

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"After what I went through to get them, I can't stand the thought of giving them up!"

A&M 'Summer School At Sea' Will Cruise Mediterranean

A&M's "Summer School at Sea" for 1973 spring high school graduates is scheduled June 6-Aug. 8 with a Mediterranean itinerary which includes visits to Spain and Italy.

The cruise, which offers students the opportunity to earn six hours of freshman-level college credit, is conducted in conjunction with the annual summer training session for the Texas Maritime Academy, part of TAMU's Moody College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources.

Students have a choice of English, American history, algebra or analytic geometry and calculus, noted Dr. William H. Clayton,

dean of the college and acting TMA superintendent. Tentative ports of call for the 15,000-ton "Texas Clipper" are Tenerife, Canary Islands; Barcelona, Spain; Naples, Italy; Funchal, Madeira Islands, and St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Optional overnight tours are planned to Madrid and Rome.

Tuition, fees, room and board total \$690 for Texas residents and \$850 for non-residents.

Inquiries and requests for applications should be directed to: Superintendent, Texas Maritime Academy, Moody College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources, P. O. Box 1675, Galveston, Texas 77550.

It's How To Play The Game

By SAM BAYS

Undoubtedly one of the most useful but obnoxious phrases ever conceived by the human mind is "... but the students here are so apathetic." When something we would like to see happen never quite gets off the ground, more times than not we can safely rely on this old faithful, hackneyed excuse. And if we shake our heads slightly while saying the magic words with a tone of resigned sincerity, we will surely sound convincing enough for the casual listener.

Of course, what we are implying is that student involvement is the unquestionable key to success, the universal panacea for all campus problems. We see student involvement much as our great-grandmothers saw castor oil—a spoonful a day couldn't hurt us and would at least keep everything moving.

Student apathy may indeed be a serious and legitimate problem. Yet the classic alternative, student involvement, has the full potential to be a far more destruc-

tive and dangerous force. The critical issue which we all must face is not simply whether we will be apathetic or involved but rather how we shall express our involvement if we choose to play an active role.

Involvement must be built upon mature, responsible, productive intention and action if it serves any useful purpose. Bull-headed antagonism and obstinate refusal have no place in constructive, cooperative efforts to change or improve a disagreeable situation.

As a case in point, look at the current ongoing bicycle hassle. When the registration issue first reared its ugly head on the campus, legitimate questions about fee allocation and facility development remained unanswered. Inquiries by the student leadership solicited prompt and candid public explanations from those administrative officials responsible for the project. When no additional new questions were posed, students and administrators alike rightly assumed that satisfactory answers had been given and registration was rescheduled.

Yet late Sunday night while most of us slept, a few "involved" students braved the rains and crept around the campus posting signs encouraging a registration boycott. Now surely those folks had the right to express their dissatisfaction, but their tactics were appallingly inappropriate.

Ignoring the fact that student representatives had contributed to the registration plans and assuming a misinformed "us versus them" attitude toward the administration, their actions gave no one the opportunity to discover and respond to any still-unresolved issues. Their behavior and attitude paralleled that of a spoiled child who refused to play, took his ball, and went home because he couldn't change the rules in the middle of the game. No problems were solved. No contribution was made.

The extent to which we shall see ourselves involved in decision-making is directly related to the degree to which we demonstrate

the capacity for responsible involvement. If we expect to have inputs in an open environment, we must articulate our ideas and feelings understandably. Emotional displays and bawling have no real value for the responsible administration of the university. It would seem far better not to play the game at all than to play it so poorly.

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(Continued from page 1)

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The Battalion

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Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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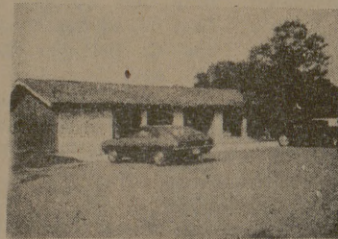
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