

don't plan to prosecute. At Texas Tech, meanwhile, David Murrah, director of the Southwest collection, stands staunchly behind his museum piece: "NASA's claims that the rock doesn't exist suit us just fine," he says. "If they want to come put the university in jail, that's fine, too!"

Beyond Divestment

The divestment movement is far from over, even though Congress recently overrode President Reagan's veto of economic sanctions against the Pretoria government. Hundreds of students across the country turned out for the Oct. 10 and 11 National Protest Days, but now that 116 schools have divested about \$3.8 billion worth of stock in American companies with operations in South Africa, the question remains: What next? To figure that out, Middlebury College in Vermont recently hosted a national collegiate symposium on South Africa, which was broadcast live over American Public Radio and to radio listeners in Australia.

For two hours, students from schools that ranged from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, to Florida International phoned in questions for the five panelists, who disagreed sharply over what role students can still play in ending apartheid. For their part, some student questioners seemed to feel they could be most effective by continuing to make the divestment debate a national issue. "What college students need to do now is start disproving the argument of those opposed to sanctions [who say] that black South Africans would be hurt the most," said Jabulani Nhlapo, a Middlebury sophomore from Soweto. "If you have a ladder and you pull it out, who is going to be hurt more, the ones on the bottom or the ones on the top?"



Humoring the students: Radio's riotous Dick Orkin

Laugh Lessons From a Pro

Faculty and administrators at Franklin and Marshall College decided they had a problem: the school's earnest, largely pre-professional students seemed to be in danger of losing their senses of humor. Rampant careerism had induced laugh atrophy, an unseemly state for a school named, in part, for the witty Benjamin Franklin.

F&M alumnus Dick Orkin, the funnyman whose classically resonant voice is one of the best known in radio advertising, volunteered to come to the rescue as the school's first "humorist in residence." The school arranged a four-day whirlwind return to the 199-year-old campus, nestled in

Pennsylvania's pastoral Amish country. The campus radio station stoked the audience for weeks beforehand by playing installments of "Chickenman," Orkin's hilarious radio serial from the '60s, and its hallmark cry, "He's Everywhere! He's Everywhere!" filled the airwaves. Orkin shared secrets of humorous writing with English students, talked the ad game with business classes and spoke in auditoriums and one on one, "wandering about, sprinkling levity all around the campus."

While keeping the students in stitches, Orkin pushed a serious message: that "it's OK to give yourself permission to laugh," and that a sense of humor, essential for coping with life, can help you succeed. "It's going to change the way I look at classes," says senior Josh Levine.

The most impassioned views came from panel member Malcolm Fraser, former prime minister of Australia. Ever since he returned from a mediation mission to South Africa earlier this year as part of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group, Fraser has insisted that nothing short

of "much tougher, immediate sanctions" imposed by the United States in concert with other major Western governments will be effective. Predicting that civil war "could be months away," Fraser urged students on: "Badger all your senators and besiege the White House."

In This Tank, Talk Is Chirp

Arthur Myrberg can drive a tank of bicolor damselfish crazy—and not by tapping on the glass, either. Myrberg, professor of marine biology at the University of Miami's Rosentiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, has unlocked specific meanings of damselfish "language"—grunts, growls and chirps. He even makes many of the fishy sounds himself.

Most of his subjects' conversation has to do with sex. A low chirp says there's a male around ready to mate; tone indicates whether the chirper is large or small. To female damselfish, that matters; big fish can better protect the eggs after laying. Other noises stake out watery turf and coax a departing object of desire to return.

Besides having developed one of the world's great party tricks, Myrberg sees many practical applications for his discovery, including directing fish away from polluted areas, controlling spawning and increasing harvests. But he denies being an aquatic Dr. Dolittle: "I have just learned the signals. The animals do not talk back to me."

ILLUSTRATION BY MARC ROSENTHAL

