

# A&M's Corps complex organization in this issue

Gigi Shamsy

### 3 A&M's Corps complex organization

An interview with the Corps commandant reveals the scholastic profile of the cadets. Our writer also show the organization of the Corps.

Tricia Parker

### 4 Women in Corps no longer struggle to achieve respect

Female cadets candidly speak of the growing acceptance of them by their male counterpart.



Wendy Johnson

### 6 A&M and academies differ slightly, but both still make military officers

A comparison between the Corps of Cadets here and the corps of cadets at the "official" military academies shows many similarities, but many important differences.

Lynn Rae Povec

### 7 New book examines roomies

"What Color is Your Toothbrush?" is an attempt to create a humorous guide to better roommateship. Read this review to find the verdict.

Lynn Rae Povec

### 8 Life in the Corps of Cadets requires discipline, but creates camaraderie

Our writer hits the quad to uncover an inside look at the Corps. Rules, privileges and lingo are examined.



Mary McWhorter

### 10 'Compromising Positions' fits title; it's a multi-genre cinematic combo

Our movie reviewer tells us this is a quasi-comedy. Although the film flounders a bit in defining itself, it's still entertaining.

Bob Thomas

### 11 Mitchum's next project is TV movie

Robert Mitchum is still the same guy he's always been. Except for the fact that he just got out of the Betty Ford Center for alcohol and drug rehabilitation.

Once upon a time, the Corps of Cadets was synonymous with our beloved Aggieland. It was the core of the school. Time brought about change, and no longer was it mandatory for students to be cadets. Change brought about women, and no longer could females be denied membership to the Corps. It's still at the core of the University, but now it's surrounded by a larger host of peripheral organizations and activities vying for students' attention.

Because only about 5 percent of Aggies are in the Corps, the other 95 percent of the students have only a limited knowledge of what the Corps really is. We hope this issue of At Ease will help clarify the Corps. To help quell the misinformation and rumours about the Corp, we made sure our writers checked and double-checked the facts they found.

We gave our writer Gigi Shamsy the assignment of defining the structure of the Corps. She spoke with Corps Commandant Donald Burton about the kinds of students the Corps attracts and the types of officers it produces. She talked to several cadets to get the reasons for joining the organization. She also outlines the battalions and companies; so the next time someone says he's in D-2, you'll know he's in the 4th Battalion of the Army Regiment.

Writer Tricia Parker took a look at the women in the Corps. Having three women in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band proves that things have definitely changed. But what of the other female cadets, the ones out of the spotlight. Tricia found out that women no longer have to struggle as hard to get the respect of their male counterparts. In fact, they are generally accepted, and now there is even a female cadet on Corps staff (that's an upper level on the totem pole of power in the Corps).

Another writer, Wendy Johnson, had the opportunity to meet cadets from the U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the U.S. Air Force Academy. We jumped at this chance of comparing A&M's Corps to those of the "official" academies. One glaring difference is the way people enter these institutions. A nomination from one's congressman and intense academic and physical preparation is needed to go to the academies; all one needs to get in the Corps is admission to the University. Her story highlights several other interesting differences.

We assigned writer Lynn Rae Povec the job of finding out the inside scoop on the Corps; we wanted her to delve into the psyches of the cadets to find out their reasons for joining and staying in the Corps. She defined some of their lingo, and delineated what's expected of the different classes.

While this isn't a complete guide to the Corps, we do believe we have presented an accurate portrayal of a fundamental element of the University, the Corps of Cadets.

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