

Chorale gets notice at convocation

Matt Belanger
Reporter

As a continuation of this week's Global Symposium, the Elon University Chorale, combined with members of Camerata, performed an eclectic blend of cultural music at the fall convocation ceremony yesterday in the Alumni Gym.

The choir, under the direction of choral activities director Stephen Futrell, performed a variety of folk songs from Korean, South African and Brazilian origin that blended together to create the medley heard by those who attended the ceremony.

The choir's presentation also included physical movements to create sounds effects that resembled the sounds of an approaching rainstorm. Other pieces performed included the "Star Spangled Banner" and the "Pakistani National Anthem" out of respect for visiting speaker Benazir Bhutto.

"It is very difficult to perform a piece of choral literature in a different language. I am very happy with the choir's perform-

ance this year, especially given the time constraints we were faced with," Futrell said.

Elon student Saba Khan assisted the choir's 120 members in preparation for the concert. Khan, whose parents are of Pakistani decent, assisted the choir by giving examples of proper pronunciation, accents and phrasing.

The choir's performance during convocation was just one of many cultural activities occurring on campus support of the dedication of the new Isabella Cannon Centre for International Studies.

President Leo Lambert said, "Dr. Futrell is doing a terrific job with the choral department. His efforts to present just the right material to fit the occasion are clear. The piece that was chosen for Camerata at the Sept. 11 community gathering was perfect for the occasion. It was absolutely beautiful."

Futrell said he hopes the choir's performance at convocation impacted the audience in a positive way. "Western culture is a part of me, but as a musician I have realized there is so much to experience from other cultures. I



Andi Petrini/Photographer

Stephen Futrell practices with members of Chorale Tuesday in preparation for Wednesday's convocation with former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Members of Camerata performed with Chorale as part of the week's International Festival.

hope people walked away from our performance with a good feeling. The program was meant to be a true celebration of cultural diversity."

The choral department is sponsoring a number of additional performances throughout the year. Chorale will perform "Operetta Americana" Nov. 24, featuring a selection of significant choruses from over a century of American musical theatre. The show will include selections from "Showboat," "Candide" and "Porgy & Bess," as well as many others.

Futrell said he encourages students to become involved in Chorale because of the positive experiences it can provide. "For me, music is the ultimate global studies course; the best way to learn about a culture is to experience it. At the base level, Chorale is a great way to have fun, but joining Chorale is becoming a part of a diverse group of people who work together to explore other cultures and create something beautiful."

Contact Matt Belanger at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

A&E Writers Wanted

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In theaters:

"Four Feathers" (PG-13)
Starring Heath Ledger, Wes Bentley, Kate Hudson
"Trapped" (R)
Starring Stuart Townsend, Charlize Theron, Courtney Love, Kevin Bacon
"Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever" (R)
Starring Antonio Banderas, Lucy Liu
"The Banger Sisters" (R)
Starring Goldie Hawn, Susan Sarandon

In concert:

Friday
Cat's Cradle - Carrboro
Weekend Excursion, Carbon Leaf
Tickets \$8-10; show at 9:30 p.m.
All proceeds go to Lineberger Cancer Center

Ziggy's - Winston-Salem
Squeeze Toy, Walnut
Tickets \$10/advance; show at 9 p.m.

The Brewery - Raleigh
Butch Walker, Nickel Slots, Nicofiends
Tickets \$8; show TBA

Saturday
Altel Pavilion at Walnut Creek - Raleigh
Enrique Inglesias
Tickets \$30-\$50; show at 7:30 p.m.

Cat's Cradle
Victoria Williams, Mark Olsen and the Creek Dippers
Tickets \$15/advance; show at 9 p.m.

New Releases:

Tuesday
Ryan Adams - "Demolition"
Peter Gabriel - "Up"
Beck - "Sea Change"
Jackson Browne - "Naked Ride Home"
Steve Earle - "Jerusalem"
"Buffy the Vampire Slayer: One more Time with Feeling"

Variety is the spice of life

Burlington Recreation and Parks's annual Carousel Festival is this weekend at City Park (turn right at the fork past Ham's restaurant on Church Street). Entertainment includes a climbing wall, rides on the Dentzel Carousel and food. Country artists will perform throughout the weekend, with Dakota and national recording artist Emerson Drive performing at 2:30 and 4 p.m. on Sunday.

"Collage," a combination of song-and-dance routines from Broadway, will be performed 7 and 8:15 p.m. Friday and 5:30 and 6:45 p.m. Saturday in Yeager Recital Hall. Tickets are on a first-come, first-serve basis at 6 p.m. Friday in Model Lobby.

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