

**The Legacy of the University of Texas at Arlington Corp of Cadets
Post-WWII years onwards**

By

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The Corp of Cadets in post-WWII and onwards

In this, the first peace-time Junior Aggie in five years, we have tried to give you a picture of the life at a school which is undergoing a re-conversion.

Here at NTAC we have a strange mingling of the elements of war and peace. On our campus we have seen evidence of the changes which are taking place in all parts of the great country.

On one hand we have a host of returning veterans who, after years of war and fighting, have come back to continue their education; and, at the same time, we see a small, but steady, stream of younger boys still laying down their books and taking up the life of soldiers at the call of Uncle Sam. We have bade goodbye to the last of the V-12 Units; we have noticed an increase in the number of girls who are leaving school for matrimony, now that their men have come home. Although some war-time scarcities still exist, we have begun to see peace time commodities again; and, as this re conversion continues, we are all eager to do our part toward making a reality of the great future which is planned for NTAC.¹

The year 1945 marked the beginning of a new period for the Corp of Cadets at the University of Texas at Arlington, then known as the North Texas Agricultural College. NTAC in 1945 was a junior college transitioning from the World War II years into a peacetime period. Veterans are returning to NTAC. NTAC was still part of the Texas A&M System and would identify themselves as the Junior Aggies. At the time, NTAC was operating under a three-semester calendar year, unlike the university's present two-semester system.

Perhaps the opening statements of the 1945 Junior Aggie above best described the environment the college was going through. To understand the Corps of Cadets' history, one has to understand that the college and the Corps were one and the same in the 1940s. Undeniably, the college's and the Corps' history were intertwined. It is difficult to separate one from the other.

Even though the Texas A&M System removed the mandatory military science enrollment in the 1950s, it wasn't until the 1970s that the department's influence began to wane as a direct result of the Vietnam War and other social changes. Unlike the nonchalance of many UTA students today, students from the Corps' predecessors were in love with the university. The college was their life. Up until the late 1950s, NTAC was one of eight institutions identified as a military college by the U.S. Army, and also one of the oldest in the United States. The Corps would consistently be ranked as the number one ROTC program in the country from its beginning to the present.²

In fall of 1944, NTAC received news of its first casualty of WWII. In January 1945, NTAC received a copy of an eyewitness account of the death of Sgt. Delmar M. Pacht, sent to his wife by his friend, Sgt. Les Everett.³

As expected of a military institution, NTAC was a male dominated college. Even then, it was not devoid of female students' presence, known as the Co-eds. Compared to the college's 1,500-1,600 male students, there were only approximately 300 female students. As Maj. Gen. Willard Latham would remember, all male students had to work hard to find a date. Cadets would often hitchhike to the Texas Women's University campus where young females were abundant.

All male students, with the exception of veterans or those medically disabled, were required to enroll in the Corps of Cadets. Each male cadet was expected to be in good physical shape. With the exception of the Sam Houston Rifles members, the department did not enforce physical training.⁴

Disbanded as a direct result of WWII, the Sam Houston Rifles, nicknamed Jodies, returned to the college and reorganized in 1947. The Jodies would soon become the dominant military organization in the Corps and on campus. Apart from competing in drill competitions and opening events, the Sam Houston Rifles would also conduct military funerals for soldiers killed in action and brought back here.⁵ Their importance and presence would exude a certain air of elitism that continues to be felt decades later.

Despite the Army's policies of barring female enrollment in the ROTC program, the cadets found a way to include female presence in the Corps with the Sweethearts system. A coveted position, each company and ROTC student organization would elect its own sweetheart. As honorary Corps captains, they were required to be present at all military events, plan and sponsor military parties and march with their respective company commanders during parades. Their uniform resembled that of the male cadets; a khaki shirt, skirt and overseas cap for summer; and a white blouse, green like jacket and interchangeable green and pink skirts for winter.⁶

Each year, cadets have something to look forward to: military balls. Back in those days, military balls were opened to the entire campus, and it was the highlighted social event of the year, celebrated with extravaganza. Held each semester in the gymnasium, each ball would have its own dance band. To attend the ball, each cadet had to get a date and a dance card. Each cadet would wear their formal uniforms while their dates would wear gowns and carry flowers.

"It was quite unfair," Gen. Latham said, referring to females' having the chance to dress up.

After each ball, cadets would go to the campus quadrangle flagpole (where Wolf Hall stands today) and played the Silver Taps at different ends of the quadrangle to salute the department's comrades. During the duration of the taps, an echo would sound, giving a somber effect in memory of the department's fallen comrades.⁷

With the end of WWII, the military department would see its enrollment grow exponentially. In the spring semester of 1945, there were 250 cadets. Three companies made up the battalion, one company less than what the cadre initially thought needed to accommodate the expected enrollment hike. The number of cadets increased to 402 later in the summer, the largest since 1943's total of 550 cadets.⁸

In fall of 1947, the Corps' enrollment skyrocketed to 657 from its spring enrollment of 325 cadets. To cater to the unexpected increase, the Corps was reorganized into a reduced regiment of two battalions. By Sept.

21, 1948, enrollment soared again to about 935, the largest Corps enrollment since it last saw the number of 1,100 cadets in fall of 1941. In 1949, the department's enrollment climbed to 1,073 cadets before dropping to 937 cadets in February 1950 and 990 cadets in September 1950 respectively. A band company existed alongside the regular cadet companies, serving as moral support to the Corps while giving performances during Corps events.⁹

In February 1947, the military department added a new NTAC course, which consisted of a two-hour drill and one-hour classroom instruction, giving credit hours to cadets who completed four semesters from the department. Students who took military science courses without credit because of a four-semester credit limitation were classified as "60" students.¹⁰

In order to earn a spot as a cadet officer, each candidate must have successfully completed two semesters, including military science classes, have a minimum of 24 credit hours and satisfactory grade, as well as a display of proper character, attitude and basic leadership qualities.¹¹

Each year, the Corps went through a Federal Inspection that inspected the Corps' training quality, an event the Corps deemed most important of the year.¹²

The year 1949 signaled a name change for the college from North Texas Agricultural College to Arlington State College. As a result, the Corps' enrollment ballooned to about 1,800 cadets.¹³

Not to be forgotten is the friendly co-existence of the Navy's V-12 Unit, a naval officer-producing program attached to NTAC with the Corps of Cadets. Though the two programs were distinctively separate, rivalry between the sailors and the cadets was nonexistent.

As Gen. Latham would say of the sailors, "They wore military uniforms and lived under discipline tighter than ROTC. Good relationship as I remember."

Sadly enough, the college had to say goodbye to the V-12 sailors later that year when the Navy ended the program at NTAC. The sailors' departure left Davis Dorm empty, which the cadets later occupied.¹⁴

"We lived in very regimented fashion," said Gen. Latham of his time at Davis Hall, now known as Brazos Hall.

In the 1940s, there were three different types of housing: Brazos Hall, the fam's military dorm and several boarding houses. All cadets lived on campus. The sound of the bugle horn signified the hour of the day. A typical day would look like the following:

6.30 a.m.: Bugle call/Wake up call

7.30 a.m.: Mess call. At the sound of the horn, cadets fall out in formation and marched to the mess hall.

8 a.m.: Classes

7 - 7.30 p.m.: Bugle call to quarters. Cadets will have to either be in their rooms studying or sign out to go to work or the library. The Provost Marshall, a cadet officer, will check each room.

10 p.m. - Tap Two. Stop studying and get ready for bed.

Between each room in Davis Hall is a bathroom. Cadets who wanted to keep studying after Tap Two will have to study in the bathroom. Each cadet had to fill out a schedule that showed where he would be every hour of the day. The commandant or the professor of military science, more commonly called the PMS, would keep one copy while the other would be shoved through the room's doorknob so that others in the dorm would know where he is. The commandant had a system of runners, consisting of cadets who wanted to work off their demerits; there was a demerit system back then. Cadets who collected demerits would either have to march at the quadrangle for one hour to work it off, or they could work for the commandant by keeping tabs on their fellow cadets' daily activities.¹⁵

Drills occurred each Thursday afternoon. Cadets wore their uniforms all the time. A very class distinction existed between the freshmen class, called the fish, and the sophomores, known as the upperclassmen. A tradition designed to give the freshmen a hard time required them to take their hat off from the back with full force, instead of from the front. The Corps participated in Sunday afternoon parades several times a year, which were considered a big community affair that included a big military band. In the ROTC building, now known as College Hall, one would find the library on the first floor. The ROTC offices occupied the basement, which included one classroom and one rifle range. The presentation of the Silver Bugle ended each evening.¹⁶

In the 1940s, female students lived in Lipscomb Hall giving cadets the opportunity to put their military skills into use.

"The big deal was how to sneak your girlfriend outside the window to go on a date and sneak her back in," said Gen. Latham.

Freshmen cadets usually bore the brunt of the upperclassmen. During football games, the entire campus would march to the center of downtown Arlington where a well known for natural mineral contents with "a rather explosive digestive system" was located. The upperclassmen would make the freshmen cadets duck walk part of the way to the well before drinking the water from the well. Each freshman would then have to run back to the campus in search of a bathroom. Twice a year, there would be midnight marches into the country for no reason other than to irritate the freshmen.¹⁷

"People who lived in dorm have harassment type," said Gen. Latham, chuckling.

He recalled of a time when a cow got onto the fourth floor of Davis Hall and of cadets plugging up the water system before the water flooded the downstairs. As a cadet Provost Marshall, he would usually be on the receiving end of pranks.

"I was more often the victim," he said.

One night, he unwittingly became a victim of "Drown Out" - a prank that involved throwing a cold bucket of water on cadet officers - when he was convinced to leave his door unlocked. A designated freshman went into his room in the middle of the night and threw a cold bucket of water on him while he was asleep.¹⁸

Each semester, freshmen looked forward to Fish Day when cadet seniority reversed. Freshmen became supreme, while sophomores became low-men. The sophomores would be forced to do pushups at the command of the freshmen, and it would go on the whole day until the Bugle Calls at night.¹⁹

Nothing says more about the pride the Corp cadets have in their campus than their rivalry with John Tarleton State College. During Gen. Latham's time at NTAC, several cadets went to Tarleton's campus and painted its cannon blue, forcing Tarleton's cadets to scrape off the paint when the prank was discovered. The same could be said of Col. William (Buck) Herndon who, along with several others, sneaked onto Tarleton's campus in the middle of the night and painted its doors and other physical equipment with the letters ASC.²⁰

Lab in 1945 consisted of Thursday practices in areas such as first aid, field sanitation, map and photography reading, military history and military branches. Freshmen were the cadets enlisted personnel, sophomores the cadet non-commissioned officers and the cadres were the officers.²¹

On Dec. 18, 1947, Professor of Military Science Col. Edgar H. Keltner gave a surprise promotion to Cadet Regimental Commander Richard C. Bischofhausen. Bischofhausen was promoted to a full cadet colonel, making him the first to assume that position since the Corps' pre-war years.²²

Also in the 1940s, the Rifle Team presented a strong presence in the Corps, with a claim to the title of the oldest ROTC organization. It would be sad to note that this strong campus tradition would cease to exist in the 1990s due to a lack of financial sponsorship. To give an idea of the team's strength and elitism, elimination matches were given in 1945 "to prepare a team with the capability to batter down all opposition on the firing range."²³

The Rifle Team's reputation in the country was indisputable. In 1947, the team defeated all three colleges it challenged in the prior year: the University of New Hampshire, Niagara University and Drexel Institute.²⁴

On Dec. 10, 1949, Arlington State College officially dedicated the college's new \$300,000 cadet dormitory, Pacht Hall, named after Sgt. Delmar M. Pacht, the college's former art instructor killed during WWII.²⁵

In June 1950, the Korean War broke. Almost immediately, many cadets dropped out of school to enlist in the military, causing the Corps' enrollment to drop to 780 by February 1951 from its previous four digit enrollment in the late 1940s.²⁶

In summer 1951, the department began to offer ROTC as an elective to beginning freshmen students.²⁷ Cadets in 1951 would also receive the benefits of draft deferments offered to all regularly enrolled ROTC personnel. According to *The Shorthorn*, the Selective Service Headquarters and the U.S. government wanted better trained, college-educated officers for the military service instead of having them rushing to serve in the military as the rationale behind the draft deferments.²⁸

In the early 1950s, the Corp enrollment began to stabilize at around 700-800 cadets. That changed in 1953 when the A&M System Board of Directors removed the mandatory ROTC male enrollment policy in 1954 and reclassified the department as a voluntary enrollment program, effectively removing the college's status as a military institution. Almost immediately, enrollment Corp enrollment dropped to about 466 cadets.²⁹

In October 1953, freshmen cadets began to grumble when the commandant ordered all freshmen cadets to remove the braid from their hats in order to distinguish them from the second-year cadets.³⁰

In 1953, the Sam Houston Rifles made a 30-minute television appearance on WFAA's show "This My Home Town."³¹ Two years later, the Sam Houston Rifles would find themselves performing in front of the camera again. This time, their moves were featured in an Iranian motion movie used specifically to train the Royal Body Guards of the Shah of Iran.³²

In 1956, the Corps elected its first Corps Sweetheart, elected among the Corps' companies and organization sweethearts.³³ Though their official duties were spelled out for them, in the minds of the male cadets, the sweethearts were more of a moral support and a form of decoration.³⁴

Written on the cut line above the photo of the ROTC Sweethearts in *The Shorthorn's* publication of April 1959 are the words, "Above are seven lovely reasons why men students at ASC consider ROTC training among the blessings of academic life. These young ladies are Company Sweethearts of the Cadet Corps, and were elected to the honors by the cadets themselves."³⁵

As Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward would say of the sweethearts in the 1960s, "We were allowed to elect a company and a Corp sweetheart. It was a real honor for them in those days. ... We always have the Corp Sweethearts riding in convertibles."³⁶

In the 1950s and the 1960s, panty raids reigned supreme.³⁷ One such incident was infamously recorded permanently in *The Shorthorn* on Aug. 28, 1995:

"Pride crossed the young men's faces as the coeds' panties and bras flew over the Arlington State College campus one dreary morning in the fall of 1952. The military-style panty raid had occurred the night before at the girls' dorm, now known as Lipscomb Hall. ASC graduate Kenneth Forehand, a former corps member, recalled that while several cadets had gone into town for their weekly movie, others had not. These men got into formation after dinner and marched to the dorm, where the female students were 'more than willing to donate their underwear to the cause.' The upperclassmen who led the raid hoped to gain

attention from the local press for their exploits. When it didn't materialize, they called the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and asked the editor to send a photographer to the college at 6 a.m. the next morning. The cadets awoke early that morning imbued with newsmaking zeal. In lieu of their usual 6 a.m. marching exercise, they gathered around the pole for the presentation of the colors. They ran the underwear up the flag and a cadet climbed up the pole and tied the rope off at half-mast. Then they greased the pole so the rope couldn't be untied." ³⁸

In January 1957, the Sam Houston Rifles team received an invitation to perform at President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Inaugural Parade of 1957. After two days of scrambling to raise money and asking the City of Arlington to help cover the transportation costs to Washington, D.C. - estimated at \$5,000 - the Jodies accepted the invitation and flew up there for the honor of performing in front of President Eisenhower. ³⁹

In 1957, Gen. Latham, then a captain, became the first alumnus to return to the department when he joined the department's cadre as an assistant professor. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jerry Houston and Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward would be the only two other alumni to return as cadre. It was also during his time here at Arlington State College that he saw Arlington State College transitioned into a four-year college. Three years after he left, ASC transferred from the Texas A&M system into the UT System in 1963. ⁴⁰

By the time Gen. Latham returned, ROTC is now optional. The number of cadets had since gone down to about 300-400. Cadets no longer live in a regimented dormitory system. ⁴¹

In March 1958, the Jodies created a new fashion headline on campus with their new gray and gold Sam Houston Rifle jackets. The gray wool jackets featured a gold SH lettering on the front and a crossed rifle shoulder patch with a black and gold silk lining. ⁴²

By March 1958, the Corps' enrollment dropped again, this time to 285. ⁴³

In September 1958, all returning Jodies were sophomores from the state champion team of the year prior. The high mark of the year was the Fiesta Flambeau parade in San Antonio, which saw the Jodies win the best drilled trophy over 12 other colleges, including the University of Texas and Texas A&M. ⁴⁴

On Oct. 17, 1958, the Sam Houston Rifles served as guard to Governor Price Daniel, former Governor Allan Shivers and other dignitaries during the opening procession of the State Fair of Texas. ⁴⁵

In the mid to late 1950s, at the end of each lab, each platoon would be inspected during final formation for the Best Drilled Platoon. Drills became competitive in nature. The leader of the winning platoon would receive a trophy from the Officers' Club. ⁴⁶

In 1959, the Department of the Army gave final approval to an advanced military training at ASC, essentially elevating the military department to that of an officer-commissioning program. In 1960, the Arlington

State College ROTC program officially became a four-year commissioning program of the U.S. Army when the college became a four-year university.⁴⁷

When the college announced of its impending senior college status, many of the Corps' cadets such as Col. Ward and Col. James Coughlin stayed one extra year as a junior college student in order to continue their education at ASC while others like Col. William (Buck) Hemdon returned to the college from Texas A&M to complete their education here at ASC.⁴⁸

"When I was a cadet, we were growing into a full-fledged university," Col. Ward said. "We were lucky to be there at the moment. We had no clue what or that was going on."

The Sam Houston Rifles would by this time had become much more physically demanding with more sophisticated maneuvers and more charming Jodie chants. Almost every cadet officer was a Jody. The Jodies instilled in themselves a very high standard of discipline. For many Jodies, the Sam Houston Rifles was almost like a fraternity of its own. They would all get into trouble together. The Jodies' members were their family.

"Physically, they were pretty ruthless on themselves when making mistakes," Latham said.⁴⁹

By January 1958, the Rifle Team was well on its way to become the National Intercollegiate rifle team champion. In the same year, the Rifle Team won the National Junior College Championship for the second straight year.⁵⁰ Composed of 15 members, the Rifle Team competed in 11 major tournaments during the 1959-1960 season, establishing an outstanding record in firing against more than 300 senior and junior colleges in the nation, bringing home six first place wins, three second places and one third place.⁵¹

The Young Man and Old Man system of the Sam Houston Rifles was an intriguing part of a Jody's life. According to Col. Jerry Houston, a recruit had no standing with the team and could be directed to accomplish task by any member of the team. When a recruit is elected onto the team, he will be elevated to the rank of Young Man. This allowed the newly-elected Young Man to direct anyone younger than him to accomplish tasks. At the time of the election, the Young Man also chose one of the active members to be his Old Man and mentor. This became his family tree in the organization.⁵²

"During my four years as a cadet, we did not get into throwing the rifles or some of the more complex drills that were required when I came back to Arlington as an instructor 10 years after graduation," Col. Houston said. "This became even more the norm after I finished my instructor tour of duty. In the 1980s, the drill really became complex. I was selected as the Song Bird for the team immediately after my election in September 1959. The song bird called most of the Jodie cadences including those that were used during performances. This was very easy for me because I have a voice that would carry and seemed to have a natural capability."⁵³

Naturally, Gen. Latham became the Sam Houston Rifles' sponsor. Under his sponsorship, the Sam Houston Rifles traveled to the Junior Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif. in 1957 and 1958. It was during the 1958 Rose Bowl that the Jodies would infamously tear down the Rose Bowl goal posts after the football's team victory and brought them back to Arlington State College, which the Corps eventually donate to the university. Pictures of the goal posts planted in front of the Student Union Building up until the 1970s could be seen until the building's 1970s expansion. The goal posts were taken down, and no one knew where it went.⁵⁴

To guard the posts, the Old Men braced two recruits to guard the posts at any time during the duration of the trip back to Arlington. In order to physically ascertain the posts were there, the recruits would sleep in the uncomfortable goal posts, where just days before, it was a flat platform with enough space for a cadet to sleep comfortably.⁵⁵

During one of their trips back, the cadets got quite rowdy. By the time the bus reached El Paso, Latham had enough of the noises and told the cadets to get out of the bus. Then, he told the bus driver to drive one mile up the road before telling the cadets to run after the bus.

"After that, we have no further noise on the bus the rest of the trip," Latham said with a smile.⁵⁶

Known for his tough persona, Latham was also to be feared and respected, as former cadets LT. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward and Lt. Col. (Ret.) James Coughlin would attest.

"Wherever we went, we would always try to figure out a way to get away from him to have some fun," Col. Ward said.⁵⁷

Gen. Latham would also be known for the legendary march to the advanced camp in Fort Hood in June 1960. Even though participation in the march was voluntary, former cadets who were interviewed would beg to differ and claimed they were subconsciously intimidated into volunteering.⁵⁸

"He was to be feared," Ward said, claiming Latham's eyes alone were enough to scare any cadets into submission.

The intensive training consisted of running, physical fitness and weekend marches. Trainees would run from campus to Lake Arlington before turning back. Each cadet would run 25 miles a day.⁵⁹

"We knew summer camp was a demanding event," Latham said. "We trained them well."

After months of training, 14 ROTC cadets found themselves a spot in history when they completed the historic five-day 160 miles march to Fort Hood from Arlington State College in June 1960, causing a media frenzy. Major Oliver Hord acted as the back-up officer. Each cadet carried two canteens of water. They would stop and eat along the way at pre-arranged restaurants along the way.

"They were a very determined bunch of young men," Gen. Latham said.

The Jodies captured first place victory at the George Washington Festival drill team competition in March 1961 left them undefeated in drill team and competitions since they were organized in 1934. The Sam Houston Rifles drill team also took first place at the Cherry Blossom Festival that same year in Washington, D.C., where drill teams from all over the United States competed.⁶⁰

The Corps' Military Ball celebrated its 41st birthday on campus with a bash in December 1962, with the theme "Crossroads in Destiny." It was also at the same military ball that Dianne McCuller became the Corp Sweetheart for the second successive year, making her the first sweetheart to do so for the first time in 41 years.

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In 1960, the Pistol Team was officially founded.⁶²

In 1960s, many cadets found they could now wear-sleeve khaki shirts with no patches and have net hat brass as part of their uniform. However, their winter uniform remained the same.⁶³ Tactical exercises consisted of situational exercises at the hilly terrain north of Arlington near highway 157.⁶⁴

Col. Ward and Col. Herndon became two of the first graduating class of Arlington State College as a senior college in 1961.⁶⁵

To solidify the department's reputation as the number one ROTC program in the nation, Cadet Jerry Thomas was named top cadet out of 1,547 ROTC students at Fort Sill, Okla. in summer of 1962. In addition to the top honor, Cadet Jerry Houston received an award as the top cadet in a company of 137 cadets.⁶⁶

The Rifle Team won two first place trophies in 1962 at the Fourth Annual Kansas State University Rifle Match Trophy and the Third Annual Texas A&M Postal Match trophy.⁶⁷

In 1962, Cadet Ed McKinley started the Insurgent Team, the forerunner of the present Ranger Challenge Team. One of the first few in the nation, the Insurgent Team was started to teach cadets guerilla warfare and insurgency and counterinsurgency tactics. It was also rumored that the founder of the Insurgent Team founded the organization when he couldn't make the cut to join the Sam Houston Rifles.⁶⁸

Not to be forgotten is the military marching band, comprised of 40 bandsmen who played for all on-campus parades, reviews, ceremonies and drills as well as off-campus trips, many of who were members of the Varsity "Rebel" Band.⁶⁹

As written by *The Shorthorn* in April 1960, "The marching military appearance of the bandsmen has led the military service in the area to call on the band many times to represent them in their ceremonies."

In November 1962, the Army approved ROTC flight training for selected senior military science students at ASC. Col. Jerry Houston was one of the first few selected students to fly.⁷⁰

"I was fortunate enough to get into the program and completed the program with about 50 hours of solo time in a Cessna 150," Col. Houston said.

In December 1962, Dianne McCuller became the first female to be selected as the Corps Sweetheart two years in a row, making it the first time in 41 years the same girl has been selected twice.⁷¹

By 1963, the sweethearts' duties became more refined. As honorary cadet captains, they were required to observe military courtesies shown the military cadre and cadet staff. They were also required to wear the Army green uniforms to drill each Thursday afternoon as well as maintenance of scholarship excellence. Their responsibilities remained similar, which included planning company parties, aiding in Military Ball preparations, be present for all drills and ride in parades as well as taking part in certain military formations during drills.⁷²

The Rifle Team won the Fourth US Army ROTC rifle championship at Fort Hood for the second straight year on Feb. 16, 1963.⁷³

In September 1963, Capt. John Joyce, son of Sam Houston Rifles founder Col. Thomas Joyce, took over the sponsorship reigns of the 50-member strong cadet drill team.⁷⁴

In July 1964, burglars raided the ROTC armory, and took away with them two automatic competition .22 rifles, five .22 caliber tournament pistols, 15 pistol magazines and 10,000 rounds of .22 caliber ammunition. Since the armory was a federal property, the theft prompted an FBI investigation.⁷⁵

The Distinguished Military Students award would come to be known as the most coveted student award in the 1960s. Each semester, cadets would compete with each other for the award. Cadets secured the award by demonstrating superior leadership capabilities during the ROTC summer camp program as well as maintenance of a high grade point average. The award is a cadet's first step toward his possible graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate.⁷⁶

The Corps would once again see a reorganization of its structure in February 1965 when the previous regiment of two battalions was reduced to one, and the total number of companies reduced from four to six. Drill periods would also be shortened to one-hour periods at the empty parking lots on campus.⁷⁷

For the sixth time, the Jodies captured first place in the annual George Washington Birthday Drill Team Competition in Laredo in February 1961.⁷⁸

Also in 1965, Cadet Richard Jones became one of the first college students at ASC to be selected to receive the first U.S. Army two-year scholarship.⁷⁹

In 1966, the Corps saw its first two female students enrolled in its military courses: Judith Yeargin and Pamela Gotcher. Yeargin and Gotcher were prevented from participation in ROTC drills because of the lack of female uniforms.⁸⁰

In December 1966, the Sam Houston Rifles drill team walked away from the Fourth Army Conference Rifle Matches with top team honors and the three highest individual honors and repeated the performance the following day at the Central Texas Invitational, held at the University of Texas.⁸¹

2nd Lt. Dennis Easley, a 1964 graduate of Arlington State College, became the department's first graduate to die in Vietnam when his helicopter crashed during an army operation. A scholarship was established in his honor, to be awarded each year to an outstanding ROTC student at ASC.⁸²

In the late 1950s through the mid-1960s, there were two groups of cadets. There were those who were serious in their pursuit of higher education and of career success. Then, there were those whose sole purpose of life was to make the most of where they were in life and have fun. A lot of what they did as cadets and dorm students would be considered hazing or crime today.

Allan Garonzik would come to be known as the most notorious of them all when it comes to shenanigans the cadets would get themselves into. In fall 1962, with Garonzik leading the pack, the 1,200 pounds cannon that belonged to the Kappa Alpha fraternity at North Texas State University ended up in his third floor dormitory room on C ramp at Davis Hall before getting reassembled on the roof of Davis Hall. When a final ultimatum was given by authorities, the cannon reassembled again, this time on the front lawn waiting to be picked up.⁸³

Since its inception, the Sam Houston Rifles has used the 1903 Springfield rifles that weigh 8 pounds for practices and performances. As Garonzik would say, "An eight-mile parade at 180 steps per minute down the streets of Corpus Christi would take a toll on even the toughest cadet."

True to his reputation, Garonzik would devise a way to lighten his rifle by cutting off about three inches of the heavy barrel below the front sight and replaced it with a one-quarter inch steel rod.

"The rod would stick into the chamber, and the modification would go unnoticed once the upper-hand guard was replaced," he said.

However, he forgot one tiny detail. One of the maneuvers the Jodies were going to use was the "Exchange Manual" that required two rifle exchange movements. His rifle exchange partner adjusted the sequence to eliminate one of the two exchanges.

"I finished the seven remaining miles with my tongue dragging the ground," he said.⁸⁴

In 1967, Arlington State College was renamed the University of Texas at Arlington.⁸⁵ By September 1966, 155 second lieutenants have been commissioned from the university since its transition to a four-year university.⁸⁶

For the first time in February 1969, the Dallas chapter of the Reserve Officers Association chose a Corp cadet to represent the chapter as a delegate to the Reserve Officers Association conference in Washington, D.C.⁸⁷

Also in early 1969, the military science department began accepting applications for the new two-year Army ROTC program.⁸⁸

By 1969, the Jodies have won 207 first places out of 211 competitions in the 26-year history. Also in 1969, the Sam Houston Rifles was opened to non-ROTC students for the first time because of its struggle in recruiting new members.⁸⁹

Former cadet Jerry Houston returned to the department as a military science assistant professor in September 1970, the second alumni to do so. By the time he returned to the department, the Sam Houston Rifles have since reduced to a 4 X 4 rank instead of its previous 6 X 4 rank. The marching band was struggling and disbanded soon after Houston left. The Insurgent Team by this time had become a big hit. Thursday drill format would also be changed.⁹⁰

"We moved away from everyone participating in drill and moved to the model of the freshmen and sophomores conducting drill, the juniors worked all year on getting ready for summer camp and the seniors did a number of activities besides running the Corps," Col. Houston said. "Most of it was some special training that Captain John Moser and I did to teach them how to conduct staff studies. We took a number of things that needed to be researched for the department and had them do the research, prepare a staff study of the issue and make a presentation to the cadre and senior class."

By 1971, the Vietnam War was starting to become full-blown. Anti-Vietnam War student activism on campus increased. ROTC participation became unpopular. The Corps saw its enrollment drop to 140 cadets in 1971. By fall of 1973, the ROTC program's enrollment declined to a low of 80 cadets. To appeal to more students, the cadre changed the Corps' curriculum to include marching as well as more stimulating and challenging aspects such as physical fitness exercises and rappelling. Also affecting the department's enrollment was the number of cadets who dropped out to enroll in the military.⁹¹

"There was a lot of anti-war sentiment on campus but most of it was underground and not in the open," Col. Houston said.⁹²

In February 1971, Sherry Strong and Karen Matil became the first women to find a place on the Rifle Team.⁹³

Also in 1971, the Jodies hosted their first Sam Houston Rifles Summer Drill Clinic to give the drill team commander and his staff an opportunity to gain knowledge and improve their skills of developing and commanding a "highly competitive drill team."⁹⁴

In 1972, advanced cadets received a pleasant surprise in monetary form: their monthly stipend increased from \$50 to \$100 a month.⁹⁵

By 1972, the sweethearts have begun to lougher it out with the "guys," including roughing it out with the male cadets of the companies they represent on ruck marches and combat simulations - a foreshadowing of the Corps' eventual admission of female cadets.⁹⁶

In December 1972, the pistol team brought home its first trophy since 1966 by beating UT-Austin.⁹⁷

Though a written record could not be found, most Corps alumni said the sweethearts system seems to slowly disappear in the 1980s. By the 1980s, the Sam Houston Rifles would be the only Corps organization to still have a sweetheart.⁹⁸

When male cadets returned in fall 1973, a surprised awaited them in the form of Corps' first five female cadets in history: Deena Deatherage; Judy Norris; Rita Kimberling, Ronelle McAbee and Kim Childress. According to Jimmie Kepler, a former cadet who witnessed the first female enrollment in the Corp, there was a mix reaction among the male cadets. Half of the male cadets opposed the changes, while the other half said, "Yes!"⁹⁹

In 1973, the Jodies swept all four trophies of the Washington Birthday Celebration for the first time since they first competed in the competition in 1955.¹⁰⁰

In the 1970s, the Insurgent Team reached the height of its popularity. The Insurgent Team would rival the Sam Houston Rifles in membership. To the Insurgent Team members, their weekly drills became real. In an article published Feb. 2, 1973, *The Shorthorn* wrote, "Everything seemed real. Imagination or whatever, one felt that maybe there really was an enemy out there, someone ready to jump up and kill. Therefore it was reassuring to see a soldier clutching his rifle, his eye scanning the bushes for unnatural movement."¹⁰¹

By 1974, the team's guerilla style combat tactics has captivated the interest of the campus, as evident with a *Shorthorn* reporter's March 22, 1974 article on her time spent with the team's weekend drill in 1974:

"Don't let anyone tell you ROTC is a breeze. I used to think so - until I spent a weekend with the Insurgent Team at Ft. Wolters near Mineral Wells. The Insurgent Team, an extracurricular activity, specializes in guerilla warfare. Ft. Wolters' specialty is 20 square miles of sand, prickly pear cactus, dead mesquite trees and clinging, scratchy, wait-a-minute vines. They were made for each other. ... Once when we stopped briefly to check our maps, I sat down - on a cactus. Ordinarily, I would have screamed, but by that time I was convinced that if I did, we'd be massacred. Besides, I was too tired. The atmosphere is that real. Everyone takes it that seriously. There is no joking, no lagging behind, no goofing off. Each man does his part and then some. I still don't thoroughly understand the seriousness. But I know it's there. And I'm glad. Someday these men may be fighting real battles. They'll be trained and ready."¹⁰²

As former Insurgent Team members, Maj. (Ret.) John Glaze and Jimmie Kepler would agree, everything in the Insurgent Team battle field is all out warfare. According to Maj. Glaze, during each of the Insurgent Team's weekly trips, veterans and prior-service cadets, together with former Insurgent Team members, would come out in support of the team by assuming the role of the aggressors.¹⁰³

On March 22, 1974, Michael Coleman became the second African-American student to be commissioned from the campus ROTC department.¹⁰⁴

In fall 1974, the department's enrollment increased to 144 cadets in spite of the lingering effects of Vietnam War. Changes in training and activities, rising civilian unemployment and the fadeout of the antiwar movement rendered ROTC as an attractive option again. Confidence was low in the aftermath of the Vietnam War. It was a time when ROTC cadets were too embarrassed to wear their uniforms. In between classes, men's restrooms would be crowded with male cadets changing into their civilian clothes.¹⁰⁵

Kim Childress became the first female to become both a female cadet as well as a Corps Sweetheart in the school year 1974-1975 though she never graduated because of financial reasons. In fall of 1976, Erica Ballard and Debra Dowdey became the first two ROTC women to receive Army scholarships.¹⁰⁶ Susan Manifold, daughter of former PMS Col. Max Manifold, would become one of three female cadets to attend the Army's Advanced Camp in 1976.

"There was some resentment at first," Manifold told *The Shorthorn*. As soon as the men saw the women did what was required, Manifold said the resentment generally changed to acceptance.¹⁰⁷

Manifold eventually became the battalion's first female commander and first female cadet to be commissioned in 1977. Under her command, she saw the Corps' enrollment increased from 215 to 339, which included 60 women.¹⁰⁸

By 1977, the Sam Houston Rifles have won 233 first places out of 236 competitions, an impressive track record.¹⁰⁹

The College Hall building went through another facelift in fall of 1979, forcing its primary resident, the Corps of Cadets, to relocate to the Life Science Building fourth floor. By the time the ROTC cadre and personnel returned into the newly renovated building in September 1979, six classrooms, a library and military science faculty facilities awaited them.¹¹⁰

The Corps would see its female population grow by 20 percent, signaling the program's increasing popularity among women students.¹¹¹

In 1980, former Corps member Col. Cecil Roberts created the Hall of Honor to induct former cadets and honorary members of the Corp of Cadets in recognition of their outstanding achievements in life and to the Corps. Col. Robert's Hall of Honor creation would become the model the Texas A&M ROTC detachment would emulate in starting their very own Hall of Honor.¹¹²

In October 1980, the ROTC department faced unwanted negative publicity when military science assistant professor Maj. Terry Todd was arrested on campus by the Dallas police and charged with aggravated promotion of prostitution. Cadets immediately rallied behind Todd, disbelieving the news. Days later, Professor of Military Science Lt. Col. Raymond Andrae relieved Todd from his military duties.¹¹³

In September 1981, the Jodies' membership shrunk to a mere eight-member team, down from its heyday high of 50.¹¹⁴ The smallest team to compete at the 1982 Texas A&M Invitational Championship, the Jodies team clinched first place, beating teams four times its size.¹¹⁵

In March 1982, the Pistol Team reaffirmed its fifth-place national ranking by finishing fifth in the National Intercollegiate Pistol Championship, only to be beaten by the Air Force Academy, Naval Academy, MIT and West Point.¹¹⁶ By the mid-1980s, the nation's number one pistol team had an Olympic marksmanship hired as coach.¹¹⁷

After a year's search for cannons, the Carlisle Cannons was founded and officially recognized as a campus student organization in 1983. Each of its six cannons would be named after a significant period in history. The Carlisle Cannons became the first and only ROTC battalion with a complete artillery battery of six cannons in the Army Cadet Command and the nation.¹¹⁸

The Carlisle Cannons would come to play a prominent role for the UTA campus and its community, accompanying them in their main events. For example, the Carlisle Cannons coordinated their cannon blasts with the Fort Worth Symphony's rendition of the 1812 Overture during the annual MayFest celebration at Trinity Park in May 1997. By this time, the Carlisle Cannons have become a consistent presence in the community, with 24 annual events on campus and the Dallas/Fort Worth area. At each event, all six cannons would be used.¹¹⁹

In March 1983, the Jodies found a place in Hollywood with an opening and closing appearance in the 1983 movie *Streamers*.¹²⁰

In January 1985, the military science department was chosen as one of the top four senior detachments in the third ROTC Region by the Order of Founders and Patriots of America amongst 87 colleges and universities in an eight-state region. However, to the disappointment of Col. Ward, the PMS who received the award, the certificate together with its frame was unwittingly thrown away several years later.¹²¹

By the time Col. Ward returned to the department as the Professor of Military Science, females cadets in the Corps have become a common sight. Adjustments to accommodate female cadets were slowly in the making. According to Col. Ward, bringing in female cadets brought a new dimension to the program.

"We changed them [the Corps]," he said. "We had to think more about everything we did that we did before to make sure it is appropriate for them [female cadets]. As we brought them in, I found out the female cadets would come out with innovative way of things that the male cadets would never do." ¹²²

In September 1986, the ROTC department enrolled 144 cadets, with 51 cadets contracted as military science juniors, the largest class ever sworn into the advanced program. ¹²³

By 1986, the Ranger Challenge team had formally replaced the territory where the Insurgent Team once reigned. 1986 represented the first time the Corps' Ranger Challenge team competed in a Ranger Challenge competition at Camp Bullis in San Antonio. The Maverick Battalion's Ranger Challenge team placed last among 16 teams in its first attempt. ¹²⁴

The future of the Rifle Team in October 1987 rested with the military science department when the team's remaining Corps of Cadets member graduates in 1988. Up until that point, the membership of an ROTC cadet meant a guaranteed financial sponsorship from the ROTC department. ¹²⁵

In fall of 1987, the department dropped two "fun" courses - marksmanship and backpacking - that UTA students took to fulfill a P.E. requirement. This caused the program's enrollment to drop significantly. According to Civil Affairs Officer Bruce Holland, the department dropped the programs to devote more time in instructing students enrolled in officer training and military studies instead of spending the funds on students who aren't interested in the ROTC program. ¹²⁶

In fall of 1988, the team lost its military department sponsorship when the department was forced to drop the activity due to budget cuts, dwindling interest among ROTC cadets and orders from above. The Recreation Sports department eventually took over the team's sponsorship before transferring them to the UTA Police. The military science department continued to provide ammunition for the teams while the UTA Police personnel controlled the firing range and supervised target practice. ¹²⁷

By April 1989, the team had felt certain of its eventual demise due to lack of funds. ¹²⁸ In spring 1989, the Rifle Team, together with the Pistol Team, changed its sponsorship from the military science department to the UTA Police. ¹²⁹

In fall of 1989, the Rifle and Pistol teams both lost its sponsorships completely. However, military science instructor Capt. Robert Williams announced his intent to revive the once successful teams under new conditions - half the squads' members have to be ROTC cadets. ¹³⁰

In November 1990, nine cadets represented the university at the Ranger Challenge championship. Amongst them was Cadet Lt. Joan Black, the first female cadet to represent the Corps through the Ranger Challenge team. ¹³¹

Roze McCoy Porter became the Hall of Honor's first female member in 1991 when she was inducted with the honorary status in honor of her aviation career even though women were not permitted in the ROTC program when she was a student at NTAC. ¹³²

On April 11, 1991, the department was once again drawn into unwanted spotlight when the campus chapter of the Gay/Lesbian Association gathered at the university's free speech area to protest the Department of Defense policies concerning gay and lesbian service in the country's armed forces. In the protest, the group called on university President Wendell Nedderman to recognize a UT System directive, passed Aug. 19, 1990, which forbid discrimination of sexual orientation, which they said the university ignored. The group also called on the university administration to limit on-campus recruiting by the armed forces, the CIA and the FBI until the government reversed its discrimination policies. If acted upon by university administration, the move would damper the Corp's growth and recruiting efforts, already at a low point in its enrollment numbers. ¹³³

Relentless in its pursuit, the Gay/Lesbian Association once again put pressure on President Nedderman in June 1991 to comply with the UT System anti-discrimination directive on the basis of sexual-orientation by restricting military recruitment on campus to include the campus-based ROTC detachment. ¹³⁴

In fall of 1991, Texas Women's University and the University of North Texas assimilated their ROTC programs with the one here at the University of Texas at Arlington, joining Southern Methodist University and Dallas Baptist University which have cross-enrolled students here for a decade. ¹³⁵

A lack of membership prevented the Sam Houston Rifles drill team from participating in any competitions from 1986-1992. That changed on March 7, 1992, when the 10-members team Jodies won first place overall in the Texas A&M Drill Competition in College Station. ¹³⁶

In March 1992, the Student Service Fee Advisory Committee gave the ROTC department a cold shoulder when the committee denied the department's request for \$11,914 in fund increased. Instead, it decreased the department's funding by \$1,800 from \$5,300 to \$3,500 for the next year. It was reported in the Shorthorn that the committee felt the Carlisle Cannons and Sam Houston Rifles did not serve enough of the community as well as its

concern for the teams' low visibility in the area. In its place, the committee suggested the department seek funding from the federal government and private sponsorship.¹³⁷

One of the most dreaded and looked forward to lab training was the Combat Water Survival Training. A typical water drill in the 1980s and 1990s included the slide for life station, where cadets slide on a rope extending from a 10-meter platform into the pool; the blindfolded with a rifle 5-meter jump; and the experiment floatation device station, where cadets' used their pants as a float.¹³⁸

In November 1992, the Ranger Challenge team finished fourth at the Ranger Challenge state competition, the highest the team has rated in the event's seven-year history.¹³⁹

The battalion's Ranger Challenge team is not only tough competitors, but compassionate ones as well. Together with the Texas Christian University Ranger Challenge team, they forego their chance of earning top spots at the annual Apache Brigade Ranger Challenge 10K Road March in October 1993 when they stopped to help a Texas A&M cadet with heart stroke who was subsequently admitted to Darnell Army Community Hospital at Fort Hood in critical condition.¹⁴⁰

On Nov. 30, 1993, ROTC cadets made their presence known on campus with a bang with a showcase of several events leading to *State of the Corps*, a presentation about ROTC opportunities on campus. To display their might, a Huey UH1 helicopter opened the event with a landing on campus between the flag poles and Cooper Street in front of the Central Library, followed by a weapon demonstration by the Ranger Challenge team, a performance by the Sam Houston Rifles and the firing of the Carlisle Cannons.¹⁴¹

The professor of military science in 1994 disbanded the Sam Houston Rifles. He deemed the Jodies as unnecessary because the U.S. Army is no longer synonymous with drills as well as the university's long-gone affiliation as a military school.¹⁴²

Not to be outdone by their predecessors, cadets and cadre enjoyed a Las Vegas-style casino night in the 1995 Spring Military Ball. To pay for the night, cadets spent six weeks planning the ball and held two car washes to raise money for the event.¹⁴³

On August 30, 1995, all six 75mm Howitzers deafening blasts of the Carlisle Cannons, lined up in a semicircle facing Texas Hall, accompanied the university's centennial celebrations. As President Wendell Nedderman called out each of the university's former names, each cannon would fire, causing bodies to flinch.¹⁴⁴

In 1996, Maj. Gen. Charles C. Cannon, a former ROTC cadet commissioned in 1963, became the first active duty member to be inducted into the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor.¹⁴⁵

In summer of 1997, the department sent two cadets into the Army's international bases to complete advanced leadership training. Psychology senior Brian Gellman went to Korea while biology junior Bryan Compton went to Schweinfurt, Germany. ¹⁴⁶

In September 1997, the new professor of military science, Maj. Mark Martin, announced the reorganization of the Sam Houston Rifles, prompting excitement over the rebirth of the oldest on-going ROTC organization on campus. ¹⁴⁷

The 1998 Maverick Battalion made its predecessors proud when it retained its number one ranking in the Southwest two years in a row. The recognition was given by the U.S. Army Cadet Command's Fifth Brigade that encompassed 25 universities in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. ¹⁴⁸

In summer 1998, the Corp once again had to relocate from its home of 96 years when the College Hall Building went through another series of renovations that cost about \$800,000, with the funds paid for by university funds. The ROTC offices were relocated to Carlisle Hall's fifth floor for the duration of the renovation. A ceremony was given on Aug. 29, 1998 to acknowledge the new completion of the summer-long project that reshaped the basement. The renovated basement included a library that houses a Sword Saber collection dating back to the 1800s; a Legacy Hall that contained pictures of ROTC members; a Cadet Hall and nine offices for ROTC administrators and instructors. Built into one wall is space for a trophy collection. ¹⁴⁹

The Corps would also see its program funded by various area private organizations, including Screams, a Halloween theme park in Waxahachie in the late 1990s. In exchange for monetary services, cadets assisted Screams in scaring the park's visitors. For two years in a row, their dedication and discipline in performing their job impressed Screams' managers. ¹⁵⁰

On Dec. 18, 1998, the Maverick Battalion suffered a major blow to their morale when spring semester-designated cadet battalion commander Cadet Major Todd Weger suffered a stroke, rendering him unable to assume his new role. Weger would eventually be forced to quit his military career. Cadet Lieutenant Nichole Consiglio was appointed to replace Weger. ¹⁵¹

On April 13, 1999, a new ROTC tradition was started when Cadets Jason Rowe and David Bowers read the first rendering of "I Am A Maverick" during the Spring Military Ball, a compilation of information from the military history and the battalion's Capt. Bruce Kimery put together. ¹⁵² In the same month, the ROTC department announced the receipt of the inaugural endowment award of \$12,000. The first scholarship to be awarded would total \$1,000. ¹⁵³

On May 6, 1999, the Sam Houston Rifles was reactivated with a ceremony performed in front of Texas Hall. Along with the reactivation, the Jodies officially adopted Monique Millet as the first Sam Houston Rifles sweetheart in years. ¹⁵⁴

In October 1999, the Maverick Battalion sent two teams to the Ranger Challenge. A Team, consisted of Juniors and seniors, took 6th place while the freshmen and sophomores team, B Team, took 17th place. For the Mavericks, 6th place wasn't enough. ¹⁵⁵

"It pissed off the prior service guys because there is no reason why we shouldn't win the Ranger Challenge," 1st Lt. Mike Conner said.

Finally in October 2000, the Ranger Challenge team took first place among 20 teams to win the 11th Annual Ranger Challenge at Fort Hood. A second team placed 7th. ¹⁵⁶

On Feb. 8, 2000, former cadet Gary Harvard unveiled his painting "Cadet Echoes: The Spirit of the 20th Century Cadet," a painting that takes a viewer through 100 years of the battalion's history. ¹⁵⁷

In fall of 2000, the "Boom at Noon" tradition began, in which the Carlisle Cannons fires a salute each Wednesday noon to salute people or events on campus in the Central Library mall area. ¹⁵⁸

Even though the Corp opened its arms to female cadets in the 1970s, the Sam Houston would not see its first cord members until the turn of the century with the elections of Nkeci Peytonia Iherne, Sandy Rivera and Brandi Purswell. ¹⁵⁹

On Sept. 11, 2001, terrorists attacked the World Trade Tower in New York City. The country plunged into a level of patriotism that hasn't been seen in years. The atmosphere in the battalion changed. For the ROTC cadets, 9/11 all of a sudden made things real. Many cadets like Cadet Capt. Justin Carlton started taking things seriously. Several would try to break out of their contract to enlist in the Army. ¹⁶⁰

"I remember receiving a brief from the PMS to be careful about what we said, especially the cadre," 1st Lt. Mike Conner said. ¹⁶¹

The Jodies would feel the effect of 9/11 one year later when the 1903 rifles they used for practice, previously classified as a non-sensitive item by the U.S. Army Cadet Command, was reclassified as a sensitive item in the 2002-2003 school year, effectively limiting its usage to Jodies' practice sessions. ¹⁶²

"Everyone was pissed off," Carlton said."

Also in 2001, the Maverick Battalion was organized into the Jodie, Warrior and Ranger platoons. At the beginning of each semester, new cadets were given the option to choose the platoon they want to belong to. To

lure new cadets into their platoons, each platoon tried to outdo each other with different moves and maneuvers.

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Together with the Carlisle Cannons, the Sam Houston Rifles disbanded in 2002. In the school year 2001-2002, most Jodies were seniors, with few underlings to take over the Jodies' leadership. In fall of 2002, sophomore cadets Justin Carlton and Robert Cederstrom tried to run the Sam Houston Rifles, but the Jodies ultimately had no choice but to disband.¹⁶⁴ Also, five of the six original cannons were shipped back to the U.S. Army by the Professor of Military Science in 2001, much to the dismay of the alumni.¹⁶⁵

In spring of 2003, the department would once again see a growth in its size after years of double digit enrollment. From an average of 78, the battalion grew by 51% to 118 cadets.¹⁶⁶

The Sam Houston Rifles made a comeback in fall of 2004 under the leadership of cadet captains Carlton and Cederstrom with approximately 10 members. In Spring 2005, there are at least 6 Young Men in the group, groomed for leadership when Carlton and Cederstrom pass the torch.¹⁶⁷

After a three-year hiatus, the military science department announced its intent to reinstate the Carlisle Cannons and the Sam Houston Rifles in fall of 2004. In spring 2005, university President James Spaniollo officially announced the return of the Carlisle Cannons. The Carlisle Cannons will fire its first shot since 2001 on Friday, May 13, 2005 at the UTA's first commencement convocation in years.¹⁶⁸

Students have come and gone. Lives dispersed in search of their own destiny. Yet, there is one thing remaining that tied the Corps of Cadets' alumni and cadets together, and that is their spirit. Whether anyone likes it or not, the University of Texas at Arlington's Corps of Cadets is here to stay.

Endnotes

1. This paper draws mainly on first hand accounts of former cadets' experiences with the University of Texas at Arlington's Corp of Cadets and the subsequent written records of the Corp's journey from its post-WWII years to its contemporary life in 2005. This paper's starting account is taken verbatim from the opening pages of *The Junior Aggie* in 1945.
2. *The Shorthorn*, May 1952.
3. *The Shorthorn*, Jan. 10, 1945. Sgt. Delmar M. Pachl would eventually have the dorm Pachl Hall named after him. Pachl Hall was demolished in the late 1990s because of maintenance issues. The following is an extract of Sgt. Les Everett's account of his death as published by *The Shorthorn*:

"Our censor restrictions have just been lifted so that we can write about Pachl. ... I personally saw what I am going to tell you and feel that it might help to comfort you some. This horrible tragedy was just fate, as the enemy was just shooting at the beach several hundred yards from us. About a dozen shells fell short and hit in our Command Post. Pachl was in a fox-hole about eight yards from me when a shell hit near the end of his fox-hole. He didn't suffer the least bit for which we can be thankful. He was taken to the cemetery at once, which is near the beach in a very pretty location. ... He will always be remembered by us. And it is a great loss to our division."
4. Major General (Ret.) Willard Latham. Gen. Latham attended NTAC in 1945. He left later that year to enlist in the Navy before returning to NTAC in 1947 to complete his associate's degree. He later returned to the college, since renamed Arlington State College, in 1958 as a military science department instructor, making him the first alumnus to return as an instructor for the department. As a cadet, he was the president of the Sam Houston Rifles in fall of 1948.
5. *Ibid.*
6. *The Shorthorn*, Nov. 6, 1956.
7. Gen. Latham.
8. *The Shorthorn*, Feb. 7, 1945. July 31, 1945.
9. *The Shorthorn*, Sept. 30, 1947. Feb. 21, 1945. Feb. 7, 1950. Feb. 11, 1947. Sept. 13, 1950.

In September 1947, the Corp regiment has two battalions. The first battalion consisted of two infantry companies and one company of combined infantry and quartermaster troops. The second battalion consisted of seven arms and services: one artillery battery; one cavalry troop; and one company of combined ordnance and chemical warfare.

Starting in the spring semester of 1947, the war department authorized the Fourth Army to reorganize the Corps' branches to include infantry, field artillery, coast artillery, cavalry, corps of engineers, signal corps, ordnance, chemical warfare and quartermasters' corps.
10. *The Shorthorn*, Feb. 25, 1947.
11. *The Shorthorn*, March 11, 1947.
12. *The Shorthorn*, March 7, 1945. As written in *The Shorthorn*:

"Different types of military subjects were featured for the benefit of the inspecting officers: a close order drill unit, a First Aid unit, a tent pitching unit, an extended order drill platoon, a picked bayonet group, a demonstration of assembly, disassembly and nomenclature of weapons; an interior guard duty unit; and probably the most important feature of the afternoon will be a reconnaissance patrol problem, in which two companies will participate. The NTAC Cadet Corps will be graded on the efficiency and manner these events are carried out."
13. Gen. Latham.

A written record could not be found to verify the number 1,800 in the Corp of Cadets in 1949.
14. *Ibid.*

The Shorthorn, Oct. 24, 1945.
15. Gen. Latham.
16. *Ibid.*
17. *Ibid.*
18. *Ibid.*
19. *Ibid.*
20. *Ibid.*

Lt. Col. William (Buck) Herndon.
21. *The Shorthorn*, Jan. 10, 1945.

Gen. Latham
22. *The Shorthorn*, Jan. 6, 1948. Jan. 13, 1948.
23. *The Shorthorn*, Jan. 10, 1945. Oct. 9, 1965.
24. *The Shorthorn*, Feb. 4, 1947.
25. *The Shorthorn*, Dec. 6, 1949.
26. *The Shorthorn*, Feb. 6, 1951. Feb. 13, 1951.
27. *The Shorthorn*, May 1, 1951.
28. *The Shorthorn*, May 1951. Sept. 23, 1952. Oct. 6, 1953.
29. *The Shorthorn*, Oct. 2, 1951. Sept. 21, 1954. Oct. 20, 1953.
30. *The Shorthorn*, Oct. 20, 1953.
31. *The Shorthorn*, Nov. 3, 1953.
32. *The Shorthorn*, Dec. 4, 1955.

The movie was filmed on Nov. 23, 1955.
33. *The Shorthorn*, Nov. 6, 1956.
34. *The Shorthorn*, April 1959.

Rex Latham.
Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward.
35. *The Shorthorn*, April 1959.
36. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward.
37. *Ibid.*

38. *The Shorthorn*. Aug. 28, 1955.
39. *The Shorthorn*. Jan. 1957.
Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward.
Note: There was a discrepancy in the actual total cost of the transportation to Washington, D.C. Col. Ward remembered the cost to be about \$5,000 while *The Shorthorn* recorded it at \$2,000.
40. Gen. Latham.
The Shorthorn. Oct. 1, 1957.
41. Gen. Latham
42. *The Shorthorn*. March 18, 1958.
43. *Ibid.*
44. *The Shorthorn*. Sept. 30, 1958.
45. *Ibid.*
46. *The Shorthorn*. March 18, 1958.
Lt. Col. (Ret.) James Coughlin.
47. *The Shorthorn*. Sept. 22, 1959. April 1960.
48. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Joel Ward.
Lt. Col. (Ret.) James Coughlin.
Lt. Col. (Ret.) William (Buck) Herndon.
49. Gen. Latham.
Col. Ward.
50. *The Shorthorn*. Jan. 6, 1958.
51. *The Shorthorn*. April 1960.
52. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jerry Houston.
53. *Ibid.*
54. Col. Ward.
Col. Coughlin.
55. *Ibid.*
56. Gen. Latham.
57. Col. Ward.
Col. Coughlin.
58. Gen. Latham.
Col. Ward.
Col. Coughlin.
The Shorthorn. June 28, 1960. Feb. 15, 1963.
UTA Magazine. Winter 2004.
59. Gen. Latham
60. *The Shorthorn*. March 3, 1961. April 15, 1961.
61. *The Shorthorn*. Nov. 30, 1962.
62. *The Shorthorn*. Oct. 8, 1965.
63. *The Shorthorn*. Sept. 30, 1960.
64. *The Shorthorn*. April 14, 1961.
Col. Coughlin.
65. Col. Ward.
Col. Herndon.
66. *The Shorthorn*. Sept. 21, 1962.
67. *The Shorthorn*. Nov. 30, 1962.
68. *The Shorthorn*. Oct. 8, 1965.
Allan (Bunky) Garonzik.
Jimmie Kepler.
69. *The Shorthorn*. April 1960.
70. *The Shorthorn*. Nov. 9, 1962.
Col. Houston.
71. *The Shorthorn*. Dec. 7, 1962.
72. *The Shorthorn*. Oct. 3, 1963.
73. *The Shorthorn*. Feb. 22, 1963.
74. *The Shorthorn*. Sept. 26, 1963.
75. *The Shorthorn*. July 23, 1964.
76. *The Shorthorn*. Oct. 30, 1964.
Rex Latham.
77. *The Shorthorn*. Feb. 19, 1965.
78. *The Shorthorn*. Feb. 26, 1965.
79. *The Shorthorn*. Aug. 13, 1965.
80. *The Shorthorn*. Feb. 25, 1966.
81. *The Shorthorn*. Jan. 6, 1967.
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