

Chancel

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE MANCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Evening of Broadway Show Music Delights Enthusiastic Audience

There's no business like show business especially when its the good, old music of Broadway. And especially when its performed by a good, old church choir.

The thunderously enthusiastic applause proved again how true that adage is when the Chancel Choir presented nearly two hours of show-stopping tunes during its *100 Years of Broadway* concert June 1.

With more than 1,200 fans watching, the choir reached new musical heights as it performed nearly 60 music numbers from the early Broadway days through current popular shows.

Accompanied by a show band organized by legendary St. Louis trumpeter Bob Ceccarini, dozens of

choir members sang solos, danced, and performed dramatic scenes from favorite musicals. The fast-paced show also featured two ensembles from the choir and three numbers from the Coventry Choir.

Presented as a fund raiser, the 100 Years of Broadway concert raised enough money to

erase a negative balance in the choir's treasury and leave about \$5,000 to begin next year.

Revenues from the concert

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Start Your Engines! We're Indy Bound

Is the motor race capital of the world, the hometown of David Letterman and the capital of Indiana ready for the Chancel Choir? Better be. Cause we're headed to Indianapolis for our biannual choir tour June 11-13.

The announcement came during Kevin's annual "state of the choir" address at the end of year party, June 7.

The choir will travel by bus to Indianapolis on Friday evening and spend Saturday and Sunday in the

Motorcity. Plans call for the choir to present a Saturday night concert and sing for church Sunday morning. Details on where those events will take place are still under development, as are details about the trip in general.

First Rehearsal Sept. 4

"Whatever we end up doing, I guarantee we'll have a good time," Kevin said. The choir tours to a nearby major city every other year.

Also on the schedule for next year is the Fall Follies talent show on Nov. 8 and a

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Broadway Concert

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totalled \$15,375. With expenses of \$3,832.90, the show netted the choir \$11,632. A 10 percent tithe totaling \$1,163 will be given to the church as required by choir policy. A complete treasurer's report appears elsewhere in this issue of the *Chancel Times*.

Highlight of the concert was a special surprise tribute for Kevin performed by the choir and an ensemble at the conclusion of the show.

Work on the Broadway concert

began with a listening and reading session in March. Auditions for the solos were conducted over several days in early May.

To prepare for the show, numerous individual rehearsal sessions were held during the weeks leading up to the concert. At times, almost every free space in the church was filled with soloists, dancers and ensembles rehearsing their part of the concert.

The show was choreographed by alto Laura Ferree with help from Diane Lawrence and Debbie Wadsworth. So skilled were the choreographers, they made respectable dancers out of the rhythmically impaired and were rumored even to have made the timid look

Broadway by the Numbers

Narrators	12
Soloists	48
Dancers	51
Broadway Songs	60
Ensembles	3
Musicians in band	7
Cheese cubes served to patrons ...	519
Meatballs served to patrons	465
Per person cost for patron food ...	\$1.65
Total concert revenue	\$15,456
Concert profits	\$11,623

like Fred Astair.

"One of the positives of this show was that it allowed so many choir people to do solos and have an opportunity to perform," one long-time choir member said.

"Everyone can't sing Mozart, but a many can sing Sondheim and this gave dozens of people in the choir the experience of singing alone in front of an audience and all of the confidence and pride that goes with that. The choir will see the benefits of that for years to come."

Look To Choir Web Site For Added Information

Wonder who that person is sitting in the front row? Missed an email about the choir party? Need a recipe for guacomole? Or want to send a get well card to a choir member, but forgot their address? All of this information is just as close as your computer.

Additions and new features are being added to the Chancel Choir's Web site each month. Recently, a complete pictorial directory of the choir showing individual photos along with contact information was posted on the site.

If you're traveling or miss or accidentally delete a Chancel Choir Email Update, they are immediately posted on the site. All email updates for the past year are archived.

More than 30 favorite choir recipes are available on the site. If you have one you'd like to share, email it to the choir webmaster. And we've added a community board for local events of interest to the choir.

All of this plus the regular stuff, photos of the Broadway Concert and Queen Coronation, and audio samples located at:

www.mumcchancelchoir.org.



August 1, 2003

Chancel Choir Officers ~ 2003-2004

Maurice Parisien	President
Jim Descher	Vice-President
Ann Garber	Secretary
Cece Spatola	Asst. Secretary
John Lemen	Treasurer
Barb Barrett, Joyce Humphrey, Carol Lembke, Gary Moser	Member Representatives
Karen Yeomans	Past President

Operations Staff

Penny Klebe, Carol Shaffer, Carol Duggin	Hospitality
Rose Carlisle	Phone Tree
Janie Walker, Charlotte Shelton	Fellowship Friends
Sandy Ford	Social Events
Jim Belval	Operations
Fran McMillian	Recognition
Melissa Larsen	Wardrobe
June Van Klaveren, Gary Ford	Publicity
Harriet Kettenhofen, Rose Carlisle, Janie Walker, Carolyn Andrews, Jo Ann Jones	Librarians

Section Managers

Cece Spatola	Soprano
Barb Farmer	Alto
Bud Kemper	Tenor
Larry Woolweaver	Bass

Kevin McBeth	Director of Music Ministries
W. Theodore Cronbaugh	Accompanist

Chancel Times Editor/Webmaster Gary Ford

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Fall Kickoff Party Set for August 23

Mark your calendar for the social event of the early fall. The Chancel Choir's annual Kickoff party is set for 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 23 at the home of Sandy Wilmoth, 710 Chancellor Heights Dr. in Manchester.

Invite a new member or a former singer to return. The party will be potluck.

Sandy's home is easy to find. From the corner of Manchester and Henry roads, go north on Henry until you reach Chancellor Heights Drive (the seventh street to the right at the end of a long wooden fence), turn right (east) and follow the street around to the left.

In case you get lost, call 636-227-3144 and we'll talk you in.



Jeanette Bosomworth, daughter of Sandy and Jim Bosomworth, received the Chancel Choir's 2003 scholarship.

Aquarium Job Is Dream Of Scholarship Winner

An internship last year at the Shedd Aquarium and Museum in Chicago was all it took to convince Jeanette Bosomworth she wanted her future to include teaching at an aquarium.

So, this fall she's headed to the University of Missouri-Columbia to study biology and begin the journey toward fulfilling her dream. She is a graduate of Parkway South.

As recipient of the Chancel Choir's 2003 scholarship, Jeanette will receive \$2,000 applied to her tuition.

Jeanette has been active in Manchester United Methodist Church throughout her life in a variety of youth, music, education and mission activities.

Five high school seniors competed for the scholarship. The selection was made by the choir's scholarship committee: Karen Yeomans, Moe Parisien, Jim Descher, Lois Hendrickson, Nancy Wilson and Kevin McBeth.

"All applicants were qualified and deeply involved in the church. It was a tough decision," Parisien said.

Holiday Party Is Moving to January

The Chancel Choir's Christmas party, long a December tradition for choir members, will be moving to January this year and Santa won't be invited.

The changes are among recommendations of the choir's holiday party task force and recently approved by Chancel Choir officers. The task force was appointed to examine holiday party options after numerous complaints were voiced following last year's Christmas party.

This year's holiday party will be held on either Friday, Jan. 9, or Saturday, Jan. 10, depending on the availability of a suitable location. The party will be moved to a West St. Louis County restaurant or hotel to better accommodate the larger number of choir members and provide a more "festive" atmosphere.

A catered dinner or appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be available. Cost of the party will be charged to those attending.

Programming for the evening will also change. The task force believes the choir has outgrown the annual white elephant gift exchange. Instead, live music will be provided either by a small group or a DJ. A theme will be selected for the event.

A move to January will make attending the party more convenient for choir members with busy December calendars and allow more options for a suitable party location.

Details on time and location of the holiday party will be announced as

soon as they are available.

Lois Hendrickson has agreed to serve as chair of the Holiday party this year. Anyone interested in helping should call her at 636-394-7536.

The holiday party task force recommending changes to the officers included Diane Lawrence, Josh Hayes, Ann Garber and Bonnie Halls.

Indy Here We Come

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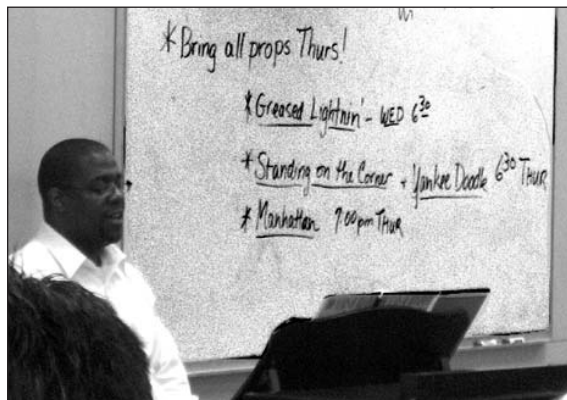
Christmas Fanfare concert featuring a brass choir.

Again this year the choir will have an opportunity to participate in the St. Louis Symphony's holiday pops with the St. Louis Metro Singers. A total of eight concerts will be presented between Thursday, Dec. 18 and Sunday, Dec. 21. A list of concert dates and times is posted on the Chancel Choir's Web site.

We'll bring spirituals to worship on Sunday, Feb. 15 as a part of Black History Month. The choir will present several spiritual arrangements of Moses Hogan. The service will include readings, as well as music.

Our spring concert remains a mystery. Kevin alluded to a big surprise and details still remain to be worked out. This has always meant "a big deal on the way" when a similar evasion has occurred in the past.

Also on the schedule is the annual choir retreat at Dittmer, Mo., Oct. 3 and 4, and Easter Sunday on April 1.



When the going gets tough, Broadway performers rehearse. As the days before the big concert dwindled to a precious few, small groups, ensembles, dancers, and other nervous performers scheduled special practice sessions with the show's choreographer or an accompanist. Here, the call is listed for the Greased Lightn', Standing on the Corner and Manhattan numbers.

100 Years of Broadway







The Chancel Choir tested new skills to the delight of more than 1,200 enthusiastic fans during the *100 Years of Broadway* concert on June 1. These photos provide a brief glance at the variety of soloists, dance numbers, ensembles and dramatic moments during the concert. Most of the photos were taken by Tim Vicente from the balcony and electronically enhanced for use in the *Chancel Times*. The complete set of the photos is available for viewing in the Member section of the choir's Web site.



Operation "G" Idea To Honor Kevin Born on Broadway

The idea to honor Kevin during the *100 Years of Broadway* concert had its origins on the real Broadway in New York.

During the Chancel Choir's trip to New York last November, soprano Barb Barrett attended a performance of the musical *Mama Mia*. One of the featured songs from the show is Thank You For The Music, the piece the choir sang for Kevin.

"I just loved that show and I knew when I heard the song that we had to do it for Kevin," Barb said. So, she turned her idea into a reality.

Mike Latimer was asked to arrange the song for the choir, a special guitarist, soloists, and singers were recruited. Members of the band were told to pretend to pray instead of play when Kevin started the exit music. In fact, all eye contact was avoided.

The music was posted in a secret file on the choir's Web site so members could download the arrangement without Kevin knowing. The whole event was referred to as Operation "G" for gratitude.

Two special, secret choir rehearsals were held in May at the Oak Brook Elementary School on Big Bend Road. And one "dress" rehearsal was conducted in the Sanctuary when no one was around.

Did we surprise Kevin? His look told the story. At first, shock and anger spread across his face when he thought the band had screwed up. But, it soon became obvious something was up.

"I was completely caught off guard. I had seen a piece of manuscript in a choir folder, but I never gave it another thought. It was amazing," Kevin said.

It was a great way to end a perfect concert and say "Thank You For the Music."



The look on Kevin's face says it all as soprano Barb Barrett delivers the surprise, top left. Bass Jim Belval accompanies the choir on guitar, top right. Singing to Kevin, from left, Cece Spatola, Barb Barrett, Rose Carlisle, Barb Farmer, Barb Vendt and Andy Belval. Mike Latimer conducts a rehearsal at the Oak Brook Elementary School and Barb Barrett explains how it will all work to tenor Barb Bommarito, in the photos above.

Choir Treasury Returns to Black

Thanks to the hard work of Chancel Choir members selling tickets to the *100 Years of Broadway* concert, the treasury now is back in the black. The books are balanced, debts to the church treasury are paid, and the choir is in the pink instead of the red.

"There may still be a couple of hundred dollars in expenses from the concert, but as it stands now we made about \$11,600 on the concert,"

John Lemen, choir treasurer, said. A tithe, or 10 percent, will be paid to the church when the final concert figure is known. Once the tithe and scholarship are paid, the treasury will be about \$5000 in the black.

The negative starting balance in the report below reflects the \$3,133 that was owed the church treasury. Going forward, separate accounts for every project, trip or other activity will be used to track funds.

Chancel Choir Treasurer's Report – July 15, 2003

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Prior Treasury Balance			(3,133.49)
Broadway Concert			
Concert ticket revenue		15,375.00	
Miscellaneous concert revenue		81.69	
Total Concert Revenue		15,456.69	
Concert Expense	3,832.90		
Net Proceeds from Concert		11,623.79	
Treasury balance following concert			8,490.30
Choir Expenses			
Scholarship	2,000.00		
Miscellaneous Expenses	218.08		
Current Treasury Balance			6,272.22
Tithe due to church	1,162.38		
Projected balance			5,109.84



Security was "tight" at the Leclède's Landing Wax Museum when the choir toured in April. About 24 members saw figures of the famous and infamous when ate a chicken dinner at Hodak's. Here alto Fran McMillian eyes a security guard frozen with intensity.

Fall Talent Show Planning Underway

Details for the MUMC Cabaret 2003: Fall Follies, the choir's one and only fund raiser for the year, are well underway. The talent show will be presented on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Casting call for acts will be Sept. 20 and 21 and there's still time for you to brush up on that talent you'd like to showcase. All members of the church family, 18 years of age and older, are encouraged to try out.

The show's production team has met during the summer and plans are being finalized. There will be plenty of opportunity for choir members to help out.

If you have questions about a potential act, the casting call, or working on the talent show, give Bill Borger, the producer, a call at 636-394-4114.



Why did the church choir cross the road? To get to the other side and back to rehearsal following a World Day of Prayer appearance May 2 at Manchester City Hall. Here, Chancel Choir musicians ponder jaywalking across Manchester Road.

What Did You Do All Summer?

Sitting by the pool keeping cool this summer? Some of your choir friends were involved in some interesting, if not unique experiences.

Iron Woman Racing. Soprano Julee Breakstone proved she has some abilities well beyond singing when she competed in a Triathlon on July 27.

Starting early in the hot, muggy morning, she completed a 300-yard swim, 9-mile bike ride and 3.4-mile run in just over an hour and half. The event was held in Ballwin, starting at the Northpoint Aquatic Center and winding through the city on hilly Ries Road.

"It wasn't about finishing first. It was the challenge," she says of her finish 230th out of 300. Athletic endeavors aren't new to her. Julee was a competition swimmer and volleyball player

during high school and college. But, this was her

first Triathlon and won't be her last. "I'm going to enter more," she says.

Nearly Drowning. Four choir divas spent a weekend in July white water rafting on the Ocoee River near Chattanooga, Tenn. It was a girls getaway, Thelma and Louise style, for Jackie Smith, Barb Barrett, Mary Dean and Cece Spatola.

The excitement turned to fear for Barb when she flew out of the raft into the swirling water on the same river run used for the 1996 Olympic Whitewater competition. "It was very scary. I became disoriented and couldn't find the way up," she recalls. Thirty seconds turned into an eternity until a guide pulled her to safety. "I was beginning to see the light," Barb jokes.

The swirling waters proved too intense for Cece who spent the time reading a good book instead.

Shipyard Commissioning. It's not every day a new Navy aircraft carrier is put in service. And it's not every day you get invited to the official commissioning ceremony. But, Wanda and Dan Oldani did and stood

on the deck of the \$4.5 billion nuclear carrier USS Ronald Reagan as it was commissioned on July 12 in the New Port News Shipyard at Norfolk, Va.

"It was fantastic. We got to see Vice President Chaney," Wanda said.

Book Transferring. It's a tradition among librarians to move the last books from an old to a new library by hand. So, just before the new five-story library at Webster University was opened on July 1, the last 200 books were passed hand-to-hand along a line of 650 people snaking across the campus.

That line included Gary and Sandy Ford. He teaches at Webster and was assigned to be the "relay

guy" as the books were taken across Lockwood Avenue in a grocery cart.





World Day of Prayer was observed with a special Thursday evening ceremony in front of the Manchester, Mo. City Hall on May 2. About 50 members of the Chancel Choir joined a few area residents to sing hymns and pray.

Task Force Asks for Program Changes As Retreat Returns to Dittmer Oct. 3-4

It's back to Dittmer, Mo. for the Annual Chancel Choir retreat this year scheduled for Oct. 3 and 4. The event will be held for the second year at the Revive Us Again Conference Center.

Last year the choir literally christened the new conference center as carpenters and painters moved out just as retreat staff moved in.

This year some changes are in store for the retreat agenda. A task force appointed by choir officers last year has made recommendations for modifying the retreat programming.

The task force reviewed a number of written suggestions and comments following last year's retreat and made the following recommendations:

- Better written communications and information about the retreat
- Reduce the number of group games played
- Revise the schedule so there is more singing and less down time
- Improve quality and quantity of food
- Look for a bigger bonfire this

year. The bonfire was a popular event last year, but many thought it too short. This year plans call for a big bonfire with organized singing, marshmallow roasting and other planned activities.

According to task force members, clarification will be made on registration and meal purchases this year so that shortages of food do not occur.

The retreat task force will meet again in August to finalize recommendations. Members of the task force are: Larry Shepard, Karen Yeomans, Mike Latimer, Larry Dietzel, Jim Descher and Kevin McBeth.

The retreat is held each year during the first or second weekend in October. It is designed as a time of fellowship and rehearsal, introducing the choir to music for the fall and Christmas holidays.

The retreat has been held in a number of locations over the years including a church camp at Arcadia, Mo., Todd Hall in Columbia, Ill., the Mercy Center in Town and Country, and at the church.

Chancel President

By Moe Parisien

It is with pleasure and privilege that I have this opportunity to address you, the members of our Chancel Choir family. Some of you I've known for years (too many to count...I'm showing my age.), and others I'm just getting to know. However, no matter how long or short our relationship, we're all a family now and I look forward to the year ahead as your president with great anticipation. (Joy on the other hand is bound by her solemn oath to do absolutely nothing on behalf of the choir.)

We are just beginning to demonstrate the tremendous talent that each and everyone brings to our choir. Who would have thought that Buddy Rains would ever do a solo? (And Buddy, you did a great job.). Kevin has a number of opportunities for this choir to bring its very best foot forward in the coming season, and I for one, look forward to being a part of this fantastic ministry.

Our accomplishments have been many in this past year and I'd like to take just a few lines to reflect on those achievements:

- As you'll read in the pages of this newsletter, we've successfully brought our treasury back in the black thanks to the success of the 100 Years of Broadway.

- Once again we've provided a very deserving high school senior (Jeanette Bosomworth) with a \$2,000 scholarship to help her in continuing education. I only wish that we were able to do more for more of our youth.

And just as important:

- Provided our Chancel Choir family with a network of support and friendship for those members in times of celebration, as well as, times of need.

In closing, I want to thank Karen Yeomans and the Choir Officers of 2002-2003 for their leadership and contributions to the organization. I look forward to getting back in the swing of singing and making great music together for our congregation, as well as those outside of our congregation that are touched by our outreach efforts. And for those that are moving on, I wish Jennifer and Jeff Cadwell and Joe Kingsbury all the best in your journeys. To all the rest of you, see you at our kick-off party at Sandy Wilmouth's.

Here's to a great year ahead!

Moe

Notes

Chancel

THAT GUY. Erstwhile real estate tycoons are known for the company they keep. Realtor **Larry Dietzel** recently sent church friends to his favorite restaurant. "Use my name," he boasted, predicting a special table would be assigned. When those immortal words, "Larry Dietzel sent us," were spoken, the reply was swift, "Who?" Then a quick revelation, "Oh, you mean Lobster Larry. Sure we know him, he always orders the same thing."



During a recent security sweep of all choir folders, librarians took this photo into custody. No report on whose folder it was removed from.

regularly misted the mallard. Idle time can be a precious thing.

TWO MEN AND A WHAT? Movers were busy this summer relocating choir members with itchy feet. **Julie Kramer** ankled her smart Big Bend condo for a small mansion in tony Wildwood. **Richard** and **Charlotte Shelton** fled Chesterfield and their nearby neighbor, **Janie Walker**, for the slower life of Fenton. **Josh Hayes** is settled into his new digs in Chesterfield after finding life on Elm Avenue in Webster Groves a bit too taxing. **Joyce Lang** has found a new place to call home, info still to come.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Turn to page 12 of that prestigious journal *HBU News* and you'll find a report on the activities, achievements and whereabouts of **Kevin McBeth**, BM class of '85 at Houston Baptist University. A quick read reveals: "Even though McBeth had been doing the 'church music thing' since he was 15 years old, he never considered it as something he could do as a career. 'I thought I would go into musical theater.'" And then there's objective journalism, Texas style:

"With a church membership of 3,600, UMC Manchester may not be large by Texas standards, but it boasts a music program consisting of five choirs and approximately 500 members." Alto **Karen Yeomans** is also a HBU grad.

GREAT MINDS. Go figure. Music contractor **Bob Ceccarini** and his bid band played the same *100 Years of Broadway* concert at St. Joseph's Academy in St. Louis the weekend before ours. But that's only part of the coincidence. They also sang "Thank You For The Music" to their conductor. But he says we did a much better job.

JACKET ANYONE? The **Gnaegys** and **Wadsworths** spent July 4th watching fireworks while shivering on a sky slope near Steamboat Springs, Colo. No shivering here.

TOUR DE TAHOE. Lake Tahoe means vacation for most, but **Mary Schmitz** went for a 100-mile charity bicycle ride there and raised \$10,000 for the Leukemia Society.

DIVE CAPTAIN. Baritone **Jim Descher** and family took a submarine excursion 125 feet below the surface of the Caribbean near Cozumel. Perhaps avoiding detection?

BARBARIANS AT THE MOTE. A roving band of marauding fleas recently attacked the royal ankles of Chancel Choir Queen **Joy Parisien** as she moved about the grounds of her Castle. With no domestic animals on the premises, the Queen appealed to Choir President **Moe Parisien** for a solution. An administrative investigation revealed that an adult and two baby raccoons had moved, with fleas aboard, under a Castle porch. Trapping ensued and the masked marauders were transported to another royal venue – a park called Queeny.

FIXING KIDS. On a July medical mission in Iquitos, Peru, soprano **JoAnn Jones'** orthopedic surgeon husband, Bruce, had spent all day in surgery and went to the hotel dining room for dinner where one man did all the cooking, serving and cleaning up. It was some of the best food he had ever eaten and he



I Love You Babe? Tenor Mike Campbell sings a duet as Sonny with a friendly female impersonator on a recent cruise. Mike is on the left in the photo.

thanked the man. "I'm glad it was satisfactory, because you will be operating on my little girl tomorrow." A total of 89 operations were performed during the five-day mission, mostly on children living in the nearby jungle.

SCOUTING TRIP. **Fran McMillian** and husband Mac will take their annual trek to Indianapolis for the Brickyard 400 NASCAR race later this summer. She could scout the sights for next year's choir tour.

SOME COCONUTS. Some people go to Hawaii for the coconuts and then some go for the fruit. Check a recent issue of *West Newsmagazine* and you'll find alto **Mary Lou Adams** mailing a coconut from Hawaii. Seems she's a volunteer at Barretts Elementary School and decided to mail a coconut to the third grade students there. The post office in Molokai cheerfully weighed and stamped the fruit.

LONG IN THE TOOTH. When Sandy and **Gary Ford** compared receipts with their guests at the Old Country Buffet recently they wondered why their meals were cheaper. A gasp arose when they discovered the 20-something cashier thought they were senior citizens.

WEDDING SINGER, ANYONE? When the pastor of a church in South County heard the Broadway Concert recording recently, he told **JoAnn Jones** he wanted to hire one of the soloists as a wedding singer at his church. Worked for Adam Sandler.

OH LAURA. More than 60 enthusiastic singers attended the MUNY performance of *Godspell* on July 26. If word on the street is true, we'd better begin rehearsal soon for an attempted performance of the show on our Chancel any time soon.

OVER ACHIEVERS ANONYMOUS. After over achievers complained, there's added work in the cards for the retreat this year. One bass says he doesn't mind the work, but there'd better be a big crowd remaining in Dittmer at 4 p.m. on Saturday.



The Royal ankles were attacked by masked marauders.