

LOCAL / STATE

Commemorating Project 500

The Rev. Ben Cox, middle, comforts Ed Blankenheim, right, as Blankenheim becomes emotional while discussing the summer of 1961 and the Freedom Ride, a trip from Washington, D.C., to New Orleans to test segregated facilities in the South. The two, along with fellow Freedom Rider Hank Thomas, left, were at a panel discussion at the University of Illinois' Lincoln Hall on Saturday. The event was part of the commemoration of the 35th anniversary of Project 500, the UI's initiative to bring 500 black and hispanic students to the UI.

