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Maine prejudice Panel gives views

Bob Haskell

University of Maine

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James Forman

Bolger, Hoy crowned Carnival royalty

King Doug Hoy and Queen Nancy Bolger held reign over the 1969 Swissboomer Winter Carnival Week-end Feb. 21-23. General theme of snow sculptures was "Would You Believe?", with entries divided into two general categories. Fraternities competed in one division, while dormitories, combined into eating units, participated in a separate division.

Fraternity winners were: Alpha Gamma Rho, first, "This Far for Moonshine"; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, second, "Fill the Stein in '69"; and Sigma Chi, third, "It's About Time It Got Here."

Dormitory winners were: West Commons complex, first, "Shred Roadrunner"; Hilltop complex, second, "The Great American Cover-up"; and Stodder complex, third, "Excedrin Headache."

A special prize for the most original sculpture idea, instituted this year, was awarded to Stodder complex. The prize was a \$50 record gift certificate, furnished by Viner's Music of Bangor.

WMEB FM has announced the winners of several contests held

Schedule modifications may reduce congestion

by Dan Everett

In an effort to relieve congestion and accommodate a projected increase in enrollment, the Registrar's Office has outlined scheduling modifications for the 1969-70 academic year.

An additional class period will be scheduled from 12:10 to 1:00 p.m. This new period will be called Period Five with present afternoon periods advanced one number. The day will conclude with Period nine from 4:10 to 5:00 p.m.

A schedule of 75-minute periods for Tuesday and Thursday lecture courses will be available as follows: Period A, 8:00 to 9:15 a.m.; Period B, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Period C, 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; Period D, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.; Period E, 2:10 to 3:25 p.m.; and Period F, 3:40 to 4:55 p.m.

Dwight L. Rideout, assistant registrar for scheduling, explained the full schedule of 75-minute periods provides greater flexibility. For example, two 75-minute classes might be assigned a room during periods A and B. At 11:00 a.m. there would be an opportunity to schedule either a 50-minute class in period four or

a 75-minute class in period C. Under this system, Rideout explained, there would be maximum utilization of facilities.

Rideout anticipates several classrooms will be converted to offices next fall. Some courses will require more divisions, and some new courses will be offered. This, coupled with more requests for morning lecture classes than there is space available, has prompted the addition to the schedule.

Department heads have been urged to schedule fewer classes in the morning by utilizing the new 12:10 p.m. period as well as the late afternoon segments (periods eight and nine).

The Registrar's Office has suggested initial use of the new noon period be confined to multi-division classes, thus avoiding conflicts in student scheduling.

When the new schedule takes effect next fall, the lunch hour will be extended to handle those students who have classes during the noon period.

With the lunch hour beginning earlier and ending later, it is expected that congestion at the dining halls may also be reduced.

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Black symposium: Forman damns U.S. capitalism

by Martha Hanley

James Forman told an audience in Hauck Auditorium Feb. 19 that Americans, black and white alike, must fight to eliminate the effects of racism, capitalism, and imperialism in this country.

Forman, a leader in the U.S. Black Liberation Movement, was a guest of the Student Senate Symposium on Black America. He is chairman of the newly created International Affairs Committee of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

"The U.S. government was racist when it was founded," Forman declared. He cited the fact that when the Constitution was written, Blacks were considered only three-fifths of a person in determining a state's representation in the House.

"Puerto Ricans, Mexican Americans, Indians, and the poor Whites of Appalachia are also victims of U.S. racism," Forman said. "The Blacks are the most oppressed," he continued, "therefore, the liberation fight falls to them."

Forman feels that the civil-rights problem is not exclusively white racism, but rather the nature of the governmental and economic systems of this country. "U.S. capitalism cannot survive without exploiting people," he remarked. He denounced a system which allows a minority of capitalists to control the welfare of the majority.

"A small group should not be allowed to control the money," Forman stated. "U.S. wealth should be redistributed. The government should spread its resources to all the people of the U.S.," he said.

Forman pointed out that the majority of Whites as well as Blacks are powerless in this country. "Nice

cars and homes don't guarantee power over one's life," he said. He emphasized the fact that young Whites have no control over the draft.

"The American standard of living is based on the success of U.S. exploitation of other countries," Forman said. He damned the U.S. government as "unquestionably the leading imperialist power today." He also indicated that there is a definite link between Black Americans and other oppressed people in the world. "Black Americans have much in common with others fighting for liberation in Latin America, South Africa, and Europe. We are not fighting to replace this society with another racist, oppressive society," he said.

"People of color predominate in this world, and all of them are fighting to assert themselves," Forman told his audience. "Black Americans are following the example of colored people around the world." "If whites in this country oppose the black liberation movement, they must be treated as enemies," he added.

In answer to a question about violence, Forman explained that Black people must become the revolutionary social vanguard for change in the U.S. He emphasized the responsibility of Black leaders to give direction to the liberating movement. He feels that "there is presently a war of ideologies going on between Blacks and Whites, and that 'violence would be functional' in promoting the Black cause."

Speaking in terms of time, Forman admitted that a complete overhaul of the U.S. government may come about in 200 or 300 years. "The revolution won't come in 50

years, but blacks must still work for it," he stated.

Forman is author of the book *Sammy Younger, Jr.—The First Black College Student To Die In The Black Liberation Movement*. It is the biography of a 21-year-old black student and civil-rights worker who was murdered by a White man Jan. 3, 1966, in Tuskegee, Ala.

Younger came from a "middle-class black community which prided itself on dignity, education, and white bourgeois values." His death was a case of an "uppity nigger" being taken care of by vigilante action. Tuskegee is in Macon county which is 85 percent black. The trial was moved to another county, and Younger's killer was acquitted by all-white jury.

In his book, Forman writes "Sammy's murder marked the end of any hope that the federal government would intervene to protect the rights of Black people in this country." "This murder was one too many. There are few, if any, militant Blacks today who expect this government to do much for us."

In discussing the role of college students in the liberation movement, Forman proposed that Whites first become familiar with Black history. "An enlightened university would do well to institute a Black studies program," he stated. He pointed out that U.S. history books devote minimal space to Black Americans. "How can Whites get a decent education when Black history is ignored?" he asked.

When asked about SNCC membership, Forman replied that the committee doesn't accept Whites. "That doesn't mean we are racist," he hastened to add. He suggested that "Whites work in their own White communities to eradicate prejudice."

Maine prejudice Panel gives views

by Bob Haskell

Immediately after Charlene Mitchell's speech, and coincident with her announcement of discrimination, three members of the Governor's Task Force on Human Rights presented a progress report. The Task Force was recently formed to combat discrimination in Maine.

Robert Talbot, Orville Pound, and Damon Scales explained that approximately fifty people in Hauck Auditorium why the Task Force has been formed and what is hoped it will accomplish.

Robert Talbot, second vice president of the Bangor chapter of the NAACP explained that the Task Force is responsible for examining the discrimination against Maine's Indians, for trying to solve the housing problems of the poor, for preventing housing and job discrimination, and for trying to improve community attitudes toward minority groups.

He stated the belief that Maine "falls flat on its face in the area of community attitudes," and that there are deep attitudes of prejudice in this state.

An important function of the task force is to establish an agency to investigate charges of discrimination, Talbot stated. Up to this time, he explained, no such body has existed.

Talbot added that the Task Force of 22 prominent citizens, representing a cross section of the

ethnic groups in the state, is conducting a two part study to survey the attitudes of administrators and officials toward minority groups, and the quality and extent of educational facilities available to these people.

Talbot stated that the Task Force has proposed to improve the attitudes and educational facilities of all Maine citizens, recognizing that "the problems of urban America could become the problems of rural America in the coming decades."

Mr. Orville Poland, a retired Blue Hill resident who has practiced law in Boston and Washington, explained that the Task Force has submitted to the legislature a change in the present anti-discrimination law concerning housing and employment.

In essence, Poland said, the recommended law would make housing and job discrimination a civil rather than a criminal offense. He explained the merit of this change by stating that under criminal statutes a person must be proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt before he can be prosecuted, but under civil statutes a person may be prosecuted without having to be proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The third member of the Task Force to address the gathering was Damon Scales, a partner of the Auburn law firm, Trafton and Scales, and also a member of the NAACP. He added his support to the

change in the discrimination laws, and added that people do have prejudices and it is not fair to make a man a criminal because of the way he thinks.

Scales added that civil court action would be sufficient punishment for people promoting job and housing discrimination. The criminal law process does not help the person who has been discriminated against, Scales noted, but the civil statutes do provide restitution for those who rights have been violated.

Scales explained that the Task Force recommends that the governor appoint a seven-man Civil Rights Committee to examine discrimination charges. He said that three of these people would serve as a judicial body to determine if a person or a group has been discriminated against.

The seven members would act as a "safety valve" to determine the standards that comprise human rights.

Scales added, in the case of a violation of human rights, members of the board would approach the individual of group responsible and attempt to iron out the difficulty. If this was not accomplished, the Committee would have the power to prosecute these people.

It will be a crime to exert pressure upon a person to force him to deny others their civil rights as well as trying to prevent someone else from obtaining his rights, Scales said.