

Corps

(continued from page 1) accept for a lot of people," 1982-83 Corps Commander Mike Holmes said. "The only way for them to be accepted is a matter of time. I'm not going to deny that there are still people in the Corps who don't feel that women belong, but their numbers have certainly diminished over my four years here."

Preston Abbott, 1983-84 Corps commander, said the attitude toward women is markedly better.

"When I got into the Corps, the majority of the outfits wouldn't allow fish to whip out to females," Abbott said. "I don't

think that's the case now." Whipping out is greeting an officer. Abbott said it is important that women become a bigger part of the Corps gradually.

"As soon as somebody tries to start a radical movement, I think the results will be negative and it's going to backfire," Abbott said. "Bonnie Krumpotic is now in a position where more males are working with her and seeing what kind of job she can do. That could help."

Burton said he wasn't sure if or when women would be in the Aggie Band, mainly because it would take a tremendous amount of effort to remodel the

dorms and change the way the band is run.

"I have no strong feeling as to whether women should be in the band," Burton said. But he said having women in the band now is against University policy.

Holmes said two women applied last year to be in the Ross Volunteers, the honor guard of the Corps. This year none applied. No women have been elected to the Ross Volunteers.

"It is open to anyone within the Corps to apply, but the selection is purely on an electoral basis," Holmes said. "Attitudes change over the years. It's really hard to say how long it would take before women get in. It's really hard to pin down the general Corps attitude because the attitude ranges from very accepted to not accepted."

Abbott said he believes this issue probably will come up next

year because of Krumpotic's position on brigade staff.

Brian Terrell, deputy Corps commander for 1983-84, said he thinks it will take 10 or 15 years to get women in the band and the Ross Volunteers, and just as long for women yell leaders.

"I think the women are not accepted to a point that would be satisfactory for them to make the Ross Volunteers," Terrell said.

Krumpotic also said she couldn't make a prediction of change.

"The Ross Volunteers is a symbol of Aggie tradition, recalling the days when the school was an all-male institution," Krumpotic said. "It's an honor group protecting the governor."

"Being on brigade staff is more of a functional thing. I was appointed because I would be able to perform the best job. But

the Ross Volunteers is more of an emotional thing.

"However, I wouldn't want to see the Ross Volunteers lower their physical standards simply to accommodate a woman cadet."

Minority students also are playing a larger role in the Corps.

More than 9 percent of the students in the Corps are minority students. About 6 percent are Hispanic, and more than 3 percent are blacks and other racial minorities. The Corps has had several minority commanders over the years.

Burton said: "Interestingly enough, minority students do very well in the Corps indeed. And acceptance of minorities in the Corps is strong. Like any other organization, you will have individuals who get in conflicts. But certainly I don't believe any minority is being held back."

Abbott said he believes minorities are accepted in the

Corps. "They're probably better accepted here than outside the Corps," Abbott said. "That probably results from their freshman year when the class is pulled so close together."

Lee Felder, a senior education major from Bryan, says he thinks the number of minorities in the Corps will increase.

"We're accepted," Felder says. "The acceptance of blacks in the Corps is a little bit more open than it has been in the past. The pattern has been dictated by the emblem of a white man with a short haircut. That image has changed."

"And we have more blacks in the Corps who are leaning more towards military careers."

Burton said the Corps' image is the first thing that attracts students. He said there is no doubt that the vast majority of junior and senior Corps leaders were committed this year to overcoming whatever damage had been done to the Corps by incidents last year.

At the Texas A&M-Southern Methodist University football game last year, cadet Greg Hood drew his saber to chase SMU cheerleaders from the field. Also last year, several cadets were involved in an incident where freshmen were beaten with ax handles.

"I have talked to the leader-

ship on several occasions," ton said. "I think the discipline within the Corps has been good this year. The Corps Cadets, when it disciplines, is very effective indeed."

Holmes said it is very stereotype people. "We wear a uniform, day, seven days a week," he said. "Anytime a cadet does something, 'the entire Corps' does that."

Abbott said it is necessary to make it understood that in cases the negative incidents the actions of individual Corps members as a whole.

Terrell said: "We have accomplished the same thing the Tylenol people did. We take the offensive product to the market and then we well-known that we are solving the problem."

Burton cited as an example the fact that units in the half of the Corps last year academic achievement on top — some of them top ten.

"Changes in attitude begin in the freshman year," Burton said. "Because if you get the class to take a hard look at the activities, and take look at what leadership isn't, by the time they get seniors, they have some good ideas on how to be a better Corps of Cadets."

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AIDS fought by interferon

United Press International BOSTON — Genetically engineered interferon was found effective in combating a rare skin cancer that preys on homosexual men with the deadly immune system disease AIDS, a study published Thursday says.

Interferon also was mildly effective in treating an aspect of the immune system breakdown that is the primary threat to patients with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, doctors said in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The changes did not alter the course of AIDS, which kills more than 40 percent of its victims, the researchers from the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York said.

Kaposi's sarcoma, a non-lethal skin tumor that starts in blood vessel walls, is one of several diseases that strikes people whose immune systems are weakened by AIDS.

Eight of 12 patients with the tumor responded to interferon treatment, the study found. Three patients had complete remission and five others had mild to moderate remission, researchers said.

Interferon was especially promising in treating the AIDS patients because it had none of the side effects of conventional chemotherapy, which also inhibits the body's infection-fighting ability, a health official said.

"The treatment of Kaposi's sarcoma in AIDS patients using chemotherapy may aggravate the underlying immune deficiency, so these early results with interferon are encouraging,"

said Dr. Edward N. Brandt, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"Our preliminary findings suggest interferon may be useful as treatment for Kaposi's sarcoma," said Dr. Susan E. Kohn, a principal researcher.

AIDS, which afflicts 1,200 homosexual men, drug addicts, hemophiliacs, is characterized by an excess of white blood cells that suppresses the immune response, and a lack of killer cells that fight infection.

Eight of the patients had an increase in natural killer cell activity, researchers said last follow-up, however, six patients had died of AIDS disease.

"Although interferon treatment does appear to reverse some aspects of immune system damage in some patients with Kaposi's sarcoma, we do not have enough data in this study that interferon consistently or permanently reverses the underlying immunologic defects that characterize AIDS," said Krown.

Kaposi's sarcoma strikes cancer victims and kidney transplant recipients whose immune systems have been suppressed by treatment. It is more severe in AIDS victims.

Interferon, a protein in minute quantities in cells, inhibits viral infections and tumors. It also stimulates production of white blood cells that kill bacteria.

Patients suffered some side effects from the interferon, including fever, chills, weakness, fatigue, anorexia, headache, myalgia and joint pain, the report said.

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