Evans Says It Means Nothing

Housing Bill Criticized

By JOHN B. SAUL
Lantern Staff Writer

4-12-68

The open housing bill signed Thursday by President Johnson means nothing, according to John S. Evans, Arts-3, unofficial spokesman for the Black Student Union.

He made the statement in a speech at a Campus Association for Democratic Action (CADA) meeting Thursday evening.

"It's just something else on a piece of paper," said Evans. "If we followed the Constitution we wouldn't need civil rights bills anyway."

Whites Overreacted Wednesday

White people overreacted to the gathering called "Wednesday Noon" by the Black Student Union, Evans said. The overreaction showed that whites are still fearful of blacks, he said.

"Peace groups can have their demonstrations on the Oval without incidents, but look what happens when a black group tries to assemble," Evans said.

Spending $14,400 to call up the National Guard showed blacks where they can expect money to be used when concerned with race problems, Evans said.

Green Collected $72

He said $72 was collected on the Oval Friday by David Green, associate professor of history, and was given to the Black Student Union. Some of the money had to be spent for fines and the rest would be used as "black students saw fit," he said.

Last quarter the Black Student Union was fined $27 and put on social probation because someone flicked cigarette ashes on the floor at a meeting during Negro History Week, Evans said.

"Being fined and put on probation seems to be a stiff punishment for a few cigarette ashes," he said.

"Time is running out for the white people," Evans said. "Blacks are tired of non-violence."

William McDonald, chairman of the CADA civil rights committee, said the Ohio State organization was the largest CADA civil rights group in the country.

"With this status, we should take the initiative in educating whites to black problems," he said.

McDonald pledged CADA support to University open housing projects and other civil rights activities.

CONGRESS CRITICIZED -

John Evans, Arts-4, spokesman for the Black Student Union, lashed out at Congressional civil rights legislation. Evans, speaking Thursday night, declared "time is running out for the white people."
New Negro Dean Gets Housing Woe

By DAVID LORE

Although they agree on little else, both administrators and Negro students at Ohio State University feel that discriminatory practices in the rental of off-campus housing for students is a serious problem.

Yet, despite a general mood on the campus to recognize the needs of the Negro student, the question of what the university should do about such discrimination remains unresolved.

OSU does not register off-campus housing for its students.

After the campus Black Student Union asked the administration in February to take action against discriminatory landlords, university officials set up an office through which students could file complaints with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission.

To date, two persons, one a married exchange student and the other a non-student, have filed housing discrimination complaints through the university.

Frank C. Gibb, compliance director for the commission, feels however, that university reliance on the OCRC is not a very effective means of meeting the problem.

"We could never be completely effective under our laws," Gibb said in an interview. "Something more positive in the way of action from Ohio State is needed."

Gibb said he advised OSU officials of this in early April during a conference on the problem.

Ohio law generally would only be effective in dealing with apartment developments. It does not cover housing of less than two units, where the owner is a resident or was the last resident.

Even if Ohio law did apply in a complaint, processing would take more time than the average student cares to wait when he is searching for a room or apartment, Gibb said.

"The situation up there (in the university area) is a rotten one," Gibb said. He reports that a Negro acquaintance called 30 OSU-area landlords to ask if Negro students were accepted in their housing, and got 30 negative replies.

Nevertheless, the university administration has had the matter under study since February.

Ranking officers first said a commitment from the OSU Board of Trustees would be necessary.

They got this authority on March 14 in the approval of a fuzzily-worded administration-drafted document of good intentions which left action up to the administration.

Since March, however, the only escalation in university action has been frequent hints from officials that registration of housing may be necessary.

John T. Bonner Jr., executive dean for student relations, repeated again last week the issue is still "up in the air" while indicating "there is little doubt we'll maintain some kind of listing."

Bonner reported the problem may be turned over to the new assistant dean of student relations, who will be a Negro to deal mainly in Negro student problems.

"If we get the right kind of man, he'll have long experience in this field and might come up with something we haven't thought of—he'll be the key to which way we'll actually move on this," Bonner said.
BSU-Deans Talk Over Black Affairs

Six representatives of the Black Student Union (BSU) met for two hours Thursday with John T. Bonner Jr., executive dean for student relations, and Milton W. Overholt, associate dean for student relations in charge of housing, to discuss Negro student problems and to interview a candidate to head the Office of Black Student Affairs.

The man interviewed, at the request of the BSU, was Eugene Robinson, an employee in the marketing division of Ohio Bell.

Bonner and Overholt have interviewed other men for the position, some of whom, Overholt said, the BSU representatives found unacceptable. More candidates for the job will be interviewed, he added.

When the man is hired to head the Office of Black Student Affairs, he will be able to hire a staff, including some students on the work-study program, to help the Negro students.

William T. Kilgore, Education-2, spokesman for the students, said, “The meeting was called to talk about the Office of Black Student Affairs. There was some meaningful dialogue and decisions were made.”

“Only time will tell whether the University will be sincere and implement the decisions,” he said.

Bonner said, “We should have a qualified individual in the office who can relate to the black students and who has the ability and support to solve their problems.”
Federal Jury Indicts Evans

John Evans, former Ohio State student and Black Student Union (BSU) leader was one of 23 persons indicted Wednesday by a federal grand jury in Cleveland for failure to report for induction into the armed forces.

Evans was arrested by FBI agents May 10 at his home. The following Monday Evans charged that the University had failed to send his Selective Service board a confirmation of attendance.

Evans later amended his charge, saying that the University had sent the papers but that they had sent them too late.

Evans is one of 34 black students indicted by the Franklin County Grand Jury in connection with the April 26 take-over of the Administration Building.

He and seven others were also dismissed from school as a result of the take-over.

"The 34 indicted students are free on bond and their cases have been continued in Columbus Municipal Court."

In Cleveland, Fredrick K. Jurek, assistant U.S. attorney said, of the federal indictment, "I'm certain this represents the beginning of a trend. We've never had this many college students indicted before."

Evans Claims Bulletins Snatched Off Blackboard

BY AMY RICHARDS
Lantern Staff Writer

The Black Student Union (BSU) is having trouble keeping notices posted on its bulletin board in the Ohio Union, according to John Evans, BSU leader.

"Many of the notices and posters are being snatched off. There have been too many to count," he said.

He accused "racist students" of pulling off the notices.

Evans said he will cover the bulletin board, called the "blackboard," with plastic to halt the alleged thefts.

The BSU posted the Blackboard—located in the lower level of the Ohio Union, on the north wall between the east and west ballrooms—at the beginning of Fall Quarter. The Ohio Union charges no rental fee for the space, Evans said.

Notices include summaries of Afro-American courses offered by the University, newspaper clippings from other BSU chapters and announcements of black theatrical productions and jazz sessions, Evans said.

"Many things that needed to be publicized never were publicized," he said. "The Blackboard tells students about news and art related to black people."

Evans said any black student may post notices there.
By ROGER A. MYERS
Lantern Staff Writer

Summons have been served to six of the 13 defendants named in a suit filed by Black Student Union (BSU) members in U.S. District Court last Tuesday. Summons will be served to the other seven defendants as soon as they can be contacted, according to Georgiana J. Helal, a clerk in the U.S. Marshall's Field Office.

The defendants have 20 days from service of the summons to file an answer or ask for continuation of the suit to a later date.

The suit asks that:
• General regulations for all students at Ohio State be declared void and unenforceable.
• All charges and disciplinary actions against BSU members allegedly involved in the April 26 Administration Building lock-in be dropped.
• State police and the National Guard be permanently prevented from coming onto campus.
• General University regulations be revised.
• Campus police be prevented from further acts of violence according to the suit.

Franklin County grand jury that indicted BSU members allegedly involved in the lock-in: C. Howard Johnson, Franklin County prosecutor, and Stacy Hall, Franklin County sheriff.

Claims No Action

The suit claims that since Winter Quarter, 1987, BSU members have been peacefully protesting alleged University acceptance of cultural and housing discrimination, but University officials took no action on their complaints.

On April 26, about 75 members of the BSU met with Carson in his office in the Administration Building to "seek redress of their grievances and a decrease in the spread of hysteria."

About 200 members of the campus Americans for Democratic Action and the OSU Committee to End the War met at the same time the BSU occupied the second floor, according to the suit.

The suit was filed by John S. Evans, Arts-4; Harold Strickland, Arts-3; Emery Yawn, Arts-1; Carol A. Young, Arts-3, and the BSU.

Defendants Named

Defendants or their representatives served with summons are: Gordon B. Carson, vice president for business and finance; John T. Bonner Jr., executive dean of student relations; John T. Mount, vice president for educational services and secretary of the Board of Trustees, for the Board of Trustees; John M. McElroy, administrative assistant to Governor James S. Rhodes, for Governor Rhodes; and Charles S. Lopeman, chief counsel to William B. Saxbe, attorney general of Ohio, for Saxbe.

Defendants not yet served with summons are: Novice G. Fawcett, president of Ohio State; John W. Bricker, chairman of the Board of Trustees; James W. Shocknessy, a member of the Board; Okey R. Starr, chief of the University police; Robert M. Chiaramonte, superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol; Edward P. Becker, foreman of the
Expulsions Bring Protest by BSU

By ROGER MYERS
Launched Staff Writer

About 50 Black Student Union (BSU) members Wednesday protested University disciplinary action involving eight persons who allegedly participated in the April 28 Administration Building lock-in.

Groups of BSU members repeatedly tried to enter the Administration Building to see President Fawcett and John T. Bonner Jr., executive dean for student relations, from about 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. but were turned back by University policemen stationed at the entrances.

The disciplinary action affected eight students. Four were dismissed. The records of two who failed to achieve a passing point-hour ratio last quarter and two who withdrew from the University were tagged to prevent readmission to the University without special permission of the chief student personnel officer.

No Other Action

No action has been taken against the remaining 26 students alleged to have participated in the lock-in. Of this number, however, five have withdrawn from the University and 10 were dismissed for academic reasons.

Police allowed individuals who had regular University business to transact to enter the building one or two at a time as others came out. Waiting lines moved slowly, however, and many persons walked away rather than wait up to a half-hour to get into the building.

Individual BSU representatives were allowed to get into the building to speak to Fawcett and Bonner.

"What we dislike most about the situation is that the University released in formation about the disciplinary action to the media before notifying the students involved," John Evans, who was registered in Art-4 Spring Quarter and is a BSU spokesman, said. "We don't even know who was expelled because we haven't received letters yet."

President Fawcett said Wednesday afternoon that it was University policy not to release names when disciplinary action was taken against students. He declined to comment about specific charges against those disciplined.

"Institutionalized Racism"

Evans accused the University of practicing "institutionalized racism." He said that white persons coming to Ohio State get better treatment and better information than black persons, who are then more likely to flunk out than whites are because of this.

Evans said that the problem was one of education and asked for more University courses in black history and culture.

Marion Curry, chief University security officer, said the policemen were on duty to "insure the safety of the building, its contents and the people in it." He did not say how many policemen were there.

In other developments, Evans said James Blue, Arts-3, chairman of the Student Committee on Racial Equality, is not a spokesman for the BSU, as indicated in one report. No white person can speak for the BSU, Evans said.

An inter-racial rally in support of those students disciplined is scheduled for noon today on the Oval, according to Michael Williams, BSU spokesman.
BSU Lawyers Debate More Legal Maneuvers

By RALPH HAMMOCK
Lantern Staff Writer

Petitions and counter-petitions are still being filed in the Black Student Union (BSU) against state and campus officials, William J. Davis, attorney for BSU, said Monday.

Davis said a motion to dismiss the suit, pending since July 2 in U. S. District Court, had been filed on July 22 by the Ohio Attorney General's Office on behalf of Novice G. Fawcett, University president and the other defendants named in the suit. A second motion to dismiss was filed on July 25 by the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

However, Davis said he is debating whether to file an answer to the motion or to file an amended petition, which would include the names of all eight Negro students dismissed by the University.

Robert Carter, counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has joined Davis as counsel for the BSU.

Davis also said that he is trying to persuade David E. Green to join in the petition filed against the state and campus officials because "I feel the viciousness against him was solely because of his association with black students."

The suit claims that since Winter Quarter, 1967, BSU members have been peacefully protesting alleged University acceptance of cultural and housing discrimination, but University officials took no action on their complaints.
BSU Gives Homecoming Two Queens

[0-11-48]

The Black Student Union (BSU) made good its promise to provide the campus with a separate Black Homecoming Queen.

Despite week-long disputes, Black Homecoming Queen Leola Johnson, Education-2, appeared Saturday night in the Ohio Union before about 1,500 persons attending a homecoming dance in the Ohio Union sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha, a Negro fraternity.

Members of Miss Johnson's court were: Karyn' Graves, Arts-1, first runner-up; Linda Turner, Arts-1, second runner-up; Diane Jones, Arts-4, third runner-up; and Deborah Thomas, Franklin University-2, fourth runner-up.

Miss Johnson said she was elated and "proud to have been considered deserving of the honor." She added that she hoped she could supply black students with something to identify with.

The queen, who was selected Saturday afternoon from 17 entrants, said she had entered the contest to fulfill herself as a black woman and because she wished to participate more fully in the Negro movement on campus.

Last week there was doubt as to whether the queen would appear at the fraternity dance.

Kenneth Anderson, Education-2, BSU member in charge of the queen contest, announced Thursday that the queen would attend only the festival. He said then that there was difficulty in finding time during the Alpha Phi Alpha dance program to crown the queen.

Sterling Gill, publicity chairman for the Negro fraternity, which sponsored the dance, said problems arose not only in timing the presentation, but also from a feeling by some members that a black homecoming was too controversial.

After a meeting with BSU members Friday afternoon, Alpha Phi Alpha decided the queen presentation was in the best interests of Negroes on campus.

The queen contest was non-confrontation. Anderson said.

The black queen was to display standards of beauty which are different from those of other beauty contests, explained.

The contestants were judged by a panel of eight Negroes: six from Greek organizations, one independent, and one African Exchange student.

Anderson said the contestants were questioned and judged by the panel on their attitudes on concepts of Negro culture.

Ohio State has had one other Negro Homecoming queen. Marilyn Owens was presented with the trophy in 1960 by her father, Jesse Owens, former Ohio State track star, in ceremonies in Ohio Stadium.

BSU Leader Hopes For New Projects

[1-22-48]

Black Student Union (BSU) spokesman, Michael Williams, Arts-3, reacted to the statements of William Conley by saying "we haven't directly coordinated anything specifically with Conley."

"We have aired our views and he has aired his and that's all that's happened," Williams said, "but the vehicle is now set up by which we can put together some of our projects."

"I think the BSU can work with the office though it is relatively powerless and is something different than what we asked for," Williams added. Williams said they asked for a black student affairs office and got a minority group affairs office.

"Practice will bring about an office for black student affairs even if the name doesn't come," he said.

When asked why the BSU has been "so quiet this quarter in campus affairs, Williams said the events of the past year have caused members to re-evaluate their tactics. There will be less emphasis on "dramatics," according to Williams, and more hard work where it counts.

The BSU spokesman said they don't want to put members in public positions where their actions will be misinterpreted in a negative way.

Williams was asked if the BSU would use the tactic of taking over the administration building again if they had the opportunity. He said the BSU will always protect their black sisters as they did last April 26th, when the BSU complained to the administration that several black girls had been discriminatorily against on campus bus.

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Black Student Union Involves Academic, Social Activities

By EILEEN SLUTSKY
Lantern Staff Writer

Founded Fall Quarter, 1967, the Black Student Union (BSU) at Ohio State is an unofficially recognized organization in which all black students are considered members.

During the academic year of 1968-1969, the BSU met every Tuesday night in the Ohio Union, according to John Brothers, director of academic affairs of the BSU.

A board of six directors heads the BSU. Areas which they cover are academic affairs, finances, public relations, cultural affairs, a 'delegation committee' that attends meetings of other related organizations and brings back reports to the BSU and administration.

Open Housing Supported

The BSU was involved with the Law Student-Faculty Open Housing Proposal. "In October, 1968 I was appointed by the BSU as a representative on the Open Housing Committee," Brothers said.

He said the BSU had a rather realistic attitude toward the proposal. "No matter how good it is, it still has to be implemented," to test the sincerity of the proposal and the administration.

The main points of the proposal were brought before the BSU in January, 1969 and were passed, Brothers said.

He said the BSU has also been having discussions about black studies courses with the administration.

Blacks, Faculty Study

"Vice President Corbally set up two committees to form a black studies division," Brothers said. "There were five black students and five faculty members on each."

Brothers was co-chairman with Morris Beja, associate professor of English, on the academic committee. William T. Kilgore, Education Professional-1 and a BSU member, was co-chairman with Nason E. Hall, associate professor of sociology, on the recruitment committee.

The committee findings were submitted to John E. Corbally, then vice-president for academic affairs and provost, at the end of Spring Quarter, 1969. Brothers said, "As of now there has been no official word on the results."

The academic committee studied possible courses for a black studies division, and the recruitment committee studied black faculty member prospects.

BSU Raises Funds

Other BSU activities over the past academic year included putting on the Black History Week Exhibition in the Student Union, helping other organizations plan the Black Friday teach-in at the Student Union and collecting money for the 34 indicted black students.

John S. Evans, Jr., field director for the BSU, joined 10 other student leaders on March 15, 1969, for a 24-hour vigil on the Oval in support of the Open Housing Proposal.

The Board of Trustees had postponed action on the proposal at its March 8 meeting but passed it in May.

In the community, the BSU helped with a tutorial program in Bolivar Arms, an apartment complex in the inner city, Brothers said.

"Also, in all-white Grove City, all-black Urban Crest was being surrounded by the rest of the city," he said. "Mostly older blacks who are somewhat unfamiliar in dealing with urban problems and civil rights actions live there."

Brothers said members of the BSU talked with them and aided them at the city council meeting.

The BSU also had a delegation at Howard University Fall Quarter, 1968: at the conference, "Toward a Black University," he said.