



Northgate Barber Shop has provided haircuts to Corps members since 1935.

BARBER CONTINUED

think I'll get used to how short it is," Harvey said. "The first time I got it cut, it was freezing outside. My head felt pretty good going in and when I came out it was freezing."

Caceres said it has been interesting in her time at the shop to see how the Corps has grown while maintaining the same tradition.

Baker said Northgate has changed drastically in their time at the shop.

"Back when I got here in '97, there were no bars on the street and now it's almost all bars," Baker said. "Improvements have been made by the city and there's hardly any free parking anymore. Through these changes we've lost some locals who used to be able to drive here, but in exchange we've gained more regular students on foot because of new hous-

ing being built on Northgate."

Caceres said parking was much easier in the past.

"When College Main was open, people could just drive by the shop," Caceres said. "You used to be able to drive on this street and park on this street right in front of the shop."

Despite the changes, the shop has been able to keep a strong customer base.

"It's definitely different," Baker said. "People thought it was going to hurt us and a lot of businesses have been hurt by it but we're still going."

As a staple of Northgate for 80 years now, Northgate Barber Shop is about much more than just cutting hair, Caceres said.

"The most rewarding thing for me is to see [the Corps] come in as freshmen and then see those same people come in as seniors with their freshmen," Caceres said.

Baker said the employees get to witness a transformation of sorts within the Corps.

"They come in as boys and leave as men," Baker said. "In those four years there is a huge difference in who they are."

Corps Commander David Trigg said some cadets have developed a rapport with all the shops in the area over the years.

"Cadets have great conversations with barbers and get to know them on a personal level," Trigg said.

The shop takes great pride in this relationship with the Corps, Caceres said.

"We love our Corps, and I think it's the pride of Aggieland," Caceres said. "We take pride in every haircut we give because I think we're the oldest tradition on Northgate and we try our best to make them look the best because they represent us and that's who we are."

MARRIAGE CONTINUED

result from a nationally recognized same-sex marriage are myriad for America's LGBT population. Katie Higgins, geographic information science technology junior and president of LGBTQ Aggies, said a civil marriage would offer protections such as hospital visitation rights, power of attorney, social security benefits and many other rights offered to heterosexual couples.

"A same-sex married couple at Texas A&M could file as married on FAFSA and they could apply for married student housing, for starters," Higgins said. "[A same-sex couple] could apply for and receive partner benefits from the university and the university could not legally deny them any sort of promotion, tenure or job based on their status as a same-sex

couple."

Penrose said one of the biggest issues facing same-sex couples is the validity of their marriage in states that do not recognize same-sex marriage as legal.

"Many couples feel 'wedlocked,' meaning they cannot get divorced if they got married out of state," Penrose said. "Others may hesitate to move to a non-recognition state due to the loss of benefits, uncertainties regarding their children and the status of their family relationships."

While the declaration of same-sex marriage as constitutional would be a paramount victory for the nation's LGBT community, it could barely stand alone as the designated trump card for every issue the LGBT community faces. Marketing junior Jesus Lara said LGBT struggles go beyond marriage and society commonly mistakes it as the only problem that needs

to be resolved.

"If we act like legalizing gay marriage is the win-all end-all, I feel like a lot of other issues will get downplayed," Lara said. "[The U.S. government] isn't seeing so many other issues, such as violence and a lack of acceptance within communities. It may take a long time for them to come and reach us."

Even though such acts will not be solved by a constitutional right to marry, legalizing gay marriage would help members of the gay community feel safer, Lara said.

"The fact that some people can't even marry the ones they love takes a toll on how they live everyday," Lara said. "If the current ban is overturned, not only would it be a big step in marriage equality but it would be a big step in making gay couples feel like they matter."

CORPS CONTINUED

"Changing locations for any organization is difficult, for corporations or organizations," Trigg said. "But the central mission of the Corps of Cadets for shaping leaders and developing well-educated leaders of character will remain the same. We have built in processes and put in the time this semester and previous semesters to prepare for this transition so we'll still be able to achieve our central mission for the Corps of Cadets."

Knowles said the exterior will look similar post-renovation, but the interior will be unrecognizable to former students.

"A lot of old Ags come and visit, and the dorms haven't changed at all," Knowles said. "The smell is the same, a lot of them walk in and say, 'Dear God it smells the same.' So for new faces and new times, nothing will change. Just old Ags who come by won't recognize the place anymore."

Students whose dorms are being renovated during the 2015-2016 school year will reside in Aston and Dunn Halls in the Commons, Schrank said.

Knowles said Corps members are tentative about the shift of some Corps housing into the Commons.

"It's kind of terrifying to do Corps shenanigans inside the Commons," Knowles said. "We can't really fathom it. A lot of my class and buddies have talked about it and we are very curious as to how training will occur near and in where non-regs live. I don't actually even know what the Commons look like."

Schrank said some Corps movement will be affected by the renovations. Outfits will have to modify their drill locations, and the Corps as a whole will need to change their march routes to Duncan and to Kyle Field.

Timothy Broderick,

Residence Hall Association president, said the Quad's renovation has been handled largely with the Office of the Commandant. Broderick said while the changes may cause some chaos in the short term, it is important for both the Corps and the campus in the long term.

Broderick said the construction is an annoyance, but an unavoidable one.

"It is going to be complicated, but the benefit of all the construction being completed in a short time is you don't have that lingering effect," Broderick said. "One of the things when trying to decide whether to do all of them or just a few dorms every year, you are going to have that construction there anyway, you are going to have all those trucks and equipment renovating these dorms — just do it all in one shot."

Trigg said the renovations will hold a lasting im-

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pact for both the Corps and the Quad.

"The attitude is this: It has to happen," Trigg said. "There isn't any animosity toward the decision, we just know that by making that sacrifice and kind of changing our operation procedure for a short two years we will provide an environment that will make the Quad better forever."

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