May 14, 1970

Office of the President

Dr. Jamrich, President
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, Michigan

Dr. Jamrich:

Today I attended the rally in front of the University Center to hear goals expressed by the BSA which they are attempting to obtain at NMU. I support most of their demands for I am of the opinion that Black students at NMU have legitimate gripes, many of which were expressed in their demands presented to you.

My main concern in writing to you regards an element of the interaction which took place during the rally. Maintaining an open dialogue in discussing problems of any kind is essential in seeking solutions. Just prior to your comments I observed some of my fellow students verbalizing, what I thought to be, unnecessary remarks directed to you. Comments such as (to paraphrase) "You CAN read can't you?" in response to something you had just said at that time. This may be a minor criticism to make in view of the total spectrum of the situation taking place. But, its unnecessary things such as this that add to the undermining of any constructive cause - it stymies dialogue.

I am not as fully aware of present day campus issues as perhaps my fellow students deem necessary. However, I am concerned that what is constructively attempted be effectively executed. Of course this takes cooperation from both sides. I am concerned that some of my fellow students may be taking two steps backward for every step forward in regard to their own personal approach toward today's collective problems.

Sincerely,

Thomas Orzechowski, Student