

YOUNG STEEL WORKERS constantly face layoffs and harassment. (Call photo)

CYO FIGHTS FOR JOBS IN STEEL

By the Chicago Communist Youth Organization chapter

As part of our national "Jobs for Youth" campaign, the CYO has initiated a struggle to demand jobs at the giant steel mills in the Midwest. The largest concentration of steel mills in the country is in the Chicago-Gary, Indiana area. In the last two years alone, some 40,000 workers, mainly youth, have been laid off, and there have been 30 deaths due to overwork and unsafe conditions.

Young steelworkers are denied job security and union representation while on probation, and if they are laid off before putting in two years, they can't collect Supplementary Unemployment Benefits. Minorities and women have been hit the hardest with on-thejob discrimination. They have the lowest paying jobs and the highest rate of layoffs.

Neither McBride nor Sadlowski have said a word about the problems and demands of youth. Sadlowski, though, has tried to pass himself off as a fighting alternative to the Abel leadership. The bosses have hopes that liberal "insurgents" like Sadlowski can keep the workers in linc, especially the youth, who have been in the front ranks in the fight against the union misleaders and the system.

At present, the CYO is doing work at the high school in the community near one of the larger mills, linking together the struggles of unemployed youth with those of the workers in the mill.

The CYO is also working to build the steel campaign initiated by the October League to fight for class struggle unions and throw our ballot away in the Feb. 8 union elections. We must make it clear that Sadlowski is no alternative for youth or any steelworkers.

The election uproar and upcoming contract provide us with an excellent opportunity to rally the masses of youth to fight for jobs in the mills, for an end to layoffs and discrimination and to educate the youth about the role of the union misleaders as defenders of the capitalist bosses.