

South African journalist to discuss apartheid

Donald Woods, an escaped journalist from the Republic of South Africa, will speak tonight in the EMU Ballroom concerning the civil rights situation in his country. The 8 p.m. lecture is free.

Woods, who escaped from South Africa on New Year's Eve 1977, will discuss the death of civil rights leader Steven Biko and the

South African policy of apartheid. Biko died last year while being held in a South African prison, and his death has sparked more outside interest in that country's racial policies. Woods, who had opposed apartheid through his paper, *The Daily Dispatch*, was declared a "non-person" by the South African government in Oc-

tober 1977, and was banned from writing. Plain clothes policemen kept him under constant surveillance, and his mail was subject to interception.

Woods defied the ban on writing by beginning his book, *Biko*, which he finished after escaping to England. The book was released last May and details the life

of Biko, the leader of the Black consciousness movement in South Africa. It also includes a history of the apartheid policy in South Africa.

Apartheid, or "apartness" in the Afrikaans (mixture of Dutch and English) language, has been the law in South Africa since 1948. The nation's 3 million whites and

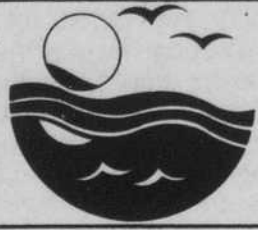
13 million blacks have lived in strict segregation since that time, while blacks have no political power and may not vote.

South African leaders, however, point to the country's economy, which is the most prosperous in Africa, and cite the chaotic political situations in African countries where inexperienced blacks have taken over.

Woods has opposed apartheid since 1960, and began his vigorous criticism of that system when he became editor of *The Daily Dispatch* in 1965. He briefly entered politics before moving to journalism, but was soon disillusioned.

"If I couldn't convert my fellow whites with oratory," said Woods, "I would try to do so with the pen."

Tonight Woods moves back to oratory, but undoubtedly in front of a more friendly audience.



catherine siegner

of environmental concern

A recent decision allowing expansion of storage for spent radioactive fuel at the Trojan nuclear plant will be appealed by the Portland-based Coalition for Safe Power.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved an application from Portland General Electric Co., the majority owner of the plant, to increase the number of racks in the spent fuel pool to accommodate waste produced through 1988. The plant was originally built and licensed to store no more than four years of waste at the rate of one refueling per year.

Susan Garrett of the Coalition says evidence presented at hearings held on PGE's request indicates Trojan's power will not be necessary, and no waste need be generated "until at least the mid-1980s."

"The NRC allowed PGE to build most of the expansion before any hearing was held," Garrett said. "The hearing was just an exercise. The NRC's decision was a foregone conclusion."

Two state senators have filed suit in Multnomah County to force the state Energy Facility Siting Council to hold hearings on whether expansion of spent fuel storage at Trojan is legal under Oregon law. Ted Hallock and Jan Wyers, both Portland Democrats, base the suit on a 1977 legislative act which prohibits "permanent"

storage of radioactive waste in Oregon.

An insurance broker from San Francisco will speak on "The Imperative Nature of Nuclear Power" in an Honors College-sponsored colloquium today from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in 307 Chapman.

Earle Maynard, president of Maynard & Co., is an expert in the highly protected risk area of insurance. His firm is one of the few to contract with public utilities to prepare reports on nuclear generating station fire protection required by federal law.

The little snail darter has lost its case. In the closing hours of the 1978 Congressional session, the House voted to exempt the Tellico Dam in Tennessee from the Endangered Species Act.

This vote will allow flooding of the habitat of the two-inch-long fish. The Supreme Court ruled last June the dam could not be completed because it violated federal law.

Environmentalists see this action as a step toward weakening the provisions of the Endangered Species Act.

Endangered species are being assailed from other directions also. Rep. Bob Duncan, D-Ore., successfully tacked two amendments onto a House bill

designed to set up a new appeals process when projects would threaten the habitat of an endangered or declining species.

One of Duncan's amendments provides a new legal definition of "species," which reduces the number of animals now protected. The second amendment limits federal protection to specific areas "essential to the conservation of the species."

Michael Bean of the Environmental Defense Fund says Duncan's amendment means we have to sit idly by and watch the bald eagle disappear from the lower United States because it is still healthy in Alaska.

"The grizzly bear could get no protection in the U.S. because there are healthy populations outside the United States," he adds.

The Alaska lands bill, which would have extended federal protection to 100 million acres of wilderness areas, national parks and wildlife refuges, is dead.

The bill had passed the House and was being reworked on in the Senate. Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, had earlier threatened to kill the bill because it would "lock up" too much of the state.

Sponsors of the bill will now attempt to extend the deadline until next year so the issue can be addressed in January.

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