

6 die as cultists clash in Makurdi varsity

ON JUNE 9, 2016 12:29 AMIN **NEWSCOMMENTS**

By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—Five students of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, and a security guard were reportedly killed, while scores sustained injuries in two days of bloody conflict between rival cult groups at the institution. *Vanguard* gathered from a student, who craved anonymity, that the crisis was sparked off by the killing of a student of the institution, last Monday, by a suspected cult gang.

He said: “We believe that last night’s killings of these students is connected to Monday’s killing of a student by suspected cultists. It looks more like reprisal attacks.” The armed men, Tuesday night, stormed Chamma Hostel, a private lodge outside the institution, and moved to Block D, Room 2, where they requested to see one Aye.

But the occupants of the room, numbering four, told the visitors that they had no such occupant in the room. The student said: “Angered by the response and plea of the students, the leader of the gang ordered his men to kill them all, while they were on their knees, begging.

“From there, the gang moved to the security post, where they also shot the security guard of the hostel. Unfortunately, every one of them died before they received medical attention.” The institution’s Head of Public Relations Unit, Mrs. Rosemary Waku, confirmed that five persons, including four students and a security man attached to the hostel, were killed.

She disclosed that a cult-related attack had claimed the life of one student on Monday, adding that it was believed that the killed student belonged to the cult group that came for reprisal on Tuesday night.