

Students left school doors at 9:05 a.m. on Sept. 15.

The word was "walkout" -- on leaflets cluttering the halls, on the lips of frustrated students.

The time was 9 a.m., Monday, Sept. 15. Principal Curtis Johnson's announcement an hour earlier that "all classes will be observed today" marked the beginning of a morning of confusion, contradiction, and chaos.

"Classes will NOT be observed today," cried senior Barb Metzger, storming down the halls. "Let's go to the football field!"

The halls were jammed with the voices of unsure students.

Question: "Harry -- where are you going?"

Answer: Where are you going?"

The principal even walked by and wanted to know "Where is Barb going?"

They started their mass exit through the school doors. Student Council President Chuck Drange directed students to the football field where he spoke through a microphone.

"move back"

"Could you please move back," Chuck asked the hundreds before him. "If it's not too wet you can sit down out there."

"If anyone out there is smoking, remember, you're on school grounds and could be suspended."

The crowd was estimated to be "at least 900" by junior Carl Anderson.

Some yelled "Let's go to Central Park." Others wanted to go home.

can't punish any of us. There's too many of us."

Scott Sigford, senior, was also active. "I organized and told them we got to get ready to leave."

He explained his philosophy that "anything against the system is good."

Whether to go to Central Park was becoming the issue among students standing and sitting on the field.

"Everybody to Central at 11," Scott encouraged.

"If you leave here to go to Central, it will leave a bad taste in everybody's mouth," declared Chuck, still at the microphone.

Then some invaders swarmed over the parking lot -- students from Kellogg.

"We came over here to talk to our buddies," one Kellogg student explained. He estimated his number at about 300.

right to protest

"If teachers can protest then so can we," he continued. "We have just as much right as they do."

"Central Park -- let's go!" many voices yelled.

Several dozen cars peeled out of the parking lot, containing Ramsey and Kellogg students. Screeching horns and brakes combined with the rock band in

no activities

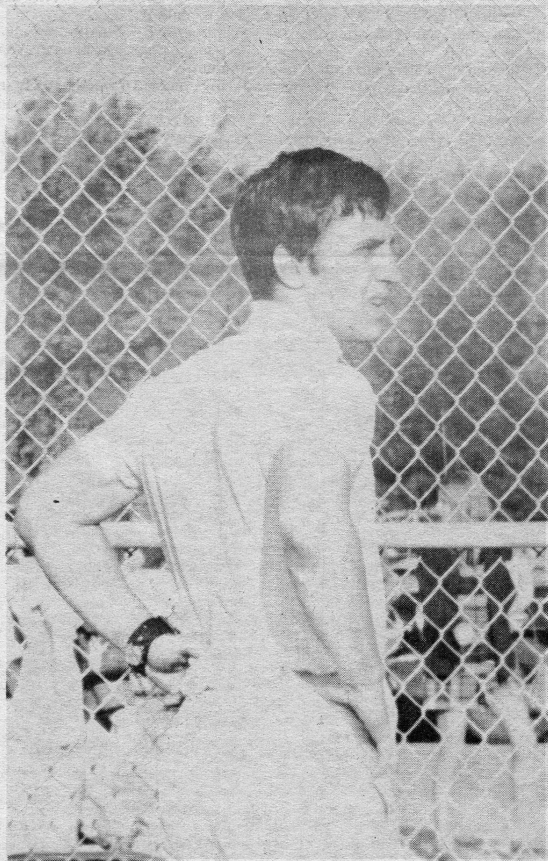
Then Chuck explained the situation further. "Because of the action Friday, some progress has been made. But we still haven't got our activities back."

"If we want to make this effective, we'll have to be orderly." He urged students to stay on the field until 11 a.m. and then return to class.

A rock band started to set up their equipment. "Testing . . ." Students were asked to move back from the microphone where their leaders spoke, because there were too many people up there already.

Meanwhile, Barb Metzger was going through the crowd with her own message.

"To go back to classes is ridiculous," she stated. "They



Student Council President Chuck Drange.



Debbie Ankerfelt... "and we won't get what we want."