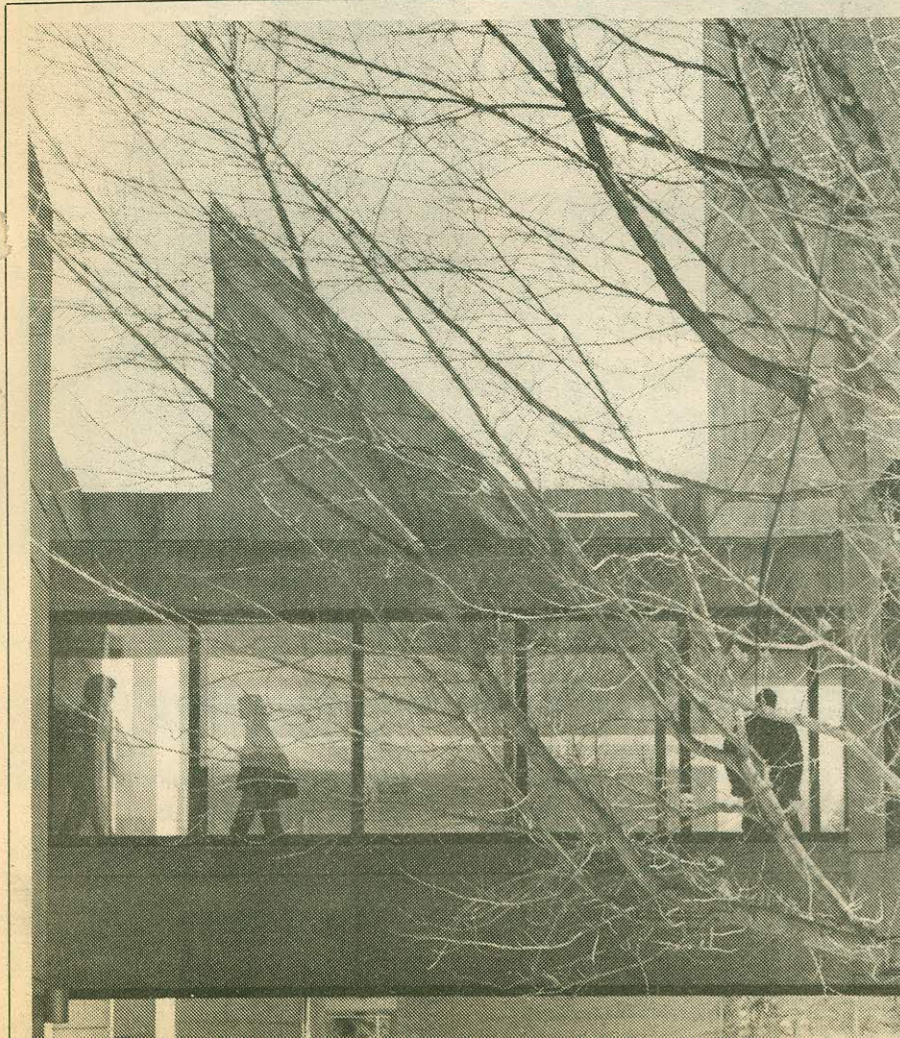


# The Campus Chronicle

for the University of Massachusetts at Amherst



## Earnest Effort Promised To Deal With Racial Tension Cited by Hurst Investigation

University officials and organizations responded heartily during the past week to a 64-page report on a fight which occurred October 27 at the Southwest Residential Area. The report is the culmination of an independent investigation begun in mid-November by Frederick A. Hurst, a member of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination.

Action by University and student officials to correct problems identified in the report — problems of racial intolerance, campus security, and administrative control, among others — have already begun. Announcements of new initiatives in this vein are expected to occur throughout the semester.

Since Judge Hurst made his findings public on February 5, University Chancellor Joseph Duffey and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dennis Madson have asked Northwest District Attorney Michael Ryan to appoint a special investigator to pursue any further prosecution which may be warranted. They renewed their call for witnesses to come forward to help in the continuing investigation. The district attorney was

to conduct the investigation last fall, said the report will help guide the campus in its efforts. "There are lessons here and new reminders of responsibilities for the administration, for faculty, and for our student leaders, as well as for every student on this campus," he said. "I will give serious and extended consideration to staff and administrative changes needed to meet our responsibilities to help insure that this campus is a place where the diversity of American society is respected."

(Excerpts from a *Chronicle* interview with Chancellor Duffey appear elsewhere in this issue. Judge Hurst's "salient points" about the October 27 events and their context also appear elsewhere in this issue.)

Members of the campus black community — students, faculty and staff — met the evening of February 5 to review the Hurst report. Later, 47 of them unanimously endorsed a statement which supported "the basic thrust and general recommendations" of the report and urged the University administration to pursue "effective measures to guaran-