

Battalion Editorials

Page 2 THE BATTALION FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1955

Living Together

During the past few weeks, some military and civilian students have been sniping at each other, with a lot of name-calling and false accusations, in The Battalion's 'Letters to the Editors' column.

The attitude of the few who are writing these letters is probably not indicative of the feelings of the entire student body, on either side, but it is an attitude that should be quelled if even a few have it.

The letter writers from the military have claimed that the civilians have not honored the A&M traditions, and the civilian letter writers have implied that the military students aren't so pure either.

It is doubtful if either side can back up its accusations; even if they can, they have missed an essential point.

The civilian student enrollment is increasing here, and in time the total enrollment will probably be half military and half civilian.

This means that the two groups are going to have to learn to live with each other.

As the civilian students increase, they will probably develop traditions of their own, which will become as sacrosanct to them as the corps' traditions are to its cadets.

And there will always be the school-wide traditions honored by all students, whether they wear a uniform or not, such as Silver Taps.

So the students, both military and civilian, must realize that they will always be schoolmates in the same school, although they may differ in some details.

Democracy is allowing members of the group to differ in the little things, without losing the ability and the desire to stick together on the big things.

Spring Fever

It is now 75 days to graduation, in case any seniors didn't already know, and that brings up a situation that occurs here every spring.

The seniors, who will be leaving come May, get the attitude of "to heck with it; I'm leaving soon."

A&M's class distinction is arranged so only seniors can be the leaders; when the seniors relinquish their posts, it leaves either no one or untrained leaders.

So maybe spring fever should start after May.

Cadet Slouch



Ag Handball Club To Meet Texas

Seeking to reverse an earlier loss to the Steers, the A&M Handball club meets the University of Texas in Gregory gym, Austin, at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The Aggies play Rice in Houston Monday night.

Earlier in the season, the Cadets downed SMU and Rice but lost to Texas. Those who will probably make the Austin trip are Johnny Johnson, Jim Mathis, Dave Korry, Gary Leslie, Charlie Johnson, Don Grant and Paul Meiners.

Johnson and Mathis won the National Intercollegiate doubles championship in Chicago last winter.

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Baseballers Play Texas Lutheran

Tall righthander Wendell Baker takes the mound tomorrow night against Texas Lutheran at Seguin in his first baseball starting assignment.

After dropping their opening game to Sam Houston, coach Beau Bell's Aggies have now checked off two wins in a row and go into the Texas Lutheran clash with a 2-1 record.

Captain Les Byrd leads A&M's sluggers with a lusty .600 batting average compiled in two games. The sturdy leftfielder has three hits in five trips, and has scored one run.

Catcher Jimmy Williams is second among Aggie batsmen with two hits in nine trips for a .222 average. Despite his low hit production, Williams has tallied four

What's Cooking

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Two 80 x 145 foot lots, in restricted area, first street behind A&M Elementary School on Anna. Inquire at 301 Timber, Ph. 6-6188.

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Letters to the Editors

To Bill Swann

Class of '56
 In my previous letter I called the members of the corps "soldier boys." In your letter you stated that you didn't believe my own class buddies would appreciate my calling them soldier boys. I did not intend to criticize or make fun of them. My class buddies and I have always called each other "soldier boy" and "scrungy non-reg."

I have always been proud of this school and its traditions. I have never worn a hat in the M. S. C. I make it a point to stand when I am meeting someone, and I certainly do not come and go as I please. I have the responsibility of studying. This minor occupation keeps me busy and I find that I am not able to go home every weekend.

Bill, you stated that you hope when old "Uncle Sugar" drafts me, that one of my class of '58' buddies will be my C. O. and that he will really put me "through it." Yes, when I go into the navy, I will be put "through it." I will take my training along with the other civilians and will be proud to serve my country.

The corps has its rewards for hard work and a commission is one of them. But if you enter the corps only for the purpose of getting a commission, you are off the track.

From a civilian point of view the purpose of the corps is to prepare a soldier to defend his country. It is not for handing out commissions to corps members who

have learned the quickest and fastest way of drowning out a person, stacking a room, burning other company's signs, etc.

I have not said that this is the only thing the corps teaches its members. If anyone feels hurt by the preceding paragraph they can come to see me and I will tell them how I feel about the corps. It is no secret that I like the corps and believe that it is a wonderful organization. My room number is Milner 17.

The rest of this letter is concerned with the letter by Mr. Friedrick, Mr. Halley, and Mr. Larkin.

You fellows stated that it is imperative that one must have first participated in the traditions of the school before he becomes qualified to speak of the spirit.

I have missed only two yell practices, one corps trip, and one Silver Taps ceremony. I want to apologize for missing the Silver Taps ceremony, but I was in bed with virus pneumonia and was too sick to attend.

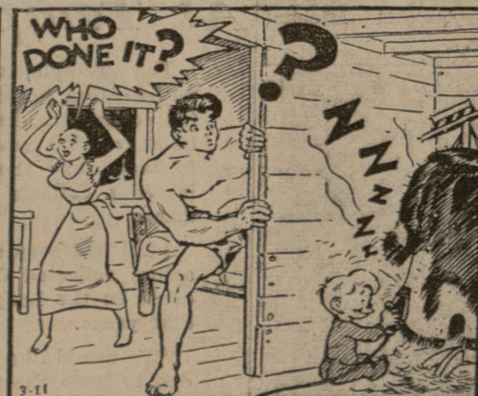
As for playing poker during Silver Taps, this has occurred in the military dorms during the so-called "good old days" when the corps was not optional. I know of no cases during the past year, but I would feel ashamed of anyone who would do such a thing.

Also, in my opinion, the statement that the students who quit the corps did not have the guts to stick (See LETTERS, Page 4)

LFL ABNER



WHO DONE IT?



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Al Capp

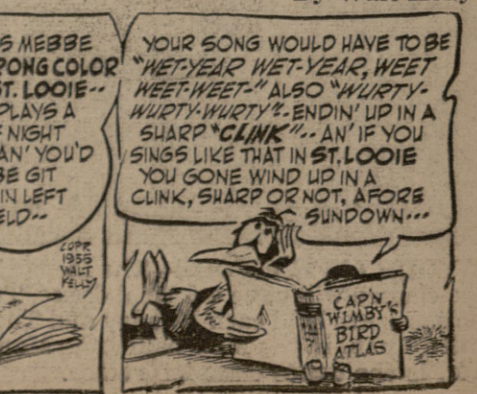
POGO



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By Walt Kelly

The Battalion

The Editorial Policy of The Battalion Represents the Views of the Student Editors

The Battalion, newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published by students four times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms The Battalion is published twice a week, and during examination and vacation periods, once a week. Days of publication are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday and Thursday during the summer terms, and Thursday during examination and vacation periods. The Battalion is not published on the Wednesday immediately preceding Easter or Thanksgiving. Subscription rates are \$3.50 per semester, \$6.00 per school year, \$7.00 per full year, or \$1.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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