April 20, 1981

Dear Dr. Sebaly,

I have enclosed, just for your information, a copy of a news release which describes some of the activities the May 4th Task Force is planning this year.

I've given this release to Joe Durbin of University News Services. He will be contacting either you or Dr. Hubbell, and also Dr. Carey, to get information for a KSU news release that will incorporate information on all May 4th programs.

Meanwhile, the May 4th Task Force's news release has been sent to all local media.

Sincerely,

Jim Heinrich
Public Relations Committee
May 4th Task Force
For immediate release (April 20, 1981)

Three stars of the movie "Kent State," which aired on NBC-TV in February, and the film's historical consultant are among the speakers for this year's program to commemorate the deaths of four Kent State University students in 1970.

Jane Fleiss, who portrayed Allison Krause, one of the four students killed by National Guard gunfire; Jeff McCracken, who played slain ROTC student Bill Schroeder; and Charley Lang, who had the role of Barry Levine, Allison Krause's boyfriend, will speak at the program, which will begin at noon on Monday, May 4, on the KSU Commons.

Historical consultant for the movie, Dr. J. Gregory Payne, will also speak. Payne is the author of the play "Kent State: A Requiem," which was performed at KSU last May 3.

Payne has also written a new book, "Mayday: Kent State," which describes the making of the NBC-TV movie, and he did his doctoral dissertation on "A Rhetorical Analysis of Selected Interpretations of the May 1970 Kent State Incident."

Keynote speaker for the program will be the Rev. John Adams of the United Methodist Church, who was instrumental in reopening the investigation of the Kent State incident and helped raise more than
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$800,000 to pay for plaintiffs' legal expenses in the 1975 Kent civil trial.

Rev. Adams' speech will attempt to relate the May 4th incident to a variety of political issues since 1970.

Other speakers for the program will be Joseph Rhodes, Jr., a member of the Scranton Commission, a 1970 commission which investigated campus unrest; and Chic Canfora-Knepp, an eyewitness to the shootings and one of the "Kent 25," a group of 24 students and non-students and a faculty member who were indicted for 43 riot-related offenses in 1970, and against whom all charges were later dropped.

A number of student musicians and speakers will also give presentations. Kevin Gardner, chairman of the May 4th Task Force, says that this year's program "has been geared to the average KSU student."

The Task Force is also sponsoring a panel discussion at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 3, in the Kiva.

Panelists will be Jane Fleiss; Dr. J. Gregory Payne; Dr. Jerry Lewis, KSU professor of sociology who has written numerous articles on the 1970 incident; Dr. Thomas Hensley, KSU associate professor of political science, who, with Dr. Lewis, is co-author of the book "Kent State and May 4th: A Social Science Perspective"; and Alan Canfora, one of the nine wounded students in 1970 and one of the "Kent 25."
Audience members will be invited to submit questions in writing for panelists to answer.

The Task Force will be sponsoring a showing of movies relating to the Kent State incident at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in University Auditorium at KSU. Details will be released at a later date.

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