New Community Chorale harmonizing for the joy of it

by Malinda Just
The Free Press

A new sound is resonating from the Tabor College Music Department this year as a new mixed chorus called the Tabor College Community Chorale takes the stage.

The Community Chorale primarily consists of Hillsboro and Marion County residents, including campus faculty and staff, although Tabor College students are also invited to participate.

“I am aware of a number of adults who are experienced singers and who enjoy singing in a choir,” said Bradley Vogel, associate professor of choral music at Tabor College. “There are very few opportunities for them to sing, and (Tabor College) would like to offer this as that opportunity.”

For the group’s first rehearsal Sept. 10, 20 people attended, ranging from ages 16 to 70, and more have expressed interest, said Vogel.

The Community Chorale was implemented for two reasons, Vogel said. First, a larger number of students want to sing than can participate in the Tabor College Concert Choir.

“(The Community Chorale) provides another opportunity for students to sing, or for students who simply want to sing in that type of deal and not with the rigors the Concert Choir has,” Vogel said.

The second reason is to meet a perceived need in the community for people who want to sing.

“The avenue of church choirs has been disappearing,” he said. “And so this offers that opportunity for people who want to sing.”

The Community Chorale will perform two concerts during the year: a Christmas concert Dec. 10 at the Hillsboro Mennonite Brethren Church, and a joint spring concert with the Tabor College Concert Choir.

“They will be good community events,” Vogel said.

“I think it’s important for a community to have arts, and to give people a continued opportunity to participate in arts, in this case performing art.”

“I think the college should be a center of cultural activity for our community,” he said.

“You look at Lawrence and Manhattan with KU and K-State, and they’re just such a central focus of the cultural life of the community.

“And even on a smaller scale, I really think.

*See Chorale, Page 3A

The women's section of the new Community Chorale rehearses its part during the first practice session Sept. 10. Twenty people from across Marion County, ranging in age from 16 to 70, turned out to sing.

Director Bradley Vogel says the group would welcome many more voices.
Chorale

(Tabor) should impact the community in that way.”

Vogel said he has high expectations for the new group, especially after the first rehearsal.

“I’m optimistic about what we’ll have,” he said. “It is a very musical group with a quite full sound. They are good musicians—good readers and musically responsive. I think they’ll have few limitations in repertoire.

“Our only limitation at this point is numbers,” he added. “The higher the numbers, the greater the range of repertoire possible.”

Registration is still open for interested individuals. The cost is $25 to cover materials. Rehearsals are every Monday evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Wohlgemuth Music Education Center rehearsal hall on campus.

“People are going to miss some things, and there will be conflicts,” Vogel said. “The main thing is people realizing they do have the time. It’s important enough and enjoyable enough that they need to make the time for it.”

Hillsboro resident Steve Vincent, a retired choral director of 43 years, is making the time to attend, and is confident Vogel’s leadership will make the group successful.

“Brad is such an outstanding conductor, I particularly wanted to be under his direction,” he said.

Vincent said he also looks forward to being involved in a group where he can sing instead of direct.

“I wanted to do something where I didn’t have to be the conductor, where I could just sing,” he said. “We’ll be doing really, really fine music that you can’t do with just every church choir because they’re more limited, so that’s going to be good.”

Because Vincent moved to Hillsboro from Southern California two months ago, he is also excited for the chance to meet new people who share his choral interests.

“I’ll get to know people,” he said. “And I’m glad people are coming from outside of Hillsboro, too.”

People came to the first rehearsal from Hillsboro, Durham, Lost Springs, Florence and Marion, Vogel said.

Kellie Wyatt lives in Lost Springs, but decided it was worth the drive. Her son Quentin, 16, also attended the rehearsal.

“Last year I was singing in Salina in a chorale there and I saw the (Community Chorale) ad in the paper and thought, ‘This would probably be a good opportunity for both Quentin and I to sing and not have to drive so far,’” she said.

Wyatt and Quentin share a love for music. Wyatt said she has been singing “since she could talk.”

“I started singing in church when I was probably 4 or 5,” she said. “My mom was the organist and music director for the church choir.”

Quentin is involved in the Centre High School choir and band and he also plays the guitar.

Wyatt said she is happy for the opportunity to sing in a choral group, and she has goals for both herself and her son.

“The biggest thing I want to gain is probably to just get out and start singing again,” she said. “It’s been so long.

“And also, for Quentin to be able to sing in a different choir and be able to learn at yet another level—different ways to sing and to blend as far as a choir is concerned—and learn to blend with different voices instead of the ones just in his choir here at Centre.”

She is confident the Community Chorale is off to a good start.

“It’s a good thing that Dr. Vogel is taking his time to do this for us and to become a community choir,” she said.

“I just hope more people will come out and join us because we’ve already got a good sound and we need some more (people).”
LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

About 170 University of Kansas students have been selected as resident assistants, scholarship hall proctors, food board managers and housing organization officers.

Among them are Emily Elizabeth Markley, daughter of Joe and Sheila Markley of Chapman and Jasmine Patrice Walthall, daughter of Edwin and Laura Walthall of Fort Riley.
UNIVERSITY
INVESTIGATING
RECORDS MAILING

By JOHN HANNA
The Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. — Records discarded at the University of Kansas were mailed anonymously to three newspapers, prompting a campus investigation Wednesday. It was the second report in two months of such a breach of students' privacy.

The records included what appeared to be graded exams, job applications, change-of-grade forms, class rosters, seating charts and copies of health insurance cards and immigration forms, according to editors at the newspapers. Some of the documents contained credit card numbers, Social Security numbers and student identification numbers, they said.

The records were mailed in Manila envelopes, with a letter in each packet. Each
letters said the papers had come from the university's math department or its recycling center. The letter's writers claimed to be former math teaching assistants or current employees of the recycling center, and they were critical of how the math department handled its records.

“Our No. 1 concern is protecting these individuals from any compounded exposure and launching an investigation,” university spokeswoman Lynn Bretz said.

Bretz also issued a statement asking news organizations that had received the documents to return them. She said doing so would protect patients' privacy and allow the university to contact students whose records were mailed.
Mock trial team formed at Bethany College for intercollegiate competition

Students at Bethany College recently formed the school's first-ever mock trial team for intercollegiate competition.

After the team registers with the American Mock Trial Association, they will receive affidavits and facts for this season's mock criminal case. Students will then learn about rules of evidence and prepare to present the case.

"They have to decide how to present the facts and develop a strategy," said Dave Admire, associate professor of criminal justice. "To do well, they'll have to think quickly and be professional."

In competition, team members will try both the plaintiff and the defense cases in a variety of rounds. Three students will act as attorneys, who must present opening and closing arguments as well as question witnesses. Three other students will serve as witnesses, who must testify statements that can be logically inferred from the case facts they are provided with.

Following each round, the team will be evaluated and awarded points based on their performance.

The team is coached by Admire and Joyce Pigge, professor of political science.

Pigge, a member of the Bethany faculty since 1970, is a pre-law advisor for Bethany students. During her time at Bethany, she has worked with more than 100 students who have gone on to law school.

Before joining the Bethany faculty in 2005, Admire served for 22 years as a district court judge in King County, WA, and was both a prosecutor and defense attorney.

According to the American Mock Trial association's website, updated in February 2007, the only other schools in Kansas with mock trial teams are the University of Kansas and Washburn University.

Many students on the Bethany team are studying criminal justice and want to be lawyers. But almost all the material they study for the mock trial will be new to them, said Admire. Criminal justice classes do not teach trial tactics, and rules of evidence usually are not studied in depth until law school.

Bethany offers a major in criminal justice and minors in criminal justice, forensic science and court services and corrections.

The team's first competition will be this winter.

Students on the team include Katie Greenup, senior from Lindsborg; Lisa Runnebaum, junior from Seneca; Angelisa Sexson, junior from Wichita; Yaphete Msuga, freshman from Dallas, Texas; Nicholas Farris, freshman from Marquette; Samara Withers, junior from Erie; Dalton Weissaar, sophomore from Burlington, CO; and Nichole Burroughs, freshman from Strasburg, CO.
University investigating unauthorized mailing of records to newspapers

The Star hadn't decided Wednesday whether it would return the documents or destroy them after its reporting was finished, editor Mark Zieman said. He also assured students that information in the records wouldn't be made public.

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Bretz also issued a statement asking news organizations that had received the documents to return them. She said doing so would protect patients' privacy and allow the university to contact students whose records were mailed. Also, she said the university needed the documents as evidence in its investigation.

In July, The University Daily Kansan, the campus newspaper, reported that documents were left in vacant offices in Wescoe Hall, which was being renovated. The documents included graded exams, student essays and schedule-changing forms. Earlier this month, university officials announced a new program to improve the protection of private information.

"Obviously the sorts of records that are in these packets are private and should have been protected," Bretz said. "Safeguarding personal information is a priority at KU."

The Kansas and the Lawrence Journal-World received their packets Tuesday, and the Kansas City Star received documents Wednesday, their editors said.

"They looked like they came straight from a filing cabinet," said Erick Schmidt, the Kansan's editor.

The Kansan planned to return what it received in the mail to the university but was keeping a single copy of each record in a locked safe. He said the newspaper needed a copy of the records for its reporting.

"We're just trying to tell a story and get the word out to people that this kind of stuff is going on," Schmidt said.

Dennis Anderson, the Journal-World's managing editor, said the newspaper would allow the university to review what it had received, but not make copies or retrieve the originals. He said the paper's attorney concluded the documents were its property; they were locked in a filing cabinet.

Later, in a story on its Web site, the Journal-World said it would destroy the documents after its reporting was finished. He said the newspaper wouldn't make any information in the documents public.

"The story's not us," Anderson said. "The biggest concern is that the documents must be taken care of."

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"These documents weren't disposed of properly originally, and we will certainly make sure they are this time," Zieman said.
Monarch Mania at Quivira wildlife refuge

HUDSON — Armed with nets, a set of keen eyes and determination, children and adults will head into the sunflower fields at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge to tag Monarch butterflies during the ninth annual Monarch Mania event on Sept 22.

Monarch migration has already begun, as millions of the bright orange and black butterflies make their way through Kansas, migrating to over-wintering roosts in the mountains of central Mexico.

The Monarch Watch tagging project was begun in 1992 by Orley Taylor, PhD, University of Kansas, as an attempt to gather more information and better understand the Monarch’s migration process.

Monarch butterflies tagged at Quivira have been recovered in El Rosario, Mexico, 1,250 miles south.

Imagene Hall has raised and released 280 butterflies from her home in Hutchinson since July 6. At 9:20 a.m., she will explain the process of raising five different species of butterflies from egg to adult.

At 9 a.m., crafts will be available for younger children at the Quivira Visitors Center. Following an explanation of tagging technique, participants will head out with a tagging leader to capture and tag Monarchs. Nets, tags and data sheets will be provided. Tagging will continue until noon.

The event is free and open to everyone. Several door prizes will be given away and light refreshments provided.

For information, contact the QNWR at 620-486-2393.
Monarch Butterflies On The Wing Monarch Butterfly Tagging Program At Quivira Refuge

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Students from 10 Kansas high schools will be honored Thursday, Sept. 27, by the University of Kansas Alumni Association and KU Endowment. A total of 54 seniors from high schools in Ellis, Rooks, Russell and Trego counties will be recognized for their academic achievements and named Kansas Honor Scholars at a 6:30 p.m. dinner program at Hays High School.

Among those being honored are Cameron Locke and Aubrey Riedel of TCHS.
More than 900 students received degrees from the University of Kansas after the 2006 summer session. Among these students was Aaron Nilhas, son of John and Vae Nilhas of WaKeeney. Aaron received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Microbiology at KU. Because KU conducts only one formal commencement ceremony each year, he will return to take part in commencement exercises in May of 2008.
ESI v smallest Kansas Regents state university

BY KAN TOPPER

Emporia State has the smallest enrollment of the six state universities, the Kansas Board of Regents said last week.

Official enrollment is 6,354, which is a decrease of 119 students from fall 2006.

The numbers were announced by the regents in a press release last week and were based on enrollment as Sept. 12, the 20th day of classes.

ESU President Michael Lane said the tally was disappointing, but not unexpected.

“We’re certainly not happy that it’s gone down, but we’ve done some analysis, and we think we have identified where the decreases have occurred and we’re developing strategies to address those in the future,” Lane said.

According to a press release by ESU Media Relations, one reason for the drop in headcount is the decrease in the number of students at Flint Hills Technical College who previously would have taken their general education requirements through ESU.

“The largest component was the Flint Hills Technical College, where students are authorized to take their general education classes now,” Lane said.

The press release stated; however, that “the number of freshman through graduate students who plan to earn an ESU degree increased by 63 from the previous fall semester.”

“We are grateful for the amount of students enrolled in the university,” said Associated Student Government President Courtneay George, junior political science and public affairs major. “It’s a lot easier for us to cater our work to the individual, compared to K-State’s 23,000 or KU’s 29,000.”

To break it down further, there was a decrease of 128 students who are residents of Kansas and an increase of nine non-resident students. Also, there was a decrease of 112 students who live on campus and a decrease of seven students who live off campus.

“There was a decrease in high school graduates in Kansas, so we

See Enrollment, Page 3.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HUNTER

Students walk to class on Thursday near Plumb, Braverman and Morse halls. As of Thursday, Emporia State is the smallest Kansas Board of Regents school in the state with the largest percentage decrease of students among all universities, with a loss of 1.8 percent of the student body.
Enrollment
Continued from Page 1

know of one factor for the drop in enrollment of students who are Kansas residents,” Lane said.

Enrollment of international students is up by 35, now hosting 372 students who are studying abroad.

“We continue to strengthen and develop our relationships with universities in China,” said ESU Vice-
President for Academic Affairs, John Schwenn in the press release.

Lane said they plan to boost enrollment by adjusting the transfer student scholarship program.

“The area we identify with the most is transfer student scholarships, which is a different program from the PAA and the qualified program,” Lane said. “We are going to look at what we can do in Kansas and with out-of-state markets, which we are specifically looking at Omaha, Neb. and somewhere in Texas.”

Overall, according to the regents press release, the state’s six universities reported a combined enrollment of 90,063 students as of the 20th day of classes. This represents the first time in Kansas history that state university enrollment has exceeded 90,000 students.