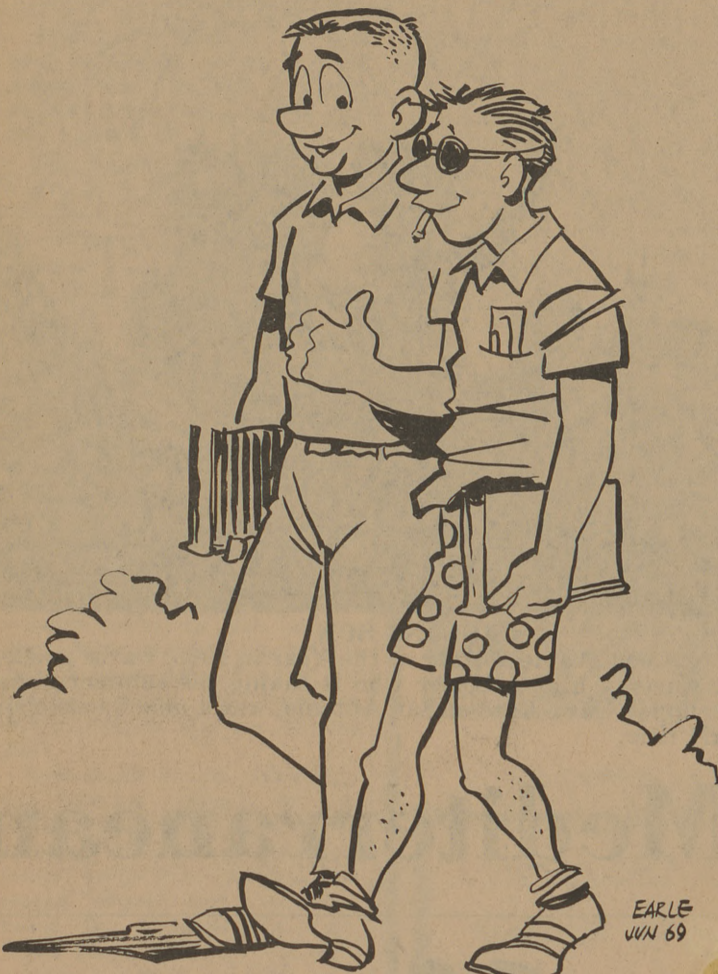


CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"Frankly, I'd never guess that you were your outfit's outstanding sophomore!"

Editorial

The impossible has finally happened! Heavens above, Texas A&M University in all its glory has finally adopted the four-point grading system.

Those of you who have attended a major university, especially one on the archaic three-point system, for any length of time already know the pros and cons of the new step.

Most of you Aggies have all watched grade points slip under the bridge because you managed to miss a letter grade by a stirring three-tenths of a point. The cutoff point for your successors will be a 60 to pass where it was a 70 when you tightroped through.

Certainly this step can only improve the outdated grading scale by making it easier for those students who miss the next letter grade by a measly point or two. However, most things are relative and, more than likely, the 60 will seem like 70 did in a few more years. Anyway, when you tell someone you have a 1.945 overall, it beats the hell out of having a .945, at least in name if nothing else.

R.M.C.

61 Die In Viet War

Sixty-one former Texas A&M students have died in the Vietnam war and seven are listed as missing in action.

The Association of Former Students office reported the death count from correspondence it has received from families and friends of the servicemen.

The casualty list includes 57 officers and four enlisted men—from a Marine Corps major general to an Army private first class.

Marine Maj. Gen. Bruno A. Hochmuth, 1935 graduate, was commander of the 3rd Marine Division when he was killed in a helicopter crash north of Hue on Nov. 13, 1967.

Hochmuth, a native of Houston, was the second U. S. general to die in the war. He was one of A&M's most distinguished military leaders.

Air Force Capt. Condon H. Terry Jr. of Dallas, Class of 1956, was the first A&M former student to die in Vietnam. Terry, a T-28 pilot, was shot down and died in June, 1963.

Former student files show two ex-students died in 1963, three died in 1964, 14 died in 1965, two died in 1966, 13 died in 1967, 17 died in 1968 and 10 had died through June 4 of this year.

The Class of 1966 has lost the most students in the war — eight. Six former students have been killed from the Classes of 1964 and 1965, according to the records.

Deaths by other classes follow: Four from the Classes of 1960, 1958, 1956 and 1955; three from the Classes of 1963, 1962, 1961 and 1959; two from the Classes of 1969, 1967, 1957 and 1952, and one from the Classes of 1954, 1950, 1948, 1942 and 1935.

ON OTHER CAMPUSES

By MONTY STANLEY
In Austin there is a park near tu (or The University as it is called by you warped-minded individuals who attend it the rest of the year but for some reason consider it to your advantage to attend A&M during the summer). It has lately become popular to sunbathe and drink beer on a hill in that park, something which approaches inevitability, considering the proximity of over 20,000 sun-worshipping, beer-drinking young people. However, in a story in the campus paper, the Summer Texan, Austin's director of parks and recreation stated that he "objected to groups of young adults drinking beer and sunbathing on the hillside." The director further commented, "I think it's fine if a man brings his family for a picnic and has some beer, but just a bunch of kids — that's a different thing. We're just going to tell them to move on." When questioned further concerning the legality of this action, he said he believes he has the authority to move young adults away from the hillside because, even if they are quietly sunbathing, it is "a disruption of the parks program" which he says, is "family picnicking."

Two students at Washington State University have been serving jail sentences for assault convictions during this last semester. They serve the sentences on weekends so that they may attend classes during the week as usual. Both varsity football players, they recently came very close to losing this privilege when they were somehow "wrongly informed that they did not have to report because of a Saturday football scrimmage."

WSU has an interesting division called the Institutional Research Department which, according to the WSU Evergreen, plays a large part in the life of the university. They find deficiencies and weak spots in both and determine solutions to them. For example, the department is presently studying such things as "student environment, student performance in relation to educational objectives, interaction of students and educators, outside influences on academic achievement, and assessing academic



potential," all areas in which A&M could easily stand improvement, if only there were some realistic prescribed way set up to change the present methods of operation.
From WSU's Daily Evergreen comes this eloquent description of the KK's: the "pistol packing protectors of the parking lots."

An end of the year tradition at TCU, as at many other colleges, is a massive panty raid of all the girls' dorms. This time, the 200 yelling males involved managed to attract the attention of the campus police who arrived promptly on the scene to bad-eye the "revolutionaries" for a while, as only the campus police can do, thus becoming the unwitting center of attraction to the whole mess. Dorm counselors requested that they leave, in hopes that then the residents might return to their dorms. One policeman, however, refused to leave until the Assistant Dean of Men arrived and asked him to. By this time eight "shotgun and billy-club carrying Fort Worth patrolmen" had arrived, shifting the attention to them, and the enthusiastic raiders continued with new fervor. At this time, however, the police sergeant in charge had the sense to realize there was nothing happening which warranted police action. Amid cheers from students, he waved as he and his group drove off. Sort of reminiscent of the KK here at A&M who came over to the dorm area to check out a water fight. Needless to say, within five minutes he was soaked from head to foot. He was not to be denied immediate retribution, however. Someone handed him a wastecan full of water, which he utilized, and law and order was thus maintained.

Calhoun Heads Oil Hazard Study

A Presidential panel headed by Dr. John C. Calhoun Jr., Texas A&M vice president, has recommended oil development be continued on the off-shore lease near Santa Barbara, Calif., where a well blowout occurred earlier this year.

The panel concluded it is less hazardous to proceed with development of the lease than to attempt to seal the structure with its oil content intact.

Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel, who requested the study, said this week he was adopting the panel's suggestions.

In addition to continued oil removal, the group recommended that underwater receptacles or other suitable methods be employed to trap crude still seeping from the Union Oil Co. lease site. It also recommended cement be inserted through the leaking fissures to seal them.

Calhoun, who heads Texas A&M's programs, also serves as chairman for an earlier Presidential panel asked to recommend means to avoid such mishaps as the Santa Barbara incident. The January accident unleashed tons of crude oil on California beaches.

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Dr. Ray Awarded Research Grant

Dr. Sammy M. Ray, director of the Texas A&M Marine Laboratory in Galveston, has been awarded a \$43,616 research grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The three-year grant is for the laboratory study of toxic dinoflagellates and becomes effective July 1.

Dr. Richard A. Geyer, head of the Oceanography Department at A&M, said dinoflagellates are the small marine organisms that cause the "red tide."

The dinoflagellates move in close to shore, using up all the oxygen, and this leads to large fish kills, Dr. Geyer noted.

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 university and community newspaper.

LETTERS POLICY

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