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Decatur school chief departure stirs criticism

By KAREN HILL
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The Decatur school board's unanimous decision this week to buy out Superintendent Jim Love's contract is a dramatic reversal — just six months ago the board voted unanimously to extend Love's contract.

Neither board members nor Love would give a specific reason for the turnaround.

Supporters have charged that Love was the first African-American to head Decatur's 2,500-student system, but many unfairly criticized during his five-year tenure because she is black. Critics have charged that Love was an ineffective administrator.

The board's decision to buy out Love's contract is a specialty called meeting Wednesday night.

Love, 40, will leave the Decatur system at the end of this academic year, but will be paid her \$126,766 salary and full benefits for the following school year as well.

At a news conference Friday, Love, flanked by school board Chairman Jason Uchida and his three predecessors, said it was simply time to move on.

"I have options and grandchildren," Love said. In an interview last month, Love said she came to Decatur to prove that poor black children can learn as well as their richer white counterparts. Most of her supporters have been



Love

OBITUARIES

Rosalie Andrews, 100, helped homebound

By DERRICK HENRY
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Rosalie Andrews kept up with the Joneses — the Bobby Joneses and the Gaudinys of Coca-Cola and the Kings of civil rights. But her focus was on helping the helplessness of which she was honored by legislators at the Capital one night ago.

"She had the ability to cut through the clutter of people I didn't matter if they were young or old, black or white, rich or poor," said her friend Larry Schramm of Atlanta.

"She looked at the substance of the individual and tried to fill someone's need."

Rosalie Louise Strickland Andrews, 100, died Monday of complications from a sternal aneurysm at her Marietta residence. The funeral is set for today at Zion Baptist Church in Marietta, which she had attended since 1912.

Andrews lived in her home in Marietta and worked for Coca-Cola. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Marietta and a member of the First Baptist Church in Marietta.

"It's better to wear out than rust out," Mrs. Andrews, a Marietta native, often said. Her mother was a talented cook who worked for the



A former teacher, Rosalie Andrews, 100 when she died, was honored by legislators five years ago.

Riches and the Joneses. As a result, Mrs. Andrews met such dinner guests as Coca-Cola Co. founder Asa Carter and opera superstar Enrico Caruso. At St. Stephen's Seminary, she roomed with Albert Williams, who would become the mother of Martin Luther King Jr.

Mrs. Andrews taught English and civics during a busy shift in Marietta and Charleston, S.C., where her great-grandparents were still living. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Marietta.

"I assigned her to people who were a little crazy and hard to satisfy, and she took them on," said Mrs. Schramm. Asked about affirmative

action in 1988, she responded: "My name would fit a well with her hand and say, 'What do you see?' A well. Push harder and the door will open."

Mrs. Andrews never stopped pushing. When she was 92, she took her first plane ride. At 98, she was the oldest woman in Marietta. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Marietta.

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ATLANTA

Mary Greene, school principal

By J.E. GERWILER
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During her 18 years as a principal, Mary Greene presided over three elementary schools. Each was a challenge she met with grace.

"Momma took assignments in some of the worst performing schools in Atlanta," said her son, Ford Greene of Kooch, N.Y. "She was what we call in business parlance a turnaround specialist. She turned schools around."

"She never counted out any child," said her daughter, Alicia Odom of Roswell. "Momma believed each child had a talent of some sort, and it was up to teachers to find it and nurture it."

"As a principal, Momma could be very stern. I recall walking to her sitting stilly



pages missing, but she and others like her filled that void." The funeral for Mrs. Greene, 57, of Atlanta is 11 a.m. today at Big Bethel AME Church. She died Monday of cancer at Hoagland Atlanta.

Carl M. Williams, Atlanta Director is in charge of arrangements.

All of her immediate family members made their marks in education here. Her late husband, William "Cal" Greene, was football and basketball coach at Morris Brown College. Her daughter was Atlanta Teacher of the Year in 1989.

"All surviving are four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

NEW YORK

Weitz, 79, designer

John Weitz, 79, of Bridgehampton, N.Y., a fashion designer who later became a model and historian, died Thursday.

Mr. Weitz was among the first American fashion designers to enter licensing deals in the 1970s. He put his name on socks, neckties and men's fragrances, gaining a reputation as a clever businessman.

The Berlin native penned the books "Hitler's Eyewitness: The Life and Times of a Fashion Designer" and "Man in Charge." "Hitler's Eyewitness" was a best-seller. "Man in Charge" is a history of the fashion industry.

His sons Paul and Christopher were co-directors and producers of the movie "American Pie."

TORONTO

Molson, 95, team owner

Hartman de Montarville Molson, 95, a former owner of the Montreal Canadiens hockey team and one of the most prominent business families, died Sept. 28 in Montreal.

Molson Inc., the Montreal-based brew company founded 216 years ago by Mr. Molson's great-grandfather, still has 45 percent of the Canadian beer market.

Mr. Molson played minor league hockey in the 1930s. In 1955, he and his brother Thomas Molson bought the Canadiens, shortly after the team won the first of five consecutive Stanley Cups, a record that still stands.

The brothers sold their stake in the team to three commit in 1984.

DALLAS, TEXAS

Clements, 88, bottler

Wes "Foster" Clements, 88, who drove a delivery truck for De Pepper while in college and eventually became chairman of the Texas-based soft drink company, died Thursday from complications of dementia.

The Alabama native's introduction to the soft drink business came after he lost a University of Alabama football scholarship and had to switch to a work-study program to pay for school. He dug ditches for the Works Progress Administration, set meat in a supermarket and operated a cafe.

A family friend helped him get a job delivering soft drinks. He chose De Pepper because the company offered a dime commission to try to establish a following outside of Texas, while other brands of flavored sodas offered sales reps only a cents-a-case.

CLOSE TO HOME

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CHEROKEE

Alumni to meet

Richard College in Waleska is hosting its annual Alumni Day and Fall Festival today. Alumni in classes of '92, '92, '92, '92 and '94 will meet for a huge class reunion, presentation of several awards and a tour of the new performing arts center. Children's activities also are planned. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.

COWETA

Jail gets funds

The Coweta County Commission will give Coweta Sheriff Mike Yeager additional funds for medical services at the county jail because insurance premiums have increased. The jail medical staff includes a medical doctor, dentist and psychiatrist, Yeager said.

FAYETTE

Latinos celebrated

The Fayette City Library will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 12 with "Fiesta on the Plaza." The event, which takes place in front of City Hall, will have a storyteller, dancers, food and hands-on activities. The musical group Spanish Floor will give a free concert from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Information: 770-639-2520.

FULTON

Advisory lifted

United Water Services Atlanta lifted a boil water advisory for south Fulton on Friday. Customers had been asked to boil water following a water main break Wednesday. The affected area was west of Red Oak Road and

WINNETT

Norcross Festival

The Norcross Fall Festival, which takes place this weekend in Thrasher Park, has become a signature event as well as a change of season as well as to promote the 125-acre historic district. The festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

CECUNGA

Repaving continues

Lanes of I-85 and I-75 south of Atlanta will be closed through the weekend for repaving. Crews will be repaving concrete and asphalt on I-75 in both directions between I-285 and I-475 with the heaviest delays expected in the north lanes. The DOT recommends using 4:05 a.m. as a do-or-die. On I-85, work will continue on repaving ramps between Flat Shoals and Roswell roads. All lanes will be reopened by 5 a.m. Monday. Drivers can also expect delays on I-85 north of Atlanta. Workers will close lanes on the bridge over the Ocoee River in Johnson County and the bridge over the Mulberry River in Berrien County for maintenance work.

BLISS

Staff reports and news services

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