

# State and Local

## Boone touches lives of Singing Cadets

By LAURIE MATUSEK  
Reporter

After 25 years, Robert "Bob" Boone still touches the lives of the Texas A&M Singing Cadets as they make beautiful music together.

Boone, director of the Singing Cadets, took on the position in September 1960 and celebrated his 25th anniversary Oct. 12.

"The Association of Former Singing Cadets holds a banquet annually, and this year I was the honoree," Boone said. "It was like 'This Is Your Life, Bob Boone.'"

"Former members came up to me behind a partition and recalled events from when they were in the Singing Cadets. I didn't remember all of their names but I never forgot a face."

Boone said several things have changed since he first came to College Station.

"When I first came to the community, I was a public school teacher at A&M Consolidated High School," Boone said. "I was teaching theater, band and choir before and after school, and it was very hectic."

Seven years later, Boone was hired as the music coordinator of the Memorial Student Center. Part of the job as music coordinator called for Boone to serve as director of the Singing Cadets.

"When I first started working as director, the Singing Cadets only performed 12 times a year," he said. "For the last 10 years, we have averaged 50 performances a year."

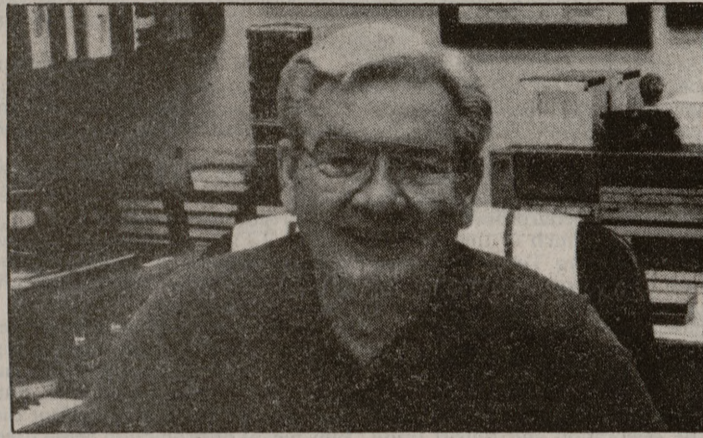


Photo by ANTHONY S. CASPER

Robert Boone, director of the Singing Cadets, sits in his office.

Giving 50 performances a year can be time consuming, but, in the long run, Boone said it is worth every bit of the hard work.

"We work hard at it, but it's fun," he said. "I'm doing what I love — working with enthusiastic, invigorating people."

Mike Montana, president of the Singing Cadets, said Boone touches the lives of every member in a very special way.

"His knowledge of music, his drive for perfection and his ability to motivate others brings out the best in every member," Montana said.

Singing Cadet Sam Martens said Boone expects the members to do outside work and learn their notes before they come to rehearsal.

"The hour he spends in rehearsal is the time when he puts all of our outside work together," Martens said.

Rehearsals are usually fun, the members agreed. However, Montana said there are times when Boone is not exactly pleased with the way a rehearsal is going. Then he reprimands the members without discouraging them, Montana said.

"When he's upset with the group, he will ask us to sing a particular part of the song denoted by various letters of the alphabet," Montana said. "He will shout, 'Start at 'T' for terrible, 'F' as in feeble' or 'V' as in vomit.'"

Boone said he considers all the members to be disciplined and highly flexible.

"Together we work hard to help each member grow as a person as well as a musician," Boone said. "Music is secondary."

"Our primary purpose is to serve as a public relations tool for Texas A&M, and music is our tool."

"Many of the guys are service-oriented people. Others are more laid back, but those individuals are encouraged to be leaders in a community."

Singing Cadet Andy Turner expressed his admiration for Boone.

Turner said, "He's our director, father away from home, friend and disciplinarian."

## Texas Indians may return to U.S. authority

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Two longtime political leaders urged Texas congressmen Tuesday to back a bill that would return the state's two Indian tribes to federal jurisdiction.

The battle was sparked by a 1983 state attorney general's opinion saying state aid to the Indians violates the ban on special treatment based on race or nationality.

Former Gov. Price Daniel and former Sen. Ralph Yarborough said, "Due to recent actions by Texas officials, all trust responsibilities of the state have been terminated."

The U.S. House is expected to vote this week on a bill that would put the tribes back under Bureau of Indian Affairs jurisdiction.

"This is a matter of survival for the tribe," Alabama-Coushatta Chief Fulton Batiste said at a Capitol news conference.

The tribal jurisdiction squabble has been complicated by Comptroller Bob Bullock's fear that the Indians might be able to run unregulated bingo games if placed under federal authority.

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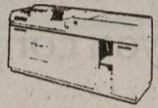
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\* YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES 7:20-9:20  
TARGET (R) 7:15-9:35  
JAGGED EDGE (R) 7:25-9:45

\*Dolby Stereo

### MANOR EAST 3

MANOR EAST MALL 823-8300  
\*SANTA CLAUS - THE MOVIE (PG) 7:25-9:55  
JOURNEY OF NATTY GANN (PG) 7:15-9:35  
ONCE BITTEN (PG-13) 7:20-9:45

\*Dolby Stereo

### SCHULMAN 6

2002 E. 29th 775-2463  
KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN 7:25-9:50  
AFTER HOURS (R) 7:10-9:35

NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET 2 (R) 7:30-9:40  
RAINBOW BRIDE (G) 2:15-4:40

RETURN OF THE SOLDIER 7:20-9:55  
KRUSH GROOVE (R) 7:15-9:30  
THE STUFF (R) 7:35-9:45

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