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# Rugby team, hosts bring ban to court

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By Shirley Armstrong  
and Cliff Lee

Staff Writers

A show cause order, signed by a federal judge in Albany late Friday afternoon, has been served on Gov. Hugh L. Carey and Mayor Erastus Corning II. It requires them to explain why they should not be enjoined from preventing the controversial South African rugby team game in Albany next week.

Senior Judge James T. Foley of U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York, signed the order, which was requested by Eastern Rugby Union President Tom Selfridge and Stephen Arnsdorf, a member of the South African team. It is returnable Monday at 9 a.m. before Judge Howard G. Munson of Syracuse, who will preside in Albany.

The complaint accuses Carey of "an invalid exercise of the police power." in his statement — issued as a press release on Thursday — that the match should be banned.

The complaint labels Carey's action "arbitrary,

capricious and in violation of the plaintiffs' constitutional rights."

The complaint, served late in the day on the mayor, the corporation counsel, the governor's office and the state attorney general's office, alleges that cancellation of the game is a denial of "rights to freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and equal protection under the law . . . without due process."

In one portion of the complaint, it is stated that "at all times" the rugby union has been "willing to modify the size of the crowd and to help pay for any added security forces that might be necessary."

Selfridge, who accompanied attorney Richard P. Walsh of Schenectady to serve papers on the various

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Carey's ban on Albany match headlined by South African press. Page 4

Springboks vow they will play all 3 scheduled games in the U.S. Page 4

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## The rugby controversy

# Springboks, host ask court to lift

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parties, said there were "a myriad of options" which could have minimized security risks, but he said the issue had never been discussed with him by anyone in the governor's office. Walsh said he called the governor's office after hearing of the statement released by Carey Thursday, but was "referred to the press office."

Walsh said that had there been a discussion of the situation, attendance at the event could have been limited by halting the sale of tickets or even by keeping all spectators out of Bleecker Stadium during the event.

Selfridge said the game might be played with only TV cameramen admitted, and rugby fans could then "sit home and watch the game in comfort."

Carey's statement never actually banned the game, leaving doubt as to its exact legal significance. But Corning, who had maintained it would be unconstitutional to deny the Springboks permission to play, took the position that Carey's statement was a prohibition order.

Corporation Counsel Vincent McArdle said, after being served with the papers Friday, that there has been no change in that position.

In his statement, Carey said he did indeed have the power to disperse a public assembly if there was a threat of violence. He cited the purported planned appearances of the Ku Klux Klan and the Communist Workers Party as proof that violence was possible.

The New York Civil Liberties Union announced Friday it was supporting the Eastern Rugby Union by filing a "friend of the court" brief on the constitutional question of free speech.

"We believe to let the governor's action stand would be to let opponents cast a veto over controversial or unpopular public events in the state," said Gara LaMarch, assistant director of the NYCLU.

Asked whether the city had rescinded a permit for use of the stadium by the Springboks, McArdle said this had not been done "formally," since there had been no formal issuance of a permit. He said Sal Garufi, superintendent of parks and recreation, scheduled use of the stadium and, after receiving a request from the rugby union in February or March, penciled in the match for Sept. 22.

Corning also said the promoters of the game he Schenectady-based Eastern Rugby Union — never had a written permit to play at Bleecker Stadium.

"There was never any permit," he said. "It was understood the field had been reserved for Tuesday and, as far as I know, it still



**SPRINGBOKS PRACTICE** — The controversial South African rugby squad ignores the rain in Chicago's Grant Park to get in some practice. The Springboks are scheduled to play a Midwestern team today at an undisclosed field. Associated Press

However, Corning reiterated that city police would prevent the game from being played in Bleecker or any other location in the city.

Before Carey's announcement Thursday that the game "should not" be played in Albany, Corning said, the city only had the authority to prevent the game from being played in municipally-owned Bleecker Stadium.

But Corning announced Friday that the South African rugby team would not be allowed to play anywhere in the city of Albany.

In a related matter, Corning denied Carey's assertion that he, Corning, had made a formal request to Carey for State Police and National Guard assistance to maintain order during the rugby game and the planned demonstrations by local and national anti-apartheid organizations.

The mayor said he called Carey on Monday and "alerted him to the possibility" that State Police and National Guard assistance might be needed.

Corning said he contacted Carey "so that he wouldn't be taken by surprise" if the call for assistance were actually issued.

When asked what action he would have taken if the governor had simply declined to supply state police assistance, rather than effectively ordering the game cancelled, Corning said:

"I am not president of the bridge crosser union and I won't hypothesize."

He had the identical answer to the question of what would be done should Carey's decision be nullified in court.

Meanwhile, an Albany Police spokesman said that as far as the department is concerned "it (rugby game) is off."

Capt. John Dale said police have a security plan in place should the rugby game and demonstration be held, but added that the department no longer feels such a plan will be needed.

This confidence did not exist Friday in Albany Police Court, where officials said court employees are still on notice for a 24-hour session Tuesday.

Rugby tour organizer Selfridge said he was concerned that the court action Monday might delay the game, if an injunction against the governor and mayor were issued and they appealed.

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## Albany ban

"If this game is not played on Sept. 22, it will be impossible for many of the (Springboks) team to ever appear in such a match," he said.

Michael Dollard, one of the organizers of the protest, said the anti-apartheid group would go ahead with plans for a rally at the state capitol at 5 p.m. Tuesday — "a victory rally," he said.

If the court should order the game resumed, "everything goes back into action, full speed," he said. Meanwhile, the Interfaith Cabinet of Albany, which had urged Mayor Corning to cancel the rugby game, announced plans to sponsor a forum on apartheid Monday at noon at the Cathedral of All Saints.

"The rugby game is seemingly postponed or cancelled but the issue of apartheid continues," said cabinet spokesman the Rev. James Reid Friday. "The reason for all the protesting is apartheid and we won't rest as long as it continues."

The forum will feature two speakers: Dr. Helen Desfosses, assistant professor of Afro-American Studies at the State University at Albany, and Dr. Paul Zuber, professor of law and urban affairs at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy.

# Springboks 'will play all 3 games'

By Nancy Connell  
Staff Writer

CHICAGO — The South African Springbok rugby team will play all three games as scheduled in the United States, a spokesman for the tour said here Friday.

"All three matches will be played," Edmund W. Lee said, adding "We'll play the games — both of them — in New York," Lee added.

Lee said he was not certain of the situation in New York, or the impact of Gov. Hugh L. Carey's statement Thursday that no rugby game with the South African team should be played in the state.

"I don't know if he's banning the games or denying a location," Lee said.

He insisted, however, that both games following the Chicago match will be played in New York State.

Lee, who described himself as a lawyer and a former rugby player from upstate New York, is acting as liaison between the Midwest Rugby Union, the Eastern Rugby Union and the U.S. Rugby Union and the South Africans. He made his comments in Grant Park, which has become the Springboks' regular practice field in the heart of downtown Chicago.

Following a press report Friday that the Chicago match would be cancelled, the rugby representatives were determined to control information.

"We had a meeting on that this morning," said Lee when asked to arrange an interview with a player.

"There was a report in the Chicago news today that turged out to be wrong. The manager has instructed the team that there will be no interviews except through me," Lee then refused to arrange the interview.

He said the American rugby players had hoped to have a public game, but he denied that a game without spectators would be played merely to prove a point.

"We had hoped to entertain them (the South Africans) in the same way they did when we played there," he said. "We had hoped there wouldn't be nearly the problem there is."

Lee said, though, that rugby players in this country will be glad if the match is played even if the event goes forward in secrecy.

"The people in the rugby community will know about it," Lee said. "It's a great thing."

Lee's remarks came amid indications the U.S. rugby players are digging in on two fronts — to see to it the games are played and to make sure the opposition does not find out where.

Surrounded by reporters who still did not know where today's match would be played, Lee was cordial but adamant.

He was bombarded with questions: "When would the Springboks leave their lodgings in the Chicago Athletic Association? Where and when would the game will be played? In what type of stadium would it be held?" The answer was always the same.

"We're not going to release any information."

tion that would lead the protestors to the game," Lee said. "You're not going to get it out of me by the process of elimination, either. You're not going to get it, clear?"

Lee refused to be pinned down about how many rugby fans would be able to attend the match, which represents a new level of sophistication for American rugby competition.

"I don't even know if we set up a telephone pyramid (to contact spectators)," Lee said. Tickets were sold, but "they'd have to be refunded," Lee said.

Organizations protesting the Springboks appearance were due to meet Friday night for a final rally before the game. An air of caution seemed to have crept into their predictions about getting to the site today.

"It's going to be difficult," one protestor admitted. He predicted, however, that the organizers would announce their latest intelligence about the site of the game at the rally.

Demonstrators are scheduled to meet at 9 a.m. today in Federal Plaza to mount buses headed for the game. New information on that plan might also be announced Friday night, one protestor said.

As they did Thursday, the Springboks started emerging from the exclusive Chicago Athletic Association building about 2:30 p.m. Friday, heading on foot to a playing field in Grant Park, about seven blocks away.

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JUDGE HOWARD J. MUNSON

# Klan chief:

By R.L. McManus Jr.  
Staff Writer

The Grand Titan of the Invisible Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Connecticut — the group cited as a possible security hazard at Albany's now-cancelled Springbok rugby game — said Friday he has never heard of the South African team.

James Farrands of Charlton, Conn., said he knew nothing of a proposed anti-apartheid demonstration planned for Tuesday in Albany and, further, said he had no idea why the New

# What protest in Albany?

York State Police told Gov. Hugh L. Carey that his organization might try to disrupt the demonstration.

He was asked: "Are you familiar with the South African rugby tour controversy?"

"No," Farrands replied.

"Have you ever heard of the Springboks?"

"No."

"Were you or any of your members planning to come to Albany to protest against anti-apartheid demonstrators?"

"Do you know why the State Police might believe your group and members of the Communist Workers Party might attend the demonstration?"

"No," he answered. "But you better watch out for the Communist Workers. They'll really tear up your city."

Communist Workers Party and Klan members were involved in a shoot-out which left five dead in Greensboro, N.C., in 1979 and a State Police report submitted to Carey Wednesday said both groups were "mobiliz-

ing" for a possible confrontation at the rugby game.

Because of the potential for such a confrontation and other violence, the report concluded that "hundreds" of security officers would be required to maintain order at the game.

Contents of the report were disclosed to The Times-Union Wednesday night by Robert Morgado, secretary to Carey.

Morgado told the newspaper: "KKK group. See KLAN, page 4."

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## Klan chief in dark about Albany game

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Connecticut will be coming to demonstrate on behalf of the team . . . . . from

On Thursday — citing what he termed "an imminent danger of riot and breach of the peace" — Carey declared the game should not be held.

Albany Mayor Erastus Corning II, saying the Carey declaration amounted to an "executive order," a short while later withdrew permission for the rugby teams to use city-owned Blecker Stadium.

Spokesmen for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Albany Police Department Friday declined to discuss possible sources of information for the report.

Kurt Wachenheim, a spokesman for the State Police, said Friday "There is no way I can shed any light on (the report.) It is a sealed report. It went from (State Police Superintendent William G.) Connelie directly downtown" to Carey.

Meanwhile, Mike Young, a spokesman for the Communist Workers and a member of Stop Apartheid Rugby Team (SART), said Friday his organization had planned to attend the anti-rugby demonstration.

He said that flyer announcing the rally had been distributed in Manhattan, but that in the event the game is not played in the area party members will not come to Albany.

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## Rugby Ball Bounces Into Federal Court

By PHIL BLANCHARD  
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — Oral arguments will be heard Monday morning in the Eastern Rugby Union's legal quest to overturn Governor Hugh L. Carey's cancellation of Tuesday's Springboks rugby game.

\* \* \*  
The ERU, with the New York Civil Liberties Union supporting its cause as a "friend of the court," yesterday obtained an order from U.S. District Court Judge James T. Foley compelling the governor and Mayor Erastus Corning II to explain why the game featuring the South African national team should not be allowed to be played in Blecker Stadium.

Carey, on Thursday, issued a statement that Corning construed as an order to cancel the game because of the threat of violence by anti-apartheid demonstrators.

The case will go before District Court Judge Howard Munson, the chief U.S. judge in the

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Northern District of New York, at 9 a.m. Monday at the federal courthouse in Albany

Vincent McArdle, Albany corporation counsel, said the city's position in the proceedings would be that the governor ordered Corning to cancel the game.

The city, said McArdle, "is following orders not to allow the game."

In addition to hearing oral arguments, Judge Munson could ask for testimony to support the state's contention that to allow the game would risk "riot and breach of the peace," as Carey claimed Thursday.

\* \* \*  
The ERU is represented by Schenectady attorney Richard Walsh Jr. He has attacked the Carey statement that led to the game's cancellation as nothing more than a "press release," lacking legal standing.

In Chicago, the manager of the Springboks, Johann Claassen, indicated to reporters yesterday that plans for the team to play the first of three scheduled U.S. games today were on. There had reports, published in a Chicago newspaper, that the team was considering canceling its trouble-plagued American tour.

\* \* \*  
The exact location of the mid-west game was not revealed. Amidst rumors that the game might be played in Wisconsin, Gov. Lee Dreyfus said he would not cancel the game if it were staged in his state because to do so would be to "fight intolerance with intolerance." Dreyfus also said he doubted whether he had the authority to ban the game.

Since its arrival in Chicago earlier this week, the South African team has been sequestered in the Chicago Athletic Club, emerging only for sight-seeing and occasional practice in nearby Grant Park. The club is closed to the press. A club employee said, "no one seems to know what's going on. It's just going around and around in a circle here."

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Staff photo by Paul Kriehorn

**ROUGH GAME** —The Albany Knickerbockers in play with the Hertford team from England.

## 'Hooligan-gentlemen' play rugby

By Tom Friedman

Staff Writer

Jack White is a mustachioed, well-groomed man who is an assistant attorney general in Massachusetts. He was educated at a New England liberal arts college.

But, to hear White last week, you'd have thought he had quit law. He was talking rugby, his favorite sport.

"I define myself by the sport," said White, 29, a Boston resident who is trying out for the Eastern Rugby Union Colonials.

He is one of about 30 players being considered for 15 coveted starting spots on the team.

What kind of person plays rugby in the United States? People like White. They are generally middle- to upper-middle class, well-educated professionals.

According to a market survey of Rugby magazine readers, 87 percent of its most avid readers are between 25 and 34 years old; 50 percent earn more than \$20,000 a year; 94 percent attended undergraduate college; and 30 percent have pursued postgraduate degrees.

"There's no question it's a class sport," said White, a graduate of Holy Cross College. "Most people get exposed to it in college and, from that point on, all the money that goes into the game is your own."

For this reason, he said, most players are usually wealthy professionals who play the game as amateurs. They belong to local clubs, which they support through contributions.

For example, Tom Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union, is a businessman who grew up in a posh section of Cleveland. He attended a

private high school and college at the University of Cincinnati where he played football.

Some players interviewed by *The Times-Union* last week saw these links as responsible for the camaraderie so apparent among players of rugby.

"The whole ethos of the sport is friendly," said Gordon Sunderland, chairman of an English team in Albany last week. "Your opponent might knock you low during the match. But afterwards at the bar, that no longer has any meaning."

"It's no different in England or France, we rugby players all get along because we're gentlemen," Sunderland said.

Use of the term "gentleman" for a fellow player is common language in the world of rugby.

"It's a game played by ruffians and hooligans who are gentlemen," said Albert Stevens, senior editor of the New York City-based *Rugby* magazine.

This phrase dates back to the sport's founding in the 1820s by William Ellis, a student at the exclusive Rugby College, whom historians attribute with being the first player, Stevens said.

He said the game, which is played in 108 countries, is an upper-class sport usually learned by the elite at the finest schools.

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# Sponsor: Rugby game still on

By David Brown

Staff Writer

The South African Springbok rugby team is expected to leave Chicago for Albany today, and the local sponsor of the tour maintains that he expects the game will go on in Bleecker Stadium.

The local sponsor, the Eastern Rugby Union is seeking a federal court injunction Monday that would force Gov. Hugh L. Carey and Albany Mayor Erastus Corning II to drop their plans to prevent the game being played in Bleecker Stadium or anywhere else in Albany.

Last week, after citing a State Police report that said the Ku Klux Klan and the Communist Workers Party were planning to join the scheduled protest outside the stadium, Carey issued a press release that said the game "should not" be allowed. Corning, who had until that point maintained the teams had a constitutional right to play in Albany, immediately reversed his position and said it would not.

Tom Selfridge was asked Saturday whether, if Bleecker Stadium were still denied the rugby teams, there would be a match scheduled, like the one in Wisconsin Saturday, at another site.

"I think because of the importance of the game, it must be at Bleecker Stadium. I can't imagine it anywhere else."

However, Selfridge has said in the past that the Eastern Rugby Union, which he heads, had scouted alternate sites.

He was also asked about a report in *The Times-Union* Saturday that the head of the Ku Klux Klan Connecticut

group cited in the State Police report said he had never heard of the South African rugby team and that no members of his group had any plans to attend a demonstration in Albany.

The "threat" posed by the Klan was the major reason cited by Carey aides in explaining why the governor had ordered the match cancelled. Carey's secretary, Robert Morgado, said Wednesday: "KKK groups from Connecticut will be coming to demonstrate on behalf of the team . . ."

Morgado also disclosed that the KKK was cited in the State Police report.

Selfridge, on Saturday, declined to discuss the matter because, he said, the State Police report is "part of the litigation" now before federal court.

During the music festival Saturday on the South Mall in Albany, Carey also declined comment on the KKK matter.

"I can make no response to matters in litigation," he said.

But he added:

"I did not make reference to any groups, but the information came from information sources and intelligence from our own police."

He was asked: Didn't Morgado specifically say the Klan would be here?

"No, he didn't mention any groups, and I never mentioned any groups. I can't validate what you print in your newspaper."

Morgado could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, Jim Townsend, a director of the Eastern Rugby Union, said Saturday, "The implications of that (Carey's ruling) are frightful. The

rights that are involved here are the rights of assembly. I've always believed that when a person comes into the country they have the same rights as any one else. This is an open and shut First Amendment case.

Mayor Corning, meanwhile, met briefly at the South Mall with Carey. He described the meeting as "cordial."

"Not a word" was said about the rugby match, he said.

Meanwhile, Bransby Jordan, 51, of Brooklyn, a representative of the Pan Africanist Congress to the United Nations, was arrested Saturday morning in the Trailways bus station on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Judge Edwin Tobin said he adjourned the charge against Jordan in contemplation of dismissal Saturday morning. Tobin said police arrested Jordan because he was shouting and waving his arms around inside the bus station.

"I think it was a situation where he (Jordan) over-reacted," Tobin said. "It wasn't a very serious charge," he added explaining his reason for adjourning the charge.

E. J. Josey, a spokesman for the Albany Coalition Against Apartheid, said Jordan was harassed just before his arrest by three men who identified themselves as members of the Ku Klux Klan. The men allegedly ripped Jordan's clothes and took his shoes because they were angered by a Stop the Apartheid Rugby Tour button Jordan was wearing, Josey said.

The Albany coalition issued a statement in protest of Jordan's arrest Saturday.

**BOKS: GO HOME!  
RACISM IS NOT  
WELCOME HERE**



A proponent greets the Springboks team on its arrival in Albany.

## First Amendment rights in issue in federal suit

By R. L. ...

Saying the case involves a constitutional issue of maximum importance, an attorney for the Eastern Rugby Union was to argue in federal court today that Gov. Hugh L. Carey has no power to prohibit the ERU-sponsored rugby match featuring the South African Springboks team in Albany's Bleecker Stadium.

Richard P. Walsh Jr. was to ask U.S. District Judge Howard G. Johnson for an injunction lifting Thursday's actions by Carey and Mayor Donald Corning II that in effect ruled out the game at Bleecker Stadium.

Whether the game really has been

cancelled remains at issue. In a statement that has been interpreted in different ways, Carey said last week the game should not be played in the city-owned stadium. He never said specifically he was calling it off.

Neither he nor the mayor have said anything since then that clarifies the situation, although Corning has publicly interpreted Carey's wording as a cancellation.

The ERU's attorney said the governor has "no inherent police powers" and could have acted only by invoking Section 2B of the Executive Law, which would have required him first to issue an executive order declaring a disaster.

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"He hasn't done that," Walsh said. "He has apparently just issued a press release, not a executive order, and apparently his authority is relying on police power."

Even if Carey had invoked the law, Walsh said, the prohibition of the game was a violation of the ERU's First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and free association.

"The ERU is assembling and associating together for the purposes enunciated in their charter, one of which is to foster certain social ideas, including the idea that we are all brothers and that we can compete against each other in this match and yet still remain friends," Walsh said.

Attorneys for the governor have refused to say in advance of the hearing how they planned to defend the governor's action. But Albany Corporation Counsel Vincent McArdle, who will appear today for the city, said he believed the case pitted constitutional rights against police power.

Walsh and his associates in the Schenectady firm of Lombardi, Reinhard, Walsh & Harrison worked through the weekend, researching their brief and possible avenues of seeking an expedited appeal, if necessary.

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If Munson denies the injunction, the ERU could seek an appeal before the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York City, but Walsh said he did not know whether the union would appeal an injunction denial.

Opponents of the match had vowed to demonstrate at Bleecker Stadium in a protest of South Africa's apartheid racial policies.

In doing so, the opponents have "turned this game into a political assembly in that they have ascribed political meaning to the playing of the game," Walsh said. "Because of that, it is obviously a First Amendment right to have this game."

Walsh also said he planned to argue Carey had denied the rugby union its right of equal protection under the law by denying state police and National Guard assistance to the mayor.

"We are saying he is doing this because he is opposed to apartheid, or the political views he believes will be expressed by the game," Walsh said.

"Thus, the governor is selectively deciding which events he will allow to go forward because he is denying assistance to those events which he does not want held."

**Alternos**

## The rugby controversy

### U.S. rugby team ready to compete

By ANDY DANZO

Knickerbocker News Reporter

Members of the Colonials, the American rugby team that hopes to play the South African Springboks on Tuesday, were dining in an area Italian restaurant this weekend, but a bit of the controversy surrounding the match followed them.

"Some girl came over to our table and gave me something," said Mike Sherlock, team captain. "She said, 'You dropped something. I think this is yours.' It was a button that said 'Stop the Apartheid Rugby Tour.'"

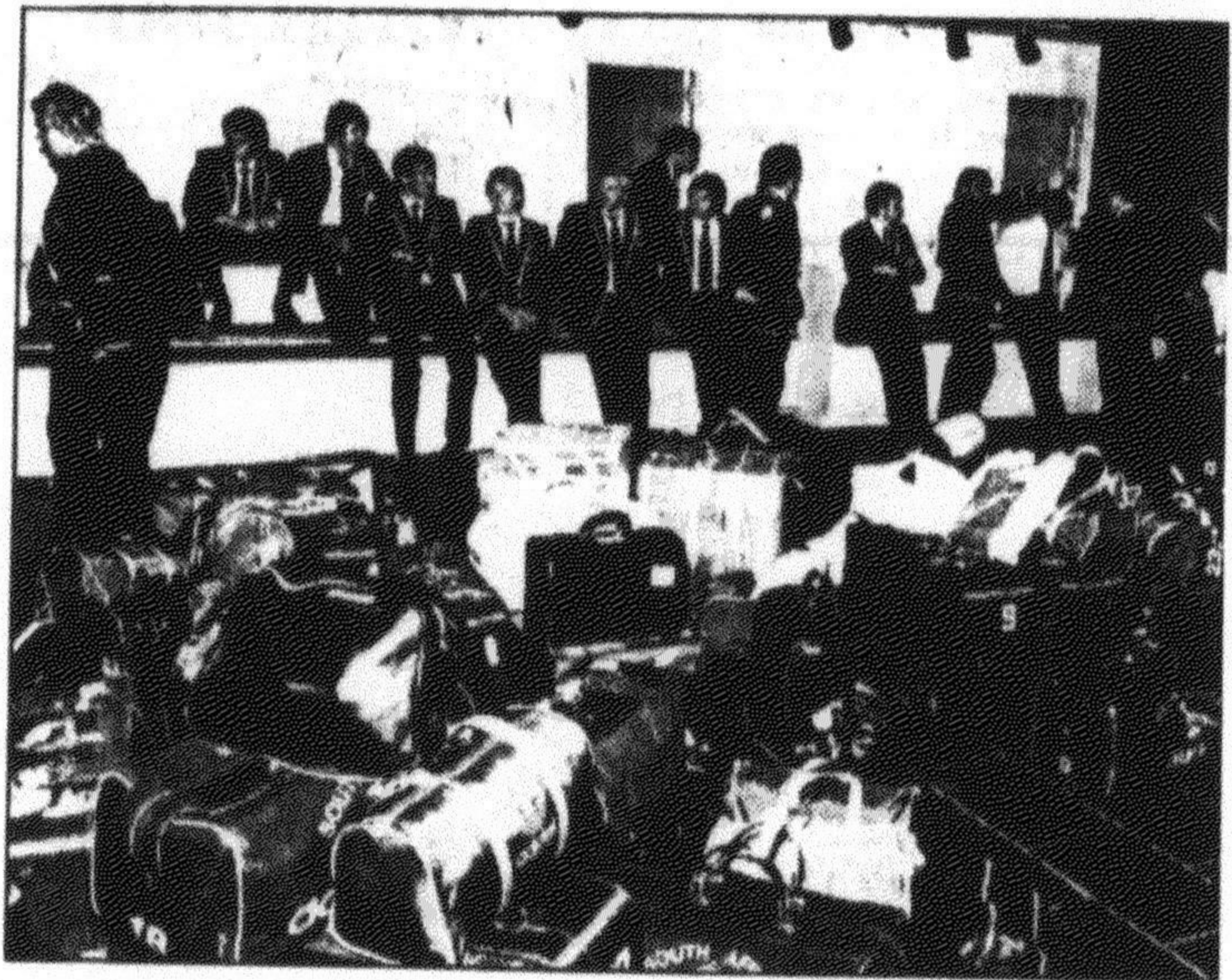
However, Sherlock and some of his teammates, who came to Albany from communities along the East Coast last Tuesday, said they haven't been harassed during their stay, and that most people they've met want to see the game played.

"I don't think they see it as a big political issue," said Steve Arnsdorff, a Tallahassee, Fla., real estate agent. "We just want to play a game against the best."

The team hasn't tried to disguise its presence, as have the Springboks who went to elaborate lengths after arriving Sunday night in Albany to keep the location of their hotel secret. And opponents of the match said they have not targeted the American players for their ire, aside from a protest last Sunday at the home of Tom Selfridge, whose Eastern Rugby Union arranged the Albany game.

The Colonials, the top players in the amateur ERU, have held two practice sessions a day without incident in Albany's Lincoln Park since their arrival. Some, like Sherlock, wear green T-shirts emblazoned with USA Springboks Tour.

"I'm sad to see there is so much controversy," said Arnsdorff, a flanker with the Colonials. "I'm just here to play the game. . . . It's a great opportunity for us."



Knickerbocker News/Tom LaPoint

**IN ALBANY** — Members of the Springboks, the South African national rugby team, wait for their baggage at the Albany County Airport after their arrival Sunday from Chicago.

If the ERU isn't successful in court today with its attempt to regain permission to use Blecker Stadium for the match, players assume other arrangements will be made, as happened in Chicago over the weekend. Asked how they would feel if the game were totally aborted, team members responded with spicy words.

The ERU is paying for the U.S. team's transportation and accommodations at the Ramada Inn on Western Avenue, Albany. But the players must pay all other expenses, and most have had to take time off or vacation time from their jobs to attend the game.

To many, playing the Springboks would be the top of the ladder in the American rugby world.

"That's the big thing, the opportunity to play," Arnsdorff said.

And they feel, like the ERU's Selfridge, that the game is a sporting event that doesn't deserve political overtones.

Team captain Sherlock, marketing manager with a large corporation in New York City, accused opponents of being "hypocritical" for not devoting

as much attention to other American connections with South Africa as they have to the game. "I work three blocks from the diamond district (in Manhattan), and 90 percent of what they sell is from South Africa, but I've never seen anyone protest there," he said. "I don't think anyone condones the policies (of apartheid in South Africa), but I don't think we're in a position to do anything about them."

While in Albany, the players have been exploring the town, and Sunday night was the first time they faced a curfew, set at midnight.

They said they have been invited to several parties and gatherings held by Albany's ERU rugby team, the Knicks

Sunday night, while the Springbok entourage sped to its hotel, eluding opponents and most of the press, some of the Colonials gathered around a pinball machine in the Ramada's game room.

"I don't know if this is an indictment of Albany that this is what we're doing with our time," said Bill Connolly, one of the team's coaches and an insurance broker from Montclair, N.J. 193

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## New game at Bleecker

In the summer past, a few familiar faces were seen night after night at Bleecker Stadium for Albany Twilight League baseball games.

There was no admission charged to these games. Everyone chipped in a few coins when a hat was passed during the seventh-inning stretches.

Bleecker was, indeed, a nice, quiet place to relax and enjoy a good ball game.

There will be a dramatic change Tuesday night should there be a rugby



Russ White

game played there. For a few hours, not only the eyes of Albany, but of the world, could be trained on Bleecker.

As has been happening much too frequently in recent years, an athletic event has become much more than a sports item. The fact a South African rugby team known as the Springboks has arrived in Albany has made headlines in newspapers throughout the world.

The Springboks have enemies because of South Africa's deplorable racial policies. They had a tension-packed tour of New Zealand, punctuated by violent protests, before arriving in America. Their reception at Albany County Airport Sunday night was no different than in Chicago, where, the team manager conceded, "they drove us out of town."

Gov. Hugh Carey doesn't want the

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Russ White

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Springboks playing at Bleecker or anywhere else in the state — even in a potato field.

Although Mayor Erastus Corning II favored the match, he changed his mind, or had it changed for him by Carey. A Carey press release expressing the opinion the game should not be played effectively banned the match last week, but Tom Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union, which is sponsoring the game, said the game will be played as originally scheduled at Bleecker.

Selfridge and the Eastern Rugby Union were to take the case to U.S. District Court today.

"We look forward to beating them (the Springboks) Tuesday night," Selfridge said Sunday night, certain that the ERU would beat Carey and Corning today.

Selfridge, from Scotia, has become an international personality because of what seems a sincerely passionate effort to play rugby instead of politics. Certainly, his interest is far deeper than the \$25,000 a South African sports philanthropist plopped in his hands two years ago to help arrange a game.

From a casual glimpse at Selfridge, the man seems to relish his flirtation with fame. He's been America's guest the past month or so, coming into millions of homes via newspapers and television. ABC's Ted Kopel had Selfridge on his popular "Nightline" show, and other interviews have continued day and night since then.

Selfridge isn't afraid to say what's on his mind. Apparently believing Carey had threatened to arrest the Springboks if they tried to play, Selfridge said, "I really don't think the governor or state police can arrest you for playing rugby."

What seems odd is that Selfridge and his rugby chums haven't really made much of a dent in the past to promote the game of rugby, which very few people around here knew or cared anything about up until now that, figuratively speaking, there are "No Scrum" signs hanging out of the Executive Mansion and City Hall.

A fellow out in Clifton Park asked a neighbor the other day if he could name 10 of the most famous rugby players in the world.

"Are you kidding? I can't even name one," was the reply.

Apparently, European rugby teams have been on quiet American tours almost every year. A team from England was here just this past week, playing a match on Wednesday at Lincoln Park.

The lads went merrily on their way after bloodying a few noses, but there were no bloody protesters or the like, even if there are folks not particularly excited over English social injustice in Northern Ireland.

Perhaps, Selfridge and the Eastern Rugby Union wish to keep the rugby scene — and, for that matter, the entire sports scene — to themselves a while longer. What effect this will have will be known later today, and certainly Tuesday if there is a game at Bleecker.

It just doesn't seem real that so many eyes are suddenly on old Bleecker and on a game called rugby.

Thanks, Tom Selfridge. Thanks for nothing.

18/11/76

# 'They drove us out' of Chicago

By Nancy Connell 9/21/81

Staff Writer

CHICAGO — The South African Springbok rugby team left Chicago Sunday to jeers, and the team manager conceded "they drove us out" of town.

"We drove the Springboks out of town. We drove the Springboks underground," shouted a group of about 15 demonstrators who caught up with the team as they waited to board a plane in O'Hare Airport here Sunday afternoon.

The team, which arrived en masse in Chicago about 90 minutes before flight time, checked suitcases, distinctive green leather Springbok gym

bags and several boxes and moved to the boarding area without incident.

The protesters showed up about a half hour before the flight, however, and began chanting. Within five minutes, the team was ushered onto the plane, leaving the rest of the passengers waiting.

There were two arrests, Chicago police later said. On the plane, bound for Albany, Johann Claassen, the team manager, conceded that the protesters managed to hamper Saturday's match of the Springboks and a team from the Midwest Rugby Union.

"In a certain way they drove us out of the city.."

Claassen said "But the most important thing was to play the game and that we managed to do."

"It's the first time the Springbok team visited America," Claassen said, "therefore it was important for us to play here. To improve the game here (in the United States) they must play better opponents. That's why we came."

Claassen said that only one Springbok, team captain Wynand Claassen, would be available for an interview. The two men are not related. Wynand Claassen, 30, is an architect in Durban, a city of about 800,000, he said.

See MANAGER, Page 4

## Manager says protesters hampered game

Continued from Page 1

"Everybody's got a job — some are students," Wynand Claassen said of his teammates during an interview on the plane. "The Springboks represent the nation's best amateur rugby players."

"Most of them have jobs that give them paid leave when they tour," Wynand Claassen said. "For any firm to have a Springbok on its staff is a great honor. Normally they give them paid leave."

Wynand Claassen was reluctant, as all the team representatives have been thus far, to get involved in political discussions.

"I'm not a politician. I don't want to comment on that," Wynand Claassen responded when asked if he thought South Africa should pursue racial integration. "That's for the government to decide." Together in South Africa, and that they share the same public facilities, such as an airport.

Asked if blacks and whites could live in the same residential neighborhoods, Claassen said, "There are

Wynand Claassen said that blacks and whites work some that are living together and some apart. It's like your (America's) neighborhoods as well."

"We could start a lot of arguments about living here and living there — all over the world," Wynand Claassen said. "If you look at Liverpool, for instance, there are more racial problems there (than in South Africa)."

"I don't want to say any more about it," Wynand Claassen concluded.

The team members have been instructed by their managers not to discuss politics with the press, both the players and managers confirm.

Despite the fact that the team captain had been authorized to talk, he and the manager gave differing accounts of what would have happened Saturday if as the Chicago protesters had succeeded in disrupting the match in Racine, Wis.

"You just ignore them," Wynand Claassen said. "You just have to wait and see what would happen."

The captain said, however, that the team would not walk off the field if trouble erupted.

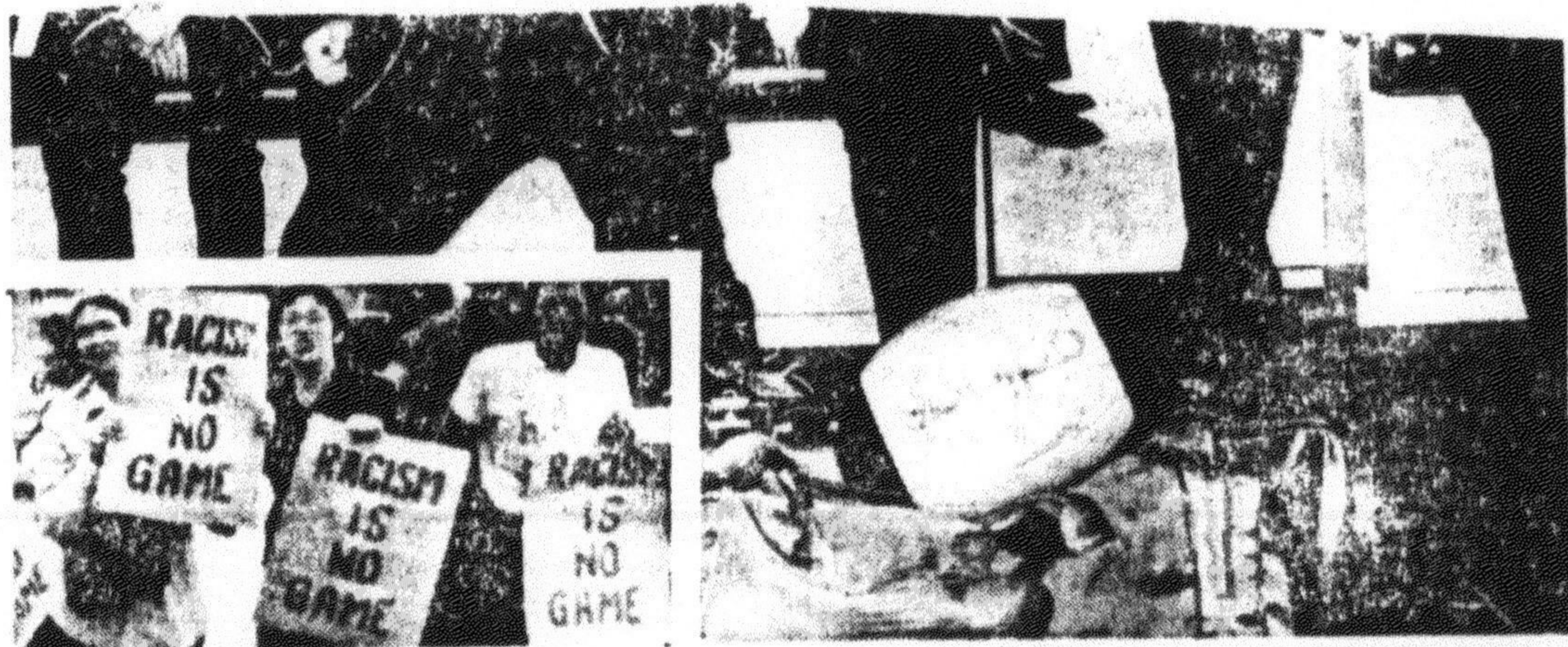
"No, we haven't considered that," Wynand Claassen said.

Only about 10 minutes before, however, team manager Johann Claassen said that if there had been a major disruption Saturday, the instructions to the team were to head directly to waiting buses.

"They would have gone straight back to the bus," the team manager said.

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**THE SPRINGBOKS ARRIVE** — Members of the Springboks, the controversial team of South African rugby players, arrive at the Albany County Airport and collect their baggage. Demonstrators (inset photo) greeted the team, which hopes to play Tuesday night at Bleecker Stadium — if a federal judge today overrules Governor Hugh Carey's advice to Mayor Erastus Corning to cancel the match. — (Gazette Photos - Garry Brown)

## Demonstrators Greet the Springboks

By STEVE NELSON  
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — A CDTA bus brought the South African Springboks rugby team to the Best Western Thruway House on Washington Avenue last night, leaving behind more than 100 demonstrators who greeted the team at Albany County Airport with shouts of "freedom yes, apartheid no."

\* \* \*  
The Springboks arrived in Albany aboard an American Airlines flight from Chicago shortly before 7 p.m. Team members were greeted by Thomas Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union, who led them through a gauntlet of reporters, undercover police and the curious inside the terminal.

Among those providing security at the airport were plainclothes state police, Albany police, and sheriff's deputies.

While the team collected its baggage, police scuffled briefly with a protester who approached the team to "express my outrage and concern about apartheid."

John Ragusa yelled, "This is a free country and I should be able to do this," as he was grabbed by a plainclothes state police officer.

Ragusa let his body go limp and police were forced to drag him across the floor a few feet from the rugby players. "I was not going to walk away of my own accord," Ragusa said later.

Under the glare of television lights, Ragusa was released and he resumed talking with members of the Springboks.

Meanwhile, protesters stepped up their chanting outside the airport terminal, yelling things like: "Rascists go home, fascists go home."

Selfridge was greeted with: "Tom Selfridge, you're to blame. All you get is racist shame."

Selfridge, in a brief news conference before the plane landed, reiterated his desire to have the game played in Bleecker Stadium. "The whole reason we're going to court is to ensure our right to play rugby."

Referring to the demonstrators, Selfridge said: "They're out to stop the rugby tour, not to protest the rugby tour. There's a difference, unfortunately."

Selfridge said the Springboks' practices would be held in private and that all details regarding the practices or where the team will be staying would have to be revealed by the team manager, Dr. Johann Claussen.

\* \* \*  
The players left the airport on one of two CDTA buses parked at the front door of the airport terminal.

While the protesters marched in single file across the road from the buses, one bus was driven to the far side of the recently constructed terminal addition where the team boarded it.

The team bus made its way down the Northway to the Thru-

way House while the second bus, with no Springboks aboard, was followed by some reporters and protesters to the Days Inn on Wolf Road.

Albany Police Chief Thomas Burke and a few detectives were on hand at the Thruway House to greet the team bus, which arrived around 8:20 p.m. None of the protesters followed.

The bus was driven to the back of the motel, where the team got off. The team's baggage arrived twenty minutes later in the rear bed of a CDTA pickup truck.

The Springboks were not talkative and did not respond to reporters' questions at the airport. Selfridge said the South Africans would not be available for interviews during their stay, at Claussen's request.

After settling in their rooms, the team members ventured into the dining room to eat while ERU officials met in an adjacent banquet room. All requests for interviews with team members and personnel were intercepted by Edmund W. Lee, an ERU official appointed liaison officer by the three rugby groups hosting the Springboks' tour.

Lee, responding to questions regarding the team's attitude toward the furor its tour has created, replied: "They said that compared to the treatment they had received at the hands of the protesters in New Zealand, this is a piece of cake."

Asked if he thought it fair to

expose the South African team to the actions of protesters and demonstrators in this country, Lee said: "The people who interfere with their civil rights are the ones being unfair."

"We are trying to keep this thing on a sporting, athletic level," he said. "Just because people want to force a political cloak around this thing doesn't mean we have to."

Again asked why Claussen would not talk to the press, Lee said, "He does have other things to do other than talk to the media."

Lee, who said he is an attorney, supported the ERU's contention that neither Governor Carey nor Mayor Erastus Corning II had a right to cancel the match.

It was learned that the Springboks made reservations at the Thruway House about a week ago and are occupying 23 rooms at the motel.

**6-HOUR FURNITURE WATERBED SALE TOMORROW**

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# A History Lesson on S. Africa

By PHIL BLANCHARD  
Gazette Reporter

Apartheid — South Africa's sweeping policy of racial segregation — is a relatively new phenomenon.

It did not become official government policy until 1948, with the election victory of Daniel Francois Malan's National Party.

At first, apartheid concentrated primarily on social segregation not unlike that practiced in the United States until the 1960s. Laws were passed prohibiting sexual intercourse and marriages and between white and "non-European" citizens. A distinction was drawn between black, or African, residents and "colored" residents, including those of mixed racial heritage.

Blacks comprise 71 percent of South Africa's population, while 17 percent are white, and nine percent "colored."

Another three percent are of Asian descent.

The establishment of apartheid as South Africa's primary domestic policy satisfied the white minority that ruled the nation; but, inevitably, it caused turmoil among the black and "colored" populations that caused serious problems for South Africa's international relations.

Employment in South African agriculture, mining and manufacturing industries has risen over the years to the point where blacks were among the highest paid workers in Africa.

However, the most benefits flowed to the white minority. Blacks and "coloreds" were by and large barred from obtaining managerial positions, and, as a matter of policy, blacks were paid less than whites performing the same work.

South Africa, as domestic unrest increased, became the target of international pressure to relax apartheid.

A major issue that remains unresolved is the status of Namibia, administered since World War I as South-West Africa by the Pretoria government but scheduled by United Nations decree to become independent.

An agreement to this independence is still not final, despite the attempts of major western governments to negotiate terms agreeable to both South Africa and other African nations.

South Africa was also a major supporter of white minority-dominated Rhodesia until, under United States pressure, military aid to Premier Ian Smith was terminated in 1976. That led ultimately to the establishment of black-ruled Zimbabwe.

South Africa supported with 4,000 troops the unsuccessful National Union for the Total Independence of Angola in that nation's civil war of 1975-76. Defeat in Angola led to increased unrest at home, as riots ripped through black townships.

Soweto, a large black township near Johannesburg, was the site of major rioting in 1978.

The death in September 1977 of anti-apartheid activist Steven Biko, who succumbed in prison from a brain injury, brought increased international attention to the plight of South Africa's black majority.

The United Nations Security Council has imposed an arms embargo on South Africa, but attempts to impose total economic sanctions against Pretoria have consistently been blocked by the United States and other major western powers.

Despite the official approval of business dealings with South Africa, major U.S. banks and manufacturing firms with South African ties have been the targets of church groups and others protesting the continued policy of apartheid.

South Africa's isolation in the international sports community

is nearly complete, with the refusal of the International Olympic Committee to approve the participation of South African teams in Olympic Games and the removal of South Africa from Davis Cup tennis competition. Individuals from South Africa still compete in tennis, golf, boxing and other sports without retribution.

The Springboks, acknowledged as the world's best rugby team, are national heroes in South Africa, at least among the white population.

The team's exploits around the world are followed closely and are considered to be a propaganda tool of the South African government by anti-apartheid activists.

The team's current world tour touched off what have been described as the biggest riots in the history of New Zealand.



A member of the Springboks catches up on his reading.

## The Judge's Case

By PHIL BLANCHARD  
Gazette Reporter

ALBANY — Whether the South African Springboks play in Bleecker Stadium tomorrow night hinges on a hearing scheduled for 9 a.m. today in federal district court.

Attorneys for the Eastern Rugby Union and the New York Civil Liberties Union will go before U.S. District Court Judge Howard Munson in an attempt to overturn the effect of Governor Hugh L. Carey's statement last week that "the rugby game should not be held in Albany."

Mayor Erastus Corning II said he took the governor's statement as an order to cancel the game at the municipally owned stadium. And, he said, it was so interpreted to him when he called Carey's office for explanation.

There are several legal questions before the court this morning, but all others may be secondary to the constitutional question of whether forcing the Springboks out of Bleecker Stadium is a violation of free speech rights.

All the ERU wants is an order that will allow them to stage the game tomorrow at 7 p.m.;

that could happen on grounds as narrow as declaring Carey's order too vague or as broad as declaring cancellation constitutionally improper.

Judge Munson is expected to issue a speedy decision. Either side may be expected to take advantage of the limited appeal routes available when time is a factor.

9/21/81

# Stadium's Neighbors Await the Decision

ALBANY — Bleecker Stadium sits one block in from Central Avenue (Route 5), sandwiched between Clinton Avenue and Second Street. It is situated 1.8 miles west of the Capitol and downtown Albany, in a heavily residential section of the city.

\* \* \*  
About the stadium, which was built in 1934, are rows of modest, two-story, wood-frame homes bunched tightly together. Quite a few have children playing in front, and cars tightly line both sides of neighboring streets.

For weeks now, the people who make their homes on Clinton Avenue, First and Second and Ontario streets, have anticipated the coming of the South African rugby team, the Springboks, to play in Bleecker Stadium.

They have read, too, of the plans made by groups to bus in people from about the state in order to protest the apartheid policy of white-ruled South Africa, a nation which practices the separation of people by the color of their skin.

Those protests would occur

virtually on the front doorsteps of Bleecker Stadium's neighbors.

They have heard Mayor Erastus Corning state repeatedly the game, set for Sept. 22, would be played. Then they heard New York Governor Hugh Carey advise Corning last week that the match should not be played Tuesday; so, the mayor withdrew the permit for the game.

And the stadium's neighbors know that today, a federal judge will hear arguments from the Eastern Rugby Union to reinstate the group's permit to play the Springboks at Bleecker Stadium, on the grounds that the governor and the mayor had no right to cancel the match because of the fear of violent protests.

They know the judge could reinstate the match; and they know that protests will certainly accompany that reinstatement.

\* \* \*  
A woman who says she lives on the corner of Ontario and Second streets pauses while walking her dog. Yes, she is concerned that the match will still be held.

She anticipates destruction of neighborhood property should the match be played. "I have a car on the street," she says.

People have spoken of fear for their homes and autos, she says, mostly the widows who live on Second Street. "Maybe the heads (of protest groups) are nice," she says, "but what about the trash they'll bring in from out of town?"

If the game is played, what will she do on Tuesday?

"I'll take my car and my animals and go to visit friends in Colonie for the day," she says. "And I won't be alone."

\* \* \*  
Farther down Second Street, a group of men are working on the sidewalk in front of their homes.

The entire neighborhood is concrete and wood; the only grass and trees to be seen nearby is at the stadium. From where the men stand they can hear the shouts of college-age men playing a game of tackle football in the stadium.

One of the three men states: "I hope the (rugby) game is played."

Frank Osterhout believes "I

have a constitutional right to see it."

He says he's no fan of rugby, but freedom is a two-way street. He looks toward at his home. "I've got alot to be concerned about. I live here. I am concerned about violence. But tell me: Why should the fear of violence stop (the match)? Should I not step outside my house for fear of being mugged?"

Osterhout continues: the South Africans aren't coming to make political speeches. "They're just coming to play rugby. It's a sporting event."

\* \* \*  
In front of the stadium, still a fresh-summer green ringed by a black iron fence, a black man with a good deal of silver in his hair waits for a ride.

Yes, he knows about the Springboks and the game. "It's a political issue," he says softly.

What about the talk of protest?

"It could be non-violent," he says, his words measured. "And it could be over before the match is played."

Yes, he says, as he spots his ride and moves toward the car. The match should be played.





**THE SPRINGBOKS ARRIVE** — Members of the Springboks, the controversial team of South African rugby players, arrive at the Albany County Airport and collect their baggage. Demonstrators (inset photo) greeted the

team, which hopes to play Tuesday night at Bleecker Stadium — if a federal judge today overrules Governor Hugh Carey's advice to Mayor Erastus Corning to cancel the match.

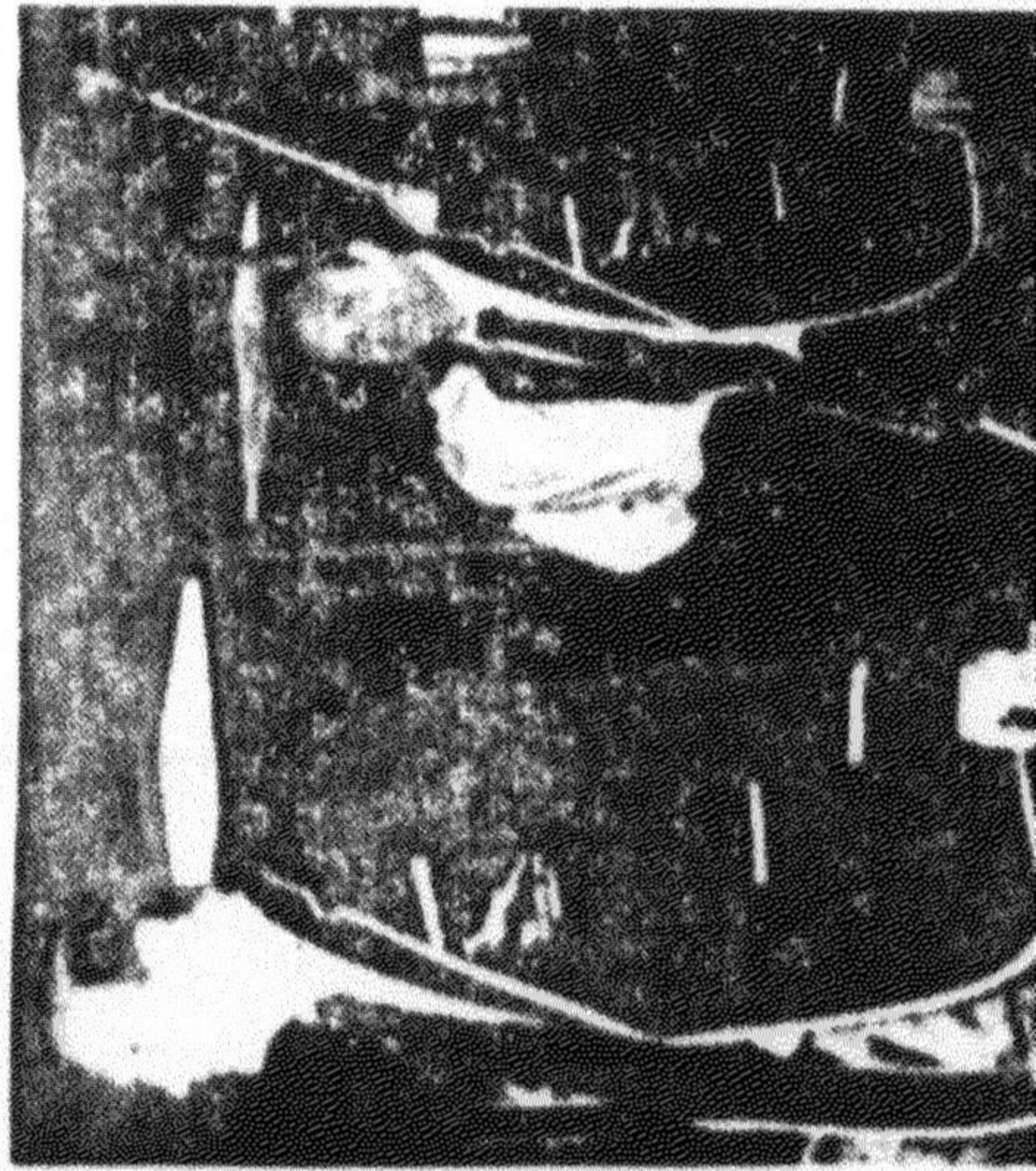
—( Gazette Photos - Garry Brown)

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# Springbooks arrive

September 21, 1981  
MONDAY  
Albany, N.Y. 12212

## to Albany protest



①

9/21/87 (2)

## 80 chant, jeer at airport; team expects to play

By David Brown  
and Tom Friedman

Staff Writers

Dogged by demonstrators who forced them to play their first U.S. rugby game in virtual secrecy, the South African rugby team arrived in Albany at 7 p.m. Sunday — and were met by protesters.

About 80 chanting, jeering demonstrators stood in front of the Albany County Airport to confront the 35-member Springbok rugby team, which flew into Albany County Airport from Chicago.

About 30 uniformed and plainclothes policemen were on hand. There were no incidents.

Inside the airport, Errol Tobias, a member of the South African team, was asked if he expected to play rugby in Albany. "Yeah. That's what we came for," he said.

The South Africans left the airport by a back door near the baggage terminal and piled into two CDTA buses, which had been out front, but were driven at the last minute to a fenced-in area, where the team boarded.

"Go home, racists!" the protesters shouted as the buses sped off.

The crowd dispersed peacefully. Some of the protesters followed the buses, but there were no confrontations at the two Colonie motels where the team was staying.

Terry Baron, a South African sports writer who also accompanied the team on its tumultuous tour in New Zealand, said the tour has been "tension-packed because of the number of protesters everywhere."

There were riots in New Zealand. In the Midwest, the Springboks,

keeping the site of their match secret until the last minute Saturday, defeated a team from the Midwest Rugby Union 46-12 in Racine, Wis., 80 miles from the original site in Chicago, thwarting efforts to stop the match. Two persons were arrested in a scuffle that broke out during the game, which was played in a city park in a black neighborhood.

At the Albany airport, Tom Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union, which is sponsoring the Albany game, insisted the game would be played Tuesday — and said it would be played in Bleecker Stadium as originally scheduled.

He also said the South Africans will play a third game, on Sept. 26, and that he would announce the location of that game, "when it's appropriate."

Gov. Hugh L. Carey said last week the game should not be allowed in city-owned Bleecker Stadium or anywhere else in the state.

On Friday, lawyers representing the rugby union went to court, saying the Springboks had a constitutional right to play the game.

U.S. District Judge Howard Munson is scheduled at 9 a.m. in Albany today to hear the rugby group's motion to overrule Carey.

"We have to see what a federal judge says in the morning," Selfridge said. "That's just one more hurdle to get by. We feel that it's absolutely essential that we play at Bleecker Stadium."

The airport demonstration was hurriedly organized after protest leaders learned of the flight the Springboks had booked from Chicago.

Fred Dusenberry, the Citizens Party candidate for Albany mayor, said at the

See **SPRINGBOKS**, Page 4

## Springboks greeted by protesters

Continued from Page 1

airport that he was not disappointed by the small turnout in a demonstration organized by a group that claimed it would have as many as 10,000 protesters on hand for the Bleecker Stadium game.

"In view of the fact that the Springboks have avoided a lot of people, I'm pleased with the turnout," he said.

E.J. Josey, of the Albany NAACP, said Sunday that members of the Albany Coalition Against Apartheid had been calling demonstrators during the afternoon to alert them to be at the Albany County Airport when the South Africans arrived.

"It's just a little reception to welcome them into Albany," said Albany organizer Michael Dollard early Sunday afternoon. "This is short notice on a Sunday afternoon."

Airport Director John Masko said early Sunday afternoon that he wasn't concerned about the demonstrators.

"We've had them before," he said. "If they want to shout and hoot and holler, I guess we'll let them do that."

Lanny Walter, an attorney for the Albany Coalition Against Apartheid, said Sunday he hopes to obtain permission to enter the federal suit as a friend of the court in support of Carey's position.

If permitted to file a "friend of the court" brief, Walter said he would argue that "it is racially discriminatory for the city to allow a discriminatory body like the Springboks to use a public facility."

"What we're going to say is the governor has the authority (to stop the game) and the mayor is obligated not to allow public facilities to be used to foster a policy that is discriminatory," Walter said.

Last week, after citing a State Police report that said the Ku Klux Klan and the Communist Workers Party were planning to join the scheduled protest outside the city stadium, Carey issued a press release that said the game "should not" be allowed. Albany Mayor Erastus Corning II, who had until that point maintained the teams had a constitutional right to play in Albany, said the governor had cancelled the game and said it would not be held.

The head of the Connecticut KKK group cited in the report, and specified by Carey's secretary Robert Morgado, told *The Times-Union* the next day, however, that he had never heard of the Springboks and that no members of his group planned on coming to Albany. Carey has since refused to discuss the State Police report.

The anti-rugby organizers applauded the gover-

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9/21/81 (3)

Albany, N.Y., Monday, Sept. 21, 1981



Staff photo by Tom LaPoint

**GOING LIMP** — Apartheid protestor John Ragus slumps to the floor of the Albany County Airport after a security guard asked him to leave. A reporter overheard Ragus say afterward that he fell for the benefit of the television cameras. There were no arrests.

nor's action but said they would hold a demonstration Tuesday at the Capitol to protest the racially repressive apartheid practices of South Africa.

Dollard said that if the federal judge rules today the game can be played at Bleecker Stadium, the "massive demonstration" originally planned would be held.

"It's just on hold," he said. "Everybody's been notified to move on a minute's notice."

Dollard also said a demonstration, though probably smaller than the demonstration planned for Bleecker Stadium, would be held if the Springboks play on a private field somewhere in Capitaland.

Sulfridge has declined to say whether another game will be played if the Springbok team is prohibited from playing at the city stadium, but has said he has considered alternate playing sites.

Meanwhile, Edmund Lee, liaison officer assigned by the three American rugby unions hosting the tour, said Sunday the Springboks were pleased with the results of Saturday's game and with their stay in Chicago. "The team played very well," said Lee. "The crowd size was larger than we usually have for a rugby game. A telephone chain went out yesterday to alert fans to the site. We set out to entertain the South African team while they are in the United States and to expose the game of rugby to a greater area of the American public."

Lee said that after the team's presence ignited a riot in New Zealand, "the team thought these people here are a piece of cake."

"They (team members) have done what they wished in Chicago. They haven't been restricted in their movements at all. They spent lots of money."

Despite the wave of negative publicity, he said, the team has been "getting floods of calls by people wishing us good luck and thanking us for being here and putting on a good game."

He said the Springboks were optimistic they will receive the same congenial treatment in Albany.

### **Southern Africa program to be held in Schenectady**

Southern Africa will be the topic of a presentation in Schenectady Friday, Sept. 25, sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum.

The program, entitled "Southern Africa — Why Does the U.S. Support Minority Rule?", is to be held at 7:30 p.m. at 323 State St. Speakers will include a staff writer from the *Militant* newspaper and a professor from the African Studies Department at State University at Albany. Phone 374-1494 for more information.

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September 22, 1981  
TUESDAY  
Albany, N.Y. 12212

9/22/81 [signature]

# Judge: Springboks match is on

## Security units gird for game

By R.L. McManus Jr.  
*Staff Writer*

Albany police maintained a round-the-clock watch on Bleecker Stadium Monday night and most off-duty officers will be working today, many clad in new riot helmets and bulletproof vests, according to department sources.

City detectives also maintained a watch over the Best Western Thruway House on Washington Avenue, where the Springboks, South Africa's national rugby team, rested before its scheduled game tonight with a local all-star team.

That game — expected to begin at 7 p.m. at Bleecker — will be the target of demonstrators protesting South Africa's racial policies. Protesters plan to march to the stadium following a 5 p.m. Capitol Park rally.

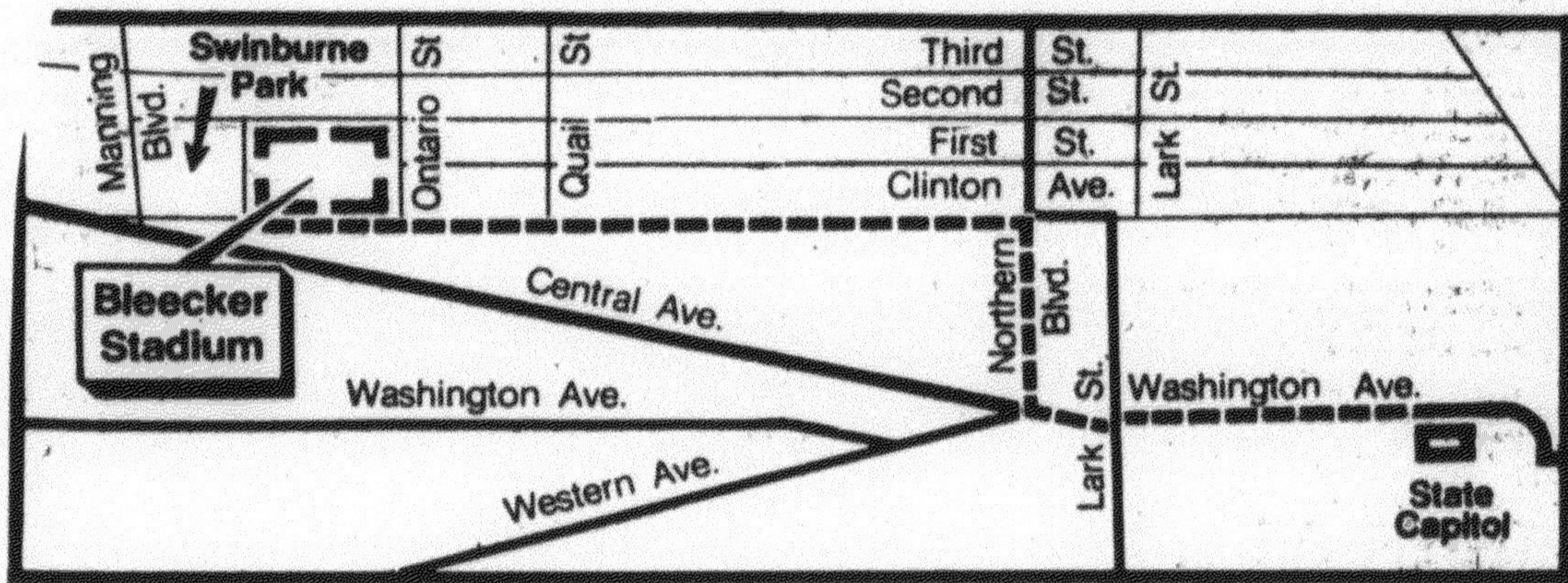
According to Clara Satterfield, president of the Albany branch of the NAACP, protesters will proceed from the Capitol up Washington Avenue to Northern Boulevard, then west on Clinton Avenue to Swinburne Park at Clinton and North Manning Boulevard.

The National Weather Service predicted an 80 percent possibility of rain through the day, dropping off to 20 percent after dark. High temperatures in the 50s were anticipated.



Photo by Tom LaPoint  
**GAME BALL** — Tom Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union, holds up a rugby ball outside the Federal Building in Albany as a gesture that the rugby match with the South African Springbok team is on again.

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Map by Kevin McReavy

**ROUTE OF THE MARCH** — The South African Springboks rugby team is scheduled to play at 7 p.m. today in Albany's Blecker Stadium, barring any further court action. Protesters have said they will gather at 5 p.m. on the steps of the state Capitol and then will march to the Swinburn Park, adjacent to the stadium, along a route following Washington Avenue, Northern Boulevard and Clinton Avenue.

In New York City, Jennifer Davis of the American Committee of Africa, said late Monday her organization — which opposes South Africa's racial policies — will leave for Albany about 7 a.m. in three buses carrying protesters. "People here feel very strongly that the game should be protested if it is played," she said, adding "the (telephone) network will be working through the night to alert people to the game."

Between 1,500 and 2,000 tickets were sold before the original cancellation of the game last Thursday, according to organizer Tom Selfridge, and sales will not be resumed. "There will be no tickets at the door," he said.

While workers erected a second chain-link fence inside the stadium Monday, Selfridge said a private firm has been hired to provide security for the game.

Albany police officials declined comment on security arrangements, but department sources said about 300 officers will be on hand throughout the day.

Police details were assigned to watch the stadium through the night, the sources said.

Albany County Sheriff George Infante said a "small detail of deputies" would be at Blecker to act as "reserves" for the city police.

Meanwhile, Robert J. Morgado, secretary to Gov. Hugh L. Carey, said State Police officials have prepared a contingency plan to assist Albany police should the need arise.

"We have been in consultation with the State Police about what actions might be necessary," Morgado said.

"Obviously, it is the intent of the mayor to preserve persons and property and take whatever steps are necessary to do that," Morgado said.

See SECURITY, Page 4

Continued from Page 1

But he said that no state assistance could be sent to Albany unless Corning requested it, and that no such request had been received.

According to Morgado, any troopers dispatched to the city would likely come

from the Troop G barracks at Loudonville.

Albany Police Court Justice Thomas W. Keegan said he is planning to "keep in touch with the police," and will conduct a night session for arraignments if requested to do so.

Otherwise, he said, nothing out of the ordinary is planned.

Elmer Streeter, a spokesman for the Albany Medical Center Hospital, said,

"We will make sure that the staff is at full strength and maybe add a few people in the emergency room. And all those departments which support the ER will be at full strength."

He said that any "large influx of people . . . will add to visits to the emergency room for everyday stuff like sore throats and such. If there were a civil disturbance, we wouldn't see anything that we don't generally see, just larger numbers."

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# Ruling says Carey veto sought to destroy constitutional rights

9/22/81 (3)

The South African Springboks rugby team will play its first officially sanctioned match in the United States in Albany's Bleecker Stadium tonight unless a federal appeals court rules otherwise.

A U.S. District Judge in Albany Monday issued a ruling that said the game may go on, despite an attempt to cancel it by Gov. Hugh L. Carey.

"By enjoining the scheduled sporting event," said Judge Howard G. Munson of the Northern District of New York, U.S. Court, "the governor of New York seeks to destroy the very constitutional freedoms which have enabled more than a century of long struggle in this country to ensure racial equality."

Munson said he based his ruling on the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Munson also denied a motion by state Assistant Attorney General Peter Yellen to "stay" his ruling until the state appeals.

Yellen said he would appeal the ruling today before the Second Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals, in New York City and said he hoped the required panel of three judges will hear the case by 10 a.m.

"If I grant a stay at this time," said Munson in his decision, "I might just as well have ruled for the state."

Although the federal appeals process normally is time-consuming, Munson told reporters the circuit court has in the past "expedited decisions," and might do so in this instance.

## Fire reported at rugby office

A fire early Tuesday morning was reported at the office of the Eastern Rugby Union at 400 Plaza in Schenectady, officials said.

Officials said there were no reports of injuries and that the blaze caused minor damage to the rugby organization's office. A fire department spokesman said the blaze may have started in the hallway near the office.

Albany Mayor Erastus Corning II said only, "The decision speaks for itself," and declined further comment.

But Tom Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union which had filed the litigation, said the mayor told him that "the prohibition on him by the state is officially over."

See RUGBY MATCH, Page 4

Continued from Page 1

"The decision of this court should be heard by the world," Selfridge said.

Attorney Steven Shapiro, of the American Civil Liberties Union, said, "In this country, we don't go and cancel events we oppose."

But leaders of the planned protest demonstration had a different view.

"It is an outrage that the U.S. Constitution can be used to protect a regime that promotes murder and genocide," said Bill Robinson, of the New York Committee to Stop Apartheid.

"We plan to organize the most massive demonstration possible," said Mike Young, of the same organization. "The game will be stopped."

Protest leaders had said as many as 10,000 would be on hand to demonstrate against South Africa's racial policies if the game went on. When the Springbok team arrived at Albany County Airport Sunday night, only about 80 protesters were there.

Late Monday night, some 30 demonstrators picketed briefly at the Best Western Thruway House on Washington Avenue, where the members of the South African team were staying. Bearing signs reading "Stop Apartheid," the marchers circled the lawn outside the motel in the steady rain.

The Albany rugby game has become international news, and Munson's ruling was handed down in a courtroom packed with a large gathering of reporters from national and international news organizations.

In preparing his ruling, Munson read a document, not released to the public, in which State Police reportedly warned Carey of potential trouble at the game. Carey had used this report as the basis for his recommendation that the game not be played.

The judge said, referring to the State Police report, that "conclusory allegations of threatened violence . . . fail to justify the governor's unilateral determination to ban lawful, public assembly."

The court action also had sought an order by Munson to require the governor to provide state security, should it be necessary. Munson did not address that matter in his decision.

Later, in response to a question, Munson said, "I expect the mayor and

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governor to do what they're supposed to do as responsible public officials."

But he added, laughing, "If that had happened, we wouldn't have been here in the first place."

Munson's decision was handed down seven hours after he heard arguments, marked by a courtroom appearance by Mayor Corning.

Corning, who had ordered the game canceled last week after the governor's announcement, told the court that allowing the South Africans to use Bleecker stadium was "the position I have taken all along," that the rugby team has "a right" to play there.

Corning asked the court to order the governor to provide any additional protection that might be needed to augment that of Albany police and the Albany County sheriff's department.

But, Corning said, Albany Police Chief Thomas Burke "indicated to me that the police department felt able to contain the situation."

The judge sharply questioned the basis for the State Police warning of possible disturbances at the game, including a confrontation by the Ku Klux Klan and the Communist Workers Party.

(The leader of the Klan group cited in the report told *The Times-Union* Friday there was no plan to demonstrate in Albany and said he'd never heard of Springboks).

The mayor said he had been given a "verbal order" to cancel the game by Carey aides "on three occasions, twice before the (press) release was issued (by Carey's office)."

Attorney Richard Walsh, representing the Eastern Rugby Union, charged Carey with "a dangerous and arrogant abuse of power."

When Selfridge, president of the rugby union, emerged from the morning hearing he was jeered by demonstrators who had gathered, along with supporters, outside the federal court in downtown Albany.

"Racist!" "Selfridge is a Nazi!" the protesters yelled.

"The protesters have the right to protest, and we have the right to a game," he said.

Selfridge conceded the protests have been successful in making the Springbok rugby tour a political issue.

"In a political sense, the protesters



PETER YELLEN  
... state to appeal

have been very successful," he said.

Responding to the court decision, State Police officials Monday prepared plans to assist Albany police if help should become necessary.

"We have been in consultation with the State Police about what actions might be necessary," said Robert J. Morgado, secretary to Governor Carey.

"Obviously, it is the intent of the governor to preserve persons and property and take whatever steps are necessary to do that."

Morgado said State Police could only be sent to the rugby match at the request of Corning, and he said no such request had been received from the mayor.

"A formal request has not been made to the governor (for State Police,) which is required under the law in such a situation."

If State Police are dispatched, they are likely to be drawn from Troop G Headquarters in Loudonville, Morgado said.

In a conversation with Carey last week, Corning raised the possibility that State Police, National Guardsmen or both would be needed to assure security at the match.

However, Corning never made a formal request for such forces, Morgado said.

Meanwhile, Michael Young, spokesman for the Communist Workers Party,

held a press conference at the Capitol to deny his group was planning a violent confrontation with the Ku Klux Klan, or with anyone else, over the rugby match.

"We had no intentions of violence. Our whole organizing effort here was around a peaceful and non-violent effort. There is no evidence whatsoever to say we were going to initiate violence with anyone," said Young.

Referring to the State Police report which Carey had cited as his reason for telling Corning to cancel the game, Young said: "We want to ask Governor Carey, where did he get his information, how did he know the Klan was coming?"

"We think the Klan thing was totally fabricated," said Young.

Young denounced Corning for "shaking hands with the enemy of the American people and the people of the world" by allowing the Springboks use of the city-owned Bleecker Stadium.

He predicted that a "massive demonstration" would be held at the stadium and said his organization would coordinate its activities with other anti-apartheid demonstrators.

During a press conference Monday night, Clara Satterfield, president of the Albany chapter of the NAACP, expressed concern that demonstrators would not receive proper police protection.

"We expect to receive equal police protection under the law, just like the Springboks," she said. "If there is a police incident, if there is a police overreaction, then we will go to court and sue."

She said a meeting between demonstration leaders and police officials is scheduled for 10 a.m. today.

Also Monday night, the Interfaith Council of Greater Albany issued a statement calling on those opposed to apartheid to "refrain from harming the cause of racial justice by violent confrontation."

In a statement released by chairman Rabbi Bernard Bloom, the council said, "Let the message we send to South Africa and the world be one of peaceful determination and of continuing commitment to complete equality and human dignity. Today must not be the end of our concern — only the beginning."

During the morning in federal court,



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the arguments ranged over a broad spectrum of clashing concepts on constitutional rights and the issues of whether they should be applicable to an athletic as well as a political event.

There were, in fact, differences of opinion on whether the scheduled game is as political as athletic.

Joining the rugby union's lawyer Walsh arguing against cancellation of the match was Shapiro, representing the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Arguing in favor of the governor's ban, besides Assistant Attorney General Yellen was attorney Lanny Walter, representing the Albany Coalition Against Apartheid.

Judge Munson allowed the two organizations to intervene in the case as friends of the court.

Walsh held that the right to freedom of assembly has, in the past 10 years, been expanded by the courts to cover gatherings for social purposes, and said the Springboks' match is "even more deserving because of the political implications."

Yellen argued that the game is "purely a sport" and "not a forum for political expression," and said the court had no jurisdiction, since there was no constitutional issue.

If the U.S. Appeals Court in New York should hear the state's appeal, and rule against the state, any subsequent appeal would have to be made to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Procedurally, lawyers agreed, there was no possibility that the case could reach the Supreme Court before the game is played.

Furthermore, in the likelihood that the Appeals Court does not hear the state's appeal today, the game would go on.

Meanwhile, representatives of two labor unions spoke out Monday against the match. "Racism is outrageous; to have it descend here in Albany is despicable," said Ed Bloch of Latham, an international representative of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America.

The union representing Capital District Transit Authority bus drivers issued a statement condemning the match. "We feel the playing of the game here in Albany is in itself a violation of civil rights," said Fred Pfeiffer, a spokesman for the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1321.

Earlier Monday, the Interfaith Council held a forum on apartheid and encouraged those in attendance to write letters to President Reagan protesting the United States' new warmer relations with South Africa. It also encouraged participants to examine their stock portfolios and divest themselves of investments in those companies that do business in South Africa where, a statement said, "the apartheid regime is supported economically in large measure by U.S. corporate investments."

In Washington, a divided House of Representatives Monday debated a resolution opposing the U.S. tour of the South African Springboks rugby team because of South Africa's racial policies.

A roll call vote on the resolution was put over until today, and there were indications supporters would have difficulty mustering the two-thirds vote needed to pass the measure.

The resolution, recommended by the House Foreign Affairs Committee, noted South Africa's continued policy of racial separation — apartheid — which has caused that nation to be barred from Olympic competition.

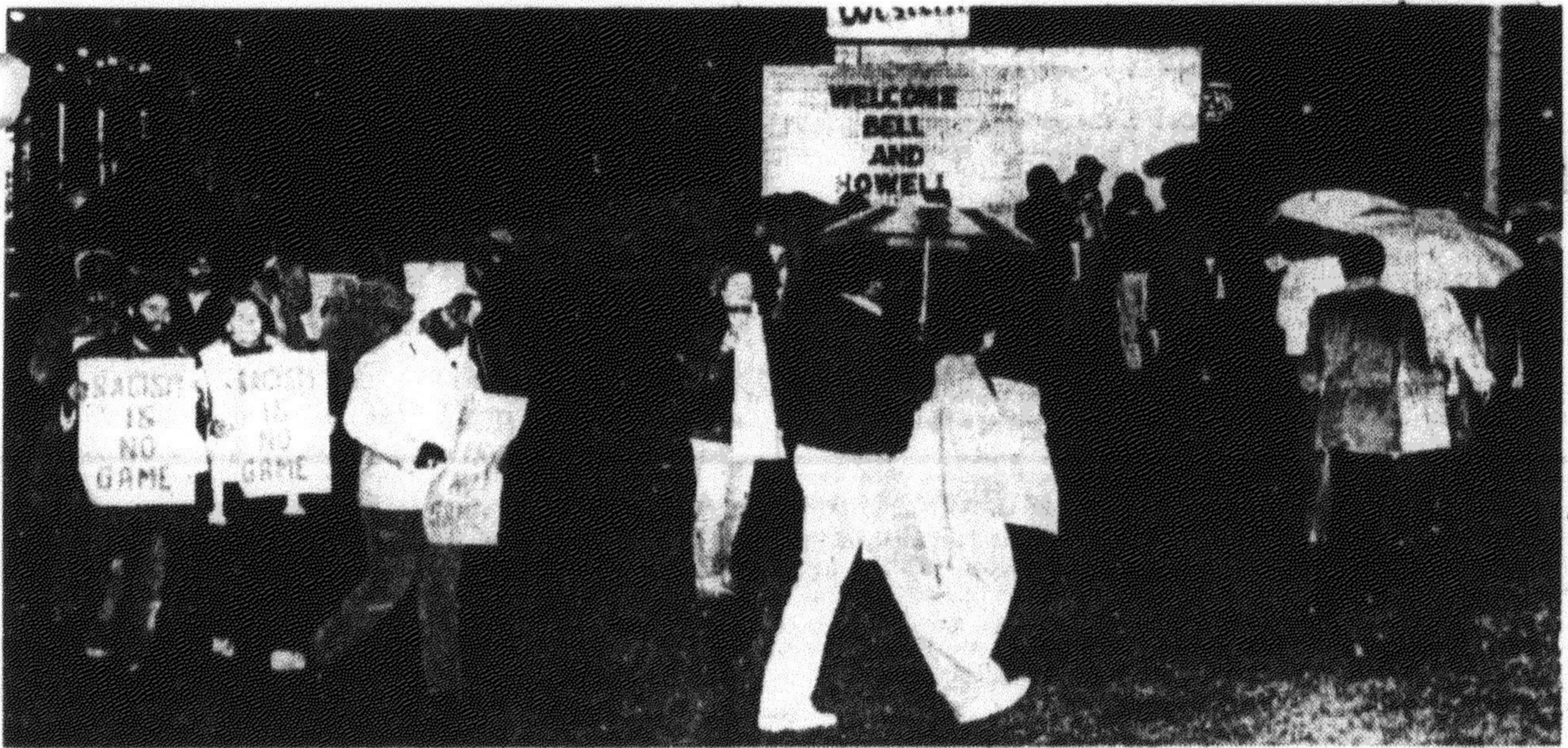
Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Clement Zablocki, D-Wis., said U.S. relations with black African nations would "suffer serious harm" if the Congress failed to oppose the tour of the rugby team, designated as South Africa's "national" team.

Rep. Bill Gray, D-Pa., a black, said the resolution was needed to "declare to the world that our government does not support or sponsor this visit."

But in West Germany, International Olympic Committee leaders seem to have squelched any move toward an African boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics over the Springboks' tour of the United States, the Los Angeles Times reported today, in a story that said the Africans expressed satisfaction that the U.S. Olympic Committee did all it could to prevent tour.

This story was reported by staff writers Shirley Armstrong, Tim Schick, Fredric U. Dicker, Carol DeMare and Cliff Lee.

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Staff photo by Raymond B. Summers

**RUGBY PROTEST** — Opponents of today's planned rugby match in Albany demonstrate late Monday night on the lawn of

the Best Western Thruway House where members of the South African Springboks team were staying.

## OPEN LETTER TO THE SPRINGBOKS

For several weeks now, public officials and interested parties have been taking sides on whether your rugby team should be allowed to play at an Albany municipal stadium.

This newspaper repeatedly has defended, on various grounds, your right to play. We believed, and continue to believe, that a sporting event can be seen, and should be seen, apart from the policies of the players' government.

We also believe that, if the permission once granted to you and the Eastern Rugby Union to play here was subsequently denied because of the threat of violence, a highly unfortunate precedent would have been established in our society — namely, that anyone's rights could be suspended in the event of the threat of violence.

But we do not want you to confuse our defense of your right to play here with an acceptance of the policy of apartheid. Indeed, we cannot stress enough

### Opinion

that we, as well as this entire nation, are repulsed by your nation's doctrine that denies to any individual for reasons of race, color or creed the dignity that is his birthright.

The policy of apartheid is one of man's most hateful and cowardly inventions. The three decades during which it has been followed have been a disgrace universally recognized.

A system built on so weak a reed as racism cannot long withstand the weight of its own injustice. But as long as it continues, South Africa rightly will remain the pariah among nations.

This is the message we hope this country was able to convey to you. We believe it is now your moral duty to take this message back to your homeland and work for the end of this insidious institution.

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## Springboks like court's decision

By Carol DeMare

Staff Writer

"I love it," screamed Edmund Lee.

Lee, an American rugby official who is liaison for the Springboks, jumped for joy in the lobby of the Best Western Thruway House shortly after 4 p.m. Monday when he learned from a reporter that a federal court judge had ruled that the team could play today in Albany's Bleecker Stadium against a United States all-star team.

"Isn't that exciting," Lee said of the decision. He then scrambled to the house telephone to call Springbok team manager Johann Claassen to break the news to him.

"I'm, of course, delighted with the decision of the judge, and I think every member of the team will be delighted when they hear it," Claassen said, after coming into the lobby of the motel where the team has been staying since Sunday night.

"I am very pleased, not only for our own sake, but for the sake of rugby and for our American rugby friends," Claassen said.

The court decision is so important to the South African team, Lee said, "because they want to do in the United States

See **SPRINGBOKS**, Page 4

## Springboks' reps 'delighted' by ruling

Continued from Page 1

what we want them to do . . . prompt rugby, introduce it to the U.S. and be the first (Springbok players) to ever play in the United States."

"That's history," Lee said. "These gentlemen are history makers."

Helping in the celebration was Abe Williams, who is colored (a racial designation used in South Africa) and the assistant manager of the South African Springbok.

Williams, beaming, said, "Didn't I say just a few minutes ago I believe there should be free sport and free movement" in the United States.

Williams, a 40-year-old elementary school principal in Capetown, had talked about the U.S. Constitution in an interview shortly before the decision was announced.

During an interview, Williams said, "I don't believe you can break down your own discipline and society, and by doing that hope to change another society."

Earlier in the day the South African team practiced at Bleecker Stadium for two hours without incident. The only spectators were reporters and police officers.

State Police investigators, some of whom had been with the team in Chicago and had escorted them on the flight to Albany, and Albany detectives were on the field with the team while they practiced. Albany uniformed officers were at the gates leading into Bleecker Stadium.

Taxi cabs drove the team of 32 players and four administrators — a manager, assistant manager, coach and doctor — to practice after a bus failed to show up at the hotel to take them there.

## Text of ruling on rugby game

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Following are the comments made Monday by U.S. District Judge Howard G. Munson in his ruling that Gov. Hugh L. Carey had no authority to cancel the rugby game tonight in Bleecker Stadium. Munson said he would also file a written opinion today that will "more clearly" state his ruling.

"I am going to, at this time, grant the plaintiffs' motion. I would tell you that the Constitutional protections that derive from the plaintiffs' freedom of association are under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. This right is made more dramatic here because plaintiffs' public forum has (been) transferred or transformed from a rugby playing field into a political arena which has invoked an outrage of criticisms (from) American citizens protesting for freedom from racial injustice and for freedom of speech. Now, however repugnant the views engendered by these controversies, they deserve constitutional protection by this Court. Furthermore, this right must be granted because no less restrictive alternative has been provided here.

"This court acknowledges the Governor's duty to preserve the peace: His discretionary powers, however, must follow intelligible standards. This Court certainly has the power and duty to review the Governor's exercise of discretion here where Constitutional violations exist, supposed financial constraints, and conclusory allegations of threatened violence fail to justify the Governor's unilateral determination to ban lawful, public assembly.

"The court also rejects the Governor's contention that not enough time exists to call out the National Guard. By enjoining the scheduled sporting event, the Governor of New York seeks to destroy the very Constitutional freedoms which has enabled a more than centurylong struggle in this country to ensure racial equality.

"Surely the American citizens must realize that the benefits of such a Constitutional heritage must not be commanded by executive privilege and extended or withheld on the basis of popular demand."

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# The rugby controversy

## S. African press reports Springboks wanted to end tour

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — A U.S. Federal Court ruling in favor of the South African Springboks' rugby tour was front-page news in Afrikaans language newspapers Tuesday morning following reports that the team is fed up with demonstrators and anxious to return home.

"Boks Play Judge Decides" was the bold six-column headline in *Beeld*. *Die Transvaler* led with "Boks Must Play Court Says."

The afternoon *Die Vaderland* newspaper reported Monday from Albany that the team last week was ready to return to South Africa but was continuing the controversial tour because flights were too booked to allow all the Springboks seats on the aircraft.

"Many of the players are now really fed up with the tour and clearly tense about the demonstrations," wrote *Die Vaderland* reporter Gerhard Burger.

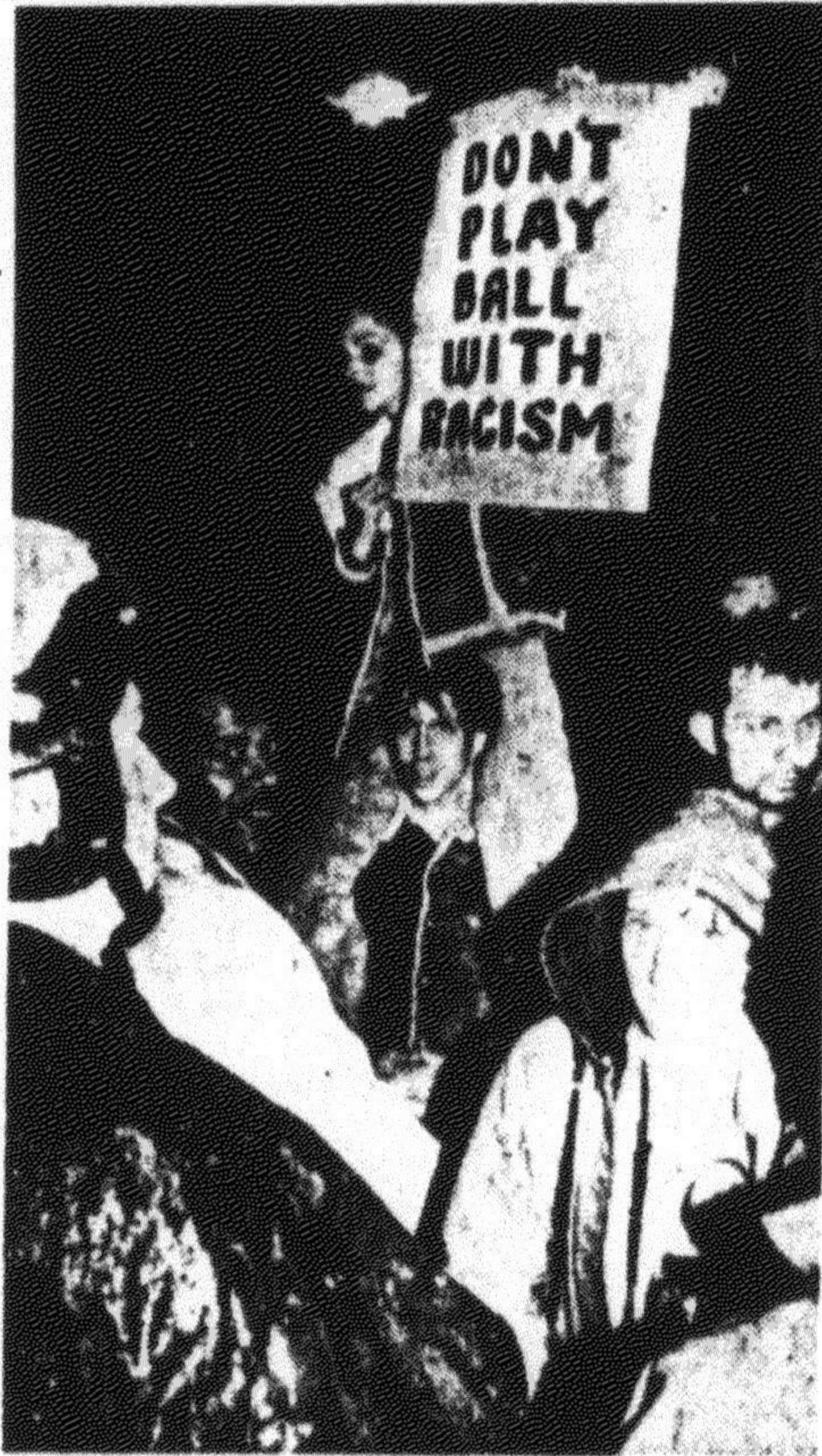
The South Africans have been faced with demonstrations by opponents of their white-minority government's racial segregation policies from the start of their rugby odyssey in New Zealand last month.

The pro-government *Citizen* newspaper reported in a front-page story that the demonstrator turnout at the Albany County Airport Monday "was the strongest yet encountered."

Reporter John Du Toit, traveling with the team, wrote that "judging from the hot reception they received at the airport . . . They can expect trouble at the match" later Tuesday. The story quotes a pamphlet distributed at the airport as saying "If the Springboks were allowed to complete the tour, it would be a letdown for their black brothers in South Africa and, furthermore, it would ruin United States relations with black African countries."

The pamphlet also said the tour had placed the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles in "grave danger," according to the *Citizen*.

The court ruling in favor of the game was buried in the second half of the *Citizen* article.



Staff photo by Skip Dickstein

**THE MESSAGE** — A protester holds her message high as she sits on the shoulders of another protester outside Blecker Stadium.

### Newsman told to leave

Two journalists covering the rugby match in Blecker Stadium Tuesday night, one representing *The Times-Union* and the other representing a South African daily, the *Rand Daily Mail*, were escorted from the stadium area by Albany police Tuesday. They both said the actions were taken at the direction of Tom Selfridge, president of the Eastern Rugby Union.

Tom Friedman of *The Times-Union* said he was interviewing Selfridge inside the stadium on why he had ordered the South African journalist evicted and Selfridge said, "Because he's been following me around all day, and I'm sick and tired of it."

Selfridge then said "get out," Friedman said, adding "I resisted. An Albany city police officer grabbed my arm and (pulled) me about 25 feet. He said I had been causing too many problems and could return to the match as soon as I cooled down."

Dan Reief, the South African, who had been evicted earlier, said he was evicted "for no apparent reason.

Reief said he is a professional rugby writer and had covered the entire Springbok tour.

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# The rugby controversy

## Council scolds for rugby remark

By Tim Schick  
Staff writer

A member of the Albany Common Council who called the Council "cowardly" for refusing to urge cancellation of today's planned rugby match with a South African team, found herself under attack Monday by Council members.

Four of the Council's 16 members at a presiding caucus took turns scolding Nancy Burton, of the 7th Ward, for her Aug. 17 remark.

Joseph Lynn, D-8th Ward, accused Burton of failing to follow Council tradition.

"There are procedures to be followed," he said. "The alderman from the 7th Ward called the other cowards because the others didn't vote the way she wanted."

"The unwritten rule is you attack the legislation, not the man," Lynn said. Burton's remarks followed the 10-3 vote, which sent to committee a resolution calling for Mayor Erastus Corning II to withdraw the use of Blecker Stadium for the controversial rugby game.

The Council voted 11-0 on Sept. 10 to support Corning's decision to allow the stadium to be used for the game.)

"I had a perfect right to speak," Burton said. "This body was not taking its responsibility to hear an issue. The issue was referred to committee without discussion."

Alderman Nebraska Brace, 2nd Ward, the sponsor of the Aug. 17 resolution, accused the caucus of being a "scolding session."

Brace said Burton had every right to criticize the Council.

"That's what the floor is out there for, to have debates," he said.

First Ward Alderman Leonard Fox jumped in the discussion, accusing Burton and Brace of "jumping on the bandwagon" in opposition to the rugby game.

After about 10 minutes of accusations, Council President James Gihlin ended the discussion, remarking: "I hope no enemies were made."

The rugby game was brought up once again at the end of the Council meeting, when 10th Ward Alderman Peter Horan said he hoped demonstrators protesting the rugby game would be peaceful.

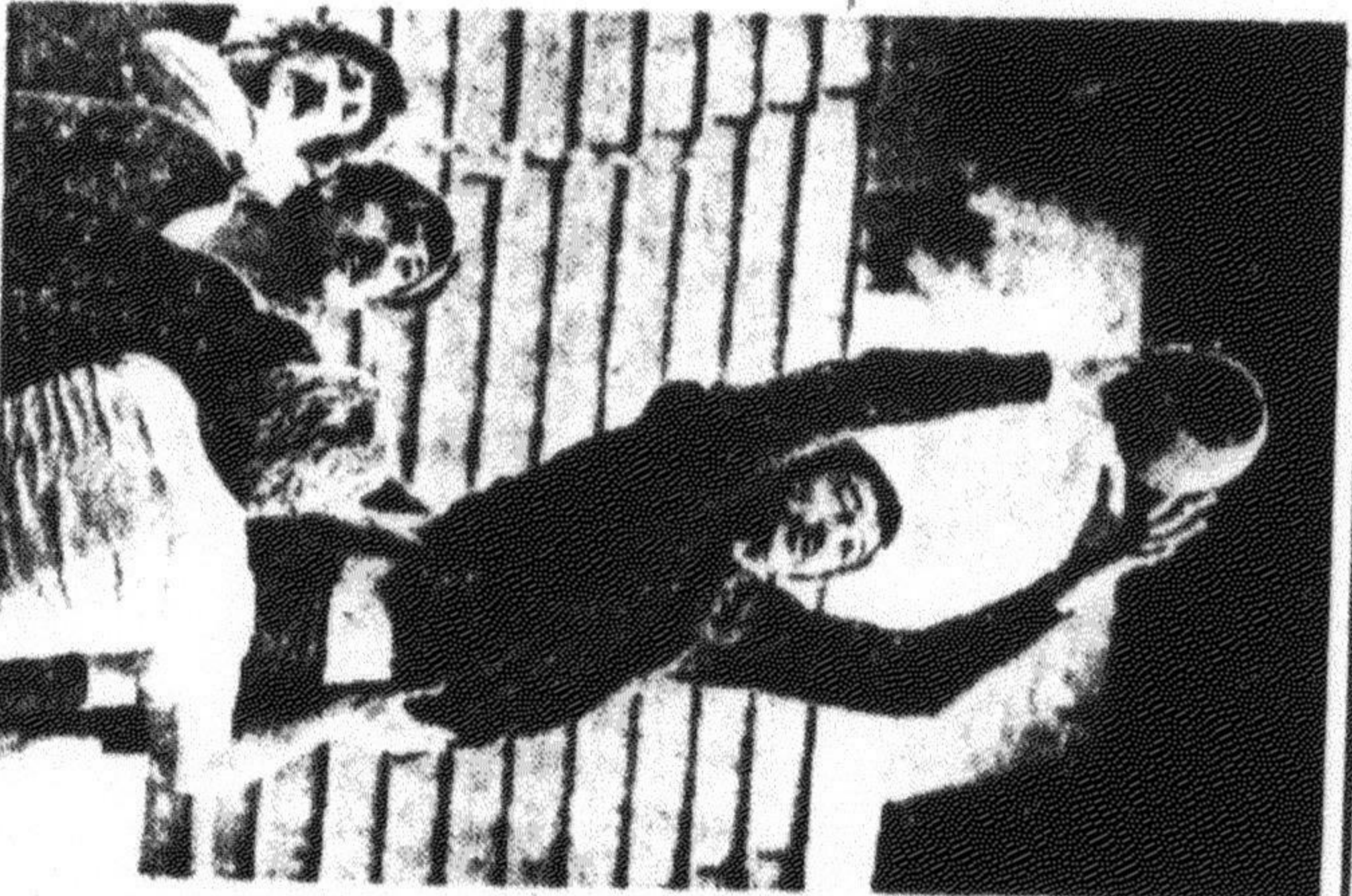
"(This) is a day that will be remembered long by the city as a whole," he said. "It is a time of constitutional stress."

"We wish there be a peaceful demonstration, be they for or against the game," he said. "Violent actions bring violence itself. We want a peaceful day in our city."

In other action, the Council approved a contract with the Village of Colonie to allow it use of the Albany New York Solid Waste Energy Recovery System — ANSWERS. The village will pay the city \$2.50 a ton for trash processed by the city.

The ANSWERS program converts solid waste into fuel, which will be used for heating and cooling state buildings.

Also approved was the spending of \$11,000 for new boiler equipment in the Albany City Hall and \$615,000 for the installation of sanitary sewers on St. Agnes Lane, Academy Circle and Birchwood Court.



Staff photo by Fred McKinney

**BEFORE THE GAME** — Members of the South African Springbok rugby team practice Monday in Blecker Stadium in Albany. At right, Fred Dusenberry, Citizens Party candidate.



Staff photo by Tom Lupton

date for Albany Mayor, pickets the U.S. Courthouse in Albany, protesting today's match. A federal judge ruled yesterday the game could go on as planned tonight.

## Touhey scoffs at Corning role

By Cliff Lee  
Staff writer

"If the rugby decision goes down in history as being Mayor (Erastus) Corning's most important decision in 40 years, I wouldn't call that much of a crowning achievement."

This was how independent Albany mayoral candidate Charles Touhey summed up his feelings Monday night on the decision by incumbent Mayor Erastus Corning II to allow the Springboks rugby team of South Africa play in Albany's Blecker Stadium.

Corning, who is leaving Touhey's opponent, Fred Dusenberry, in the race for the Albany mayoralty, asked him

Touhey was taking part in a forum for mayoral candidates sponsored by the Capital District Voter Registration Coalition and WVCR, the student-run radio station at Siena College in Loudonville.

The forum originally had been planned as a debate between Touhey, Corning and Citizens Party candidate for mayor Fred Dusenberry, but coordinators of the program said they decided to change the format to allow for one candidate at a time to present his platform, after Corning decided to back out of the debate.

Tom Nesbitt, director of the program, said the winners are to have a debate in Albany and