2-23-1996

February 23 1996

Friday Bulletin

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FUNDING OF COMMONS, VISUAL ARTS RETROFITS RESTS ON PROP. 203 PASSAGE

The safety of public education facilities is central to many of the building projects, including two here, that would be funded by voter approval of the $3 billion Proposition 203 on the March 26 ballot. Seismic retrofits of the Commons and the new, at-the-uninhabited, Visual Arts Center are two of the projects that would be covered by the general obligation bond funding. A third, tentative project is the expansion of the administrative services corporation yard in the Physical Plant area, noted David DeMauro, vice president (Administration and Finance). If the bond measure passes and all projects are funded, the university would receive about $10 million in improvements.

Why does the new visual arts building need improvements? “The building was designed four or five years ago and the seismic standards have changed since it was built,” DeMauro explains. In fact, he adds, the structural concerns are the same as those that have emerged since the Northridge earthquake.

“We were aware during construction that changes were needed and we applied to the state for augmentation but it was not granted.” The work will involve reinforcement of the steel-column frame joins, where the beams meet the columns, throughout the building. Because the building is designed like a warehouse in some sections with exposed and unfinished beams, the reinforcement work will be less disruptive than might be expected. In the classrooms, DeMauro says, improvements will have to be made working around the occupants, who are expected to move into the building by this fall.

More than two-thirds of the Proposition 203 funding will go to K-12, which has been combined with public higher education funding needs for the first time in a bond initiative. Support for the ballot measure comes from a wide number of groups, including the California Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters of California, the California Taxpayers’ Association, the California Business Roundtable and the California Labor Federation AFL-CIO. On campus, the measure is endorsed by the Faculty Senate and the University Advisory Board. Opposition is being registered by the Libertarian Party.

‘MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM’ BECOMES THIS WINTER’S REALITY

The real world and the imagined come together in Shakespeare’s comedy, "A Midsummer Night’s Dream," opening March 8 in the University Theatre. Love is in the air after Theseus, the Duke of Athens, and Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, come to the conclusion that their marriage is the only way to end the conflict between their two lands.

And confusion is in the air after the duke tells Hermia one day that she must marry whom her father tells her to marry, in this instance, her unbeloved Demetrius.

Instead, Hermia flees to the fairy world with her true passion, Lysander, whose eyes Pack, an attendant, touches with a magic love juice that causes one to fall in love with the first person they see upon awakening.

"Midsummer Night’s is continually fascinating," says Ron Barnes, director for the play, “because of the fantasy, and fantasy has great flexibility.”

But today, Barnes adds, imagination is in much shorter supply than in the 16th and early 17th centuries when Shakespeare wrote. While computers are enhancing the world of special effects, he points to films such as "Babe" that use technological wizardry to make animals talk rather than leaving that ability to the imagination.

"This play is one of Shakespeare’s many explorations of dream," Barnes says, and the "title of the play itself raises the question, ‘Whose dream is it?’" See the “Calendar” section for play dates and times.

TO BOSNIA WITH LOVE: VALENTINES FOR SOLDIERS

Care packages containing snacks and toiletries as well as personal greetings for U.S. soldiers stationed in Bosnia were sent by Cal State residence hall students in time for Valentine’s Day.

The project was led by Cynthia Olivo, a residence hall assistant who has a cousin, PFC Daniel Jiminez, involved in the Bosnian intervention. Nearly 100 packages were put together with the help of a donation from the Ramada Inn and sent to the Army pararescuemen of the 355th Airborne division who are stationed in Italy.

"Everyone in the Village (residence halls) has been very generous," Olivo reports, adding that those who couldn’t afford to make a contribution were encouraged to write a note.

FEBRUARY 23, 1996

KRAUS REVIEWS CRIME STATS

University employees can take solace in the fact that our violent crime rate is far below that of the surrounding community," says Dennis Kraus, director (Public Safety) in his official summary of the past year.

Totals for 1995 showed no violent crimes, such as forcible rape, weapons assaults and murders, were committed on campus last year. The number of weapons violations decreased by four in 1995, although there were increases in non-force sex crimes or date rape, and robberies.

In each of these two areas, Kraus says, figures showed a net increase of two. Simple assaults also rose slightly in 1994. Each of these cases produced minor or no injuries.

"While the Department of Public Safety takes violent crime very seriously, the nature of these incidents does not indicate a significant threat to general campus safety," the number of misdemeanor arrests tripled in the past year rising from 15 to 45. Most of the arrests were for drunk driving or petty theft.

Kraus says that filing a new "incident report" could help reduce or eliminate hazards or prevent crime. Reporting unlocked doors or TVACs left in an unsecured room are situations in which the reports would be used, he explains.

Overall, crime went up by 11.5 percent in 1995. The increase was due to the number of property crimes committed in the parking lots around the university.

Kraus says his department’s goal this year is to reduce those crimes by 15 percent.
CONCERTS, RENAISSANCE BANQUET SET FOR MARCH

The CSUSB Concert Choir and the CSUSB Jazz Ensemble will perform March 3 and 5, respectively, in the university's Recital Hall.

Presenting an afternoon of German Romantic choral music served up with tea and cookies, the 3 p.m. concert will be directed by Tamara Harsh, assistant professor (Music).

Works on the program include "Lebenslust" by Franz Schubert, "Zigeunerleben" (A Gypsy’s Life) by Robert Schumann, and two works by Johannes Brahms, and other pieces by such composers as Anton Bruckner, Antonin Dvorak, and Felix Mendelssohn. Student conductor Connie Jennen will conduct two pieces on the program, and several student soloists will be featured.

Two days later, March 5, Andy Cleaves will direct his student jazz ensemble. The band will do works by Sammy Nestico and Lenny Niehaus, among others.

Tickets for both performances are $5 for general admission and $3 for students and senior citizens. Harsh comes back March 14-16 and 22 and 23 to conduct the CSUSB Chamber Singers as they present the 21st Annual Renaissance Banquet. The evening of food and music will take place in the Student Union Events Center.

The Chamber Singers will perform a varied selection of Renaissance and modern madrigals as well as the Gilbert and Sullivan spoof, "Trial by Jury." "A fancy look at the British court system of the 18th century hits us close to home in light of our own recent "Trial of the Century," says Harsh, referring to the O.J. Simpson case settled last year. The program will also be prepared by university chef, Tito Calderon (Foundation Food Services) and served by the performers.

More information is available from her Ext. 5859 is March 1. Tickets are $30. All proceeds from the banquet support scholarships for music students.

JANUARY 1996

CRIME STATS

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FREE TAX PREPARATION OFFERED BY ACCOUNTING CLUB

Free help with income tax form preparation is being offered to low-income, Spanish-speaking and disabled persons until April 13 through the School of Business and Public Administration.

Sponsored by the student accounting club, CSUSB students will provide one-on-one assistance to the taxpayer. The prepared federal and state returns will be reviewed by supervising faculty, notes Dr. John Kirtzberg, a professor of management who oversees the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Electronic filing is also available.

No appointments are necessary. Assistance is offered at Cal State on Wednesdays through March 13, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Room 141 of Jack Brown Hall and on Saturdays at the Pechbrey Library in San Bernardino through April 13, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Spanish-speaking assistants will be available at all of the sessions.

Participants should bring W-2 forms and information about other income and deductions as well as a copy of last year’s return and the tax forms they’ve received in the mail, Kirtzberg says.

"Students have received special training to offer this taxpayer assistance," she says. "The program is part of the university’s commitment to provide professional service to the community."

More information is available from her Ext. 5714.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

It’s a virtual jazz feast at a jazz festival Feb. 28 when Caribbean Breeze, The Andy Cleaves Band and The Philippe Vieux Quartet play at the Student Union Events Center. Things start at 7 p.m. Ticket information is in the “Calendar” section.

YOTES COME HOME

Homecoming is upon us. It starts with a pep fest in the Student Union courtyard on Feb. 29 and finishes with two March 2 barbecues—the first of some good food, the second of the UC Riverside men’s basketball team (Go, Yotes). Call the Alumni Office at Ext. 5008 for tickets. See "Calendar" for details.

SPONSOR A GRAD

Asian-American students will celebrate their graduation this year during the special Third Annual African-American Graduation Ceremony scheduled for June 7. Departmental or individual contributions of $35 will sponsor one student at the event, and supporters may specify names as many as four or donate whatever amount is convenient. Sponsorships should be in by April 5 to Jeanette White in the Financial Aid Office. Questions should be directed to Jenice Earl-Bush at Ext. 5567.

JAZZ-O-PLENTY

The CSUSB Jazz Ensemble will perform directed by Tamara Harsh, assistant professor (Music). The program includes works by Robert Schumann, two works by Johannes Brahms, and other pieces by such composers as Anton Bruckner, Antonin Dvorak, and Felix Mendelssohn. Student conductor Connie Jennen will conduct two pieces on the program, and several student soloists will be featured.

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FRIDAY, FEB. 29

Talk
Topics in education with Jose Hernandez, CSUSB associate professor of education.
U.C. Riverside, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Baseball
Cal State, Los Angeles. 1 p.m. (double-header).

HOMECOMING
All-you-can-eat (and drink) barbecue with live music 4:30 p.m., small gym. Men's basketball game against U.C. Riverside.
Halftime show features step dancers, contests and cash prizes.
7:30 p.m., Concepcion Arena.
$3 for children under 12, $4 for students, for general admission. Ext. 5008.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

Music
CSUSB Concert Choir, 3 p.m., Recital Hall. General admission $5, students and senior citizens. Ext. 5859.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

CSUSB Jazz Ensemble. 7-10 p.m.

WED., MARCH 6

Talk
Brown Bag Lecture Series, with Dr. Meryl Perlson, Women's Resource and Adult Re-entry Center, Noon-1:30 p.m. Free. Ext. 7203.

THURS., MARCH 7

Talk
"France Defends the Rights of Man," by Terri Nelson, CSUSB associate professor of foreign languages.
U.C. Riverside, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Women's Tennis
Grand Canyon University, 1:30 p.m.

Spanish Theater
"Don Juan Tenorio," by Jose Zorrilla. 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall. General admission $3 at door. Ext. 5847.

FUNDRAISERS

Melvin V. Fattal, '90, is raising funds to benefit the U.C. Riverside men's basketball team. The program includes works by Robert Schumann, two works by Johannes Brahms, and other pieces by such composers as Anton Bruckner, Antonin Dvorak, and Felix Mendelssohn. Student conductor Connie Jennen will conduct two pieces on the program, and several student soloists will be featured.

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IN MEMORIAM

The campus community's sympathy goes to the family and friends of Helen Koon, professor emerita (English), who passed away Feb. 13. Funeral services were held Feb. 21 at the Old North Church, Forest Lawn, in Hollywood.