By Megan Quinlan
Staff Writer

University Theatre’s Macbeth sells out

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THE PINE NEEDLE
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AROUND THE CAMPUS
11A

By Wade Allen
Managing Editor

On Dec. 9 at 8 p.m., legendary vocal group The Lettermen will appear at the Givens Performing Arts Center as part of the Nostalgia Concert Series.

Who they are
Some people may not have a grasp on who exactly The Lettermen are and were.

“We’re excited to have The Lettermen coming,” Givens Performing Arts Center Director Patricia Fields said. “At first, we could not find a date for them to come. Then, we found one and it was near Christmas,” Fields added.

The Lettermen were formed in the late 1950s by three men who all had a dream.

Trademark sweaters
The group acquired its name after the famous letter sweaters worn in the 1950s.

Living legend
Tony Butala, a young man from Sharon, Penn., was one of the founding members of the group.

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“The set was really authentic. I was impressed,” sophomore Melanie Staley said.

The lead roles were:
• Ryan Kelly as Macbeth
• Charlotte Cassidy as Lady Macbeth
• Elisha Lawson as Banquo
• Alan Parsons as Malcolm
• Wayne Malick as Macduff
• Claire Bohannon as Lady Macduff

The actors worked hard and had fun performing on stage.

“This was, by far, the most fun I have had acting in a play,” witch number two Emily Rasdorf said. “Hansen proved to be a great showman. He has a grasp on who the audience is and what they like.”

The audience had only seen two other productions of Macbeth, both in high school. “This was so much easier to understand when it is not so intimidating to read. But it is much easier to understand when it is not on stage,” Hansen said.

Fame and Museum and of the Vocal Group Hall of Fame and Museum
Butala is the founder of the Vocal Group Hall of Fame and Museum and spends most of his time overseeing events that occur there.

Current members
The legendary Butala is accompanied by Dossman Tso and Mark Preston and together they form The Lettermen. Butala, still performing with the group, is a star himself that is widely regarded as one of the most famous singing artists of all time.

“Many of their songs became staples in the 1960s music era and are still played on the radio all over the world.”

A great show
According to Fields, members of the audience are in for a real treat.

“You will hear the standards as well as Christmas songs,” Fields said.

Tickets range from $26 to $12 for the general public, $15 for faculty and staff and $5 for UNCP students.

For more information, contact the Givens Performing Arts Center box office at 910-521-6361.

The Lettermen, Mark Preston, Dossman Tso and founding member Tony Butala, will be appearing at the Givens Performing Arts Center box office at 910-521-6361.

The Three Witches played by Emily Rasdorf, left, Jackie Banks and Charlotte Cassidy, are both veteran actors in theatre productions.

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Macbeth, played by Ryan Kelly, left, and Lady Macbeth, played by Charlotte Cassidy, are both veteran actors in theatre productions.

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