



U Strike Bulletin

OCTOBER 31, 2003 ★ DAY 11 ★ STRIKE BULLETIN OF U of M AFSCME CLERICALS

Clerical Workers Strike and Student Sit-in Wear Down U Administrators

Back to the Negotiating Table on Sunday!

The union and the U administration will be back at the negotiating table on Sunday. Getting the U back to the table is a victory won by two weeks of a strong strike and an outpouring of support from faculty, community, and students.

Thursday was quite an interesting day. As of Wednesday night, the U was still saying they have nothing new to negotiate with the union. Thursday morning, Bruininks met with students who had been sitting-in at Morrill Hall since Tuesday. When he wouldn't agree with them to return to negotiations with the union, the students vowed to continue their sit-in in Bruininks office until he restarted negotiations, even though U administrators threatened the students with arrest if they stayed in Morrill past 6 p.m.

But suddenly Bruininks seemed to have a change of heart. By mid-day, MPR reported that Bruininks was willing to negotiate with the union. Soon after, negotiations were set for this Sunday.

Getting the U to come back to negotiations is a victory, but the fight is not over. Now we have to get them to move at the table on our key issues.

If we let our guard down now, they will not move at the table. We have to finish the week strong and we have to plan to be on strike on Monday.

We will rally Friday at Gateway at noon. Then we'll have a presence at the Homecoming parade on Saturday. And we will plan to be on the picket lines to continue the strike on Monday.

We will start to negotiate again on Sunday, but those negotiations could take longer than a day or could stall. So unless you hear otherwise, plan to be on the picket line on Monday. To know what's up for Monday, check the union website, call the recording at the AFSCME 3800 office at (612) 379-3918, or watch the news late Sunday or early Monday morning. If there is a tentative agreement, it will be on the news. If you don't hear anything about a tentative agreement, then plan to be on the picket lines!



Union supporters march Thursday night on the East Bank

Rally for a Fair Contract

**Friday at Noon
Gateway Building**

Finish the week out with a great rally and barbeque at the Gateway Building where the Board of Regents offices are. Send a message to the Regents and Bruininks to offer a fair contract in negotiations this weekend!



Students leave Morrill Hall after 3-day sit-in Thursday night to join support rally

What's Happening This Week?

Friday – 9:45 a.m. – Mass Strike Meeting @ Strike HQ

Friday – 12:00 – Rally & BBQ at Gateway to Pressure Board of Regents & Bruininks to Settle a Fair Contract

Saturday – 9:30 a.m. – Homecoming Parade – Meet up with the Union! Meet outside Sanford Hall (12th & Univ)

Events subject to change. For details on any of these events contact Strike Headquarters at 612-331-6420.

STRIKE HEADQUARTERS: (612) 331-6420 • 1219 UNIV. AVE • WWW.AFSCME3800.ORG