

Black Students Urge Colby Act On Demands

Citing what they termed Colby College's "consistency in avoiding the issues," black students who left Lorimer Chapel after a week-long sit-in Monday night called Tuesday for "positive action towards our demands."

The Student Organization for Black Unity delivered a statement shortly before 5 p.m. Tuesday to the office of Colby President Robert E. L. Strider.

The letter referred in critical terms to the temporary restraining order which ended the chapel sit-in Monday by 17 black students.

Two other incidents, involving white supporters, occurred on the Mayflower Hill campus during the afternoon.

At 2:40 p.m., a group of about 175 students went to President Strider's office on the third floor of the Eustis Building.

Heading the group was Michael Meserve, a junior from Gardiner, who told Dean of Faculty E. Parker Johnson that they wished to express their concern to the President about the events of recent days.

When Dr. Strider met the group at 3 p.m., Meserve told him:

"WE ASK, we demand, that the legal actions taken by the college be reversed. If they are not, things will happen which we will all regret."

It was reported that the group had been meeting in Roberts

Union since 2 p.m. before going to the President's office.

While the black students were presenting their statement to Dr. Strider, an estimated 150 white students began to picket the President's on-campus residence. They carried placards but were orderly.

At 5:30 p.m., the group dispersed.

In its statement, the Student Organization for Black Unity told the administration that "once again you have concerned yourself with the notoriety of our actions and not with the realization of our goals. Let us say, though, that this time the notoriety of your actions stands paramount."

It also added that "the institution of our goals is still our primary concern and we have grown stronger on this point. We have brought a piece of the chapel with us; the spirit that was mobilized while we were there will continue to serve us until our ends are reached..."

"IT HAS PROBABLY come as no surprise to you that the tone of this letter is critical but at the same time we hope you will appreciate the urgency with which we regard the need for you to take positive action towards our demands," the group said.

The demands listed when the black students occupied Lorimer Chapel included: enrollment of 50 more black students by Sep-

tember; freshman classes in subsequent years to be at least 10 per cent black; a black studies program taught by a black professor; and abolition of a grades requirement for students receiving financial help from the college.

Colby College officials had no comment on Tuesday's developments.