



Protest At Game

Not everyone Saturday carried "Beat the Irish" or "Hate State" signs. Some preferred telling the record capacity crowd about the ATL controversy.

Dave Laura Photo

Vigil strong in Orange Hall; plan march for Wednesday

By FAYE UNGER
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Permitted to stay in Bessey Hall over the weekend, students protesting the dismissal of the ATL professors rechristened Bessey as "Orange Hall," and planned a silent, signless march for Wednesday.

"We're asking all concerned students to walk quietly from Bessey to the Administration Building Wednesday when the Board of Trustees meets there to consider the firing of the professors," said Steve Hickson, a member of the steering committee of the United Students.

An ad hoc committee of United Students sponsored the Orange rally that has become a vigil.

There are to be no signs, no chants. The students are to stand quietly at the Administration Building without blocking traffic while the Trustees meet.

Students delegated by the steering committee of United Students will visit T. Ben Strandness, chairman of the ATL department, and Edward A. Carlin, dean of University College, Monday and Tuesday.

They will also deliver position letters to President John Hannah, the Trustees and members of the ATL department.

President Hannah had earlier said that students might be asked

to leave Bessey Hall at midnight Friday, when the building was closed.

But Carlin told students in Bessey at 3 p.m. Friday that they would not be asked to leave at midnight.

"We will not be removed from the building and we can stay as long as we want to," John Dennis, another member of the steering committee, said.

At least five or six students will keep a vigil for the rest of the year, Hickson said.

The students in Bessey accept the building as their indefinite headquarters. There was talk of using the building as the headquarters for a free university or for publishing material on questions of academic freedom.

The number of students in Bessey swelled to 500 after 11:30 p.m. Friday as students came to hear the discussions and see if those on vigil would be permitted to stay.

After closing hours the number dropped to 150 who stayed overnight. About 50 were still in Bessey Sunday morning. The number is expected to pick up again throughout the week.

A number of students from the Bessey vigil also picketed and handed out leaflets at Spartan

Stadium before the Notre Dame game.

Speakers Friday night said there was no chance the fired ATL instructors, W. Gary Groat, J. Kenneth Lawless and Robert S. Fogarty, would be rehired.

They talked of using the concern over the firings as a springboard to action and discussion on other questions of academic freedom.

The students meeting in Bessey Thursday had put together a three-point program reading:

(1) The fired instructors should be given reasons why they were not rehired. The students do not have to be given the reasons, only the instructors.

(2) If no reasons are given, the students will ask the advisory committee to reverse its decision not to rehire the instructors.

(3) The students support the AAUP statement asking the ATL advisory committee to re-examine its decision to dismiss Groat, Lawless and Fogarty.

"We've asked that the advisory committee discuss the firings with the executive committee of the AAUP. If the AAUP then says there was sufficient reason for not rehiring the men, we will accept their decision," Hickson said.

"We want a chance for these

men, and other untenured instructors, to have the right to appeal their firings," he said.

A group of students visited Strandness Friday, to talk with him and ask him to speak Friday night.

Strandness declined to speak to the students in Bessey, but he invited students to speak with him in small groups up to six in his office.

The students in Bessey discussed and turned down a suggestion to sit-in in front of Cowles House Saturday night.

"We don't want President Hannah to involve himself in this. We don't want any precedents set for administrative involvement in faculty affairs," Hickson said.



Bessey Hall Vigil

Bessey Hall was the scene of a sit-in all weekend. About 500 people crowded into Bessey Friday about 11:30 p.m. waiting to see if they would be allowed to stay.

State News photo by John Castle