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Dana Cooper is back

Since the break up of one of Houston's most popular bands, Dana Cooper, the tenor of the Shake Russell/Dana Cooper band, has been doing what he always wanted to do — perform in a group of his own.

The group, DC3, will perform at Backstage on Dec. 10 and 11.

Band members are Cooper on guitar and harmonica, William Billings on bass and Vic Godines on the drums. Cooper

also provides the vocals for the group.

In 1981, the Austin Chronicle voted Cooper one of the best male vocalists of the year. The style of the band is described as "jazz-folk-rock fusion."

On Dec. 12, Backstage also will host Texas singer Richard Dobson. Known for his song writing, Dobson performs country rhythm and soul.

For more information, call 846-1861.

Romantic fiction

Just in time for Christmas — a paperback edition of another Danielle Steel novel — filled with peach-tinted sunsets, crackling fires and fiery love scenes.

Palomino has spent 24 weeks on national bestseller lists and has sold more than 600,000 copies in the last year.

The new edition will feature a foil and embossed cover, fancy enough to sit under the tree without wrapping paper.

In the novel, heroine Samantha Taylor faces heart-break and triumph in a story that should satisfy any romantic.

— Dell Publishing Co., \$3.50.



Christmas stories

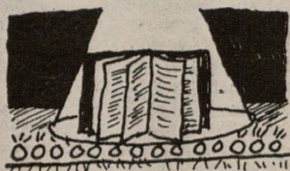
The Tales of Christmas will transform the Masterson Study Gallery in Houston into seven scenes of Christmas cheer during the Christmas holidays.

The Garden Club of Houston will present the "Nativity

Story," "A Child's Christmas in Wales," "The Fir Tree," "The Little Match Girl," "A Christmas Carol," "The Nutcracker" and "A Visit From St. Nicholas." Performances will be held at the museum Dec. 8 through Jan. 2.

Santa Claus will appear for a special visit at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 16.

The Garden Club of Houston has organized the annual Christmas show for more than 20 years.



Ad-a-date

Ever thought of filling out an ad to get a date? Well, now's your chance. *The College Students Magazine* has announced that it now will have a personal ad section that students can use to meet the boy/girl of their dreams.

No names, addresses, phone numbers or pictures will appear in the magazine. Instead, each ad will be published with a code number. If a particular ad appeals to you, write the person a letter in care of the magazine and let true love take its course.

Nelson Adams, the founder of *College Students Magazine*, said the personal ad system has grown in popularity for two reasons: anonymity and choice.

For more information, write:

College Student Magazine
P.O. Box 6000
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Christmas kettle story

In 1891, Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee launched a tradition that has spread throughout the United States and the world — the Salvation Army Christmas Kettles.

In December, McFee decided to provide a free Christmas dinner to the poor people of San Francisco. Unfortunately, he did not know how to pay for the food.

As the day progressed, the money problem continued to bother him. Finally he remembered the "Simpson's pots" of Liverpool, England. Residents of Liverpool would throw donations into the pots located on street corners.

The next morning, McFee set up a similar pot and a brass urn at the ferry landing in San Francisco — thus starting a Salvation Army tradition.

By 1898, the Salvation Army Kettles were being hailed as the "newest and

most novel device for collecting money" in the United States.

The kettles now are used in Korea, Japan, Chile and many European countries.

In the United States, the Salvation Army annually aids more than 3 million persons at Thanksgiving and Christmas. The kettles now have new devices such as a self-ringing bell and a public address system to broadcast Christmas carols.



'Evita' to be performed in Austin

The hit Broadway musical "Evita" will be performed Jan. 11 through 16 at the University of Texas Performing Arts Center Concert Hall.

The idea for the musical was born in 1973, when Tim Rice caught the last 10 minutes of a documentary about

Eva Peron on his car radio.

Fascinated with the story of Evita's life as the ruler of Argentina, Rice sold the idea to his partner. "Evita" made its Broadway debut Sept. 27, 1979.

The musical still is playing in New York to capacity crowds. It has won seven Tony Awards and several New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards.

For ticket information, call (713) 471-ARTS.



OPAS presents holiday activities

Dear OPAS supporters:

OPAS wishes to extend you an invitation for two exciting events on Jan. 21.

If, during the holiday season, gifts for your friends and relatives become a problem, may we suggest tickets to a luncheon and style show during the day and an opportunity for big band dancing in the evening?

Buddy Brock's Big Band will provide the dancing sounds at the Brazos Center

and Cardiff's will sponsor a style show.

For further information, call 845-1661 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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