PSU Choir plans free concert

By Vincent Dangolovich Staff Writer VWD5006@psu.edu

Penn State Harrisburg's Capital Campus Choir will hold its free, annual holiday concert, entitled "Faiths of Our Fathers," it is set for Dec. 8 at 5:15 p.m. in the Morrison Art Gallery of the PSH library.

The "Cantible" of Hershey High School will also perform. Refreshments will be served at a small reception to follow.

Music selections from the past six centuries will feature Christian, Hebraic, and secular holiday arrangements. The mixture of religious and secular traditions should appeal to all audiences of the Middletown area.

"I like attending holiday concerts...because the sound in the air is simply that of the singing and not the hustle and bustle that you find," said choir director O. David Deitz. "And this is a time (when) the traditions

crank out the big works...you're less likely to hear at other times of the year."

At this concert Mendelssohn compositions and Christmas carols would share an evening with a humorous song about Noah.

Joining Prof. Deitz and the CCC will be piano accompanist and fellow PSH instructor Dr. Robert Lau. The 27 voices of the choir will feature solos from Allan Saw, Josh Berger, Sally Sutton and Nicholette Black.

With 40 years of choir experience, Deitz makes a formidable statement concerning his current students.

"They're making a huge commitment to making this choir an exceptional group," says Deitz of his students. "The concert will be worthy for people to hear."

Due to limited seating, early arrival is strongly urged for the concert. Come celebrate the end of a semester and the start of a joyous holiday season with the Capital Campus Choir.

SGA Update

Throughout the fall 2009 semester the Student Government Association has made great strides toward its goals of reform and redemption with the student body. The new constitution distributes power more evenly among members of the SGA as well as puts new requirements keeping records easily accessible to students. Most importantly, the new process for amendments directly involves students by requiring approval from the student body before any changes can be made.

The SGA has also made sure clubs received tens of thousands of dollars for events around campus. President Thomas Brown has made it clear that simply funding other clubs' events is not enough and that SGA members should also be actively planning campus events to set an example for other clubs on campus. In response to this, SGA senators have put together numerous open forums to directly communicate with the students as well as a successful movie night in October; an event that many

members hope will become a regular feature on campus.

Next semester will offer an opportunity to continue this work and improve upon the progress made this semester. President Thomas Brown, Vice President Micah Victoria and the entire SGA hope everyone has a restful winter break and we look forward to seeing you in the spring!

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Dance for 4 Diamonds

The Penn State Harrisburg All-Nighter, PAN, is an event designed to help raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund. It is an 18-hour dance marathon in which any students will dance all night in the Student Center at the Capital Union Building.

Throughout the evening, there will be many events to test students' endurance, knowledge

and strength, and you may even win some great prizes. Any Penn State Student can participate and we encourage everyone to take a part of the event. If you want to participate in the event, you must raise \$30 in donations to go towards our THON total. THON is Penn State's largest run student philanthropy event, which helps pay for all medical

costs of children with cancer at the Hershey Medical Center.

PAN will begin on Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. and continue until Dec. 5 at 12 p.m. Those interested should contact Cody Page at cap5183@ psu.edu for more information. Closer to the event, a sign up station will be established in Olmstead so you can sign up for the event.

Cleveland searches for potential victims

By THOMAS J. SHEERAN
AP REPORTER

Now that most of the bodies found at the home of a suspected serial killer have been identified, Cleveland is turning its attention to the living — to any women who might be reluctant to come forward after encounters with a man now charged with murder and rape.

The nonprofit Cleveland Rape Crisis Center has set up a hot line in hopes of hearing from any surviving victims of Anthony Sowell, who lived among the remains of at least 11 people, all black women, most of them disadvantaged, stashed around his house and yard.

Women who might have been attacked by Sowell need to hear that "it wasn't their fault that we were in the midst of a maniac, and it's just not their fault," was the message of Tammy Davis, 44, who lives two blocks away from Sowell's house.

Authorities have indicated

they're searching around places where Sowell, a 50-year-old former Marine, previously lived for any evidence of earlier crimes. At least three women have come forward alleging that Sowell attacked them.

As of now, Sowell is charged with five counts of aggravated murder and, separately, two counts of rape in a Sept. 22 attack, and is jailed on \$5 million bond.

Advocates fear that sensitivities including shame, checkered backgrounds and mistrust on the part of the women he tended to befriend might make it tricky to learn of more victims. In Sowell's neighborhood, some people said Tuesday that community and family attitudes toward so-called "throwaway" street addicts must change to make them feel comfortable reporting a rape.

Davis said she senses a change as the saga has unfolded — 10 bodies and a skull found at the Sowell home, most of the victims strangled, living alone or homeless, dealing with drug or alcohol addictions.

It soon emerged that a prosecutor declined to file charges after a woman fled Sowell's home last December, bleeding and injured, because she wasn't considered credible. Police argued that they handled the case properly and that it was up to the prosecutor whether to press charges. After the bodies were found, many people came forward, concerned that their long-missing but troubled loved ones might be among the dead—and some of them were right.

Another woman, 43-year-old Tanja Doss, told The Associated Press two weeks ago that she was attacked by Sowell in April at his home and escaped the next morning. She said she didn't tell police because she felt her past conviction on a drug charge made it unlikely they would take her seriously.

The center held a community forum on sexual assault last week in Sowell's neighborhood, and clergy members and elected officials have encouraged victims to come forward.

Cleveland police do not have

any specific initiative to identify more possible Sowell rape victims, Lt. Thomas Stacho said. Chief Michael McGrath has addressed community gatherings to stress that any victim will get police help, no matter what their personal history.

Margaret Kanellis, who handles rape cases in Akron for the Summit County prosecutor, said rapes can be reported in nontraditional ways, including by a doctor or mental health counselor who treats the woman, by a clergy member, or through a support group.

Those avenues can be less traumatic than walking into a police station to report a rape, she said. "Lots of times we see people being convinced through other ways rather than right after it happens, we just walk into the police station," Kanellis said.

Perhaps 80 percent of rape victims never report it, in part out of shame, and the backgrounds of Sowell's alleged victims left them vulnerable because many had lost contact with families, according

to Elizabeth Fokes-El, a social worker who visited the suspect's street on Tuesday to see a growing memorial of stuffed animals and mementoes for both the victims and people who remain missing.

Victims might come forward if they feel they won't be seen as worthless, she said. People "need to let her know that she's worthy," Fokes-El said. "She needs to know she's OK, that she didn't deserve to be raped."

Sherri Smith, who works with churches in the Sowell neighborhood and has encouraged rape victims to seek help, said some might be hesitant for fear of being seen as "a certain profile of the women" that he allegedly targeted.

"In our community, a lot of times it's best to just keep quiet and maybe it will go away. That's sometimes the thought: embarrassment, shame, all of that," she said.

Those barriers to reporting rape mean "there's a dire need to have multiple routes" for victims to use to get help, Smith said.