

Black Residents Say

Racism Exists in Dormitories

By LES BLUMENTHAL
Of the Emerald

Editor's Note: This is the first of two articles dealing with racism in dormitories. The second article will be interviews with dorm counselors.

In its first report to University President Arthur S. Fleming, the President's Committee on Racism on Campus found "the most important problem confronting dormitories is the problem of racism."

The report then went on to discuss ways of eliminating this racism. It broke the problem down into three parts: placement of students in dorms, recruitment and training of dormitory personnel and the preparation of dormitory food.

Secluded Racism

John Green and Billy Gaskins are two Washington, D.C., Negroes who are in this system; they live in Adams Hall, Walton Complex.

"Racism definitely exists, not always open, usually secluded. A hostile tendency, uncomfortable stares in the cafeteria line, snickers coming from a room as you walk by," says Green, a freshman in sociology.

University Wins NDEA Grant

The University has been awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Office of Education for support of the National Defense Education Act (NDEA) graduate fellowship program during the 1968-69 academic year, according to Calvin Fisk, administrative officer of the graduate school.

The grant, which is less than the amount awarded for the current year, will provide a total of 225 fellowships on the doctoral level as compared to 240 fellowships awarded this year, Fisk said. Of the total, 41 new fellowships will be awarded next year, while 75 were new this year. The remainder are renewals of previously awarded fellowships.

Nearly all departments and schools except those not awarding doctoral degrees will receive a portion of the funds.

The NDEA fellowship program, which was begun seven years ago, is the largest graduate awards program on campus, according to Fisk.

Other major doctoral awards programs include the National Science Foundation Traineeship and Fellowship grants and the U.S. Public Health Service Graduate Fellowships.

Two fellowship programs also exist on the master's degree level, the Experienced Teacher Fellowship Program and the Prospective Teacher Fellowship Program.

Gaskins, a sophomore, says, "When a White is near to a Negro everything is maybe up tight, when he gets a few steps away . . . It's there, some guys don't have enough guts to come out and confront you."

Open Prejudice

"Some people try to fool themselves, but deep down inside they're racists. It comes out most when a Black dates a White. When you're around a dorm, guys break their necks to talk with you, but when they're with a girl, well, it's something else," he continued.

"I've not openly experienced prejudice, mostly just talking. A White looks at you once, that's all right, twice that's fair, a third time, well you know . . ." added Green.

"It was my own choice to room with Bill. He is a home-boy with similar characteristics. No place has the same style," continued Green. He felt no pressure to room with Bill, in fact originally he was to have roomed with a White, but he

Visual Workshop Set for August

Designers, photographers, critics and teachers will be visiting the University this summer to participate in a workshop on visual communication.

Participants attending the Aug. 12-23 workshop will study the use of images as art, communication, propaganda and entertainment. They will also investigate the way in which images are perceived.

A faculty of national prominence has been selected to present lectures and lead discussions, including W. Eugene Smith, an international photo-journalist; Jerry Snyder, art director of Scientific American, and Martin Dworkin, editor of the series on Culture and Communication for Teachers College of Columbia University.

A fee of \$160 will be assessed for the course which carries 2 hours of graduate credit. Two additional hours of credit will be available to those wishing to prepare a paper.

Further information about the course may be obtained from Bernard Freemesser, associate professor, School of Journalism, University of Oregon, Eugene, 97403.

PL-3 Schedule

- Tuesday, May 21
- 6:30—Huntley-Brinkley Report
- 7:00—PL-3 News
- 7:15—Seminar in Alienated Youth Education
- 8:30—UO Conversation with Tony Hazapis replaces Oregon's Dilemmas
- 9:00—KWAX Controversy with Robert Packwood. Listeners with questions may phone 342-1411, Ext. 2418

just felt it would be better to room with a person who has "the same sentiments, and hopes you do."

Gaskins looked back on the previous year he had spent at Utah. "You get that extra look in Utah. A man almost drove into a pole looking at me. The first day when I woke up in the dorms there, I found a sign on the door to my roommate and me, saying 'Black boys go home.' I'm freer here than I was at Utah."

Turning to the suggestion of the President's committee to have more Black counselors, and better-trained White ones, Green said, "there are Blacks who want to be counselors. They just don't know how to go about it."

Both emphasized that they had not felt that the counselors in their dorm were prejudiced, but that they had heard from their friends that some were.

Black Counselor

They believe that besides the fact that they could communicate better with a Black counselor, it would also be a learning experience for White students.

Questioned about the word "soul," Green said. "It is some-

thing from the heart that everyone has; it just never reaches a peak in some people. It's the ability to let yourself go.

Soul Food Not Bad

"The dorms serve Chinese food, Scandanavian food, Italian and Indian food; soul food can't be that bad," Green said laughingly. They went on to talk about sweet potato pies, chitlins, candied yams, ham hocks, blackeyed peas, and pig's feet.

Green continued, "If you're going to persecute the man, why don't you just go ahead and separate them? Most Whites don't know what afflictions Whites put on Negroes. Why shouldn't the Black be prejudiced against the White? Why should the Whites be prejudiced? Who's suffered?"

"Most Negroes are impatient. They don't want to have a life like their parents.' I don't want it handed to me; I want the opportunity."

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Mental Health Workshop Slated

The University will be holding a mental health workshop from June 10 to 14. The program is designed for teachers, public school administrators, counselors, public health personnel, health educators, and personnel in allied health, biological, and medical science.

The workshop fee is \$31 for two hours of undergraduate credit (HE 408) or graduate credit (HE 508). Students may apply the fee to their total registration fee for the regular summer session provided they do not exceed a full load of course work.

Is Bob Kennedy Ruthless?

This and other questions will be answered by

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.

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