

# Celebrate the 'Diamond Anniversary' of Songfest, Saturday

By Boyce Swift  
For the IC

Songfest, one of UT's longest standing traditions, will celebrate its 75th annual competition this Saturday at 5 p.m. in Savage Arena.

"Rocket Rewind: Songfest Diamond Anniversary" is the theme for this year's competition, which is sponsored by Blue Key National Honor Fraternity and Mortar Board National Honor Society.

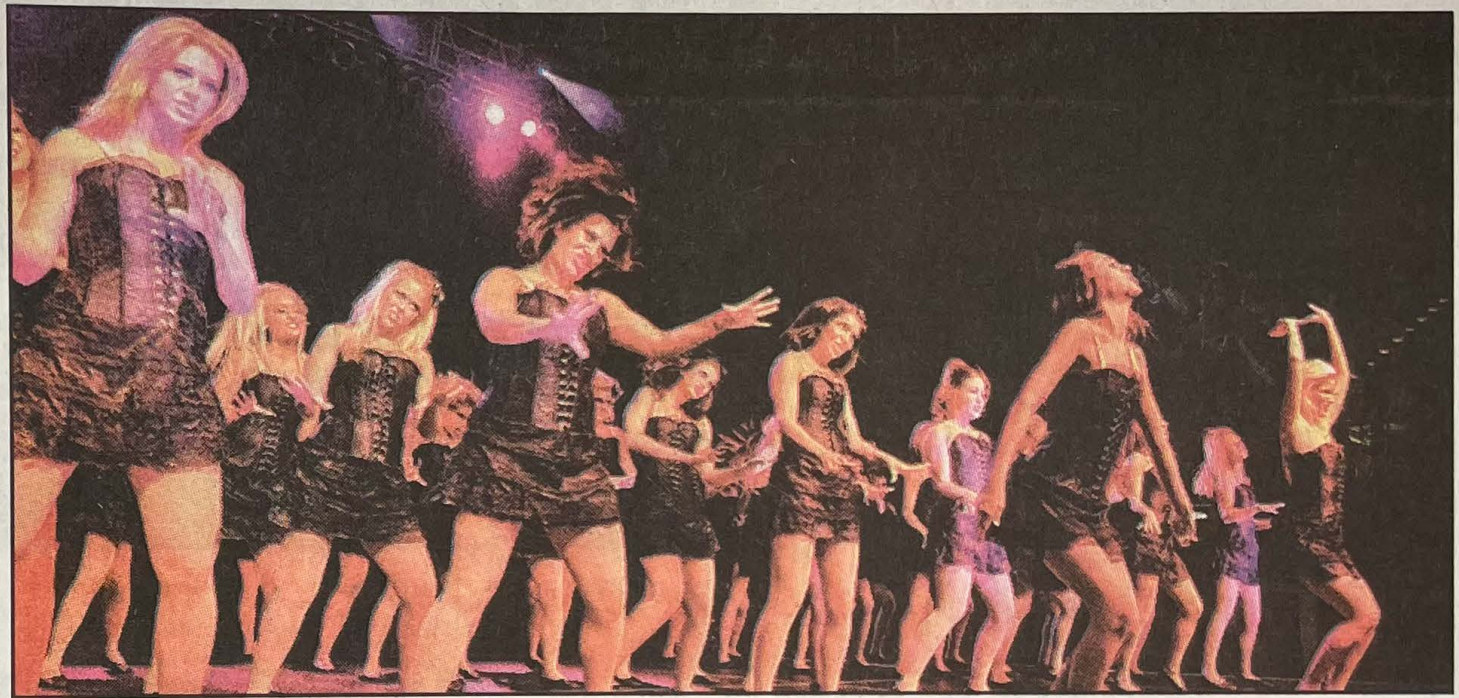
Guests can expect a night of song and dance as roughly 25 student organizations take the stage and compete.

The event rounds up about 3,000 audience members, including friends and family of participating organization members, UT alumni and members of the community.

"I love to see the campus and community come out to support the hard work these organizations put in," said Paul Webb, co-director and emcee of this year's Songfest. "It's one of those things everyone looks forward to."

Webb said it has a history and there is no need for an extensive amount of advertising, people just know it is coming up.

Webb said he participated in



File photo Nick Kneer/ IC

The theme of the 75th Annual Songfest is "Rocket Rewind: Songfest Diamond Anniversary." It will be held on Saturday at 5 p.m. in Savage Arena. Last year Delta Delta Delta won first place in the women's competition.

Songfest when he was a freshman and loved getting on stage in front of thousands of people, which is one of the reasons why he got involved with directing the event.

Last year, in their first Songfest appearance, Campus Crusade for Christ won first place in the coed division and the organization is participating again this year.

"[Last year,] my experience

was really great," said Sarah Lusenhop, a senior majoring in English and a life-group leader in Cru. "It was the first year Cru was in it and we definitely learned a lot."

Songfest competition is divided into three divisions — men, women and coed and is judged by six judges.

This year's adjudicators include Chuck Ealey, former UT quarterback and alumni,

Christopher Ankney, UT new media specialist, Sammy Spann, executive director for the Center for International Studies and Programs, Cornel Gabara, assistant professor and head of acting theatre in the theatre department, Esther Fabian, associate vice president of branding, and Gabrielle Vitellio, a federal judge with