



U Strike Bulletin

Sept. 6, 2007 • Day 2 • U OF M AFSCME Health Care, Technical and Clerical Strike

Key Departments Affected, Picket Lines Strong, Huge Rally, Prominent Supporters

STRIKE HAVING BIG IMPACT

Under a hot sun we started our strike with a bang on Wednesday, the second day of the school year. Picket lines were strong all over the West Bank, East Bank and St. Paul campuses. Spirited picket lines were also up at CUHCC Clinic, 29th & Como, WBOB and 1100 Washington, and the Child Care Center. Picketers turned away delivery trucks at loading docks. U workers in Duluth, Morris, Crookston and Rochester reported strong picket lines too.

You couldn't be at the U on Wednesday without seeing the strike. Every picket site was overwhelmed by support - honking vehicles, student and faculty supporters, other union and community members joining our picket lines. The "I Support U of M Workers" buttons, posters and info flyers were going like hotcakes (more are coming!)

The highlight of the day was the noon rally outside Morrill Hall. Over one thousand strikers and supporters cheered as speakers showed the deep support we have generated for economic justice.

There were even celebrity appearances! Elizabeth Edwards, wife of presidential candidate John Edwards, spoke at our noon rally, expressing support for unions across the country including the U of M workers. Al Franken visited picket lines around campus Wednesday morning, where he did his Saturday Night Live character "Stuart Smalley", asking strikers to join him in the affirmation "I'm good enough, I'm strong enough and gosh darn it I deserve a fair contract."

Many important union leaders showed their support for U of M workers, and donated thousands of dollars to our strike fund.

We are having a bigger impact than the U thought we could. Now we need to stand strong and hold the line. Drink plenty of water and bring some protection from the elements. We are on our way to a fair contract!

No Business As Usual at the U

Offices all over campus are dealing with problems caused by so many workers being out on strike. Our impact is being felt. Here are some examples:

- **Veterinary Medicine**

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics are virtually shut down, and some 15 specialty clinics and the animal hospital are only accepting emergency calls. Clinic appointments scheduled through September 17th week have been canceled.

- **School of Dentistry**

Without dental assistants, lab techs, and dental hygienists, dentistry clinics have scaled back to one floor.

- **Bursar's Offices – West Bank and St. Paul**

The West Bank and St. Paul Bursar's Offices have closed for the duration of the strike.

- **911 Dispatchers – Twin Cities Campus**

Without AFSCME police dispatchers, UM police cannot handle the computerized dispatch system. Minneapolis dispatchers are also AFSCME and are handling 911 calls for the U of M only. Normal dispatch operations cannot be fulfilled.

- **Facilities Management – Twin Cities Campus**

The Facilities Management emergency call center is cleared of employees. The call center answers problems with building maintenance such as elevator malfunctions and electricity failures.

- **Reuse Warehouse**

The Reuse Warehouse has closed due to the strike.

- **Anderson and Wilson Libraries – West Bank**

Anderson Library is cleared of technical and clerical workers. Anderson holds eight special collections and archives units and is the central office of the MINITEX Library Information Network. Staff at Wilson Library, the main West Bank library, is significantly reduced. No books leave a U of M Library without touching an AFSCME worker.

**Strike Headquarters: University Baptist Church, 1219 University Ave., 612-378-3750
Hotline 612-234-8772 • afscme3937.org • afscme3800.org • afscme3260@gmail.com**

Photos from the First Day



Over a thousand rallied at noon outside Morrill Hall



Elizabeth Edwards at Rally



Some strikers outside the Child Care Center



Large group in front of Moos Tower



Picket line at McNamara Alumni Center / Gateway



Outside the Law School



Al Franken on the picket line

**RALLY OUTSIDE
THE REGENTS MTG**
For a Fair Contract and
Economic Justice
Friday, Sep 7 at 11:00 am
McNamara Alumni Center
Washington Ave & Oak St