

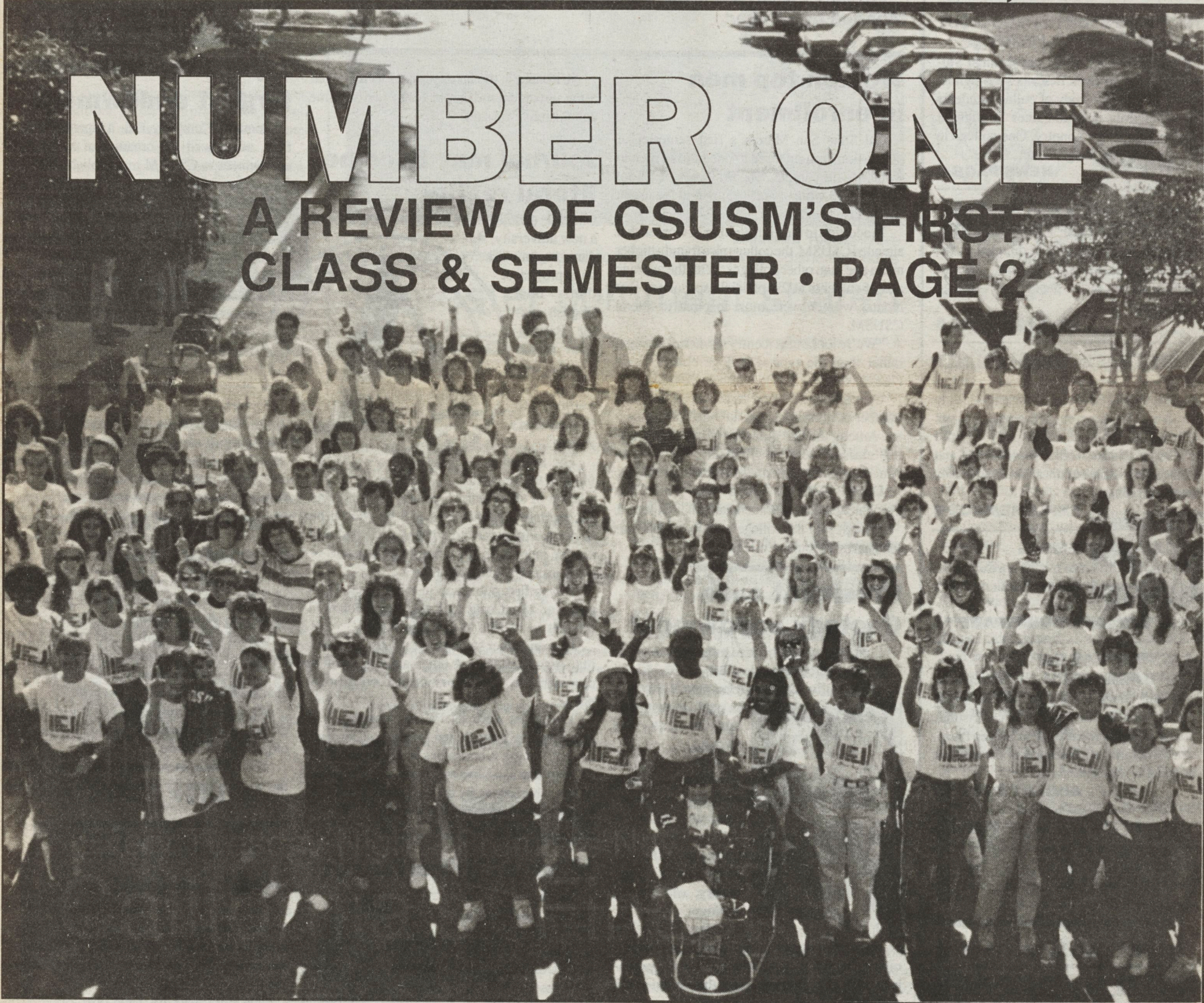
PIONEER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1990
VOLUME 1, NUMBER 8

SERVING CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS

NUMBER ONE

A REVIEW OF CSUSM'S FIRST
CLASS & SEMESTER • PAGE 2



Prefab papers corrupt
college ethics **Page 6**

Children share views
of Christmas **Page 8**

Modern spirits brought
to Dickens's tale **Page 13**

NEWS

INSIDE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1990

NEW AIDS STUDY SHEDS LIGHT ON RATES IN COLLEGES

Dr. Joel Grinolds, Chief physician at Student Health Services, describes the significance of a recent study of college students on HIV virus infection rates throughout universities in the country. One college in the study is San Diego State.

NEWS/PAGE 5

PREFAB RESEARCH PAPERS COULD CORRUPT UNIVERSITY

Pioneer's staff editorial is directed at the ongoing controversy of the use of prefabricated term papers on college campuses.

OPINION/PAGE 6

CHRISTMAS IN NORTH COUNTY

This week's Explore section takes a look at the meaning of Christmas for North County children. Photographs of North County Christmas events accompany candid questions and answers to preschoolers and adolescents. Some of the answers are funny and surprising.

EXPLORE/PAGE 8

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

A guide to Christmas events appears at the end of Pioneer's Explore section with a brief list on page 13.

EXPLORE GUIDE/PAGE 12

A 'CHRISTMAS CAROL' CAPTURES SPIRIT OF HOLIDAY

The San Diego Repertory Theatre's production of Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' at the Lyceum stage in Horton Plaza, is a contemporary rendition of the popular tale that works splendidly.

ACCENT/PAGE 13

TWO HOLIDAY FILMS REVIEWED

'Home Alone' and 'Misery' are two holiday releases aimed at capturing the Christmas crowd. See how Pioneer editors think these movies will fly for the holidays.

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In its first semester of operation, Cal State San Marcos was the source of controversy and triumph.

The infant university suffered disputes at the construction site of the new campus, and received promising gifts from private donors. The semester also marked the planning of student governance that will lead the Associated Students into the 21st century.

Here are the top stories of the semester in order of their release as reported by *Pioneer*:

Women top men in enrollment

Cal State San Marcos's first semester of instruction brought three to one ratio of men to women to the campus. The first week of school brought 313 women and 115 men to the infant university.

In addition to the high number of women that attended CSUSM, the college also found a higher mean age than other colleges. With the average age of students at 29, officials speculated that reentry women were most inspired to attend CSUSM.

"We're looking at reentry women at this age, rather than the typical college cohort," said Dean of Student Services Ernest Zomalt.

Officials were also surprised at the low number of minorities that attended this semester. Among the low numbers of minorities taking classes were 38 Hispanic, 12 African American and eight American Indian students.

Overall, officials found more Full Time Equivalent Students in attendance than expected.

Zomalt said the college's major feeder was the nearby Palomar College.

President cans Geology endowment

Following a rash of academic criticism, Cal State San Marcos President Bill Stacy rejected a quarter-million-dollar endowment for a chair



BILL STACY

in geology from Allan O. Kelly of Carlsbad. The endowment carried the stipulation that any professor filling the chair must study and report upon the truth or falsity of Kelly's controversial theory of impact geology.

"The issue has brewed some storm in the academic community," said Stacy. "Our infant university probably would not be able to carry the weight of the problem."

Critics of the endowment thought the endowment violated canons regarding a professor's academic freedoms. Stacy said the decision to reject the endowment may have been reached anyway by the faculty.

"Ultimately, the faculty would have looked at the agreement and may have reached the same conclusions," he said.

Journal may become literal reality

While officials were busily working to build a new university, students began work on a project of their own.

English major Regina John began to gather students together to form a literary journal.

The journal is planned to be a compilation of short stories, poetry, artworks and photographs. Submissions will be chosen by students with regard to content alone and will not be judged on the contributor's name or previous publishing experience.

"I was first published in the journal Tidepools at MiraCosta College," said John. "I thought we needed to start things here."

John and other students met to discuss funding, organization and other aspects needing consideration in the formation of a college journal.

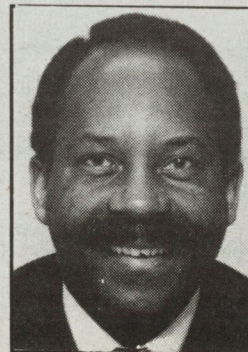
Two dates were set for the submission of works for the journal, and by the first deadline of Dec. 7, nine submissions were received.

John said she expects to receive the majority of the submissions by the Feb. 14 deadline.

Forums kick off student government

September 18 brought the first step in the organization of a student government at CSUSM. Students were assembled in an open forum to discuss concepts and begin painting a picture of how student government will look.

Even though attendance was low, stu-



ERNEST ZOMALT

dents were placed in task forces to form a student newspaper, a yearbook, clubs and organizations and a student government.

"It's important to mold a student government to meet the needs of the CSUSM campus," said Sandra Kuchler, the assistant dean of student affairs we helped to organize the forums.

Before the forums, 30 students submitted surveys, distributed during orientation, expressing interest in involvement.

Japanese firm donates largest endowment

Itoman & Company, Ltd., a Japanese trading firm, announced the creation of a \$500,000 endowment to CSUSM to establish an annual international festival.

The gift, the largest to the university to date, will establish a yearly international festival that will promote public understanding of Japanese and other nations' business and culture.

"We are becoming a global economy and must prepare future generations of leaders to operate in an international environment," said Yoshihiko Kawamura, president of Itoman.

The money will be given in \$50,000 increments each year, for a period of ten years.

The Itoman endowment represented the second private gift to the university. Cable television pioneer Bill Daniels has endowed a chair in communications for \$250,000.

Construction off to rocky start

Unexpected ground conditions at the site of the permanent campus put the college between a rock and a hard place in early October.

Excess deposits of rock and traces of DDT boosted the cost of the initial phase of construction \$1.9 million, almost 20 percent higher than the original \$9 million budget estimate.

The crew working on the grading of the 305-acre site encountered almost 184,000 cubic yards of granite and debris.

The college found extra funding to pay for the unaccounted for problem through the state of California.

Craven Hall bid under budget

With an offer that was \$1.4 million under budget, Cal State San Marcos closed bidding to contractors for Craven Hall, the first "feature" building to be constructed at the permanent campus.

The Salt Lake City, Utah firm, Bodell Construction placed a bid of \$14,325,000, less than 1 percent lower than the next highest bidder.

"Albert Amado, vice-president of Campus Construction and Physical Planning, said the competitive nature of the business contributed to the low bid.

"A \$15 million project can really help a contractor make it through the rough spots."

Amado said he thinks the below-budget Craven Hall bids will be reflective of the tone of future projects. He hopes bids for the campus's other "feature" buildings will be lower as well.

The State University Board of Trustees approved the bid in November.

Newspaper offers gift, alliance

Times Advocate Publisher John Armstrong, in mid October, presented a proposal to the University Council outlining the donation of a state-of-the-art newsroom to the college.

In return for the gift, the company is requesting paid circulation of the Times Advocate on the CSUSM campus and printing rights for the college student publication.

**TIMES
ADVOCATE**

The newsroom would assist the campus in the publication of a student newspaper as well as establish a foundation for a future journalism program.

In addition to the newsroom, student journalists would also have access to professionals working at the Times Advocate.

CSUSM President Bill Stacy said the proposal would have to be viewed through student, academic and business perspectives before it can be considered for approval.

Members of the Student Newspaper Task Force, after reviewing the proposal, questioned the impact of the deal on a future student newspaper.

Concerns were raised by the committee as to whether or not the student publication could retain its integrity if distributed inside the Times Advocate. The task force saw the proposal as a business deal rather than a gift.

The deal will go before the University Council again this week for further discussion.

Task Force drafts mission statement

At their Oct. 24 meeting, the Student Governance Task Force completed a draft of a mission statement that would set the foundation for the future Associated Students at CSUSM.

"It was a necessary step before even doing a constitution," said task force member David Hammond.

Task force members sought to write a broad, but firm, foundation for the university for the 21st-century.

The statement included a commitment to



JONATHAN YOUNG/PIONEER

Students of CSUSM's first semester donned college T-shirts at a gathering Friday.

Semester comment shared

LARRY BOISJOLIE/PIONEER

After completion of the first semester of regular class sessions, students at Cal State San Marcos face this week's finals with mixed opinions.

At an end-of-semester gathering held Dec. 7, students listened to jazz music and talked among themselves about the past four months.

Psychology Junior Jim Fix, found the high number of women at CSUSM to be "distracting." He said the maturity and drive of the older women students on the campus made the curriculum more challenging.

"I've been beaten up (mentally) by women in class," said Fix.

He said the female population on campus raised the intellectual quality of the university.

"It was challenging, but rewarding," he said.

Heliana Ramirez, a Liberal Studies Junior,

agreed that women on campus gave men a "run for their money."

Ramirez said she enjoyed the personal atmosphere afforded by a small population.

"I've never met so many people in college that I actually know," she said.

Ramirez, who came from MiraCosta Community College said she found the curriculum challenging and with a good faculty.

History major Joel Ravy, who transferred from Palomar College, said he thought the instructors at CSUSM had high expectations for their first class of students.

"The change from Palomar, regarding the difficulty, of classes was significant," said Ravy.

Ravy said his classes were full of students seeking an alternative to the crowded facilities of the other state universities.

Bill Kurnik, a Liberal Studies Junior, found the curriculum to be not as challenging as his

SEE FIRST/PAGE 5

student services and extra-curricular activities, with much of the language dedicated to principles of nondiscrimination, and supplementing the educational experience to form more sophisticated students.

Dispute halts construction

A dispute between Louetto Construction Inc., of Escondido, and grading subcontractor C.W. Poss, of Anaheim, halted construction, for more than six weeks, of CSUSM's permanent campus off Twin Oaks Valley Rd.

Poss officials claimed that Louetto was delinquent in paying them \$1.3 million for work

already completed at the site. The subcontractor refused to continue work until the debt was paid.

Louetto, which was awarded the \$9 million contract in April, was in charge of the first phase of the construction project.

Albert Amado, vice president of Campus Construction and Physical Planning, said that even minor delays in the first stage of construction could, "set off a major chain reaction" resulting in a possible delay of the scheduled opening of the new campus in the fall of 1992.

Since 1985, Louetto has been involved in 52 lawsuits with its subcontractors. Most of the suits charge Louetto with failure to pay for work done on jobs in the county.

College officials consulted Louetto's bonding firm, Reliance Insurance of Seattle, to settle the dispute.

Bookstore burglar steals Simpsons

An Oct. 22 burglary in the Aztec Shops bookstore caused college officials to shout "Aye Caramba," after most of their stock of Simpsons paraphernalia was stolen.

Along with T-shirts, buttons and baseball caps with the likenesses of Bart and the Simpson family, watches, calculators and cassette recorders were snatched. The bookstore's Macintosh computer and software worth thousands of dollars, however remained untouched.

Bookstore manager Deborah Meeker estimated the cost of items stolen at \$1,486.70.

The theft occurred between 3 a.m. and 6:50 a.m. when the campus's security, Wells Fargo, was not on patrol.

Vista Sheriff's officer A. R. Riley found evidence of forced entry at the store's rear window.

There are still no suspects in the crime.

Prop. 143 refusal could hurt plans

The turndown of Proposition 143 on the Nov. 6 ballot left campus officials scrambling to find funding for the construction of the permanent site of the campus off Twin Oaks Valley Rd.

Campus officials are now faced with a \$10 million shortfall in revenues that would have been available had the proposition passed. Even though the State Legislature has approved \$37 million for the first phase of campus construction. The money that Prop. 143 would have provided was already allocated for furniture and library books.

Ellis McCune, former chancellor of the California State University system said the failure of Prop. 143 "is a tragedy for higher education."

The bond would have provided \$450 million for construction and improvement of California's institutes of higher education.

Included in Prop. 143 was \$2.2 million in funding for the second half of the CSUSM library core collection.

Louetto fired from construction project

Louetto Construction, the lead contractor in the first phase of construction of CSUSM's permanent campus, was terminated from its contractual responsibilities with the college late October, due to an unresolved dispute with a

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News Briefs

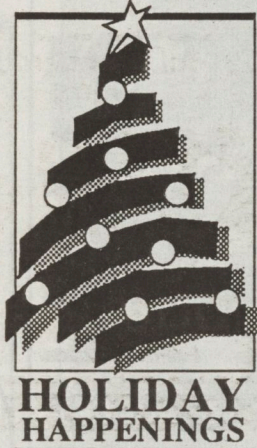
HOLIDAY FOOD, GIFT DRIVE CONTINUES

CSU San Marcos and SDSU North County are working together to sponsor several families for the holidays.

Non-perishable food items, paper goods, toiletries and clothing can be donated in boxes located in the Student Lounge, Library, Student Services Office and Building 820 and 125. Information about the families are listed on the boxes.

Sandy Punch, Coordinator of Student Services for SDSU North County, is also seeking cash donations to be used for food certificates for the adopted families. Those wishing to help in this capacity can send cash or check made out to Sandy Punch.

Lucky Food Stores has donated three Christmas trees that will be given to the families. Students are encouraged to bring ornaments to decorate the trees before they are delivered. A tree trimming party was held last Friday for one of the trees.



BOOK BUYBACK SCHEDULED

The University Store will be conducting Book BuyBack in the Student lounge during finals week, through Dec. 14. BuyBack hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday.

ALL LIBRARY MATERIAL DUE BACK

All items borrowed from the North County Library must be returned by Dec. 14.

Unreturned items may result in an interruption of borrowing privileges as well as a "red flag" on your academic record. Fines are 25¢ per day per item.

CAMPUS CLOSURES FOR HOLIDAYS

The campus will be closed for the holiday season from Dec. 24-28. Facilities will also not be available on New Year's Day. The regular semester of classes for the spring of 1991 will resume on Jan. 28.

The library facilities will remain open throughout most of the winter break from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The Library will not be open on weekends.

LIFECAREER WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

The Lifecareer counseling series will continue through the winter break with workshops scheduled Dec. 13 and 20. The seminars will be held in Building 145 Room 1 at noon.

There is no charge for the counseling series.

ORIENTATION SCHEDULED

Orientation day for new students will be held Jan. 11 in the Student Lounge. Returning students need not attend the orientation activities, however those new to the campus are required to participate.

Orientation helps students to become quickly acclimated to the environment of the California State University system. Students will have an opportunity to discuss plans and strategies for their upcoming semesters at CSUSM.

SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENT DAY SET

Previously registered students will have an opportunity to adjust their schedules on Jan. 17 at the Office of Admissions and Records.

PIONEER OFFICE CLOSED FOR WINTER

Pioneer's office will close on Dec. 14 for the holidays. It will reopen the second week of January to prepare for the upcoming semester. The first issue of the spring semester is scheduled for Feb. 5, 1991.



JONATHAN YOUNG/PIONEER

A jazz band (top) composed of employees of Aztec Shops played to students at a gathering last Friday. Dean of Student Services Ernest Zomalt (below) prepares food for students who survived CSUSM's first semester.

REVIEW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

subcontractor.

The San Marcos-based Lusardi Construction Company has been awarded an interim contract to replace the troubled Louetto.

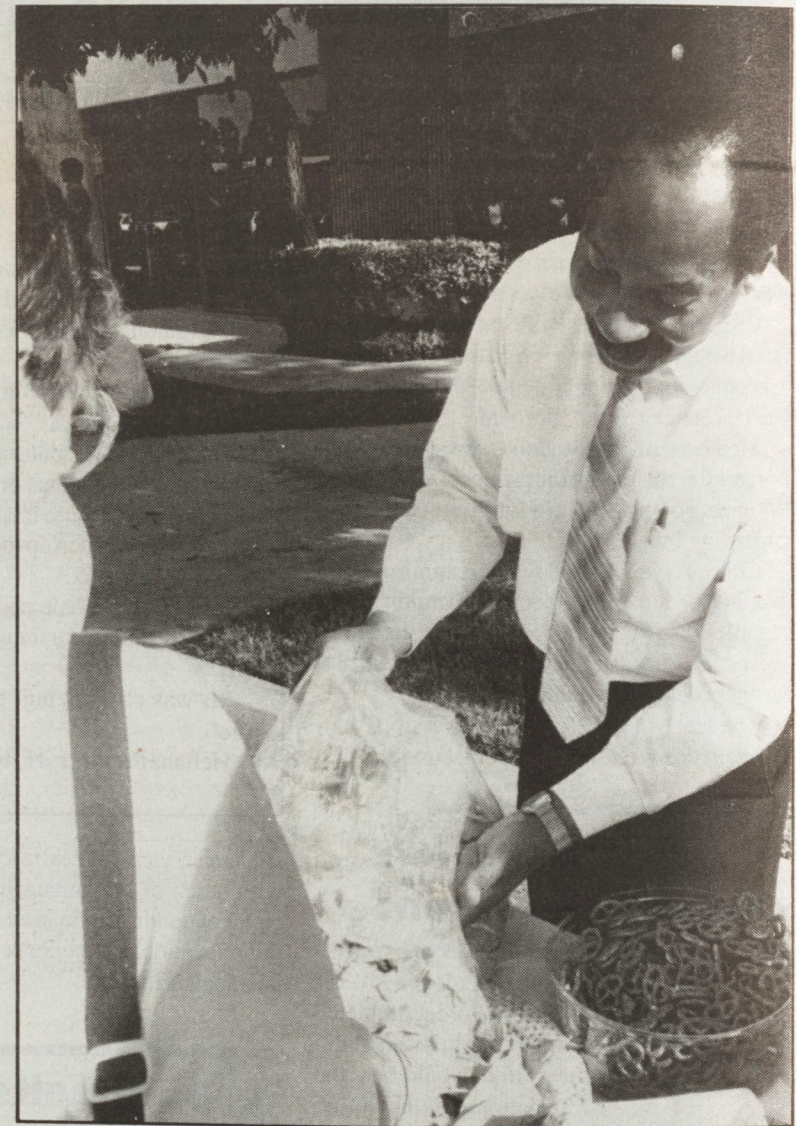
C.W. Poss, the grading subcontractor hired by Louetto to prepare the Twin Oaks Valley Rd. site for construction halted work for six weeks after Louetto failed to pay them for work completed on the project.

College officials contacted Louetto's bonding company, Reliance Surety of Seattle, in an effort to resolve the dispute.

Because the conflict remained unresolved by Oct. 31, Reliance informed the university that they could take over the project after Louetto's contract was terminated. CSUSM then fired Louetto, leaving the campus without a builder.

On Nov. 9, Reliance announced the selection of Lusardi Construction Co. to resume the work on the campus. Lusardi began work on the project yesterday.

College officials are hopeful that the delay will not postpone the fall 1992 opening of the permanent campus.



Spanish Book Center opens

As part of the university's goal of creating an atmosphere of global awareness, a Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and

Adolescents opened at CSUSM on Dec. 6.

The Center, the only one of its kind in the world, contains books in Spanish for children and books for youths in English about Hispanics.

"The main purpose of the Center is to get children to read," said Isabel

Schon, director of the Center and a member of CSUSM's founding faculty.

The Center will host experts in the fields for lectures on Spanish books, and will hold Café literarios, informal discussions on the literature in the program.

UNIVERSITIES RUN TESTS AIDS study shows HIV infection rate

I am often asked if we are seeing many cases of AIDS at Student Health Services. To my knowledge we have seen none from students from Cal State San Marcos, but at the main campus of San Diego State we have seen a small number of AIDS cases.

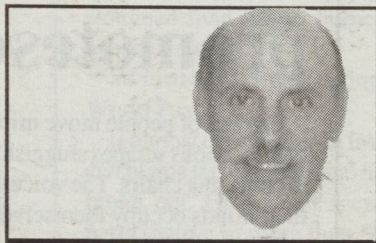
In truth, until this week, we really did not know how many or what percentage of students test positive for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infection.

A study by the Centers for Disease Control and the American College Health Association revealed an HIV infection rate of 0.2 percent, or one in 500 college students. Nationally, it is estimated that between 25,000 and 35,000 college students are infected with HIV.

The study was conducted at 19 colleges throughout the country using 16,863 blood samples drawn randomly from students who were seeking care for other reasons at student health centers. SDSU, USC and Cal Berkeley were part of the study.

The results were not identified by university, so no school specific rates are known. Of the 19 colleges, positive results were found at nine schools, with 10 schools having no positive HIV tests. We feel because of known HIV cases, that SDSU is likely to be one of the nine schools with positive HIV tests.

In the study there were 30 positive tests with only two of them being in females. Therefore, the rate for men should be 5 percent and for women two-hundredths of 1 percent. Rates for Caucasians, African Americans and Mexican Americans were similar but not meaningful, since the numbers of African Americans and Mexican



HEALTHNOTES

DR. JOEL GRINOLDS

Americans tested was small. Also, older students over the age of 24 were 6.5 times likely to be positive.

These statistics present both good and bad news. The good news is that the rate of HIV infection is about what you might see in the general population and lower than the rates in high-risk groups such as homosexual males, IV drug users or people attending STD clinics. The bad news is that it exists and has the potential for serious spread in the campus community.

We also know risky behaviors exist on campus due to the prevalence of other STDs and unwanted pregnancies. This information underscores the need to persuade college students to use condoms, limit the number of their sexual partners and otherwise reduce their risk of becoming infected.

"Prevention of HIV infection through education and interventions to help develop and maintain safe behaviors that will reduce the risk of HIV transmissions should be a priority mission of all institutions of higher education," state the authors of the study.

Need I say more?

Dr. Joel Grinolds is the chief physician for CSUSM and SDSU North County.

of its students.

"There are so many students with families," she said. "The college is not accommodating us."

Leaverton said that the college also does not give students proper facilities to conduct research for required papers.

She said the Library's small size is not conducive to the research requirements for some classes.

Overall, students found the university to exceed expectations.

Maureen DuPont, a Junior majoring in Mathematics, said she couldn't conceive of the quality of instruction she found at CSUSM.

"It amazed me most that everyone in each class was so personal," she said.

FIRST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

previous school, Cal Poly Pomona.

"There's not as much ethnic variety here," he said. "The university is not fully developed yet."

Kurnik echoed the sentiment that a small university offers more personal instruction.

Some students, however, found downfalls in the small college structure.

Sheri Leaverton, a Psychology Junior, said the college has yet to accommodate its students with families. She said the school needs to institute a childcare system for some



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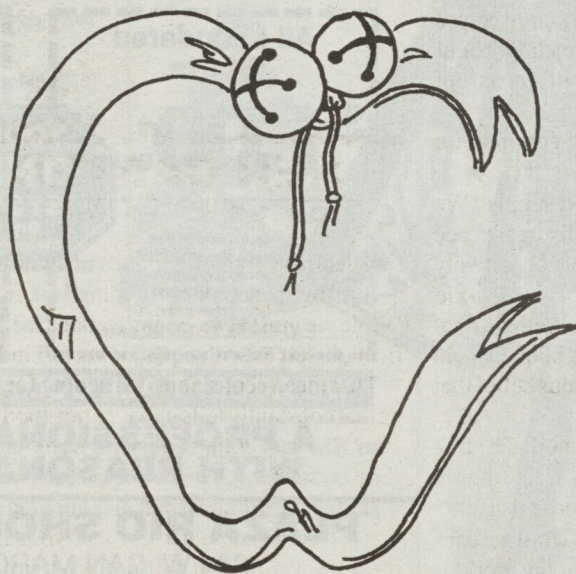


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OPINION



MAC computes better for buyer

For anyone considering the purchase of a home computer, now is a great time. In a market flooded with choices, the shopper's first choice is still a simple one: whether to go to the Macintosh or the IBM corner. Fortunately, the software--that portion of the purchase that makes the beast do useful things--is now available for both arenas in equal supply.

In other words, our first decision is not dictated by a dilemma of a few years ago, when business packages were usually written for the DOS (IBM genre) system, and graphics delivery was the MAC stronghold. Additionally, the synergistic combination of recession, Christmas season, and academic marketing make for more "bang-per-buck" than ever.

For my money, there is still a clear winner in the final analysis from the perspective of the home or small business user: the MAC. Interestingly, my answer was opposite this conclusion just a few years ago, when, as I stated, the software supply was divided roughly in half.

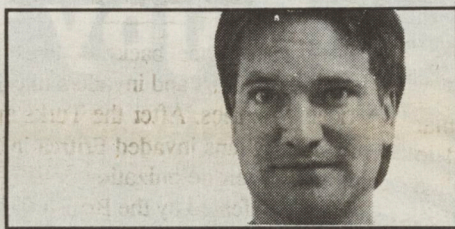
That era's entrenchment of IBM desktops and software just made the "big-blue" a logical ally for the business person. As is typical of the computer industry, those facts we could swear by yesterday are today's jokes. The MAC is quintessential this year's small user's wisest choice.

Irresistible to the writer, consultant, and student is the Macintosh Classic for less than \$800.00. This is perfect if the emphasis is on ease of learning and use. Simple, logical icons and menus provide direct and effective paths to final production of letters, reports (with graphics), lists-management (such as customer addresses), and financial analysis.

If a lot of work is to be stored and recalled later, the MAC Classic can be purchased with an internal 40 Mega-Byte Hard Drive (a vast electronic file cabinet) for only \$1,195. This model includes twice the RAM memory, thereby expanding the choice of utilities (applications software) that can be incorporated.

For the more sophisticated party, the Macintosh SE/30, with 40 MegaByte hard Drive, is a good investment at \$2,295. The architecture (internal engineering and parts) is geared to crunch more numbers faster, and this translates to quicker response to commands, as well as more power automating business tasks, such as statistics and accounting.

There are plenty of ports (extra plugs) to allow for expansion, bigger pictures, and networking. Overall, this is



DAVID HAMMOND
PIONEER OPINION EDITOR

a somewhat over-simplified historical perspective is in order to fully describe and understand the MAC's current advantage in this price/application range.

The DOS-driven personal computers are really relics in the stylistic evolution of the desktop.

Designed by computer scientists in the early eighties, the environment reflects the code-intensive, cryptic parameters of the mainframe/mini-computer models developed and marketed by IBM, DEC, and Hewlett Packard throughout the seventies.

Steve Job's Apple computer company sought to build a new data world based on the paradigm that a larger percentage of the user population was ready to use the computer as a tool, automator, and decision system--provided that the interface (relationship) was a friendly one.

Put differently, the writer wants to get out a novel, the consultant a report, and the accountant a spreadsheet, but none of them care how the job gets done. Hence, the mouse-and-picture Macintosh exploded onto a vacuous market of ready-but-frustrated buyers.

Two recent facts illustrate the depth of acceptance of the so-called mouse-and-icon design in desktop computers. Firstly, it is noteworthy that IBM hangs in the game with a new line of mouse-and-icon designs ala MAC. True to form, the conversion via the Windows software has its price: it takes up a lot of disk memory, and thereby increases initial outlay while detracting from usable applications.

All we really need to know is that among users and MIS managers alike, Macintosh consistently rates higher in customer satisfaction, business performance, productivity, and connectivity, and lower in administrative and training costs (Diagnostic Research, Inc., March 1990 survey). Truly, the MAC was created for the user.

a safe, long-term solution to the data-management question as it arises in the small office setting.

Finally,

Prefab research paper promotes complacency

Crowds of people move mindlessly from room to room. The burden of their books scrapes sluggishly on the ground as they seat their bodies in confining chairs. The voices of their mentors doesn't even register as their minds occupy themselves with other matters.

This could be a scene from Orwell's '1984' or 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest'. It might also be a scene depicting the future 'A' students of Cal State San Marcos.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Obviously, with the exponential growth of CSUSM, crowds of shuffling students are expected. It wouldn't even be very shocking to find the future students of CSUSM confined to uncomfortable chairs. What would be alarming, is if the complacency plaguing other universities infects this new, idealistic campus.

The Typhoid Marys infecting many of the colleges throughout the country are the companies that produce ready-made term papers complete with footnotes and bibliographies. These companies, through a catalog of available papers, will send completed reports to students for a fee.

As a result students can submit professional papers to their unsuspecting instructors and glean above-average grades for below-average work.

The only writing a student needs to do is filling out the envelope requesting the report.

Most of these companies do not intend to encourage academic dishonesty, rather they produce these documents as aids to students writing complex research papers. Unfortunately, there are those who take advantage of such offerings and spoil the opportunities for others who would use the reports responsibly.

Most students at CSUSM are unaware that such services exist, but other universities are vigilant in their combatting of the problem. Recently, *The Daily Aztec* was criticized by San Diego State University for printing ads placed by some of these term-paper-manufacturing businesses.

Trying to prevent the problem of prefab term papers by attacking a newspaper's advertising policy is not the answer. *The Daily Aztec* does not advocate these services any more than they advocate the consumption of Budweiser Beer or Domino's Pizza. They are simply getting funds for their business.

The solution to the problem lies with the policies of instruction by professors at CSUSM. At a university where writing in every course is a requirement, instructors should monitor the process in which papers are created.

Some instructors already review papers during the stages of their construction. Rough drafts and note cards are required far before final drafts are due. In classes where multiple papers are due, a review of the first paper should be required.

Such a program would minimize the use of prefab reports by students by familiarizing instructors with the works of their pupils. It should be expected in a school that requires a minimum of 10 written pages per course.

In this age of computer modems, the availability of these ready-made papers will be increased. Soon a student will be able to gain access to a research paper over the telephone in minutes rather than days or weeks.

It would be nice to think that CSUSM will remain the personal educational institution it is today forever, but such thoughts aren't realistic. With population growth, a depersonalization between a great portion of the student population will most likely fester.

Hopefully professors will help their students grow in their writing abilities instead of watching them shrink with complacency.



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A THOUGHT:

“God bless us
all, everyone.”

TINY TIM/from
‘CHRISTMAS CAROL’

Creating world peace starts at home

Originally I was going to write about either the effects of mustard gas on the human body, or a simulated telephone conversation between Saddam Hussein and George Bush the night of Jan 14, 1991.

But then I remembered that this would be my last column before Christmas. And who can get into the holiday spirit reading about sloughed lung tissue, burned-out eyeballs and two morally bankrupt heads of state?

So instead I'm ruminating over the much-talked-about commodity: World Peace.

If almost everyone is in favor of it, why is it in much short supply? We can blame the international arms cartel which would go belly up if peace broke out. Or we can accuse the CIA, presently aiding or actively participating in more than 50 destabilization operations of third world governments. Or we can point the finger at religious/racial/ethnic/tribal intolerance so popular around the globe. Or we can even blame world leaders impoverishing their countries by acting on the fatuous belief that wealth can be created with a printing press.

But all of the above are merely symptoms of world turmoil. The true cause lies much closer than the sands of the MidEast. To misquote the old comic strip character, Pogo: “We have met the enemy, and it is us.”

Peace, like charity and every other trait, begins at home. Until we each as individuals achieve peace, there is zero probability that the world is going to.

A “Visual World Peace” bumper sticker on your car doesn't carry



KEN CARTER
PIONEER STAFF WRITER

risk deafness from the sounds of swords being beaten into plowshares.

But true peace doesn't come just from treating others with respect. While we must always take responsibility for our actions, we need to also treat ourselves with equal doses of kindness and a sense of humor.

That means consciously listening for the nagging voice within each of us that constantly tells us we're not good enough, smart enough, attractive enough, rich enough and whatever enough, and shutting it off. Then we need to replace that voice with self-praise and kindness for the small victories we achieve each day but never take credit for.

I know you can do it. But will you? If you choose not to, world peace must forever remain a pipe dream. But if you take the “leap of faith” in yourself, who knows?

Dan Quail may be teaching Hussein sand sculpture by Christmas.

much weight if you grow apoplectic and homicidal when someone cuts you off on the freeway. If you go home after a peace march and berate your children or spouse, kick your dog and yell obscenities at the TV when an NFL referee makes a bad call, I doubt if you'll soon

Letters to the Editor

Where is Ertirea?

For the past three years, I went to Palomar College. Almost all the students I talked to asked me where I came from, and when I replied that I came from Eritrea, East Africa, almost all students would ask the questions, “Is that where Apartheid is?” “Where is Eritrea near to?” and so on.

Then I had to take the time to explain to the students that South Africa does not mean East Africa, knowing that when they heard Apartheid they also heard South Africa.

At that time it really did not bother me so much, but it starts to bother me now since I transferred to CSU San Marcos because the same thing is happening.

I know American media is not actively telling the American people where Eritrea is located, but once in a while the media brings some hungry kids and elderly men and woman from the Eritrea region, Ethiopia.

I would like to tell the campus community where Eritrea is located and its background so that I wouldn't get the same responses that I have been getting from the Palomar College community.

Eritrea is located in the horn of Africa with its boundaries to the west with Sudan, to the south with Ethiopia, to the east with the Red Sea, occupying about 650 miles of miles and a population of 3.5 million.

Eritrea's historical background is marked by foreign aggressors and invaders like almost all African countries. After the Turks and Egyptians, the Italians invaded Eritrea in 1889 and succeeded their colonization until 1941 when they were defeated by the British forces. From 1941 until 1952, Eritrea was under British Administration.

In 1950, contrary to the Eritrean people's demand for their independence, the United Nations resolved to federate Eritrea with Ethiopia. In 1952, the federation went into effect and the British forces left Eritrea. As soon as the federation went into effect, the Ethiopian government started to violate the federal arrangement and finally on Dec. 2, 1962, Ethiopia annexed Eritrea.

Because of the terrorization and the oppression by the Ethiopians against the Eritreans, the Eritrean people started their struggle for self-determination against Ethiopian government in 1961. Since then, for almost three decades, Eritrea has been in war against Ethiopia.

This is just a short introduction to where Eritrea is located and why I feel it is necessary that at least the college-educated people should be able to know about it. It is also important to know Eritrea is a historic country. It is historic because Eritrean people fought and are still fighting the longest and loneliest war in the world.

So, since the United States is in the mood of liberating annexed countries, like Kuwait, I hope someday they will also be supportive to the Eritrean struggle for self-determination.

When that moment comes, I guarantee that all the people who have never heard the word Eritrea will know exactly what it means. They will also know the difference between South Africa and East Africa because the media will be projecting the outcome of the long struggle of the Eritrean people.

But for right now, since I am part of the

campus community and I am sure I will be asked where I came from, please be informed where exactly Eritrea is located so you don't get it mixed with Apartheid.

GEZAI BERHANE/CSU STUDENT

Fee increase wrong

I got mine. Did you? Now there's a financial hold on my university records. Sounds like academic blackmail to me.

If you paid yours without a valid budgetary reason, shame on you.

All CSU students got a non-detailed invoice notice that they had to pay additional fees. Fees that weren't previously disclosed. Mine amounted to \$12, which was a part-time fee difference. If that explanation is good enough for you, I suppose you deserve to be cheated out of the price of a pepperoni pizza or tickets for two to the movies.

I work hard for what little money I get. Without a good reason, why should I sacrifice my expendable income? I've already paid my fees. I thought I was paid in full. End of story, which leads to speculation.

Why does the CSU system need a post mortem fee of \$12 from each student in the CSU system? For the 354,734 students currently enrolled, this amounts to \$4,256,808. That's a lot of money! Maybe it was poor planning. Maybe it was unforeseen costs. Maybe it was fiscal mismanagement or a financial statement error.

The fact is that fiscal mistakes, those past and present, are passed along to those of us who are the most vulnerable to such an unwarranted assault. Twelve measly dollars might not seem like much, but if you're giving away money, please send it to me. At least I'm polite and I can give you a good reason why I need it.

KEVIN HAUMSHILT/CSU STUDENT

Letters Welcome

PIONEER welcomes letters from readers regarding campus issues, articles written, or world-related affairs. Letters should be no longer than 250 words and be signed by the author with his/her phone number as a contact.

Children share Christmas wishes

PIONEER

For adults, Christmas is a time to gather with family and friends and share holiday cheer. One of the greatest joys for adults is seeing the reactions and hearing the meaning of the holiday through children.

Cal State San Marcos student Debbi Ricketts talked to children at the YMCA preschool to find their views of the holiday.

For some children, Christmas means snow and snowmen. Others find the joy of Christmas in the gifts. Still others are unsure of exactly what Christmas is.

- "Christmas means to have snow, presents and a big army truck," says 4-year-old Kevin.

- Mark, also age 4, says, "Christmas means the snow and a snowman."

- "Christmas means I will dress up for Halloween and play Leggos," said Paul, age 3, who had some obvious confusion in holidays. "All I want for Christmas is Leggos."

- Camielle, age 4, says, "Snow and Baby Bubbles, that's all Christmas is."

- Four-year-old Danny says, "Christmas is snow, but it never snows here. It only snows at my grandma and grampa's house."

- Victor, age 4, also thinks the meaning of Christmas lies in snow. He says, however that the lack of snow won't stop the jolly, old elf himself from coming to his house. "I have a chimney in my house and Santa Claus comes down it and gives me lots of toys."

- "Christmas is lots of snow and we eat lots of stuff, lots of candy," said Mallory, age 3. "I would like a ring and a new jacket. I will make cookies for Santa Claus," she said.

- Others, like 4-year-old Cindy, find Christmas to be a simple holiday. "On Christmas I go get my tree and decorate it. That's it."

Another CSUSM student asked members of a nearby Cub Scout troop to share their impressions of the holiday season. These children found religious significance in the holiday, but still were primed for the spirit of giving. Many of those interviewed wanted video game systems.

- Jamie, age 12, says, "Christmas is all about giving. Presents are important, but it's

most of all food." Jamie only asks for one gift this year, "I want a CD player."

- Ten-year-old Matt sees a religious significance in the season. "Christmas is Jesus's birthday. My favorite part is opening presents. I want a Nintendo game."

- "Christmas is giving, sharing and loving," says 10-year-old Shane. "I like it when we get the

tree up. I want a Genesis game and everything."

- Dustin, age 11 sees Christmas as the day Jesus was born, but also a day for getting gifts. "I like all the presents. I want everything besides girl stuff."

- Echoing Dustin's response, Jeff, age 12, also sees Christmas as a holiday celebrating the birth of Christ. "It means a lot of presents and love to me. I want neat stuff, not girl stuff."

Tree shopping poses complex problems

KATHY SULLIVAN/PIONEER

Decisions! Decisions! Decisions!

The Christmas season is filled with decisions! Like what to buy for Aunt Betty, or whether to serve pumpkin or cherry pie; but who would have thought that one of the most time-consuming decisions I would face this holiday season would involve the selection of a Christmas Tree.

The problems began with the explicit contradictory directions my family gave me on what type of tree should grace our living room. My daughter wanted a tall, thin tree for the corner. My husband wanted a short, fat tree that would fit on top of a coffee table, and my sons wanted a tall thick tree to go in the front window (the type where most of the living room furniture is pre-empted to the garage to make room for the tree).

Full of all these helpful instruction, I drove to the Christmas Tree Store, a live "tag now and cut later" Christmas tree lot in Valley Center. I had allowed myself about a half-hour to pick out the tree. Upon arriving at the lot I thought that thirty minutes was more than enough time, for there were beautiful pines everywhere I looked.

Ron and Oshia Zace, owners of the Christmas Tree Store, provide the tree shoppers with white PVC pipe marked with bright red tape at one foot intervals. The pipe helps guarantee that someone doesn't buy a 10-foot tree for an eight-foot living room.

The only problem I found with the pole, other than feeling like a knight carrying a standard into battle, is that the terrain in Valley Center is less than flat. The Zace's Christmas Trees Store is not an exception to the rule.

I found that hilly slopes presented a unique problem. Where do I put the measuring pole? If I place it on the uphill slope the tree was five feet tall. If I put it on the downhill slope the tree immediately grew to eight feet. On the left slope it shrunk to six feet and the right slope it topped out at seven feet. Gathering all of my college education I deduced that if I averaged all the footages together I would have a six and a half foot tree—perfect for an angel and eight-foot ceilings.

Mastering the measuring pole, I had to make the choice of where to

KIDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

• Justin, age 10, looks forward to the gifts he will receive on the holiday. "I like it when you get to open your presents and when you get to play with your presents. I want \$50 and a Gameboy with all the new games, and a bike."

CSUSM student Debbie Duffy, talked to members of an Ocean-side Girl Scout troop to find out what they thought the meaning of Christmas is. Many of the girls found decorating the tree to be one of the highlights of the season.

• Beth, age 7, says Christmas is when, "...you get to decorate the tree and then you put your stockings on the fireplace and then you go to bed. At night Santa comes and puts presents around the tree. In the morning little kids open up presents and see what they get." Beth wants Barbies for Christmas.



A baton twirler dazzles the crowd at the Escondido Christmas Parade with her snowflake costume and her performance.

• Seven-year-old Nichole likes decorating the tree and getting candy in her stocking. "I want a bucket of slime for Christmas," she says.

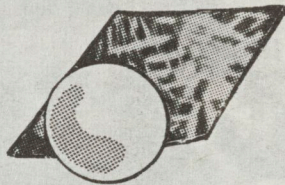
• Erin, 8, has a more religious view of the holiday. "It is when Jesus was born and his parents were really happy, and God said that Mary was chosen to be Jesus's mother. I like giving presents the best. I want a desk for Christmas."

• "It's a nice holiday and you get all kinds of things and it's

really nice," said 8-year-old Ann. "I want a radio and a tape."

• Heidi, 11, says she likes it when her family gets together and exchanges presents. "I want a portable computer for Christmas," she says.

• Eight-year-old Nichole also enjoys exchanging things with relatives. Her Christmas wish is one that captures best the meaning of the holiday. "For Christmas I want to have my great grandma to feel better."



Food, gift drive continues

Sandra Punch, coordinator of Student Services for SDSU North County and CSUSM, decorates a tree to be donated to a local needy family. Punch has placed gift-wrapped donation boxes throughout the campus where students, staff and faculty can donate food and gifts to a community family in need.

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KATHY SULLIVAN/PIONEER

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TREES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

start looking among the jungle of Christmas trees. It wasn't long before I found a likely-looking tree. I circled it two or three times, like a dog looking for a place to nap, checking for hard to hide holes. My attention was diverted by this voluptuous looking green beauty two rows up and five trees over. And so it went as I hiked up and down the hills, being continually called by the tree in the next row.

After four hours, not the allotted thirty minutes, of meandering through 20 acres of green beauties, brandishing my measuring pole, I finally made my decision. I think I picked out a tree about six feet tall and six feet in diameter, with a straight back, evenly trimmed branches, and a heart and soul.

Ripping off the bottom of the tree ticket, I started back to the Santa barn to pay for my prize tree. Of course, I had picked a tree at the far end of the acreage so that I had to walk through rows and rows of pines to get to the sales counter.

That trip took me over an hour to



KATHY SULLIVAN/PIONEER

Tree shoppers measure a pine with a length of PVC tubing at a Valley Center Christmas Tree lot.

SEE **TREES**/PAGE 11



Tree shoppers place their trees atop their vehicles at the Christmas Tree Store in Valley Center. **KATHY SULLIVAN/PIONEER**

TREES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

make because I had to compare my super tree to every tree I passed. Five times I returned to make sure that I had indeed picked the greatest tree in the lot. I finally convinced myself that I didn't have time for all this comparing and tried to close my eyes to all the trees I was passing.

My sons should be happy, since this tree will be a candidate for the front window. My husband should be other than happy, because his

favorite chair is destined to spend Christmas in the garage. Another big decision looms in the future. What day is a good day to cut our tree. With three kids in college and trying to juggle work, finals and Christmas tree decorating are going to be a challenge.

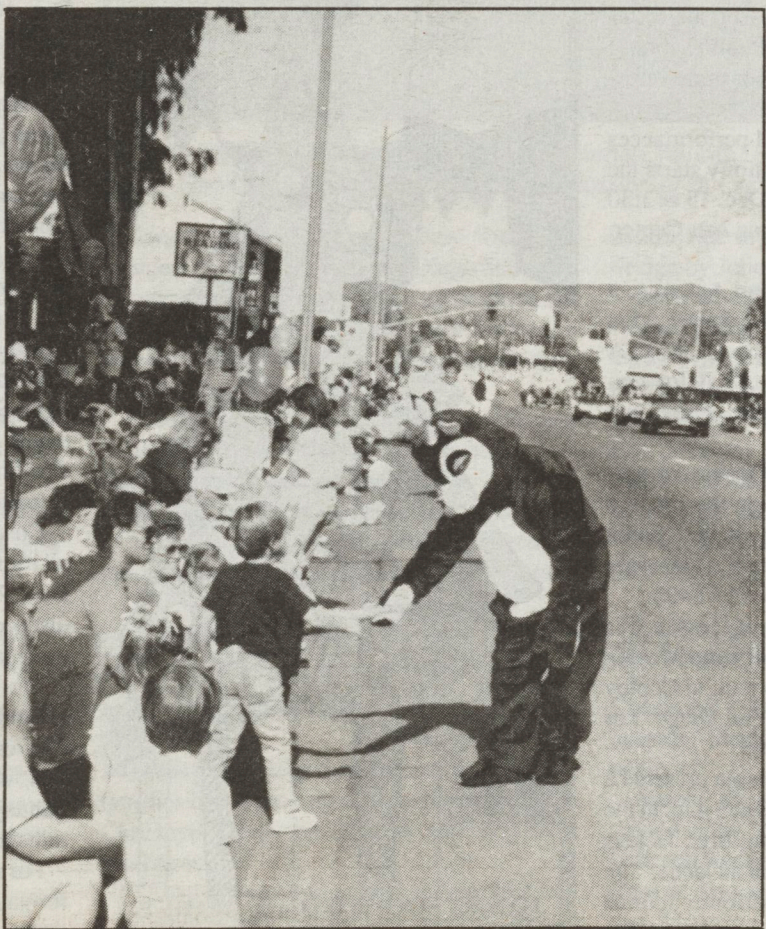
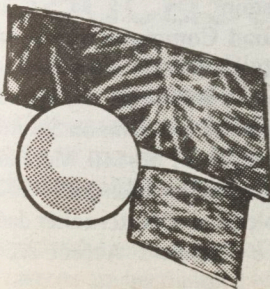
The first thrill of the Christmas season is the family trimming of the tree. With Christmas music playing softly and everyone arranging and rearranging lights, the house will be filled with indepth discussions on whether to use tinsel

this year or let the tree go naked. I looked at so many trees this year and I had to make so many hard decisions between how tall, how full, how graceful and how Christmassy, that I really can't remember much about the one I did pick out.

I do know, even if I picked out a "Charlie Brown" tree, that the joy of Christmas will shine through and everyone that comes within its view is sure to feel a little more of the meaning of Christmas because of the feeling and joy that went into bringing this tree into our living room.

Christmas Parade

Escondido's Christmas Parade, which travelled the streets of the city Saturday, inspired City Councilman Kris Murphy to dress as Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer. The parade lasted for two hours and featured performances by local high school and grade school bands. Channel 8 weatherman Larry Mendte was the Grand Marshal of the event.



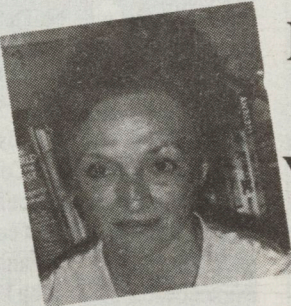
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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

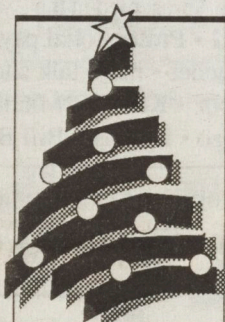
A guide to the events for this Christmas season

The holiday season is filled with parades, concerts, performances, and lights festivals. *Pioneer* lists several of those shows here as a guide to this year's Christmas festivities.

The San Diego Wild Animal Park starts this year's holiday season's lights events with the **Festival of Lights**. The fun-filled nights of story-telling, crafts, and viewing of the Park lit up in colorful lights continues through Dec. 30, excluding Dec. 24 and 25. For information, call the Park at 747-8702, Ext. 5140.

Starting at 7 p.m. on Dec. 15, the **Mission Bay Christmas Boat Parade of Lights** begins at Quivira Basin, with the best viewing from Crown Point, east Vacation Isle or the west side of Fiesta Island. The parade concludes with the lighting of Sea World's 320-foot tower of Christmas lights. For information, call 488-0501.

The **Parade of Light** in San Diego Bay is Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. For a list of best viewing spots and information, call 235-4014.



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

On Dec. 15, the **Parade of Community Carolers** starts at 2:30 at Grand Avenue in downtown Escondido. The carolers route will end at Grape Day Park for a community carol sing-a-long at about 4 p.m. For information, call 745-8877.

San Diego's downtown **Holiday Bowl Parade** is Dec. 29, starting at 9 a.m. The parade is on Broadway and begins at 8th and continues to Kettner. For information, call 234-0331.

The San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina presents the **Holiday Bowl Poinsettia Ball** the night before the parade, on Dec. 28. Call the Hotel for more information, 283-5808.

Ocean Beach hosts their **13th Annual Ocean Beach Parade and Festival** on Dec. 15. The festivities begin at Newport Avenue. For information, call 222-2683.

The Pomerado Community Band premieres in the **First Annual Christmas Concert** on Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. This free concert will be performed in the Center for the Performing Arts in Poway. More information can be obtained by calling 748-4074.

Palomar College's Chorale performs **La Fiesta de la Posada** on the college campus. Performances are 7:30 on Dec. 14, 15 and 16 with a 3 p.m. matinee on Dec. 16. Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. Call the theaters box office for more information and tickets, 744-1150, Ext. 2317.

Palomar also presents **A Christmas Fantasy**, a holiday dance program, through Dec. 16. Tickets run \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. Call for performance

times, 744-1150, Ext. 2317.

MiraCosta College North Coast Chorale performs **Hodie**. Two performances are scheduled: the first concert will be Dec. 15 at 7:30 o.m. in the Oceanside campus's theater; the second show will be Dec. 16 in the Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$4 and \$3 for students and seniors. For more information, call 757-2121, Ext. 435.

MiraCosta College also presents the MiraCosta College Pacific Coast Concert Band in a **Holiday Classics** concert. Two performances are scheduled: the first concert will be Dec. 13 at 7:30 o.m. in the Oceanside campus's theater; the second show will be Dec. 20 in the Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. There is a donation of \$3 and \$2 for students. For more information, call 757-2121, Ext. 435.

Bach's **Magnificat** will be performed by the Grossmont College Symphony and Master Chorale. The concert will be Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. in the East County Performing Arts Center, El Cajon. Tickets are \$3. More information can be obtained by calling 440-2277.

The **Heart of Christmas** concert will be performed by the Pacific Symphony at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 16. The concert will be held at the Performing Arts Center in Costa Mesa. Ticket prices range from \$12.50 to \$38.50. For information and reservations, call (714) 556-2121.

Soprano Ellen Lawson sings the holiday music of **Allegro Quartet**. The free concert is Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Solana Beach Public Library, 981-F Lomas Santa Fe Street. For more information, call 755-7859.

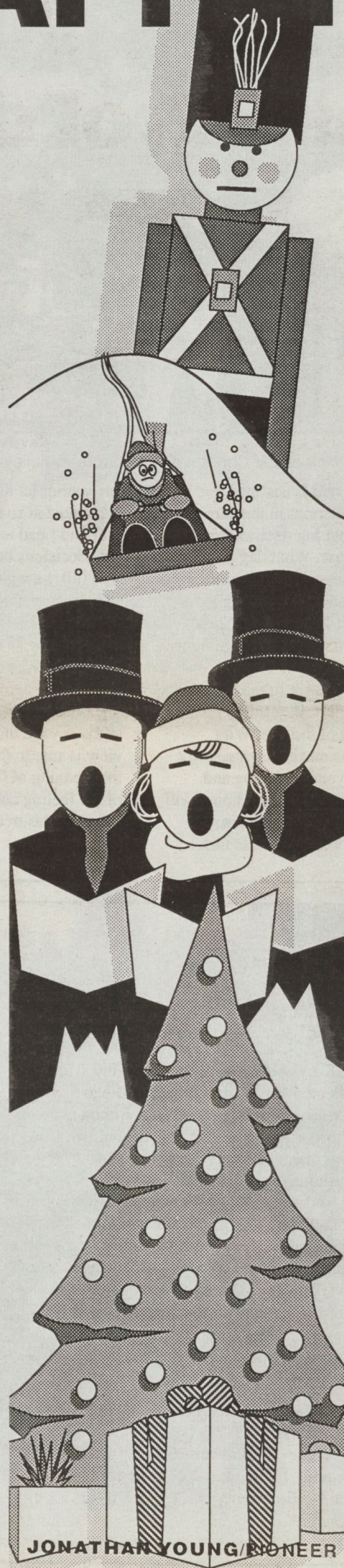
This season, there are several performances of **Messiah**. The **Pacific Symphony** starts the season with a performance on Dec. 15 at 3:30 p.m. at the Costa Mesa Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 to \$30.

Idyllwild School of Music and Art present their performance of **Messiah** also on Dec. 15 at 8 p.m. The show will be in the ISOMATA campus in Idyllwild. Tickets are \$8.50 for general admission and \$6 for students, seniors and youth.

The **San Diego Chamber Orchestra** performs their version of **Messiah** on Dec. 16 at 6 and 8 p.m. Their concerts will be in the Church of the Nativity in Fairbanks Ranch. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 753-6402.

Presenting their second show of **Messiah** this season, the **San Diego Symphony and Master Chorale** performs Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. in Copley Symphony Hall in downtown San Diego. For ticket information, call 699-4205.

The **Rancho Bernardo Chorale** presents a **Messiah Sing-Along** on Dec. 13 at 3 p.m. in the Poway Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$8 with \$6 tickets bought in advance. The Rancho Bernardo Chorale also performs **Sounds of the Season** on Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. For tickets



JONATHAN YOUNG/PIONEER

and information, call 432-0365.

After his performance in San Diego and Costa Mesa, the **Andy Williams Christmas Show** stops at the McCallum Theater in Palm Desert on Dec. 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. with a 3 p.m. matinee and Dec. 12. Tickets range from \$20 to \$40. More information can be obtained by calling 340-3787.

The Southeast Community Theater performs the stage production of **Black Nativity**, a contemporary, black version of the Nativity story, through Dec. 16. Performances are on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 and 7 p.m. The shows are at 4343 Ocean Beach in San Diego. Tickets are \$10 for general admission. Admission for students is \$4, \$8 for seniors and military disabled, and \$2 for children. For more information on this show, call 262-2817.

Lamb's Players perform **The Festival of Christmas**, their 13th annual holiday theme play through Dec. 24. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Matinee performance are at 2 p.m. on Sundays and Dec. 18 through 21 and Dec. 24; 10 a.m. matinees are Dec. 8, 15 and 22. Tickets are \$15 through \$19, with discounts for youths, military and groups. For more information, call 474-4542.

The Patio Playhouse Youtheater performs **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** through Dec. 16. Show times are 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday and Sunday. The plays are performed upstairs in the Vineyard, Escondido. Tickets are \$5 and \$2 for youths young than 16-years-old. Call 746-6669 for more information.

Charles Dickens's classic Christmas story, **A Christmas Carol**, is performed on three stages this holiday season. The **San Diego Repertory Theatre** continues its production through Dec. 23. Shows are at 8 p.m. on Tuesday through Saturday and 7 p.m. on Sunday; matinee performances are at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sundays. Shows are presented in the Lyceum Theatre in Horton Plaza. Tickets are \$20-\$25 with discounts for children and groups. Call the Repertory at 235-8025 for information.

Costa Mesa's **South Coast Repertory** will air its production of **A Christmas Carol** through Dec. 23. Tickets run from \$12 to \$24 with discounts for children. Call (714) 957-4033 for more information.

The **Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center** presents Dicken's story through Dec. 23. Performances are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. with matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$7.50-\$10. More information can be obtained by calling 434-1621.

For a complete list of **Nutcracker** dance performances, see *Pioneer's* Accent section on page 13.

'Christmas Carol' done in good spirit

Modernization is successful

ELAINE WHALEY/PIONEER

The San Diego Repertory Theatre's current adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic 'A Christmas Carol', is a surprisingly original production the entire family will enjoy.

Rousing music, amusing choreography and the unexpected ethnic diversity of the cast combine in this sometimes humorous, sometimes dramatic and always entertaining production.

Though Dickens's original novel is closely followed, a few modern twists have been successfully added. The setting of the opening scene is a vacant lot and the characters are a group of contemporary transients.

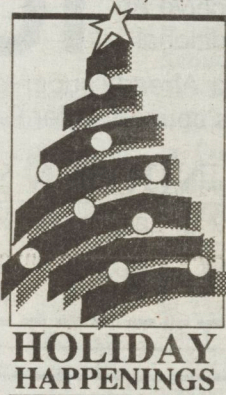
A fascinating duality of character occurs when these homeless people are transformed into the familiar Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, Tiny Tim and the various spirits of Christmas that populate the Dickens novel.

The use of this device illustrates the obvious metaphor; the poor in the alley of 19th-century London are clearly the same disadvantaged who populate our park benches and vacant lots. Their world hasn't changed all that much. We are invited to self-examination in a cheerfully entertaining way.

Many of the comic moments in this production result when the transients fall out of their Dickens characters. Few of these opportunities for buffoonery were left unexplored by the cast.

Leon Singer plays the miserly Scrooge and brings the character from his initial moral bankruptcy into eventual redemption with convincing fervor.

Richard Allen makes a comic black Ghost of Christmas Present with an unforgettable singing voice.



The Ghost of Christmas past, Helen Reed Lehman, haunts Ebenezer Scrooge, Leon Singer, in the San Diego Repertory Theatre's production of 'A Christmas Carol.'

Kory Abosada, who play Tiny Tim, is a talented 10-year-old from San Diego School of Creative and performing Arts. Although his one short song was obviously difficult for him, it was manfully rendered. Acting and dancing are definitely his strong suits.

Thomas Buderwitz designed a set which coped imaginatively with the restrictive dimensions of the Lyseum Stage and managed to convey a sense of 19th-century England using materials available to street people. Some changes occurred onstage without interrupting the flow of

action, due in part to some inventive lighting design by John B. Forbes.

Currently playing at the Lyseum Stage in Horton Plaza, the show runs through Dec. 23. Tickets range from \$15 to \$25 depending upon the day and time of the show.

In the spirit of Christmas and as part of the Rep's holiday program for disadvantaged and shelter families, patrons are urged to bring unwrapped gifts to each performance. There will be distributed at a special benefit performance on Dec. 19.

Broadcasters, performers organize toy drive

In conjunction with San Diego Repertory Theatre's annual production of Charles Dickens's 'A Christmas Carol,' the REP and KFMB Channel 8 will sponsor "A Magic Christmas" for hundreds of children of San Diego's shelter families.

Throughout the performance of 'A Christmas Carol,' patrons are encouraged to bring a new unwrapped gift to the REP's Lyseum Theatre in

Horton Plaza or to Channel 8 at 7677 Engineer Road.

These gifts will be distributed to children and families invited to a special performance of 'A Christmas Carol' on Dec. 19 followed by a reception.

"... we learned last year that these children and families are the ones who need that special gift of love because they can't go home," said

Channel 8 Public Affairs Director Maria Velasquez, "there is something wrong - violence or neglect."

Among the organizations which will be included in the "Magic Christmas" program are; Hillcrest Receiving Home, St. Vincent de Paul, Casa de Amparo, Hidden Valley House, Southeast Emergency Quarters, Project Safehouse and Casa de Paz.

Holiday Shows

'A Christmas Carol' shows in several places this holiday season. Below is a list of local productions of this Charles Dickens' fable; other holiday shows listings follow:

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: The San Diego Repertory Theatre continues its production of Dickens's classic Christmas story through Dec. 23. Shows are presented in the Lyceum Theatre in Horton Plaza. Tickets are \$20-\$25 with discounts for children and groups. 235-8025

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Costa Mesa's South Coast Repertory will air its production through Dec. 23. Tickets run from \$12 to \$24 with discounts for children. (714) 957-4033

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center presents this holiday performance through Dec. 23. Tickets are \$7.50-\$10. 434-1621

A CHRISTMAS FANTASY: Palomar College presents its holiday dance program through Dec. 16. Tickets run \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. 744-1150, Ext. 2317.

THE NUTCRACKER: The following list includes all dance productions of this Christmas ballet:

- The American Ballet Ensemble - Dec. 14, 15, 16 at San Diego City College Theater. Tickets cost \$12 general admission and \$8 for students, seniors and military. 270-9580 - The Ensemble also performs at the East County Performing Arts Center, El Cajon, from Dec. 20 through 23. Tickets cost \$15-\$20 with \$20 discounts for students, seniors and military. 440-2277

- California Ballet Company - Dec. 14-23 at the San Diego Civic Theater. For ticket information, call 560-6741

- New West Ballet Theater - Dec. 29 and 30 at the Poway Center. Tickets run from \$10.50 to \$14.50. 741-3838

- West Coast Ballet Theater - Dec. 15 and 16 at the Parker Auditorium, La Jolla. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for students and seniors; group rates are available. 456-0150

- San Diego School of Ballet - performs 'Nutcracker 90' on Dec. 28-30 at the Mandeville Auditorium, UCSD campus. For ticket information, call 294-7374

Hughes piles on sentiment with 'Home Alone'

LARRY BOISJOLIE/PIONEER

If it's holiday time, it must be time for yet another John Hughes movie. Hughes, with his sugar-coated messages, has come up with yet another sickeningly sweet morsel with his latest venture, 'Home Alone.'

The film's predictable plot leaves precocious 8-year-old Kevin, played by Macaulay Culkin, accidentally stranded at home while his family jets off to Paris.

For Kevin, the opportunity to be master of the house affords him the chance to live in childhood heaven. He shovels down massive ice cream sundaes while watching gangster movies and sliding down the stairs on a toboggan.

Yet, we also see a Kevin tormented by the opinions of insensitive family members. When he realizes that he is in charge of the household, he puts aside some of his childhood needs and trades them for a shopping cart and a laundry basket. He shows himself that he is not the helpless baby his family believes him to be.

The funniest part of the movie comes when a pair of Mutt and Jeff burglars (Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern) attempt to rob Kevin's fortress. For 10 minutes, the boy pits his wits against the criminals and wins hilariously. Discovering the clever traps set by Kevin is almost worth the price of admission.

As Kevin, Culkin is addictingly cute, but, in the hands of Director Chris Columbus ('The

Goonies'), this cuteness is a bit overplayed. Close-ups of Kevin screaming after he puts on after-shave or sees the mysterious man next door, are far too frequent to be effective. Even so, Culkin plays his part with a childish zest that is a joy to watch.

In Culkin we see a new leading man that the under-8 crowd can look up to. He is cute, independent and more intelligent than most of the adults in the film. Any child under 12 will see Kevin as a hero who lives out all their fantasies and doesn't suffer retribution.

Pesci and Stern give adequate performances as the bumbling burglars as do John Heard and Catherine O'Hara as Kevin's undersighted parents.

John Williams offers a whimsical score that captures the spirit of an 8-year-old. Once again he proves himself to be the master at writing movie scores.

Even with Columbus's direction the film is unmistakably earmarked as a John Hughes project. It is filled with those gooey, sentimental messages about the American family that have clouded other Hughes movies like 'The Breakfast Club' or 'Ferris Bueller's Day Off.'

'Home Alone' is a mildly entertaining cute movie with basically only 10 funny minutes.

If you're home alone for the evening, you're better off with a good book. If you're stuck with the kids for the night, 'Home Alone' is much better entertainment than 'Family Ties' reruns.

Rob Reiner directs suspense in 'Misery'

JONATHAN YOUNG/PIONEER

Ann Wilkes stands up straight and settles her weight on the back of her heels. She has just finished a task and tells her new guest that she loves him. The guest, novelist Paul Randall, screams in pain, because her task was to crush his ankles with a sledge hammer.

The hobbling, as she called her task, is the only terror that Kathy Bates' character casts on her guest in 'Misery.' The new Stephen King book-turned-movie has strong suspense to its advantage, but the final terror lets the audience down in comparison.

James Caan plays the best-selling novelist that is saved by Ann Wilkes after a car crash during a snow storm. It's immediately known that Wilkes is Randall's number one fan and he's alive because she's a nurse. A normal relationship is established, characters are developed, and Randall's wound begins to heal.

The tables turn when Bates' character reads the latest 'Misery' book, the last in the series of books that gave Randall his fame. In this book, the main character is killed to finally conclude the lengthy succession.

The number one fan is now pissed off.

The tension and suspense grows as Wilkes forces Randall to write a new book, reviving 'Misery's' character. Wilkes' past crimes, insanity and

terror now slowly become known.

With the great build up and superb acting by both Caan and Bates, the expectation isn't met. There is no release, no climax; it was a let down.

The final scenes however, might move the fastest and have the most audience response. It is in these film frames that Caan's character reaps his own horror on his capture. Going into further detail here, however, will give the ending away.

Bob Reiner traverses the directing chasm from comedy to this horror film. The path probably wasn't easy as evident in some scenes, but it definitely can be considered a success.

Caan has a rather easy role, due to his physical immobility from the accident. This restrains his performance to dialog and facial expressions which he accomplishes with the ease of an accomplished actor.

Fairly new to the big screen, Bates gave a fantastic performance in the more difficult role. She had to be convincingly nice and sweet, a true fan, but she also had to be able to put terror into her victim. Her acting shines bright and she gains the spotlight as the best performer in the show.

Overall, 'Misery' is recommended because of a skillful suspense development and superb acting and directing. Even though the film does the title of 'horror show,' however, don't expect a lot of blood and guts or a lot of dramatic climax.

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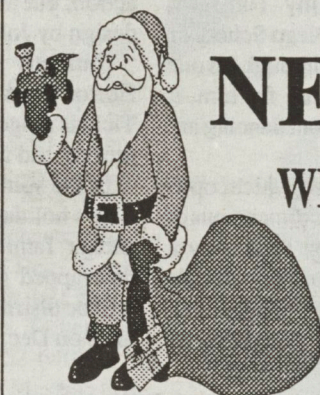
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CALENDAR 15

CSUSM

CLOSED CAMPUS: Cal State San Marcos and SDSU North County campus will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 24 to Dec. 28 and Jan. 1.

LIFECAREER: This counseling series will continue on Dec. 13 and 20. The meetings are held in Building 145, Room 1 at noon.

WINTER INAGURAL BASH: A fundraiser to raise money for Cal State San Marcos's first yearbook is scheduled at the Earthquake Cafe in Restaurant Row. This special event will begin at 4 p.m. on Dec. 14. Tickets are \$1 and can be purchased through any member of the Student Yearbook Subcommittee. Door Prizes will be awarded to lucky participants.

Music

BAD COMPANY: Performs with Damn Yankees on Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. at Golden Hall, San Diego. 278-8497

BEAT FARMERS: Performs Dec. 28 at the Bacchanal, San Diego. 560-8022/278-8497

BRUCH HORNSBY and the RANGE: Performs Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. at Golden Hall, San Diego. 278-8497

CRAZY 8: Performs Dec. 11 at the Belly Up Tavern, Solana Beach. 481-9022

DALE TURNER: Performs Wednesday nights at the Old Del Mar Cafe, Del Mar. 755-6614

DAMN YANKEES: Perform with Bad Company on Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. at Golden Hall, San Diego. 278-8497

DON PEDRO TALENT SHOW NIGHT: A Showcase for musicians and singers every Friday and Saturday at Can-Cun Restaurant, Rancho Bernardo. 485-8282

EARL THOMAS AND THE BLUES AMBASSADORS: Perform Monday nights at the Belly Up Tavern, Solana Beach. 481-9022

FOLK MUSIC HOOT NIGHT: 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Metaphor Coffee House, Escondido. 489-8890

GARY SCOTT JAZZ QUARTET: 8-12 p.m. on Saturday nights (except Dec. 22) at the U.S. Grant Lounge, San Diego. 232-3121

GREG HARTLINE: Performs Tuesday through Saturday nights at J.P.'s Lounge at the Pala Mesa Golf and Tennis Resort, Fallbrook. 728-5881

GOODTIMES JAZZ QUARTET: 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday nights (except Dec. 25) at the U.S. Grant Lounge, San Diego. 232-3121

JOE PASS: Performs Dec. 12-16

and 19-23 at Elario's, La Jolla. 459-0541

LYDIA LUNCH: Performs Dec. 13 at the Casbah, San Diego. 294-9033

MELISSA MORGAN with JULIA MORGAN: Performs Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Marquis Public Theater, San Diego. 295-5654/699-0305

MIKE MAISON: Performs 7 to 10 p.m. Sundays at Acapulco, Rancho Bernardo - 487-6701; also 7 to 11 p.m. on Tuesdays at The French Cafe, San Diego - 566-4000; and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at Club Coronado - 437-3040

MOJONIXON: Performs Dec. 13 at 9 p.m. at the Belly Up Tavern, Solana Beach. 481-9022

PASSION: A 9 p.m. performance is scheduled Tuesday through Saturday nights at Henry's, Carlsbad. 729-9244

POISON: Performs with Warrant on Dec. 30 at the San Diego Sports Arena. 278-8497

POWERSURGE: Featuring Gary Farmer and Felipe Deagular every Wednesday through Saturday at 9 p.m. at Fogerty's Pub, Escondido. 743-9141

PROGRESSIVE JAM SESSION: 8 p.m. on Mondays at the Metaphor Coffee House, Escondido. 489-8890

ROCKY HORROR: The Rocky Horror "mini-show" presents live bands before showing the movie every Friday night at the La Paloma Theater, Encinitas. The bands begin at 11 p.m. and the tickets cost \$5. 436-5808

ROMY KAYE and the SWINGING GATES: 5:30-9:30 p.m. on Thursday nights at the U.S. Grant Lounge, San Diego. 232-3121

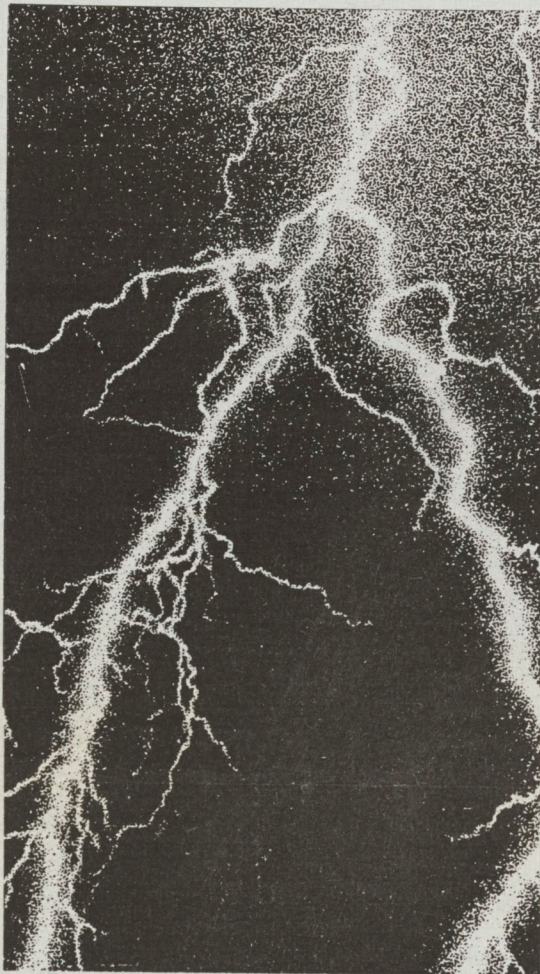
SHOWCASE JAM SESSIONS and OPEN MIKE: Friday and Saturday nights at the Metaphor

Coffee House, Escondido. 489-8890
TAMI THOMAS' BIG BAND SWING: Performing at the Mission Inn, San Marcos, on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

TOBACCO ROAD: 6-10 p.m. on Friday nights at the U.S. Grant Lounge, San Diego. 232-3121

WARRANT: Performs with Poison on Dec. 30 at the San Diego Sports Arena. 278-8497

Moonlight Winter Season



JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Vista's Moonlight Amphitheater open their new winter season with this Andrew Lloyd Weber stage production. Performances are through Dec. 16 at Brengle Terrace Recreation Center, Vista. 724-2110

Theater

A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHT STANDS: The Naked Theater Club presents this Improvisational comedy with changing cast. Performances are every other Friday and Saturday through Dec. 22 at the Marquis Public Theater, San Diego. Tickets are \$7. 295-5654
BELLS ARE RINGING: The Lawrence Welk Resort Theater's production deals with answering service operators and their clients' affairs. It runs through Jan. 12. Tickets are \$25-\$34. 749-3448

BLACK NATIVITY: The Southeast Community Theater perform this contemporary, black version of Nativity story through Dec. 16. Ticket prices range from \$2-\$10 with prices for seniors, children, students, military and disabled. 262-2817

BLITHE SPIRIT: OnStage Productions performs this play about a novelist's problems with two wives: one alive, one dead. Shows are at 310 3rd Ave., Chula Vista, through Dec. 22. 427-3672

FRANKIE and JOHNNY in the

CLAIR DE LUNE: Pam Grier and William Anton perform a duet at the Hahn Cosmopolitan Theater, San Diego, through Jan. 6. Tickets are \$20-\$22. 234-9583

JOSEPH and the AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT: The Vista Moonlight Amphitheater open their new winter season with this Andrew Lloyd Weber stage production. Performances are through Dec. 16 at Brengle Terrace Recreation Center, Vista. 724-2110

KPUG: Valley Playhouse performs 'The KPUG Talk Radio Broadcast' at the Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, indefinitely. Performances are 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$9.50. 232-5784

NAKED THEATER: The Naked Theater Club presents 'Improvizado Psychotto' at the Ruse Performance Gallery. The show runs indefinitely on Mondays at 7 p.m. 236-1347

1940s RADIO HOUR: The North County Repertory Theater recreates the early radio shows at the Lomas Santa Fe Plaza, Solana Beach through

Winter Inaugural Bash

A fundraiser to raise money for Cal State San Marcos's first yearbook is scheduled at the Earthquake Cafe in Restaurant Row. This special event will begin at 4 p.m. on Dec. 14. Tickets are \$1 and can be purchased through any member of the Student Yearbook Subcommittee. Door Prizes will be awarded to lucky participants.

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December. Tickets are \$12-\$14. 481-1055

SPEED THE PLOW: This comedy about sex and ethics is performed by the Bowery Theater in the Kingston Hotel, San Diego, through Dec. 30. Tickets are \$12-\$16. 232-4088

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Ken Hill presents his original London stage musical Dec 26 through 31 at San Diego Symphony Hall. This is not the Andrew Lloyd Weber version. 278-8497

UNDERGROUND AT THE LYCEUM: Improvisational comedy at the Lyceum Theater, Horton Plaza, on Friday and Saturday indefinitely. Tickets are \$5. 226-5222

WORLD WITHOUT END: The Holly Hughes performs present this production at Sushi, San Diego, through Dec. 14. Tickets are \$10. 235-8466

Arts

GALLERY ROCHELLE MONIQUE: Presenting contemporary glass sculpture by several gallery artists through Dec. 30. 298-2684

GALLERY VISTA: An exhibition entitled "The Beginning at the End" celebrates the first anniversary of the

gallery's opening reception one year ago. It features 23 artists with works in glass, granite, pottery, ceramics, oil, watercolor, acrylics, original prints, mixed media, weaving and jewelry. The showing is open through Jan. 5 at 226 E. Broadway, Vista. 758-5258

LEUCADIA ART GALLERY: Presenting oils by Robert McKenzie, monoprints by Janice Gray, hand-colored photography by Padgett McFeeley, and the Fidelity Collection. 753-8829

Comedy

A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHT STANDS: The Naked Theater Club presents this Improvisational comedy with changing cast. Performances are every other Friday and Saturday through Dec. 22 at the Marquis Public Theater, San Diego. Tickets are \$7. 295-5654

COMEDY NITE: North County's own comedy hot spot has several comedians in their line up, including several special events:

- Benny Ricardo's comedy showcase - every Tuesday night
- Joe Restivo, Lee Allen, Robin Cee - Dec. 12-15
- San Diego USO benefit hosted by Gabe Kaplan - Dec. 16
- Ken Sonkin, John Padon, Carl Grant - Dec. 19-23

Film Series

The San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art presents six films in its Spanish and Chilean series; the final three shows are in December:

- "Latend Image," a still-banned film by Pablo Perlman - Dec. 5
- "October Country," by Daniel de la Vega - Dec. 12
- "Angels," by Tatiana Gaviola and "Yesterday's Dream," by Rodrigo Ortuzar - Dec. 19

All films screen at 7:30 p.m. in Sherwood Auditorium, La Jolla.

Comedy Night is located at 2216 el Camino Real, Ste. 104, Oceanside. 757-2177

THE GAME SHOW: It's a spoof of the TV game shows played for prizes and fun at Bugsy's Speakeasy, Escondido, every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. 758-9171

THE IMPROVISATION: This comedy spot has several shows coming up:

- Mark Pitta, Bob Nickman, Howar Leff - Dec. 11-16
- Al Lubel, Mat Weinhold, Frank Mazano - Dec. 18-23

The Improv is located at 832 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 483-4520

UNDERGROND AT THE LYCEUM: Improvisational comedy

at the Lyceum Theater, Horton Plaza, on Friday and Saturday indefinitely. Tickets are \$5. 226-5222

Films

SPACETHEATER: The Reuben H. Fleet Space Theater in Balboa Park has five films throughout the month of November:

- "Blue Planet" - about earth and its environment.
- "Laser Rush III" - New laser-light concert featuring the music of Rush.
- "Rock to the Stars" - A new laser-rock space fantasy showing.
- "We are Born of Stars" - The worlds first 3-D Omnimax film returns

to take audiences on a five-billion-year journey throughout the evolution of life.

Call for times. 238-1233

SPANISH AND CHILEAN FILM SERIES: The San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art presents six films in the series; the final three shows are in December:

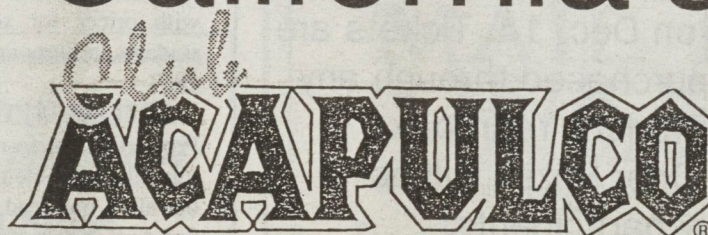
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All films screen at 7:30 p.m. in Sherwood Auditorium, La Jolla. 454-3541

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