

5-9-70
NYR

BLACKMUN OPINION SCORED DISRUPTION

WASHINGTON, May 8 (AP) — Judge Harry A. Blackmun, whose nomination to the Supreme Court is to be taken up Monday by the Senate, has said that disruptive campus tactics might be expected of a spoiled child but not of a college student.

An opinion written last year by the 61-year-old Rochester, Minn., judge was quoted approvingly by Senator Robert C. Byrd, Democrat of West Virginia, in a statement today supplementing a Senate Judiciary Committee report urging Judge Blackmun's confirmation by the Senate. Judge Blackmun wrote the decision for the United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit. The court upheld the dismissal of a suit brought by two Central Missouri State College students for readmission after they had been suspended for taking part in a demonstration that disrupted activities at the college.

"College attendance, whether it be a right or a privilege, very definitely entails responsibility," Judge Blackmun wrote. "This is fundamental. It rests upon the fact that the student is approaching maturity . . ."

After referring to defiance of college authority, abuses of an official, disturbance of the peace and destruction of property, Judge Blackmun said, "One might expect this from the spoiled child of tender years" but not from a college student "who, in theory, is close to being 'grown up'."