

Racial injustice is unfinished business for South Africa, U.S.

By June Russell
Emerald Contributor

"Toward Justice" was the theme of presentations by Nithi Mothukrishna from South Africa and Gerald Seals, Corvallis city manager, at a forum Wednesday evening to gain insights into the connection between the struggle for racial justice in South Africa and in the United States.

Mothukrishna, who began a Ph.D program in education at the University last fall, addressed the issues central to the struggle in South Africa and the requirements for racial justice.

Clergy and Laity Concerned sponsored the forum as part of their Covenant Against Apartheid program.

Mothukrishna began her talk by outlining the tradition of black protest against white domination in South Africa, and the answering violence by authorities.

"Blacks in South Africa have protested against injustice and inequity that they have experienced in South Africa since the beginning of the century," Mothukrishna said. "They have protested the system under the control of a white minority, a white minority that is determined to hold the power, wealth and land."

The homeland policy of relocating blacks to non-white areas is another problem caused by apartheid, Mothukrishna said.

"In the name of apartheid, millions of people were uprooted from their homes over the years," she said. "This is the result of the homeland policy."

The homelands are scattered pieces of land, often without good roads or railroads, she said. The government's reasons for the homeland policy are two-fold.

"The government believed that the independent homelands would provide proof to the international community that the white South Africa government had made full accommodation to provide full rights to black people," Mothukrishna said.

"The government created structures to divide the people. The poverty in the homeland is a conscious effort to keep the homelands underdeveloped," Mothukrishna added.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is apartheid," Mothukrishna said. "What I have tried to show is that the structure of apartheid remains. It remains untouched by the cosmetic changes the government has made. No black South African will rest until the apartheid system is completely abolished. It is a crime against humanity."

Seals addressed the forum after Mothukrishna, asking why Americans should support the struggle against apartheid. The answer lies in our history and in those that want to forget that slavery ever existed, Seals said.

"Why support the struggle?" Seals asked. "Because the 'N' word, nigger, still slips too easily from some of our lips. Young kids - our hope for the future - dub themselves skinheads and embrace racism. Too many of us are vehicles of dope, not instruments of hope."

"Why support the struggle?" Seals asked again. "Because history gives us our identity and imbues us with hope. We owe our children two things: roots and wings."

"What confronts the world in the decade to come is promise, the promise of better times," Seals added. "There is, however, unfinished business - and that is apartheid."

Group gives support to gay and lesbian youth

By Kathleen Sweeney
Emerald Contributor

The Gay and Lesbian Youth Group has helped more than 100 youths since its inception in 1987.

"We're a forgotten minority, a forgotten group," said Maureen Burke, GLYG co-founder. Burke, along with Robin Madell, founded GLYG in November 1987 to represent gay and lesbian people 21 years old and younger.

"The group's number one objective is peer support," Burke said. The group members can discuss issues facing them in a friendly social setting.

The group does more than discuss problems, however. Pulling work from different contributors, group members put together a column that runs monthly in *The Lavender Network*, a statewide newsmagazine directed at gay and lesbian readers.

"Notes From the Gay and Lesbian Youth Group" combines poetry, photography and other creative works

submitted by both group members and non-members.

Carl Rodakowski, *TLN's* assistant to the publisher, calls the column "exciting" and says it has been well-received.

The youth group is now run by Robert Hein, who took over two months ago. Burke and Madell gave up their leadership after they turned 22.

The group targets young people because gay and lesbian youth are often working through different problems than older gays and lesbians. Being gay or lesbian is hard enough, but it's even more difficult in high school, Burke said.

"There's such an emphasis on being heterosexual in high school," she said, adding she believes the pressure is greater there than in college.

Hein said the group provides a much-needed sense of community awareness.

GLYG meets Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. For more information, call the Gay and Lesbian Alliance At 346-3360.

Wolff
TANNING SPECIAL

\$35 **\$50**
15 sessions 25 sessions



345-3491

Enhancers offers a cozy, private room with a fan and headphones
You get...a deep, dark, beautiful tan

Enhancers

99 W. 10th, 1st Floor Atrium, Downtown
Mon-Sat 8-8 • 345-3491

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT
is
BURGER NIGHT

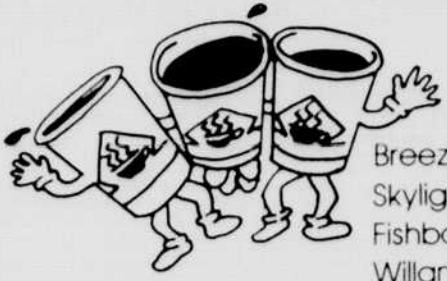
1/3 lb. Char-Broiled Burger
\$2.50
5:00 pm 'til closing

at *Guido's*

13th & Alder 343-0681


Awesome Coffee

Great coffee on campus,
at these locations:



Breezeway Cafe
Skylight Refectory
Fishbowl Espresso
Willamette Atrium Cafe

Fresh-roasted for you by



The COFFEE CORNER Ltd.

You Are Invited to a Reception

Thursday, April 12
4:30 - 6:00 p.m. at the
UO Bookstore
General Book Department

to honor the authors of

TIMBERLINE

This is a book of delightful stories written by UO students. You'll have a chance to meet these creative people and get the story behind their stories. Refreshments will be served.

TIMBERLINE BOOKS ARE FREE!