

Student Strike 1970. Records.  
Daily Event Chronologies

FOLDER 3  
BOX F.D.  
COLLECTION UA 26.1

MAY 1

About 1 p.m., the demonstration for abolishing ROTC on the MSU campus ~~started~~ began in front of the Auditorium. After being interrupted by rain, some 400 students then reassembled in front of the Administration Building.

After presentations by the guerilla war theatre, the students were read the administration's stand on abolishing ROTC (SEE ATTACHED SHEET) by Vice President for University Relations Robert Perrin.

After the statement was read, the students marched to the International Center where they crowded into the lounge.

Some 300 persons voted about 3:30 p.m. to hold the International Center until closing. They also agreed to stage a rally at 9 p.m. in order to gain the physical force necessary to hold the building after closing.

There was a great influx about 8 p.m. and about 10:15 p.m. they left the International Center, some 200 strong, and marched to Demonstration Hall which houses the offices of ROTC.

At DEMONSTRATION HALL Three small fires were set, . A molotov cocktail was used to ~~ignite~~ ignite curtains. It was extinguished quickly. ~~Demonstrators~~ Demonstrators then moved toward the north campus where ~~hated~~ at the bridges. Rocks were thrown. Students finally crossed on Farm Lane bridge and roamed by Kedzie, where windows were broken, Also Erickson, Ag. Hall the Administration building. Demonstrators had agreed earlier to reassemble west of Colwes House if they got separated.

A number of demonstrators went in that direction and in the vicinity of the parking lot by Morrill Hall and the Home Economics building.

## CHRONOLOGY of Events - Tuesday, May 5, 1970

### 1:30 - International Center

a few of the demonstrators (30) arrived at the Center and sat down in the spectators section of the ~~gax~~ Con Con Room to await Academic Council meeting. One of them wrote demands on a blackboard at front of room - out of Cambodia, ROTC off campus, Remember Kent...

1:45 three demonstrators walked through cafeteria shouting "On Strike, Shut It Down"

2-2:15 Main contingent of demonstrators from Beaumont Rally arrived. There appeared to be considerable confusion as to what to do with all the people and if there was going to be an Academic Council meeting. Someone announced that the meeting had been cancelled, said he'd been told by Anderson in the Religion department. There were approximately 1,000-1,500 people gathered

2:20 One contingent left for South Complex to try and draw more support. There was more talk about what to do. Finally, one of the black students (not Sam Riddle) said that group should go and find Wharton and present their demands to him (since there might not be an Academic Council meeting). He told the students "This is what you're going to do." One student was sent off to get the group that had already left for South Complex. The rest lined up and marched from the International Center to the Administration Bldg. via library bridge.

2:45 Arrive in front of Admin Bldg chanting "We want Wharton."

Wharton came down and read his previous statement.

NUC read their list of three demands.

3:00 South Complex contingent arrived chanting "On Strike, Shut It Down"

3:15 Excerpts from president's speech read, demands were reread. Plans made to head out and organize the dorms and return for rally at 10 a.m. Wed. in front of Administration Bldg

Chronology of events  
6 May 1970

- 0955 Rumor that Dickerson and provosts are meeting at 1:00 to "dump" on students starts moving
- 1000 Leaderless rally tries to start itself
- 1015 Rally starts with speakers. Initially 2000 to 2400 students are attending. Crowd swells to 2800 to 3200 at peak. Lectures delivered on Bobby Seale, Cambodia intervention (Bill Herman (?) of anthro dept.), ROTC and Kent incident.
- 1036 announcement of Memorial Service for "Kent 5" at 3:00 p.m. Moving from Beaumont Tower to Alumni Memorial Chapel, where service and talks by Ken Wood of Lansing, etc. will take place. There is a noticeable lack of Black students at the rally. Announcement of "Discussion" on issues of strike on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. in the U Auditorium. Announcement of March to Capitol on either Monday or Thursday. WMU, EMU, CMU, MSU, UM and Kazoo are said to be participating.
- 1055 Rally breaks to go picketing. Majority of students head off alone. Larger factions break South across bridge ~~towards~~ towards Wells, towards ~~Circle~~ Beaumont area and towards Berkey Hall.
- 1102 Front of Strike party arrives at Berkey. Some people head inside to set off ~~fire~~ ~~alarm~~ fire alarms. Majority of students gather on sidewalk and block East Circle between Berkey and Horticulture. Circle-Fee Bus is immobilized for about five minutes, along with Broday bus. About 300 people are in street and sidewalk trying to block traffic. No police around except plainclothesmen.
- 1110 Crowd heads off to Bessey Hall and Natural Sciences Building area.
- 1112 Nat Sci fire alarm goes. Small group remains for a few minutes there. Larger group at New Kedzie area chanting and picketing.
- 1115 Largest group arrives at Bessey to picket and chant
- 1116 Decide to block Farm Lane between Bessey and Auditorium. After they discover their initial attempt allows ~~buses~~ buses to go around, they move about 30 meters south to block Aud drive, too. Eventually one bus moving North and five buses moving south on the block are stopped by 300-400 students. Picketing continues.
- 1122 Crowd up to around 400. They finally remember to trip the Bessey fire alarm, No threat or mood of violence. Debate on whether to let empty buses through ensues. Police have blocked Farm off at Circle and Shaw to keep more people from getting blocked in cars, but stay away from students.
- 1127 A contingent from the south of about 100 people joins up on Farm Lane with larger party. Crowd now up to 500-600.
- 1136 After debate on buses, sticking together, etc. fizzles, crowd break for Erickson and Wells Halls. They miss Erickson and go straight to Wells, entering from the East through People's Park. Picketing and chanting ensues at Wells. Crowd of about 200 participants plus numerous onlookers. Stress for non violence and picketers are in good mood.



1150 After period of nothingness and indecision, there is a call for people to head to Anthony, S. Complex, Brodya, Eppley, etc. and factions break for various areas or home.

Entire mood of morning was one of nonviolence. This was stressed at the rally and in all the shouted announcements during the morning. After the rally broke up, leadership was noticeably missing, as were the police.

\_#bdz##

Fred

MEETING AT UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM - May 7, 1970

5:00 Meeting started. Speeches on the issues by Charles ~~Lange~~ <sup>Larow</sup> of economics for the faculty, Sam Riddle for BLF and someone from school of social work.

Then presented the demands and had debate. Demands accepted were as follows:

U.S. Out of IndoChina -- now.

Solidarity for brothers and sisters at Kent State. And in conjunction with violence there, ~~ask~~ demand:

No firearms be allowed on campus  
state, county and city police and national guardsmen not be allowed on campus

Additional riot control weapons be

8:15 p.m.

Vote to change ROTC somehow was passed

Vote to abolish it totally was defeated, 2280 to 1648

Voted to allow ROTC to remain on campus only if no University funds, facilities or recognition be given to the program.

9:10 Vote that Bobby Seale cannot be brought to trial and should be freed.

9:50 Demanded no academic, financial or occupational penalization be made against students, faculty or staff for participation in the strike. Passed.

Decided to proclaim a Strike. Passed.

Announced Rally at Beaumont tomorrow at 1:00 p.m.

Resolution that by Fall, 1971, that MSU enroll 2000 additional (as a minimum) African, Chicano, Indian and other oppressed minority students and provide supportive services, both financial and academic for those students. Further, enrollment of these students will increase each term until a minimum of 16% minority students are enrolled by Fall, 1971.

Recruitment and qualification of these students will be administered and controlled by the respective communities of the minority students or through present organizations set up to accomplish these ends. Further, the racist University College requirements be cancelled.

Additional rider for the Bobby Seale demand that MSU students speak out against the oppression of all political leaders, and they should be able to expect justice.

PASSED BY ACCLAMATION.

Steering meeting Friday in Board Room on third floor of Stud. Services Bldg.

An amendment on women's liberation was defeated.

It was decided that further amendment and tactics discussions be delayed until the Friday or another weekend meeting. Nonviolence and continuation of present procedures was approved. Crowd down to ~~2~~ 1500 by close at 11:10 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1970

The teach-ins were held as scheduled. Dr. Wharton participated in a number of them, with an overflow crowd at the one on Indochina. The others were also well attended. Some students had urged boycotting the teach-in in which the administration had a hand.

1:00 p.m. About 1,500 students gathered on the lawn near Beaumont Tower. As an added starter, the MSU Symphony, under the conductor Dennis Burk, played music which "was in keeping with the frustration and anxieties" of the times.

Following the musical presentation, ending ovation from the audience, the sound equipment from the music department was dismantled and the "Rock" again became the center of the action.

There was a presentation by the Street Corner Society.

~~ANNOUNCEMENTS~~ -- May 17 there will be a concert behind the bus station to raise money for the draft center.

--Saturday there will be a meeting of off-campus strikers at 10 a.m. in Berkeley.

--Economic Boycott Committee announced plans to boycott Coca Cola--symbolic because they represent American imperialism.

--There will be picketing of the dinner Friday honoring

~~XXXX~~ Nobel Laureate Hershey to show administration and state legislators that strike is going strong.

--According to Beth Shapiro (who also ran the Thursday night

Auditorium rally) Justin Morrill College is shut down, as are

the Departments of Anthropology and Social Work also.

--More information will be spread Monday.

--Shapiro also announced that ~~XXXX~~ section of anthropology voted ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ not to hold classes for the rest of the term. They will meet, however, to find out what they are going to do for the rest of the term.

--Soldier on leave spoke, said he was not going to return to service.

--Crowd decided to give GI amnesty on campus.

--Crowd heard "the news according to Beth" --announced that there was a meeting of the 50 governors Monday; some troops or units in ~~GA~~ refused to go to Cambodia (??); killings and arming by California protestors; number of campuses shut down.

--Coverage by WHIM discussed. They didn't think JIM was fair, not reporting everything. Not satisfied with Thurs 11 p.m. headline which ~~reads~~ said that a rally voted to retain ROTC.

--Announced (by B. Lang) that \$250

*Free*

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Following the musical presentation, which brought a standing ovation from the audience, the sound equipment from the music department was dismantled and the "Rock" again became the center of the action.

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- More information will be spread Monday.
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- Crowd decided to give GI amnesty on campus.
- Crowd heard "the news according to Beth" -- announced that there was a meeting of the 50 governors Monday; some troops or units refused to go to Cambodia (??); killings and arming by California protestors; number of campuses shut down.
- Coverage by WJIM discussed. They didn't think JIM was fair, not reporting everything. Not satisfied with Thurs. 11 p.m. headline which said that a rally voted to retain rotc.
- Announced (by B. Lang) that \$250 was collected for bond money for an arrested student. Since only \$150 was needed, the other \$100 was allocated for printing.
- Beth emphasized that shutting the place down was a means to an end. "All we want are our demands," she said.
- A girl said MSU band was playing in Detroit for Armed Services Week; she suggested some action be taken.



- Beth announced various planning sessions on weekend; said there'd be a mass meeting Monday.
- Art faculty to meet Mon. A.M.; art students urged to meet outside of Kresge at same time.
- Beth announced session on protest methods at Engr. Bldg.
- Among news items, she mentioned that teamsters were supporting student pickets.
- She urged that pickets set up proper picket lines and not coerce anyone. Mentioned something about MSU employees in local 1585 supporting strikers.

Most of the meeting was spent discussing the demands. The crowd received handouts listing the issues and about Bobby Seale.

Following the rally

- Approximately 400 students marched to Engineering to attend a teach-in session on "Tools of Effective Protest".
- Students were standing, sitting in the isles, etc.
- The Demands were reviewed.
- Those strongly supporting the strike were asked to leave so that there would be room for students unsure of their stand or opposing the strike (hopes were discussion would win them over).
- Students standing in the hall then came into the auditorium.

The School of Social Work -- according to Gwen Andrews, director

- has shut down formal operations.
- The intent of instruction is there, however.
- Classes are being met by a variety of other routes worked out between the professor and student i.e. different times, places, and formats that are suitable in these times.
- The school is simply not following the routine - formal operations.

The Department of Anthropology, after a meeting by an ad hoc committee of faculty, students took a stand to postpone classes. This action was as of May 6. The department along with graduate and undergraduates will meet Monday at 3 p.m. to reassess its position. Whether or not classes are held is up to the individual professor.

Monday - May 11, Rally 1 p.m.

- Approximately 1,500 - 2,000
- Suggested picketing Placement Office. Navy and Air Force (?) recruiters are there.
- Will plan Rally and then march to Academic Council meeting 2:30 p.m. Tuesday.
- Thursday there will be a march on Capitol; factory workers in the Lansing area are being urged to join in the march. Students are giving rooms to house persons coming in from around the state for information on this 11 Snyder 353-1948
- Pat Martin of Hubbard Hall - East Complex - discussed working with the establishment and the demands of strikers.
- Norman Pollack - history department - reported on the preamble that the Faculty Graduate Assistant Strike Committee has drafted to propose to President Wharton
- Different alternatives to grading that will be presented to Wharton include:
  1. Like in WWII - receive grade that has been earned up to this point
  2. Have a take-home exam
  3. Students deserve at least a 2. for the education they are receiving by examining the issues
  4. Propose a no credit grade system (?)
  5. Allow students to withdraw without prejudice and with an N grade.
  6. Defer all grading - give undergrads an I and grads a deferred.

2:20 - Rally moved to Administration Building. Crowd somewhat smaller -- perhaps 1,000.

- announcements were made encouraging people to attend complex meetings tonight.

- Wharton was to meet with 5 students. This grew into 300 before it could be stopped, however. They are overflowing the board room. Dickerson Perrin, Wharton and other vice presidents are present. It is apparently a shouting session. The students want a yes or no answer on the demands and Wharton is contending that he does not know what percentage of the student body they represent.

True

AFTERNOON OF MAY 11, 1970

2:30

2200

Students attempted to pack Board Room, where Wharton, et al were meeting with representative members of strike and other student organizations. Kibby and co. refused to sit in "an elitest body", so LaRue and Wharton agreed to let everyone stay if they were quiet. LaRue taking initiative to throw troublemakers out.

---First discussed open admissions. Wharton explained ceiling for Fall 1970 was already set by legislature and filled up. Announced that Dr. Polly would head a commission dealing with admission problems/ minority groups. After some denouncing, Rodney Watts, formerly of BLF and now part of Black Aid Program (Regional coordinator for Brody complexes) said that a group of BLFI, Urban Affairs, Black Affairs, EOP and Mexican-American groups had been meeting with the Administration- and were satisfied with progress, so who the hell were the STRIKE people to tell them what was happening. Topic of conversation quickly changed to another area.

---Discussion switched to ~~xxxx~~ whether or not the administration would aid in student efforts in the strike -- calling off classes and so forth. He explained with aid of provost, the channels and methods that to do what. LaRue and Pollack asked about Academic Assembly and if a vote would be taken there in conjunction with class suspension. Wharton continued to kick around idea with the group that the rights of those students who want to still attend classes must be observed, and that the x Faculty Code requires completion of announced class curriculum.

Students insisted that the academic assembly refuses to act on demands, and that in light of the critical nature of the issues and the nation posture in foreign affairs, the normal procedure must be abolished, and that the x students should be able to bypass the assembly to Wharton, and he should act on demands and closing the University.

----also kicked around were the x issues of students feel that they will be punished ~~xxxx~~ (Wharton affirmed that he had no power to tell an instructor what grade to give), for striking- and a no sanctions policy should be taken; and that financial benefits cannot be put before human benefits (i.e. legislative appropriations should be ignored in search the the liberation of man's thoughts on the relevant issues.)

----At 4:30, Wharton was still insisting that he had not the power to close the University, and ~~xxxx~~ the students would have to take demands for action during the strike to the proper people, which the students insist are too slow in acting.

THE NIGHT OF MAY 18 AND MORNING OF MAY 19, 1970

Action Group Against Racism met at Union. 150-200. Rapped about tactics. Split into some small groups which ranged the campus, throwing rocks and playing cat-and-mouse with the police. A larger group remained in the Union Building. Vandalizism reports started in earnest about 10 p.m. Reports said a police cruiser got "rocked" behind O'ds Hall. The Ad Building got 9 more windows broken. Reports also that windows smashed in International Center, Eppley Center. Fires lighted in trash cans and the rest room of Wells Hall. Off campus reports included 31 windows smashed at IBM Building off the west edge of the campus.

When group stayed in Union beyond closing time, they were warned several times and police, with assistance from Ingham County and State, East Lansing State Police, effected arrests of 130. Taken to Ingham County Jail where list will be compiled. The arrests were made without incident. Students came out very calmly. Photos were taken as each arrest was made, which is routine procedure to verify arrest. Arraignment likely to be sometime later Tuesday a.m. Arrests included two juveniles. Arrests began at 1:30 and final one made at 3:02 a.m. Last of buses departed for Mason at 3:30 p.m. Were very few spectators around the Union as the arrests were concluded...only about 30-40 on each side of the Union.

May 20, 1970

East Lansing Municipal Court.

---all the students who were arrested were arraigned by 3:15 p.m.

---the question that arose was over the bail bond procedure.

Richard P? Oleksa, attorney at law and prof. of bus law admin was representing 5 students and pretty much tried to arrange the happenings of the ohters.

-----the question on bail follows: \$200 cash was collected at Ingham county jail from those who had it at the time of arrest as the legal interim bail. Those who did not have money were held until yesterday afternoon or today.

Judge Harmon set bail at \$300 (statement by Oleksa on ammount at bottom). Normal procedure is to ~~xx~~ have defendent pay 10% of the bail total (\$30) to the court. At time of trial, he would get 9% of the gross (i.e. \$27) back -- losing only \$3. (Oleksa claims this is the normal procedure).

The way court procedings went, ~~h~~ the defendent could either (1) Pay a bondsman 10% of the bail ammount to have the bondsman put up bail. In this case, the \$200 will be returned as soon as possible by the ~~Maxon~~ County Jail and they kiss the ~~\$~~ 10% the bondsman gets goodbye. or (2) ~~They pay~~ the court retains the \$200 interim bail and the defendent pays the court 10% of the remaining \$100 ~~xx~~, of which he gets 9% (\$9) back. The \$200 stays with the court until trial.

Oleksa claims that this second procedure is not correct, and the students should have the option to pay the COURT the \$30 (getting back 9%) at trial and receive the \$200 back. Apparently the judge is not allowing this, and Oleksa (OFF THE RECORD FOLLOWS) is going downtown to file a petition against the practice (END OFF THE RECORD).

OLEKSA ON TROUBLE: "The \$300 bail which has been set is a responsible bail in light of the charges of trespassing and loitering."

On arrest: "Other avenues of response could have been made. Tensions have worn the university to the point where they perceived the campus situation as one of potential destruction, when in fact, the opposite may be true."

"There is tremendous social cost in light of the university ~~xxxx~~ response. The total economic cost to the system is exessive."

(The Bail situation on the 10% to the court and 9% back is from: M.S.A. 28,872(56) or MCLA 780.66).



the 20th continued

On the problem with bail: "It's a fair and reasonable legal argument that once the bail is set at \$300, the individual should have the interim bond returned and then post 10% of the \$300 with the court -- or \$30 to gain their release."

He points out that the \$200 interim + 10% additional is a total of \$210, or the equivalent of \$2,100 bail under normal practice. It is this point he is going to protest (???) With Michigan State Bar Assoc (???)

During the arraignment procedures, there~~xxk~~ were about 130 people (about half of them were defendants at any given time) in the courtroom. The capacity of the court is 103, according to fire marshall. There were about fifteen or twenty other people in the ~~xxxxx~~ corridor outside the second-floor courtroom. The police locked the doors to the building for fear of the kids jamming up all the passageways and making a ruckus. About 50 to 100 students were therefore outside the Abbott street entrance to the building trying to hassle the cops.

As of now, all of the students are free under one or the two bailbond procedures. Oleksa is trying to file a ~~xxxx~~ ~~pp~~ paper in God-knows-where to alleviate the situation with the holding of the ~~xxx~~-original \$200/

#bd3#

<sup>400</sup>  
gathered in International Center - great influx about 8 p.m.

just prior they broke a cig. machine

approximately 10:15 they left the International Center

(200 marched to Demo hall); some (about 30) stayed in the

the International Center - there was a conflict on methods to be used

at Demo hall  
windows were smashed and they used molotov cocktails to start a fire; fire went 10 minutes before police showed - they shot

5 tear gas bombs (only about twenty smashed windows)

demonstrators moved back east along the river - police stopped at bridges - rocks were thrown

students crossed on Farm Lane bridge

windows were broken in Erickson, S. Kedzie

at 3:30 p.m.

APPROXIMATELY 350 persons voted to hold the International Center until closing. They also agreed to ~~stage~~ stage a rally at 9 p.m. in order to gain the physical force necessary to hold the building after closing.

The demonstration ~~for~~ for abolishing ROTC on the MSU campus started at 1 p.m. in front of the auditorium. After ~~approximately 400~~ being interrupt by rain the students then reassembled in front of the administration building. After presentations by the guerilla war theatre the students were read the administrations stand on abolishing ROTC (see attached sheet). by Vice President of University Relations Bob Perrin.

Following the announcement the students march to the International center.

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6-15-68