

THE OAKLAND SAIL

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Snowstorm causes mayhem, joy at OU

By MARK CALIGIURI
News Editor

A major snowstorm caused an unprecedented mid-afternoon cancellation of classes at OU last week creating a combination of mayhem and joy among university students and administrators.

The storm, which dumped approximately eight inches of snow, sleet, and ice on the campus, forced university administrators to cancel classes Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday.

According to Interim President, George Matthews, closing the university was a very complex process.

"CLOSING (OU) is a rather sizeable operation," Matthews said. "It involves a complicated process by which the physical services of Mr. (George) Catton (acting director of Campus Affairs) keeps an eye on the storm and informs me of what's happening."

"By the middle of the day, I had received information from Mr. Catton that the roads were getting slicker every minute," Matthews said.

"The decision to close was based on the data I received from Mr. Catton who is much more aware of the conditions outside from monitoring

Dean offers ABS loan to cover debt

By MARY ELLEN BURKE
Staff Writer

The Association of Black Students (ABS) has been offered a loan by Jack Wilson, dean for student life, to cover its \$835 deficit.

The money will come from the vending fund which is used for programming by Student Life.

"Groups who are short (of money) to make a program go can apply for these funds," Rosalind Andreas, director of CIPO said.

THE LOAN has not been accepted by ABS but the group will be discussing the possibility with its board of directors at a meeting scheduled for some time this week, according to ABS President James Franklin.

Franklin expressed some doubts about the loan which he said Wilson offered them "out of the kindness of his heart." Franklin added that ABS had not been aware of the possibility of a loan from the vending fund.

"Why all of a sudden should ABS be made aware that there's a loan process," he said. "Why weren't we made aware of this last September?"

Franklin admitted that the loan was a way of solving the problem that has arisen be-
(See ABS, page 3)

weather reports than I am," he said.

THE CLOSING, however, did not go as smoothly as university officials would have wished it to.

According to Matthews, Catton had to stay overnight in the Physical Plant last Tuesday while monitoring reports of the storm.

"He (Catton) called me at 11 that night and suggested closing the university for the next day," Matthews said.

At this point, Matthews said that the information was relayed via a tape recorded message to the State Police and local radio and television stations.

Unfortunately, this tape was not erased quickly enough the next day because some local radio and television stations still received it.

AS LATE AS 5:30 a.m., Thursday WJR-760 AM radio, was saying that Oakland University was closed for that day.

"We heard the broadcast and called them up immediately," Matthews said. "They cleared up the problem by correcting the broadcast after that," he said.

"It is really a serious business trying to get this done," Matthews added.



Snow Bowl?

The Oakland Sail Tom Primeau

The major snowstorm that closed the university for almost two days didn't stop these Hamlin Hall students from getting together a small football game in the valley between the dorms.

Speech stresses mass action

Radical blasts capitalist system

By RITUSEHGAL
Editor-in-Chief

He is a self-proclaimed revolutionary. His rhetoric is fierce. His politics have not deviated much from the radical posture they held over a decade ago.

For former Black Panther leader Stokely Carmichael, the passion that marked the civil rights struggle of the 60s has not faded. His speech to an OU audience on Friday was a command — indeed a directive — to persons of African heritage everywhere to rise up and fight for what he calls "qualitative" progress. And that, he says, can be achieved only through the destruction of capitalism.

"Capitalism oppresses nationality mercilessly," he told a mostly black audience. "Capitalism is a vicious, stupid system whose only motivation is money and which seeks to put money above everything else. In capitalism, stupidity is always held in grandeur."

THE SYSTEM, he says, has oppressed and exploited African people everywhere. It has made everything a commodity.

"It made slavery a commodity," he said. "(And) it makes knowledge a commodity." The African people can free themselves only through

knowledge gleaned from history, he added, but not from the "bourgeois" history taught in colleges across the country.

"Our concept of (black) history is not the concept of history presented to us in America," he said. The

"bourgeois" scholars are the enemy, and when the enemy presents "your history to you, he is not going to present it properly."

The masses must join together to destroy the forces of "imperialism" and "racism," he said. "The responsibility of every man is to free the oppressed masses. And people who are oppressed must know their history."

"Or-gan-ize," was his message, spoken in slow, deliberate tones, to the group of 150-200 persons gathered to hear him.

HE URGED members of the audience to join the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party (AAPRP), an organization whose objective is Pan-Africanism — the total liberation and unification of Africa and its people under socialism.

Although black people have made progress over the last 20 years, Carmichael said the progress has been "quantitative" and not "qualitative."

The black officers elected to public office have become a part of the system, he said. They alone cannot be entrusted with carrying on the struggle for Africans in this country.

"The masses must organize to free themselves," he said. "Everything must come from the people."

News Round-up

OU'S PUBLIC SAFETY received word Thursday that blood samples taken from an on-campus rape victim match those taken from a suspect who has voluntarily restricted his presence on OU.

The information came as a result of tests done at the Northville State Police Crime Lab. There will be no arrests, however, until more extensive tests have been done on the samples.

"We're going to wait for the final lab tests before we make an arrest," said Mel Gilroy, investigator for Public Safety. Gilroy added that the results would be relayed to the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office which has been working on the case with OU officials.

The rape occurred on the eighth floor of North Hamlin Hall at 2:35 a.m. on Jan 21. The suspect was given a show/cause hearing by the Student Life Office a few days later. At that time, the suspect agreed to move out of Residence Halls and stay off-campus, except for attending classes.

THE PERSONNEL POLICY COMMITTEE (PPC) of the Board of Trustees, will meet at 5:30 p.m., Feb. 18, to decide on the future of William Macauley, assistant professor of political science at OU.

The conference, which will precede the general meeting of the board at 7:30 p.m. on the same day, will make the final recommendation on Macauley's position. The PPC, composed of three board members, will have Provost Fred Obear appearing at their hearing.

THE OU WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION is sponsoring a workshop on Thursday to give students information on scholarships and various forms of financial aid available to them. The workshop will be held in Room 125 of the Oakland Center from 12-1 p.m. Financial Aid Officer Karen Stepien from OU's Financial Aid Office will show students how to fill out financial aid forms, and answer questions.

UNIVERSITY CONGRESS will have David Bricker, associate professor of Human and Educational Services, as a special guest speaker at its next meeting, Feb. 19. The topic of discussion will be the changes in the current General Education requirements.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Oakland Sail has been forced to produce a smaller edition of the paper this week because of technical difficulties. We would like to thank the staff and management of the Jackson Citizen Patriot which allowed us to use their production facilities over the weekend. We hope to resume normal production next week.

EDITORIAL

Icy hassles remain for OU community

While most OU students have forgotten the storm that dumped eight inches of snow and ice on the Detroit area last week, a grim reminder of it still remains with us: icy sidewalks and snow-covered parking lots.

The storm which forced cancellation of classes for Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday left OU's campus totally immobilized.

NOW, SEVERAL days later, OU is still mostly snow-covered and icy, presenting students and staff members with a major problem - getting back and forth from classes without hurting themselves physically in the process.

Consider this fact: all of the parking lots are not even plowed yet. Despite plans for scraping the lot by the dorms this past weekend, the major commuter parking areas remain untouched.

When this happens, there is generally less parking space available due to the haphazard way in which students will leave their cars creating yet another serious problem.

If a person can somehow overcome this obstacle, however, then another one awaits them on campus as they try to get to classes.

THE ICY sidewalks provide a major barrier for everyone going to class. Most classroom building entrances are relatively clean — providing one doesn't go two feet beyond the door.

The only exception to this, however, are the entrances around North Foundation Hall which, curiously, are the areas where our high level administrative offices are located.

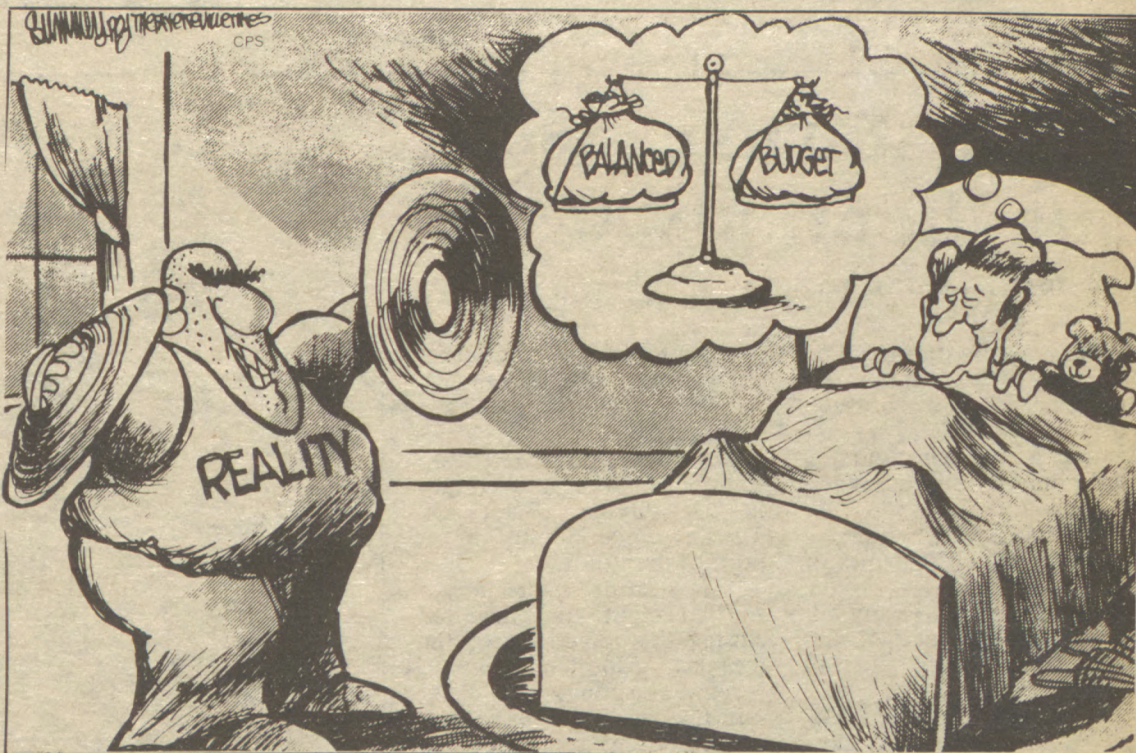
It seems a shame to us that instead of holding classes off for one more day so that the lots and the major sidewalks leading to classroom buildings could be plowed, university officials decided to hold classes on Thursday, fully aware that their crews would be unable to make the university accessible to students and faculty members.

Consider this point: the bridge over Beer Lake was almost impossible to cross due to the ice that built up on the cement. Coupled with the slant of the bridge, it was very difficult to cross the structure without slipping or falling. This does not even take into account the plight of the handicapped students or anyone who may have been on crutches trying to cross the bridge. For them, attending classes might have been out of the question.

Why couldn't that one extra day be used to clear off sidewalks, parking lots and roads leading in and out of the university as well as around the campus? To us, this would have allowed maintenance workers to take the next day off while maintaining accessibility to the students when classes resumed.

FURTHERMORE, with all the students still at home, there should have been very few problems in clearing off the parking lots, surface roads, and sidewalks because nobody would have been there to interfere in the clean-up project.

A major snowstorm as this should be a fine example of the things to be avoided when an event as this happens. Let us hope that our administrators have perhaps learned something from this and that the same mistake won't be made again.



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