

Industry NEWS

Last Friday's unprecedented 30-network broadcast of "America: A Tribute to Heroes" raised \$110 million from 89 million viewers. A cameo by Celine Dion, who returned to music for this historic event, singing "God Bless America," proved that Americans and the world are coming together to overcome these tragedies.

Box office ratings this past weekend proved that it was one of the slowest weekends all year for the Silver Screen with the top movie, "Hardball," only taking in \$8.2 million.

Paramount will begin filming "Star Trek: Nemesis" in November. The movie, directed by Stuart Baird and written by John Logan ("Gladiator"), will hit theaters in 2003.

Jimmy Smits has signed a seven-figure deal with ABC to produce and star in a series to air fall 2002.

Aaron Sorkin, creator of NBC's "West Wing," has delayed the the season premiere to Oct. 10. However, Sorkin is writing a special episode entitled "Isaac and Ishmael" to air Oct. 3. The special is in memoriam of those victims of the terrorist attacks.

"Survivor 4" producers have pulled the show's possible location out of Jordan in the wake of the terrorist attacks. Tahiti is now being considered instead.

Organizers are already making plans to produce a CD of the multi-network tele-athon. Artists who performed are reportedly waiving their royalty fees.

(Industry News is a collection of stories from E! Entertainment, Billboard.com, Entertainment Weekly and ETOline.com, that are compiled by Jason Chick, A&E Editor)

An evening of Bel Canto

Elizabeth Butler
Reporter

Last Friday evening, the Bel Canto Company of Greensboro performed a recital of solos, duets, trios and quartets in Whitley Auditorium. The Bel Canto Company travels throughout North Carolina and has received favorable reviews in many newspapers, including the Washington Post and Charlotte Observer.

The nine-member ensemble performed the music of Brahms, Schubert, Mozart, Rossini, Vaughn Williams and Gershwin. Bel Canto is Italian for beautiful singing and the music is characterized by a smooth

even style, beauty of tone and evenness of passagework. It is this style that made pieces from "The Secret Garden" and "Gigi" a treat to listen to, as well as selections from Shakespeare and George Herbert.

Gerald Whittington, Elon vice president of business, finance and technology, on baritone, and John Metzger, assistant professor of music, on the vibraphone. They joined the company for the finale, a medley of big band era tunes.

With such a passion for music and an ability to draw emotions from humorous to romantic from the audience in an entertaining performance, it's no wonder that this ensemble comes highly praised.

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