18 Excalibur, February 10, 1977



Kent State 1977: seven years after

By DANIEL W. LINDLEY (CPS-CUP) - Kent State, 1977.

Forty demonstrators, mostly members of the campus **Revolutionary Student Brigade**, Tell someone you love that Roots' is having a sale on their beautiful shoes and boots. 20% to 50% off. are picketing outside the offices of the school paper, protesting an editorial which has condoned the

execution of convicted murderer Gary Gilmore.

the Daily Kent Stater, staunchly

"Those people outside will picket anything that's picketable," she observes wearily.

picket. The weekend's coming up,

State, May 4, 1970, a series of increasingly frustrated anti-war demonstrations which had included numerous injuries, tear-gassings, and the burning of an ROTC building, culminated in a bloody battle between students and the Ohio National Guard, which left four students dead and nine wounded. Now, while parents of the slain and wounded are appealing an August, 1975 court decision which absvolved Ohio Gov. James A. Rhodes, former university president Robert I. White, and 27 National Guardsmen of guilt in the shootings, the campus has changed; but May 4 is remembered.

Even as observers see the majority of students becoming politically apathetic and returning to their books in preparation for careers, the May Task Force continues to stage a 24-hour vigil each year on the anniversary of the killings.

three years ago when Jane Fonda spoke," says Bob Hart, chairman of the organization. Last May 4, though the university administration refused to suspend classes for the day, over half of the 18,000 students boycotted school and a few thousand marched through the town of Kent and back to the commons where the shootings occurred.

the Kent Stater.



Jeannine Gutterman, editor of

surveys her opponents. 'We're just going to let them

and they'll be gone by Monday. Nearly seven years ago at Ken

"The last noisy rally we had was

"It was very peaceful, very quiet, really eerie," observes the editor of

is significant." The archivist negotiated with Davies for eight months, and then left it to Davies to call him back. Two years later, the

Tony May, who handles Kent State's public relations, says that he "was not aware of the librarians' and archivist's activities. Neither was anyone else here on the executive level. We can't help it if our archivist does not have an agressive personality."

The gymnasium, he continues, will cover only a fraction of the onetime football field where the students were shot. Though around 75 students appeared at a trustees' meeting to protest the building, ground for the edifice will be broken this spring, says May.

Still hard to tell what they (the students) are interested in," the Task Force chairman muses. 'They don't seem to care much about national politics or even about campus issues such as tuition hikes.'

"EVERYTHING'S CHANGED"

"Everything's changed," the editor of the local paper in Kent concurs. "We see a revival of the Greek atmosphere, with fraternities and sororities. The memory of May 4 is still alive amongst the townspeople, and there still are some who make sure we don't forget. Though they'll never forget the shock of martial law, more people are venturing on to the campus for cultural events."

Meanwhile, the Task Force goes to classes and talks with people who for the most part were in junior high during 1970. Though the speakers attending the annual May 4 vigil may be fewer and may talk more softly, Bob Hart believes that the event might become a tradition.

"People may have been on different sides of the issue politically, but morally they agree.'



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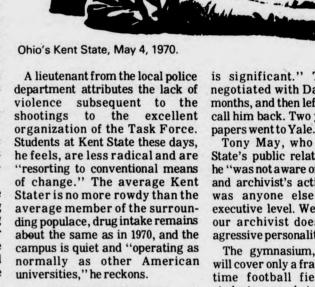
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STUDENT CONCERN

There has been a degree of student concern voiced over two recent developments. Author Peter Davies, who wrote The Truth About Kent State, and Robby Stamp, one of the May 4 wounded, have both donated their papers that deal with the day's events to the Yale library rather than to Kent State. In a second development, the administration plans to begin construction this spring of a gymnasium which will cover part of the

field where the killings took place. Davies and Stamp gave their papers and artifacts (Stamp's bundle includes a pair of pants with a bullet hole in one leg) to Yale because they said Kent State librarians would not agree to keep the documents from government agencies. Davies said that Yale provided "instant information, security, forms, and applications and procedures showing how people would have access.'

Though some students claim that Kent State administratiors did not even want the papers because they are obsessed with down-playing the brutal episode, which apparently has had an adverse effect on enrollment, the Kent State archivist sayd that "we try to collect everything we can on the event that





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