

'An College Eguchation'

Kids Liked Space Fiesta

By JUDY FRANKLIN
Special Writer

The kids came marching two by two, descending upon the Memorial Student Center during the week of Hydro-Space Fiesta '66.

Hordes of Kindergarten and elementary school children from the Bryan-College Station area arrived in buses to see projects like Flip, SeaLab and Alvin, to watch an underwater movie and — most of all — to applaud when a dolphin named LaFitte would jump into the air to catch some fish.

It was then that the Great Issues' Committee had to set up tours to help direct the "pint-sized armies." Committee members met the "troops" at the front door and then conducted them on a whirlwind tour through the MSC.

After it was all over, the students flooded The Battalion and MSC Student Program offices with colorful "thank you" notes last week to tell the people how

much they appreciated their visits.

The Fiesta must have really impressed the youngsters who wrote these notes to The Batt office:

"Dear Editor: 'I went to the space fiesta. I bet you don't know the difference between Flip and the Spar. One of the differences us 10 feet and another us you can go down in the Flip but you can not go down in Spar.' He added, 'P.S. I took notes.'"

"Dear Editor: When I go to colleg and graduate I am going to be a vattenarun to care of dogs and cat and porpoise."

The "troops" didn't forget Tom Morgan, either. Next to LaFitte, he was probably the most popular "mammal" there.

Tom, who was in charge of the tours, led children past the exhibits every day. Most of the "thank you" notes were more like fan mail for the guide. They wrote endless numbers of messages thanking him for being

such an "exilent" guide and for "taking his time to build the Alvin."

"Dear Mr. Morgan," stated one of the letters. "Thank you very much for telling us what you did. I enjoyed you because I could hear everything you said

because you speak loudly and clearly. I knew as soon as I saw you I would enjoy you very much as a guide."

A second admirer somewhat disagreed:

"Dear Mr. Morgan: I could not understand some of the words

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"This basketball race has me too tense to study and I have this ride to Dallas, so"

Lane's Look OUT

By Tim Lane

I was born 24 years and some odd months ago within five miles of this campus. And something like five or ten minutes after, I suspect, I first heard the phrase "the Aggie Spirit."

Then for most of the next 24 years this campus, Aggies and A&M traditions have been an accustomed part of daily life. The phrase "the Aggie Spirit" has, naturally, been part of it.

For the past three years (and longer) I have heard at least once every day that the Aggie Spirit is dying on this campus. I paid no attention.

After Sunday night, I definitely will pay no attention. Such statements are a grand redundancy.

Sunday night I learned that it had died.

Sunday night I and my car constituted its funeral cortege as I pushed it down Wellborn Road.

Sunday night the Aggie spirit was as dead as my car's generator, as dead as the weight of the car I almost broke my back pushing alone from FM 60 to the next street while upwards of 200 cars passed in the same direction, all but half a dozen bearing A&M decals similar to mine.

Sunday night I held a 45-minute sweating, straining, grunting, swearing requiem for the Aggie Spirit.

Monday morning my aching back, shoulders, arms and legs mourned at its wake as I hobbled to class wondering how many of the Aggies grunting "howdy" at me were among those who honked impatiently Sunday night because I could not push the car

fast enough to get it out of their way.

It is dead.

Let the thousands who visit our campus each year, who come to football games and other athletic events, who observe manifestations of our customs and traditions, let them think they are seeing the Aggie Spirit. They will never realize they are seeing a ghost.

Unless they need help.

It's dead.

But, if I am wrong, it is not dead, if it stirs itself in basketball games, if it shows itself in handshakes and "howdies," if it parades at military reviews, if it brandishes itself in patriotic telegrams to the President and to athletic teams, if it goes on display at high school career days and in pamphlets and brochures, but has no helping hand for an Aggie in trouble, if this is the way it lives, pray let it die.

If it lives in pomp and public display, but not in quiet loyalty, has the energy to make the grand gesture to win approval, but not to do the unseen deed needed by someone in trouble, it is a walking corpse and should be laid to rest.

Bitter?

Yes.

I was pushing that car. And I watched those cars with the Aggie decals slow down, then whiz on by.

And I was astounded.

Bitter?

Why not?

Draft Rules Not Clear

While the flow of men and materials continue to pour into the Southeast Asia war theater, the services at home continue their search for means of meeting these demands.

While the Air Force, Marines and Navy continue to rely almost entirely on volunteers, the Selective Service System continues to furnish the majority of Army enlisted men. Since the Viet Nam War is requiring ever larger number of ground troops, the normal peacetime deferments are being closely studied. One of these is the deferment for education, especially in colleges and universities.

During the Korean conflict college student deferments were based primarily on either class standing or the individual's score on a nationwide examination. At the present time the Selective Service System is considering reinstating such a testing program.

"We've received no word yet from Washington," said Col. R. B. Hall, Chief of Manpower for the Texas Selective Service Office, "but I can safely say that the tests will be advisory in nature . . . administered by an outside agency as was done in the past."

He went on to explain that the tests will be voluntary, but if a student didn't take them, there would be one less element the local board would have at its disposal in making the decision as to who gets drafted and who stays in school.

Said Tennessee State Director Arnold Malone in Time Magazine, "We're going to have to put the screws on the students. We'll either make good students or good soldiers out of them."

Whatever form the tests take, there will be some inherent problems in the system. Besides the sheer enormity of the task, the question will likely arise as to what constitutes a fair test for students in different fields.

And just what weight will be given to the results? In making the tests voluntary, the SSS has skirted the problem of making deferments students susceptible to any form of draft examination, but it might be worth noting if those who do not take the examinations have a higher date of call-up than those who don't.

A similar problem has arisen at the University of Michigan where the university officials have refused to disclose a student's grades to the local draft board. The school authorities said the action was taken at the student's request, in line with a general policy to that effect.

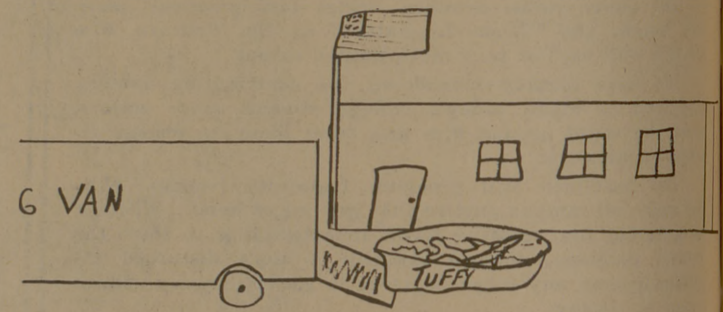
E. R. Simmerman, assistant to the vice-president for academic affairs at Michigan, said they would not release information about a student without his consent, but the student would be responsible for the withholding if the draft board subsequently decided the action constituted "obstructive procedure" and resulted in reclassification.

So the question is beginning to arise as to the proper relationship between colleges and draft boards. Is the educational institution responsible for informing the draft board of a student's scholastic standing, or will that information—like a change of address or marital status—become a semesterly chore for the collegian?

And what factors will weigh in a board's decision once the clear cut rule of student exemptions is discarded? Grades? Test scores? Class standing? If class standing is given weight as in the past, will it be among the whole class, or as divided by majors and departments?

As the war progresses, these and other questions will have to be answered by the draft boards, the universities, and the students. It is already time for students to give the matter serious thought, and for the Selective Service System to prepare the students for the steps they intend to take.

G VAN



Feb 11, 1966
Dear Editor,
Please tell the people at A+M how much we like the Alvin at the M.S.C. We hope that all the people in College Station, Texas like the Alvin as much.
THIRD-GRADERS WRITE LETTERS
... Kip Ranck liked Hydro-Space Fiesta.

Wanderin'

By Larry R. Jerden

Being a patriotic American trying to observe George Washington's birthday, I would like to say a few words in his defense. And with today's ideas of education, he definitely needs defending.

It seems as though there is a group of scholars in this nation that have the same perspective on history the pulp magazines have on today. They are not interested in what George Washington did to serve his country, or his role in helping to found this great nation of ours.

Their interest is centered on disproving all the legends about him, breaking through to the "real" Washington. I guess this is well and good, and in line with man's never ending search for truth, but I certainly enjoyed the stories of the cherry tree and throwing the dollar across the Delaware River, even if they weren't "true."

Somehow, I still feel what a man accomplishes should go down in history. If he is a traitor, let him be known for it, and if he is the father of his country, let that, then, be the epitaph remembered by his countrymen 200 years later.

If, today, we are truly searching for the truth about historical figures, the words of those close to them probably describe them best.

Said Thomas Jefferson of Washington, "His integrity was the most pure, his justice the most inflexible I have ever known."

He was a wise, a good, a great man.

★ ★ ★

Currently needed: a change in the laws about war. If, as some have conjectured, those giving aid and comfort to our enemies in the current war are escaping treason charges because war has not been officially declared, perhaps we need to reinterpret the law on treason.

This calls not for legislative action, but for a more liberal interpretation of the word "enemy" in Article III, Section 3, paragraph one of the Constitution.

"Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort . . ."

It takes no new law to realize that the groups sending blood and letters of sympathy to the government of North Viet Nam and advocating our appeasement of that dictatorship is both "adhering" to this enemy and giving it comfort, if not outright aid.

If at present a nation is not legally an enemy unless there is war declared against it, I feel we should pass a "declaration of enemy relations" so that our own people can better realize the position of our government in the complicated relations of modern world politics.

It is highly unlikely that war will ever be declared again, short of the day after nuclear weapons are employed. We need, therefore, a modern law to meet modern political situations. When a nation is at war, as we are in Southeast Asia, the questions of whether or not we should be involved are rather mute.

We are there, we are fighting, and there is still no substitute for victory. The modern Neville Chamberlains, William Fulbright and Wayne Morse, will only deliver us into another Munich. It is past time for debate, it is time to press for victory.

Reynolds' Rap

By Mike Reynolds

The trend in college dining these days appears to be toward skyscraper dormitories with dining halls in between. UH and TWU have two such projects under way. The facilities at UH resemble those at Texas Tech and many other schools. Girls will be housed in one tower while another skyscraper will be composed of living units for the male sex. Dining facilities will be in the middle.

I hope that whoever is up there watching over A&M will take note of these occurrences. We need it bad. Actually, all we really need is women in the messhall.

I do not pretend to speak about the Corps side of the family style service.

It's just the civilians that need women in the messhall. The girls might influence the conduct.

Now there is nothing wrong that a good, loud voice, an iron constitution and a steel grip wouldn't cure. A grabbing action like a spring also helps.

What's my gripe? Why beat around the bush like this?

It all boils down to the fact that a bunch of guys have lousy table manners. I don't mean table manners like Dear Abby tells all her readers about. I mean just plain old lack of consideration for one's fellow man. There just ain't no more to be found, my friend.

Be careful when you walk in. Someone might pull your chair from under you and yell, "That's my seat."

Be sure that you get on the hot corner so that you will be the first one to get your hands on the food. If you sit at the other end of the table you will starve to death.

I witnessed the following conversation last night after the waiter made his first trip to the kitchen.

The guy running the hot corner grabbed the bullneck and started to take a second helping when a voice was heard at the other end of the table.

"Mind if I have firsts?"

The bowl was passed back and forth between the student on the hot corner and some of his friends. After taking all but the gravy, he looked in the bottom of the bowl and a flicker of a grin crossed his face.

"Guess we'll have to send it back."

The guy at the other end turned a beautiful shade of crimson and I decided that those were unsafe parts.

Isolated incidents? Not quite. There is no hope of ever getting any Jell-O salad or any other food that is limited to one helping after the first three men make a grab at it. No one seems to really care whether anyone besides themselves gets anything to eat or not.

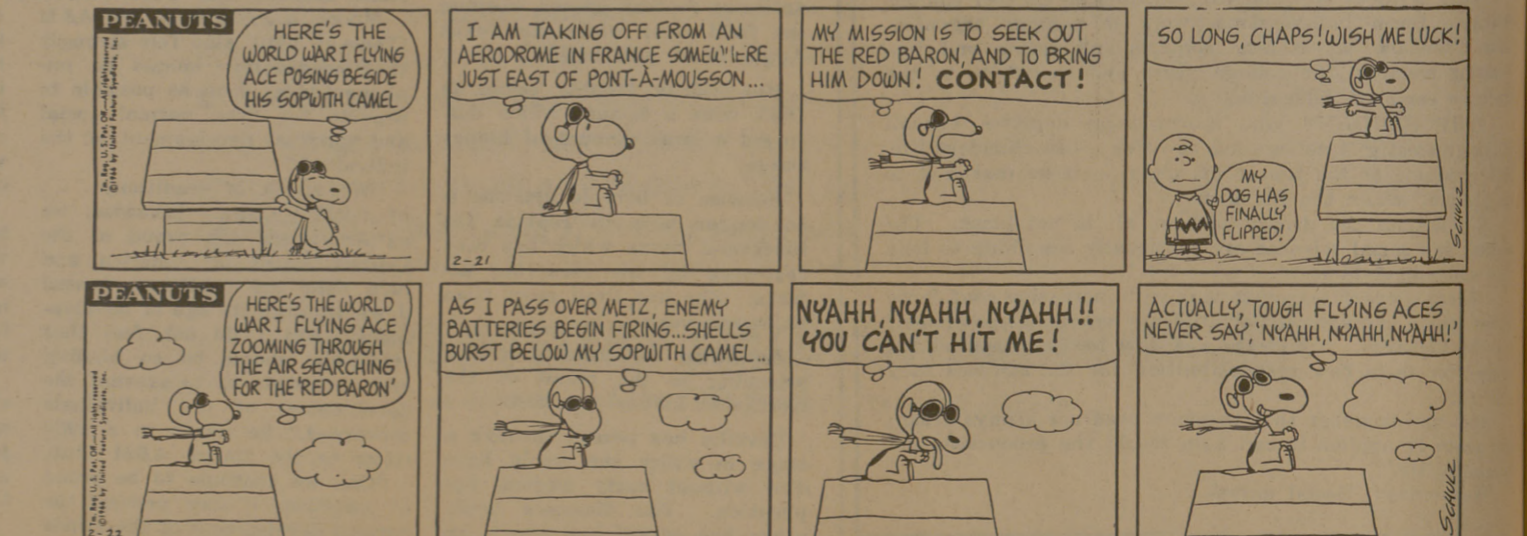
Sure, not everybody acts that way. The overwhelming majority of the students don't act that way. They just sit and suffer in silence.

Yessir, the civilians need women in the dining halls. They might learn a little consideration for their fellow coeds even if they don't care about their fellow Aggies.

Putting up with the food is bad enough.

By Charles M. Schab

PEANUTS



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