agencies involved in job training projects.

Congressmen To Speak

Either Adam Clayton Powell or William Fitts Ryan, both Congressmen from New York interested in the problem of unemployment, is expected to address the conference. In addition, reports on the impact of automation, the labor situation in the state, and federal training programs will be presented.

The conference will last all day Saturday, with the Congressman giving the keynote address at 9:45 a.m.

Fair Employment

Sperry Rand, Thiokol Chemical Corporation, Southern States Supplies, Chrysler, Boeing, and the Aerojet Chemical Corporation are a few of the firms presently subject to the President's "Fair Employment Practices" provision. As new workers are hired at the NASA site, each of these firms will be pressed to discard all patterns of racial discrimination in support contracting. Trained men, however, must apply for new jobs before contracting barriers can be changed.

Questions concerning the conference can be addressed to P.O. Box 2896, Jackson, Mississippi 39205. Interested citizens can also call Jesse Morris, 352-9605, in Jackson.

Canton Negroes Unite

(Continued from Page 1)

going. If it were not for our trade, many of you would go out of business."

The economic conditions of the Mississippi Negro is clearly represented in Madison County which has a 72% Negro population. Over one-third of all families receive incomes of less than \$1,000 a year.

Answering the pleas of the white business men to stop the boycott, the letter to the Chamber of Commerce states,

"It seems to us that the purpose of the Chamber of Commerce is to promote business, industry and agri-

culture in Canton and Madison County for the benefit of whites only."

Trying to appear undisturbed about the effect of the boycott, a Canton newspaper reports that business in Canton is "off some." In the same article, the paper reports that city officials and business people "are taking the boycott threat quite seriously."

SNCC Field Secretary, Jim Collier, states, "The selective buying campaign tells the merchant that we will no longer take what he calls separate and equal without doing anything about it. We will continue until the Negro demands are met."

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TV Star Declines Visit; Segregation No Bonanza

(Continued from Page 1)
suspicion I had has been confirmed—consequently my present decision."

Blocker closed by extending "best wishes for a continued successful fight for what was guaranteed you a hundred years ago."

Evers hailed the decision of the Bonanza star as a "wonderful contribution to the civil rights movement."

First Come—First Serve
At a press conference Monday afternoon, Evers stated, "We will protest anything and everything that is not going to be for all the people in Jackson. We pay taxes for the auditorium and the coliseum and we demand to go there on the first

come, first serve basis."

Evers said that he hoped that the citizens of Mississippi would carefully evaluate the response of Mr. Blocker, for it indicates clearly "how really far behind in the field of human relations we are—and how little sympathy the Mississippi white community can ever expect to receive for its segregation policies."

Calls For Conference

"It is time for the Jackson leadership to sit around a conference table and begin discussing our problems," Evers continued. "For it is only this way that better understanding of each others feelings can be made known."

The Mississippi Industrial Exposition is a showcase for businesses in Mississippi. "Yet, no Negro business would be permitted to have a booth at the exposition," Evers declared.

"The only way a Negro is allowed in the coliseum," Evers continued, "is either by way of the 'colored' entrance or with a rope around his neck."

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Attempting to save face by blaming the unrest of Canton's Negro community on "outside agitators," Canton merchants and officials appealed to the "good judgement" and "common sense" of all responsible and law abiding citizens" in order to call a halt to the selective buying campaign.

Posing as the protectors of Negro interests, city officials

Baptist Center Holds Religious Emphasis Week

"The Church's Mission in a World of Crises" is the theme of Religious Emphasis Week observed at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary's Central Center. An annual observance, Religious Emphasis Week is equivalent to a spiritual revival.

Speaking on the different aspects of the Church's mission in society and in the world are Rev. C. F. Jordan who has chosen "The Church Has a Missionary Heritage" for his topic, and the Rev. J. C. Matthews who will speak on "The Church's Mission to the Lost." Speakers later on in the week of Religious Emphasis, along with their topics, are as follows: The Rev. L. H. Newsom, "The Church's Mission to the Needy"; the Rev. R. E. Lott, "The Church's Mission for Christian Brotherhood"; and the Rev. Dr. R. E. Willis, "The Church's Mission in the Field of Religious Education."

The public is cordially invited to services held throughout the week of January 20-24 in the seminary chapel each evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Following the message, a question and answer period in which questions relevant to the topic at hand will be asked the speaker.

"(I) . . . have been informed that threats have been made and citizens have been intimidated in an attempt to create unrest and friction among and between certain citizens . . ."

Your Sheriff,
Jack S. Caughen

"This is an irresponsible act and is designed to disrupt the peace, harmony, and good will which have prevailed among our people throughout the years."

The Canton Chamber of Commerce

have promised to protect all citizens who continue to shop at the black-list stores, and have ordered that the outside agitators be turned in to the police.

"We urge the cooperation of each of you to assist us in bringing any persons engaged in such illegal activities to justice," stated a letter from Canton's Mayor.

Members of the Jackson community are sure to remember these tactics and the similar statements made by Jackson city officials at the time of the Christmas selective buying campaign.

In order to break the boycott, Canton officials have "sided" with the Negro, and are making testimonials of "goodwill."

toward their Negro customers.

Statements from the 18 merchants boycotted show that they assume to be ignorant of the causes of the boycott and innocent of the charges leveled against them by the Negro community. "Sixteen merchants were listed on the 'Don't Buy' circular, reports a Canton newspaper. None of them could understand just why he was selected."

The efforts to turn Negro against Negro has resulted in a more unified community and a more determined boycott. Answering the pleas from city officials, leaders of the boycott stated, "The peaceful and harmonious conditions which the mayor describes does not exist in Canton. We live in fear of the police force which is supposed to protect us. We, too, believe that all citizens of Madison County should live "peaceably and unmolested." This, in fact, is the very reason we have launched our campaign."

"We are attempting to put an end to the constant unrest and friction masked by fear which we have all suffered during the past. And we are determined to do so in a peaceful and law-abiding manner."

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Coach Williams Says:**'J-Hill Stands Chance To Win Conference'**

The hottest team in the Big 8 High School Basketball Conference is burning the boards with an unbelievable average of 102 points a game.

The number 1 team in the bid for State Championship, the Jim Hill Tigers have so far chalked up a record of 11 wins and 1 loss.

Nashville—Here We Come

To find out the mastermind behind this almost unbeatable machine, the FREE PRESS interviewed Tommie Williams, the coach of the Tigers.

3 Starters Back

"With 3 of the starters back from last year's championship team, we stand a pretty good chance of going to Nashville and winning the conference," stated Coach Williams.

The coach had nothing but praise for his team, but at the same time, he realized that the most difficult stretch of the season was still ahead. "Now, we're going to play the teams that we've played before. We know who the tough are, and they can beat you on any given night." The teams that Williams figured to be the toughest are Lanier, Walnut Grove, Greenville, and Greenwood.

Fast & Hot

Speaking quietly, the coach explained the merits of the team. "We have excellent shooting from the floor. An average of 56%. And we have fast, good ball handlers," he said.

"Whether this team is better than last year's team, we'll have to wait and see. This year's team is faster and are better shooters, but doesn't have the strong rebounding power that last year's team had."

Williams has an impressive career as

mentor of the Jim Hill Tigers. During his ten years as coach he has led his team to 2 conference championships, 5 city championships, and has copped the State Championship once.

Naturally, his teams have chalked up equally impressive statistics. Out of 269 games played during the ten years, his teams have lost only 68.

Last Year's Better

"Last year's team was the best I have coached as it stands now. We had a 25 game winning streak, and we were only stopped at the Nashville conference," Coach Williams declared.

But even a coach of Williams' merit has his difficulties. "My biggest problem is getting boys to improve," Williams stated. "Once they learn how to play, they don't try to perfect themselves. I believe in trying to get as close to perfection as I can."

Future In Pro

When asked what advice he could give to students interested in professional basketball, Williams stated, "There is a great future in the athletic field. I would advise all kids who think they have ability to try to improve each day. Sports are becoming more business-like everyday, and there are plenty of scholarships available."

A graduate of Jackson State College, Williams played 2 years of football at defensive end, and one year of basketball. One way to be sure that his advice to young players comes from experience is to note that the coach himself went to college on a football scholarship.

JSC Tigers Win Despite Wild End

In one of the wildest basketball finishes in many a moon, the Jackson State College Tigers defeated the Delta Devils of Mississippi Vocational College 85-84 Wednesday night.

Although by the third period the Tigers had a 21 point lead over the Devils, the Devils suddenly began to show their horns. Slowly whittling away at the lead, the Devils broke loose in the fourth quarter with 8 minutes and 30 seconds left to play.

Urged on by cheers from the jam-packed gymnasium, the Delta Devils tied the score at 82-82 with 52 seconds in the game.

As the tension mounted, Jerry Yarbrough of the Tigers broke the score with a two-pointer, and decisively gained

the lead by making the first basket of a one-and-one foul shot.

The Devils fought to regain the lead but could only score two points before the gong sounded to end the ball game.

The high man on the court for the Tigers was Bob Frith who averaged 100 per cent on 11 free throws giving him a total of 33 points for the game. William Dodd scored 21 points for MVC and James Robinson scored 15.

The game marks the third win for the Tigers out of five games played so far this year. The recent back-to-back wins over the Southern University Jaguar Cats prove that the Tigers are clawing their way to a winning season.

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Evers Contradicts Colmer's Testimony

Protesting for all Mississippians, Charles Evers, NAACP Field Secretary, accused Mississippi Representative W. M. Colmer of an "inaccurate testimony" before the House Rules Committee.

Sending a wire to the chairman of the Committee, Evers stated that "Anyone who contends that the fight for the Civil Rights bill is 'breaking down the good relations that exist between the white man and his colored brothers' is misrepresenting the situation in the South."

Frequent Brutality

Evers charged that "over 35 instances of harassment and police brutality" has occurred in Mississippi alone in the past two years.

As the second-ranking majority member of the House Rules committee, Colmer has united with the chairman of the committee, Rep. Smith from Virginia, to keep debate of bill going as long as possible.

"We don't have any hatred down in Mississippi for Negroes," Colmer stated. "You're

breaking down the good relations between the white man and his colored brother."

Colmer 'Inaccurate'

To contradict this statement, Evers' telegram declared: "I vigorously protest the inaccurate testimony of Representative William Colmer of Mississippi before the Rules Committee. Anyone who contends that the fight for the Civil Rights bill is 'breaking down the good relations that exist between the white man and his colored brothers' is misrepresenting the situation in the South. One needs to turn to the testimony taken before the Civil Rights Commission to find over 35 instances of harassment and police brutality in Mississippi alone in the past two years. These incidents occurred in direct proportion of efforts by Negroes to secure their constitutional right to vote."

St. Francis Choir Entertains CYO

The St. Francis choir, from a Negro Parochial high school in Yazoo City, received a standing ovation from the delegates to the fourth annual CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) convention last weekend.

The three day convention, composed of over 300 leaders and officers of local CYO groups throughout Mississippi, offered workshops on the problems of today's youth, and elected officers for the '64 year.

Over 16 Negro high school students including representatives from Yazoo, Greenwood, and Itta Bena, attended the convention.

A student from the Yazoo delegation admitted that he had felt uncertain of the attitudes of the white high school students he would meet at the convention. "But I found out," the student explained, "that discrimination was not even important and we all felt at ease. That is the way it should be."

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AFTER LONG DELAY

Beckwith Trial Begins; Conviction Doubtful

It has been more than seven months since Medgar Evers was shot down, allegedly by Byron de La Beckwith. And it is likely that many more months will pass before the justice he fought for will come to Mississippi.

Although the trial of his accused assassin begins this Monday, observers feel that the chances of conviction are very slight. The accused Byron de La Beckwith is white, and if his trial follows the usual pattern the jury will find him innocent on that fact alone.

The case against Beckwith is based on a fingerprint found on the telescopic sight of a rifle believed to be the weapon used to murder Evers. The fingerprint was supposedly traced through Marine Corps records to Beckwith, a fertilizer equipment salesman living in Green-

wood.

Beckwith was picked up June 22, ten days after the ambush slaying. After pleading not guilty at his arraignment, he was sent to the state mental hospital at Whitfield to determine if he was insane at the time of the shooting.

However, the mental examination was never completed and Beckwith was returned to jail. It was felt that Beckwith's attorney's wanted the test stopped so that they could raise the issue of his sanity in court. Presumably, if the trial seemed to be going against them, they would enter a plea of insanity and attempt to find a psychiatrist who would declare him insane.

The legal maneuvering was finally halted and the date for Beckwith's trial was set for January 27th. It is expected

that most of the first week will be taken up in selecting a jury, and that the actual trial will begin several days later.

To the minds of many, the outcome of the trial is a foregone conclusion—Beckwith will be released, and since he is the only suspect in the murder assassination, the slayer of Medgar Evers will not be brought to justice.

"I have no real optimism for justice in this case in view of justice in the past," stated Aaron Henry, President of the Council of Federated Organizations.

At the same time, Henry said, "I look at it this way. When Medgar fell, he fell his full six feet two inches forward. We will never have to retrace those six feet two inches. We are at least that much closer to our freedom."

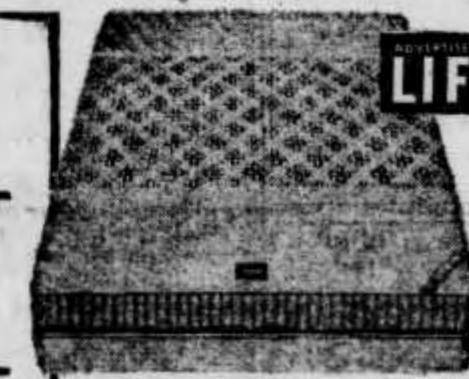
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