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On 1982 Jan. 9 a brightening of 0.75 mag of the OIafpe star R127 (=HDE 269858) was detected. Subsequently extensive photometric (optical and infrared) and high resolution spectroscopic (ground-based and IUE) observations covering a period of more than one year have been carried out. These observations have shown R127 to be a new S Dor variable which is hotter than any previously detected and studied variable of this class. For its maximum phase we derived the following basic parameters: $M_{bol} = -10.6$, $T_{eff} = 16000$ K, $R_* = 150 R_{\odot}$. The stellar wind is characterized by a small mean velocity ($v = 110 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), a high mass loss rate ($\dot{M} = 6 \cdot 10^{-5} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$), and a decelerated velocity field. The optical spectra show strong Balmer lines with P Cygni profiles. The He I lines changed within the one year period from strong P Cygni type lines to complex line profiles with extremely wide ($FWZI = 3000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) shallow emission line wings. The IUE spectra are dominated by crowded absorption lines of singly ionized metals. A very complex shell phenomenon is indicated by the multiple substructure of these ultraviolet lines. We suggest that R127 is a massive ($M > 60 M_{\odot}$) Of star evolving via a short-lived S Doradus phase to a late WN star.

A detailed paper by O. Stahl, B. Wolf, G. Klare, A. Cassatella, J. Krautter, P. Persi and M. Ferrari-Toniolo is forthcoming in *Astron. Astrophys.*