

NMU Human Rights Commission Reports On Year's Progress

Northern Michigan University's Human Rights Commission, established in May of 1969, has released a report on the progress it has made during its existence.

This commission was established in recognition of the need to uphold and safeguard the human rights of all students and faculty, with particular emphasis on black students and other minority groups, who might be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, creed or national origin.

Membership on the commission consist of five students, five faculty members and two administrators. Dr. Jack Rombouts, vice president for administrative affairs, is the present chairman.

Charges Investigated

The responsibility of the commission is to investigate reports of alleged discrimination against members of the university community.

Upon completion of the investigation, the commission reports its findings, together with recommendations, to the president of the university, who may take whatever action he deems necessary and appropriate.

'Vigorous Programs'

Operating on an allocated budget of \$8,400 for 1969-70, which was authorized by Northern's President, John X. Jamrich, the commission has developed viable and vigorous programs for minority groups and the culturally distinct, the report states.

One of its first tasks was to assume, in cooperation with the Black Students' Association, responsibility for selection of recipients of the Dr. Martin Luther King Scholarship award.

Candidates for this scholarship must be of sophomore or above class standing; display academic potential; possess leadership potential in the area of human rights and demonstrate distinct promise of meaningful achievement in their later career. Candidates must also show financial need, and be a member of a minority group (preferably Negro).

Scholarship Increased

Northern's board of control has approved a recommendation by Dr. Jamrich, made at the request of the Human Rights Commission, to increase the amount of this scholarship from \$400 to \$500.

The commission has also moved toward implementing a black resident aide program.

Working in cooperation with the housing office and the Black Students Association, a proposal was developed for additional assistance to black students living in the residence halls, in hopes of improving the counseling needs of these students.

Black Resident Aides

Accordingly, the housing office employed four black resident aides and assigned them to groups of men's and women's residence halls. This program went into operation in December 1969.

Another area of major concern to the commission was the apparent need of a tutoring program for black students. One of the commission's first undertakings was the establishment of such a program which has worked out successfully to date.

The program established individual assistance for black students in need of help, while also providing the black tutors part-time employment to help defray their cost of higher education.

At the beginning of the program, 72 blacks enrolled. As of the Christmas break, 97 of the 141 blacks living on campus had obtained some form of assistance from the black tutors program.

The 17 black student tutors and the 31 faculty members who volunteered their services, provided over 2,000 hours of tutorial service during the first semester.

What Areas Helped

The tutors offer the student help with classwork, language skills, study habits, class selections and any other general information which might assist them.

Other activities undertaken by the commission include providing information on graduate scholarships and fellowships for black students and other minority groups; recruiting inner-city youth; working on establishing a black studies program; recruiting black faculty members; aiding blacks in finding financial aid; and helping to open up part-time employment opportunities for black students both on and off the campus.

Still Searching About

In pointing out that as with any new agency, the commission was still seeking ways in which it would be most effective, Rombouts stated that "we have engaged in fact-finding when questions have been raised by our members, although this is not explicitly stated in the charter as one of our purposes."

"Housing is an example which might be cited to describe this function.

"A question was raised as to the number of approvals which had been granted to black students, who made application to live off-campus in the university's single-student apartments during the current year.

'Positive Force'

"A report from the Director of Housing revealed that of eight black students who applied, seven were granted permission. This compared to 25 approvals for 32 non-black students who made similar requests."

In looking ahead, Rombouts stressed that "the Human Rights Commission, if it's to be a positive force in trying to help minority students succeed in college, must continue

Local Interest Stocks

(Noon quotations from Paine, Webber, Jackson & Curtis)

Copp Rge	67 ³ / ₄
Harnischfr	18 ¹ / ₂
Inland Stl	25 ¹ / ₄
KimClk	67 ¹ / ₄
Lear Sieg	18 ³ / ₈
Mead Cp	18 ¹ / ₂
No Cent Airl	3 ³ / ₄ -4
Nrwst Ind	12 ³ / ₈
Panax Corp	2 ¹ / ₂ -3
UpPenPw	22 ¹ / ₄ -23
Wickes	39 ³ / ₈

Driver Ticketed In One Of Two Alger Accidents

MUNISING — Only one of two drivers involved in rear-end collisions in Alger County was ticketed by state police Wednesday. Both crashes took place when visibility was reduced by blowing snow.

In the first, a car driven by Jeff P. Schlesinger, Westchester, N.Y., ran into the rear of a parked car owned by George C. DeWolf, Gaylord, on M-28 in AuTrain Township, one-tenth of a mile west of the Ridge Road, at 11:45 a.m. DeWolf's car was one of three stopped by state police because a truck was having difficulty on a hill.

Schlesinger said he did not see flares or the red light on the patrol car.

At 3:45 p.m., a car driven by Richard J. Sweet, Milwaukee, struck the rear of an auto driven by Coleta L. Bugryn, Escanaba, on U.S. 41 in Limestone Township seven-tenths of a mile north of M-67. Sweet, who told police he did not see the car ahead of him, was given a summons for violation of the basic speed law.

Four Assessed \$134 Total In District Court

Three drivers and one snowmobile operator were assessed a total of \$134 fines and costs for violations when they appeared in Marquette District Court.

On the charge of driving with impaired ability, Harvey S. Miser, K. I. Sawyer Air Force Base, paid \$40 fine and \$20 costs.

Charged with careless driving, Patrick D. Olli, 19, of 850 Woodridge, Marquette, paid \$20 fine, and \$15 costs, and Gary W. Gravelle, 29, E. M-28, Marquette, paid \$10 fine and \$10 costs.

John L. Croschere, 23, of 1255 Vandenboom, Marquette, was assessed \$10 fine and \$9 costs for a snowmobile violation.

Indoor Archery Range Will Open Friday At Gwinn

GWINN — Beginning Friday, the Gwinn indoor archery range will be open at the Community Club, James Ghiardi, Community School director, announced today.

Plans will be made for organization of a Gwinn Archery Club at a meeting which will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Gwinn Club.

All residents of the area interested in archery are invited. Persons interested in the sport, who can not attend the meeting because of prior commitments, should call Ghiardi at 46-5361. Following the meeting, coffee will be served.

Legend has it that a Greek was the author of Aesop's