



HOT ICEWORK—Our nomination for Sphink of the Week Award . . . Men's Residence entry for Ice Sculpting Artistry towards the weekend's Varsity Guest celebration. Officials deny the face—now missing—started out resembling Muk-Luk Mardi-Gras promoters.

Mississippi News Badly Biased

JACKSON, Miss. (CUP-CPS) Mississippi's newspapers are not known for moderate positions on the integration question. The Jackson dailies, followed by most of the papers in the state, have printed diatribes against James Meredith and the federal government in recent months that are, to put it mildly, shocking to a casual reader from outside the South.

Even the mild stand of the University of Mississippi student newspaper against the violence at Ole Miss, brought low-level insinuations about her morality and good sense.

But in the midst of the state's racial hatred and invective, one desenting voice is beginning to make itself heard.

A NEW POINT OF VIEW

The Mississippi Free Press, a student operated weekly, provides Mississippians with a point of view that has never appeared in their press.

Founded last December by members of the Student-Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, a Southern student action group, the paper is now under the direction of 20-year-old Charles Butts, who left Oberlin College, Ohio, to work for integration in the South.

Butts worked for some time in Fayette County, Tennessee, helping share-croppers evicted from their farms for registering to vote. He came to Jackson and the Free Press, determined "to convince Negroes that they are not inferior, but indeed are human beings, entitled to all the rights enjoyed by other citizens."

CONTROVERSIAL STAFF

Currently running the technical end of the paper is Lucy Komisar, a senior on leave of absence from Queens College, New York. Miss Komisar worked for two years on the Queens Phoenix, student paper at Queens, currently in hot water with its administration.

She has been active in civil rights work most of her college life and was jailed last year after a sit-in strike at a segregated Maryland restaurant.

The 21-year-old circulation manager of the Free Press, Dewey Greene, made news recently as he sought to become the second Negro to enter the University of Mississippi. Turned down by University authorities on the grounds he was unqualified, Green has filed suit in Federal Court seeking a court order to admit him.

A native of Greenwood, Miss., the headquarters of the White Citizen's Council, Green is a veteran of three years in the Navy.

SUBSISTENCE SALARY

The Free Press staff is paid a subsistence salary of \$20 weekly, largely financed by donations from Northern Colleges. Students at Tougaloo College, the state's only integrated college, help with office work of the newspaper.

Things have not been all rosy for the Free Press, however. It cannot be printed in Mississippi, and has to be taken to Memphis, hundreds of miles away. Local police keep close watch on the paper's staffers, and Butts was beaten after a picture of him with an article attacking the Free Press, appeared in a Jackson paper.

REAL IMPACT

The paper has been given some financial support from local Negro businessmen. Students at Oberlin, Earlham College, Harvard, Brandeis, Notre Dame and Indiana University have sponsored subscription drives to aid the Free Press.

In a recent article, the American Liberal asserted the Free Press was beginning to have a real impact, not only in Mississippi, but in Washington, simply because it prints regularly news and articles that do not normally get into print in the state.

By exposing examples of brutality and giving big play to shootings and beatings of integration workers, the paper has called attention to many incidents that might have otherwise gone unnoticed.

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