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FROM THE EDITOR

Stanford Rads open season

By Alexander Bodi



THE LATE SUMMER LULL IN RADICAL activities seems to be about over. As with football, the preliminary exhibition games have been finished and the kickoff of the big season is at hand.

The boys and the girls (that's a square phrase, for many of the activists are crowding the age of 30, where they step across the line into old age) are tooling their family-financed cars back to their campus bases. There they will map their strategy and plan their offensives against the system that put them there.

College administrators and public officials have been hopefully predicting a quiet autumn on the radical activity front. Maybe they're right, but they're probably whistling in the dark.

LOCALLY, THE RADICALS ARE KICKING off the season with a match with Stanford Research Institute. SRI is opening a beautiful new building to public inspection this weekend and sponsoring a big international industrial conference (IIC) next week. The radicals have plans to participate, in their own way.

Previous demonstrations against SRI have been aimed at causes the radicals believe will get them public support — antiwar, anti war-research, anti government work on the campus.

The ones against SRI have other basic goals, according to the Peninsula Observer, the radicals' chief mouthpiece hereabouts. These are to tie together "dissatisfied constituencies" (radical ones, of course) in the United States, and to build support for "insurgent movements around the world."

THE KEY ORGANIZATION, OF COURSE, will be the Students for a Democratic Society, which had a schismatic conference in Chicago this summer.

In other words, the demonstrations against

SRI will be aimed primarily at setting aside radical differences and forming a coalition that can make a unified attack on our decadent capitalistic society.

"The IIC conferees are the big guns of international and multinational capitalism," the Observer observes. "Radicals blame them and their class for the major social problems of our time. By attacking inflation and high taxes, pollution, male supremacy, racism and poverty, militarism, imperialism, and repression by demonstrating against big business's chauffeured elite, the radicals are projecting their interpretation of American capitalist society."

One of the techniques the radicals hope to use is to reach into high schools and junior colleges. New SDS chapters and unions of high school students are expected to spring up in connection with the demonstrations against SRI's IIC.

SOME OF THE RADICAL LEADERS EARLIER had written about the importance of maintaining their bases at universities.

Both the Observer and the Free You, mouthpiece of the Free University radicals, clearly demonstrate the importance of Stanford as a base for their operations. Both list meetings at Tresidder Union for planning and organizing demonstrations.

In addition, the financially troubled Free University might have gone completely broke if Stanford hadn't permitted it to hold a rock benefit concert at Frost Amphitheater on Aug. 17. The affair earned the Free University and the radical causes its leaders espouse \$3,100.

What seems to be needed is a good, healthy antidote that would distract the nonradical public from the antics of the radicals — something like a Rose Bowl team for Stanford (which may be possible this year) or a league championship for the 49ers (which is rather unlikely). Or maybe an early onset of the rainy season.

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