DECEMBER 1, 1981

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CONCERT BLENDS CHRISTMAS VARIETY

Custom says that Christmas is a time for feasting, sharing and recalling traditions. All these elements that make the season special will be combined by SVSC musicians in a Friday, December 11, concert.

Set for 7:30 p.m. in the theatre, the program is directed by Dr. Eric Nisula, assistant professor of music. Performing groups include SVSC's concert and chamber choirs, the early music collegium and the brass ensemble.

There's food for the soul in the variety of music they plan to present. Selections range from ancient Christmas music to such modern favorites as Mel Torme's "Christmas Song" ("Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire"). Other traditional music includes Gustave Holst's "Christmas Day" and seasonal songs by Schutz, Mouton, Warlock, Liszt, Vaughn Williams and Britten.

And the audience will be invited to share the singing of "Angels We Have Heard on High" with the choir and orchestra. Accompanying them will be the Bach trumpets with a triple descant.

Featured work of the evening will be J.S. Bach's "Magnificat" by the concert choir. The choir includes a number of community singers plus SVSC music students. They've been rehearsing since early September to master the rich orchestration and vocal passages of the "Magnificat," according to Nisula.

Accompanying the singers is an orchestra composed of members of the Saginaw and Midland symphonies. Rodney Bieber will serve as concertmaster, with Jane Bellen as oboe soloist. Playing first trumpet will be Dennis Horton, member of the Central Michigan University music faculty. Vocal solos are by Sally Jacqmain, Julie Meyer, Jill Vary, David Carmona and Donald Gingrich.

As the performance begins, the audience will be surrounded with instrumental music from both on and off stage. Sounds of the brass ensemble will be echoed and counterpointed by two trumpets from the orchestra to create the brilliant sound Bach had in mind, says Nisula.

The public is invited to join in this holiday celebration. Tickets are $2 general admission or $1.50 for students and senior citizens. They are available at the door or in advance by phoning ext. 4159. Since seats are not reserved, it is recommended that listeners arrive early to be assured of good seats.

SVSC STRETCHING BUCKS AS ENROLLMENT RISES

Many people believe small colleges are inefficient to operate, because of high administrative costs relative to their size. But that's not the case here at SVSC.

Despite being Michigan's second-smallest state assisted public college, SVSC actually received less money per student from the state last year than all but four of the state's other 14 institutions of higher learning.

Michigan taxpayers provided $343 less per full-time SVSC student in 1980-81 than they did a decade ago, if inflation is considered. Using constant 1972 dollars, the state's appropriation per student actually declined from $1,507 in 1970-71 to $1,164 in 1980-81.

In actual (inflated) dollars, the state...
provided $1,377 per student a decade ago and $2,065 in 1980-81. That was down from $2,441 the previous year.

Students themselves are making up much of the difference, as the percentage of educational costs they pay has risen from 22 percent ten years ago to 32 percent for 1980-81. Meanwhile state appropriations have dropped from 76 percent of general college revenues in 1970-71 to 64 percent this past year.

Total general fund expenditures per student at SVSC declined from $3,274 during 1979-80 to $3,221 for 1980-81, a drop of $53. SVSC is one of only three colleges to record a reduction.

"These figures show that SVSC is not an extravagance," asserts president Jack M. Ryder. "The low cost of operating SVSC results partly from sheer necessity but also reflects good management. Both the student and the state are getting a terrific return on their investment here. Although our operating cost is low, students repeatedly tell us how pleased they are with the quality of instruction here."

Just as the amount of money appropriated to SVSC is low compared with other Michigan public colleges, allocations made statewide in recent years have been substantially below the nation as a whole. According to the October 21 "Chronicle of Higher Education," state appropriations to Michigan public colleges rose just two percent in the past two years, ranking this state 50th and far below the national average of 20 percent.

The two-year change less inflation in Michigan has been -19 percent, also making us last in the nation. Michigan has also been among the last states in its funding change to higher education over the past decade, at -3 percent after adjusting for inflation. Only Vermont at -4 percent and Illinois with -6 percent are lower.

Michigan also is 38th in appropriations per $1,000 of personal income this year, a statistic considered by many to be the fairest measurement of tax dollars spent for higher education. The state is 34th in appropriations per capita, far behind the Plains and Southern states.

"Even with reduced state support, some colleges have managed to get by in recent years because their enrollments have stabilized or dropped off. They haven't had to add new faculty or facilities," Ryder emphasizes. "Thus we've been affected by the squeeze of inflation, reduced state aid, and increased demands for instruction all at the same time. We're now larger than 60 percent of the colleges in America and all but one of Michigan's 54 private colleges, but our growth has come during a time of diminished resources."

YOU'RE INVITED TO TWO CHRISTMAS PARTIES

There'll be Christmas cake, eggnog and a special appearance by Santa Claus this Thursday, December 3, during the annual Christmas tree trimming and party in the Doan Center mall area. Festivities get under way at 10:00 a.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. Also included is a cookie exchange from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., giving you an opportunity to trade some of your cookies for a special sampling of treats concocted by others. You're invited to bring an ornament and help trim the college tree.

SVSC's all-college Christmas luncheon is set for next Thursday, December 10, at noon. The Linden-Hof Supper Club, 201 N. Euclid, Bay City, is planning an all-you-can-eat salad bar along with soup, sirloin tips of beef over rice, homemade breads and coffee, tea or milk. Total price including including tax and tip is $5.50 per person. Reservations and payment must be received by this Friday, December 4. To make your reservation, please contact Alice Cornejo, ext. 4108, or Nancy Deike, ext. 4112, in personnel or Patti Zimmer, ext. 4045, in Wickes annex.

You're also invited to enter the annual holiday window decorating contest sponsored by the office of campus activities. This year's decorating is open to office groups as well as residential students, and there are cash awards for decorations receiving first, second or third place in judging. Applications from those wishing to enter should be picked up at the information desk in Doan Center by this Friday, December 4. Completed applications and a $15 refundable cleaning deposit should be submitted to Liz Kornacki in the scheduling office, 224 Wickes Hall.

You can enter even if there is not a window in your immediate office area, as plenty of choice locations remain to be assigned.

Judging will take place next Wednesday, December 9, with winning entries announced at 3:00
p.m. Prizes this year are $30, $20 and $10 for first through third places. Only water-color paints mixed by the campus activities office may be used for decorating. Call ext. 4093 for details.

**SVSC ONE OF FOUR REPORTING GAINS**

Nearly 7,300 fewer students are attending Michigan's four-year public colleges and universities this fall than a year ago. A total of 234,802 students have enrolled at Michigan's fifteen public colleges and universities, a three percent decline from the record high 242,082 last year.

At the same time, four of the colleges -- Ferris State, SVSC and the U. of M. branches in Dearborn and Flint -- all report more students than ever before. Enrollment figures were released by the Michigan Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO) at the group's annual meeting.

Michigan State University recorded the biggest loss in numbers with its 44,887 student head count down 2,429 from 1980 for a 5.1 percent decline. The biggest percentage of loss, though, was at Wayne State University, where this fall's 31,522 students are 5.6 percent or 1,886 fewer than the 33,408 attending in fall 1980.

Grand Valley State College was down 4.1 percent or 285 students, with a 6,699 enrollment. Head count at Central Michigan University fell 3.4 percent or 616 students to 17,653. Oakland University's 11,644 students represent a decline of 362 or 3.0 percent.

Recording losses of 2.8 percent were Northern and Western Michigan universities. Figures for NMU show 9,013 students, a loss of 259, while WMU dropped 642 to 21,999. Eastern Michigan University was off 527 students or 2.7 percent at 18,766, while the University of Michigan-Dearborn fell by 925 students or 2.5 percent to 35,386. Michigan Technological University had a modest 1.1 percent loss of 86 students, with 7,779 enrolling.

Sharing a 4.5 percent growth this year were both the Dearborn and Flint U. of M. branches. Dearborn's head count grew by 284 to 6,575, while UM-Flint added 199 for a 4,609 total. Enrollment at Lake Superior State College was up 2.3 percent or 58 students to 2,559 but was not a record. Ferris State College presently has 11,387 students, reflecting a 1.4 percent or 156 student growth. SVSC reached a new high of 4,324 students, up .9 percent or 40. MACRAO figures exclude noncredit and correspondence students, auditors and high school students taking college courses.

Among community colleges reporting figures to MACRAO, Delta College showed a .7 percent growth, with a 10,013 fall head count, up 68 over a year earlier.

In the four-year, private college category, a 7.3 percent or 88 student loss was reported by Alma College, which presently has 1,110 persons enrolled. Northwood Institute was off .8 percent or 16 students, with 1,929 attending this fall.

A national sampling survey reported in the November 4 "Chronicle of Higher Education" estimates total college enrollment on American campuses at about 12.3 million students, up 1.6 percent from the previous record of 12,087,200 set a year ago. That figure represented a 3.2 percent rise over fall 1979.

The number of people enrolled this fall is up by an estimated 3.2 percent at two-year colleges and .5 percent at four-year institutions, according to the survey. The number of part-time students increased by 3.1 percent at four-year colleges this fall, while enrollment of full-time students declined by .5 percent.

According to the chronicles, National Center for Education Statistics records indicate that college enrollment in the U.S. has increased every fall for more than a quarter century, except for declines in 1976 and 1978. Over the past ten years, enrollment has grown at an average rate of 3.4 percent a year across the country.

**TRADITIONAL POLISH CHRISTMAS PARTY SET AT SVSC**

Will the animals apeak at the Polish Christmas party at SVSC? Probably not, but according to Polish custom they do on Christmas Eve.

"I personally remember talking to my cat for hours, expecting her to talk back," says Dr. Anna Dadlez, recalling the traditions of her youth in Poland. "Of course, the stories tell us that animals only speak to people who truly respect them," she adds.

Dadlez is head of the Institute of Polish Studies, which is sponsoring a traditional
Polish Christmas Eve celebration on Friday, December 18. Set for 7:00 p.m. in lower level Doan Center, the "Wigilia" will consist of a dinner, 12 courses long according to custom.

"The meal combines the spiritual element of Christmas with the get-together of family and friends," Dadlez notes.

Dr. Cezary Mendelius, an exchange professor from the University of Poznan, Poland, is assisting with the traditional details of the celebration. He is also helping to plan the menu.

"We will have only nine courses, but they will be the traditional ones," Mendelius says. On the menu is mushroom soup, noodles, uszka--dumplings stuffed with mushrooms, boiled millet--a rice-like dish, and a fruit compote made from dried fruits cooked with spices and orange peel and served cold. They are also planning to have buckwheat gruel and "makielki"--rolls dipped in milk and mixed with ground poppy seeds, raisins and sugar. For dessert there will be a poppy seed cake, called "makowiec."

The main course will be fish, but not the traditional Polish carp. "We will have to substitute herring for the carp, because it is just not available here," Mendelius explains. Polish carp are raised on fish farms and grain fed, which gives them a very delicious flavor, the professor says.

According to custom, before the meal can begin, a star must first be sighted in the sky.

"You cannot sit down to supper until you have seen the star, because this symbolizes that Christ has been born," Dadlez comments. "Much emphasis is put on the coming of Christ."

After the star is seen the meal begins with the breaking of the "oplatek," a wafer, by all present.

"The oplatek is the bread of love because you share it with those you love," Dadlez says. "Of course, if you have quarreled with a family member you have to make up with them before you can share the wafer."

She also explains that hay is put under the tablecloth to remind everyone that Christ was born in a manger.

"One setting at the table is left empty, for anyone who might come to the door. You must welcome anyone who comes to your door because Christ might arrive disguised as a beggar," Dadlez remarks. "This tradition is very strongly felt in Poland." As evidence, she points out that her aunt once accepted a Soviet refugee during a period when the two countries were at war.

Besides the dinner there will be a Christmas tree decorated in the traditional Polish style with candy, glass bulbs, fruit, and paper stars and chains. The tree is sometimes decorated with cotton to symbolize the desire for a "white" Christmas.

After dinner there will be two musicians on hand to aid in the singing of Polish Christmas carols. Mendelius will talk about the history and significance of the carols and translate a few into English.

Persons interested in attending the party, which is open to the public, are asked to purchase tickets by Sunday, December 13. They are available from John Falasz at 893-9649 or Mrs. Helen Zalucha at 792-7988. For further information, call the SVSC Institute of Polish Studies at ext. 4315.

ACROSS CAMPUS--

--Admissions' senior secretary Martha Smith became a grandmother for the first time and faculty secretary Mimi Smith is a new aunt following the birth of Christopher John Owens last Sunday. Christopher's mother, Nancy, is the daughter of Martha and sister of Mimi Smith. Both Nancy and her husband, Dennis, are SVSC grads and teachers at St. Stephen's high school. Christopher weighed in at 7 lbs. 12 oz., was 20 inches long and is doing well.

--For the second straight year, Eugene Marve has been named Most Valuable Player on SVSC's football team. This season he had more tackles than any player in SVSC's six years of football--56 solo stops and 68 assists--and is the first SVSC player to be named to the G.L.I.A.C. All-League team three times.

Earning other top awards at Monday's award banquet were Howard Harrison, named the top defensive player; Duane duChemin, earning the Coca-Cola Gold Helmet Award and Andy Wilson, named the squad's outstanding offensive player. Fifty-one letter winners were honored.