

State and Local

Chamber singers perform with personality

By Brian Fredrick

Reviewer

The New England Conservatory Chamber Singers treated a sparse audience Tuesday night in Rudder Theater. The program included a wide selection of Russian and American religious music, theatrical songs and a couple Texas favorites.

Though the audience was nearly outnumbered by the 46 members of the chorus, it made up for its lack of numbers with its enthusiasm for the performance. While the performers demonstrated considerable musical ability, they engaged the audience by infusing their singing with personality and energy. That their hearts were in their work was evident, both in the singing and the creative choreography that accompanied several of the selections.

Though the second half of the program was shorter, it was more creative. After several unpleasant French songs by Debussy, the chorus moved on to some songs from American theatre. They complemented "Stomp Your Foot" by Aaron Copland, an energetic song in its own right, with four dancing couples in cowboy hats. A solitary couple dancing slow, methodical steps brought out the melancholy side of Scott Joplin's "A Real Slow Drag." The chorus topped off its performance with a unique arrangement of "The Yellow Rose of Texas" that incorporated snatches from "Dixie," "Davey Crockett" and the National Anthem.

Review

After opening the evening with a stirring rendition of "Texas My Texas," the chorus performed several selections of Russian church music composed by Sergei Rachmaninoff. Several sixteenth-century songs from Soviet Georgia followed, including a mournful lament and the frolicsome "Nonsense Song."

They then proceeded to sing several American folk hymns, which contrasted nicely with the Russian music. Particularly beautiful was "Wondrous Love," arranged by Shaw-Parker, which included a nice duet. The most memorable, however, was a fun Sunday School hymn by Stephen Foster entitled "Don't Be Idle," which enjoined young Sunday School students to not be idle and "work for the Sunday School."

Three American spirituals rounded out the program before intermission. Though the tempos varied from slow to lively, the chorus effectively brought out the richness of the works, which included some fine solos. The audience rewarded these efforts with appreciative applause.

Lorna Cooke deVaron founded the New England Conservatory Chorus in 1947 and remains as its conductor. The chorus regularly tours the nation and the world in addition to performing at its home at the New England Conservatory in Boston.



Photo by David Elmer

Karen Lanstedt, Noel Vasquez and Stephanie Bartlett practice for chorus show Tuesday.

Candidates present goals as yell leader

Editor's note: The following platforms did not appear in The Battalion Voter's Guide Tuesday.

Cary Moore

Economics Major

Howdy Ags. My name is Cary Moore. I'm in the race for junior yell leader.

My goal as junior yell leader will be to improve relations between the Corps and the nonregs. Most Ags can see that there is too much tension between these two fine institutions.

I will strive to create unity among all Aggies.

Don't forget to vote today. Watch the Aggies Score With Moore — Vote Cary Moore, Jr. Yell.

Brent Brown

General Studies Major

I hope I have met you already, but if I have not, I want to meet you. I am Brent Brown, and I am running for Junior Yell Leader. Why should you vote for me? There are reasons. I am a third generation Aggie starting with my grandfather, Class of '25. I am a leader and a hard worker, and I want to work for and with the Twelfth Man. I am no different from you. I love and want to preserve the traditions that have been taught to me all of my life. I have pride when we sing the "Spirit of Aggieland", build bonfire, and hold muster. I will be the type of yell leader to make you proud by proving leadership, being a diligent worker, and preserving traditions. I would appreciate your vote for Brent Brown, Jr. Yell Leader, number five on the ballot.

Gig'em Aggies!

TABC gets low ratings from Padre's spring breakers

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP) — A survey of visitors during spring break gave the Texas Department of Public Safety the highest marks and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission the lowest, preliminary results show.

With 67 percent of the questionnaires tabulated, the survey showed the DPS was given the most "excellent" ratings among spring breakers and local people under 26-years-old, and adults, including winter Texans.

Professor Chris Clearman said the survey by his criminal justice students at Pan American University-Brownsville also showed that TABC agents received as many "very poor"

ratings as all other law enforcement agencies combined.

Pan American students questioned 1,000 visitors to the island over the past month and by Tuesday, 671 of the questionnaires had been tabulated, Clearman said.

Clearman said generally a law enforcement agency must make a bad impression to receive a "very poor" mark.

"If they (TABC) got as many (poor ratings) as all the rest combined, they have an image problem," said Clearman, a former law enforcement officer. "Where there's smoke, there's fire. They've either got an image problem, or they're doing something wrong."

The Pan American survey comes while tension is high between TABC agents and South Padre Island officials over the plainclothes agents' enforcement of the state's alcoholic beverage prohibition for persons under 21-years-old.

This month, TABC officials at the island have arrested more than 1,500 students for possessing or drinking alcohol under age.

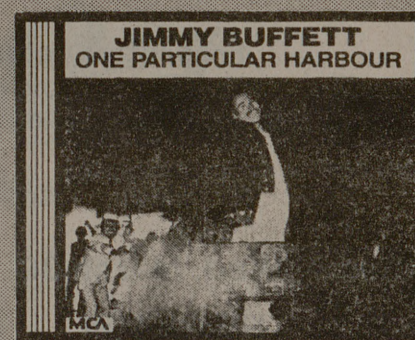
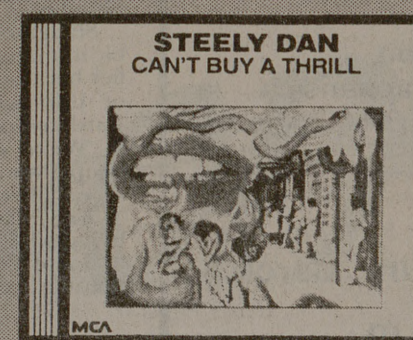
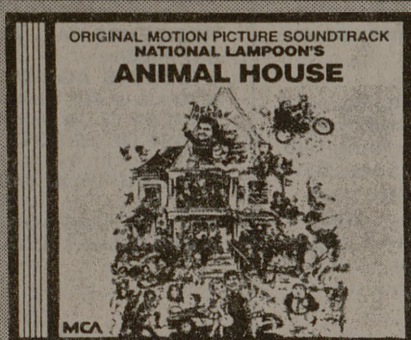
TABC Assistant District Supervisor Raul Santiago said Tuesday his officers perform a thankless job, and have helped maintain a safe atmosphere that attracts students.

Rating the DPS, Cameron County park po-

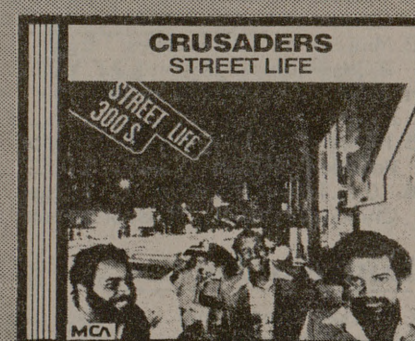
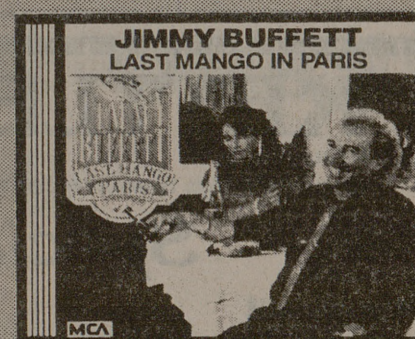
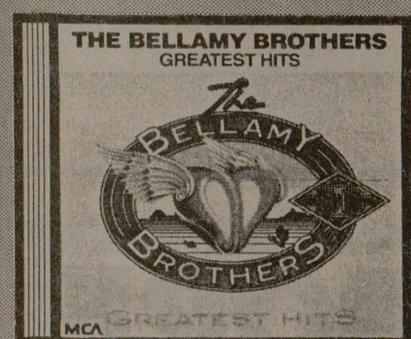
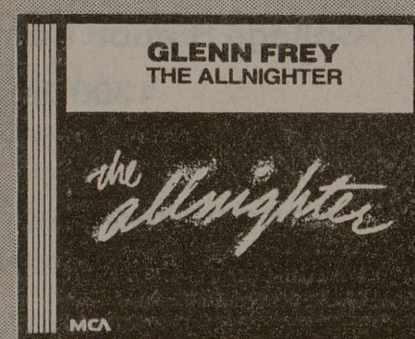
lice, South Padre Island police and TABC agents was part of a survey of island visitors.

Though total results are still awaited, Clearman said the police agency mentioned most in a negative way by older island visitors, including winter Texans, was the Los Fresnos Police Department. Los Fresnos is known as a speed trap.

In Nueces County, near Port Aransas, another popular spring break site, officials at a beach safety meeting on Monday set into motion a plan to send county constables' representatives to San Antonio to speak to high school students about beach safety.



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