

Oberlin...

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all people involved in the terrorism and then you hear 'we need to bomb those fuckers' and 'why do Muslims hate us' and you feel betrayed by both peoples. I am not a Muslim, but my family is," Mahdi said.

Across campus, students and faculty alike wonder how classes will fare in the coming days. "There has been a lot of discussion and meetings between faculty and administration concerned about students, especially the first-years. The counseling center talked us through what we may be feeling and how to deal with students. It's

too soon for me though, too personal, I don't really want to deal with this and teach this in the classroom. There is a lot of variation within the faculty on the issue though," Professor of Sociology Bill Norris said.

While last night the Yonder Mountain String Band did not cancel its Cat in the Cream show and today classes will continue, it is clear that yesterday's explosions will reverberate through the Oberlin community. "We live in denial of these things happening most of the time. That is how we keep sane. That denial has been cut through," said Director of the College Counseling Center Charles Ross.

1963

King Letter Presents Apology, Explanation

November 26, 1963

The following letter, dated Nov. 18, from Rev. Martin Luther King was received by President Carr. It explains Rev. King's inability to speak at his scheduled assembly of Nov. 14.

Dear Dr. Carr:

I am dictating this letter from my sick bed because I feel an obligation to write you immediately. Words are inadequate for me to express my deep appreciation to you, your faculty members and students of Oberlin for the warm reception you gave me the other day, in spite of the fact that I was unable to give my scheduled lecture. Never before have I had such an experience. As I drove from Cleveland to Oberlin I felt myself getting progressively weaker and when I arrived on the campus, I knew that my energy was so far gone and my temperature had run so high that I could not possibly stand before any audience without eventually collapsing.

The one question that ran through my mind, however, was: How will I explain this to the President and how will a waiting

audience accept the announcement that I cannot speak? The anxiety that almost overwhelmed me as I thought of these questions was soon dispelled when I was greeted by your warm attitude. When, a few moments later, I stood before the vast audience of students and friends of Oberlin and experienced such a heart-warming ovation, I received a spiritual lift that will remain in my thoughts as long as the cords of memory shall lengthen. The kind of support expressed in the warm applause of the audience is of inestimable value for the continuance of my humble efforts.

I am happy to say that I am a little better now. The flu bug doesn't pass easily, so the doctor insisted that I remain in bed five or six days. I hope to be on my feet again in the next day or so.

Thank you again for your unprecedented patience and cooperation. Please extend my warm best wishes to my friends at Oberlin. I hope our paths will meet again in the not too distant future.

Very sincerely yours,
Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dr. Martin Luther King, shown here before an assembly crowd in Finney last fall, was unable to speak then owing to a severe case of flu. This Thursday the recipient of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize returns to address the student body.

Photo and caption from the October 20, 1964 issue of *The Oberlin Review*

Gibson's Altercation Leads to Student Arrest

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immediate area," the report reads.

But according to Goelzer, Whettstone and Lawrence were trying to free Aladin, not injure Gibson.

"They were trying to pull him off of the kid, so they might've had his arms, but they were trying to pull him off the kid," Goelzer said.

The police quickly detained Whettstone and Lawrence and placed them in separate police cars. The officers then arrested Aladin and interviewed David and Allyn Gibson.

According to Oberlin Police Lieutenant Michael McCloskey, store employees have a legal right to detain shoplifters, although he noted that the department does not recommend that employees do so because it often leads to situations escalating.

"The Ohio Revised Code does allow store proprietors or employees of those stores to detain and arrest shoplifters," McCloskey said. "If they have probable cause to believe that someone is trying to take items from the store, they can legally, in a reasonable manner, detain them for a length of

time until police get there to arrest the suspect."

McCloskey also said that Aladin was charged with robbery, a felony, instead of shoplifting, a misdemeanor, because of the physical altercation. Robbery in the third degree, which is how the incident will likely be categorized, can carry a sentence of one to five years in prison.

Gonzalez said Gibson was in the wrong, regardless of whether Aladin was shoplifting. This echoed the sentiment of many students, who said that the situation was rife with racially fueled undertones.

"If he had been shoplifting, that's not a reason to chase him and throw him into the ground and beat him up," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez worried President-elect Donald Trump's victory would embolden racist behavior.

"People are afraid that this is how it's going to be," Gonzalez said. "For me, I'm Puerto Rican. As a person of color, it's f—ing scary."

However, to long-time Gibson's employee Trey James, who is Black, race had nothing to do with it.

"If you're caught shoplifting,

you're going to end up getting arrested," James said. "When you steal from the store, it doesn't matter what color you are. You can be purple, blue, green, if you steal, you get caught, you get arrested."

According to a flyer distributed by protesters, this incident was far from Gibson's first instance of alleged racial bias.

"This is a racist establishment with a long account of racial profiling and discrimination. Today we urge you to shop elsewhere," the statement read.

Student Senate also passed a resolution yesterday stating, "the Students of Oberlin College immediately cease all support, financial and otherwise, of Gibson's Food Market and Bakery." The group also called for President Marvin Krislov, Dean of Students Meredith Raimondo, other administrators and general faculty to publicly condemn Gibson's.

Allyn Gibson could not be reached for comment.

This morning at Dascomb Hall, a sign replaced the bagels and donuts from Gibson's that are usually served at breakfast, reading, "Our apologies for the inconvenience."

1950

Last Year's Co-op Dream Becomes This Year's Reality

September 22, 1950

Flowers decked the parlors, students sprawled among them, studying or talking; from the kitchen there came sounds of dishes being finished; upstairs a peaceful quiet prevailed, marred only by the sound of co-operators tripping over trunks; at the telephone a voice was saying "Pyle Inn Co-op." The co-operative dorm, last year a dream on paper and in the minds of enthusiasts, had become a working reality.

There seems to be good reason for the enthusiasm pervading the atmosphere. "The food," says the members, "is good and looks pretty." There are salads every meal. Menus are well-planned and there is plenty of filling for the bottomless pits.

Work is easier than under the usual board job, each of the 28 men working not more than five hours a week, while the 28 women work the same amount of time and do bells two hours a week, with a sign-up schedule for jobs proving quite successful.

Open House Soon

Socially things are done as a group, with record concerts after dinner, coffee after the libe or movies, and plans for a Saturday night open house developing fast for September 30.

A new regime is underway in the morning, with the usual hot breakfast being served until 7:20 after which late-sleepers may get coffee, fruit and cereal in the kitchen until 8:30.

Stevenson Gets Steak

Faculty, administration and townspeople are co-operating, adding their presence at meals to which they are invited (President Stevenson remarked that he expected to have steak there once a week), sending flowers with encouraging notes, and giving freely of their advice as to finance, meal planning and buying. Bill Long at the town Co-op is giving advice as to buying and planning, Lou McCalla, the

resident member, works along with the rest of the co-operators as a full participant, and Mrs. Thompson, the part time cook, has been "wonderful to work with" according to members.

There have been times, of course, when all has not been too rosy. Prices have gone up, fresh produce has often been scarce, necessitating last minute changes, and paper supplies are not always to be had.

Well-Done Ham

The first Sunday dinner has already become an epic in Co-op history. Ham and sweets had been planned for the menu and an 18 pound ham was duly bought and prepared. According to the recipes, a half-hour of cooking is required for each pound of ham, and to solve the problem of time, the cooking crew decided to stick it in the oven a few hours before bedtime, then turn it off for the night and start cooking it again first thing in the morning.

Right on time, two of the cooks stalked into the kitchen, and, surveying the oven, decided that when the oven was off all the levers should be parallel. Parallel they were. Much to the surprise of all concerned, however, they found the next morning that a parallel lever can also mean that the oven is on full blast. As one member remarked, there was certainly no danger of trichinosis in the ham served that Sunday noon. According to reports, however, it was the best ham ever tasted, the only difficulty arising with getting the meat onto the serving plates, as it fell apart at the merest suggestion of a touch with a fork or knife.

In order to balance out the over-cooked ham on the agenda, the sweet potatoes remained hard and uncuttable. Going to the opposite extreme, the student cooks had put them on to cook a few hours too late, and they subsequently appeared, cooked and whipped, at the next day's dinner.

Hottest Meal

Another famous meal was the one with the red pepper. In cutting down a recipe from serving 25 to 15, the student chef remembered to reduce everything except the quota of red pepper in the cheese sauce which was to go on the asparagus. At the same time, two others on the shift were adding red pepper to the cottage cheese to make it look pretty. To cap the climax there were ginger cookies for dessert, making up what one member called the hottest meal on record. However, water was plentiful, and no casualties have been reported as yet.

In addition to co-operate work in kitchen and cleaning, co-operation and group leadership are used in other fields of domestic administration. Although occasionally a committee is set up to deal with a problem or question, in the main, group meetings decide what is to be done in all fields, the group discussing even such things as butter vs. oleo and whether to skim the milk.

Rotation among the members serves to give each and every person a chance to plan menus, be house chairman, and decide matters of high policy, the only permanent job holders being Ruth Searles who takes complete charge of buying, Joe Welty who handles publicity, and Miss McCalla who acts as housemother.

Except for the functional leadership and universal participation in work, the Pyle Inn Co-op functions much as any other dorm. Board and room bills are the same, although any excess will be divided among the members at the end of the semester. There is the same system of exchange: guests and faculty members come to dinner with even greater regularity than to other dorms. WSGL rules are in force there as everywhere and life goes on in the usual fashion. The chief difference seems to be in the general attitude of good will and co-operation and the determination of the members to make the co-operative a permanent and successful part of Oberlin campus life.