

CLASS of '89

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Student Leader Profile

Cadet colonel of Corps holding a 24-hour job

By **ABBY L. LECOCQ**
Reporter



Curt Van de Walle

On-campus housing was his main reason for joining the Corps of Cadets. But four years later, Curt Van De Walle is the highest ranking cadet at Texas A&M — cadet colonel of the Corps.

"I applied for the lottery and didn't get on-campus housing, so I said 'What the heck, I'll try it. It can't be that bad,'" Van De Walle says.

"Now it's really hard to even picture myself not being in the Corps," he says.

The decision to attend Texas A&M was confirmed after attending football games as a high school senior, Van De Walle says.

"After those first couple of games, I decided this is where I wanted to go to school because of the spirit that was involved and the tradition," he says.

"It just seemed like the next step in my life," he adds.

When asked about his first impressions of the Corps as a high school student, Van De Walle smiles and confesses he didn't understand everything that went on as he watched the march-in.

The decision to attend A&M also was influenced by his opinion of the University being a top-notch school, Van De Walle says.

Solid priorities are very important to him, Van De Walle says. And he says them as smoothly as he says his own name.

"God, family, country, fellow man and myself," Van

De Walle says. I try to live that every day and see if I can perform in that order."

After graduating from A&M, Van De Walle plans to go into the Air Force as a civil engineer for at least four years. After that he says he is not sure.

"If I like the Air Force, I'll stay in," he says. "If I don't, I'll probably set up a surveying and consulting engineering type of business. I'm not going to plan too far in advance."

But what does the Corps commander do in his spare time?

"Sleep," Van De Walle says with a smile.

There isn't much spare time, he says, because being Corps commander is a 24-hour job. So the time he does have, he says, he likes to spend relaxing with friends.

"Laundry is a social event for me," Van De Walle says. "When I go do my laundry it's right over there by the band dorms and I've got some real good friends in the band."

Van De Walle says he also likes to dance, swim and waterski. Fishing and hunting also are among his hobbies, even though there isn't much time for those.

Being in the Corps has had a positive effect on him, Van De Walle says.

Tradition and spirit are qualities Van De Walle says he and the rest of the Corps take pride in maintaining.

"But I think one of the greatest things about being in the Corps is just the brotherhood," he says. "I don't know if I'd have stayed in the university if it wasn't for the Corps."

One thing Van De Walle hopes to accomplish this year is to change the image of the Corps commander.

Many people — especially those in the Corps — see the Corps commander as being above reproach, but he says that isn't true.

Van De Walle says he is a cadet first and Corps commander second.

"I just want to leave the University and leave the Corps of Cadets knowing that I did everything possible to make it a better place," he says.

MSC council to hear report on Fall retreat

By **MEG CADIGAN**
Staff Writer

Some short-term solutions to Memorial Student Center computer shortages will be presented at the Memorial Student Council meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center.

Vice President of Student Development Carrie Gladwell will present a report on MSC's Fall Retreat.

MSC Fall Retreat was held at the MSC's five-year plan discussed. The five-year plan of long-term goals for the MSC event, usually held at a campus camp, was held at this year.

"We saved about \$2,000 renting a camp site," Gladwell said. She also will tell about the Leadership Center to be opened Tuesday at the MSC Browsing Library.

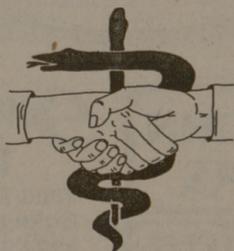
The Budget Review Committee will present budgets for the Conference on National Madrigal Dinners.

Executive Vice President Marketing and Personnel Robert Gallery will be discussed.

Recent rains damaged the ceiling, carpets and wall. He said some remodeling had been done, but the gallery still is in progress.

Biomedical Science Association

MEETING
ROOM 201 VMS
7:00 pm



date **OCT. 8, 1985**
topic **Dr. Kerry Hope, Ph.D.**
Psychologist & Assoc. Director
Student Counseling Service

Band sees lack of interest in live local music

By **LEN BRILEY**
Reporter

"Every time we get creative, the cops show up," laments Traxx drummer-keyboardist Macy Heacock, 19. "We must have received 10 or 11 written warnings for disturbing the peace."

Traxx, a band consisting of four Texas A&M students, practices in a two-car garage in College Station.

If local police don't arrest the development of this high-charged rock'n'roll outfit, the lack of interest in live local music puts Traxx, and other local talent, in shackles, band members say.

Lead vocalist-keyboardist Jennie Bennett, 22, says, "A lot of local groups want to play and grow here, but College Station isn't the ideal place to do that."

Few clubs here feature live music, she says.

"And even when they do, the local

crowd doesn't seem to patronize it," Bennett says.

"College Station is not culturally deprived. It brings in concerts and off-Broadway shows. But there seems to be a lack of communication between the local music fan and local bands."

Bennett says many music fans find in Austin, Houston or Dallas, what they could find at home.

Every Wednesday night, Traxx brings tough-as-nails rock 'n' roll to the cramped environs of LeCabaret, one of the few College Station clubs to offer live music. They offer both cover songs from bands such as The Police, Scorpions and Dire Straits, and original songs, which are written collectively, Bennett says.

Garfield Scott, owner of LeCabaret, says other local talent, such as Sneaky Pete and the Neon Madmen, the Locomotives, Starvin' Marvin and the Dexatrimis and 4 Hams on

Rye make regular appearances at the club.

Scott says he hopes to develop a club where local talent like Traxx can perform.

Last October, Bennett, a senior marketing major who manages the band, met guitarist Dean Moses, an engineering technology senior, at a musicians' club meeting, Moses says.

Bennett says, "We found that our musical styles were similar, so we decided to form Traxx."

While attending high school in Brenham, Bennett played in Crossfire, a band that played both rock'n'roll and country and western music, she says.

When she joined Traxx, she says she decided to break from country and western music.

"I give all I have on stage," Bennett says, whose gutsy vocals and strong stage presence mimic Pat Benatar, whom she admires. "I can ex-

press best what I do as a musician with rock 'n' roll."

Propelling the band is the band's second drummer, placed a friend he had met at the Texas A&M Jazz Band.

Traxx's sound is rounded out by the booming bass of Drew Hesson, the band's drummer. He was added in March.

Who leads the band? "Through thick and thin, and I are the leaders," Bennett says. "We've been with it from the beginning."

Although they have had personnel changes, some things change for the band. They are still practicing in that two-car garage still hoping that music fans will turn the attention that local

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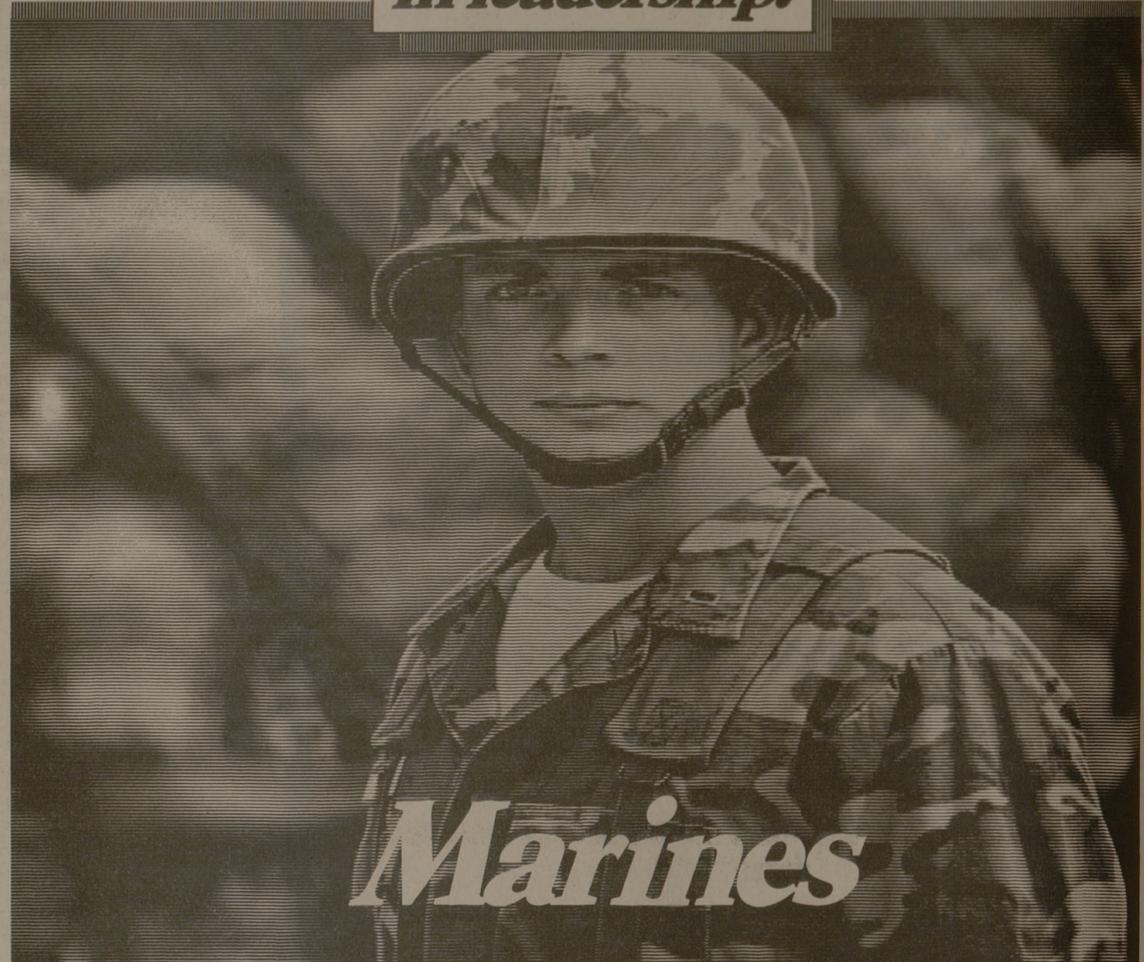
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See Capt McGrath at the Memorial Student Center, October 8, 9 and 10 or call 846-9036.

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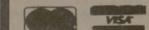
After the success she achieved in the Bryan Salon, Maureen Kelly, a 1985 graduate of Texas A&M has moved to Irving, Texas where she is now managing a Pat Walker's Figure Salon.



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