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Letters from Martin Luther King Student Union to Chancellor Donald R. McNeil

Donald R. McNeil
University of Maine

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Blacks + Indians

*Administrative
Council*



UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

Office of the Chancellor

228 Deering Avenue
Portland, Maine 04102
207/774-9845

February 1, 1971

To: Members of the Administrative Council

Gentlemen:

I thought you'd be interested in the initial statement that became part of the state-wide denunciation of all colleges and universities in Maine.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don McNeil".

Donald R. McNeil
Chancellor

DRM:ml

cc: Chancellor's Staff

Enc.: Letter from the Black Students at the University of Maine at Orono dated 2/5/71 and attached newspaper clipping: U-M Rap Session Hears Accusation That Mainly Wealthy Get Education.



MARTIN

LUTHER KING STUDENT UNION

university of maine, orono, maine 04473

February 5, 1971

To: The Board of Trustees
University of Maine

From: The Black Students at the University of
Maine at Orono

The enclosed news item tells us once again what Maine in general thinks of the Blacks within the community, not just in the University of Maine. There was less than a sentence dealing with the discussion in terms of bring more Blacks to the University of Maine as administrators and faculty members.

Not only are Blacks invisible to the eyes of most whites in Maine, but their thoughts are not even important enough to be recorded by the press. This is the kind of thinking and action that Miss Doris Sykes spoke to in her presentation; and is the kind of thing that is placing the United States in such a hypocritical posture at home and abroad.

The hopelessness of a People to be heard in a democracy will inevitably lead to frustration, chaos, distrust, and destruction. Will the white community (press included) wake-up and listen before it is too late???

If the white community and specifically the white press in Maine will not listen and take time to record the thinking of the Black community through constructive means, then you leave this community no positive alternatives. Is this what the white community wants? We, the Black Students at UMO think not, or else we would not be writing at this time.

Give us your powerful support. We need it if the true story is to be told and responded to constructively.

c: Chancellor McNeil
President Libby
Bangor Daily News

Enclosures

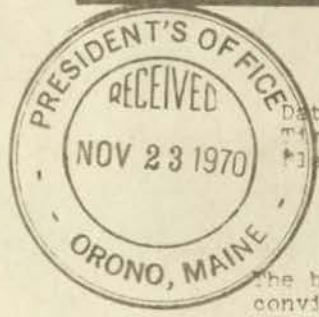
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*11/20/70
Ron Brewer*



**MARTIN
LUTHER KING STUDENT UNION**

university of maine, orono, maine 04473



BLACKS IN MAINE, GETTING TOGETHER

Date: Saturday, December 5, 1970
 Time: 9:00 p.m.
 Place: Hilton Room, Memorial Union
 University of Maine, Orono

The black students at the University of Maine in Orono are convinced that it is important that blacks in the State of Maine unite, occasionally, to keep abreast of the national trend in relationship to blacks in America. The proposed meeting is the first step in this direction. The entire function will be organized and coordinated by the black students at the University of Maine at Orono.

PURPOSE:

The primary purpose of this affair is to provide a setting for interested blacks in Maine to get together and discuss matters of common interest and concern. The first meeting will involve the following activities:

- 1) a 'get to know you' activity
- 2) a formal meeting including guest speakers from the state at large -
 - a) Dr. Archie Buffkins, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor "New Directions for Blacks in Maine"
 - b) Dr. Stanley Evans, Medical Surgical Director, Bangor State Hospital, "The Developing Black Community in the Bangor Area"
 - c) Mr. Tim Wilson, Head Football Coach, Dexter High School "What Athletics Mean to Blacks in Maine"
 - d) Dr. Alex W. Sarieant, Jr., General Practitioner, Bangor State Hospital, "Blacks in Professional Medicine"
- 3) general discussion
- 4) social gathering (by invitation)

Note: The news media and general public are cordially invited to attend. There is no admission fee.