Third World Students Rally on Green, Charge Brown With Racist Policies

Griffith Seeks End To Racial Violence

By KEN GELLMAN

More than 300 Third World students held a noon rally on the Green yesterday to protest "institutional racism" at Brown and violence directed against members of the Black community here.

At a few minutes before 12 p.m., the protestors, many of whom wore black armbands, walked in pairs, arm in arm, some with upraised fists, from the Third World Center. They marched along Angell Street, across Waterman Street, through Faunce Arch and onto the Green. Once there, the Third World students were joined by approximately 150 white students who had either heard of the rally or were passing by. The protestors then formed a huge circle that extended to the path surrounding the Green.

According to Mark Griffith '85, a spokesperson for the Organization of United African People, yesterday's 45-minute demonstration, which was planned "within the Third World community," was the first in a series of unspecified actions designed to convey Third World concerns to the university. Griffith said that the spark for yesterday's demonstration was the recent incident at Hope College in which a white student allegedly assaulted a black student in his room.

The university has not yet issued a formal statement on yesterday's events. Vice President for University Relations Robert Reichley said the Hope College incident will be discussed at a Monday hearing of the University Council on Student Affairs.

"Enough is Enough"

As the first noon bell struck, chants of "fired up" arose from the crowd. These chants continued for about a minute and were followed by cries of "Enough is enough" and "People united—we're not going to be defeated."

At a few minutes after noon, as University Hall employees began to peer out their windows and students clustered on the edges of the circle, Griffith stood on a bench in the center of the Green and addressed the crowd.

"A cross is burning on the front lawn of this University," Griffith, reading from a text, began. "Something has told Black and Third World people at Brown University that racism is alive, doing well and receiving..."