

Local / State

A&M vocal groups make own kinds of music

By MARY JO RUMMEL
Battalion Reporter
Auditions for the four Texas A&M University vocal groups have been booked up since the beginning of the semester. The last of 250 auditions are scheduled for today.

The Singing Cadets, Century Singers, the Women's Chorus and the Reveliers are individual organizations which offer students a chance to continue their interest in music on an extracurricular basis.

The groups are directed by Robert L. Boone, head director and director of the Singing Cadets; Nancy Theeman, director of the Century Singers; and Patty Fleitas, director of the Women's Chorus and the Reveliers.

Each group offers the students different types of music to fit the singer's preferences.

The vocal music program began in 1938 with the formation of the Singing Cadets. "The (Singing) Cadets are the best known of the groups because they have been around the longest," Boone said.

The group of Singing Cadets comprises 60 to 65 men, whose main objective is to promote the University.

"We function as a representative of Texas A&M," Boone said. The Cadets perform about 50 shows each year throughout the state.

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The Century Singers are a large mixed chorus (approximately 50 members). Their repertoire consists of 50 to 60 percent classical music along with selections from Broadway musicals. They usually perform 10 to 12 concerts each year.

The groups first made their debut in 1970 as the New Tradition because at that time women were

They also perform annual concerts in San Antonio, Dallas, Austin, Fort Worth and Houston.

The Cadets often work with the Texas A&M Mothers' Clubs and the Texas A&M alumni clubs throughout the state. For each performance, the organization is paid \$600 or 40 percent of what is

made at the concert, which ever is larger. The performances usually are fund raisers to provide money for scholarships.

The name of the organization can be misleading, Boone said. "Singing Cadets" dates back to the origins of the group — when all Texas A&M students were in the Corps of Cadets. Today, only ab-

out 12 percent of the 60 plus members are active in the Corps.

The Cadets have performed at the White House, on the Ed Sullivan Show, and the Mike Douglas Show. In 1979 the Cadets won second place at an international music festival in Hawaii.

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The group performs approximately 50 times each year — about five times more than comparable organizations at other universities. They travel an average of 3,000 to 3,600 miles during a year.

The group will perform at the Astrodome Sept. 26 at the Astro's last home game of the season.

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tion of underground water. And attorney Richard Simms said Clark's research would be used to bolster the state's contention that the thirsty Texas city not entitled to New Mexico's water from two underground basins just over the border in Mexico.

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The suit is tentatively scheduled to begin Dec. 1 before U.S. District Judge Howard Brannaman, Tue who said he will decide by the end of October if he will take oral arguments in the case, or rely solely on written arguments.

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