

## Collins

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emotions that go with losing your job, your livelihood, and your identity in a split second.

...I spent a lot of time in prayer. A lot of time just getting my thoughts together, who I am and what I want to do. I'm not angry, I'm not really bitter...I'm at peace.

**Clarion:** Do you feel that the sudden firings of head football coach Bobby Poss and yourself are related or are part of larger problems?

**TC:** "You shouldn't be firing an AD or football coach like that. There is a flaw in the system somewhere, and I don't know exactly where. If it was me, then good thing I'm gone. If it wasn't, then they need to find out what it is.

I think the instability is a symptom of weakness at the college...in some areas we are a little dysfunctional... Whenever frustrations reach the point where you have to fire people or people leave in a huff, that is a dysfunctional situation."

**Clarion:** Rumors have been circulating that the situation may be reconciled and you may be asked to return as AD. Is there any truth to these rumors?

**TC:** "No, that's not going to happen. That window has been closed, and we're moving along in different directions... I told [the president] I wanted to [return], I asked to, but the president has closed that door."

*Note: Collins has apologized to President Van Horn, and has been told he is welcome on campus. The*

*college will search for a new AD in January.*

**Clarion:** You are living in a house leased from the college, what will happen with your housing situation now?

**TC:** "The original letter was that I was terminated on Oct. 17, and that I had to be out of the house by the end of November." Subsequently, the president has allowed me to stay "...To the end of the school year, and that was very gracious- very helpful to my family."

**Clarion:** Do you feel that your sudden firing will impact the people and programs you were involved with?

**TC:** "I think it was a rash decision on both our parts that has hurt a lot of people who were just

playing school. It wasn't fair for athletics to be the scapegoat for recruitment problems."

**Clarion:** What are your plans now?

**TC:** "I decided that one, I am an AD. That's what I do... Of all the things I've done in life that's who I am. I don't feel like I've worked a day as an athletic director, its been just a part of my life, part of my existence. And I'm hurt really deeply because that's been taken away from me.

I'm an athletic director, and some people say I'm actually a pretty good one. Of all the things that [people] can say about me; things like I had a disagreeable temper, that I'm vicious, I'm ruthless whenever I fight for my

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bystanders ... [but] sometimes you have to make tough decisions.

If my behavior reached the point where I was negatively affecting the order of things, then that was a decision that he had to make as president. If there was another way that was less disruptive then that would have been the choice to make.

I really had a vision of the school becoming something really unique and special. I really feel that a vibrant athletics program would be a great benefit to the college. And I don't think that the president and I are very far apart on that.

People have to realize that BC has the smallest enrolment of any DII football

cause,... but they can't say I'm not a good athletic director, because there's nobody that's started a football program in eight months, there's no one whose moved to DII as fast as we've moved to DII.

I was a good athletic director before I came [to Brevard], and I'm a good athletic director after being fired, so I'm going to be an athletic director. I'm going to find ...a job somewhere. Somewhere in this country is a college that going to want what I have to offer.

I love Brevard, I love to live in Brevard, but Brevard only has one college, and that college doesn't want me. So I'd like to find a college and a town that does."

## Peace Rally in Brevard

from Staff Reports

Transylvania Country Women for Peace will host a non-partisan Peace Rally on Saturday, November 10, at 3:00 pm at the Amphitheatre behind the Transylvania County Library. Music for the event will be provided by the "The Eclectics."

In the event of rain, the Rally will be held in Miller Hall at St. Philips' Episcopal Church on Main Street.

The coordinators, Mary Marinucci, Brida Smith and Harriet Marquis, are hoping the Rally will contribute to an awareness of the importance of peace in a universal sense. They want to convey the idea that Peace is a quality to be regarded as supremely important at all times and in all places—within our families, our relationships, and with all other humans and other beings that inhabit the earth.

The group encourages and welcomes all people of every age to come and participate in a time of reflection and music which they hope will be meaningful for everyone.