Gets no 'special treatment'

## Cav gets first woman rider

Battalion Staff
When cadet Beebe Buck went her roommate to buy Parsons' inted Cavalry collar brass for her form, she was told there are no en in the Cavalry.

Her roommate promptly set the cord straight: "Well, now there

Buck, a junior biomedical science or from Mililani, Hawaii, is the female to ride with the unit since

was organized in 1974.

PMC — also known as "the Cav" is a group of Cadet Corps juniors seniors who ride at all home footgames and perform at agricultudequestrian events throughout xas. There are 25 members this r, commanding officer Dennis

Buck said she had no problems at yof the games or on the two Corps ps to Austin and Dallas. But she id that many people were sursed to see her.

Buck said she gets no special tment from the male members of

"I have to show them that I'm ling to work," she said. "They 't do stuff for me. They don't try make it any harder, either."
Cavalry member Kenny Ray, who
s "real, real shocked" when Buck

became a member, said, "She's edherself. She's held her own. But he added, "I still feel it (the avalry) should be all male." nother Cavalry member who

d not to be named said, "I don't nk women should be in the Cavalor the Corps."

Mike Chandler, a junior in the walry, said, "I don't mind (admit-

women). It's bound to happen oner or later."
Chandler said Buck "pulls more

an her own weight. he general reaction from Corps

ibers "has been a lot better than pected," Buck said. "Quite a few s are for me. The majority just Buck said she occasionally hears, here's the girl in the Cav," as she als by. She has received a few

le comments, but she said that is be expected.
"People ask me if I got on (the walry) just to cause trouble, to

waves," she said. Buck, who has been riding horses Il years, said that is not the case. has wanted to be in the Cavalry ce she first found out about it her

man year, she said.

it of

lall

she spent her spare time at the stables where the Cavalry horses are kept, building fences, cleaning up, and showing that she was willing to work, she said.

Requirements for joining the Cavalry are membership in the Corps, a 2.0 grade point ratio and junior or senior classification, according to the Cavalry's constitu-

Some riding ability is also necessary to become a member, Scarmado

During their sophomore year, cadets may apply to the Cavalry's Rules Committee to be voted on for membership. There is no limit to the number of applicants that may be accepted. The Rules Committee consists of the advisor, executive officer and other Cavalry members.

Although she has her own horse, Buck had to borrow one to ride in the Texas Tech football game. Hers was temporarily "a horse of a different

For uniformity, all the horses ridden in the Cavalry are brown. Buck's was gray. After an application of two cases of brown dye from a beauty salon, Buck's was pink.

She said she received quite a bit of teasing from Cavalry members over

Buck is from Hawaii and had never been in Texas before coming to Texas A&M University. She decided to become an Aggie when she lived in Korea, where she worked for a veterinarian who had gone to Texas

Buck, who initially joined the Corps "just to get a room on campus," said, "I like the Corps. You get hooked.

She does not plan to go into the military after she graduates, she said, but would like to work with large animals as a veterinary techni-

Asked if she would encourage other women to join the Cavalry, Buck said she knows of three sophomores who are interested, "but I don't go around encouraging them.'

"You've got to want to feed horses and build fences," she said. "It's not for someone who just wants to wear a cord or a ribbon. Members of the cavalry wear dis-tinctive gold citation cords and rib-

bons on their uniforms. Parsons' Mounted Cavalry was

named in a suit filed in May 1979 against Texas A&M University as denying membership to women cadets

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Beebe Buck, the first female member of Parsons' Mounted Cavalry since the unit's formation in 1974, saddles her horse, Brigadoon, at the PMC stables on FM 2818.

solely on the basis of sex. The suit was filed by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of former Corps member Melanie Zentgraf and other women in the Corps.

Other Corps organizations named in the suit are the Brigade Color Guard, Ross Volunteers, Aggie Band, Fish Drill Team and Rudder's Rangers.



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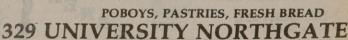
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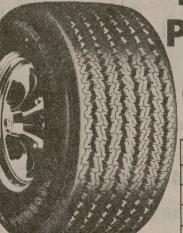
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