

Local men place first at world chorus contest

Several area men are among a 160-member a cappella chorus that won first-place honors recently in a competition in Louisville, Ky.

The Ambassadors of Harmony of St. Charles, Mo., is the 2004 International Chorus Champion after placing first in the Society for the Preservation & Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America's (SPEBSQSA) international chorus contest.

Area members of the chorus who participated in the competition were Claus Bacher, Mark Scheffler, Pat Haven, Robert Walbert and George Lambert all of Springfield, Richard Falzone of Rochester, and Michael Drake and

Larry Drake of Elkhart.

The Ambassadors competed against a field of 22 choruses from around the world.

Under the direction of Jim Henry, they sang two songs arranged by David Wright, associate director — "I Have Dreamed" and "The New Ashmolean Marching Society and Students' Conservatory Band."

The Ambassadors of Harmony perform a variety of music, including jazz, pop, gospel and barber-shop.

The St. Charles Chapter was formed in 1963 by 26 men in St. Charles, Mo., and affiliated with SPEBSQSA in 1964.
