

Athletes Can Be Smart Too . . .

Every so often the cry is raised on the outside that athletics and scholarship are incompatible; that a boy who can play rugged football or swim like a fish or bat a ball out of sight must be otherwise stupid.

The Distinguished students list for last semester is sharp proof to the contrary.

Alan Self, captain of the Aggie swimming team, showed up as one of the 12 students who turned in perfect 3.00 records. All major teams were represented in the list.

Football contributed John Ballentine, (2.60); Dean Denton, (2.25); and Bill Yeoman, (2.41). Yeoman also lettered in basketball proving that an athlete can compete in two sports and still make good grades.

Baseball had Bill Bradley, (2.36); and Burton French, (2.42).

Basketball turned up with Yeoman; Bill Underwood, (2.52); and Dick Goad, (2.75).

Track came through with but one man in Ed Hodges, with a mark of 2.42.

Many of the athletes now on the teams did not enter school until this semester and therefore could not have made the current list but reports coming in to the athletic department show that several more can be expected to be on the next list released in June.

PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

Monday night the finals of the Intramural Boxing Tournament were held at the DeWare Field House. Fourteen bouts were staged and they were mighty interesting and the competition was keen.

It takes a lot of courage for a man to crawl through those ropes and face an opponent, especially when he knows from having watched that opponent that he will probably be defeated as well as having to take some physical punishment. I have watched many matches here at A. & M. and my heart always goes out to those youngsters who get in there and give the best they have whether they win or



Penberthy

Aggie House--Marms

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Presented herewith is the fourth of a series of thumbnail sketches on the house masters in charge of the non-military dormitories, on the campus.)

T. C. (TOM) HOWARD is 21 years old, from Dallas, taking Aeronautical Engineering. He entered the service as an aviation cadet in February, 1943 and was separated in August, 1945, as a 1st Lt. Served 10 months in the European Theatre with the 9th Air Force as a pilot and flew 52 missions. Received ETO ribbon with three campaign stars and Air Medal with nine clusters. Housemaster for Bizzell Hall and lives in Room 206. (Next issue: T. C. Brennan)

Battalion

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Letters to the Editor

To The Editor:

I, as a veteran, would like to reply to the editorial which appeared in The Battalion of March 22, concerning the movement for a full summer semester. The author of the editorial refers to "petitions" relating to this issue, and states that he was asked to sign such a petition. It should be made clear that the Ex-Servicemen's Club has distributed no such petitions. Probably the paper he was asked to sign was a canvass to secure information on the percentage of pros and cons.

If the writer had attended the March 4 meeting of the Club, he would have had no reason to ask "why." He states that "no one seems willing to set down in black and white what is supposed to be wrong with the short sessions that a long session will cure." At the above-mentioned meeting, mimeographed sheets were passed out to all who attended, giving an itemized list of the reasons for this movement. In addition, the subject was fully discussed.

The following statement from March 22 Battalion has left us somewhat puzzled: "The dean's office has sworn that no one's graduation will be retarded by the short terms that would have been speeded by a long term." In view

of the fact that many courses require as many as twenty hours per semester, and that no more than sixteen hours may be taken under the school's short summer session plan, it seems that the student's graduation will be somewhat retarded. We will remain puzzled until the Executive Committee's explanation how under two regular semester and summer school, a student can graduate in two years and eight months?

With regard to the writer's "below-the-belt" remark about secrets being whispered but not printed, the Club's committee for a full summer semester has prepared a statement for this issue, stating in full the favorable points of a long semester.

It seems that the writer's noble defense of the faculty is a bit premature, as no one has yet started throwing bricks, as far as we know. Quoting again from the March 22 edition of the Battalion: "A. & M. College is a unit composed of students, faculty, and administration." Can all concerned be positive that each of the elements listed above has been consulted concerning a full semester this summer?

The writer of this editorial has implied that the Ex-Servicemen's Club is voicing the opinions of the

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minority group. It has been brought out by the Club that a veteran who wished his views to be heard should attend the meetings and voice them on the floor. However, in this important issue we have gone further, and have taken a poll on the controversy.
Edward C. Buntyn.

(This answer is what we were fishing for—Ed.)

Points Presented To The Ex-Servicemen's Club And The Executive Committee Concerning A Full Semester This Summer.

1. Under the accelerated plan with a full semester in the summer, it is possible for a person to graduate in a four year course in two years and eight months. We feel that since our education was interrupted by being in the service that we are entitled to this opportunity.

2. Under the two six weeks plan, you can take 14 or possibly 16 hours, whereas you need 18 or 20 hours to complete a semester work. Where are these other hours coming from? Won't this retard our graduation?

3. From the above point it seems that you will be using about 4 months of your G.I. time (a limit-
(Continued on Page 4)

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lose and here at our school, when a man has given his best, he gets a hand regardless of the outcome of the match.

It takes a lot of training and experience to become a finished boxer because to be a good boxer one must develop perfect timing. In addition one must be able to make himself do the very unnatural thing of watching the blows come and either guarding or taking them without turning away or flinching, because this leaves one wholly unprotected. Monday night we saw men who could do this and we saw them take hard blows on the chin but they were looking right at their opponents when the blows landed—they weren't turned away and so were able to retaliate.

Boxing is good training for life in that it teaches us to face our opponents whatever they may be. We all have a certain number of problems and a certain amount of trouble. Often the easy solution seems to be to turn away or to dodge the issue but invariably the best solution is to face our problems and troubles as they come, and if we cannot guard against them be looking ahead when the blows land. This is the sign of true character.

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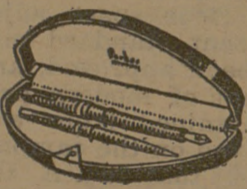
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