

'One Demand Transcends All Others'

# UW Must Stay Open, Young Stresses

FEB 17 1969

Chancellor Edwin Young of the University of Wisconsin said Sunday night that one demand transcends all others — "it is that the doors of the University of Wisconsin remain open."

Young brought the University case before the public on television after a week of turmoil on the 33,000-student campus that has resulted in more than two dozen arrests, some injuries, and a massive show of force to prevent violence.

**YOUNG ONCE AGAIN** explained the University position on 13 demands issued by black students. The demands have



CHANCELLOR YOUNG

sparked an attempted student strike and attempted blocking of classes that prompted a callup of 2,000 National Guardsmen

and hundreds of law enforcement officers to keep the peace.

**AFTER READING** a prepared statement, he and a panel of F. Chandler Young, vice-chancellor of student affairs; Wallace Douma, director of financial aids; and Wilson B. Thiede, chairman of the Race Relations Committee, answered taped questions called in to WHA-TV.

Most of the questions were hostile, indicated support for the student strikers, and seemed to be from students. Others questioned the University's efforts to expand a black studies type curriculum.

"One criticism has been heard from all sides during our past week of difficulty on the campus," Young said.

"It is that the University has not said — for all to hear — just what it has done and what it plans to do in the areas covered by the current demands of black students."

**YOUNG LISTED** three subjects as the core of the black demands.

They were recruitment of black students, a black culture curriculum, and more autonomy

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## University Must Stay Open, Young Stresses on TV Show

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by black students over programs for Negroes.

"I agree with the merit and justice of these core ideas," the chancellor said.

He listed impressive programs by the University in aid and courses for blacks and said, "We are moving at Wisconsin, and those who really care about black America will give us a chance to keep moving."

**STUDENTS HAVE** done a remarkable and impressive job this past week of demonstrating they feel strongly about black student needs, Young said.

"At the same time, they demonstrated that they are here to get an education, want classes to continue, and do not want to see violence on this campus.

"This is a day of demands, many demands, great demands," Young said.

"One demand transcends all others. It is that the doors of the University of Wisconsin remain open."

"I DO NOT believe that any fair minded person can feel that this University has been unresponsive or unhelpful or without conscience about black America," he said.

"Yet, throughout the campus community and the state, there is also general accord that we must accelerate our efforts to meet the needs of black America.

"This acceleration was begun long before our current crisis, and we plan to keep building the program that will help black people shape the weapons with which to fight their way out of misery and poverty."

YOUNG BEGAN by reextend-

ing an offer to black students to appear on the show to give their side.

The offer was not accepted either before or during the 90-minute program, but leaflets explaining the black side of the issue were distributed in some residential areas near campus.

They were a statement by the United Front, a group involved in current protest activities on campus.

**LATER, YOUNG** explained that the basic idea of a Black Studies department was not out of order at the University — which already has Scandinavian and Indian Studies departments. "We even once had an Irish Studies department," he said.

Young noted that the second black student demand called for control by students of the proposed Black Studies department.

"I want to make it absolutely clear that neither black students nor white students are going to decide matters of faculty hiring or course curriculum," he said.

"In these areas particularly, all students will be treated alike. These are not matters for students to decide."

**IN RESPONSE** to a claim that money used to pay police and national guardsmen could have been spent on scholarships for black students, Young said, "I don't have authority to reallocate these monies. I can't tell the Legislature what to do.

"I don't bear the responsibility for these costs. Those who would cause violence and disruption on the campus have to accept the responsibility for that," he said.