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IMMEDIATELY

sale/jp
3-8-74
local + cs +29TH ANNUAL MENDELSSOHN CLUB CONCERT
IS THIS SUNDAY AT UNIVERSITY

MISSOULA--

Songs by guest soloist Claudia Fahey and more than a dozen selections by the 34 men comprising the Missoula Mendelssohn Club will be highlights of the club's 29th annual concert at 8:15 p.m. Sunday (March 10) in the University of Montana Theater.

The all-men's chorus, which this season is under the direction of Donald A. Carey, an assistant professor of music at UM, will be accompanied by pianist Judson L. Billings, a senior in music at the University. Billings is son of Mr. and Mrs. John G. Billings, 2923 Valley View Drive, Billings.

Garrett Wolverton, Missoula, who has performed with the chorus several seasons, also will be a soloist Sunday.

The concert will be the highlight of some 50 hours of vocal rehearsals by the men, who represent many walks of life and who join the Mendelssohn organization for the pleasure of singing.

Mendelssohn membership totaled 20 at the beginning of the group's 29th season last fall, but the membership has since swelled to 34 due largely to the efforts of Elmer Barrett, Missoula, who encouraged many of the club's former members to return for the concert rehearsals. Barrett, one of the 13 men who formed the club in 1945, is the only one of that 13 singing with the group.

Works to be included in Sunday's program are "The Testament of Freedom," "Try to Remember," "All Through the Night," "Aura Lee," "Seeing Nellie Home," "You'll Never Walk Alone," "It's A Grand Night for Singing," "Go Down Moses" and "Old Chisholm Trail."

Commenting on his experiences as first-year director of the Mendelssohn Club, Carey said: "It is a delight to work with people such as the Mendelssohn Club members who are such dedicated amateurs. Several of our members drive a total of about a hundred miles round trip from the Drummond area for our weekly rehearsals. It is that type of dedication which makes directing the club particularly pleasant."

About 35 men participated in the Mendelssohn Club's first concert in the spring of 1946. The charter members still in the group include Barrett, Carroll E. Miller, David A. Rusk, Alfredo Cipolato and William R. Scott.

Dr. Joseph A. Mussulman, a UM music professor, directed the club for 10 years before retiring from the directorship last year.

Fahey is a former Miss North Dakota and she was a contestant in the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City. A music student at North Dakota State University, she appeared on stage and in television shows and traveled extensively with a singing group from station WDAY-TV, Fargo, N.D.

Since coming to the Garden City with her husband and two sons, Fahey has sung for many local groups, churches, libraries and rest homes. She has been featured during several Bonner Park concerts with the Missoula City Band.

Tickets to Sunday's concert, which are \$2 for adults and \$1 for students, will be available at the UT ticket office before the show.

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