

U.S. student killed in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Amy Biehl came to South Africa last year to try to help disadvantaged blacks.

On Wednesday, a mob of young blacks in a squalid township stabbed her to death two days before the 26-year-old Fulbright scholar was to go home to the United States.

A pair of black teen-agers were arrested Thursday and charged with her murder.

She was believed to be the first American killed in the township violence that has killed more than 15,000 blacks since the mid 1980s.

"She wanted to give herself to the African people," a tearful Linda Biehl said from her home in Newport Beach, Calif. "She wanted to do whatever she could to help them."

"I was very worried about her, but she would say, 'Mom, I'm okay. I'm doing this because I want to do this. You can't live your life in a shell.'"

Biehl's final moments were typical of her time in South Africa. She was driving three black friends home to Guguletu, in one of the more notorious black townships in the Cape Town area.

According to police and witnesses, youths lining the street stoned the

vehicle, then pulled Biehl out and hit her in the face with half a brick.

Police said today they arrested two teen-age residents of Guguletu and that more arrests were expected.

Friends and acquaintances in Cape Town, where Biehl had done research for 10 months at the University of the Western Cape, were unanimous in describing Biehl's dedication.

“She wanted to give herself to the African people. She wanted to do whatever she could to help them.”

assailants, they stabbed her several times in the head. One of her companions, Singiswa Bevu, asked the youths why they were attacking her and was told "because she is a settler."

Settler is a term used by radical blacks for whites, referring to the original Dutch settlers who arrived in South Africa in 1652.

Bevu was stabbed in the hand when

— Biehl mother of slain student

"She was one of the liveliest, most intelligent and most committed young people I knew," said Kader Asmal, a law professor at the university. "She had this life-enhancing and lovely presence."

Melanie Jacobs, who shared a house with Biehl, called her "my white family, and I was her black family."

When Biehl tried to flee from her

she tried to assist Biehl. The other two passengers escaped unharmed.

African National Congress official Allan Boesak condemned the killing as "racially inspired." He said he believed supporters of the militant Pan Africanist Congress were responsible.

Boesak said the youths were shouting PAC slogans and wearing T-shirts

of the organization's student wing. PAC spokesman Gora Ebrahim said that the incident would be investigated.

Until now, Cape Town townships have been relatively free of the chronic violence in black townships in other parts of the country.

Few whites have died in political violence, however racially motivated attacks by blacks and whites have increased in the last year.

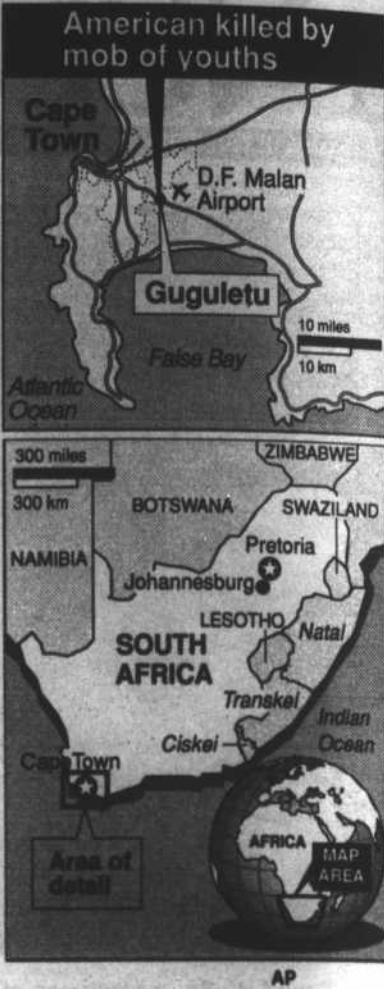
Militant blacks have targeted white civilians and police as part of their struggle against apartheid. One policeman was killed and three injured Wednesday in three separate attacks, according to police.

The ANC said it would try to help police find Biehl's attackers.

Boesak said such violence would spawn further racial violence and create problems for talks being held to end white minority rule.

The nation's first multiracial election is scheduled for April 27, and Biehl was involved with developing voter education programs for the townships.

Biehl graduated from Stanford University in 1989 and planned to begin a doctorate program at Rutgers University this fall.



\$18 million goes to AIDS-infected husband

MIAMI — A jury put a price tag on knowingly infecting your spouse with AIDS: \$18 million.

That's how much a former exotic dancer must pay her ex-husband for not telling him she was infected with the AIDS virus.

Lucienne Wheeland, 29, was ordered to pay \$8 million in compensatory and \$10 million in punitive damages to Bruce Wheeland, 29, of Fort Lauderdale. She was not in Dade County Circuit Court for the verdict.

The man's attorney, Marc Sarnoff, said it was the nation's biggest jury award to a man infected through heterosexual sex. Most

awards have gone to AIDS victims infected by tainted blood or a homosexual partner.

"It was maybe as much a social statement as it was a damage statement," Sarnoff said. "This is the first verdict that's going to affect the general public."

Wheeland, who has AIDS, said the verdict "should send a strong statement" about the need for heterosexuals to communicate.

The Brazilian dancer and Wheeland met in 1989 and had unprotected sex. Wheeland later found out the woman was HIV-positive, but the two decided to marry anyway, Sarnoff said.

King speech to be honored

WASHINGTON — Police and other officials of the nation's capital are preparing for the tens of thousands of people expected to attend weekend events marking the 30th anniversary of the 1963 civil rights march.



But the preparations appear almost routine in a city that is the scene of dozens of protests each year.

"I think it's going to be a big day, but we're going to take care of it," said Maj. Robert Hines of the U.S. Park Police, the law enforcement agency that will have primary responsibility for crowd and traffic control.

"Anytime you get 50,000, 60,000 or 70,000 people all together it's an interruption," he said. "But we'll have extra people working on to take care of it."

Demonstrators are scheduled to gather near the Washington Monument on Saturday morning for two-mile march to the Lincoln Memorial, the place where Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech during the original March on Washington 30 years ago.

From 200,000 to 250,000 people attended

that watershed event, but far fewer are expected Saturday. Organizers originally predicted 250,000, but Walter Fauntroy, the march's national director, later scaled back that estimate, saying he expected "tens of thousands of people."

In keeping with longstanding policies for large demonstrations, police officials would not say how many extra patrolmen will be on duty.

But "this will be a peaceful march," said Sgt. Joe Gentile, a spokesman for District of Columbia police. "It also recognizes Martin Luther King, a man of peace."

Preparations are going smoothly so far, said Earl Shinhoster, a march organizer and southeast regional director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"The city has extended itself fully," Shinhoster said.

Some groups across the country have said they are having a hard time coming up with enough money to pay their way to the march, Shinhoster said.

"There's no shortage in the number of people who want to come up, but fund raising has always been a problem for events like this," said Shinhoster, who also helped to organize marches commemorating the 20th and 25th anniversaries of the 1963 March on Washington and a 1989 march sponsored by the NAACP.

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