

Singers wow audience with soulful performance

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a historical fashion, beginning with the original tribal songs of Africa and progressing to the contemporary works of Belafonte and George Gershwin's opera, "Porgy and Bess."

Scott Warfield, a Wesleyan professor of music history, also commended the group on its diversity of selections.

"I think what they did was the great amalgam of the American musical experience ... it's all right there, from the early beginnings to Gershwin."

Warfield said the selection from Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" especially impressed him as an unusual work to be sung by a gospel group. Gershwin, a Russian-Jewish immigrant, wrote the opera in Italian style,

and had it sung in English using African-American dialect and accents.

"Now that's diversity," Warfield said.

Following the performance, the group received a standing ovation and performed an encore rendition of "Dry Bones," to the applauding crowd.

The group then spent the rest of the day instructing and critiquing area high school choirs before a two-hour concert starting at 7 p.m. at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln.

"I think that if there is one thing we should take away from this, it should be the experience of black music and musicians, and the diversity that they offer all of us," Sewright said.

Conference-turned-circus yields nebulous answers

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across the nation.

"We will shortly be announcing a call," David Hibler said, "not just on this campus, but on campuses nationwide for rap-ins to stop the war, which hasn't started yet."

Jordan Hibler said if people continue to read his father's e-mail, they will further understand what he is trying to accomplish.

"It all works to a certain point," he said. "Basically, if you keep reading the e-mail, you'll see the point."

Outside of the so-called press conference, some members of the university community spoke about David Hibler, his e-mail and the spectacle in the administration building.

UNL Police Chief Ken Cauble said despite the size of the crowd outside the chancellor's office, Bushing kept his cool and was able to keep what could have been a violent situation under control.

Cauble said Bushing called for backup when the crowd moved into the hallway, blocking traffic, although the extra officers never entered the building. Zawabi said, "We didn't come here to have a concert or a circus. We came to get answers. We wanted to know what his

intent was and see how we could make sure this didn't happen in the future, and we didn't get anywhere — we didn't get any answers."

Afrikan People's Union President Donny White said David Hibler made a "mockery" of the conference.

"Really," White said, "I thought it was a show, and I was kind of prepared for it because I'd heard that this teacher is rather eccentric."

Sophomore Eddie Brown agreed. "It looks very childish and very ignorant on his part, and it seemed like a big game they were playing."

But Jordan Hibler said his father was simply misunderstood.

"(David) tried to tell a story, and now they want to nail him to a wall," he said. "And it's sad because the man is not racist. It's a real big misunderstanding."

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said it was unfortunate David Hibler was drawing so much attention.

"The statements and behavior of David Hibler should not be interpreted by anyone as reflective of the core values and sentiments of the university community," Griesen said.

"I hope that everyone who reads or hears about his antics will dismiss them as the abhorrent behavior of a

single faculty member."

Patrick Nickoletti, co-chairman for the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of People of Color, said the incident was disappointing, proving the campus had not progressed in improving its racial climate.

"In the wake of the King Day celebration, you would hope for a new day on this campus," he said.

"But what this incident shows is that we have a lot of people on this campus for whom it's business as usual. And we'll see if this campus takes this opportunity to step towards the future or whether we'll just accept it as business as usual."

■ Several campus groups also have issued statements speaking against aspects of David Hibler's actions. They include: the Afrikan People's Union, the UNL Faculty Townhall for Diversity Concerns, the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of People of Color and the Women's Studies faculty.

■ The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska announced it would hold an open forum to discuss David Hibler's situation. The forum is tentatively scheduled for Monday at 4 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

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World Spotlight

U.S. crew under scrutiny after accident

CAVALESE, Italy (AP) — Italian military leaders and prosecutors said Thursday a Marine jet was off course when it swooped down into a ski resort and sliced a gondola cable, sending 20 people to their deaths.

They accused the U.S. crew of hiding a flight recorder from investigators.

The region's top Marine officer said the pilot was on course, but the U.S. military said that he had been flying the route for the first time.

Villagers, schoolchildren, official delegations and NATO's southern Europe air commander attended a memorial service 100 yards from the gondola station.

The mayor of Cavalese, a resort of 3,600 in the Dolomites Mountains, declared Thursday a day of mourning.

Residents also have claimed that their complaints about the ground-hugging U.S. military flights were ignored.

All 20 people aboard the gondola died Tuesday when the Marine EA-6B Prowler flew through the valley just above the treetops, slicing the cable about 300 feet above the ground.

In Rome, Defense Minister Beniamino Andreatta told a joint session of Parliament, and later, the defense commissions of both chambers, that the jet flew under the cable at this Alpine resort. He contended it was as many as six miles off its assigned course.

"There would not have been any danger had the plane kept to the rules," Andreatta said. "What hap-

pened is incomprehensible."

Brig. Gen. Guy Vanderlinden, the top-ranking Marine in the region, said preliminary information indicated the pilot was on course.

Italian air force Gen. Mario Patone insisted Italy could prove its contention with "ample map documentation and details of the route and of the altitudes flown."

"I confirm yet again that the aircraft indeed deviated" from its course, Patone told reporters.

U.S. authorities indicated the victims' families would receive \$100,000 in compensation, the Italian news agency ANSA reported.

Gen. Richard C. Bethurem, commander of NATO air operations in southern Europe, said the United States and Italy were cooperating in investigating the tragedy.

"It's our wish that this investigation comes to a quick ending so that the healing process can begin."

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