

Vigil:

200 students participate in divestment march

By VICTORIA PETTIES
Collegian Staff Writer

About 200 people marched onto the steps of Old Main last night in a vigil commemorating the eighth anniversary of the death of Steve Biko, known as father of the Black Consciousness Movement.

Steve Biko was killed in 1977 by South African Security Police while in prison. Biko is known as the father of the movement, a non-violent movement to end apartheid and establish a non-racial, egalitarian society in South Africa. Black Consciousness organizations were banned soon after Biko's death.

The vigil was sponsored by the Committee for Justice in South Africa, a University student-based group, and the South African subcommittee of the Central Pennsylvania Citizens for Survival (CPCS), a community-based organization.

The director of the University's Black Studies Program, James Stewart, said the University has a moral responsibility to respond to students' concerns. Stewart said the role of the University is to teach students to be citizens of the world, which includes responding to the needs of students.

The vigil also commemorated the death of other South African political leaders. Among those honored were: Solomon Mahlangu, an activist hanged for his involvement in the apartheid struggle; Neil Aggett, a trade unionist who died under police custody; and Victoria and Griffiths Mxenge, lawyers of the United Democratic Front murdered by the police.

As the 200 students marched from the front gates of the Mall to Old Main, participants called for the University to divest their holdings in South Africa. One participant, black South African Zwelakhi Mtshepe, said the South African government continues its apartheid system because there are many outside sources supporting the government.



About 200 people gathered last night for a candlelight vigil commemorating the death eight years ago of black South African activist Steve Biko. The vigil, beginning at the University gates on College Avenue and Allen Street, and moving to Old Main was sponsored by the Committee for Justice in South Africa and the Central Pennsylvania Citizens for Survival.

"The University must end this hypocrisy," he said. Robert Allen, a member of the CPCS, said the survey polling students on divestment issues being conducted by the Undergraduate Student Government will be useless.

"It's obviously a great disappointment," said Frederic d'Allest, president of ArianeSpace, the European Space Agency's commercial arm. The Ariane was reported on course during the first minutes of its ascent before suddenly veering off course and losing altitude.

D'Allest attributed the failure to a problem with the third-stage engine. The destroyed Ariane was to put into orbit the third of the European Communications Satellites series, the ECS-3, and the American Spacenet-3, built by RCA for GTE Spacenet. Liftoff at this space center on the northeast shoulder of South America was on schedule at 7:22 p.m. EDT. The rocket was destroyed nine minutes after liftoff, the officials said.

French rocket destroyed by officials

KOUROU, French Guiana (AP) — Space Center officials blew up the European Space Agency's Ariane rocket less than 10 minutes after liftoff late yesterday when it moved off course and began falling, threatening inhabited areas, officials here said.

The order to destroy was given immediately after the rocket, carrying two communications satellites, left its prescribed trajectory and lost altitude, the officials said.

The failure was Ariane's third in 15 launches. French President Francois Mitterrand, on a stopover here on his way to French Polynesia, watched the failed launch of the European rocket, which was made to compete with the American Space Shuttle in the billion-dollar satellite launching business.

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Focus on the Collegian Arts

College women can help fight for rights

By PATTI CAPARELLA
Collegian Staff Writer

College women can play an important part in the fight for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment by participating in a march on Washington this spring, writing legislators and running for local government offices, a spokeswoman for the National Organization for Women said.

Alice Cohan said because college women are the next generation of feminists, it is critical for them to become involved with the ERA now.

"We tried very hard to get the Equal Rights Amendment passed," said Jean Guertler, president of the State College chapter of NOW. "We must try again. We have new aims. It took a long time for women to get

the right to vote so we'll just keep trying."

NOW, under the new leadership of Eleanor C. Smeal, is planning a massive march next spring in Washington, D.C. to support reproductive freedom, Cohan said.

"We would hope that Penn State women would become involved and organize a bus to Washington to support us," Cohan said.

NOW members are also fighting for passage of the Civil Rights Restoration Act, which would prohibit discrimination based on sex and race and against the elderly and handicapped, Cohan said.

"It will restore our civil rights to the pre-Reagan era," Cohan said, adding that women should "write letters to their congressmen, start petitions, hold rallies and do anything to help the act, which is now pending in Congress."

The State College NOW chapter also lobbies legislation at the local level, Guertler said. The chapter is now fighting a state auto insurance bill that permits sexual discrimination.

"Young women are paying more for insurance than older men," she said. "Women can pay up to \$16,000 more than men in a lifetime," she said.

NOW is also trying to get employers to pay equal wages for equal work, regardless of an employee's race or sex.

Each employer's pay classifications should be based on skill, effort, responsibility, and working conditions, said Colina Jordan, former president of the State College NOW chapter.

"This is a male supremacist society in which males can earn more money for doing the same amount

of work as women," Guertler said. "It is not always a pro-woman's society."

The lives of battered wives may also be improved thanks to NOW's efforts, Guertler said.

"We are working on a piece of legislation that would enable police to arrest the husband on probable cause of wife abuse," said Guertler. Concerning the recent change of NOW leadership, Jordan said that while former NOW President Judy Goldsmith was more diplomatically oriented, Smeal is an activist who wants to go "back to the streets."

However, "since they were presidents at different times, it is difficult to compare their presidencies," Guertler said.

Although their approaches are different, Goldsmith and Smeal are fighting for the same objective — equal rights for women, she said.

notes

• Peer counselors are available for off-campus students 5 to 11 Monday through Friday evenings at the Wesley Student Center, 256 E. College Ave. Come in or call 238-6739.

• The Episcopal Student Ministry will meet at 4:30 this afternoon in 210 Eisenhower Chapel.

• The Interlandia Folkancers will meet at 7:30 tonight in 301 HUB.

• The Caribbean Students Association will meet at 7:30 tonight in the Paul Robeson Cultural Center conference room.

Task force studying alcohol abuse

By ALAN J. CRAVER
Collegian Staff Writer

The main objective of the University President's Task Force on Alcohol Abuse and Treatment is to find ways to educate students and increase their awareness of alcohol abuse, the subcommittee chairman said.

William Eck said the subcommittee hopes to reduce students' abuse of alcohol by raising their awareness of the problems — such as declining grades and a switch to other drugs — created by alcohol.

"We're only trying to get them to drink responsibly," Eck said.

Eck said the subcommittee hopes to reach more students through more University funding for existing programs.

He said the University's Total Alcohol Awareness Program (TAAP), formed in the late 1970s, is one of the services designed to educate students on alcohol. He said TAAP offers programs, films and discussion groups to raise the students' awareness.

Eck said TAAP offers programs mainly for the 14,000 residence hall students, but also works within the community and with student groups.

He added that the University's Counseling and Psychological Services and On Drugs Inc., 235 1/2 S. Allen St., also help people with alcohol-related problems.

He said he hopes the task force will bring more University funding to TAAP and other services to expand their programs.

Eck said it is important that TAAP and other programs reach as many people as possible, but without additional funding these programs cannot expand to effectively reach all students.

Eck said TAAP has to work to continuously offer its programs because of the turnover of students.

Women's group may form campus chapter

By NANCY FUNK
Collegian Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Student Government's Department of Women's Concerns Wednesday night discussed the possibility of forming a charter National Organization of Women on campus.

"One advantage of a campus NOW would be the constant flow of new blood coming into the organization," said co-director Carol Gilmore.

Sabrina Chapman, coordinator of the Center for Women Studies, added that the campus NOW, if formed, should work closely with USG Women's Concerns.

It was decided that if the chapter were formed it should include members of the State College community in addition to University students.

"We are in a position where we can do something with our ideas," Gilmore said.

In addition, the group discussed other upcoming projects including a women's newspaper, to be titled "Speak Out," which this year may be offered on a monthly basis.

USG Women's Concerns will also offer personal defense classes for women and is considering designing a rape educational program specifically for men.

The meeting also highlighted upcoming events for women including a rape awareness/prevention program and panel discussion Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m. The location will be announced at a later date.

The newly established Center for Women Studies will also hold an open house Sept. 29 where University President Bryce Jordan and other faculty and staff will speak.

Susan Sturgis, the other co-director of Women's Concerns, said input from black women students is greatly needed in her organization and added that the group would like to know the needs of black University women.

"We want to let it all out and get moving on the issue of women's problems," Gilmore said.

Gilmore said that in spite of stereotypes concerning the women's movement, feminism is pro-human, not anti-men.

Chapman said feminism is a commitment to equality.

Correction

Due to a reporter's error, it was incorrectly stated in Tuesday's Daily Collegian that an Interfraternity Council proposal requiring all party guests to present college identification cards would prevent underage guests from entering fraternity parties. The proposed carding policy, which was rejected, would have barred only high school students from the parties.

Sunday Worship

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BUSCH

BIKE 20 is a twenty mile course throughout the State College area, starting in the HUB parking lot and ending at AKΦ fraternity.

The date is Saturday, September 28.

Pledge Sheets will be available at the HUB rack, Patee information desks and AKΦ. Sponsors must pledge 10¢ per mile (10¢ x 20 miles = \$2.00). Winners will be determined by the person or group that collects the most money in each category. Bikers may register in the HUB basement from September 23-27.

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The Physical Education Basic Instruction Program once again offers DOWNHILL SKIING at the local Tussey Mountain Ski Area. Students should reference page 88 of the Spring Semester Schedule of Classes for pre-registration details. Class sizes are limited. This is a fee course.

PLEASE NOTE: DOWNHILL SKIING classes are held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, as noted in the Schedule. However, the Sunday sections appear as "by appt.". If you desire to have your class on Sunday, refer to page 88 of the Schedule — Schedule number 780617 is for the 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM Sunday class, and Schedule number 780626 is for the 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM Sunday Class.

All students who register for DOWNHILL SKIING must pick up a DOWNHILL SKIING INFORMATION SHEET at Room 105 White Building before the end of Fall Semester — This contains important information regarding cost and first meeting time and place.

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