

# Charges Against Five More Black Students Dismissed

A recommendation by the Northern Michigan University Student-Faculty Judiciary to dismiss the cases against five black students charged with taking part in the December sit-in demonstrations was approved today by NMU President John X. Jamrich.

Dr. Jamrich approved the recommendation after discussing the matter with members of the university's staff and faculty.

## Back New Evidence

Specifically, the judiciary recommended that "in the best interests of the university community and the student-faculty judicial process in particular" the five remaining cases dealing with the sit-in demonstration "be dismissed unless significant new evidence can be brought before us."

The recommendation by the Student-Faculty Judiciary followed the acquittal last week of eight black students and finding of two more black students not guilty in hearings this week.

After hearing basic evidence in 10 cases thus far, and having spent about 33 hours in hearings and deliberations, it was the feeling of the judiciary that nothing positive would be accomplished by hearing the other five cases because of what the judiciary felt were "inconclusive issues" surrounding all the cases.

Cited by the judicial body as inconclusive were:

1. The question of whether the black students were under the impression that they had authorization to remain in the dean of students' offices after the normal closing hour of 5 p.m.
2. The identification of the participants involved in all aspects of the sit-in.

3. The importance of the time element of admitted presence in the offices in relationship to the charges.

4. The communications channels and change of command among all involved parties.

5. The procedures followed in the student code of conduct.

## Cite 'Inadequacies'

In addition, the judiciary said, it has found "there are certain inadequacies in the hearing procedures, including presentation of evidence and charges and the elimination of irrelevant discussion."

Jamrich said the university is addressing itself to the inadequacies.

**"Your further recommendation that the procedures of the judiciary be refined is immediately being presented for consideration to the Task Force Implementation Committee, with the understanding that an appropriate working committee undertake the full consideration of the student code of conduct," he said.**

"This consideration is to involve the faculty through the Academic Senate, and the student body through the governing board of the Associated Students of NMU."

Members of the judiciary are three students, William Lake, Gwinn, chairman, and Linda Edmondson, Ishpeming, and William Heathman, Marquette, and four faculty members, David Hagens, speech; Mrs. Roberta Verley, physical education; Thomas Buchl, school of business, and Keith R. Forsberg, director of placement, and Neil Carlson, economics.

(The latter two are alternating as a replacement for the dean of students' representative.)



# Arraignments For 6 NMU Students Postponed Again

District court arraignments for six Northern Michigan University black students charged with creating a disturbance at the Dec. 17-18 sit-in in the office of the dean of students were postponed for the second time Tuesday morning by Judge George E. Hill.

Judge Hill granted a postponement to 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 3, at the request of J. Kent Bourland, of Hancock, attorney for the six students. Bourland asked for a postponement to file motions asking the court for

separate trials for the defendants.

The motion will be heard by Judge Hill at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27.

A postponement of the original arraignment was granted earlier by Judge Hill to enable the defendants to obtain legal counsel.

The six charged with the misdemeanor are Vernon Smalls, Marquette; David Williams, Detroit; Patrick Williams, Saginaw; Christopher Poole, Clarkston; Phillip Harper, Inkster; and Loren Lobban, New Rochelle, N.Y.

Five of the students appeared in court Tuesday with their attorney. The sixth, David Williams, is student teaching in Detroit, but is scheduled to appear for arraignment on March 3.

All six are under \$100 personal recognizance bonds for their court appearance.

# Death Takes Mrs. Petit Of L'Anse