

BATTALION EDITORIALS

One Or The Other

We have been noting with growing concern throughout the year that Texas A&M students, for some reason, are being given a black-eye by some of the Texas news media for their conduct at athletic contests.

Yet, through it all, Texas A&M has actually done as good a job as anyone in fostering proper sportsmanship. A number of organizations on campus are engaged in a continuous effort to maintain acceptable conduct at athletic contests.

Still, Texas A&M students are forced to accept such bites as making headlines across Texas for igniting a bonfire prematurely while not being the guilty party, for being informed by the Public Address System at the University of Texas game that the object passing in front of their section was an automobile (in case they had never seen one) and being accused of profanity at basketball games.

The issue perhaps reached a pinnacle last Saturday when The Dallas Morning News accused the Texas A&M students of a language that the laws of Uncle Sam would not allow to be printed in the family newspaper.

There has been noticeable grumbling around the campus about the summary that appeared in The Dallas Morning News. For one, The News attributed the supposed poor sportsmanship to the Corps of Cadets. For another, The News cited an excess of supposed profanity.

In commenting on that account, there are two important factors to take into consideration. First, there is an unwritten law on the Texas A&M campus that the section behind the visiting team bench—where the profanity is said to have originated—is "reserved" for Texas A&M athletes, the football players, the baseball players, the track team, etc.

The remarks heard were of the "Sit down, you old goat!" and "Move around, ref, you're rotting the boards!" variety. It was hardly of the profane type that Uncle Sam prohibits in the news media.

Second, it was not the Corps of Cadets. That is not to say that the Cadets, the civilian students or any other faction of the campus pleads innocent of heckling. All are loud in their support of the Texas A&M athletic aggregations.

The reasons for Texas A&M getting a poor name in regard to sportsmanship could stem from various reasons. Perhaps it's because Texas A&M students are so vehement in their support of athletic teams; perhaps it's because Texas A&M is an all-male military college; perhaps it's because the Texas A&M student body can make more noise than any student body in the Southwest Conference, or even in the nation.

The fact still remains that Texas A&M, all too often, is given the poor sportsmanship monicker. True, the students are not wholly innocent of unsportsmanlike acts. The damage to the cannon brought down by Texas Christian University this fall for the football engagement gives testimony to that.

But it is also true that if there is any question, the doubt goes to Texas A&M.

In lieu of these incidents, we have two suggestions. Texas A&M student leaders should either impose punitive action on any acts that even border on unsportsmanlike conduct. Or the Texas A&M student body should take steps to "earn" the poor sportsmanship name that is often bestowed on them; they should let profanity abound; they should increase heckling of the opponents; and they should adopt a policy of "put up, or shut up."

After all, most coaches will agree that the home field will give an advantage of a touchdown or 10 points. With support like that from the Texas A&M student body, it might mushroom into a two-touchdown or a 20-point advantage...

AGGIES NEXT SEMESTERS BOOK LIST IS NOW AVAILABLE AT Loupot's

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a community newspaper and is under the supervision of the director of Student Publications at Texas A&M College.

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A Note Of Thanks

Editor, The Battalion, And the Citizens of College Sta.: The College Station United Chest Drive has ended. The full goal has been attained and the full amounts recommended by the budget committee have been mailed to the 14 participating agencies.

I would like to take this opportunity as retiring chairman to thank all my co-workers in the 1960 campaign for the excellent job which they have done. It has been a pleasure to work with you and I have been continually surprised to find how many willing hands were available for the work of the Chest. I should like to thank each of you who contributed—especially those who sent in a second contribution when the campaign seemed to be lagging, those who contributed from places as far distant as Ceylon, and those who contributed voluntarily even though they were not contacted.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"... we're not sure that Professor Dull will be teaching that course—why don't you register for another section?"

ALTERATIONS— BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN— Freshman Bring Us Your Issue Clothing For Alterations and Patch Sewing ONE DAY SERVICE— We Carry Regulation Caps—Belts—Socks—Ties— Insignia and Everything You Need GUARANTEED WORKMANSHIP— ZUBIK'S UNIFORM TAILORS North Gate

Aggies! Guest Rooms are available at the Memorial Student Center for the following events: FRESHMAN BALL SOPHOMORE BALL JUNIOR PROM SENIOR RING DANCE MILITARY BALL COTTON BALL COMMENCEMENT (Graduating Seniors Only) Reservations may be made at the Main Desk or by writing: Reservations Memorial Student Center A&M College of Texas College Station, Texas Sorry, no rooms available for Mothers' Day due to drawings held in June of 1960. Profits from the MSC Businesses go to help support Student Programs and Activities

Sound Off

now to support him and his staff in the 1961 campaign. Dale F. Leipper General Chairman, 1960

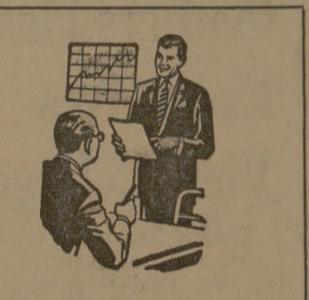
'Then, again...'

The United way is the ideal way to raise money for community needs. This way of conducting a campaign has enabled us to keep our administrative costs at a minimum—almost zero; has resulted in a relatively simple contact with generous givers; has reduced the effort required from the volunteer committee. The requests of all agencies were considered systematically and an attempt was made to set fair amounts according to service rendered and according to funds available.

I use the words 'seeming apathy' above for a special reason: students on this campus are interested—and vitally so—in Texas A&M, but there are two good reasons why that interest is seldom made manifest in written criticism of school policies. In the first place, teaching here is such that individual analysis is seldom condoned, much less encouraged. We are fed information in the forms of facts, figures and theory; and we are required, with a few notable exceptions, to regurgitate everything in the exact same way. Individualism? Personal interpretation? These are not of place in Texas A&M's curriculum.

All interested agencies were invited to participate in the United Chest. However, it appears that some are able to raise more support through separate campaigns. As long as this is the case—as long as there are citizens willing to take the necessary roles in raising funds separately and as long as we individually contribute to these different campaigns, they will continue to exist separately. I am hopeful that the continued success of the United approach will lead more and more of the independent agencies to join us in this approach. This would not only relieve us as a community of much campaign effort and overhead cost but would also guarantee a more logical distribution of donations received. If each of us knew all about all of the agencies involved, we could judge our contributions wisely. Since it is likely that we do not, joining together so that we can be represented by a budget committee which conducts open hearings and makes decisions for us seems a good procedure. Divide by 14 your United Chest contribution made last year and see for yourself how little an average amount was needed to support the evaluated need of each of the 14 participating agencies. A \$10 contribution, for example, is only 71 cents per agency, and yet we met our goal.

There are many, however, who come to Texas A&M already having the mental attitude and training necessary for a critical analysis of its many facets. "Why don't we hear from them more often?" you ask. Speaking for the Corps of Cadets—especially for those cadets with contracts—I know that many a cadet has trod the lonely road to the Trigon for his signature's being at the bottom of a letter of criticism appearing in The Battalion. For fear of expulsion from the Corps or of losing one's contract, what cadet wouldn't be reluctant to criticize the school, the Corps, or anything else?



Be well groomed for success CAMPUS CLEANERS That "like new" look we give your clothes is sure to make the right impressions whether you're on the job or on the town.

Thomas Jefferson once stated that we ought to consider: "If there among us who wish to this union... let them be disturbed, as monuments safety with which error may be tolerated, as son is left free to combat."

On Campus with Max Shilb (Author of "I Was a Teen-age Dwarf", "The Loves of Dobie Gillis", etc.)

"THE SLOW RUSH" Illustrated below is the membership pin of a brand-new fraternity called Signa Phi Nothing. To join Signa Phi Nothing and get this hideous membership pin absolutely free, take a pair of scissors and cut out the illustration and paste it on your diekey.

Let me hasten to state that I do not recommend your joining Signa Phi Nothing. The only thing I recommend in this case is Marlboro cigarettes, as an honest man would who has filtered cigarette with an unfiltered taste, who yearns to be back and enjoy a full-flavored smoke, whose heart is quickened by a choice of soft pack or flip-top box and who gets paid one week for writing this column.

It is difficult to think of any reason why you should join Signa Phi Nothing. Some people, of course, are joined in nature; if you are one such I must tell you there are any number of better organizations than Signa Phi Nothing for you to join the Mafia, for example.

Signa Phi Nothing logo featuring a man's face in a circle.

Perhaps you are asking why there should be such a fraternity as Signa Phi Nothing. I will give you an answer—an answer with which you cannot possibly disagree: Signa Phi Nothing fills a well-needed gap. Are you suffering from mental health? Is logic disturbing your thinking? Is ambition encroaching on your native land? Are your long-cherished misapprehensions retreating before sea of facts? In short, has education caught up with you?

If you pine for those old familiar miasms, those dear, dear vapors, join Signa Phi Nothing and renew, for a fleeting moment, your acquaintance with futility. We promise nothing and, by George, we deliver it!

PEANUTS comic strip panels showing characters talking about dentists and baseball.

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By Charles M. Schulz