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EXTRA

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Jamie Lytle/State Press

The first in a line of protesters charge up Palm Walk and over the University Bridge Friday afternoon. About 600 students, faculty and administrators marched from a rally on Cady Mall to Alpha Drive in protest of a racially motivated attack on three black students by members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity last weekend. The march highlighted a day of racial unrest at ASU, which included a sit-in of 250 students outside the doors of the MU.

Racial protest swarms over ASU

March, sit-in bring Nelson, Chanen to sign agreement

By MIKE BURGESS
State Press

An 8½-hour rally and sit-in involving about 600 students and administrators, the largest civil rights protest in the University's history, ended peacefully Friday night when the presidents of ASU and the Arizona Board of Regents signed an agreement promising to back a 12-point anti-racism plan.

"We have made a victorious step," Tanya Holmes, president of the ASU chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said after the agreement was signed at 8:30 p.m. by ASU President J. Russell Nelson and Regents President Herman Chanen.

Students and administrators involved in the signing of the agreement will meet again Monday at 1 p.m. to iron out the specifics of the plan, which is designed to combat racism at ASU in the wake of a racially motivated attack on three black students April 15.

"I think we are on our way," Nelson said of the agreement. "We did everything we could today, the next step is Monday."

The agreement almost went unsigned after Nelson and Chanen walked away from the signing when ASU student Vernard Bonner, director for Students Against Racism at ASU, abruptly changed the terms of the agreement and called on protesting

students to remain blocking the north entrance to the MU.

But Nelson and Chanen, at the urging of several members of the student group, returned minutes later and signed the agreement that had been reached after 3½ hours of negotiations.

The signing of the agreement and the sit-in came after a noon rally on Cady Mall in which students at ASU, a campus not known for student activism, protested racism at the University.

"We realize racism is alive and well at ASU," Holmes told the crowd of students and administrators who gathered by Cady Mall fountain. "It is not a black and white issue, it is problem that affects us all."

Associated Students of ASU President John Fees told protesters "racism will not be tolerated."

"It is a vital issue," Fees told protesters. "Racism is a vital issue."

But Fees, who is near the end of his term as student body president, was grilled by protesters who questioned his concern about campus racism after he made comments earlier in the week stating that the ASASU Senate should stick to "vital issues about the campus such as funding and the Danforth Chapel issue."

Fees had objected to a ASASU resolution that would have called for an independent ASASU investigation into the attack. The



Irwin Daugherty/State Press

Reporters crowd around ASU President J. Russell Nelson Friday afternoon outside the MU as he arrives to meet with protesting students.

ASASU Senate replaced that resolution with a message of support for a comprehensive University investigation, but Students Against Racism have adopted the idea of an independent student investigation as part of the 12-point plan.

Fees later said he "underestimated" last weekend's incident and said Friday was the "roughest day of my life."

"I feel badly that I misjudged it," he said.

Friday's protests were sparked by the attack of three black students by members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity who mistook the students for suspects in an earlier assault on a SAE member and a female student. SAE stopped the students while they were driving along Alpha Drive, yelled racial slurs and spat at them.

Furthermore, two of the students said that

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Regents president vows to support 12-point plan

By TYRONE MEIGHAN
State Press

The president of the Arizona Board of Regents said Friday he plans to take a 12-point plan calling for an end to racism at ASU to members of the board for review.

"I have pledged to the students that I will take those issues to the board," Regent Herman Chanen said.

But Chanen said he could not officially speak for all the regents.

"I am speaking as the president of the Board of Regents," he said.

Students will meet Monday with ASU President J. Russell Nelson in an effort to work out the details of the 12-point plan, Chanen said.

"Hopefully they will reach a mutually satisfying conclusion," he said.

Chanen added that after the students and administrators have reviewed the demands, ASU will request that the board modify or make needed changes to the proposal.

Earlier in the day, students demanded that a special meeting of the board be called to discuss the plan. But Chanen said in order for such a meeting to be held, Nelson would have to request it.

"There has been no request by Dr. Nelson for me to convene the board," he said.

Meanwhile, Bruce Meyerson, ASU's general counsel, said the regents would only be required to act on one of the 12 demands.

Meyerson said the regents would have to approve the demand calling for the Office of Student Life to revise the ASU Code of Conduct to make racial slurs and acts of racial violence grounds for expulsion.

Molly Broad, executive director of the board, said Friday that the stand ASU students have taken against racism should



Broad



Chanen

be applauded because it is a genuine expression of passion and idealism.

"It was a very cooperative group," Broad said. "That's very impressive. The students should be commended."

Broad said racial feelings are often suppressed and are brought out by certain incidents.

"I think what happens is that events occur, and what they serve to do is ignite emotions and feelings that have been latent."

Broad said that because the demonstrators were peaceful, the incident will not adversely affect ASU and its students.

ASU administrators and the regents need "to immediately begin to develop the plans for implementing each of the principles," she added.

Friday's demonstration was similar but not as intense as the civil rights protests that plagued campuses across the nation in the 1960s, Broad said.

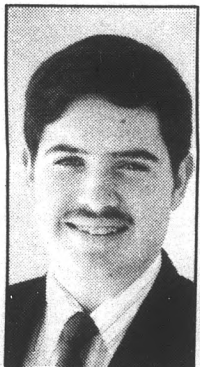
"The civility of the demonstration is a vast improvement over some of the incidents in the sixties and seventies," she said.

Betty Turner Asher, ASU vice president for student affairs, agreed with Broad.

"It's important to keep public issues like this in the minds of the the public," she said. "I think there is a lot of public education going on."

Regent Donald Shropshire said he had full confidence that Nelson would handle the racial demonstrations properly.

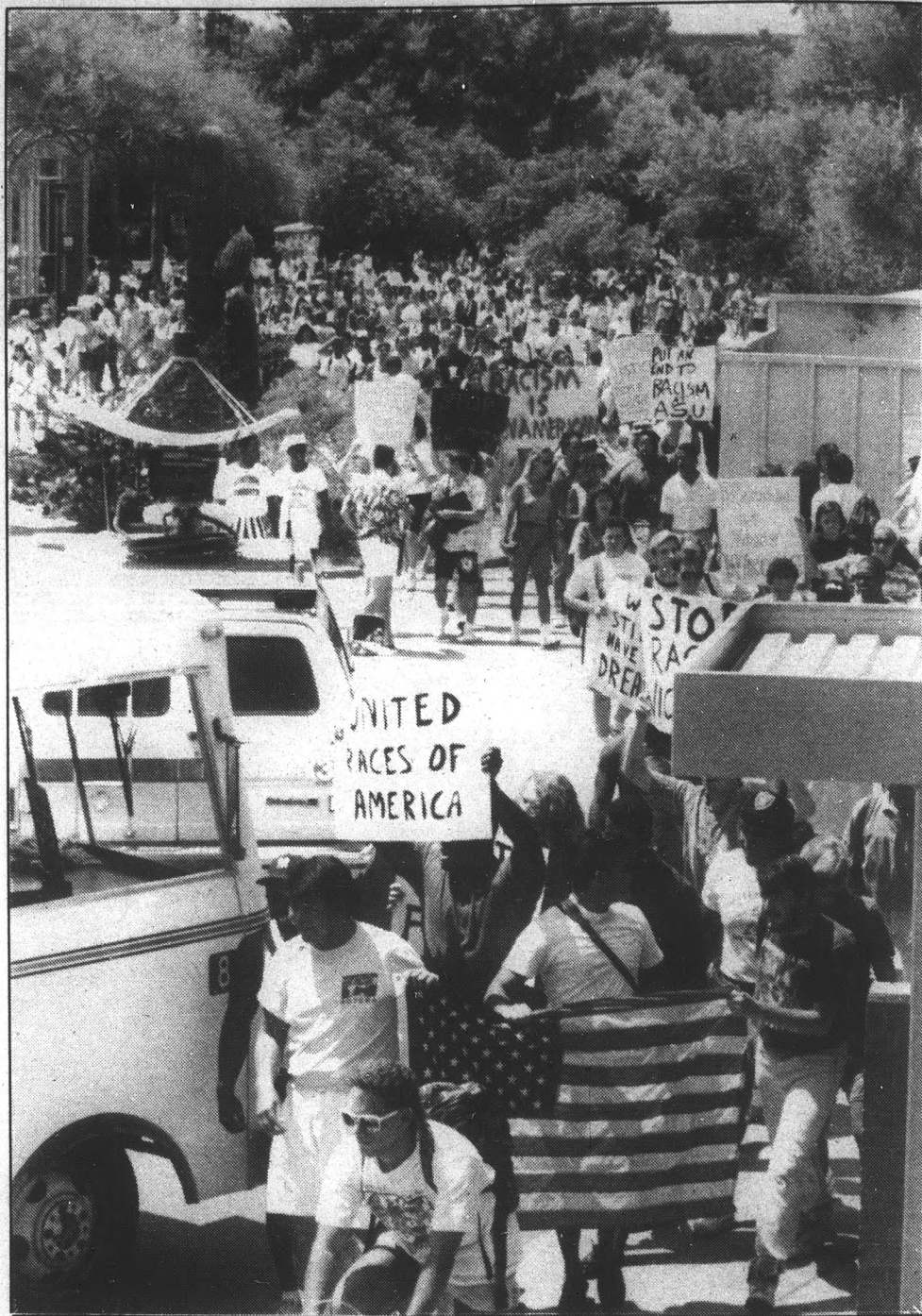
"I believe that Dr. Nelson is going to deal with it," he said. "I see no reason for the regents to conduct any meetings."



McWhortor



Shropshire



Irwin Daugherty/State Press

Crowds jam Orange Mall outside the MU as the march to Alpha Drive begins. About 600 students marched after an hour-long rally near the fountain.

Shropshire added that the racial incident that sparked the protest was unfortunate.

"Any kind of racism should not be tolerated," he said.

Student Regent Pat McWhortor said he thinks the ASU administration is doing all that it can.

"There is still a lot of work to do," he said, adding that if the students' demands are not

worked out, "this whole thing could develop again."

McWhortor said he thinks that "many years of incidents" have all culminated in the recent racism demonstrations.

"When they add up over a number of years, there is pent-up frustration," he said. "It is necessary that we are effective on Monday."

Franklin: Protest result of insensitivity to minorities

Staff Reports

ASU history professor V. P. Franklin, a nationally recognized expert on the civil rights movement who is assisting students in their negotiations with ASU officials, said Friday's protest was the accumulation of insensitivity to minority issues on campus.

"This thing was allowed to fester, then it erupted today," he said. "A wide range of students are upset by the University's

response to minority issues."

Furthermore, Franklin said students are protesting in part because the system is moving too slowly.

Franklin said the alleged mistreatment of the black students by the ASU police officers played a pivotal role in bringing about the protest.

"The University is really going to have to make a very, very public statement of the

response of the Department of Public Safety to the incident," he said.

Bernard Jackson, the coordinator of ASU's Educational Support Program who served as ASU assistant dean of students during the 1960s and 1970s, commended Friday's protesters and said ASU officials have averted an eruption of racial violence by quickly addressing students' concerns.

"I think what's happening is just the tip of the iceberg," said Jackson, who was among the people blocking the entrance to the MU. "I think it's the racial climate in America, and it's just manifesting itself in Arizona."

Jackson said that before the attack on three black students on Alpha Drive in the early morning hours of April 15, it was common for him to hear that black students had been called racially degrading names.

But racial tensions that already existed on campus were inflamed by alcohol in the Alpha Drive incident, he said.

"When you are drinking, a lot of in-built attitudes come to the surface," Jackson said.

He said that Friday's sit-in has helped cool tempers, and that he was impressed by both the protesting students and University administrators because both groups are negotiating.

"It's important to keep talking," he said. "Once people stop talking . . . tremendous violence can occur."

Meanwhile, reaction from members of the ASU community to the protest has been supportive, although one student official and a state lawmaker said the racial violence that sparked the rally is an isolated incident.

Matt Niemeyer, Associated Students of ASU executive vice president, said he was

pleased so many students united, but added that Students Against Racism have "overdramatized" incidents at their protests and their concerns may be premature.

"You cannot evaluate the situation until you know the causes," Niemeyer said. "At this point I do not know what the causes were behind the incident on Alpha Drive."

Niemeyer added that he would have liked to see the same type of student support in the "battle against the tuition raise."

Arizona Rep. Bev Hermon, R-Tempe, applauded the 12-point plan that was the centerpiece of the negotiations between students and University officials, but also said she believes the attack on three black students does not indicate widespread racial prejudice at the University.

"The incident is very isolated, it would seem," she said. "I am sure that it will be thoroughly investigated by the University. But (protesters) have to let the system take its course."

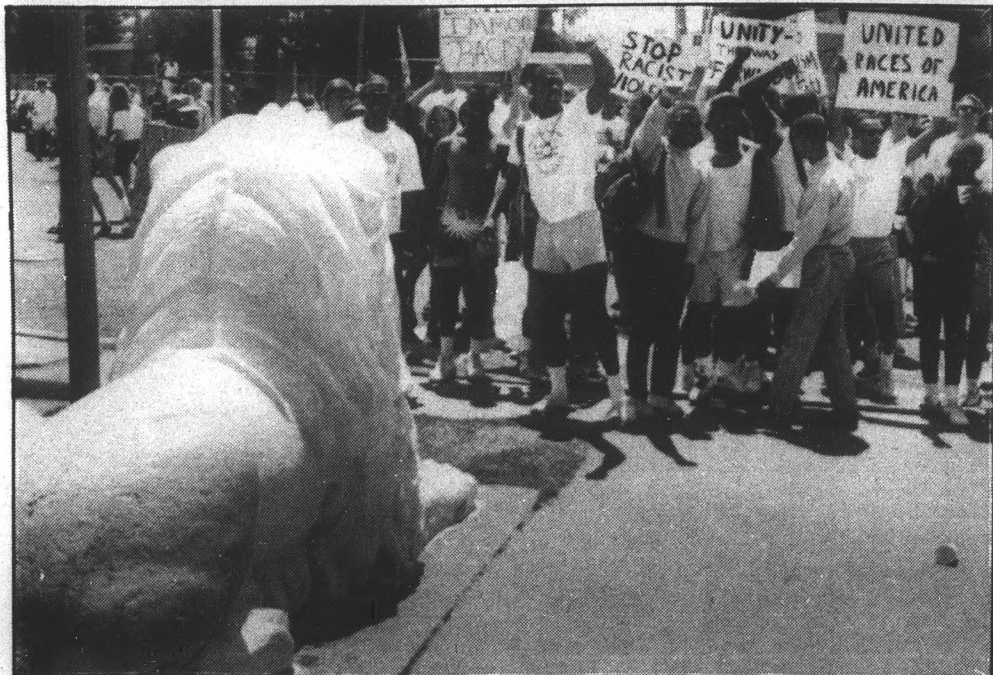
Arizona Sen. Jacque Steiner, R-Phoenix and chairman of the Senate Education Committee, called the incident inexcusable, but added that she hopes it remains an isolated one.

"We've been so fortunate in Arizona not to have that," Steiner said. "It is a great sadness for the University and the state."

Vince Micone, ASASU campus affairs vice president, said he agrees that racism is a problem at ASU, adding that he supports students taking a stand on the issue.

"The fact is that there is a lot of racism on our campus and campuses around the nation," Micone said. "The pot has been coming to a boil for awhile now, and

Turn to Reaction, page 3.



Jamie Lytle/State Press

Protesters pause outside the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house on Alpha Drive during the march. SAE members have been accused of hurling racial slurs at three black students last weekend. The march down fraternity row was peaceful, as several fraternities offered the marchers water and applauded as they passed.



Irwin Daugherty/State Press

Protesters fill Palm Walk as they make their way toward Alpha Drive, the scene of a racial incident last weekend that ignited day-long demonstrations Friday.

Protest

Continued from page 1.

ASU police unjustly handcuffed them during the attack, and one of the men said he was Maced by a police officer.

Nelson on Friday said he will appoint an independent panel next week to investigate the ASU Police Department's actions.

"I support it," Acting ASU Police Chief Doug Bartosh said of the investigation into his department. "Obviously there is some concern about how the Police Department handled it."

The three black students — Rob Rucker, Darren Viner and James Liddell — said they are pleased that the Police Department's actions will be probed.

Also, Bartosh, who had denied any of the incidents last weekend were racial, said Friday that the attack on the three students was "racial in nature."

There were no uniformed ASU police officers at any of Friday's events.

After the rally on Cady Mall about 600 people braved 103-degree heat and marched from the MU, through the campus, to Alpha Drive.

As the protesters made the one-mile trek, shouting "kick out racism" and carrying signs, people along the route joined in the march.

When they reached fraternity row, protesters stopped in front of the SAE house. The fraternity is under investigation and five members have been suspended from the fraternity.

When they arrived at the MU, about 250 students staged a sit-in, blocking the main entrance to the building. They said they chose the MU because it is the building on campus most frequented by students.

As they sat in front of the MU, the students sang "We Shall Overcome" and spirituals.

Fees, who met with Nelson for about a half-hour during the afternoon, returned at about 3:45 p.m. to tell the protesters that Nelson would come out and talk with them.

While waiting for Nelson's arrival, some of the students became agitated and chanted "We want Nelson." At 4:30 p.m., Nelson and Chanen finally met with students.

Students spent about a half-hour telling Nelson and Chanen that they would disperse only when Nelson and the Board of Regents signed the 12-point plan that had been drafted by the newly formed Students Against Racism at ASU.

Nelson, Chanen, several students and

ASU administrators then left the MU for the Administration Building where they negotiated the terms of the plan.

Nelson had met with 27 students and University administrators on Thursday and had agreed to take a similar plan under consideration. The sit-in came as a surprise to officials, some said.

The 12-point plan against racism demands that:

- An independent body investigate the ASU Police Department's handling of the April 15 incident, particularly the charge of police brutality and unlawful detention of the minority students who were involved.
- ASASU take an active stand against racism, including the forming of an independent body to oversee the investigations of the Office of Student Life, the Office of Residence Life and the ASU Police Department to see that they are handled properly.
- The Office of Student Life expel any ASU students that are involved in the racial slurs or ensuing racial violence.
- The Office of Student Life revise the ASU Code of Conduct to make racial slurs and acts of racial violence grounds for expulsion.
- Residence Life expel any ASU fraternity that is involved in the racial slurs or ensuing violence.
- The Office of Residence Life require fraternity members to participate in a mandatory anti-racism program.
- All ASU police officers should be required to undergo training on how to control and diffuse racial incidents.
- Professors, staff and administrators should be required to attend cultural awareness programs.
- ASU make a cultural awareness course a requirement for graduation. Ethnic studies courses including African, Afro-American and Mexican-American studies would fulfill the requirement.
- The 21-point "Action Now" program be completed and that its goals of successful minority faculty recruitment, retention and graduation of minority students, and enriching the ethnic and cultural diversity of ASU be sustained.
- More funds be available to minority programs and that the funds be distributed equally among minorities so that a more culturally diverse atmosphere at the University be created.
- All ASU police officers be required to undergo a thorough screening by a civilian review board, which includes local community members and people of color, before they are hired by the University.

Reaction

Continued from page 2.

students are choosing to make a stand."

Jennifer Martin, director of ASASU's Political Union, said this type of political activism is encouraging and hopes more students involve themselves with current political issues.

Martin said that protests indicate a return of student activism.

Carlos Galindo-Elvira, activities vice president for the Liberal Arts College Council, said, "This type of activism is exactly what the campus needs."

Shannon Sellers, ASASU assistant director for state relations, said she is "proud" of the protesters' efforts.

"I hope this will open doors for future activism," Sellers said. "These protests will show lawmakers that students can get involved and display a loud voice when they are concerned."

J'Lein Liese, ASASU activities vice president-elect, said the students' concern about racism is evident in the short amount of time in which Students Against Racism at ASU was able to gather a large following.

"This is symbolic of what students can achieve when they set their hearts to it," Liese said. "This was not just one group but there were members of every group of people on campus."

ASASU President John Fees, whose concern about campus racism was questioned by protesters, said, "I think the administration has done as much as we could hope for."

Tempe City Councilwoman Pat Hatton said the problem is isolated to the University, but added that the ASU and Tempe police departments will have to work together if protests against racism spread off campus.

Gov. Rose Mofford is aware of the protest, but did not comment. Howard Boice,



Fees



Franklin

Mofford's press secretary, said she is "watching with interest and concern."

ASU student Debbie Simpkins was walking across campus after lunch Friday with her three children when she saw the SAR demonstration.

Simpkins, a 35-year-old undeclared master's student, said she was surprised to see the long line of protesters on their way to the fraternity houses on Alpha Drive.

"This kind of stuff happened all the time when I was in high school," she said, "But to my kids it's a real novelty."

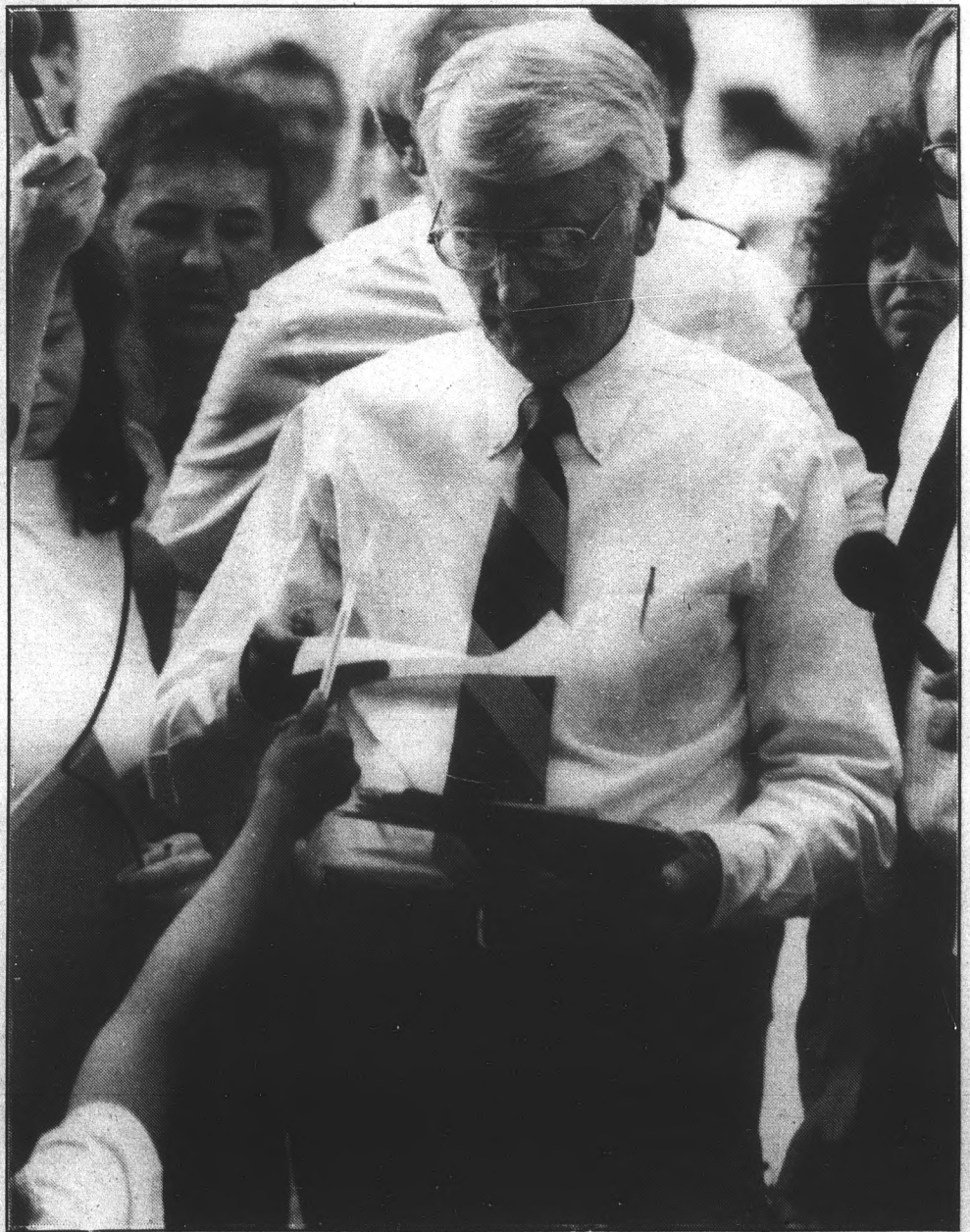
Simpkins said her 9-year-old son was very interested in the protest, but like most children, probably didn't understand the event's significance.

"When they're small they are aware there are differences between people, but it is not an issue for them," she said.

Simpkins added that children do eventually learn the realities of how people are treated.

"It's a surprise to them the first time they see that somebody doesn't get something that they deserve," she said.

State Press staffers Vickie Chachere, Richard Lamping, Michael Lewis, Michele McDonald, Michael Van Dyke and Rich Vigil contributed to this report.



Irwin Daugherty/State Press

ASU President J. Russell Nelson examines a list of demands made by demonstrators as a student thrusts a pen toward him. Protesters conducting a sit-in outside the MU doors repeatedly chanted "sign it, sign it," as Nelson discussed the document with students.

Contributing to this special edition were State Press staffers Mike Burgess, Irwin Daugherty, Jamie Lytle, Michelle Allman, Richard Vigil, Michael Van Dyke, Michele McDonald, Tyrone

Meighan, Michael Lewis, Richard Lamping, Stacy Haymes, Sheri Johnson, Darrin Hostetler, Vickie Chachere and Marty Sauerzopf.



Nichelle R. Piller, a senior music/theater major, leads demonstrators in singing "Lean On Me" during the sit-in outside the MU.

Blacks recall 'trying times' of Arizona civil rights era

By STACY HAYMES
State Press

The Arizona civil rights movement was remembered Friday by the men and women involved as a difficult and trying time.

"Before the civil rights era conditions in Arizona were bleak; there were segregated schools, there were no black elected officials and blacks were relegated to low menial living conditions," said Coy Payne, a Chandler councilman who is a candidate for mayor in 1989.

Payne, who attended Carver High School, the only black high school in Maricopa County before the civil rights movement forced the integration of schools, said by the 1940s Valley blacks hoped that segregation would end.

Payne said in the early 1950s, ASU students held a series of sit-ins at a Wallgreens drug store in downtown Phoenix to force desegregation of the store's lunch counter.

"We were beginning to show we were dissatisfied with conditions," he said. "We had come from places where opportunities were scarce and we saw Arizona as a land of opportunity."

John Edwards, the moderator at the discussion and ASU executive director of off-campus affairs, said Arizona has suffered because of segregation.

"We must continue the dream and move forward," Edwards said. "A mind is a terrible thing to waste and America has wasted a lot of minds because of segregation."

Ray Clarke, president of the Tucson Urban League said: "We still have a long way to go. Afro-Americans are still talking about equity."

"I stand here as a proud son of individuals who existed in this nation in bondage and worse."

Clarke, as a UofA student in the early 1970s, said he picketed against Brigham Young University because of charges that the school mistreated blacks.

"College was an opportunity to have hope where people could come together," Clarke said. "Anglos said I reject those practices (referring to racial discrimination)."

"No matter what color we are we have got to stand up against any inequity."

Thomas Turner, a former ASU student and member of the Phoenix Black Coalition, asked the panel how his organization could get black administrators appointed to high-ranking University posts, such as president and vice president for student affairs.

ASU history professor V. P. Franklin, a nationally recognized expert on the civil rights movement, answered: "There are many black and minority administrators at

ASU, but they don't find it very hospitable. It is hard to attract minority officials because of the way they (minority administrators) have been treated in the past."

Turner denounced the racial incident that has rocked ASU this week, saying: "We will not tolerate racism in any form, and if the institution refuses in the slightest sense to bring about a change then they'll have the black community as a whole to confront."

"For (acting ASU Chief of Police Doug) Bartosh to say that it would have happened even if the men were white, it shows his insensitivity and his lack of knowledge not only to the black community but to the ASU community and people in America."

The forum, titled "The Civil Rights Era in Arizona: The Quest for Simple Justice," was sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council, ASU's department of history and College of Arts and Sciences, ASU Black Caucus and the UofA Black Studies Program.

Racism 'festering and growing' at ASU, says national expert

By STACY HAYMES
State Press

Aldon Morris, one of the nation's leading experts on the civil rights movement, said Friday that he finds it "deplorable that the University (ASU) has a climate in which this kind of overt racism is festering and growing."

"Colleges and universities are supposed to be institutions of enlightenment," he said. "What we are seeing is that black people are unwelcome and being physically and culturally assaulted."

Morris, author of "The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement" and a sociology professor at Northwestern

University, said the incident and the resulting protests by students "gives an opportunity for the University to look at its entire mode of operation and (find out) who has the right to make decisions and make changes so that all the groups will have equal power."

"The academic community must organize and resist the kind of racial bigotry being exhibited here by confronting and speaking out against racism and making sure it doesn't take place," he said.

Morris said racism in the U. S., despite the civil rights movement, is still very much alive.

"White supremacy and black subordination have always

existed in society," Morris told a group of about 40 people at Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in a forum on the Arizona civil rights movement.

"The Civil War was supposed to wipe away racial inequality, but it didn't."

To combat the problem of racism, community leaders must grant full racial equality, embrace democracy and condemn racial segregation and apartheid, he said.

What still has to be done is to "end poverty, open political opportunities, open universities and colleges to all races and confront and solve gender inequality," he said.

United effort 'touching,' racism protesters say

By MICHAEL VAN DYKE
State Press

Many of the 500 ASU students who were involved in a daylong protest Friday agreed that being able to unite so many people behind one common goal was perhaps one of the most touching events they had ever experienced.

"It was fantastic to see so many people come together to express a concern about racism," said Mike Anderson, an ASU liberal arts major.

"It is sad that it took an incident like last weekend's brawl to make students realize there is a problem."

The sit-in was originally planned for the Administration Building but was switched to the MU at 1:30 p.m. because organizers believed the site provided more visibility. Two people sat down in front of the MU's north doors, and about 250 more people followed suit within 15 minutes.

The students, both black and white, sat together through temperatures that soared into the low-100s, singing spirituals, including "We Shall Overcome." Their singing was punctuated by the chanting of anti-racism slogans.

George Cathcart from the ASU News Bureau said, "The administration had decided early on to make sure the students were comfortable. The University tried to provide food and beverages."

In the end, the activists stood and raised their clenched fists in a sign of unity and victory.

Karl Schultz, an ASU history major, said the protest and President J. Russell Nelson's actions prove that people still can have a voice.

"Students from several different economic groups bonded together today to fight for one cause — equality," Schultz said. "I was impressed that we all could work together to make a difference."

Schultz said he was pleased by the opportunity to express his right to freedom of speech and assembly.



Protesters place signs condemning racism on the MU doors and windows as they hold a sit-in outside the north entrance of the building.