

# Thursday Rally Draws 200 Spectators

BY JOHN ADAMS

The first student rally of the year was held yesterday afternoon in front of the Student Union building.

The rally was called for by former Strike leader Travis Opdyke and Gary Pomerance, originally in protest of anticipated visit of President Nixon to the campus this Saturday afternoon. In view of the fact that Mr. Nixon's appearance has been scheduled for Ocean Grove, instead, the rally leaders appealed to students to get together this Saturday at noon, in front of the Union, to organize a demonstration in Ocean Grove.

Approximately 200 students participated in the rally, some sitting on the grass, others standing on the sidewalks in front of the Union, still others watching from dormitory windows.

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This first student rally was a drag, although the turn-out, of some 200 students, was better than might have been expected.

President Nixon is NOT coming to the College, as the rally leaders had declared yesterday. U.S. troops have invaded no new countries. There have been no notable arrests, killings, or riots, etc., the usual things that give incentive to rallies and demonstrations. There was, really, no reason at all to have a rally, except the rally leaders wanted to have a rally.

It was confusing.

One fellow, Gary Pomerance announced that "Students have a right to demonstrate and shouldn't be afraid to participate." He then told us

about some students who participated in the Taylor Affair and Strike last year who had been busted, tried, lost their scholarships, etc. We shouldn't be afraid? Who's he kidding?

Travis Opdyke failed to lend any clarity to the rally with his confused and confusing accounts of the Taylor Affair, the Strike and What Happened Afterward, and his discussion of local politics and national student-labor relations.

Opdyke and Pomerance continually emphasized their remarks by saying "I'm SURE you know what I'm talking about." Perhaps he was talking to some of the others: he wasn't talking to me. I don't understand what any of it is all about.

The leaders, at the beginning of the rally, kept shouting "Get off your asses and do something for peace. Join the rally."

Well, I got off my ass, and sat on the grass, and joined the rally and who's to say? Maybe something was accomplished.