



Katrina Scott, outgoing president of the Committee for Justice in South Africa, speaks at a divestment rally in October outside Old Main.

Katrina Scott: Committee for Justice in S. Africa president sets PSU's gears in motion against racism

By NANCY FUNK Collegian Staff Writer

Katrina Scott clearly remembers the first Committee for Justice in South Africa meeting of the semester last fall — only three people showed up.

Today, however, the group's numbers are 20 times that of the first meeting, and as Scott leaves the position of Committee president and hands over the reins to another active member, she looks back on the past year.

Fall Semester began with little excitement. When all of the core members of the Committee graduated during the spring of 1985, Scott was left to rebuild the group herself.

"I remember the first time I saw Katrina," says Black Student Coalition Against Racism member Marlon Kirton. "It was during a divestment rally in the spring of 1985, she wanted to speak to the crowd and we were afraid to let her because once a real nut spoke and it was a disaster."

"She kept bugging us and I didn't want to let her speak, but finally she ran up and practically grabbed the mike. The audience loved her and she has been kind of a hero ever since," he says.

Undergraduate Student Government President Matt Baker also remembers that day, saying "People had tears in their eyes after she spoke."

Scott grew up in Jamaica, where she says "even the most uneducated people knew about apartheid." She felt strongly about the oppression of Blacks in South Africa because her mother is white, while her father is black.

"In South Africa, we wouldn't have been allowed to live together. They would have separated us into three different living areas," she says.

In Jamaica, Scott learned about the heritage of Blacks. Because Jamaica is 99 percent black, schools are much more concerned about teaching black history than they are in the United States, Scott says.

Scott's father, a 73-year-old retired civil engineer, was active in the anti-apartheid movement in Jamaica, and still lives there with Scott's mother.

As a freshman at Penn State, Scott began her studies in architectural engineering, following in the footsteps of her father. Now, Scott has decided against engineering and has opted for general arts and sciences.

With plans to enter graduate school in the fall, Scott hopes to study the geography of Africa.

"I just wasn't into building big buildings anymore," she says.

Scott is also a resident assistant at the Martin Luther King Interest House in Atherton Hall, which attempts to bring different cultures together.

As national media turned to apartheid last year, showing vivid, colorful examples of Blacks beaten by police and oppressed by the South African government, Scott decided to take action within her own world, the world of Penn State.

And when Scott learned of the University's \$7.6 million in South African-related companies, she grew angry at what she viewed as hypocrisy on the part of the University.

Baker says he and other pro-divestment leaders were "so impressed" with Scott, they nominated her for Committee president.

"She was a hard worker and dove into her responsibilities as president. She was critically intelligent and could get to the heart of the issues," he says.

So began the rebuilding of the Committee. Scott advertised the Committee in the Free University class schedules and distributed leaflets, but at first, received little support. Slowly though, people came out of the woodwork and offered their support to the cause.

But Scott says she had little hope that the University would divest.

"We had written letters to the trustees and had received several responses. We knew the issue was being handled by the finance committee and that the people in support of us weren't on that committee," she says.

On a warm fall afternoon, Scott and other student leaders spoke to a crowd of about 250 students about apartheid while urging them to get involved in future protests.

As the group grew, more protests were planned. And the University experienced a 1968-like whirlwind of protests, with Scott and other vocal student leaders stirring crowds of students in front of Old Main.

"Katrina came up with most of the ideas for the different rallies and vigils and inspired people to get involved. I did a lot of the legwork. We all worked as a team," Baker says.

Looking back at the year, Scott says giving up her presidency will be difficult.

Just last week, Scott won the Malcolm X — Fannie Lou Hamer award for black student leadership. While Scott says she is happy to have won the award, her fellow black leaders recognize that it was her "dynamic motivation of others that makes her such an outstanding leader to Blacks," Baker says.

"She is one of my all-time idols," Baker adds.

Now, although she wants to stay active in the movement, Scott will have more time to enjoy the company of friends and to read.

"I like to do quiet things," she says.

"But for me, what we are doing is so important," Scott says. "It goes way beyond divestment. I now know that there are about 100 people (Committee members) who have learned about racism, about human rights, and have learned to respect one another."

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On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Scott met with Kirton, Carlton Waterhouse, now BSCAR chairman, and Patrick.

It was decided that day that the students would band together, forming a coalition which would include all of the black organizations on campus. Thus the Black Student Coalition Against Racism was born.

BSCAR would work side by side with Committee over the course of the semester. The two organizations erected the shantytown together, and now that her term as Committee president is up, Scott says she wants to work with BSCAR more.

"I am concerned about black students. Many of them are so oblivious to what is going on," she says.

Baker says while the Committee was predominantly white, Scott "always made sure we knew what it was like to be Black at the University."

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Book sale yields buys and help for community

By KARL HOKE Collegian Staff Writer

The books came in by the boxfuls. Many of them left the same way.

"Last year my friends were showing me all the books they got," said Andy Merriwether, (junior-anthropology and biology) while cradling about seven texts under his left arm.

Merriwether, like many students and local residents, found the selection and the prices to his liking at the 26th Annual Used Book Sale of the State College Branch of the American Association of University Women.

"If you want to own it and own it cheap, this is the place to be," said Marlon Davison, chairwoman of this year's event at the HUB Ballroom. She said more than 60,000 books were collected and offered at the sale, which began Sunday and runs through Wednesday.

Davison said the sale offers books on many topics, although art, fiction, family living and children's books remain most popular.

Davison said the proceeds from the event help each year to fund a graduate woman fellow at the University. Proceeds are also do-



Collegian Photo / Alan Klein

Sheldon Lin (right), a University alumna from Hornitege, examines the selection at the American Association of University Women book sale at the HUB April 13. The sale continues until Wednesday.

nated to Schlow Memorial Library, 100 E. Beaver Ave., the Woman's Resource Center, 111 Sowers St., and Phone-Friend, 111 Sowers St., an open telephone line for latchkey children, she said.

Yesterday it appeared many book shoppers had the same thing in mind as Merriwether. Many

walked out with bags and boxes full of books.

"The prices are good," said Merriwether, adding that it gives him a chance to build his book collection. "I've been looking forward to it all year," he said. The 10 books he bought Monday cost \$7.10.

"Families will buy \$40, \$50, \$60, to \$90 worth of books," Davison said.

Local AAUW member Felicia Lewis said the idea for the sale was came from two chapters in Michigan, one in Ann Arbor and one in Oakland county, Michigan.

'Anybody's guess' on Contra aid vote

By MEGAN O'MATZ Collegian Staff Writer

One month after rejecting President Reagan's request for \$100 million in military aid to Nicaragua's Contra rebels, the U.S. House is taking up the issue again as it considers four new proposals today.

Ben Procter, legislative assistant to House Majority Leader James Wright, D-Texas, said the House today will discuss time restrictions on the aid debate, which will probably run into tomorrow. No vote is expected before then.

Besides considering the \$100 million aid package that the Republican-controlled U.S. Senate recently passed 63 to 47, the House, which last month voted 222 to 210 against a similar measure, will look at three other proposals that alter the Senate version.

Harry Phillips, press secretary for U.S. Rep. William F. Clinger, R-Pa, said the Senate version defers all but \$25 million of the proposed \$100 million in aid for 90 days. The \$25 million could be sent immediately for humanitarian purposes, but the remainder would be delayed for three months, in hopes of progress in negotiations.

A second proposal also calls for \$100 million in aid, but places a different timetable on the release of the money than the Senate version. It also establishes a commission to investigate the Contadora process and submit reports every 90 days, Procter said.

The Contadora process involves four countries — Colombia, Mexico,

'The purpose of this is to try to keep American personnel out of the potential battle areas.'

— Ben Procter

Panama and Venezuela — that are trying to work out a diplomatic solution to the problems in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

No military assistance whatsoever is the bottom line of the third proposal, which also calls for \$29 million in humanitarian assistance and refugee aid.

The fourth proposal sponsored by two California representatives is designed as an amendment to all the other proposals. It restricts U.S. military personnel from training Contras in Honduras, Costa Rica or El Salvador.

"The purpose of this is to try to keep American personnel out of the potential battle areas," Procter said.

Because of the number of proposals being considered, Phillips said that what the House finally decides and how close the vote is "anybody's guess."

He added that any proposal the House agrees on will probably be linked to the supplemental appropriations bill for 1986, which allocates money for projects such as Superfund, job training programs and embassy security.

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CINEMETTE ALL SEATS BARGAIN NIGHT MONDAY & TUESDAY AT ALL THEATRES \$2.00

CINEMA Best Picture of 1985 OUT OF AFRICA NIGHTLY: 7:30 Michael Keaton NIGHTLY: 9:00, 10:30

THE FLICK 1244 Avenue 237-2113 POLICE ACADEMY 2: BACK IN TRAINING NIGHTLY: 8:00 APRIL FOLLY DAY NIGHTLY: 10:00

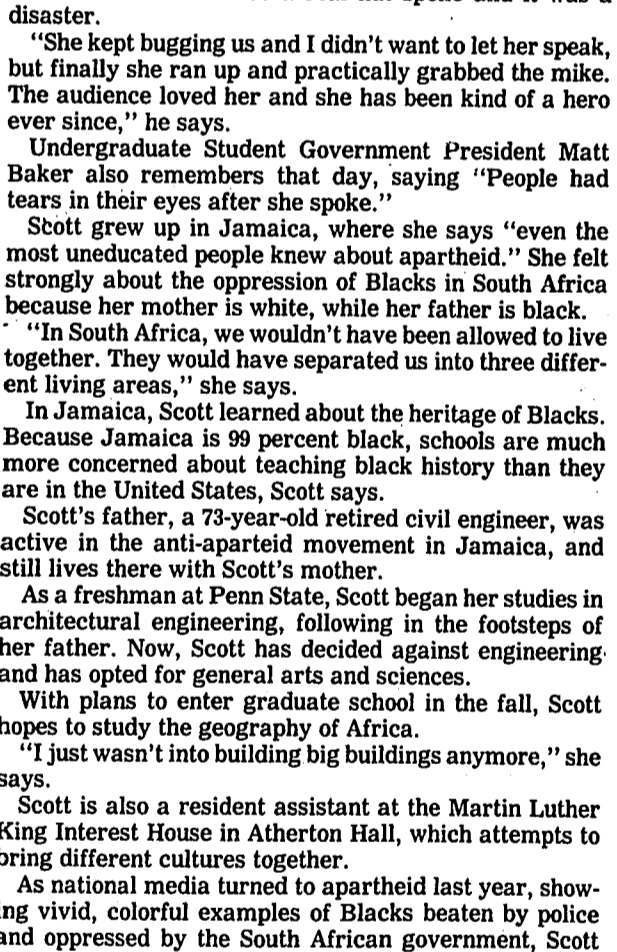
THE MOVIES 407 E. State 237-6603 Freddy's Revenge NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, PART II NIGHTLY: 8:00, 10:00

STATE 111 W. College 237-7300 THE MONEY PIT NIGHTLY: 8:00, 10:00 Judge Reingold OFF BEAT NIGHTLY: 7:45, 9:45

ROWLAND 715 W. State 237-1113 NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, PART II NIGHTLY: 7:15, 9:15 ALL SEATS \$2.00

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