

# MORATORIUM

## We win, yes; no, we lose

By ROY GOLDBLATT

**Item:** On October 15, 1969, 800 people attended a program of anti-war activities at Richmond College. The program consisted of speeches by Jerry Coffin of War Resister's League, Rev. Frederick Douglas Kirkpatrick, Prof. Larry Nachman, and Blair Clark, Sen. Eugene McCarthy's former campaign manager. The audience received the speakers well, as they did the music and the free food which was also part of the day's activities.

The 800 people who attended the Moratorium program probably set a record for Staten Island participation in a liberal cause. Of the 800 participants, it was obvious from the amount of faces I didn't recognize that the Moratorium succeeded in mobilizing a sizeable number of local high school students and community people. **SCORE TWO POINTS FOR MORATORIUM COMMITTEE.** Unfortunately, the members of the college community stayed away in equally sizeable numbers (approximately 125 students and 25 faculty members attended). **SUBTRACT ONE POINT FOR EACH GROUP.**

Score one point each for Coffin, Kirkpatrick, and Nachman. Score one bonus point for Nachman speaking within his time allotment. Score one additional point for each of the two bands and the conglomerate artistry of the morning's corps of folksingers. More important, chalk up two big points for the great majority of Staten Island high school students who saw the inside of a college for the first time and may never see it again. Eleven points minus two points (lack of student-faculty participation) leaves nine points. We win

soever (evidence the stirring words of Spiro T. Agnew). The time for speech-making and picketing is over. The time has come for mobilization of the American people — confront and strike out at a society built on imperialism and racism. Now is the time to resist the military and the industrial giants. How?, by refusing to serve in the armed forces and by boycotting products of these large corporations. On which do you place more value, bourgeois America, your son or your five shares of AT&T? Theoretically, we can bring imperialist, racist America to her knees if we carry the essential purpose of the Moratorium to its fullest extent, General Strikes, a systematic refusal to participate in and perpetuate the goals of this society.

We closed the colleges in New York City on October 15, and effectively halted the educational system of the country. But, the industrial production of the nation was almost totally unaffected. Are we afraid to go out into the community? Are we fearful of dealing with a large segment of industrial America? We talked with their kids in October, now we must talk



Moratorium Lunch — Brown Rice

Moratorium successful . . . Yes . . . No . . . We lose . . . war continues in VietNam . . . racism continues in America . . . imperialism still rampant throughout the world . . . yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, only he ain't coming to your house this year . . . know why? . . . the Pope takes his orders from god . . . he lives in Washington . . . and Nixon don't like peace . . . that's right, St. Nick got himself demoted . . . wanna know who else? . . . St. Valentine and St. Christopher . . . there's a lot more snakes runnin' this country now, too . . . yessir, St. Patrick was taken off the calendar, too . . . how do you like them apples? . . . the only one that they've left us is St. Jude . . . and he watched over our Moratorium, but throughly . . .

What does all this mean? You people reading this rag had best get off your asses, and I had better stop bitching. We've got plenty of work to do. Ask yourself, how much are we gaining by marching and being co-opted by establishment causes. The only thing that Nixon likes better than all his libs coming out of hiding once a month to cry out mea culpa, is to have no opposition what-

to them in November . . . and December . . . and until the war ends, and imperialism and racism are eradicated. It requires learning the problems of the community. And the people — their fears and their grievances. We must work with them, not dictate to them. Ask Jules Harris and Stu Green about working in the Port Richmond community — work with them. Ask Nachman and Quart about rapping with high school students on a continuing basis. It must be our purpose to Organize, not Alienate the people with whom we must effectively work. We must escalate our efforts in the future, as boycotts, general strikes and/or more violent actions cannot possibly succeed without a tight, together organization.

**Item:** Richmond College's answer to Marcuse and Mailer (Larry Nachman and Lenny Quart, respectively) have begun a weekly workshop for high school students. Both men have assured me that contrary to popular belief, all Staten Island people do not attack freaks and agitators on sight. Dig it.