

Friday, September 14, 1990

'Chow policy' Corps sets mealtime rules to decrease waste of food

By ISSELLE MCALLISTER
Of The Battalion Staff

Tradition is at the heart of Texas A&M. But like many other things, traditions must change to keep up with the times, so last week the Corps of Cadets implemented mealtime regulations to reduce the waste of food caused by the old meal policy.

Corps Commander Jonathan Whittles devised the new "chow policy" after Duncan Dining Hall stopped serving family-style meals where the food was in bowls in the center of the table and began serving cafeteria-style meals.

The cadets had an organized way of asking for food that followed Corps tradition. For instance, "shoot the deal," means "toss the bread," he said.

When Duncan Dining Hall was remodeled two years ago, the tradi-

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—Jonathon Whittles, Corps commander

tional way of dining was no longer useful because the meals were served cafeteria style, he said. The cadets, however, were not provided with new rules.

The cadets made their own adaptations to the rules, he said.

Whittles said many cadets were reluctant to give up Corps traditions, but he realized the traditions had lost their meaning.

He devised a new "chow policy" beginning in about two weeks, geared toward cafeteria-style meals incorporating family-style traditions.

"This is a big step for the Corps," he said.

Freshmen take turns bringing the silverware, napkins, water and dessert to their table, he said. The cadets must get the rest of their meal themselves.

With the new policy, upperclassmen must leave the hall after dinner, and freshmen have about 15 minutes of free time.

He wanted to implement the policy at the beginning of the year but lacked the resources.

Whittles hopes the system will serve the Corps well. If it works, he said the policy may be put in the Corps regulations book to be followed by cadets for years to come.



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Company K-2 freshmen sit at attention in Duncan Dining Hall while sophomore March Kimmel in-

structs. The freshmen are eating under a new Corps dining policy that is "family style."

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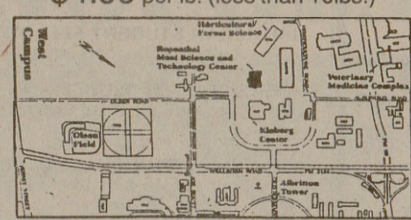
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