STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD - A small, scattered group of protesters used a traditional Stanford football yell for a new purpose Friday night (Sept. 25), greeting President Richard Lyman with chants of "Give 'Em the Axe, Give 'Em the Axe-Right in the Neck" when he reached the Memorial Church lectern to address a freshman convocation.

"Are you sure you meant right in the neck or left in the neck?" Lyman quickly replied, to scattered applause from his audience of 1400 new students.

"University presidents have short tenures these days," he continued, "but I have yet to hear of one who got the axe within 32 hours of his appointment." More widespread applause ensued. (Lyman was named Stanford's seventh president Thursday.)

Proceeding straight to his prepared text, he noted that "when everyone is uncertain, everyone shouts louder." At the conclusion of his remarks, Lyman received sustained, near universal applause for almost a minute.

Earlier in the program, a group of about 15 placard carrying protesters entered quietly through a side door, filed silently across the front of the church, and handed out a few leaflets. They left when asked to do so by ushers and campus plainclothes police.

Later, President Lyman said he would apologize personally on behalf of the University to Dean Albert Hastorf of the School of Humanities and Sciences, who continued speaking throughout the four-minute episode. "Even though it was silent, a lot of people were distracted," Lyman said.

Early in the program, Patrick C. Shea of the Associated Students Council of Presidents had noted that "many speakers are afraid to come here." "How ashamed we should feel," he added.

As a precautionary measure, about half a dozen plainclothes campus security officers were present inside the church. The proceedings also were videotaped.

The chant reportedly was planned by the New Left Project, while the picketing was organized by the Workers Action Caucus. Placards read "Who Picked Lyman?" "Trustees Didn't Get There by Working," and "Workers and Students Join Together." ###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD - President Richard Lyman of Stanford will inaugurate a weekly broadcast series with campus radio station KZSU (90.1 FM) at 7 p.m. Thursday (Oct. 1).

According to Station Manager David Hosley, the program will be scheduled regularly at 7 p.m. Mondays, including questions from student newsmen as well as telephoned inquiries from listeners.

THE AXE YELL

(slowly)
Give them the axe,
Give them the axe,
Give them the axe, WHERE?

RIGHT--In the neck, In the neck, In the neck,

Right in the neck, Right in the neck, Right in the neck, THERE

(faster)
Give them the axe, the axe, the axe
Give them the axe, the axe, the axe
Give them the axe,
Give them the axe,
Give them the axe,
WHERE?

Right in the neck, the neck, the neck Right in the neck, the neck, the neck Right in the neck, Right in the neck, Right in the neck,

The Stanford Axe is presented each year to the victor of the football game between the University of California at Berkeley and Stanford.