

Rutgers On Maneuvers?

Once again it seems Rutgers will have the dubious distinction of being "the" issue in the forthcoming gubernatorial election. Right now candidates are dueling each other in an attempt to secure their parties nomination and many of them have chosen their weapon—the "situation" on the Rutgers-Newark campus. One of the most disturbing things about the comments made by some members of New Jersey's intrepid legislature is the fact that not one of them knew what agreement had been reached between the University and the Black Organization of Students at the time. The attitudes of two particular gubernatorial hopefuls—Rep. Charles W. Sandman (R-2nd Dist.) and State Senator Frank X. McDermott (R-Union)—can only be described as militant. Both men have used the word "surrender" in referring to the University's actions in Newark making it sound like a military retreat. Sandman comes to the heart of the matter when he says "If I were governor...". That is what he is thinking about, and what McDermott is thinking about, at this time. The implications of the problem faced at Rutgers—the mood on campus, the justice of the demands, the proximity of the Newark community and its great involvement in this problem were not, and are not likely to be, considered by these candidates. McDermott says the state of New Jersey has been shamed and Sandman claims "New Jersey has received terrible publicity and the people are both indignant and dismayed that it was tolerated by Rutgers officials." Why so? Because a large University has listened to the cries of its students and been willing to talk about solutions to pressing problems? Because Mason Gross and Malcolm Talbott avoided violence and chaos on this campus? Is this why New Jersey is shamed? Is this why we have received unfavorable publicity? It would have been very simple for Rutgers to join the ever growing ranks of colleges across this country which are torn by violence, but this University chose the harder, less frequently traveled road. They kept open the lines of communication and continued their dialogue with BOS in an attempt to reach a just solution. The solution that was reached is one that everyone who has a feeling of social consciousness, and is sensitive to the needs of our changing world, can heartily applaud. Perhaps this excludes Rep. Sandman and Senator McDermott?

The students at this University and the people of the state of New Jersey should be proud of the untiring efforts of the University's administration to bring about a just solution without violence. The legislature should be throwing roses, not rocks.

To
I
sys
fal
att
and
ent
the
sel
pre
ext
in
the
Qu
T.
part
trad
ann
have
few
Why
insti
in it
have
in
exp
cond
cont
thro
elect