



Larry Diamond, Stanford student body president, outlined plans while Larry Seidman of UC Berkeley listened

Student Body Leaders

A 'Dump Nixon' Drive Starts Here

By Michael Grieg

Student body presidents of 19 Bay Area colleges yesterday launched a campaign by new voters with the double aim of "dumping" President Nixon and influencing the 1972 convention choices of both major political parties.

The seriousness and enthusiasm of the student leaders, fully evident at a press conference held at the University of San Francisco, was given added political weight by the presence of insurgent Democratic strategist Allard K. Lowenstein, who started the "dump Johnson" campaign in 1968.

In an open letter to the heads of both parties, the group demanded that the process of picking convention delegates "be open to all sexes, ages and races . . . in reasonable relationship to their population in the state."

"Many of us worked for Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy in 1968," said the statement by Larry Diamond of Stanford University, Larry Seidman of the University of California at Berkeley and other student body presidents.

"We learned some important things. We learned that the structure of the old politics buckles under hard pressure, correctly applied . . .

that the "toughest lesson" to learn in mounting a drive to activate some 25 million 18 to 24-year-old voters is the need to liberalize the means of selecting delegates to the conventions.

In 1968, the process "deprived us of any satisfactory choice and left us with echoes . . . (and) we are close to repeating the mistake," said the group which calls itself the Steering Committee for an Emergency Conference of New Voters.

"We represent political views of some diversity and would find it difficult to agree unanimously on one candidate," the open letter to the party chairmen said.

"But . . . we can agree on the need to unite on opposing all candidates of either of your parties who fail to . . . respect our legitimate demands."

REGISTRATION

In a sampling of views, the student leaders placed varying emphasis on where the political activists should concentrate their efforts.

Nancy Martin, a representative of the student body council at California State College at Hayward, plumped for registration campaigns and said a drive at her campus had registered "over 1100 people in two days."

Diamond, the Stanford student body president, said 1600 new voters had been registered at his campus in the first few days of classes. "Overwhelmingly, they registered in order to get rid of Nixon," he claimed.

Bill Eckles of Merritt College backed a demand by Stanford student leader Douglas McHenry for "as

large a contribution of money" and effort in registering new black voters as is being spent on "registering suburban kids."

And he added: "The day is long gone when someone can just wave some weenies in our face, get a beer bust going and get the votes of blacks."

Lowenstein, national chairman of Americans for Democratic Action, said at first that he had "nothing to add to the eloquence" of the student leaders.

'DIVISIVE'

The former New York congressman, then proceeded to discuss at length the "bipartisan new voter drive" to "end the war and get the country off the divisive course Nixon has followed."

"I don't see any sign that young people will vote for Nixon, whatever their parents do," Lowenstein said. "They're fed up beyond everything with that sense of phoniness and hokum pervading this administration . . ."

Their next move, the members of the steering committee said, will be to hold an emergency conference of young voters at Stanford on November 18.

"We are expecting over 1500 leaders of high schools, colleges, minorities and adult groups to attend," Stanford student body president Diamond said. "National speakers will appear representing the best elements of both major parties, and there will be special discussions of slate-making for the state's primaries."