Mistrial Questioned

A mistrial was declared this week in the case of six NMU black students charged with creating a disturbance at last December's sit-in. Two reasons were given—one having to do with alleged unfair reporting of trial proceedings by the local daily paper, the Marquette Mining Journal, and the other having to do with what could generally be called jury tampering.

The case "against" the Mining Journal has been fully revealed to the public (see our front page story this week). But the details of the alleged jury tampering have been mysteriously hushed up—a fact which we, quite frankly, don't like. Antually, it seems rather strange to us that faulty news reporting could be considered grounds for mistrial. We were always under the impression that the jury was to "stay clear" of the media during the course of the trial.

While we will not pass judgment on the quality of its court reporting, we cannot help but feel that the Mining Journal is unfairly being made a "whipping boy" in this matter. A mistrial means, of course, that a considerable amount of public money has been wasted—and the public has a definite right to know just why its tax dollar went literally down the drain and why or if another expenditure is justified to bring the case to a proper trial.

But the public will never really know just what's going on as long as the great information coverup continues. Someone involved in the trial proceedings made a mistake which has cost the Marquette County taxpayer money, and we'll bet that someone WAS NOT the Marquette Mining Journal.

Judge George Hill, Prosecutor Edward Quinnell and Defense Attorney J. Kent Bourland owe the public an explanation—in full—of the REAL reason the mistrial was called.

Why?

To The News:

Are there other students at NMU who feel that the University should protect the right of freedom of expression? Where does truth lie in a university? Is it in the hands of one man, or a few administrators? Dr. Jamrich testified under oath that he had the tape of the Student Judiciary Committee hearing of the Charles Giffiths case erased. Where is the tradition of free inquiry into the truth that a university should stand for? If we students at NMU are looking for the truth we should seriously consider the implications of the action taken by Dr. Jamrich. The same treatment could happen to you.

Sue Stevenson

Pay!

To the News:

At the ASNMU Governing Board meeting of April 21, 1970 a motion was made that outgoing President Harry Campbell and Vice President Jack LaSalle be given $300 and $150 respectively for recognition of outstanding work done. The mo-