Black students

Four demands by the Black Students of ISU were presented to University officials Friday in the wake of an incident which concerned the death of Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton of Chicago and Mark Clark of Peoria. Hampton and Clark were killed in a predawn raid of an apartment in Chicago by Chicago policemen.

The demands came about after black students had gathered at the flagpole in the ISU quad and had lowered the flag to half-mast to honor Hampton and Clark. One black student, Alamous Pratt, of Chicago, allowed the flag to be raised again only after being warned by President Samuel Bridge that he would be arrested for criminal trespass.

The four demands are:

1. “that Watterson Towers Food Center or a major campus building facility be named after a black leader with the approval of the Black Student Body commensurate with his contribution to the liberation of black people and the betterment of mankind;

2. “that the communications media of Illinois State University be required to place emphasis on their programming that serves the needs of the black community, as black students pay tuition and other fees at the University;

3. “that Illinois State University initiate this year a Spring Black Fine Arts Festival to be dedicated in memory to the lives and struggles of black leaders. Hereafter, the University should fund and support an annual Black Fine Arts Festival to be held each spring;

4. “that Black Students be administratively and immediately be placed on the entertainment board so that the recreational activities paid for by the University and its students be more relevant to the Black Student Community.”

The demands were accompanied by a time limit for a response from the administration, which stated that unless the demands are met by 1 p.m. Wednesday, “the Black Students Association and the Concerned Community Coalition will take those steps we feel necessary to expose our displeasure.” B.S.A. leaders refused to be specific on the types of what type of actions would be taken.

Videau editor Hank Selinger reported that he, as the head of the main student campus media, would be willing to meet the demands of the blacks.

“The demands as they apply to
Black students list demands

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The four demands are:

1. That Waterson Towers Food Center or a major campus building facility be named after a black leader with the approval of the Black Student Body, commemorative with his contribution to the liberation of black people and the betterment of mankind.

2. That the communications media of Illinois State University be referred to in the point of being relevant to the needs of the black community, as black students pay tuition and other fees at the University.

3. That Illinois State University initiate this year a Spring Black Fine Arts Festival to be dedicated in memory to the lives and struggles of black leaders. Hereafter, the University should fund and support an annual Black Fine Arts Festival to be held each spring.

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Vidette editor Hank Selinger reported that he, as the head of the main student campus media, would be willing to meet the demands of the blacks.

"The demands as they apply to
the Vidette are totally just,'" said Seliger. "I hope to initiate a program whereas the Vidette would set aside a page to be written by and about the blacks. It is inexcusable that the Vidette did not have a page for blacks long ago."

University officials had made no statement as on the demand as of Sunday night.

Pruitt, a member of the Black Students Association, stated, "I lowered the national symbol because I felt the nation should show respect for one of its fallen leaders. Hampton was as relevant to the people of Illinois as Everett Dirksen. I feel that he should be rewarded with the same treatment."

Pruitt was asked if he knew that he would be arrested if he lowered the flag.

"Yes, but I don't object to rule by law, but to this particular rule," he replied.

"Skip Jones and I called the President, the Governor, the Adjutant General, and Senator Percy as appeasement measures for those in the administration who felt that the people should listen to the government instead of the government listening to the people," Pruitt stated.

"The Panagraph tried to show that the majority of people present at the flagpole were not sympathetic to the cause for which the flag was lowered to half-mast," said Skip Jones another B.S.A. member. "The truth of the matter is the so-called majority that didn't support the cause was unaware of why the flag was being lowered."

At a memorial service for Hampton and Clark Thursday night, Pruitt stated, "We as living entities have a set of commitments and ideals. Two men, Chairman Fred Hampton of the Illinois Black Panther Party and Mark Clark of the Chicago Black Panther Party, were committed that black men be free and all men be brothers, and these two men died for their commitments."

"What was important to these men is that their ideals will last," Pruitt continued. "Martin Luther King, Jr., John F. Kennedy, and Robert Kennedy had commitments and ideals. Their ideals were replaced with flowers and funerals and we forget their ideals. We must not forget the ideals of these two men."

"What are we going to do now that these men are passed?" Pruitt continued. "The question is who is next? We must get out of ourselves and look at our own level of commitment. We must form a community based coalition so that we can fulfill our needs."

The Reverend Jack Porter, Bloomington director of the Community for Social Action and treasurer of the Concerned Coalition, led the audience of approximately 200 blacks and whites in a moment of silent meditation and the Lord's Prayer.

The service began and was concluded with readings of black poetry by Skip Jones.

"The first poem, 'If We Must Die' by Claude McKay, emphasized the spirit which the two slain leaders carried on their lives and commitments," stated Jones.

"The second poem, 'Conquist,' by Georgia Douglas Johnson, talked about how we must continue in the struggle for which two of our leaders were assassinated."
Blacks reject Br

By Hank Skellar
and Rich Limarski

ISU President Samuel Braden replied to a list of four demands presented to him Friday by the Black Student Association and the Concerned Community Coalition, but Black Student Association spokesman Lonnie Pruitt later charged that Braden had not met the demands.

Braden’s reply, which came in the form of a letter to the University community, was issued to the crowd of approximately 800 who had gathered at the flagpole shortly after noon. Braden himself did not appear.

“This request to me was to make a response by 1 pm today (Wednesday),” Braden said. “I did that.”

The President’s reply to the original demands said that he was “prepared to ask the Black Students, the University Council, the Student Senate and the committee that planned the building to conce in a recommendation to the Board of Regents that Elangates Hall be renamed Martin Luther King Hall.”

The Board of Regents is the only body empowered to name buildings on the ISU campus.

“On point two,” Braden continued, “I support the editor of the Vidette’s intention to set aside space to be written by and about blacks, subject to the same legal and editorial policy restraint that apply to the whole paper. I also support a renewal of the offer made some time ago by the campus radio station that blacks be assigned responsibility for an additional block of time.”

“On point three, I am sure the program funds allocated to support the Black Fine Arts Festival already planned for this spring will be continued and augmented for as many successive springs as the festival continues to be relevant to campus needs,” Braden continued.

“On point four, that black students be placed on the Entertainment Board, I have asked the president of the Student Body to consider nominating a black consultant to supplement the black student already on the board, and to consider that nominee for membership whenever a vacancy occurs. I will recommend that the chairman of the board involve the black consultant in its work, and that she report to me any occasion on which the vote of the consultant might have changed the action of the board.”

Hovey Hall was ordered locked from noon to 7:40 pm Wednesday by Braden as a security precaution. During this time, admittance to the hall was allowed only to those with business in the building.

“The legislation under which we operate now forced me to take actions to protect against the consequences of indiscretion, ” the President said.

ISU security head John Newbold indicated that patrol strength was increased during this period. When asked if some patrolmen were working a double shift, Newbold replied, “No, we had none on an overtime basis, but not extended overtime.”

Pruitt stated that he had called Richard Hulet, Dean of Student Services, and asked that either he or President Braden or another representative of the University be present at the flagpole to hear the response of the black students. Pruitt said that Hulet agreed to send a representative, but at the flagpole, when Pruitt asked for a representative of the University to come forward, none appeared.

“I did indeed talk to Lonnie Pruitt,” said Hulet. “The President was not invited to the meeting. The President never was asked to come to a meeting at the flagpole.”

Hulet said that representatives of the University and the administration were “present and listening,” but that none of them were empowered to act as spokesmen.

The students at the flagpole were then invited to a press conference to be held by the black students at the Campus Religious Center across from Manchester Hall. A crowd of approximately 300 jammed into the multi-purpose room of the building.

There, BSA spokesman Lonnie Pruitt gave a statement in rejection of Braden’s proposals.
Black students reject Braden offer

By Hank Schiller

The Daily Illini

Some 500 concerned onlookers gathered around the flag pole in the quad Wednesday in anticipation of Black students' response to President Braden's proposals. Issued at 10 am in answer to four demands voiced last week by the RSA, The crowd soon adjourned to the Campus Religious Center to hear Lamoie Pruitt state a rejection of Braden's answer. (Tom Best photo).

Other demands are as follows: "Beginning second semester black students will be placed on the video staff in positions of work study or other financial compensation in order to have at least one half page weekly written by and for black people."

"At least one hour five days a week dedicated to black music and culture on radio station WGLT. These programs will be headed by black DJ."

"Black students be placed on work study or given other financial compensation for working with the photo service and the news and publication service."

"Final demands state that the video tape library must be extended to include more programs for black people; all other areas of communications shall be subject to review; the Black Cultural Board will henceforth take over the Black Arts Festival with a sum of money appropriated by ISU; and black students must be placed on the entertainment board immediately."

At the time of Pruitt's statement at the Religious Center, only the previous list of four demands had been made public. Braden's reply to these were the brunt of a dedication ceremony. "A step by step comparison of Braden's fantasy and what is reality," Pruitt said, "shows that..."

Regarding the President's response to the second demand, Pruitt said: "We must decide whether or not the communications media is relevant to us. Mr. Braden will not deal with our relevancies. He speaks of..."

Concerning response to the third demand: "At this time," Pruitt said, "we do not have meaningful positive participation with the ISU campus. To discuss the longevity of the Festival in terms of its relevancy to the campus without realizing the aforementioned statement is racist and an overt show of his contempt for our feelings," he said.

"This is the most blatant non-compliance with our demands," Pruitt said in reaction to Braden's solution to the fourth demand. "We directed President Braden to have black students immediately placed on the board - entertainment board. Pruitt said, "Mr. Braden speaks of a black consultant. While we demanded meaningfully numerical authority and participation at this time, I have the difficult task of telling those who are very angry to remain calm."

"We tried to work with the..."

Pruitt pointed out to the Vidette that he has been receiving threats since the RSA initiated their activities one week ago. Pruitt then pointed out that the Concerned Community Coalition formed Saturday, will meet again this Saturday morning at 10 in Hayden Auditorium and on all future Saturdays. The Coalition is currently sponsoring a food drive to help the hungry people of Bloomington-Normal.
Alonzo Pruitt: 'You're on My Foot'

"If someone is standing on my foot, I say, 'Look, you're on my foot' and then the minute later his foot is still on mine. So I have to take whatever steps necessary!'"

That year, Alonzo Pruitt was cooler of the Student Senate. Mayor Daley of Chicago explained the black student leader at ISU was speaking at a meeting with the Student Senate on a Tuesday night of the Student Senate.

"Remembering Others"

Pruitt decided direct involvement with the student organization. "You're on my foot" explanation was the question unfolded. The "Cage," the question unfolded. The "Cage" is a student union smoke bar. "Isn't that realistic?"

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Blacks' Plea Endorsed

The president's "task force" on intergroup relations at Illinois State University passed a resolution Tuesday dealing with a demand of the black community at ISU to name a building for a black hero.

The resolution stated that the task force "recognized and strongly approves the principle that the black community at ISU is the only appropriate group to select the black hero who should be memorialized by naming a campus building in his honor."

The resolution passed unanimously, but only 38 of 42 members of the task force were present.

Several suggestions were made on the names and building chosen by blacks. These, with the resolution, will be sent to ISU's University Council on Jan. 21.

The task force met with black representatives for several hours Tuesday. They endorsed various feelings of the black community, according to Dr. Paul Woodson, executive director.
Malcolm X Union ok’d

A serious conversation and the desire to accomplish something was the prevalent mood at the meeting of the President’s Task Force on Intergroup Relations held Tuesday night in the President’s Conference Room.

The Task Force met to consider the name the black community at ISU has chosen for the memorialization of a black leader. Representatives of a black council, composed of students and faculty at ISU, presented the demands to co-chairmen Charles Norris and George Drew. A representative for the black council said, “We have formally decided, the student body and faculty, Malcolm X would be the name put on the building we chose. We talked of the present student Union as the most appropriate.”

Several reasons were presented for the choosing of the Union. 1) The council felt it would not be wise to name a building to be built in the future, because it may never be built. 2) The Union, unlike most of the buildings, is not already named in honor of someone. 3) The Union is in the center of the campus, which is more befitting a memorial building than one located on the outskirts.

Asked why Malcolm X was chosen, one member of the council replied, “His life showed a kind of progress. It was a kind of mirror to America itself. He became the symbol of the blemish of black people in white America.” Said a member of the Task Force, “I think the white people also accept Malcolm X as a hero— that they honor and revere his life and what he stood for.”

A unanimous vote was taken on the acceptance of the name chosen and much of the rest of the meeting was concerned with deciding the best way to present the demand to the University Council.

George Collins, vice-president of the Student Senate, reported that the Senate passed a resolution supporting the naming of a campus building after a black leader chosen by black students and faculty.

It was finally decided that a meeting would be sent stating, “Since the Task Force on Intergroup Relations has determined to its satisfaction that the consensus of the black community at ISU is that the life and work of Malcolm X should be memorialized by naming the present University Union for him, and since it is also determined that Malcolm X and the University Union are symbols of ideals and purpose; therefore the Task Force as charged reports the consensus and strongly recommends the University Council endorse the motion and recommend to the Board of Regents through the proper channels that the present University Union be named the Malcolm X Memorial Union.”

Bulletin

A firecracker or a cherry bomb was exploded at 2:54 pm Monday outside the door of the Board of Regents, 600 S. Main St., where government officials of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) were recruiting prospective employees. ISU security officials found the lower half of a storm window and one inside pane of glass blown out. Earlier in the day, obscenities had been sprayed on the walls of the building.

New Vidette editors named

E.L. Payne and Dara Schuler have been named by Publications Board to the positions of Co-editors of the Vidette for second semester. Payne is presently an assistant sports editor for the Vidette and served as summer sports editor. Miss Schuler has worked as an assistant page editor and news writer. They will assume their duties with the next issue of the paper. Staff photo.
Beyond Call of Color

Martin Luther King Jr. was a noted American. For this reason the Jan. 15 anniversary of his birth is more than an occasion for blacks to mourn the passing of a black leader.

Dr. King more than any other man showed the black of the South how to resist. He showed him that dignity, respect and equality came at a price higher than “Vasub, boss.” But he also showed the black, especially the Southern black, that determination, courage, organizational skill and tenacity were part of their character: no matter what low estate they occupied in a white society.

Dr. King had human faults, but he was a prophet of major proportions and had deep appeal to many whites ready and willing to help end generations of repression of the black. The willingness of many white leaders in the North, especially political leaders, to support his causes played no small part in their success insofar as basic change in law occurred.

Dr. King was a man raised up by the times, and his genius lay in recognizing that an era of change was at hand. The rationalization of the black movement in the large cities, and on some campuses, was not in Dr. King’s blueprint. There seemed to be a reservoir of faith in him that the democratic institution could be reformed without first destroying it. This still is the view of most black Americans.

Near the end of his career, in the months before his tragic death, Dr. King was reassessing his position of restraint and some of us knew, had he lived, how far he would have swung toward the revolutionary school of thought.

Nonetheless, his testament is one of change, not chaos; building, not destroying; unity, not polarization; one nation, not two.

Letters to the Editor

Burning Need To Get Toge
New Name for ISU Union?

The president's "task force" on intergroup relations at Illinois State University has approved naming the University Union after Malcolm X. It was revealed Tuesday.

The approval and recommendation will be considered by the University Council Jan. 21.

The present student union building was chosen as the most appropriate because it would not be good to name a building that has not yet been built, the student union was not named for anyone and as the center of student activities, the union is fitting for a memorial.

Aloma Pruitt, sophomore at ISU, speaking as a representative of the blacks, said the black community is the one to choose the man we want immortalized.

"But in addition to that, Malcolm X is a man of such magnitude that he can also be relevant to the white community." Dr. Paul Wisdom, executive director of the group, commented. "Perhaps the most remarkable thing about Malcolm X is the man, in that he suffered and experienced all the facets known to man, and particular to the black masses, and managed by the strength of his own personality to purify himself of these ill." A resolution was passed at the same meeting stating that the group recognizes and strongly approves of the principle that the black community of ISU is the only appropriate group to select the black hero who should be immortalized.

Peace Prize Winner

President Theodora Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize for her work as mediator in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05.
Observances

By The Associated Press

Students at Ohio University brought their helicopters today to build the statue of a small "Resurrection City" in which they will live through Saturday to mark the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Full houses and several large cities will observe Martin Luther King Day Thursday, when the School Laureate would have been 77.

At Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, school officials approved a building aid to King, who planned the "resurrection City," a project in Washington D.C. that was assassinated before he could complete it.

The Kentucky Christian Leadership Conference, held in March in Nashville, Tennessee, organized a Union of Student Christian Workers to help organize the likenesses of the poor, was the main theme of his work, we thought. In the conference, we spoke to several young people who were interested in the work of a young man, who was a great inspiration to us.

To Honor King

Sold Volkswagen With
Pantagraph Want Ad

Nothing works like a Pantagraph Want Ad to sell a car or a house quickly. Jim Bach, 48 White Place offered this one:

"Sold to the first caller!--and another buyer future. Sale is on, by the Pantagraph Want Ad." The word was from the advertiser, "To sell a car for sale ad to work for you just Ph. 923-4551--call for details. CALL COLBERT if you live outside Bloomington-Normal. Just $29 per day for 15 weeks or only 40 per day until 10 per day. Open Mon. thru Fri. 8:30 A.M. to 7 P.M. 1-441-666.

In New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Kansas City, and Berkeley, Calif., while Washington, D.C., schools will be open for a half-day.

The 175,000 students of the City University of New York will be off because Jan. 15 was proclaimed Human Rights Day, a permanent school holiday. Other colleges and universities around the nation will hold memorial services.

Some school boards and municipal officials turned down requests from civil rights groups for official observance.

In Chicago, officials of "Operation Breadbasket," a project of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, were King's school, called on students "to stay in school, to study the life and work of this world citizen who refused walls," and asked workers to go to their jobs instead of taking off the day, so they could turn "one-half a day's salary to the black organization of their choice which is working for the liberation of black people."
Malcolm X Memorial Union

Reaction was varied Thurs-
day, but many Normalites interviewed by a Pantagraph reporter were against naming Illinois State University's present university union after the black leader.

"We'll have to live with it," one Normal said Thursday. "Students now at the university won't be here very long."

"I don't like the idea of simply giving in to demands made by a small segment of the university's student body," another said. "What will be the next demand?"

Several persons interviewed Thursday said they were interested in circulating a petition opposing renaming the union for Malcolm X.

Task Force Approves

A task force on intergroup relations at ISU recommended the present union be renamed after Malcolm X. Black students at ISU selected the name and building to be memorialized for the black leader.

The task force said Jan. 14 that the ISU black community was the only appropriate seg-

mendid in a position to select the name for a building to memorialize a black leader.

But renaming the union building - or any other ISU building - must be approved by ISU's Board of Regents.

Mortician Hurt in Crash

UNIVERSITY (PMT) - Art. R.

Fred Hampton and probably more acceptable to most blacks than the name of Martin Luther

KIng.

Black demands at ISU followed an attempt to lower the American flag on the ISU campus after the death of Fred Hampton Dec. 8 in a incident with police in Chicago.
EOC Fails To Support Center for Malcolm X

Dr. Ralph L. Smith, director of radio and television at Illinois State University, Friday night failed in an attempt to obtain McLean County Economic Opportunity Corporation (EOC) support for naming ISU's student union after Malcolm X.

His resolution to that effect was turned down 1-11-1, due primarily to persons who were allowed to vote because they expressed an interest at the meeting in joining EOC.

Mr. Smith is a member of ISU President Samuel Brander's "task force" on intergroup relations which approved naming the union after the Black hero.

The task force received the recommendation from a group reportedly representing the Black students and Black faculty members at ISU.

Wide Choice

That contention was challenged Friday night by a woman who asked if "every Black student voted.

"If I was told they sounded out everyone possible," Mr. Smith said.

Mr. Smith said he presented the resolution to EOC approved because he thought both low income and Black people should be well represented in things of concern to them in the community.

He said his resolution was "appropriate" because EOC recognized that "Blacks are the only ones to determine their own heroes."

To see the parallel, Mrs. Margaret Chasson, the city's first councilwoman, said.

Point Argued

She agreed that all low-income people should be represented. By the same token, Mrs. Chasson said, all students should be represented when naming an ISU building.

Francis Irvin, president of EOC, was asked to take a stand. He said he thought there was a parallel between low income representation and Black representation.

The Rev. John Porte said he also saw a parallel between Black and low income representation, but he was challenged by Lawrence Irvin, executive director of the Bloomington Housing Authority and a charter member of EOC.

"If the situation were reversed and only whites wanted to name a building, does that mean that none of the Blacks should have a voice?"

Questions Martindan

Asked why Black students didn't pick Martin Luther King Jr. or Malcolm X, Mr. Smith replied:

"The students felt Malcolm X's life started as a life of hatred and wound up as a life of love which made him die a martyr."

"Is that a black militant regime that put him in the grave?"

A Negro woman asked, "That's what I'd call it. Malcolm X and his whole tribe represent hatred. I can't see making a martyr out of a man like that."

Minutes later the vote was taken.

The naming of the union is now in the hands of the University Council, which meets Wednesday. The council's recommendation will be forwarded to President Brander and then ISU's Board of Regents.

Bonus Bank Interest
Insured Deposits

5% Interest on

Clinton Man Charged With Drunk Driving

CLINTON — A 26-year-old Clinton man posted his driver's license and $50 cash for a February hearing on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Bernard R. Meadows was arrested by State Trooper Robert G. Leggett on U.S. 51, a mile north of Marcos Wednesday night.

He is to appear in De Witt
The ISU Task Force on Intergroup Relations has forwarded the following resolution and motion to the University Council for its consideration on January 21, 1970:

**RESOLUTION**

Be it resolved that the Task Force on Intergroup Relations recognizes and strongly approves of the principle that Black community of ISU is the only appropriate group to select the Black hero who should be memorialized by naming a campus building in his honor.

**MOTION**

A motion was made and passed that since the Task Force on Intergroup Relations has determined that the Black community of ISU is the only appropriate group to select the Black hero who should be memorialized by naming a campus building in his honor, the task force has prepared the following information on Malcolm X and sent it to the University Council to explain the rationale of the Task Force, and to make a knowable and well-seen decision. Because of community interest in this matter the Task Force is publishing the rest of the information piece as a public service.

**MALCOM X**

American history is replete with stories of men who pulled themselves up by their bootstraps, who created a better future for themselves and others. In fact, that part of our history is perhaps the most praiseworthy of all. The story of Malcolm X is a most remarkable account of such a man. An Asian, El Hajj Malik El Shabazz, as he renamed himself, left behind a legacy of black Muslim pride and black Muslim leadership. This man, who was once Malcolm Little, is the man who made an incredible journey from the street corner to the top of the American Muslim leadership. His life has become the inspiration of many in the world, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

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Malcolm X's rise to prominence was not without controversy. He was imprisoned multiple times for his activism and speeches, which advocated for the rights of African Americans. Despite these challenges, Malcolm X continued to speak out against racial injustice and discrimination, inspiring many to fight for equality and justice.

In the early 1960s, Malcolm X became a prominent figure in the Black Muslim movement, and his speeches and writings gained national prominence as a symbol of hope for the black community. Within the black community, he was revered and as such a man before him.

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Police Say State Police Raids Shift Foci

On ISU Union

Decision Due

A recommendation by the ISU Police Force to the board of regents to place the campus under a state police raiding suit due to a recent increase in crime on campus. The board of regents is expected to make a decision on this recommendation in the next meeting.
Student Handful Now Controls ISU

Have you ever discussed racial problems with a Negro? I have done so several times in the past few weeks and have found that their beliefs are quite similar to mine. They don't want their children housed across town to make a 50-50 split in the schools. All they want is an equal opportunity to share in our American way of life, not a handout.

It is my sincere hope that my children will be able to grow up in a nation free of racial hatred. The Board of Regents should think of this when a decision is made.

G. MICHAEL VOGEL
455 Willard Avenue

Barbecue Business Prospering

Now that I am in the hospital, I have less to worry about in regard to my business being supported by the public through Mrs. McKinney's and the Pantagraph's help. Business will go on as usual with the help of my fine staff.

MARGUERITE JACKSON
712 W. Walnut

Lessons From History

[Content continues with various articles and editorials on topics such as race relations, education, and general news events.]
The Day boys have already been punished by the bad publicity they have been subjected to; not to get the two young men up as martyrs but rather to point and publicity, but rather education and a world in peace.

KEVIN P. O'BRIEN
604 N. Roosevelt

Trash Can for Malcolm X 12/8/70

Editor, The Pantagraph:
The majority of the ISU University Council has managed to show the public what fools some well educated men can be.

Naming the ISU Student Union after "Malcolm X" would be an insult to every citizen of the state of Illinois. This traitor who began his career as a pimp and thief, wasn't fit to name a backhouse after, let alone a state university building.

The argument that so naming this building would give blacks at ISU something to identify with is hogwash. If this was the idea, the name of someone such as Justice Thurgood Marshall of the U.S. Supreme Court or U.S. Senator Edward Brooke of Massachusetts would have been suggested. Men such as these are worthy of anyone's respect, whatever their race.

I would hope that the university regents have the good sense to put the "Malcolm X" name where it belongs: in the nearest trash can.

MICHAEL J. O'NEIL
1569 W. Chestnut St.
Not All Good Guys Found
On Same Ideological Team

Kurt DeWeese, senior at Illinois State University, offers a more
persuasive proposal to us and to those who write letters to the
editor of the Pantagraph.

The issue, in a letter appearing on this page, seems to suggest:

1. Those who oppose naming an
   ISU building for Malcolm X are
   misinformed, or hostile, or racist
   or probably all three.

2. Letters opposing such a
   building designation are from
   "cranks."

3. Publication of such letters
   encourages racist conflict.

4. A cure for the aligned
   racism, crankism and
   stupidity lies in censorship.

Let's take up the censorship
issue first. Malcolm X letters
published thus far fit our general

policy of allowing our readers
breath freely. We want their views,
not what we think those views
should be. Publication is not tan-
amount to approval.

On occasion, we discard letters
which go beyond the bounds of
reason or which contain libelous
material or facts so tortured as to
amount to deliberate distortion.

We find these few highly objec-
tionable letters write from all
political and philosophical areas of
thought — left to right, black and
white.

We cannot identify the writers of
pol or anti-Malcolm X letters as
"cranks." A crank is obsessed
with a project or field of activity,
usually in a straightheaded, fanciful
or impractical way. Perhaps we
could call him a fanatic. The Mal-
colm X letter writers, thus far, do
not fit that description.

But are the Malcolm X letter
writers "white racists?"

We hold that no word or phrase
has been more fraught in mislead-
ing than racist and white racist or

racist institution. Some of those
with the best formal educations
are most guilty of the sleazy ap-
plication of the word.

We do not believe the terms
racism and prejudice are syn-
onyms, and further believe that
tone, distaste, lack of knowledge
and aptitude of white towards
blacks often does not arise from
racism.

Racism is defined as the
"assumption, that psychological
traits and capacities are deter-
rined by biological-race and that
racism is the logical result of this
assumption."

A thoughtful, but the white racist
holds that the black is genetically
inferior, and thus entitled to,
or able to avoid himself, of equal
opportunities.

That white racism exists is evi-
dent. That it is often manifest is
peppercorn. It would take little ef-
fort to "prove" that Malcolm X
was a black racist and a crank,
too.

And, finally, are anti-Malcolm X
letters writers uninformed, ex-
presing only a "gut feeling" aris-
ing from bigotry?

Well, the truth is alive. Even
when we are most sure
that we have firmly in hand
it powders away into shades of
gray.

For our purpose today, it is suf-
ficient to say that not all those
who support the Malcolm X proposal
are free of error, poor judgment,
using incomplete information,
prejudices or free of deliberate
distortion.

This is not an attempt to put
down Mr. DeWeese, quite the
contrary. He has asked some hard
questions, and we find the finite
answers hard to come by.