

N.O. Students Interviewed

Preplexity Is Felt On Killings at SU

By CHUCK LOB

Students interviewed on local campuses today feel, more than anything, an uncertainty as to what really happened at Southern University in Baton Rouge yesterday.

Students interviewed at Tulane and Xavier universities had varying beliefs about what went wrong. But almost all of them were perplexed



HOLLY MARTIN JIM JOSEPH



TOM GARY GREGORY HARRIS

and felt there were many questions that need to be answered.

Here is a sample of the students' opinions:

TOM GARY, junior at Tulane, from Gloucester, Mass.: "I see no reason why a student should be shot in a situation like that. Somebody went overboard in allowing arms to be present on campus. Who else would have shotguns besides the police—although they are trying to slough it off?"

"The takeover of a building is a 'viable form of protest.



MRS. RITTENBERG PAUL ADAMS



KAY SMITH DAPHNE WILLIAMS



CLAUDE POE RONALD BERNIARD

It gives them a bargaining position."

Gregory Harris, freshman at Tulane, from Grand Chenier, La.: "Something like that should not have happened. Students should have gone back to class. I don't think it was worth two people's lives."

Jim Joseph, sophomore at Tulane from Chicago: "I don't know that much about it, but I hope it doesn't turn into another Kent State. I don't think the students were justified in taking the building; demonstrations are fine to an extent."

KAY SMITH, senior at Xavier, from New Orleans: "The students didn't have any guns. I was told that the governor said none of the National Guard had guns. Why would the students shoot themselves? It's just another Jackson State."

Claude Poe, junior at Xavier from Mobile: "Gov. Edwards got pressured by people

around him, so that he acted hastily. When he disbanded the committee he was saying, 'I'm tired of talking; now I'm going to use whatever it takes to get to the head of the problem.'

"Somebody had to fire the shots. I'm sure none of the students would commit such an act on a fellow student. It appears that, whenever something like this happens, the administration tries to cover up."

Taking the building, he added, was the "only way students could draw attention."

Holly Martin, Tulane student from Oklahoma City: "I don't know enough."

PAUL ADAMS, Tulane law student, from New Orleans: "The students were trapped. The power structure, in order to circumvent power taken from them, uses force. Students think that in order to confront the power structure they need to meet the force head-on. The result is killing.

"It is indicative of 400 years of struggle of blacks . . . in terms of the white man."

Mrs. Paula Rittenberg, Tulane staff, from New Orleans: "I'm wondering if we'll ever find out the truth. I tend to think the police were at fault, without a report done yet. It was totally unnecessary for someone to have gotten killed.

"I think taking a building is an acceptable way of protest, because it is one of the few ways that students can show their power."

Daphne Williams, senior at Xavier, from New Orleans: "They had so many different stories on radio and television . . . and we don't know what really happened.

"I'd like to find out exactly what happened, because the media around here is so one-sided.

"There was supposed to be general amnesty for students, period. The dean should have made the distinction between

judicial and academic amnesty."

Ronald Bernard, fourth-year pharmacy student, from New Orleans: "Gov. Edwards put his political career in jeopardy from the oint of view of black people. It was a rash judgment on his part."

The problem "stems from the double standard in Louisiana education," he said. "They are supposed to be state colleges, but they are not giving you the facilities or instructors for an education.

"The only time SUNO students got action was by confronting the people."