

23,000 protest U.S. policy in El Salvador

By SCOTT G. OTT
Collegian Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Chanting "No Draft — No War — U.S. out of El Salvador" and waving banners, about 23,000 protesters marched through a mostly Hispanic neighborhood and rallied in front of the White House Saturday.

The protest, organized by the March 27 Coalition, a group of 16 committees opposing U.S. policy in El Salvador, came on the eve of elections in the Central American country.

"I will go to jail . . . I will die before I let my other son go to El Salvador," said Annie Chambers, of Baltimore, whose son was killed in the Vietnam war.

Several groups yelled, "Hey, hey, Uncle Sam, we remember Vietnam."

Chambers was among several dozen speakers who urged the Reagan administration to stop military aid to El Salvador.

"America needs to clean up its own house," Chambers said. "We've got to get Reagan out of the White House."

The demonstrators' displays of dissatisfaction with the Reagan administration went further than concern about U.S. policy in El Salvador.

Chants such as, "Ronald Reagan, he's no good. Send him back to Hollywood," and the cheers following Chamber's remarks signaled the crowd's displeasure with what University student Bob Allen (graduate-philosophy) called "a whole range of things."

Allen said that although groups at the rally ranged from labor unions to churches, "they all agreed they don't support the present policy in El Salvador."

University philosophy professor Nancy McKenzie said this demonstration seemed "preparatory" for a larger one scheduled for May 3 and described it as "a mobilization against all of Reagan's policies."

That demonstration will be the culmination of National Days of Resistance week, April 24 to May 1, an event aimed at addressing the issues of "jobs, equality and human needs."

McKenzie said, "The crowd seemed to be more serious at this one than the ones I've been to in the last five years. There's something very startling about being across from the White House."

Although the presence of police officers between demonstrators and the White House lawn made some people nervous, McKenzie said, the police "helped to galvanize the crowd."

The demonstration was described by many as reminiscent of Vietnam-era anti-war protests.

Salespeople roamed the park offering buttons, bumper stickers, posters, banners and all types of literature from books to militant newspapers; often for free, but usually for a "small donation."

Volunteer security people linked arms to form human fences to restrict the movement of the crowd.

Park police officers, both mounted and on foot, isolated a group of Marxists — mostly members of the Spartacist League — from the rest of the demonstrators, because they, as one park policeman explained, had "gotten into a little scuffle with the liberals. Just a friendly political argument, like between the Republicans and Democrats."

The Spartacist League members carried banners reading "Military Victory to Salvadoran Leftists — Join the Anti-Imperialist Contingent" and shouted through several megaphones, "Take San Salvador. No negotiation."

A bus sponsored by the Friends of Central American Liberty and the Third World Student Coalition took about 40 University students and local residents to the rally.

Greek Week game, skit registrations end Friday

Registration for Assassin, the kill-or-be-killed game that is one of the highlights of Greek Week, will end Friday. Anyone who wants to enter the campus-wide event must sign up in the Panhellenic/Intrafraternity Council office in 203-B HUB.

Last year Assassin was only open to

Greeks, Greek Week Chairwoman Ellen Kehlenbeck said, but this year anyone can participate.

Also, scripts for Greek Week skits must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday in the Panhel/IFC office.

—by Patricia Hungerford

Proposed writing program scrapped

By ROSA EBERLY
Collegian Staff Writer

Because of a lack of funding in the College of The Liberal Arts, the English department will not offer a proposed freshman/junior-year composition program under the semester system, said Wendell V. Harris, head of the department.

"There just isn't the money in the college to do it," he said.

The department's initial proposal — suggesting that students take English 15, a basic composition course, in their freshman year and English 220, a more in-depth composition course, in their junior year — was forwarded to the Calendar Conversion Council during Fall Term, he said.

Stanley F. Paulson, dean of the College of The Liberal Arts, said funds would have been necessary for additional faculty members because under the term system both English 10 and 20 can be taught at Commonwealth campuses. Under the department's initial proposal, the second composition course would have to be taught at University Park.

In the Jan. 12 issue of The Daily Collegian, Harris said the junior year would be a better time to take the second half of the composition requirement because writing skills that students have learned in earlier courses would be reinforced and students could write about specific topics — either in their major or of interest to them.

The proposal was discussed in the college dean's office, the Office of the Provost and the Office of Planning and Budget, and the department was asked to submit another proposal, Harris said.

Paulson said the department's original proposal would have cost University Park additional money.

Because of the funding problem associated with additional faculty members, Harris said, the department "decided it would be better to have the second course in the sophomore year."

University Provost Edward D. Eddy said, "(Additional) funding was not necessary if the course could be spread between the sophomore and junior year."

Eddy stressed that the current proposal does not mandate the second composition course be taken in the sophomore year. The course is "to be taken anytime after the beginning of a student's fourth semester."

The original plan would have put the entire teaching load for the second

composition course on the University Park English department's faculty, he said.

Also, Eddy said, the University already has an adequate number of faculty members at the Commonwealth campuses teaching English composition. Under the department's original proposal, those faculty members would have taught fewer classes under the semester system.

Another problem with the department's original proposal was that if students were required to take the second half of their composition requirement during their junior year, it would have been difficult for some majors to still require students to take business or technical writing, too, Harris said.

"It would be difficult to fit both into (a student's) third year," he said.

Specific curriculum changes in the department's new proposal are not final, Harris said, pending approval by the faculty senate's Curricular Affairs Committee.

However, the department has decided upon basic changes in the courses, he said.

According to the department's new proposal, it will offer English 15 to replace English 10. English 15 will be an intensified version of 10, restructured to take advantage of the 14-week semester.

The second half of the requirement may be fulfilled by any of four courses at the 200 level:

- English 201, with a social science emphasis.
- English 211, with an emphasis in humanities.
- English 218, technical writing.
- English 219, business writing.

Under the department's original proposal, students would not have been able to use technical or business writing to fulfill their basic composition requirements, Harris said.

English 15 will include more writing and a "more sophisticated requirement," than English 10, he said.

While English 211, now an advanced composition course, will be changed to cater to students who "would like to have content from the humanities," Harris said, English 201, with a social science emphasis, will be a totally new course.

Technical and business writing, now English 117 and 119 respectively, will become English 218 and 219, Harris said.

"We're not only changing the numbers" but adding a bit more content

'Although not ideal, it seems as though we have moved ahead substantially.'

—Stanley F. Paulson, dean of the College of The Liberal Arts

and an emphasis on writing style, he said.

Also, the department's proposal said, "English 4 and 5 will be offered as at present. English 30 will be offered as an Honors alternative to 15. Honors version of 200-level courses will be offered for University Scholars."

Under the semester system, stu-

dents will no longer be able to "test out" of one part of the composition requirement, Harris said.

Under the term system, a student can test out of English 10 and then take a test to be eligible for English 30 instead of English 20.

"All students will take either (English) 15 or 30," Harris said.

New English program may improve skills

By ROSA EBERLY
Collegian Staff Writer

You can't always get what you want.

But the English department is well on its way to getting at least part of what it wants — concerning composition requirements under the semester system — without costing the University additional money.

Wendell V. Harris, head of the English department, said although the new proposal is not ideal, it is an improvement over the present composition program.

"We were not able to do what we had hoped for in improving the total University writing system," he said.

But Harris said he does not think the new proposal will decrease the writing competence of University students. It will "kind of improve it, we hope," he said.

Stanley F. Paulson, dean of the College of The Liberal Arts, said the new proposal is an improvement over the present system.

"Although not ideal, it seems as though we have moved ahead substantially," he said.

Harris said moving the second half of the requirement to the sophomore year is a positive change from the present because the average freshman is not comfortable writing about substantive topics.

The new proposal will provide "somehow more chance for students to apply what they have learned in

other topics," Harris said.

In addition, he said, two freshman composition courses — like the present English 10 and 20, or two freshman composition courses under the semester system — might do more to discourage than to encourage students.

"For most students, writing is hard," he said.

The proposal is an alternative to offering "two courses that you get through and never have to worry about writing again."

Robert Downs, head of the department's undergraduate writing program, said that instead of having a "boot camp" of freshman composition that students must "just get through," students will have an introductory course in the first year and a more involved course in the second year.

Downs said he cannot see anything but an increase in the level of writing competence under the department's new proposal.

"I think (the proposal) is wonderful," he said.

Downs said the new proposal is just as advantageous as the original in giving students an opportunity to write about things they are interested in, or subjects involving their majors.

"I don't think that it makes all that much difference (whether the second course is taken in the sophomore or junior year) because by the fourth semester the student has usually chosen a major," he said.

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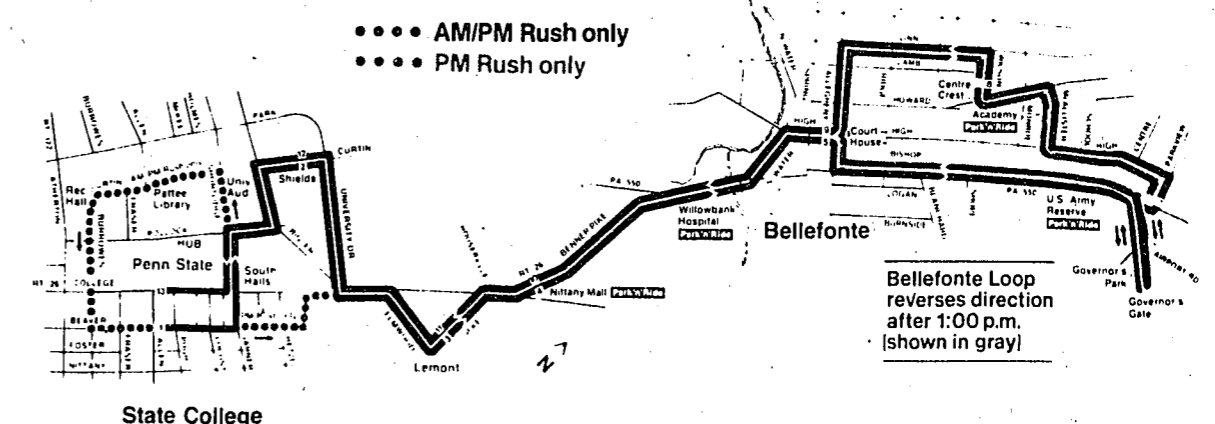
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