

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"The best way I can describe graduate college is that you always feel somebody is following you!"

Listen Up

'Solid Religious Life' Lacking Here

Editor: "Texas A&M University is non-sectarian, but its high objectives cannot be achieved unless its educational program is founded on a solid religious life. Divorced from the spiritual aspiration of the individual and of the group, education cannot be complete."

This quote is taken from the A&M 1973-'74 catalog. There are no courses in Bible study or theology offered at this University. A&M is a state supported school. However, other state supported schools not only offer these courses, but give up to 12 hours credit for taking them.

If education cannot be complete without a good religious background, why isn't the Bible offered in our educational curriculum. Anna Crumrine '76

Editor: Campus construction has made the atmosphere uncomfortable enough without having some lawn mower riding around belching blue smoke like a mosquito fogger. How about a little ecological-minded undating on some of the maintenance equipment around here? Van Samo

Editor: The issuing of free grade points for physical education courses is a ridiculous policy and should be discontinued. To "reward" hard working students with free grade points, as advocated in a Battalion editorial, is absurd. Competent hard-working students enrolled at a major university should be able to maintain a 2.0 GPR without these free points.

Then again if these free points keep some students from gaining admission into professional schools, shouldn't "Caveat Emptor" be imprinted on all application blanks for admission to TAMU? Otto Zeck

Editor: Your sensitive and thought-provoking editorial of the Oct. 9 edition brought tears to my eyes. Just think, not only can A&M brag that we have the largest freshman honor society, but we can also brag that we enable more "hard working students who deserve a break" to stay here when they would flunk out of other schools. Surely anyone can see that both attest to the high intellectual caliber of A&M.

I'm glad that women are going to be encouraged to take P.E. I wonder how many we lost because they didn't get the break they deserved. Also how many were cut out of scholarships because they didn't have an inflated GPR. I have heard subversive people mention that A&M's inflated GPR is dishonest, but dishonesty is certainly a small price to pay to enable more good Ags to stay on. Besides, we all need a good ego boost now and then. Nevertheless, I wonder if it is something that we can be proud about. Barbara Felkins

Editor: Oh boy! We've now got two million-gallon fuel tanks, so let's turn on all of those totally worthless display lights around Zachry and the Oceanography-Meteorology buildings. Inasmuch chickens in Navasota do enjoy the sight at 3 a. m. And it's so economical! Each of those 24 lights at the engineering center is only 400 watts. Such an example for our outstanding University makes it look more like a den of apathy. Does anyone in the administration care to contest the judgment? C. David Stasny '74

Editor: Re: Josten Ma's Oct. 9 letter concerning the Corps of Cadets. The letter written by him and his band of peace freaks was very childish. The slogan he quoted is just a part of A&M. Nothing personal is meant against the races. The Corps has always echoed violent or "groady" sayings.

One must be exposed to the rough side of life rather than just the rosey side if he wishes to become a leader. Those signing the letter have already shown they would rather sip coffee in class than go through the Corps and become someone worthwhile. John Lee '75

Editor: Re: Josten Ma's Oct. 9 letter concerning the Corps of Cadets. It seems the civilian members of TAMU like to exaggerate and sensationalize anything they believe is wrong with the Corps. I am a second year member of the Corps and I have never before heard the atrocity, "I don't care what the peace queers think, I just want to kill some chinks."

The people who wrote the letter concerning this wish to leave the impression that the Corps is a group of atheistic racists bent on genocide. This so-called atrocity is the words of one man, which these people construe as the attitude of the entire Cadet Corps. The answer to Ma's question concerning the Corps "crap out" is yes, it is another tradition of ours and it does build mind, spirit and unity. This is something a civilian student will never understand. Mike Paulsen '76 Greg Knappe '76 John Mosser '76

Editor: Re: The Oct. 4 letter from Mr. Prince, Mr. Triplett and Mr. Krueger concerning yell leaders. I can see your point in wanting yell leaders at the south side of the field, as well as the east side where they are normally located. But it wouldn't be plausible. To be fair to all the fighting twelfth men, yell leaders would have to be placed in front of every section and that is out of the question. As to weather it is on account of your being 'non-regs,' I don't believe so.

I'm sick of hearing from the Corps that it has so much more spirit than 'non-regs'. Sure, the turnout to the home games is almost 100 percent, but what do you expect, Corps students are forced to attend. It's a fact that if they didn't have to go, their turnout would be considerably less. I was glad to see 'non-regs' as yell leaders this year for the first time, but next year I'd like them all to be 'non-regs'.

It's time for the Corps to 'pull its head out' and realize you don't have to wear a uniform to be an Aggie. Steve Allaire '76

Editor: The names of two old A&M institutions are being changed and I see no reason for this. The Memorial Student Center is now the University Center. Why hasn't the MSC just been enlarged and expanded, or is it all a new animal? The MSC was dedicated to the Aggies who died in World War II. Are we now taking this memorial away from those men? Can't it all be the MSC and have the new parts dedicated to the Ags we say "here" for each April 21?

Changing the name of the Exchange Store to the Texas A&M Bookstore seems unnecessary to me. "The Exchange Store" is a unique name for a college bookstore and quite identifiable with A&M. It's the same old Exchange Store that was on Ross Street. Maybe students will retain the old names even though the signs read differently. It has been ten years since A&M's status was changed from college to university, but the Ags still sing, "We're from Texas AMC."

Lynne Edwards '76

reflected upon the treatment received upon joining the Sea Bootline at the Boston College game. The two co-eds were explicit about their strong desire to join the bootline and the qualifications which they felt were site to obtain this high privilege.

Indeed, having completed hours, having ordered an Aggie senior ring, and being able graduate in May are all important parts of joining the bootline. However, I submit there are other, perhaps less tangible, but just as important qualifications they should have considered before setting foot on track to join that line.

You see, it is a question of deeper qualifications! How many times in the past three years have these young ladies made a Yell Practice? How many times have they stood on "wood" at Kyle Field? How many times have they returned from a game or a Yell Practice unable to speak because they "yelled their guts out" supporting the team? How many times have these young ladies yelped from the gates of Kyle Field to their seats? How many times did these young ladies get down and "push 'em off" the Sergebutt wildcat when they were Juniors? How many of the names and numbers of starting players, statistics of the game and records for years past have these young ladies committed to memory? And one more thing if it was 1 January 1922 or even 29 Sept. 1973 would these young ladies stand up en masse with proud hearts and tears in their eyes when the coach asked for some King Gill to replace an injured player. I imagine every one of those "Old Army Ags" would stand.

Donald L. Falk '75

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So-Called Tradition

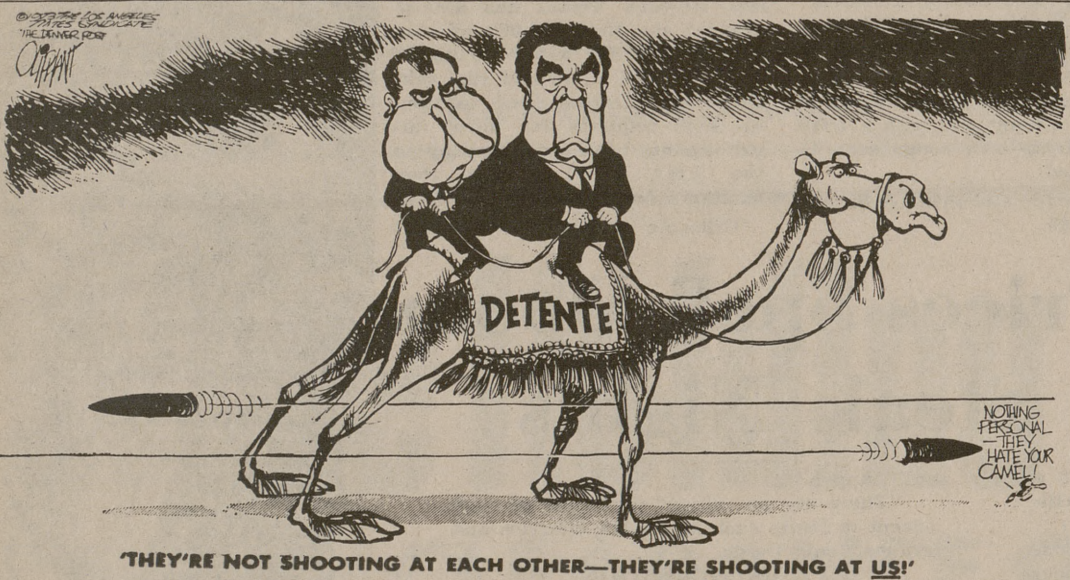
A topic of increasing concern has been the enforcement of the so-called tradition of not walking on the grass at the Memorial Student Center and removal of hats inside the building. We say "so-called" because no ruling body in A&M's history ever approved the grass and hat policies—they simply evolved.

These methods of respecting former students killed in war action has been great in thought, but poorly carried out. Some students have caused headaches no end for people such as President Jack Williams and Association of Former Students Executive Director Buck Weirus because visitors and former students have been roughed up by overzealous individuals trying to enforce non-existent policies. It's been getting worse each year.

To compound this problem, student leaders have realized that the grounds of the MSC have never had memorial status. The building has only been dedicated to honor deceased Ags and was named the MSC.

The Student Senate now has a bill for consideration which would request University officials to extend memorial status to the grounds. It does not ask for a ruling on a hat or grass policy and we hope no such action is initiated. Since the building is public property open to anyone, we don't see how the state can require people to take hats off or keep off the grass no matter what students here might want.

The grounds should be dedicated as a memorial and at the same time students should respect it as a memorial on their own initiative—without written rules. With so little grass left around the center, it would seem foolish to continue the method of accosting fellow students, faculty and visitors and ordering compliance—especially when it causes bad feeling and publicity for the University.



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