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Cavalry tradition carries on

Mounted regiment keeps on riding despite loss of University funding

By Lisa Messer
THE BATTALION

The horses, carrying junior and senior cadets, circle the muddy field at Fiddler's Green.

Wade Mulcock, commanding officer of Parsons' Mounted Cavalry, leads the procession, saber in hand.

Two platoons of thirty cadets and horses follow behind, practicing the march-in they will perform before Saturday's football game at Kyle Field.

Glady, the oldest horse in the Cavalry, stands quietly at the sideline, legs spread and head down, watching the work.

The horse is at least 25 years old, and has served in the Cavalry since it was re-established at A&M in 1973.

The Cavalry, which flourished at A&M until World War II, was disbanded when the

U.S. Army dismissed its horse units because of the introduction of mechanized warfare.

Mulcock said the Cavalry, which is the only mounted ROTC unit in the nation, was revived in 1973 to bring back one of A&M's unique traditions.

"This year we have the largest cavalry we've had since 1973," Mulcock said. "We've got 69 members, 31 horses and two mules."

Mulcock said the Cavalry is different from any other special unit in the Corps.

"There is a responsibility factor working with the horses," Mulcock said. "If somebody isn't out there twice a day feeding them, they'll die. That teaches you responsibility."

Landry Watson, the Cavalry's second platoon leader, said sophomore and junior cadets perform the most difficult work.

"The sophomores spend two to three



Amy Browning... Kevin Woodroof, a sophomore agricultural systems major, puts a bridle on a horse for Parson's Mounted Cavalry afternoon drill.

See Cavalry/Page 6

University reviews Fish Camp procedures

By Melissa Jacobs
THE BATTALION

The Department of Student Affairs is conducting a review of the policies and procedures of Fish Camp as a result of the death of a camper in August.

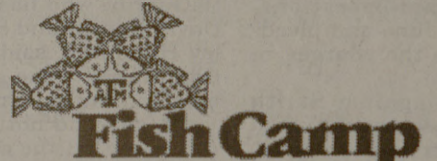
Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for student affairs, said he asked a staff member in the department of recreational sports to conduct an objective review of Fish Camp.

Tom Reber, associate director of recreational sports, will conduct the review.

"I have given Tom whatever authority he

perceives he needs for gathering information from students and staff who will be affected by the review," Southerland said.

Chris Hart, an incoming Texas A&M freshman, died Aug. 17 after receiving a head injury during a flag football game at Fish Camp.



Hart, 18, was treated by a paramedic at camp after being accidentally hit in the head by another player's knee Aug. 16. He was then taken to a Palestine hospital, which is the city nearest Lakeview Methodist Assembly, where Fish Camp is held.

After lapsing into a coma late that evening, Hart was transported via helicopter to the Methodist Hospital in Houston, where he died the next morning.

Reber said his mission is to conduct a review of policies and procedures.

See Camp Page 6

Liberal Arts Students

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