

Develop Black Pride

By J. BAUMAN

Chronicle Staff Writer

The Negro Revolution has finally arrived at the University. Student Opportunity University League (SOUL), an organization aimed at the development of "black pride" among the University's Negroes, will be revived Sunday at 8 p.m. in Union 319.

The President of the organization before it went into a decline last year, 19-year-old Grover Thompson, is an articulate young man with some strong ideas about black identity, black pride, a voice for the blacks.

Founded on Mutual Defense

I interviewed Thompson Thursday in the Chronicle office. I think he says it best: "Well, we were founded last year during the latter part of fall quarter — we were mostly made up of blacks; we had one white member, though. At that time we were most interested in

what you might call 'mutual defense' — we arranged for tutoring, self-help, etc. We tried to orient some of the black students of the campus.

"This year there are something like 16 or 17 thousand people on campus, and probably no more than a hundred blacks, the great majority of whom are athletes. Now I would like to have this group develop some black pride, and be educated in black pride — so those who go around spouting it really know what they're talking about.

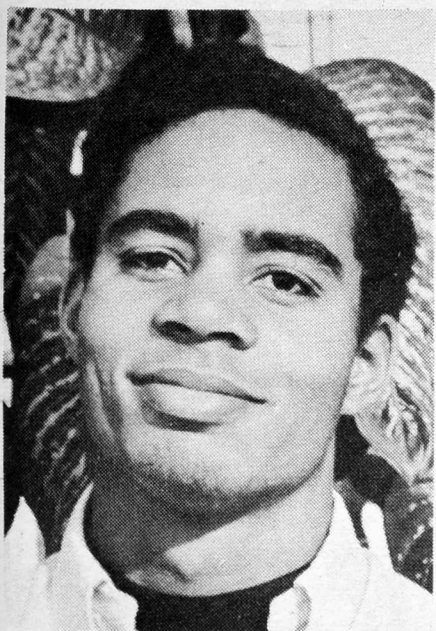
An Active SOUL

"Last year our group was pretty inert — this year I'd like us to be **active**, I'd like us to have a voice, I'd like people to know about us. Like the April Committee—they're more active than passive; they don't sit around talking about what they're going to do and go home and feel good at night — they just go out and do things. This is what I'd like to see our group do."

"I'm from Salt Lake City. Everyone from Salt Lake City and everyone at the University seem to think everything in this state is all right racially; everyone gets along fine—if you happen to be a Negro and have lived in this town any length of time. You know this is a ludicrous attitude. I went to an all-white school day in and day out — I went in the morning and left at night; I said as little as possible. And I was brainwashed into thinking the way they did; most of the people in this state are too closed-minded, they don't know what's the real situation, they don't make any effort to find out, they don't want to know."

Riot Possibilities

"Why, I talked to several people the last couple weeks who were convinced there was going to be a



GROVER THOMPSON
... Soul President

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No Negroes

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race riot next summer. This could or could not be true, but it just goes to show that there's as much racial tension here as in other parts of the country."

"There are Mormons who will turn around and say we're perfectly integrated: we keep our streets clean, get our garbage picked up every week. But there is not one Negro fireman, not one Negro policeman, not one Negro doctor in this town — you don't even see Negro street cleaners around here.

"Incidentally, I don't notice any Negroes on the Chronicle when I came in here . . ."

Get Involved

"We're meeting Sunday at 8 p.m. in UB 319 — and if this group is to be effective in any kind of way we want the blacks to come — and they better come if they want to see any type of change here, if they want to get involved in anything besides Friday or Saturday night stomps, or whatever else they have up here.

"Whites are as welcome as the blacks too — we're a frat for everyone! But we don't want people to just come in and talk about race so they can go home and feel liberal — we want every Negro we can get, plus whatever whites are really committed."