

Kent memorial interest wanes

Associated Press

KENT, Ohio — "The campuses are quiet now, a long war has ended," said former Sen. Eugene McCarthy, commemorating the deaths of four Kent State University students five years ago during a campus demonstration against U.S. intervention in Cambodia.

"Some say that students have withdrawn from society again, that they are not concerned about issues or about injustice," McCarthy said in remarks prepared for a campus memorial service today. "I do not believe this is true. I challenge you to prove that it is not true."

Nine students were wounded and four others — William Schroeder of Lorain, Sandy Scheuer of Youngstown, Allison Krause of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Jeffrey Miller of Plainview, N.Y. — were killed when National Guardsmen opened fire May 4, 1970, on students protesting U.S. policy in Southeast Asia.

An annual ceremony, including a candlelight procession and a 12-hour vigil at the spot where the students died, has been held, but student leaders say interest is waning.

For the first time in four years, radical students' groups have scheduled no ceremony to parallel the memorial. "The seniors say they've been through it three times and they're tired, and the freshmen agree it was a horrible thing but they weren't here to see it," said Amie Shaw, chairman of the memorial ceremony.

"None of us could believe something like that could happen here," said Jerry Zielaskiewicz, a Cleveland freshman. "Every once in a while there's a demonstration, but nobody comes."

Bob Malone, a campus security chief, says his biggest problem today is guarding against theft and vandalism. "I've almost forgotten what a demonstration is," he said.

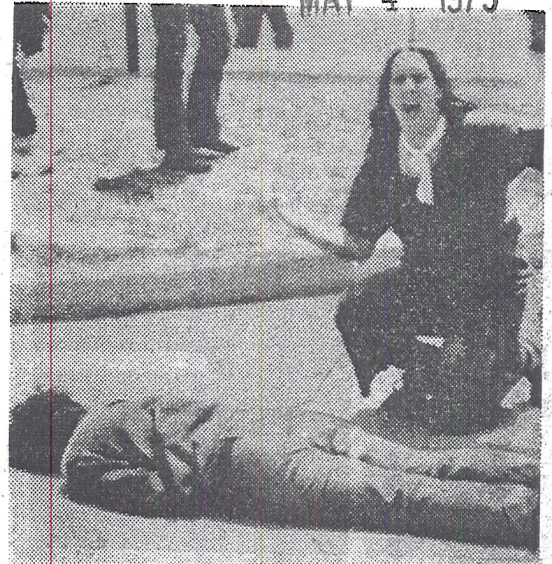
Page 18 Section A ☆☆☆

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MAY 4 1975



MAY 4, 1970 SHOOTING AT KENT STATE

John Paul Filo won Pulitzer Prize for photo