

## Human rights stressed today

By SUSAN KEARNEY  
Collegian Staff Writer

The International Student Council, in conjunction with 13 other student organizations, is sponsoring a Human Rights Day in the HUB Ballroom today from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"The purpose is to increase the level of awareness on the urgency of human rights issues," said Chair Acharbar, vice president of the International Student Council and chairman of the committee for Human Rights Day.

The day will be highlighted by speakers, films, folk singers, slide shows and live performers, Acharbar said.

Dawood Zwick, an international human rights representative who has worked with several relief organizations, will speak at noon on "Human Rights in Islam, Christianity, and Judaism." A second

speaker, Fouaz Turki, author of *The Disoriented*, will lecture on human rights in Palestine.

Performers will include the Earthtones, The Thrown Bodies, Tommy Warham, Michael Dennis, John Cunningham, and Scary Facts.

Acharbar said there will be tables of literature representing human rights issues in Peru, Nicaragua, Chile, Cyprus, South Africa, Palestine, Afghanistan and the Ukraine.

Acharbar said the day will also serve as a platform for human rights groups on campus including Amnesty International and the Committee for Justice in South Africa.

The culminating event of the day will take place at 7 p.m. when a panel of speakers will discuss a variety of human rights issues, Acharbar said.

Following the panel, there will be

a live concert with Scary Facts, Acharbar said.

Darryl King, president of Black Caucus, said Human Rights Day will make students aware of human rights issues.

"More than any group, college students can really do something about these issues," King said. "A lot of movements start at the college level because students have a lot of force."

Organizations co-sponsoring the day include: The Undergraduate Student Government, the Muslim Student Association, the Graduate Student Association, the Arab Students' Association, the Black Caucus, the Committee for Justice in South Africa, the African Students' Association, the Student Association for Palestine, the Hispanic Students Association, the Pakistan Forum, Amnesty International, the Hellenistic Society and Human Concern International.

## Students may get voting precinct

By SUSAN KEARNEY  
Collegian Staff Writer

University students from four East Halls residence halls may not have to leave campus to vote this year pending a Centre County Board of Elections decision to open a new polling precinct on campus.

John Saylor, Centre County commissioner and board member, said the decision to open a new precinct may be made at a meeting tomorrow.

Saylor said the four residence halls affected — Stuart, Stone, Hastings and Snyder — are in College Township.

"Their polling place is at the College Township Municipal Building," said Jeff Bower, chairman of the Centre County Board of Elections.

All other on-campus students live in State College and are therefore able to vote in one of four polling places at the University, Bower said.

Bower said the College Township Municipal Building is about a mile from East Halls. But he said the distance is small compared with

some areas where voters have to travel 14 miles to polling places.

Bower said that in the past, the four residence halls did not generate enough voters to justify the cost of a new voting precinct.

USG East Halls Senator Kenneth Hong said in April that USG submitted a petition for a new election precinct to the Centre County Board of Elections. Hong said the petition was signed by 169 registered voters from the four residence halls.

Bower said USG's request and petition should have an impact on the decision to open a polling precinct.

"That precinct will be looked at more carefully," Bower said.

But, he added, for the past seven or eight years, students have submitted a similar request.

Hong said many of the students who signed the petition have since moved from those residence halls.

But, Hong said, "if they want another petition, I'm willing to get another one of at least 100 voters."

Saylor said the board will make a final study of voting records in those

residence halls and will also address the problem of staffing the new polling precinct before a decision is made.

It is sometimes difficult to find enough people to staff a precinct, Saylor said. To run an election precinct, he said, people are needed to fill five positions: judge of elections, minority party inspector, majority party inspector, and one clerk for each inspector.

Saylor said board members must live in the precinct. Staff members must be able to work from 6:30 a.m. until the polls close around 8 p.m., he said, adding that it is illegal for staff members to work the precinct in shifts.

He said that in the past, USG has successfully found students to staff the other four precincts.

"It's very important to run an election properly," Saylor said.

Joe Scoboria, USG Senate president, said USG will probably organize a carpool for the students if a new precinct is not opened.

"It doesn't make sense to me that an organization that is working to be heard should be encouraging others, to support their views not to come to Penn State."

— Obie Snider

## Trustees give BAAD rating

By CAROLYN SORISIO  
Collegian Staff Writer

Members of the University Board of Trustees called the plans of the Black Alumni Advocating Divestment "counterproductive," but varied in their interpretations of the group's actions.

After a meeting with University President Bryce Jordan on Friday, BAAD announced its intentions to obstruct minority recruitment and start a letter-writing campaign to persuade alumni not to donate money to Penn State. The decision came in response to the administration's decision not to support divestment of the \$87 million invested in firms doing business in South Africa.

The University is under a federal court order to increase its minority population to 5 percent by 1987. Currently, the minority population is 3.7 percent.

Jesse Arnette, a member of the board, said the group's plans "can't help but have some negative impact upon (potential minority students) enthusiasm for the University."

Board member Marian Coppersmith added, "In a strange sort of way, (BAAD's actions) give the University and the administration an excuse for not reaching its goals."

Arnette said although he believes BAAD's plans are counterproductive, he can understand why the group is taking the actions.

Blacks and other Americans have strong feelings against apartheid and these feelings often result in a sense of frustration, he said.

Obie Snider, president of the board, said the group's plans are a "very inappropriate response. It doesn't make sense to me that an organization that is working to be heard should be encouraging others, to support their views not to come to Penn State."

"If I disagree, I'm not going to seek to deter that person's progress just because I don't approve," he said.

"I'm not totally surprised by the action at all because it is a very deeply felt issue and people are struggling desperately to come to grips with it," he said.

Coppersmith said, "We don't accomplish anything by either side developing a totally polarized position," but added, "I can understand the reactions by the Black Student Coalition Against Racism and the alumni group... that one's anger can be expressed in this manner."

Arnette said he was not encouraged by the pace of the University's response to apartheid.

"I have deep concern and some very serious resolutions about the progress that is being made with the selective divestment policy at this point," he said.

In January, the board decided not to divest its holdings in companies doing business in South Africa, but called for a review of the University's financial portfolio.

Arnette said that to the best of his knowledge, the board has not received a recommendation from the students to divest from any corporation.

Coppersmith said she would personally like to see the University at least partially divest, and is hoping for a report on selective divestment at the Nov. 6 board meeting.

The Undergraduate Student Government Senate last night unanimously passed a revised election code that shortens the length of the USG elections from two days to one.

Pat Devlin, West Halls senator and chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said a one-day election will save USG about \$2,200.

Some senators expressed a concern that fewer students would vote in a one-day election.

Kenneth Hong, East Halls senator, said that since a one-day election saves money, USG should consider spending extra money on advertising the election.

In other news:

- Student Trustee Mary Greeley-Beahm spoke to the Senate regarding her term on the Board of Trustees.
- Greeley-Beahm said she was under the impression her term would last three years, but was informed last week it would last eight months.
- The USG Senate will hold their next meeting Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the mallroom of McElwain. All students are welcome.
- The East Halls Residence Association is accepting applications for a new East Halls senator.
- The USG is holding an open house next Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

—by Susan Kearney

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—by Susan Kearney

**THE SPANISH CLUB**  
1st Meeting of Semester

Thursday 10/23  
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**OCT. 23: WOMEN AND ALCOHOL PANEL**  
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