

# Fish Drill Team disbanded

Corps leaders hope to evaluate the purpose of the team

Story by Robert Smith  
Photos by Tim Moog



**T**he Texas A&M Fish Drill Team was disbanded in August following hazing charges against nine former team advisers from the University and a Brazos County grand jury.

The decision was made by Corps of Cadets Commandant Maj. Gen. M. T. "Ted" Hopgood; Dr. J. Malon Southerland, the vice president of student affairs; and Danny Feather, the Corps commander.

"We were all in agreement the Fish Drill Team should stand down as a Corps unit," Hopgood said in a press release.

Hopgood said the drill team could be reactivated in the future.

"I think it is appropriate to have a military drill team to carry the banner of Texas A&M in competition with other schools," he said in a press release.

The University suspended eight former Fish Drill Team advisers for various amounts of time and expelled one adviser for hazing following A&M judicial hearings for hazing charges in July. In May, the nine former advisers also were named in a multiple-count indictment by a Brazos County grand jury.

The nine students who received sanctions are Jason Hanson, Grayson Hoffman, Zachary Hoffman, Javier Chapa, Dustin Boyd, Luis Torres, Christopher Monk, Kyle Jud and Michael Poskey.

The University charged sixteen other students with hazing in July. The University said the charges stemmed from A&M judicial hearings for the nine former advisers.

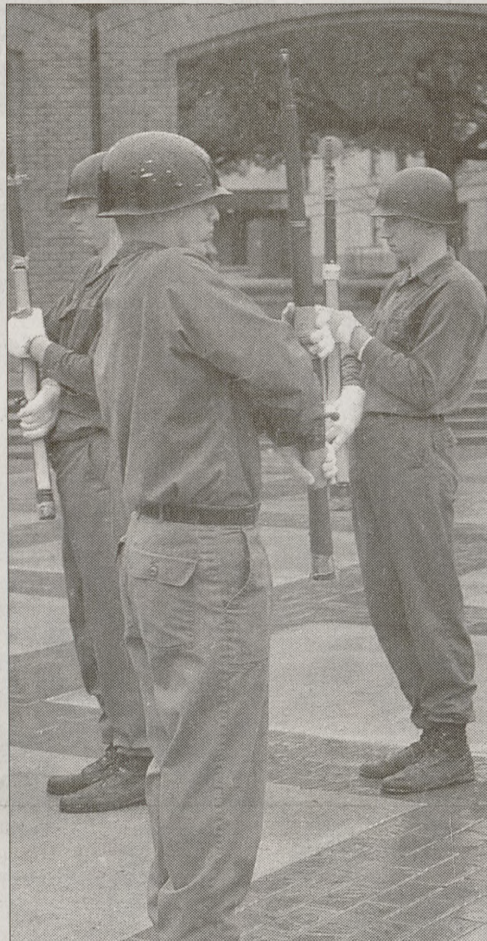
Some of the hearings for the 16 students have been held. If found guilty by a University judiciary hearing board, punishments for the students could range from a warning letter of reprimand to suspension or expulsion from the University.

Federal law prohibits the University from releasing the students' names or the sanctions against them.

Results of the hearings will not be made public until the last hearing is held.

Hearing officers in the cases are Kim Novak, coordinator of Student Judicial Services, and Col. Lee McClesky, chief of operations and training in the Commandant's office. They also served as hearing officers in the nine other hearings.

Hopgood said in a press release that before the Fish Drill Team is reinstated, University officials and Corps leaders will evaluate whether freshmen cadets should participate in training and competition for the team.



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