

SWC Action Questioned

Texas A&M felt the sting of Southwest Conference disciplinary action Saturday for the second time in 10 years.

And for the second time this decade, the Aggies face the grim possibility of winning the conference championship and not being allowed to represent the league in bowl competition.

The SWC faculty committee found A&M guilty of violating the off-season practice rule and illegally depriving athletes of scholarships. Indefinite probation and removal of post-season bowl privileges were the penalties.

The committee charged A&M with using physical education classes for scheduled football practice and for withdrawing aid from almost 70 students who quit the squad after Coach Gene Stallings took over as head coach in December, 1964.

Stallings termed the former charge an insult to his integrity. It has been suggested the only reason this charge was included was to bolster the SWC argument for so severely penalizing A&M.

The charge apparently contains little merit. The class in question was Physical Education 317, Coaching of Football. Football shoes and footballs were issued in the class, which contained about 70 football players.

"How can you have a football class without a football?" Stallings questioned. "The shoes are issued for protective measures."

Sound-Off

Editor,
The Battalion:
I am writing this letter to the Fightin' Class of '69. We are the best class that Texas A&M will ever produce and we need the best representation possible. To assist the class president, we need someone who can fulfill the job of vice president.

I feel that the freshmen class is reliable enough to choose the best man for the office of vice president. This position is not only an honor but it also carries with it a year of hard work and responsibility. I am willing to sacrifice my time for the class to the best of my ability. On Thursday, I strongly urge each freshman to go to the polls and vote for the man of their choice. By all means turn out for the polls whether you are a cadet or a civilian and keep Harvey Cooper in consideration for the office of vice president.

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Editor,
The Battalion:
Allow me to thank you for putting me, fish "Old Army" Edwards, in the runoff for your fish class president. Space does not permit me to individually thank everyone, but I would like to cite the fish buddies in my outfit, and the corps and civilian freshmen who vigorously campaigned in my behalf.

If elected through your continued support, I will work to the best of my ability, for the best representation of all Fightin' Texas Aggie freshmen. My campaign platform is centered around the Fish Ball, which will be the best ever. To serve my fish buddies is my sole purpose in running for the responsible position of president of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Fish, Class of '69.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing you at the polls this Thursday (same time and place) and also after the holidays.

Fish "Old Army" Edwards

Glenn Dromgoole Odds 'n Ends

Across the editor's desk:
—An Austin woman recently complimented the Corps of Cadets and A&M student body for its conduct at this year's Turkey Day game.

In a letter to Dean of Students James P. Hannigan, she said: "Last year . . . I was highly critical of the conduct of the Corps during the game. I feel that I should now compliment them upon their splendid sportsmanship during this year's game at College Station."

" . . . I am a firm believer that sportsmanship as a phase of good citizenship is one of the crucial responsibilities of all athletic contests — intramural, intercollegiate and professional. May that always be an outcome of competition between these two schools of such prominence in the state and nation."

—Flu and chickenpox were the most numerous diseases floating around Brazos County last week. The county health department reported 62 cases of flu and 52 chickenpox sufferers. Next on the list were diarrhea (28), septic sore throat (17), mumps (13), gonorrhea (9) and pneumonia (7).

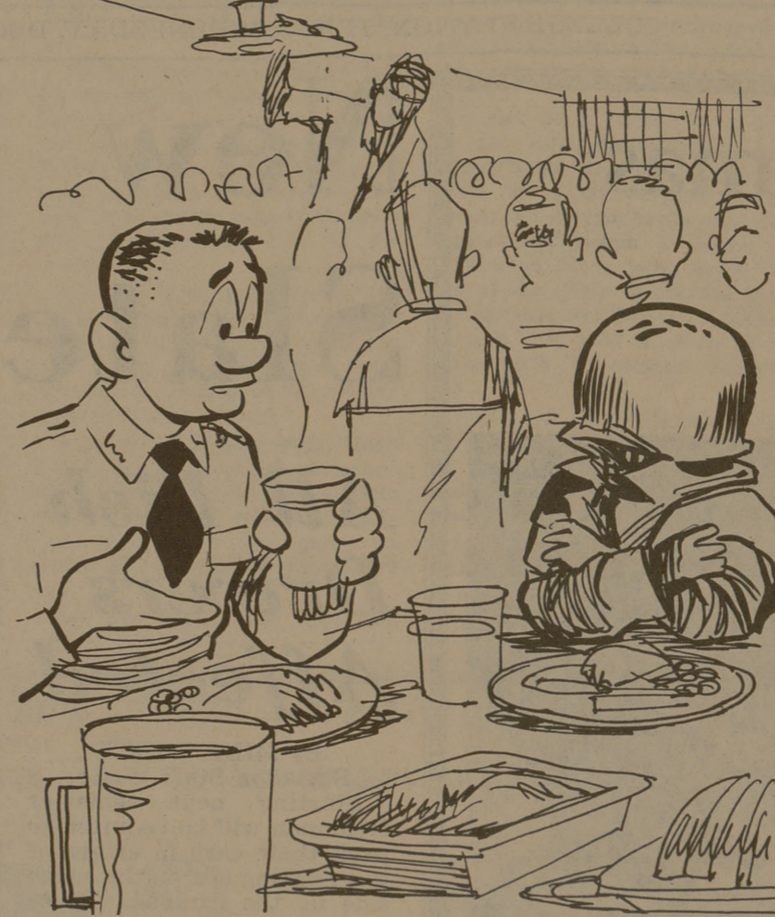
—E. Barnard Polk, 17, of El Paso, was named "Young Texan of the Month" by the Optimist Clubs of Texas. The award is based on scholarship, citizenship, sportsmanship and service to home, school, church and community.

—Mrs. Cora Faye Clayton of San Antonio is reportedly the first Negro to work on the secretarial staff of a Texas congressman, according to the Associated Press. She serves Rep. Henry Gonzalez, the Democrat from San Antonio who addressed the A&M Young Democrats Club in College Station Tuesday night. Another Negro is on Sen. Ralph Yarborough's staff—Miss Marian Robinson of Houston.

—The 1966 state conference for Texas Civil Defense directors has been set for Feb. 21-22 at the Villa Capri Motor Hotel in Austin.

—East Texas (which includes Bryan-College Station) by a vast stretch of imagination) businessmen and wives are invited to tour world trade ports and cities with the East Texas Chamber of Commerce. The tour gets underway April 27.

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"I can't figure you, Squirt! You griped to beat all when we made you wildcat, and now that it's against th' rules you gripe 'cause you can't!"

Mortimer's Notes

FOR THE RECORD: It's about time we started getting in the Christmas mood Only two more school days and nine shopping days until the festive day The dining halls serve Christmas dinner tomorrow night — turkey and dressing with all the trimmings

The Aggie Hour Thursday night will feature Christmas music in keeping with the holiday season Jerry Cooper, co-director of the semi-weekly program, said results of freshman class elections will also be announced, since The Battalion will not be published Friday

Thursday's show will be delayed until 11 p.m. because of KORA's broadcast of the A&M-UH game The Aggies play Rice tonight

in the Bluebonnet Classic Game time both nights is 9 p.m.
FACTS AND FIGURES: A rundown of some "Merry Christmas" translations
French—"Joyeux Noel"
German—"Froeliche Weihnachten"
Spanish—"Felix Navidad"
Italian—"Buon Natale"
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year — Mortimer.

A Christmas Message

Christmas really means, "Christ the gift to men, women, and children." To the English people we owe the word Christmas — Christ Mass — a religious ceremony celebrating the birth of Christ.

Dec. 25 is the accepted date of the birth of Christ, as he was born at midnight on Christmas Eve.

Do you know why Santa Clause comes down the chimney at Christmas time instead of coming through the window? It is attributed to an old English custom of sweeping down the chimney at New Year so good luck could enter.

It is to the Hollanders that we owe the custom of hanging up our stockings. They placed their wooden shoes before the large fireplace, but we Americans substituted stockings because wooden shoes wouldn't stretch.

The holly leaves represented the thorns Christ wore upon the cross, while the little red berries were the drops of His blood.

The giving of Christmas presents brings out the thought — "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

It was General W. E. Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, who was once asked the question if he were solicited to leave a message to the world, what would it be? He wrote only one word and signed his name. That word was "others."

Happiness is not seeking pleasure for ourselves, but doing the necessary things for others. God grant me the power to accept things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can and wisdom to know the difference.

I think we should pause long enough to thank God for living in a Christian country. You know, I believe in prayer. My definition of prayer would be — communicating with God for that which we desire — not deserve.

Christmas is a good time to pause long enough to take stock of ourselves and really see of what value we have been through the year to our neighbors, city, county, state, and nation.

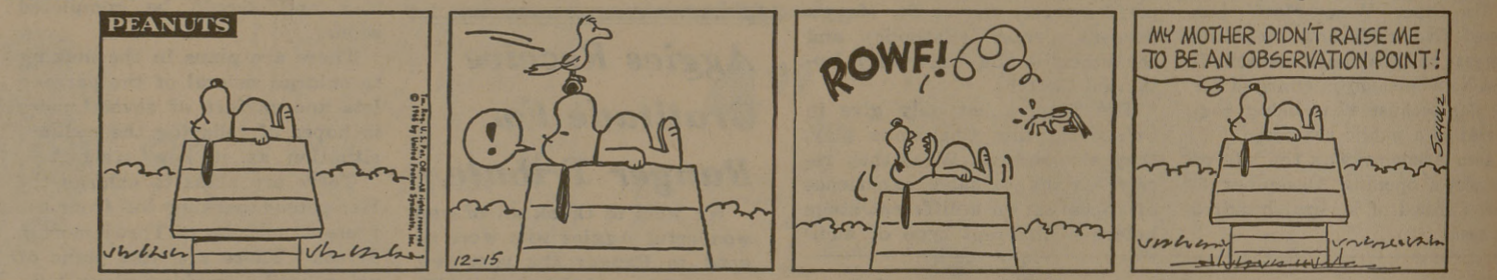
Let us all enter into the Christmas spirit, love one another, give to those less fortunate than ourselves, and try to carry out Christ's teachings.

P. L. "Pinkie" Downs Jr. '06
Official Greeter
Texas A&M University

THE BATTALION

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