

# Corps

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portant because their children are going to be coming to A&M in a few years," he said. "Their opinions are going to influence whether or not their children are in the Corps."

Mike Holmes, 1982-83 Corps commander, said the Corps' biggest success in the past year has been in the academic area. Holmes said the attitude of cadets toward academics probably has changed the most during the four years he's been at Texas A&M.

"The year before I was a freshman there was a lot of the '2.0 and go' and that type," Holmes said. "You just never hear that anymore. Now it's Fish Jones, what did you make on your chemistry test? How are your grades doing?"

Holmes said the cadets want to excel academically, realizing that they need good grades to get a job.

"Instead of campusology questions, sometimes they now ask freshmen chemistry or calculus questions," Holmes said. "It's not only the attitude, but also the conditions. Call to quarters is more strictly enforced."

Abbott said he plans to continue working to improve grades.

"Our goal is to beat the University average three semesters in a row," Abbott said. "If we do that, that would help out tremendously. Parents wouldn't have to worry about the Corps hurting grades."

Burton said the fall mid-semester Corps GPR was about 2.1. By the end of the fall semester, the Corps GPR was a 2.3, which was just below the overall University average.

"While we were under the University average a little bit, I was pretty pleased with that for two reasons," Burton said. "The

fall semester is absolutely the busiest time of year for our cadets — football games, Corps trips, bonfire — any number of things that the Corps supports.

"Also, when you talk about the University average against the Corps average, you're really talking about apples and oranges. The Corps is obviously all full-time undergraduate students. In the University average, there are some students who may not be full-time students or are graduate students and veterinary students."

At midsemester in the spring, the Corps GPR was 2.5. Burton said he believes the Corps will finish the year at this level, or even above the University average.

Abbott said he also hopes to improve retention in the Corps.

"It takes a good attitude to be able to make it," Abbott said. "And that attitude is going to be formed by the upperclassmen. It will work even better if we can dispel some of the myths about the Corps. One myth is that the Corps hurts grades. Three semesters of beating the University average will help with this image problem. Another myth is that you have to take a military contract."

Burton said the Corps of Cadets began the year with 2,327 members and has about 1,957 now.

"That's a little better than last year," Burton said. "Last year, we began with 2,407 and ended with 1,953. So even though we started about 80 fewer last year, we're winding up the school year with about the same number."

The Corps has ended the year with about 1,950 each year for the past four years, he said.

Burton attributed the drop-out rate to the number of students who don't return to the University, or to students who

don't like the Corps for personal reasons.

"We have lost a few upperclassmen for disciplinary reasons this year," Burton said. "We haven't had to put a freshman out of the Corps for disciplinary reasons this year. We are very proud of the Class of '86."

Burton said the Corps' biggest problem has involved discipline.

"The Corps leadership must solve these problems quickly," Burton said. "These problems will happen anyway — cadets are just like other University students."

"We have had increasing involvement in all sorts of student activities," Burton said. "The big success this year has been that the leadership has really undertaken to fulfill the role in the student body, to give all students pride in the Corps. When the Corps decides to do something, it gets done."

During the Christmas holidays, more than 100 students on campus who were not in the Corps joined the Corps. "Interestingly enough, the main reason most of these students came in was either because they were interested in ROTC and adding that option to their lives, or because they felt like the Corps was the place to make friends," Burton said.

"I think comradery is one of the main reasons people get in the Corps in the first place. I know during bonfire we had several fellows come over and talk to us who had been working on the same cutting sites as Corps outfits and struck up acquaintances out there."

Friday: The future of women and minorities in the Corps

# Warped

by Scott McCutchen



# Hitler

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discipline to keep a diary.

"His whole program was based on discipline. But I would still vote against the chances that Hitler would have had the time to record 62 volumes of diaries," he said.

"We're not talking about a sane man," Kramer added. "Later in his life, Hitler was taking a whole bunch of drugs —

uppers, downers, laughers, gigglers — there's a book called 'The Medical Case Book of Adolf Hitler,' which tracks down Hitler's past with drugs."

It is because of the drug abuse history, Kramer said, that he thought Hitler was in no condition to write every day.

Kramer said he doesn't feel there is a large neo-Nazi sentiment nor one growing in the

United States and Germany. "If the diaries are published in their entirety," he said, "they could certainly fuel an already ugly sentiment rising all over the world about anti-semitism."

But Kramer said he personally would like the diaries to be determined authentic because they would provide more insight about Hitler the man, rather than the Third Reich.

"If they are real, I don't think them to be published. But if they are not real, I don't think them to be thrown in the trash where they'd belong."

"By all means, they should be read by all scholars. They are a valuable mosaic of if they are found to be real," he said. "I don't think they should be suppressed."

## Second flood forces 60 families to evacuate

United Press International  
TIMES BEACH, Mo. — Officials say the second devastating flood in five months should convince everyone that dioxin-contaminated Times Beach is an unfit place to live.

Floodwaters of 15 feet surged through the town Tuesday forcing the remaining 60 families to evacuate.

"This town is terminal," said Laine Jumper, a former Times Beach contractor and a member of the presidential dioxin task force.

The flooding Meramec River forced all but a few of the remaining residents from the St. Louis suburb of small frame houses and mobile homes. Jumper said he hopes the town remains deserted, adding that could be an important step in

hastening the \$33 million federal buyout of the village.

A curfew was in effect and temporary wooden barricades were set up to keep people out of town. Electric service will be cut off soon, Jumper said.

Jumper said anybody venturing back to Times Beach after the Meramec recedes would find only wrecked buildings and a ruined drinking-water system.

State and federal officials plan to meet May 12 in St. Louis in an attempt to decide who will take title to the property. The issue must be decided before an appraisal company can begin work, officials said.

Almost every street in the village was sprayed a decade ago with waste oil containing dioxin to control dust. Waste hauler Russell Bliss later said he did not

know the oil contained a hazardous substance.

Before Monday, about 60 families lived in the town, which had about 2,400 residents before December's flooding.

Acting Mayor Marilyn Leister said she expects the latest rampage by the Meramec will leave the village a ghost town.

"With this flood now, the people can't take any more," she said. Walter Adams, 58, was one of the few residents who refused to leave. Family members said they left Adams on the second floor of their home, which is stocked with canned goods.

"There's no way to get him out," police Sgt. Dan Gore said.

As much as 15 feet of floodwaters surged through the town Tuesday, covering streets and further damaging homes and businesses.



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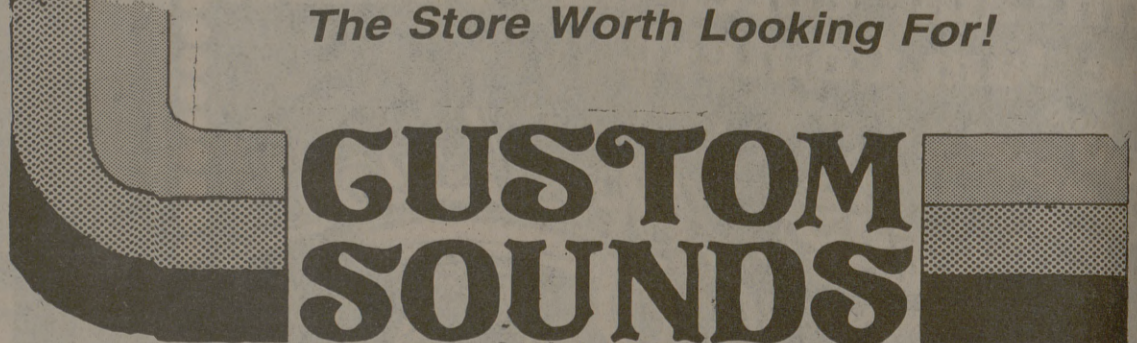
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