

Memorial Service At Kent State

Kent, Ohio

Kent State University commemorated yesterday the May 4, 1970, killing of four students and wounding of nine others by national guardsmen, but many students and faculty members said the observance had lost its emotional impact.

One of the wounded students said the annual observance had become a farce, institutionalized by pipe-smoking historians.

The students were killed during an anti-war demonstration which centered on the United States' invasion of Cambodia. The school's annual memorial service this year included as speakers Elizabeth McAllister, an anti-war activist, and former Democratic Senator Eugene McCarthy.

"Students here now look at the shooting like a Gettysburg," said Jerry M. Lewis, an associate professor of sociology who was an eyewitness to the shootings. "The students tend to look at the shootings with far less emotion and less passion. They tend to look at the whole affair with more of a historical, analytical, intellectual approach."

One of the wounded students, Robert Stamps, 24, who is attending KSU graduate school, is troubled by such attitudes.

"May 4th carries a pious, religious, sober mood that is really a farce," Stamps said.

"The emphasis has shifted to education, but the average Kent student doesn't really care or understand what it was all about. May 4th is a dead issue, literally and figuratively."

The shootings climaxed a weekend of anti-war demonstrations. The guard was sent by Governor James A. Rhodes and a group of young persons had gathered that Monday afternoon to protest events in Indochina and the presence of the guard on campus.

Killed in the burst of gunfire were Allison Krause of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Jeffrey Miller of Plainview, N.Y.; William Schroeder of Lorain, Ohio; and Sandra Scheuer of Youngstown, Ohio.

Ms. McAllister said the

Kent State shootings must not be forgotten.

"Forgetting is the one great sin and it's so easy . . . The events are already forgotten by most Americans, if not by most Kent State students," Ms. McAllister said. "Remember Vietnam — how we got there, what we did there, what it did to us," she added. "To remember is the only hope for America."

A rally Saturday afternoon drew only 350 persons, most of whom said they were attending from curiosity, attracted by the ringing of the school's victory bell for a half-hour prior to the rally.

The Rev. Daniel Berrigan held a workshop during the weekend and also delivered a memorial speech.

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