

UNC selects two acts for Homecoming

Va. Coalition, Emma Gibbs Band play

BY ADAM ZELSDORF
STAFF WRITER

After organizers last year failed to include a band as part of Homecoming festivities, the Carolina Athletic Association and the General Alumni Association have scheduled two concerts for Homecoming week.

CAA looked at more than 50 local and regional bands, varying in style from rap to reggae to bluegrass and even heavy metal, before choosing the pop-rock band Virginia Coalition.

Virginia Coalition will headline the first concert of the week Oct. 15 with opening local act SpencerAcuff.

Virginia Coalition, which has played with groups such as Dave Matthews Band, Ben Folds Five and O.A.R., was voted the best band in Washington, D.C., in 2000, according to the band's Web site.

The CAA hopes Virginia Coalition will live up to that reputation for UNC students.

"We would like to have as many good events as possible," said CAA President Sherrell McMillan. "A reason we decided on Virginia Coalition was diversity; they have appeal that crosses over to many different students."

Last year, CAA did not schedule a Homecoming concert for the first time in recent history, mainly due to a lack of available venues and construction on campus, McMillan said.

This year's show will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 15 in the George Watts Hill Alumni Center.

With the center's capacity ranging from 900 to 1,000 students, the CAA and GAA are looking forward to a large student turnout at the new venue.

"We wanted to get a venue that had a large capacity and still had good acoustics for the students," said Ginny Franks, CAA Homecoming chairwoman.

In addition to the concert, the GAA, along with the Carolina Inn, arranged a post-game party during

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MASON HURLEY, SOPHOMORE

Alumni Weekend that will feature the Emma Gibbs Band from Winston-Salem.

"We like the bluegrass sound of the band and their jam sessions," said Sallie Hutton, coordinator of Alumni Weekend and Homecoming for the GAA.

"We also chose the Emma Gibbs Band because they are attractive to both students and alumni."

The post-game party will take place on the the Carolina Inn's front lawn Oct. 18, the same location the event has been held the past four years.

Although Franks began planning the concerts in March, budget constraints and a lack of venue availability limited the band selection to local and regional groups.

Although the final cost is not set, it could cost as much as \$3,000 to bring Virginia Coalition.

"It was easier working through regional bands to get the information that we needed," Franks said.

General admission tickets will be \$10.

Tickets for the Emma Gibbs Band post-game show are on sale at the alumni reunions Web site, <http://alumni.unc.edu/reunions>, for \$8. For both events, tickets for GAA student and alumni members are \$5.

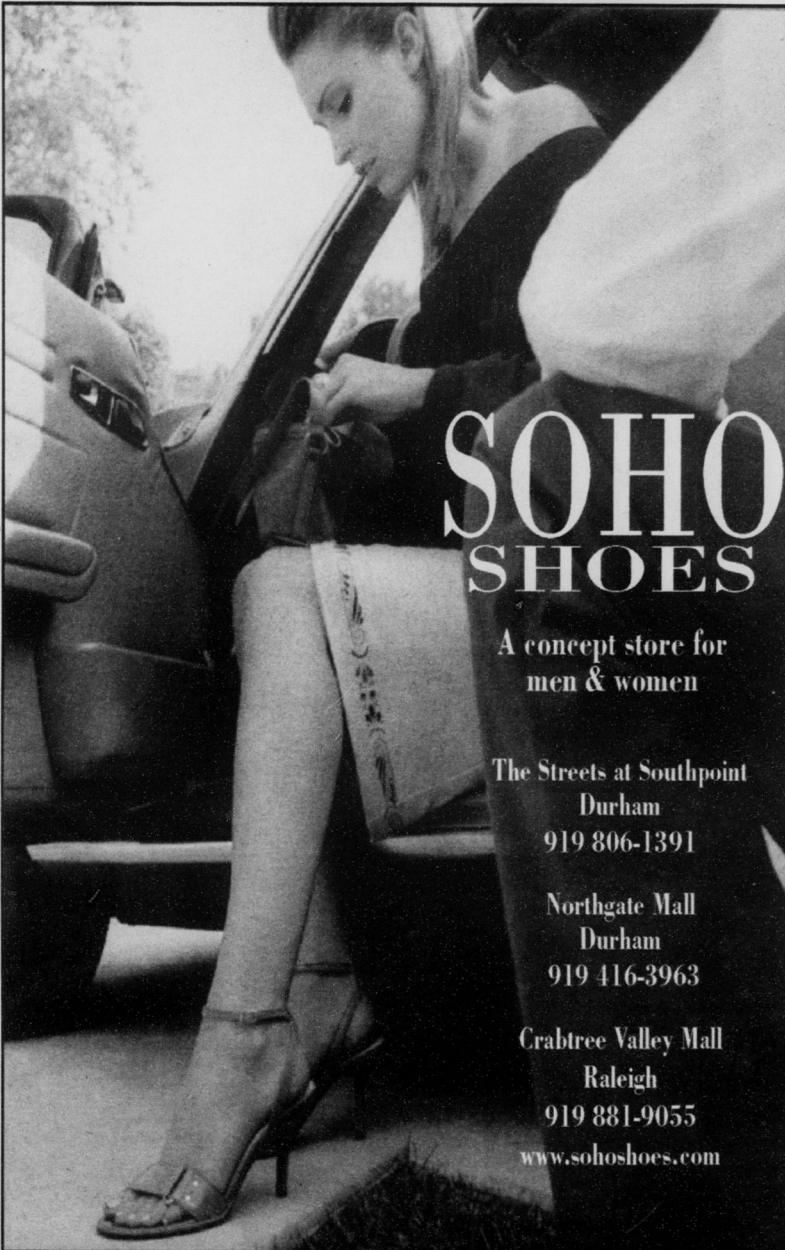
Enthusiasm for the two concerts is starting to spread through the student body.

"Virginia Coalition is a really fun band," sophomore business major Mason Hurley said.

"They're always great to experience live."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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