

V-1 has one woman, one freshman

Off-campus outfit is unusual

by Cyndy Davis
Battalion Staff
Every morning Fish Cashion stands at attention, ready to be

inspected by his upperclassmen. Four sophomores check his uniform and quiz him on "campusology."

"Fish Cashion, how many days until Final Review?" one asks.

"Eighty-five, sir," Cashion snaps back. This could be any group of sophomores inspecting any freshman in any outfit — something that could happen any morning in any of the 41 outfits in the Corps of Cadets.

But these cadets are different. The men are members of Company V-1, the only off-campus outfit, the only outfit with one fish, Jim Cashion, and with both men and women cadets.

Cashion says there are advantages and disadvantages to being the only fish in the outfit.

"I love the outfit," he said. "We have all the advantages of being in the Corps, and also of living off campus."

"I really miss having fish bud-

dies, however. It would be nice to have someone to talk to. Freshmen aren't allowed to talk to upperclassmen much."

One would think that Cashion, being the only freshman, would automatically receive all the awards usually shared by the fish class. But Cashion said he will get awards only if he works for them.

"They're not going to give me something I don't deserve just because there's no one else to give it to," he said.

"When I get to battalion-level competition, I have to compete with freshmen from other outfits who competed with their class for their positions, so I have to be ready anyway."

Chronister, the female member of V-1, is a member of the Air Force Reserve. The junior decided the best way to pursue her Air Force career was to get an officer's commission, and to

do that at Texas A&M, she had to join the Corps.

Joining one of the two female outfits would mean moving on campus, which Chronister didn't want to do. Lt. Lynn Post, her reserve unit executive officer, told her about Company V-1.

Hatley said having Chronister in the outfit doesn't cause problems. No exceptions are made for her because she's a woman, he said.

This is Chronister's second year at the University, but only her first year in the Corps.

All Corps members who are married, live at home or have prior military service are eligible for membership in the company. These students have different problems from the average college student, Capt. Brian E. Perrenot, military adviser for the company, said.

"The outfit provides these students with an opportunity to participate in the ROTC program and the Corps and still be a University student."

Because the company's members live off campus, they suffer some image problems, Company Commander Paul Hatley said.

"The biggest problem we have is getting rid of myths about the outfit," Hatley said.

One myth is that everyone in V-1 is married. In fact, fewer than one-half of the cadets are married.

David Tedrick, a sophomore cadet who lives with his parents in Bryan, agrees that image is a problem.

"It's hard to even compare our outfit to others," he said. "You've got to come on campus and play Corps, then go home and turn it off. You're going to slip and make a mistake every

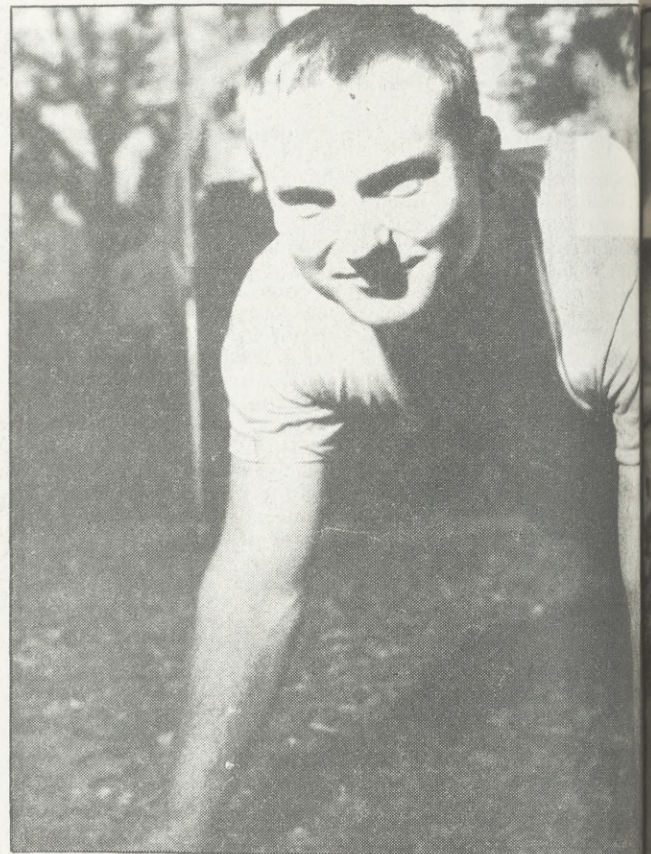


photo by Todd Wood

Jim Cashion, 19, and the only freshman in Company V-1 pushes for all 22 of his upperclassmen before a company run Wednesday. Company V-1 is the only off-campus outfit in the Corps of Cadets.

do. That hurt us a lot. Other Corps members don't understand this."

V-1 cadets find it hard to participate as much as other cadets because most have jobs and families, but members say they are more active now than in the past.

Hatley said: "Last year, the outfit only went to formation one night a week, and the attitude was to see how much we could get out of doing rather than to see how much we could

do. That hurt us a lot. Other Corps members don't understand this."

"This year we go to formation three times a week and have company run every Tuesday night. The freshmen and sophomores have to sign in twice a

and juniors and seniors sign once a day. We do this so everyone will know what's going on."

In addition, Company V-1 attends all Corps reviews, guard room duty and participates in intramural sports like

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Project gives adults, kids, peep at nature

by Kelli Proctor
Battalion Reporter

The Brazos Valley Museum, with the help of the Texas A&M Department of Recreation and Parks, will celebrate spring with programs designed for both adults and children.

The celebration will begin with the opening of the Discovery Room Sunday at 1 p.m. in the Brazos Center. The room, designed by an environmental

interpretation class, will be open until 5 p.m.

Julie Marcy, graduate lab instructor for the class, said the room will contain discovery boxes, constructed by students.

Each box has a set of information cards written for children explaining what the box is about, Marcy said.

Topics for the 45 boxes include how a tree works, insects that sting, vehicles and energy

conservation.

For the adults, detailed information also is given, explaining things for parents to share with children on the particular topic.

The idea of having discovery boxes came from the Smithsonian Institution, Brazos Valley Museum Director Valen Sil said.

Activities at the museum continue through May. Students also are planning a nature play day at Bee Creek Park to expose children ages 5-14 to nature, Sil said.

The nature playday will be held April 4 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by students in recreation and parks classes, Silvy said.

Students also are involved with projects concerning scientific teaching methods for elementary school teachers.

Silvy said wildlife students also will be involved in the nature program.

Dates to Remember

The following are noteworthy dates for the spring semester:

- Monday — mid-semester grade reports.
- March 15-21 — Spring Break.
- May 7 — last day of spring semester classes. Commencement.

•May 8 — Commencement and Final Review.

- May 10 — first day of spring semester examinations.
- May 14 — last day of spring semester examinations.

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