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1-6-1976

Emergency Closing

University Relations

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SPECIAL TO THE WRITER AND KUMM

For Immediate Release

With the onslaught of winter weather, the attention of the campus community is called to the University's official "Emergency Closing Policy" which has just been reissued.

The campus rarely closes because of inclement weather, and has done so only half a dozen times or so in its history.

A decision to close is based on a judgment regarding the threat to the safety of members of the campus community. Practically speaking, the ability to move to and from the campus with a reasonable degree of safety is the deciding factor.

However, there are times when an emergency, most often severe weather, does dictate a closing. The following summary of the closing statement highlights its key points.

- * The Provost or the Provost's designate are the only persons authorized to make a decision to close the campus.
- * Notification of the campus community of such a decision is the sole responsibility of University Relations. Closing announcements from other sources should be ignored.
- * If possible, the decision to close will be made prior to 7 a.m., and announced over KUMM, KMRS and KCMT-TV, Channel 7. If the announcement is not made over these media, it should be assumed that the campus is open.
- * Telephone calls to the campus regarding closing are strongly discouraged since they tie up phones needed for necessary communication or for emergency calls.
- * In the case of cancellation of major UMM programs, special events or evening classes while the campus as a whole remains open, the unit administrator responsible for that activity shall make the decision. He/she will notify University Relations which will deal directly with the media.
- * When closing results from an official declaration of emergency, University employees will not be required to make up the time.

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