

Local

# Handicapped freshman leads active life as cadet

By KAREN KALEY  
Battalion Reporter  
Running a mile can be difficult for many people, but Lee Henderson can do it — with only one leg.

Henderson, a Texas A&M University freshman in the Corps of Cadets, has an artificial leg that enables him to participate in nearly all Corps activities.

He is in Air Force Squadron 15 — "Fanatic 15." Henderson fits the unit nickname well.

The only activities he foregoes are "fun runs" of two miles or more, he said. Henderson can't do certain parts of the workouts that freshmen are asked to do, such as bending down on alternating knees. The upperclassmen, more than happy to accommodate him, compensate by making him do push-ups instead, he said.

It is painful at times, Henderson said, but the pain is not bad enough to make him a bystander. His most recent run was

from the Corps Quadrangle to Olsen Field.

Henderson, 19, lost his leg in a tractor accident on a farm where his family lived when he was 10. Doctors' efforts to repair the torn tissue and vessels failed and gangrene made the amputation necessary, he said.

He learned how to walk and run again by trial and error, he said. "I would fall down some but everyone does sometimes."

Henderson said he doesn't feel he is really handicapped. "You just go on and live a normal life," he said. His slight limp is not as noticeable as his sparkling green eyes and country grin.

"Most people don't even know about it," he said.

The artificial leg is made of wood and contains a hydraulic unit in the knee. The unit exerts a resistance that enables him to run and participate in other activities.

The leg is not waterproof, he said. "I have to take it off when I shower."

One time after showering, an upperclassman who was not aware of Henderson's missing leg, sternly asked Henderson: "Fish Henderson, where's your . . . ?" — Henderson said he never finished his question.

Members of the Corps were curious at first, he said. "It's a natural curiosity. It took a long time for anybody to come down and ask me about it," he said.

Henderson said there are advantages to his situation.

"Everyone is worried about being drafted. All I have to do is walk in there and drop my drawers and they say 'see you later.'"

When Henderson is not involved in Corps activities he enjoys water skiing, bowling and especially duck hunting, he said.

He has not only athletic skills, but academic skills as well. The chemical engineering major earned the title of distinguished student by posting a 3.6 grade point average in the fall semester.

Henderson has some advice for anyone who may suffer an accident similar to his own: "Get up and go home. Some things take a while, but you have to go on."



Photo by Carolyn Cole  
Freshman cadet, Lee Henderson, center, marches to Duncan Dining Hall with his outfit. Henderson has an artificial leg but doesn't let that stop him from participating in almost all Corps activities. Henderson lost his leg in a farming accident nine years ago.

# Aggie assigned to help NASA with ocean satellite photos

A Texas A&M University graduate student's work using satellite photos to accurately plot concentrations of chlorophyll — which indicates the presence of plankton, a basic link in the sea's food chain — has won him a six-month assignment to the Goddard Space Flight Center to help space agency personnel adjust their own pictures of offshore regions.

Charles Trees of Wichita, Kan., an oceanography student at Texas A&M, has been asked to travel to the Greenbelt, Md., center to help federal experts produce more accurate satellite photos of ocean areas.

Trees said the project for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is in response to a proposed new technique that can "correct" satellite images of certain regions — removing atmospheric interference, for exam-

ple — even when no research ship has taken readings in the area to provide what scientists call "ground truth."

The technique proposes to correct one smaller area of a satellite image, then use that to adjust the entire picture, which covers thousands of square miles.

Trees, who has been doing similar work studying plankton concentrations in the Gulf of Mexico under Texas A&M oceanographer Dr. Sayed El-Sayed, was requested for the job because of his unusual combination of backgrounds in oceanography, biology and computing science.

Trees' work at Goddard will be funded as part of an overall \$39,000 NASA grant to Texas A&M. Part of the funds are being used by remote sensing experts here who are increas-

ing Texas A&M's ability to process and correct satellite photos taken with a coastal zone color scanner.

At present, Texas A&M is one of the few universities or non-federal research centers able to carry out such work on satellite images of Earth, Trees said.

One long-range goal of such research is to find a way of getting satellite information concerning plankton concentrations — which usually attract fish — and water temperature data to dockside commercial fisherman for use the same day.

Trees said his selection for the NASA job was aided by an \$1,800 fellowship from Texas A&M's Center for Education and Research in Free Enterprise which allowed him to concentrate on the use of computers to correct satellite photos more accurately.

# 'Dead' army buddies reunite

United Press International  
AMARILLO — Two ghosts got together by telephone recently.

Robert Earl Green of Jensen Beach, Fla., and Forrest L. Smith of Amarillo were Army buddies in World War II. They were as close as brothers.

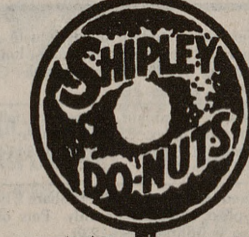
"I couldn't believe it," said Smith. "I thought he was dead." And that started a flood of recollections.

"We were just like brothers; he

protected me and I protected him, I guess," Smith said. "I got hit in the stomach in Sicily and then hit in the leg in Anzio and then hit in the shoulder in south France. I

never did see him after that." The remembering will continue this summer when Smith visits Green in Florida.

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# German Club wins 1st

By KATHLEEN WIATREK  
Battalion Reporter  
The German Club of Texas A&M University in April won first place in one-act play competition at the state convention of the Texas Association of German Students at the University of Texas at Arlington.

With a cast of both beginning and advanced German students, the club presented Die Kleinerbürgerhochzeit (A Petite Bourgeois Wedding) by Bertolt Brecht. The play is about a German family living in 1919 after World War I.

Dr. Wulf Koepke, professor of modern languages, and Dr. Roger Crockett, associate professor of modern languages, directed the play.

"This was the first time Texas A&M has entered the one-act competition," Crockett said.

The Texas A&M students discovered acting in a play that is in a foreign language can take a lot of time. The cast of nine, four of whom were beginning German students, started working on the play in October.

The first two months were spent working on the interpretation of lines and getting the correct intonation of the words, he said.

Because of the students' success

this year, the German Club plans to present either a one-act play or a full length play on campus next year.

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