

COMSSAF tells IBM representative corporation should leave S. Africa or WSU

Members of the Committee to Support South African Freedom (COMSSAF) met yesterday with the head of a visiting International Business Machine Corporation delegation to voice objections to IBM recruiting on the WSU campus.

Group members Damani Obafemi, Bill Oisen and Donald Comstock told the head of the six man IBM delegation, Al Barela, that COMSSAF feels the corporation should not be on campus unless and until it withdraws its business activities from the Republic of South Africa.

IBM has one of the larger U.S. corporate operations in South Africa employing more than 1,400 workers. It is also one of the more recent additions to the universi-

ty's investment portfolio.

Comstock, who did most of the talking for the three, told Barela that COMSSAF represented the "local unit" of a worldwide network of groups which have the objective of getting foreign corporations to discontinue operating in South Africa. COMSSAF's position is that corporations, including IBM, are supporting the white minority government in South Africa by their continued presence in that country.

Comstock said earlier this week that IBM had anticipated a demonstration by the group, the possibility of which was made public last month at a group meeting. Comstock said IBM contacted the

university and COMSSAF was contacted this week by the university's Career Services and Placement Center which set up the meeting with Barela. Barela said he did not know the center had set up the meeting until Tuesday night.

Comstock said the group decided not to hold the demonstration before they were contacted by the Placement Center. The group, Comstock said, has decided it wanted to get more information out to WSU students before it took public action.

A Placement Center official "How IBM Operates its South African Business" and told them Barela had nothing to say. The

three, however, insisted and Barela agreed to meet with them.

Barela confirmed that IBM knew about the group's plans in advance but refused to speak for the corporation in response to the group.

"I don't feel personally confronted," Barela told the three. He then said the group should contact the IBM communication department in Armonk, New York by phone.

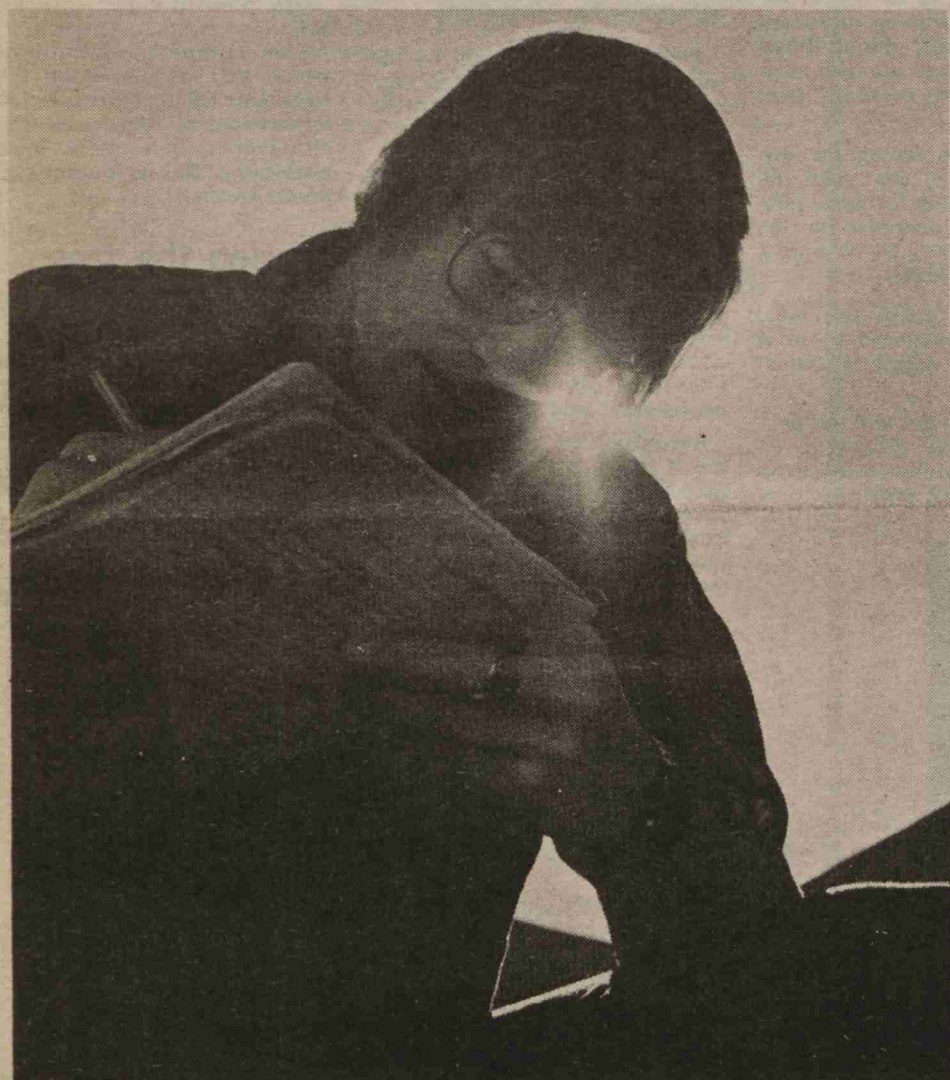
Barela told the three that IBM employees had their own feelings about the corporation's involvement in South Africa but would not comment when asked what his feelings were.

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Is it mid-term or something? The cry of the wild test-taker is rising from the corners of campus (you know the cry, "Oh shoot! I've got

four tests in one week!") as it's been known to do during past mid-terms. And a stroll across campus shows people everywhere studying,

but maybe that's not unusual...

photos by al camp and russ howser

Gays back in closet—Assembly nixes Gay funding

by jay l. dexter

A standing-room-only crowd of more than 60 students were present last night when the ASWSU Assembly voted 9-7 to deny funding for its Gay Awareness Committee.

An attempt was made to take an immediate vote on the issue when it was introduced and to split the voting on the funds the committee had requested—both motions failed.

The GAC requested \$196.25 to be spent for books, telephone expenses and postage.

Klaire Harry, GAC chairwoman, said two of the books to be purchased deal with religious views toward homosexuality, a

third was written by university professors and deals with homosexuality and the fourth was a published Kinsey study—funded by the U.S. government—on homosexuality.

Assembly member Larry Beck told the assembly, "Every ASWSU committee that has an office has a phone. (GAC has its own office.) And GAC is asking for the minimum amount of money for phone expenditures."

Applause was heard several times after students spoken in opposition to funding. Student Karen Olsad said, "I am not afraid of homosexuals, but I don't want to be educated about what someone does in their bedroom." For that reason, she said, she was opposed to funding.

Student Kevin Henry responded, "The GAC is trying to expand the minds of everybody. People need to know about their own sexuality."

Several times during the discussion, students made references to other organizations which might seek funding if GAC were allocated money. Student Robert Booth said a Christian organization on campus is just as educational as GAC, but is not funded.

He said, "If you (the assembly) fund one lifestyle, where are you going to stop?" He stressed to the assembly they should vote as their constituents want them to vote—no.

Former assembly member Brad White cautioned the assembly: "Twenty years

ago, the women in this room had very little voice in government. Blacks, chicanos and other minorities also had very little voice 20 years ago. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled we are all equal...and a lot of what it means to be American and to be free will be lost if you vote no.

"We need the opportunity to learn about things like this."

Although no funding will come from ASWSU, the GAC plans to remain an active political force on campus, a spokesman indicated.

Assembly member Dan Boring warned the committee that, at the next assembly meeting, an effort will be made to nullify the committee.

Cougar Club coordinating stadium expansion

by rich hamack

The stadium expansion project coordination was shifted from the administration to the Cougar Club Foundation to help the project be completed by the set time, said Lloyd W. Peterson, Senior Assistant At-

torney General and legal counsel to WSU.

Peterson said although the project has been shifted out of the hands of the administration, the specifications of the addition will remain within control of the administration.

Peterson is presently drafting a con-

tract between the university and the Cougar Club Foundation, defining the roles of each party—exactly what is expected of the foundation in its role as coordinator of the project, and of the university in accepting or rejecting various designs of the project.

The goal for contract completion and agreement by both the university and Cougar Club Foundation is Nov. 15, so it may be mailed out to the regents prior to its Nov. 24 Board of Regents meeting.

(cont. page 3)