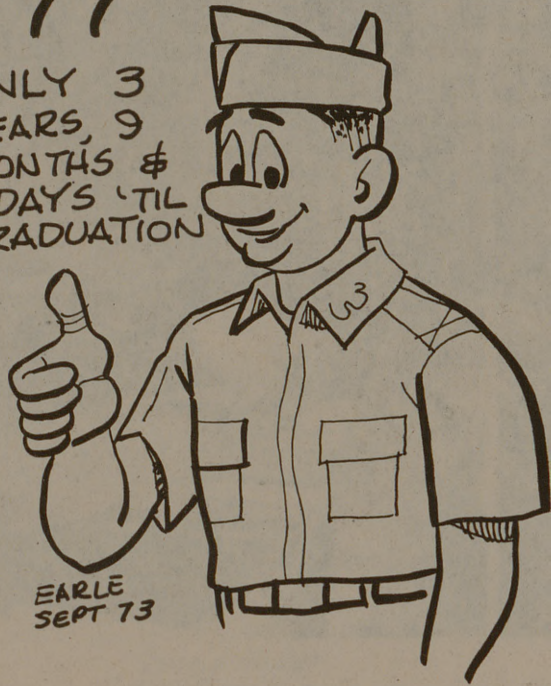


CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle

WELCOME CLASS OF '77

ONLY 3 YEARS, 9 MONTHS & 2 DAYS 'TIL GRADUATION



EARLE SEPT 73

Back to the Grind

Shuttle buses painted orange and white . . . students parked in faculty parking lots . . . the Texas A&M Book Store filled to the brim with last-minute shoppers . . . lost freshman . . . etc.? If this was all one had to put up with, faculty and students could consider themselves lucky.

But for most, the "back-to-school" dilemma brought on the usual headaches which accompany such first-day catastrophes and problems. All wasn't lost, however.

University officials discovered there were about 18,000 students enrolled on the first day of classes—a remarkable feat for A&M—meaning an overall rolls increase of nearly 2,000. And head football coach and Athletic Director Emory Bellard convinced the University that A&M was going to have nothing but a winning season—honest.

Seriously, though, the first day meant the beginning of uphill battles for some destined to seemingly end up with to brick walls while others will become deeply involved with helping to operate student programs and take part in University operations. To all of you, we wish you good luck.

There were many issues which have arisen over the summer months, some not born, but, rather having their complexity increased—such as the effect of the 18-year-majority rights bill on campus life or the battle for a birth control program.

Whatever your cause, be it education, university operations or just plain fun, we at the Battalion hope that this is a good year for A&M in all aspects. The Battalion cannot exist without you, the students and faculty, to create the news. Assuredly, this won't be an easy year, but the underlying theme or tone of the campus seems to be moving towards more cooperation with those involved in the daily interaction of A&M's ultimate goal—higher education.

We like to think this is a good sign. It's what makes A&M unique from any other college campus or university campus in the country. We're not saying, "Get involved," with anything, rather we would hope that each person associated with life here will think about what he does before he does it.

Life at A&M can be a lot of crazy fun this year, but only you can make it happen.

The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the University administration or the Board of Directors. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a University and Community newspaper.

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Listen Up—

Aggie Gourmet Finds Critic

Editor: We are writing in regard to the article that appeared in "The Aggie Gourmet" on Wednesday, August 22, 1973.

An attempt was made to grade several restaurants here and in Houston. We have eaten in all but three of the eleven that were reviewed. We were terribly disappointed in the injustice done to the Texan Restaurant here in Bryan. There is no way that any of the others can begin to compare to the superb food and the excellent, friendly service offered by the Texan.

We have been to the Texan many times and have tried a variety of menu selections. Everytime we thoroughly enjoyed what we chose and were never regretful of time or money spent. The owner and chef of the Texan, Mr. Tapley, is a perfectionist and an artist in his cooking. We have yet to find any restaurant in Bryan, Houston, or anyplace else that always served such fresh, delicious food. The majority of restaurants and as far as we know all the ones mentioned in your review except the Texan substitute convenience and speed for quality and freshness.

It's true that everyone has different tastes in food but in our

opinion anyone that does not think the Texan Restaurant deserves a four-plus rating should not be writing the "Aggie Gourmet" column.

Chris L. Leman '72  
Mary Ann Leman '76  
★ ★ ★

Editor: I have in the past had several encounters with the Student Financial Aid department — some of them good, others bad. I am writing in an attempt to reduce the number of bad encounters, both for me and for all the other students who have had these experiences.

The worst injustice is the timing and regulations associated with students receiving aid at the beginning of the semester. Sitting in the waiting room is the best place to hear the tales of woe. A typical tale:

"I need to see your fee slip and ID, please."

"I haven't paid my fees yet, I need the scholarship money to pay them."

"Well, we have to have the fee slip before we can give you your money. Maybe you could go pay your fees and come right back. That way the money will be in

the bank before your check clears."

After a long walk through the rain or humidity — and many nasty thoughts later—

"OK, here's my fee slip."

"I don't seem to find your check; maybe your money hasn't come in yet . . ."

And another student is initiated or reinitiated into the red tape of A&M.

Thus, my question: Did this office direct these policies which are detrimental to the student's opinion of the moral character and sensibility of this school? Or do they exist because the Registrar and the Fiscal Office have not worked things out to the student's best interest? Or are they (the policies) totally beyond control?

I realize that some situations exist for which the department has methods to help the student, but these aids are not widely known and certainly are not publicized. My letters of inquiry and phone calls didn't help very much. Situations like these cause unnecessary worry in the student and should be avoided for the harm they cause.

Gary D. Couples

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|          | 1971         | 1972          | 1973          |
|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Assets   | 7,468,383.20 | 11,244,973.35 | 15,553,130.08 |
| Deposits | 6,521,262.38 | 9,808,942.95  | 12,665,112.65 |
| Loans    | 4,547,638.93 | 7,005,152.25  | 10,110,523.10 |

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By Charles M. Schulz

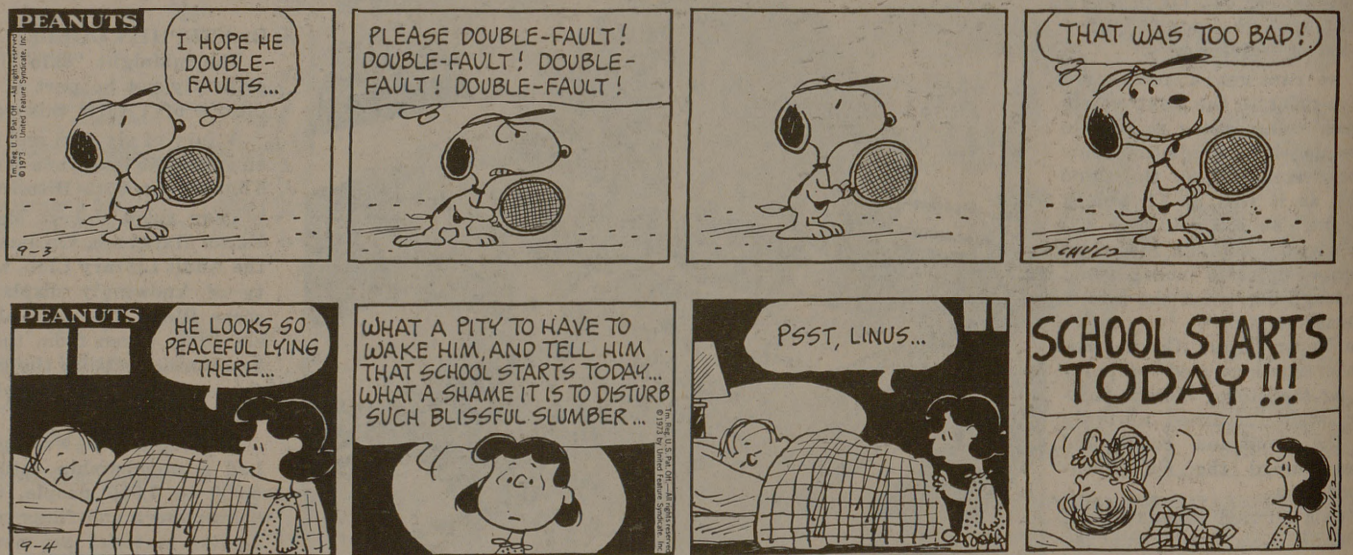


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