A RARE MUSICAL EVENT

Page 10

Storm Closes Campus

Yet another rainstorm hit San Diego County closing Cal State San Marcos

Page 2
Major fee increase coming soon

The cost for a university education will increase by $4500 next fall

KATHY COMBS/CONTRIBUTING WRITER

College graduates have become the latest target for fee hikes at California State Universities with an increase that could shoot as high as $4,500.

Beginning this fall, graduates who have a bachelor’s degree will be required to pay a “differential fee,” $150 more per unit than non-graduates. The fee would be added to CSU’s standard $1,300 annual fee.

“The additional fee is detrimental to California,” warned President Dr. Bill Stacy. “It’s not good public policy.”

Stacy added that many of the students returning to CSU are displaced workers moving to another career.

People with degrees are the “best equipped to make the change to a new profession,” he said. “These students will be penalized by ‘double dipping’ tuition.”

The increase comes on the heels of a $50 per unit increase already in place at California Community Colleges. Officials at Palomar College reported a 53 percent drop in the number of college graduates enrolled this spring.

According to Stacy, the real pinch will be felt by students planning to become teachers and nurses. This adds to the impact forecasted by a report called “Economic Impact of the CSU on the California Economy,” written by Robert Girling of Sonoma State University, Sherry Keith of San Francisco State University and George Goldman at the University of California, Berkeley.

The report suggests that budget cuts will result in a 7 percent to 12 percent decrease in the number of degrees granted each year by the 20 CSU campuses for the next nine years. Teaching is likely to suffer because CSU trains nearly 75 percent of California’s public school teachers, the report said.

Stacy closes campus after power outage

Roman S. Koenig/Editor-in-Chief

Cal State University San Marcos President Dr. Bill Stacy shut down the campus Feb. 18 after yet another major storm pummeled the county, leaving the campus without power.

According to Stacy, San Diego Gas & Electric crews were called to the area after a power outage along Barham Drive cut electricity to the university.

Stacy said that despite the inconvenience of the outage, it gave the university the opportunity to test its back-up electricity generator.

“We have an emergency generator and back-up power on campus, and it was the first time we had occasion to turn it on — and it failed,” said Stacy.

Stacy said he was told that power would not be restored for five or six hours after SDG&E crews made it to the scene, so he cancelled classes for the day since many rooms without windows and rooms with computers could not be used. He said that in hindsight, however, this was a mistake.

He said “the president’s inexperience with the power going off in California” led to the decision to close the campus, “which was a big mistake to do.”

Stacy explained that power was restored considerably earlier than the original time estimate, and late afternoon and evening classes could have been held.

He said that one professor who was at a conference during the day in Los Angeles rushed back down in driving rain to meet her class only to find the campus closed.

“They told us it would be two to three hours before they could examine the problem, and another five or six hours to repair. Well, they were able to repair it within two hours,” said Stacy.

The president said that although closing the campus may not have been the best idea, it was necessary for safety since it was impossible to work in the darkened conditions.

Stacy also indicated that the event called attention to having a set plan for similar situations in the future.

“Now looking at it, I’m sorry we didn’t have a system to coordinate (closing) and opening (the campus),” he said.

Major rains also caused flooding last Friday on the first floor of Craven Hall, leaving approximately two inches of water in some offices and in the Student Health Services center, an official with the center said.

Workers at the scene cleaning up the flooded offices refused comment on the situation, and officials with the Facilities department could not reach for comment as to the flood’s cause.
What's News

WASC accreditation team coming to campus

The campus community is asked to mark its calendars for the upcoming accreditation visit by a review board which will determine if Cal State San Marcos will be an accredited university, said Diane (Q) Martin, assistant vice president for academic affairs.

The accreditation site visit by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) will take place March 23-26, she said.

Students are encouraged to take part in the accreditation process by reviewing CSUSM’s self-study, a document outlining the university’s goals for its accreditation, said Martin. Copies of the document are available in the Associated Students office or on reserve in the library, she said.

“The purpose of accreditation is that it establishes standards for universities... to further educational excellence,” said Martin. “And then what happens is that each institution is responsible for defining its own characteristics for excellence.”

The university is then reviewed to see if it is meeting those goals. Accreditation is then decided by the visiting committee from WASC.

She said students are also involved in the process, as the WASC officials interview members of the campus community to help determine their decision. According to Martin, interviewers will talk with a representative sample of the campus (i.e., students, staff, administration and faculty) and ask questions related to the self-study.

The WASC officials then write up their report determining if the university is worthy of accreditation. Martin said that by reading and understanding the university’s self-study, students can help meet the goals presented in the document.

Additional information can be obtained by calling Martin at 752-4052 or Nancy Curry at 752-4120, Martin said.

Associated Students elections announced

Elections for Associated Student Council positions for the 1993-94 academic year will be held the last week of April, it was announced last week.

Exact dates and times of the elections will be announced later.

Students interested in running for open council seats or serving on the elections committee can stop by the A.S. office, room 205 in the Commons Building, for candidacy applications and information.

Pioneer direct phone lines now in service

Direct phone lines to Pioneer’s office are now available. Voice mail response will be available later this week. For the editorial desk, the phone number is 752-4998. Advertising can be reached at 752-4900.

Art exhibit celebrates Women's History

Committee W (CSU San Marcos' chapter of the Women's Council of the State University) is sponsoring a women's art exhibit through tomorrow. Times are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The presentation can be found in the conference room across from the Associated Students office.

Send us your news

Pioneer is looking for news submissions from campus organizations, whether they be student-oriented or general. Drop releases by Pioneer's new office, room 14-208, in the Academic Hall, or call 752-4998.

Careers and controversy

Inaugural career fair successful; student protests military recruiters' presence on campus

ROMAN S. KOENIG / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

While Career Center Director Sandy Punch hailed last week's inaugural career fair as a success, one student protested the presence of military recruiters at the event.

"I was protesting the presence of military recruiting officers because they have institutionalized sexism, homophobia," one CSUSM student said.

The university is also being called on to self-study its accreditation, she said. CSUSM's Mission Statement, and (CSUSM) president Dr. Bill Stacy and the administration should protest this action.

Although, Stacy and Executive Vice President Dr. Ernest Zomalt were unavailable for comment on the issue, Punch said Stacy has just as much right to self-study as men.

ATHLETICS program may be field of dreams for the near future

KATHY COMBS / CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Unless private donors go to bat for the athletics program, intramural sports won't be in order for a solid kick-off for at least three more years, funding for an intercollegiate athletics program will not be reconsidered until 1997, the same year it was scheduled to come on-line. Funding for the program has been placed on hold to make way for higher priorities such as the library, the Arts and Humanities building and the Science building. Also on the drawing board is the Physical Education building which according to President Dr. Bill Stacy has been targeted for completion by 1998.

"The first effort is to get the facilities on campus," he said. "The second concern is intercollegiate sports that will require private fundraising."

The college will look to private sources to help fund the program and to develop playing fields, which in the initial stages would be used for intramural sports. The state will foot the bill for the land for the fields, however Stacy said this is where the state's commitment stops.

In the meantime, faculty teams will concentrate on defining the curriculum for Physical Education majors. Planning is still in the early stages, but when the P.E. department comes on-line it will be on the cutting edge of 21st century technology, says Dr. Richard Millman, vice president of academic affairs.

"There are two ways to build a P.E. department," he said. "There will be no activity to train coaches or to teach someone to play volleyball." Instead, CSUSM will offer a "scientifically based physical education." That scientific base will include requiring students to become knowledgeable in biology, chemistry, anatomy and the science of motion. In addition to housing classrooms for a wide range of majors and a computer lab, the P.E. building will also be a center for fitness and recreation, Stacy said.

The Pioneer
Campus Calendar

Student Resource Center

Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families support group:
The feeling of being valuable is a cornerstone of self-discipline, because when one considers oneself valuable one will take care of oneself in all ways necessary.
(Scott Peck, The Road Less Travelled)

Support group meets Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Student Resource Center, room 5205 in Craven Hall.

WIN (Women’s Information Network) Workshops: Workshops open to all students and staff. Meeting located in the resource room of the Student Resource Center, room 5205 in Craven Hall from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

• “Stress Management,” offered Tuesday, March 2 and Wednesday, March 10.
• “Avoiding the ‘Superwoman Syndrome,’” offered Tuesday, March 16 and Wednesday, March 24.

Student Life Programs for Cal State Men: All programs held from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the resource room at the Student Resource Center, room 5205 in Craven Hall.

• “For Divorced Fathers Only,” child support and other complicated matters. Tuesday, March 9.

• “A mid-semester stress program for men who are somehow fitting school into their impossibly hectic lives,” offered Tuesday, March 23.

Career Center

Spring schedule of workshops and events: All workshops are held in the Career Center, Craven Hall room 4201, unless noted otherwise. Call 752-4900 for additional information.

Graduate School: meets Friday, March 5 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Friday, April 16 from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“Resume Writing,” meets Friday, April 23 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

“Effective Interviewing,” also meets Friday, April 23 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

“Job Search Strategies,” meets Friday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

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The Spirit of Cal State San Marcos is Pioneering
Patrons of the Dome Café have some changes in store for the establishment, including an assortment of health foods.

**Additions on the way for café and store**

**SHAUNA OENNING/STUDENT WRITER**

As a new school, California State University, San Marcos can expect many changes to come. One in particular is the addition of a wide variety of healthful drinks, snacks and meals to choose from in the Dome Café.

Currently, students can find food either at the café, which offers mini/Pizza Hut pizzas or salad, or at the University Store, which sells items like cold sandwiches and chips. The café also closes at 2 p.m., leaving only the University Store open for food.

Melinda Martens, manager of the Dome Café, and Debbie Meeker, who manages the University Store (both are part of Aztec Shops), say they are aware of the problems facing students when it comes to food on campus: first, the lack of variety and/or healthful foods at both the café and bookstore, and secondly, the fact that the café closes at 2 p.m., leaving afternoon and evening students with insufficient food availability.

Together, Martens and Meeker are planning to offer a greater variety of foods to better fit the needs of morning, afternoon and evening students.

Until the student population increases and the café can afford a larger workforce, it will continue to close at 2 p.m., according to Martens. Instead, she plans to improve the variety of food offered in the Dome Café. Plans include the opening of a taco bar offering tacos sold by the pounce, a pasta bar and perhaps a french toast and pancake breakfast available between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

For the health-minded, products by Naked Food will be offered. These include Naked Juice fruit and vegetable concoctions as well as a variety of Nutritional fruit and vegetable salads. In addition to the snacks already offered at the café, Martens said

**FAIR**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

She also said that Scott wanted to interrupt the actual fair going on in the Dome, but was asked to protest outside the building, which he did.

"I understand Donald Scott's position," she said. "And while he has the right to freedom of speech, so do the employers."

Despite the controversy, Punch said that the inaugural career fair was a success.

"The employer reactions were extremely favorable," she said, adding that the employers in attendance were given evaluation forms that showed the enthusiasm of Punch also added that student evaluations were also very favorable.

She said that employers pointed out that accommodations for them were excellent and that the caliber of students was very high.

Student evaluations showed that they, too, were overall pleased but would have liked more recruiters, she said.

According to Punch, some employers who planned to attend the fair pulled out at the last minute because of hiring freezes and financial constraints. She also said three applications were made with the Peace Corps during the event.

With the success of this first fair, Punch said she is now looking to next fall's career fair. She said the morning segment will consist of recruiters from businesses and the afternoon fair will focus on graduate schools.

"If we have a good response from recruiters now, it will build a foundations for future fairs," she said.
When it comes to problems, the best policy is to tell it like it is.

If there is one thing a journalist can’t stand it’s being dictated to over what is or is not a story.

One recent event on campus drove that home for me. These last two months are fast going down in San Diego history as some of the wettest on record. This would surely have an unanticipated effect on the workings of brand new buildings. As a result, leaks, floods and power outages would be expected here at Cal State San Marcos as kinks in the structures are being worked out.

Apparently, however, some in the Facilities department take this very seriously; seriously enough to dictate to me the importance of stories concerning these issues.

Last Friday, as I went to Student Health Services to take care of some business, I was told by one of the officials there that there had been a flood on the first floor of Craven Hall, where Student Health Services is located. Sure enough, behind a doorway in the complex there were Facilities workers cleaning up the mess left by the flood.

I had my camera bag and notebook in hand, thinking that this might make an interesting story for the paper. For the first round, when I asked about what had happened, all I got were dirty and suspicious looks, as if there was a cover-up or something. This, however, was only the tip of the iceberg.

After finishing my business in Student Health Services, I promptly left and went around to the front entrance of the building on the first floor. Just past the entry way to my right was the same hallway filled with what seemed like two inches of water on the floor.

Just as I got my camera out of the bag, the workers stopped what they were doing and left. I asked them what was wrong and they said they didn’t want their picture taken. I had no problem with that whatsoever. It’s always been my belief that if someone doesn’t want a newspaper camera in their face, that right should be respected.

I thought then I could at least get some information about what had happened. Then they got hostile with me, telling me that there were more important things to cover on campus.

Not on a stormy Friday afternoon.

With this reasoning I said that there wasn’t, and one of them snapped back at me with a quick “Yes, there are.”

Next, I asked why they weren’t being cooperative and they claimed that it would make them look bad if this situation were reported in the paper.

Maybe it’s just me, but there’s nothing “bad” about seeing Facilities workers rushing diligently to clean up and solve a problem. Sure, they may have been under a tremendous amount of stress, but that gave them no right to dictate to me the importance of the story; they could have just simply referred me to the head of the department for information.

Ironically, no one was at the office when I called and the voice mail system was not answering. Come press time this week, I had no choice but to run a blurb about the incident with little if any information.

The fact is that there is something wrong with the buildings if they are flooding like Craven Hall, and the campus community has the right to know about it. But apparently, some people in Facilities don’t see it that way. They gave the appearance that problems with the buildings are to be kept secret from the people who utilize the facilities every day. By doing that, they give the whole operation an appearance that is much more suspicious than I know it really is.

Cal State San Marcos President Dr. Bill Stacy, when interviewed about the campus closure after the power outage on Feb. 18, had no problem telling Pioneer that there may have been flaws in how the closure was handled. He even put a bright side to it, saying that it brought to light the importance of having a plan set in future instances of that nature. Those in Facilities who think that not talking about the problem is the avenue to take should re-evaluate their way of thinking.

The treatment I received last Friday was unfair to me, unfair to the campus community and unprofessional to say the least.

Physical problems, as I said, are to be expected in a new building, and although the flood looked bad, it would have been simple to explain what the problems were and how they were being rectified rather than to hide them under the table as these workers deemed necessary to do.

If everyone treated me or any other reporter of this newspaper with the attitude that they can judge what goes in this publication, Pioneer would not be the independent campus voice it is striving to be.

And the losers in that scenario would be you, the reader.
Letter shows writer’s ignorance about gays

I am in complete shock and utter disbelief after reading Irving Davis’ letter regarding gays in the military in the last issue of the Pioneer.

This disbelief stems from the fact that even now, in 1993, there is still ignorance in regards to the homosexual lifestyle and what it entails and the stupidity Mr. Davis shows when discussing AIDS.

The question of letting gays in the military is moot. There have been gays in the military since day one. If gays haven’t made great contributions to the armed services, Mr. Davis, then why are gay veteran groups all over the country?

There is a misconception that gay men are always on “the make” and that they only joined the military to meet men. I know of several gay men and women who have been (and actively still are) a part of our defense system. These men and women joined for the same reasons that heterosexuals have: to serve their country, to get money for college and to see the world.

Mr. Davis says to be aware of the “smokescreens” homosexuals are using to advance in society under the guise of legal rights and discrimination. This is not a smokescreen. Your sexual orientation should make no difference in the workplace or in our existence in society; we are human beings just like everybody else and wish to be treated as so. We aren’t asking for special privileges in this world, just for the discrimination and hatred against us to end.

As far as the death sentence we are all facing, do you not realize that the rate of heterosexuals contracting AIDS has surpassed the homosexual community due to I.V. drug use, blood transmissions and unsafe sex practices? Although the gay community has received most of the attention in regards to the plight of AIDS, that is only because we are one of the few segments of society trying to educate misinformed people like yourself, Mr. Davis. AIDS is not a gay disease, it is everybody’s disease. It has no face.

The “wild plight ... into an early demise” that the gay community is heading for is absolutely blasphemous. We are not looking for a hedonistic existence. Like heterosexuals, we too are looking for that special someone, a loving partner and companion, and I am not asking for yours or society’s approval on how I live my life. I am sure my dating practices are far tamer and safer than most heterosexuals.

As far as the self-inflicted misery that accompanies being gay, that too is also untrue. The only misery inflicted upon me is by the uninformmed members of society like yourself, Mr. Davis. Being gay is not something you choose. I knew I was different as far back as grade school. I was born this way, I wasn’t recruited!

Clark should check facts, says Associated Students official

I have a response to Suzanne Clark, chair of ICC (the Inter-Club Council), regarding her article in the Feb. 17 edition. I would recommend that Suzanne check her facts before making statements in the newspaper. I suspect misinformation has been a key ingredient.

First, the AS currently provides every university-recognized club/organization and the ICC with $50 per semester for operating expenses. The AS has just discovered that the insurance premium for 1993 is $2,500 more than anticipated and budgeted.

Suzanne never mentioned that the actual cost of the insurance, which is $100 per annum per club. It does not matter if they have five members or 100 members, and currently we have 27 recognized clubs. At this time less than 20 percent of the clubs are collecting dues or sponsoring fundraisers.

Second, income for student fees for the 1992-93 academic year are approximately $64,000, not $80,000.

Third, according to their bylaws, the ICC is responsible for sponsoring Club Days. However, due to the lack of organization and interest of the ICC and/or clubs, the AS Special Events chairperson had to assume responsibility.

It is unfortunate that I am required to launder these dirty details in the university’s newspaper.

SHERYL GREENBLATT/A. TREASURER
The Spirit of Rythm

Sankofa brings soulful melody to CSUSM

By KATHY COMBS and photos by RALPH BERRY

It's a rhythm that binds the mind, body and spirit.

And for Dr. W. Komla Amoaku, director of Visual and Performing Arts at Cal State San Marcos and the band Sankofa, the music is a rhythmic melody that comes straight from the soul.

From traveling around the world, Amoaku, a native of Ghana and a virtuoso of the drums "Gyembe" and "Apanema," discovered diverse cultures have a common link. The result is Sankofa, a band that incorporates a cross-cultural blend of African music and dance, calypso and American jazz.

Amoaku's travels led to his interest in exploring the influence of African music in South America and the Caribbean.

"I wanted to identify some of the elements in those various styles of African music," he said. The music had "a common ancestry, an ancestry that can be traced to a common root. Regardless of where you find it, those elements are always there."

Common elements flow through the heart of all art forms in Ghana. Unlike Western cultures, Ghanaians don't categorize music, dance and art, Amoaku said. Rather than approaching music intellectually using a structured format, artists approach their craft intuitively. Children play games that reinforce an attitude toward rhythm. Where Western cultures develop the ears before the ears, Ghanaians develop the ears before the eyes, he added.

"I was born into a society that views the arts as an integral part of everyday life," he said. "My exposure to the arts came by virtue of being part of my traditional environment."

Amoaku began playing the drums at the age of 5 when his uncle gave him a toy drum. The child of an artistic family, he learned by example, imitating adults and participating in adult activities. Rhythm became incorporated into everyday life.

"For me the drum is like pouring out my soul," he said. "It is a rhythm and speech instrument. So I was naturally drawn to it."

Because of the instrument's ability to vary its pitches, the drummer can approximate the intonation and the rhythm in the traditional Ghanaian language. "It's like singing a melodic line. Those patterns make life more real to me."

Not that Amoaku was without Western musical training. While in college he studied classical guitar, however the two had a rather strained relationship.

After graduating with a doc-

SEE SANKOFA/PAGE 9

"It's like singing a melodic line. Those patterns make life more real to me."

Dr. W. Komla Amoaku, director of Visual and Performing Arts

Dancer Shosshanna Cordes performs with Sankofa at a Feb. 18 concert in the Dome.
March is a month that is very near and dear to my heart, promises to be exciting as well. In case you have been asleep for the last millennium or so, March is Women’s History Month — or should that be Women’s HERstory Month? There’s lots of neat stuff going on.

Guess what? Yet another issue has arisen. There appears to be a definite lack of communication pervading our more-hallowed-than-yesterday halls, and most of the people with access to this information (read: those with E-mail) are taking an “it’s not my department to inform the students” attitude.

Lots of great speakers come on campus, and no one knows but the administration, faculty and staff. Lots of activities happen off campus sponsored by clubs, and no one knows but the clubs and those who take the time to read the three over-loaded bulletin boards stashed away in corners. What exactly is going on? At the beginning of this semester, posting regulations were once again changed by the university. However, no one knew because it wasn’t clearly posted. No longer may clubs may clubs post flyers on doors or windows because it ruins the expensive finish of said items. We must ask ourselves which is more important, to have a campus that continues with its beautiful Italian Villa motif, or to have a campus of well-informed and involved students? The ICC and AS have suggested — demanded — pleaded for more bulletin boards. Bulletin boards were even promised to us at one point, according to Gazi Berhane (of Student Activites), but these promises have not been kept.

The university is a service industry, and the students are the customer. Would you shop at a store that always had sales, but only informed their employees? for the new band. Today, the band members are artists in residence at the college.

The band’s intuitive style and spirit moved student Judy Brown, who joined dancers Gelsamina Merritt and Shoshanna Cordes at a concert on campus Feb 17. Brown, who spent three weeks in Ghana, described her experience in Africa as “the most inspiring three weeks in her life.”

For Amoaku, Sankofa’s music emphasizes the importance of all cultures of the world. The music is a way to break down the “glass walls” between societies.

“Especially living in these changing times, those glass walls have to come down,” he said. “We must understand we are part of the human race — that we all have something to share with each other.”
Sprague String Consort performance
a rare viewing opportunity

Members of the Cal State San Marcos community have a rare opportunity to see jazz guitarist Peter Sprague and his String Consort March 5 on campus.

Why is it considered rare? As Sprague explained, the group seldom meets for concerts because members of the quartet belong to other musical organizations.

“It’s a very high-maintenance group,” said Sprague, adding that this is the first time the group has met for a performance in five years.

The consort is made up of three jazz musicians and four classical symphony artists. Works to be performed include originals by Sprague, and pieces by Bach, Mozart and pianist Chick Corea.

A resident of Del Mar, Sprague has toured, made 21 records and has played and worked with the likes of Corea and bassist Bob Magnusson.

Sprague said that the String Consort came about six or seven years ago after he was inspired by pianist Corea. Sprague says that he gets inspiration for his works from one simple thing:

“Mostly (my works are) originally inspired by either (musicians) that I’ve heard or actual people,” he explained. “One (song) is called ‘Amadeus,’ written for Mozart, and ‘Mahavishnu’ for John McLaughlin, a great jazz guitarist.”

Along with the consort, Sprague plays with other groups, including his Electric Band, in which he plays a guitar synthesizer.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1955, Sprague and his family moved to Del Mar in 1963 after spending time in Colorado. He took up guitar at the age of 12, later studying with San Diego jazz guitarist Bill Coleman and forming his first group, the Minor Jazz Quartet.

Two performances of the String Consort will be held on campus, the first at 5 p.m. and the second at 7 p.m. The concerts will be located in room ACD 102.

Additional information about the event can be obtained by calling 752-4945.
Lend an ear to ‘Tenor:’ it’s a show worth seeing

JONATHAN YOUNG/CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Vista’s Moonlight Playhouse doesn’t need to borrow anything as they present their indoor production of “Lend Me A Tenor” through March 14.

Moving indoors from its summer amphitheater, the Moonlight continues its reign as a high-quality, professional production with some veteran performers and a few rookies. The blend of old and new is almost flawless.

“Lend Me A Tenor” is set in Cleveland in 1934 and revolves around the arrival of a highly-touted Italian tenor, Tito Merelli, and his jealous wife, Maria. Tito is imported by the Cleveland Grand Opera Company for a one-night gala performances of Verdi’s “Otello.”

When the famed Tenor arrives in Cleveland, he is too ill to perform. In fact, the hosts think he’s died. The General Manager of the Opera House must come up with a replacement for his operatic superstar without any of the wealthy benefactor noticing.

That replacement is Max, the manager’s assistant. Richy Quesnel fills the roll of Max and does an amazing performance. His dialog, energy, facial expressions and blend with the cast prove that he is in command of the Moonlight stage. Quesnel’s performance was indeed flawless.

You won’t find any reference to Quesnel’s other local performances, because there are none. This is his west-coast debut after traveling from Missouri. His impact as a fantastic performer here should shake Southern California deeper than an earthquake and neighboring theaters should take note.

His character is accent by his supporting actor, Randall S. Hickman as Tito. Hickman is a well-known face around the Moonlight with starring roles in “Mame,” “The Pirates of Penzance,” “Little Shop of Horrors” and “A Chorus Line.”

The performance that Hickman delivers is so stunning that it becomes difficult to decipher who holds the lead role. But that’s part of the show.

As Max steps onto stage impersonating Hickman’s character, Tito wakes from his so-called “death” and attempts to go on. This creates a hilarious situation of mistaken identity that will leave the audience rolling in the aisles with laughter.

The females roles have the same theme throughout each character. Whether they are Cleveland’s Opera Guide Chairwoman, a soprano from the opera, or Max’s girlfriend, they all want to get to meet Tito — intimately.

Marc Anne plays Maggie, Max’s girlfriend. Out of the entire female cast, Anne’s performance is the most believable. Her young character adds an innocent touch to embarrassing predicaments and gives a comic relief to an otherwise slow first half.

Robyn Hampton plays Diana, the soprano who performs on stage with Tito and wants to get on to other things backstage. Hampton portrays her character as a rigged, determined actress. Although her character is quite serious, Hampton stirs up quite a laugh.

Diane Thrasher plays Julia, the character who runs the show “Otello.” Thrasher is not an unfamiliar face around North County, but this is her first Moonlight production. Here debut is a little rusty and she will need some more practice before others start to take notice.

Rounding out the cast is Jonathan Mensching, who portrays a rather foul-mouthed general manager; Theresa Layne who gives an energetic performance of a tired Maria; and Sean Tamburri as the ambitious Bell Hop — all of whom are Moonlight veterans.

Equally amazing to the performance is the set design. Don Ertel continues to work his magic as he transforms the multi-purpose room — a drab rectangular room — into a phenomenal theater. The stage is very realistic with no painted sets, but the real thing on every wall.

Mensching doubles as the lighting director, Stacey Rae organized the costumes and Kathy Brombacher brought it all together as director.

If you want to see a great show, borrow, beg, loan or even have someone lend you the $12 to see the Moonlight’s only 1993 winter show. It will be well worth it.

Performances of “Lend Me A Tenor” are Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults, $10 for seniors and $8 for students with identification. The Playhouse is offering reserved sets for all performances. To make reservations, call 724-2110.
FOOD
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

she is also looking into carrying Harmony Snacks, which include trail mix, Fig Newton bars, white chocolate-covered pretzels and gummi bears.

To compliment the already successful Pizza Hut in the café, Martens said she has specifically requested having the option of a Hawaiian pizza with ham and pineapple.

"Hopefully, we'll have all our new items in a couple of weeks," she said.

So, now that problems number one is solved, how will students deal with problem number two — where to eat after 2 p.m.?

This is where the University Store comes in. Meeker has also been meeting with many vendors in order to provide a wider variety of food. She said she wants to "fill in the gap of the afternoon students ... as they wander into the store looking for something to eat."

Meeker plans to provide items by California Fresh Foods. This includes Naked Food products and a variety of fresh organic fruit and vegetable juices by Ferraro.

Also being considered, said Meeker, are fresh cut fruit and a variety of organic goodies from the Zen Bakery.

Martens and Meeker said they make it a point to get feedback from customers about the new changes.

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