

# Six school strikes end

United Press International

School strikes ended in six districts and a Rhode Island school official ordered an end to another Monday but more than 138,000 youngsters in six states were still unable to attend class because of teacher walkouts.

Continuing strikes affected 59,370 children in Illinois, 56,000 in Michigan, 19,000 in Pennsylvania, 1,600 in New Jersey, 1,300 in Louisiana and 960 in Rhode Island.

Strikes began Monday in Jersey Shore and Panther Valley, Pa., affecting 4,800 youngsters. Walkouts ended in Sycamore and Bethalto, Ill.; in Somerville and Bellmawr, N.J., and Hempfield and Donegal, Pa.

"Students got the bad end of this deal," said Scott Gulke, a senior at Sycamore, Ill., High School. "The students had the most to lose, especially their senior year. We are losing a lot of stuff. Senior year is a big part of your life."

Among the things lost by Sycamore's seniors was last Saturday's grudge match football game with nearby DeKalb. The game was cancelled.

**Schools technically were open in St. John the Baptist Parish, but were manned mostly with janitors, bus drivers and volunteers.**

Rhode Island Education Commissioner J. Troy Earhart Monday ordered the Exeter-West Greenwich committee to implement a temporary 7 percent pay hike mandated in a back-to-work order issued last week by Superior Judge Ernest C. Torres.

Despite that ruling, the school committee had decided to keep schools closed rather than pay the increase to 56 teachers because of a \$325,000 budget deficit.

Calling the committee's decision "arbitrary, capricious, unreasonable and without any rational basis," Earhart ordered schools opened while the matter is decided in court.

The Urbana, Ill., PTA asked for a quick end to a 9-day-old strike. Negotiators for the teachers and the school board resumed talks Monday morning.

"The PTA is feeling it is time for children to be back in school and the educational process to be continuing," said Janetta Fleming, Urbana PTA president.

"We feel it has gone on longer than we would have liked. The children are anxious to go to school. They enjoy their teachers and they enjoy seeing their friends again."

Parents in St. John the Baptist Parish in Louisiana urged teachers and the school board to meet no later than Monday night to settle a strike entering its third week.

Schools technically were open in the parish but manned by janitors, bus drivers and volunteers, with very few students showing up.

In Grand Rapids, Mich., where the state's second-largest district has been strikebound for more than a week, parents called for an end to the walkout.

"They're putting our kids in a difficult position ... I don't think our kids should be bargaining chips," said parent Norm Kravitz.



Photo by FRANK IRWIN

## Parking problems

Students on their way to 9 a.m. classes struggle to find a parking space while much of the newly expanded faculty/staff lot, Park Annex 51 goes unused.

# Drummer uses computer to modify band's music

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — Businessmen use them. Scientists use them. Even reporters use them. Now, musicians are getting into the act with computers.

Mickey Hart, drummer for the Grateful Dead, is hard at work writing computer programs for use in the legendary rock group's future recordings and concert tours.

Hart got into computers when he

and Dead bassist Phil Lesh began writing "The Edge of Magic," a book about the history of percussion instruments. Hart, while traveling 200 days out of the year with the band, uses a Hewlett-Packard portable computer to work on his manuscript and to compose song lyrics.

The drummer also has been doing some work on computers and music at the Center for Computer Research Music and Acoustics

(CCRMA) at Stanford University, where he is using a mainframe computer to discover new ways of modifying the band's sound.

"Reverberation filters and all kinds of signal processing, that's what the start is," Hart said in a telephone interview from the center. "I'm a real live musician and they let me use this facility."

Cleaner sound and new special effects are some of the more interest-

ing possibilities being explored, but Hart stopped short of revealing just what the Grateful Dead's plans are for implementing computer-assisted music in the group's act.

"The more familiar we become with the computers, the more uses we'll find to make them a part of our orchestra," he said. "They're experimental things; we're just not ready for prime time release of this stuff."

"The main things I cannot talk to

you about. They're not only patentable, but top secret in the Grateful Dead circle of secrecy."

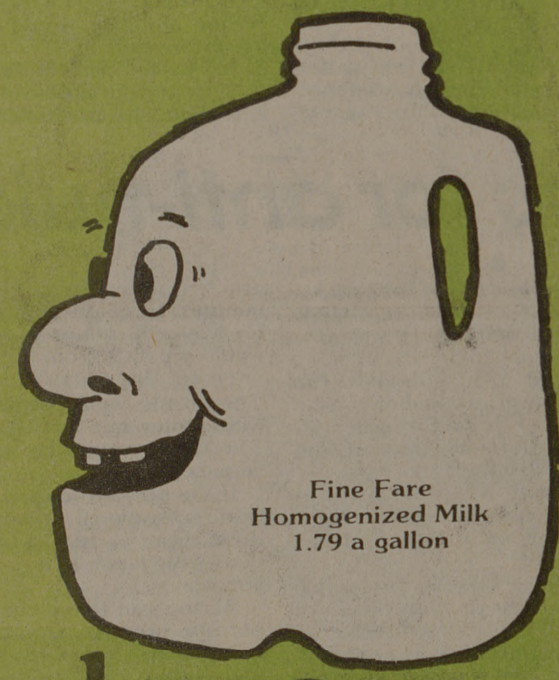
Hart said some of the computer innovations being worked out at Stanford could show up in the band's music within a few months.

"Sound, like water, moves in waves," he said. "The computer lets you specify and shape a sound wave, so theoretically you can create any sound in your imagination. Once

we've developed programs for it, the portable (computer) will be another instrument in our orchestra."

The nine-pound computer that Hart uses can store commands to control various devices used to bend, shape and fine-tune the sound the band produces. Such high-tech controls are in general use in recording studios, but the studio machinery is too bulky and too sensitive to be lugged around.

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