

Black Students Present Seven Demands To NMU: Immediate Reply Refused By President

New U. P. Office Supply Building



Formal opening of the new Upper Peninsula Office Supply Co. building off U. S. 41 west, near Coles' Hill, was held this morning. Mayor Lloyd H. Price (right) uses a bolt cutter to snap the string of large paper clips (used in place of the traditional ribbons for opening ceremonies). Others, from left, are Keith Kepler, a partner in the company; Sandra Boxer, Miss Marquette; Morgan Gingrass and Bernard Mattila, partners in the firm, and the Marquette Chamber of Commerce. The building is 14,000 square feet and will be used for office space. Photo by [unreadable]

An immediate reply to a list of seven demands by black students at Northern Michigan University was denied Thursday by NMU President John X. Jamrich.

The black students submitted the demands to Jamrich calling for an increased black enrollment to 11 per cent by September, 1972; guaranteed 11 per cent increase in the number of black faculty members; expansion of the black aids program, appropriation of \$5,000 for cultural events each year; more black literature in the university library; a black studies program with black instructors and cancellation of a teach-in scheduled for next Tuesday.

Jamrich was presented with the list of demands at a meeting on the lawn in front of the University Center Thursday afternoon.

150 Students Assembled

He told a crowd of about 150 students assembled there that "it is going to take time to work out these demands."

Jamrich said that "during these past several weeks there have been varied pressures on Northern — ranging from cancellation of classes for the remainder of the semester to a day off to observe the death of United States citizens and the removal of hunting rifles from the campus."

"Each of these has been presented as a demand to be responded to immediately. Thus we have had to expend unusual time and energy in dealing with these issues: much of this time and effort at the expense of satisfactory operation of this university."

'Needs Already Identified'

Although he said his response

to the demands "is that I see them as legitimate indications of perceived needs of one group of students at Northern," Jamrich added that "the kinds of needs which are presented here have already been identified by black students, by the Human Rights Commission, by our faculty and by the Board of Control at Northern."

"We have inaugurated the black aids program in the residence halls. We have expanded the financial and work-study opportunities for black students substantially this past year. We have added black studies courses, and faculty groups are and will be working on additional items of this sort."

"We have, during these two years of my administration, added substantially to the library holdings as indicated in the list of requests, realizing that our library holdings in all areas of study need improvement."

Faculty Recruitment Effort

"And this university has literally scoured the country in its recruitment effort for black faculty and staff."

"I must re-emphasize my response, namely that the commitment which the board, I and the faculty have made regarding the needs of all students coming to Northern will be given the most careful consideration, and we shall provide for them within the available resources of this university at the earliest possible time."

"I can't say how long it will take to work out these issues."

Supported By Faculty Member

The demands came in the wake of an attempted fire-bombing of an administration building early Wednesday morning and a call by black

students to close the university for the remaining portion of the semester.

Jamrich refused to close the university, saying it "would be unfair" to those students who want an education.

After the seven demands were read to Jamrich, David Menephol, chairman of the Academic Senate, told the black students that he as an individual and a faculty member supported the demands.

'Hostile Environment'

The vice chairman of the Academic Senate, Robert McClellan, also told the crowd he supported the black students in their demands.

"The substance is that the blacks who live here in fear and a hostile environment," said McClellan. "The blacks that are here know they have friends back home who could not attend this university because of a financial problem."

"I will urge my fellow faculty members to pledge a percentage of their salary for the purpose of bringing more black students to Northern. I hope the university will match the funds we pledge."

Committee For Action

McClellan said, however, that he couldn't predict how the faculty would vote on such a proposal.

Support for the demands of the blacks also came from the Committee for Action, a group of university students, faculty and community members who are planning to circulate petitions in the community concerning the Vietnam War.

"There seems to be some confusion among many people who feel that we are completely separated from the minority groups on campus," said Mrs. David Warner, Marquette chairman of the committee, said in a statement issued today. "We would like to reassert that we are in full support of the Black Student Association programs as they have been outlined for consideration by the university at large."

'In Full Support'

"Whether the committee agrees with specific points in the black student program, we feel that their right to present these programs and to have them considered by the university is a right which we must support just as we would support that right for any group on campus or in the community."

"The black students over a period of three years have worked very hard with the administration, students and faculty to effect change through peaceful means. As far as we are concerned, that process is continuing and we are in full support of their efforts."

Later, Jamrich reasserted at a press conference that accusations that he is a "racist" are without foundation.

'An Open Book'

"The slanderous attacks on me as president are malicious, untrue and unfounded," said

Jamrich. "My commitments and my actions of the past two years and the commitments of this university are an open book which will clearly demonstrate the full commitment of Northern to providing the best possible education for all who come here with a desire to be educated."

"I have always pledged myself to help all groups, black, white, red or whatever."

Turning In Firearms

Meanwhile, most of the 7,600 students at Northern are attending classes and studying as usual. Black students number about 140.

In compliance with an order by Jamrich Wednesday, many of the 3,200 students living in dormitories are removing their hunting rifles and shot guns off-campus or turning them over to the university security department.

Jamrich ordered that all firearms must be removed from the campus by 6 p.m. Sunday. Owners failing to do so face possible suspension.

Bomb Scare Turned In

A count on the number of guns turned in was not available. But one spokesman in the security department expected between 50 and 500 guns to be checked by Sunday night.

Students will be able to pick up their firearms upon leaving school at the end of the semester.

A bomb scare was turned in yesterday to the security department, adding to tension on the campus. An anonymous caller phoned the security de-

partment at 7:30 a.m. and reported that a bomb was set to go off in the West Science Building at 8:30 a.m.

University officials evacuated the building and along with Marquette City Police searched the structure. They found nothing, and students were allowed to return to classes.

Largest Collection Of Piano Rolls?

LYNDON, Ky. (AP) — A collection of ragtime piano rolls

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Switched To Hotel Northland:

Mrs. Romney, Ruppe To Address 3-County Rally By GOP Here

Lenore Romney, leading candidate for the Republican nomination for U.S. senator, will make her first appearance in her new role at a \$100-per-plate dinner meeting before a crowd of 200 persons here at 6:30 Saturday night.

Republican officials in Marquette County this morning announced that, because of a confusion over use of facilities for the event, the dinner meeting will be held in the Hotel Northland's Harbor Rooms, instead of at the University Center of Northern Michigan University, as previously announced. Meldon S. Pitt, Marquette dinner chairman, urged those who have not yet made reservations to do so with Mrs. Laronne Lindroos, Ishpeming, county GOP chairman, or one of the committee members from Marquette.

for labor leader Walter Reuther in Detroit today.

Mrs. Lindroos said the early arrival of the speakers Saturday afternoon will enable the dinner meeting to get under way promptly at 6:30 Saturday evening.

Prof. Miodrag Georgevich, head of NMU's political science department, will be toastmaster.

Welcoming remarks will be given by Lincoln B. Frazier, Marquette, 11th District chairman for the GOP; Ruppe will speak briefly; Mrs. Lindroos will give a short report and Don Vreeland, Iron Mountain, will give the invocation.

Mrs. Lindroos noted that this is a different approach to the GOP rallies held in previous years, when Upper Peninsula-wide meetings were held here