

# HOT MEAL FACTS

by Walter Joseph  
*Oil Staff Writer*

Students will vote for the second time today and tomorrow on the Breakfast Program referendum in an atmosphere hopefully opposite that of the earlier election's confusion and disharmony. Voting booths have been assured and strict procedures will be followed. The controversial bill would give \$28,000 to the student-community project that already provides morning meals for 160 to 180 children.

The assistant chairman of the Black Student Union breakfast program committee, Rosemary Cadney, said the program, which began in October, would need the Student Association funds to continue until the end of the school year in June. The original enterprise began when University of Buffalo students from the B.S.U. began working with several people in the Black community to organize a hot breakfast service for young children. Miss Cadney said, "The idea came from the Panther Party program," which provides similar services.

## 20 UB volunteers

With \$3,000 from the Student Association and about \$1,600 from private donations, about 20 UB volunteers have been working daily to provide the hot meals at the Westminster Community Center. None of the workers, including two women from the community, are paid, and meals are only served on days when the children, kindergarten through sixth grade, attend school. "Occasionally on snow days we still cook breakfast," Miss Cadney commented, as the workers start at 6:00 a.m. before school closings are announced. "In that case we serve whoever comes in."

On regular days the volunteers work from 6:00 to 10:00 a.m. and the children start coming about 8:15. Miss Cadney's duties include purchasing the weekly stores of food such as grits, eggs, juice, bread and milk. The cost per child is \$.70 per day. The \$28,000 would allow this program to continue until June. "Then in September," the B.S.U. representative said, "the Buffalo city schools will start their own breakfast program."

## Education and recreation

The Westminster Community Center, which has housed the morning gatherings for the past two months, also provides educational and recreational activities. There are classes for young people and bowling and basketball facilities at the Monroe Street center. Possible expansion of the present program has been considered in other parts of the community. A grill and refrigerator have been added to the present facilities.

If the students vote "no" on the referendum, Miss Cadney stated that the B.S.U. will "work for more private donations from private business."

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