

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Piedmont Chamber Singers will hold auditions

Piedmont Chamber Singers Inc. announces auditions will be held on Aug. 19 and 20 for those interested in singing with the area's finest chamber choral ensemble.

There are openings for all voice parts although PCS is particularly interested in auditioning baritone and bass singers. Rehearsals will be on Monday evenings Aug. 26 to June 2003 with extra rehearsals called as needed during performance weeks.

PCS performs vocal chamber music from early Renaissance to modern 20th century compositions. PCS strives to train musicians in vocal music for the small vocal ensemble and is committed to broadening interest in choral music as a whole through education and performance. Come join PCS for an exciting 25th anniversary season.

Anyone interested in auditioning should call the PCS office at (336) 722-4022 for an application or send a résumé to P.O. Box 10269, Winston-Salem, NC, 27108. The résumé should include information regarding voice range, choral experience, foreign language competencies, vocal training and any other pertinent information. You may also contact PCS through its Web site at www.piedmontchambersingers.org.

Former Miss N.C. says she resigned over nude photos

RALEIGH (AP) — Rebekah Revels quit her post as Miss North Carolina last week because a former boyfriend told pageant officials about nude photos of her, she said Monday.

The 24-year-old Revels told ABC's "Good Morning America" that the man took two pictures while she was changing clothes. She has not revealed his name.

Revels resigned her title last Tuesday after the man sent officials an e-mail about the pictures.

Miss America pageant officials said that Revels resigned of her own free will, but she described it as sort of a pre-emptive strike.

"The Miss America pageant was not going to let me compete because they feel I breached the moral clause of their contract,



Williams

after my ex-boyfriend e-mailed them and said, 'Ask her about two nude photos,'" Revels said.

Her former boyfriend had surprised her by taking the photos while she was changing, Revels said. The photos depicted her nude from the waist up.

A contract for pageant contestants prohibits them from "engaging in any activity that could reasonably be characterized as dishonest, immoral or indecent and from conducting themselves in any manner that is inconsistent with the standards and dignity of the Miss America Program," a statement from the Miss America Organization said.

In 1984, Vanessa Williams, the first African-American to ever win the Miss America crown, resigned from the post after nude photos surfaced that had been taken several years earlier.

Revels said her situation is different from that of Williams, who had posed for the nude photos. She said she didn't condone the photos and admits they were a mistake.

Revels, who was Miss Fayetteville, was a high school English teacher and planned to use the \$12,000 scholarship from the North Carolina title for graduate school. She was replaced by first runner-up Misty Clymer of Raleigh.

Camille Cosby to form African-American elders archive

The late centenarian sisters Sadie and Bessie Delany are continuing to "have their say" and have helped create the opportunity for other elders to do likewise. "Having Our Say," a top-10 rated television movie that premiered in 1999, was rebroadcast on CBS on July 28 at 9 p.m.

The film, produced by Camille O. Cosby and Judith Rutherford James, was an outgrowth of the best-selling book by Amy Hill Hearth. It has become required reading in many schools (the book has sold more than 2 million copies).

Cosby and James also turned it into a critically-acclaimed Broadway play, which received three Tony nominations and set records as the most frequently produced work in local and regional U.S. theaters.

Cosby was inspired by the Delany sisters to form an initiative with Renee Poussaint (Emmy Award-winning television journalist and former network anchor) called the National Visionary Leadership Project (NVL). This nonprofit organization was created to produce, preserve and disseminate an extensive video archive of African American leaders aged 70 and above from all walks of life. The mission of the organization is to provide a pathway for the elders to inspire new generations of young people to learn about leadership and apply those lessons to their interactions with family, community, workplace and the world.

In one year's time, Cosby and Poussaint have completed extensive interviews with 30 national figures, including Andrew Young, Maya Angelou, Dick Gregory, Dorothy Height, Shirley Chisholm, Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis, David Dinkins, Constance Baker Motley, Edwin Brooke, Gordon Parks and many others. Coretta Scott King will be interviewed later next month.

Mitchell on the Move



Beary Barrington helps Daryl Mitchell at Walt Disney Pictures' world premiere of "The Country Bears." Mitchell, who is well known to television and movie viewers for his many roles, was in a tragic motorcycle accident three months ago which left him bound to a wheelchair. Mitchell stars in "The Country Bears" (which he shot before his accident). The movie also stars Haley Joel Osment and Christopher Walken. It is unclear whether Mitchell will ever walk again, but he is not letting the setback keep him down. This fall, he will be a regular on an NBC sitcom.

Knowles loosens up diva image for 'Goldmember'

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — It took a man with rotten teeth, shaggy hair and wretched fashion sense to crack the diva facade of Beyoncé Knowles.

As a counterpoint to her haughty, glamorous, finger-wagging stage presence, the 20-year-old performer has symbolically let her hair down by teasing it into a gigantic Afro for the raunchy comedy "Austin Powers in Goldmember."

In person, Knowles — who plays crime fighter Foxy Cleopatra, a parody of the 1970s' blaxploitation heroines — is soft-spoken, but her quiet demeanor masks the power she wields in the entertainment industry as the leader of Destiny's Child, a Grammy-winning R&B trio. Not only is she the main singer, she has co-written and produced many of their songs.

By making her big-screen debut in the second sequel to "Austin Powers" — a series known for tasteless sex jokes, bathroom-sight gags and revolting villains — the elegant singer is trying to stretch her talents while showing audiences she doesn't take herself too seriously.

"She's not remotely a diva. When you know her, she's the last person in the world you'd say that about," said "Goldmember" producer John Lyons, who proposed Knowles to writer-star Mike Myers and director Jay Roach.

Lyons said he was impressed by Knowles' starring role in MTV's hip-hop version of the opera "Carmen," set in modern-day Philadelphia instead of 19th century Spain. "She had bad-titude," added



Beyoncé Knowles as Foxy Cleopatra in a scene with Austin Powers himself, played by actor Mike Myers.

Roach — a quality that came in handy for funky "Austin Powers" lines like "You're under arrest, sugar" and "You have the right to remain sexy."

In "Goldmember," Foxy Cleopatra is an undercover police officer moonlighting as a nightclub singer when she encounters retro-spy Austin Powers, who is tracking a villain with — as the title suggests — solid gold private parts.

"The audience decides how to feel about Austin through the leading ladies," Roach said. "The jokes deliberately bring you to the edge of maximum discomfort — you're supposed to go 'ugh ...' But Foxy is normal and cool, and she seems to like him, so that gives us permission to laugh."

As the lead singer in Destiny's Child, Knowles projects a seductive-yet-independent image in songs like their breakthrough 1997

Jamaican legend comes to town

BY WALI PITT
THE CHRONICLE

Roots and culture will be on full blast Friday as world-renowned reggae musician and radio personality Mikey Dread comes to Ziggy's to perform some of his classic music as well as new gems he will be unveiling for his loyal fans.

Dread, a native of Port Antonio, Jamaica, has been involved with reggae music since the beginning. Becoming the first DJ of the first all-reggae radio show, D.A.C.T., which came on Jamaica Broadcast Corp. (JBC) in 1976.

He was allowed to announce from midnight to 5 a.m., when the radio station was normally off air. At this time in Jamaica reggae wasn't played on the radio or accepted as the cultural medium that the music is today. Dread "forced" Jamaican broadcast media to recognize their own music." And with his unique style of broadcasting, the "Dread at the Controls" controlled the airwaves of Jamaica, winning top radio personality of the year for 1977-1978.

Now Dread claims that reggae music on the radio is "like a wildfire burning, spreading from city to city, state to state, and nation to nation." Here in the States the only musical association with actual heritage, culture, affiliation and association with Africa is reggae music, but African-American youths seem to be dissuaded from the cultural teachings and stray to other forms of music such as dance hall.

Devoted to spreading the voice of reggae to all, Dread has recently received his bachelor's degree in communication so that he can take his message to another

See Dread on C8

Artists slam music industry practices

BY JIM WASSERMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Singers and entertainment attorneys criticized California's \$41 billion recording industry Tuesday, testifying that it routinely under-reports royalties and cheats artists of millions of dollars.

The speakers were testifying before the state Senate's Judiciary Committee about alleged financial irregularities by the five global corporations that dominate the music business.

Music attorney Don Engel estimated that record companies routinely "underpay 10 to 40 percent on every royalty" and dare artists to challenge it without killing their careers.

"I've heard of this hearing described as a fishing expedition," said entertainment attorney Fred Wilhelms. "There are big fish out there."

The record industry denied the characterizations and cast the allegations in a context of power negotiations between artists and their lawyers and the record labels.

"That's what's going on here. No more, no less," said Steven Marks, senior vice president of the Recording Industry Association of America.

The industry also released an economic analysis that showed fewer than 5 percent of signed artists produce a hit record.



Jordan

See Knowles on C8

See Artists on C8