

SPECIAL EDUCATION ISSUE

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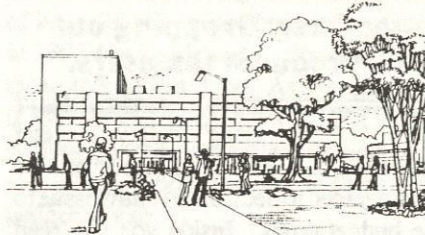
EDITORIAL

Cuts Will Affect Us All

By John Kenny

If passed, Governor Pete Wilson's proposed budget for 1991-92 will affect you. It will affect your brothers and sisters. It will affect your mothers, fathers, sons and daughters as well. Most importantly, it will drastically affect your education and your future.

Proposition 98 guarantees that a certain portion of the state budget will go to kindergarten through community college public school funding. Gov. Wilson's proposed suspension of Prop.98 is absolutely ludicrous. If 98 is suspended, public schools will lose \$2 billion of the amount guaranteed by Prop 98. The loss to community colleges is slated at over \$270 million. The San Mateo Community College District stands to lose \$5.5 million. Canada's loss would amount to approximately \$724,000. The 8% reduction Canada will



have to make will affect you.

If you are thinking of transferring to a state university in order to avoid these cuts, think again. State university tuition, as well as Canada's tuition, will be raised at least 20% come next Fall.

Here is a brief synopsis of what Gov. Wilson proposes. Wilson proposes to suspend Prop. 98; to offer no cost of living adjustments (COLA) for community colleges; to increase tuition by 20%; and zilch, zero, zippo for new instructional equipment or library materials. Is this guy kidding?

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A 'Productive Canada' Needed Says Smith

By Yvonne Moriarty

"The future of Canada is undetermined, but administrators are optimistic. Presently Canada is the least productive of the three community colleges in the district. The new President, Dr. Doug Kechter, will try to bring Canada up to the level of the other two colleges," according to Chancellor Glenn Smith.

According to Smith, one problem is the curriculum. It attracts students who only attend a few classes. The goal is to retain students who plan on receiving a degree or transferring. The majority of Canada's students are female and the average age is over 25. The class schedule will be re-evaluated to determine what areas can be changed to make Canada more productive.

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Division Deans Prepare to Slash

By Suzanne Whitney

With the inevitable budget cuts proposed for all of California's schools, Canada College is within a college district where proposed cuts will exceed more than \$5 million. Many of the college programs will be cut back and in some cases, where the course is not mandatory for a program, eliminated as a cost-saving measure.

Dr. H. Grace Adams, Dean of Business/Social Sciences Division, stated that she would not arbitrarily eliminate courses to save money. One of

the results of the cutbacks would be larger classes due to the elimination of many duplicate courses. Adams believes that it is more important to keep the courses which students need in order for them to graduate and said that "we are doing everything we can to best serve the students."

The computer labs would not be cut, but supplies, equipment, discretionary accounts, repairs and mileage accounts would have to be cut.

Her approach is to take the negative and try to turn it into a positive situation. Adams stated, "In the Divi-

sion, we have developed a student-oriented fall schedule by (a) eliminating double sections of courses where possible; (b) anticipating that many students who are not able to attend CSU will be at Canada and will need a variety of course offerings; (c) considering the course needs of students who will graduate within the next year; and (d) deciding to cancel courses with low enrollment after careful consideration."

Adams believes that what should be foremost in the minds of everyone at budget cutting level is that the

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BUDGET EDITORIAL from pg. 1

The impact on California is potentially devastating. Currently our state deficit is close to \$13 billion. Taking two billion away from our schools is not the solution.

The California Teachers Association (CTA) said it best, "Education produces taxpayers. Dropping out produces tax users." According to the CTA, for every \$1 dollar invested in our schools, \$7 are returned to our society and Economy. The Community College League notes that, "Dozens of areas where corporations or wealthy individuals are not paying their share have been identified. Taxing the investment income of insurance companies alone would generate more than \$1 billion. Adding a top bracket for single tax payers making more than \$100,000 (or couples making more than \$200,000) will raise more than a billion. A half-cent increase in sales tax would raise \$1.7 billion." Check this out: It costs the state \$24,000 to put somebody in jail. It costs the state \$4,000 to give a person an education at a community college. Why send a person to jail for a minor crime at the taxpayers' expense, when the taxpayers give that person an education which would keep that person out of jail while saving \$20,000 in tax payer dollars at the same time.

"The battle over the budget and the threat to suspend Prop. 98 continues. A successful rally against the cuts,

co-sponsored by the California Federation of Teachers (CFT), drew 8,000 people on April 3 and heard Jesse Jackson speak. Faculty, students, and administrators can help by calling or writing their legislators. Urge them not to suspend Prop. 98, we need to move toward progressive taxation. Urge them to stop balancing the budget at the cost of education and social services," CFT stated.

"Education produces taxpayers. Dropping out produces tax users."

The Long Valley Gazette staff feels this issue is so important, we have decided to dedicate an entire issue to the budget crisis. Inside you can read how the proposed budget will affect you. Take the 20 minutes to read this issue, **IT'S YOUR LIFE.**

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Shaw Play in Flex

"Candida," the Canada College Drama Department's first production of the spring season, opens April 18 at 8 p.m. in the college's Flexible Theatre. It will run Thursdays through Saturdays ending April 27.

George Bernard Shaw's most frequently presented comedy, "Candida" will feature a strong local cast headed by Rori Welling, a Stanford University employee from Palo Alto. Reverend Morell is played by John Rechtfertig from Mountain View and the young poet is played by San Carlos resident Jeffrey Schwamberger.

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New President Says College Will Be Prepared

By John Kenny

As M.C. Hammer says, "Here comes the Hammer." That's exactly what will happen to Canada if Gov. Wilson's proposed budget cuts pass. The only difference is, he'll use an axe instead of a hammer. Should the proposed budget go through, new president Dr. Kechter will have to cut \$724,000 out of a proposed \$8.5 million budget scheduled for Canada.

What the district wants and what Dr. Kechter feels is very prudent, is to take the worst case scenario for granted so Canada will be prepared. The worst case scenario being that we will get basically nothing monetarily from Prop. 98 and costs will go up.

Currently, there is a 2% cut for this year's existing budget being formulated and a hiring freeze has been put into action. Dr. Kechter believes that the budget should be looked at as a whole before adding new positions. "I would hate to commit ourselves to adding new positions, particularly non-instructional positions which don't generate ADA, and then find out we are still \$200,000 short," Dr. Kechter stated.

The potential cuts are being decided by the President, both Vice-Presidents and the Division Deans. The President and the V.P.'s are going through the budget line item by line item. The V.P.'s in turn work with the Division Deans to make cuts in each area. The Division Deans communicate what cuts will take place to the faculty.

"I want to stop everything, go through the budget, make our reductions, look at where we can reduce positions by restructuring a little bit and if we can do that, then it is a dollar savings to us," Dr. Kechter said.

The first things to be looked at will be the non-instructional areas. Non-instructional areas would include

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counseling, matriculation and most student support services. Currently there are two positions open in that area. One is an Administrative Asst. for Business Finance in the business office. The other is the Dean of Special Programs and Services.

There will also be a reduction in FTE. FTE is educationese for the equivalent of one teacher with 15 teaching units each semester. "If we can reduce our FTE, and not affect enrollment, but actually increase our enrollment, we become more efficient," Dr. Kechter stated.

If Prop. 98 is suspended, an increase in enrollment is almost inevitable. With student fees going up at the state colleges and universities, more students will decide to get the first two years out of the way at community colleges. According to Dr. Kechter, there are two ways to handle the potential increase in enrollment. One is the efficient scheduling of FTE and the other is by not cutting too much out of the instructional areas so there are enough classes to accommodate the influx. "It may mean some very full classes," Dr. Kechter stated.

Low enrollment programs and classes will also be looked at first. However, Dr. Kechter doesn't plan to cut all low enrollment classes. There is a certain need for holding on to the second semester and second year classes of certain programs so students know they can continue their education even if enrollment is low.

When asked if Canada would survive a suspension of Prop. 98, Dr. Kechter stated, "Yes. By reducing the budget, the efficient scheduling of FTE, by maintaining the integrity in our instructional programs, and marketing the college, we will survive."



Cooperation Needed on Budget NO 'SILVER LINING'

By Daniel Trecroci

As the state of California and its citizens embark upon going head to head with a projected budget deficit of some \$12.6 billion, the call for optimism, according to many, is being slapped down. Furthermore, Gov. Wilson has called for an ominous slashing of \$2 billion that was to be allocated to California schools, and the probable suspension of Prop. 98, the voter-approved measure in 1988 that entitles education to 40% of the state's general fund. As a result there is the increasing inevitability that every student, teacher, administrator and parent will somehow feel the burn of this budget workout.

"You cannot solve a \$10 billion deficit without education being a piece of the solution," said state Senator Rebecca Morgan, R-Los Altos, who is Vice-Chairman of the state's education committee and a one time teacher and school board member.

In an interview with Audrey Oswald, the district representative to Senator Morgan, the appropriate blame to be placed goes to "the state's incoming revenue lacking proportionality behind the outgoing revenue." Oswald said this could be attributed to factors ranging

from "the welfare system, the unemployment rate at 7% right now, and the recent war in the Middle East.

"Everyone views each program as a separate entity, and in eliminating such programs it is only impartial to share such a burden equally," stated Oswald. She said Senator Morgan's office has been flooded with calls pertaining to the people's outcry. She said they "welcome such input from people in how to make a difference."

Oswald says that nursing the sickly budget back to health will indeed be timely and require a good deal of cooperation and she, along with many other legislators, appear blind to any such immediate silver lining.

"If we were to close down all nine U.C. campuses, all 20 C.S.U. campuses, all 107 community colleges and release all faculty and administrators involved we would still only clear approximately \$9.6 billion of the \$12.6 billion debacle."

Newly appointed Canada College President Doug Kechter in his address to Canada's faculty on April 5, is suggesting the "temporary suspension of hiring new instructors and increased intensity in recruiting new students." (SEE ARTICLE)

It is the duty of California's school districts to coordinate the Governor's proposal and immediately it appeared as if many art and sports programs were the first to be eliminated. Oswald sees this as discouraging.

"I am very much in favor and support the music and sports programs in our schools. However in the elimination of such programs, it is a matter of priority and these programs unfortunately in California, always seem to get touched first.

As we read, Oswald says that she, Morgan and many other legislators are heavily weighing the option of a possible tax increase to offset such a shellacking, and recommends that nobody "jump the gun just yet, nothing has been finalized."

DRAMA from pg. 2

Mel Ellett directs this production which features a Candida whole-somely moral in her immorality and captivatingly immoral in her morality. This Candida shows the real pillar of the family to be the woman, not man. According to Ellett, this is a comedy of ideas...irreverent, incisive, witty and very funny!

All performances are at 8 p.m. in the Flexible Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for students and seniors. General admission tickets are \$6. They may be purchased at the door.

For reservations call: (415) 306-3396.

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Political Science Professor, Ted Reller, believes that it is the diversity at Canada that keeps it interesting and unique. "From the monetary perspective, some of the programs at Canada are a waste, but the loss of these programs would be unfortunate to the community," said Reller.

The biggest problem that the district is facing is the budget. Cuts have to be made. It isn't determined where the cuts will be, but Canada has to reduce its budget by approximately \$724,000. Positions that are vacant will not be filled. Non-instructional services will be reduced or eliminated. Chancellor Smith said, "We will make every effort to avoid layoffs, the future of the instructional aides is too distant at this time."

Prop. 98 guarantees that 40% of the State's budget be awarded to education. Governor Wilson proposed suspending Prop. 98, and he has support in Sacramento. Officials from the health care field, transportation and other various groups are furious about the passage of Prop. 98. **"The attitude of Prop. 98 is give us ours for education and forget about the rest of you. Suspension of Prop. 98 may be the price that education will pay because of state Superintendent Bill Honig and others' greediness,"** according to Chancellor Smith.

Reller also has doubts about Prop. 98. Reller said, "Prop. 98 was bad judgement. It straight jackets the future of the state's budget. Education is extremely important, but other needs such as health care must be considered."

The budget problems facing the district are not limited to Prop. 98. **We have an institution that has no control over the controller.** The district has an increase for the cost of living, but can't control the cost of supplies or medical insurance for employees. However, not all fund raising comes from the state.

University of California (UC) has raised tuition 40%. California State University tuition was raised 20%. More students will be enrolling at Canada because they can't afford tuition at UC or CSU. The effect will be more

overcrowding in the classrooms. Reller feels that it's a bad idea to overcrowd classrooms. Small classes are more valuable and more effective for learning. Eventually, courses may be eliminated and admission restricted.

The tuition at community colleges will be raised 29%. This is only one dollar per unit. The extra tuition money will not go to the college, but will be automatically figured in with the state's budget.

California has a long tradition of free, higher education that is available to everyone. In Michigan, tuition for one semester is \$1,200 and admission is restricted. Oregon and Washington tuition is less than most states, but is still at least 4 times more than tuition in California. "We are fortunate in California and education should not be taken for granted," said Reller.

So what does all this mean to Canada students? Do you prepare for larger class sizes, cut certain classes and not hire new instructors? Or should decision making officials concerning education learn to compromise?

Chancellor Smith is retiring in June, and his future plans are as uncertain as Canada's. Tentatively, he plans to travel and find new hobbies.

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quality of education is the most important consideration to be met. "Fewer dollars should not affect my dedication to teach effectively."

Elizabeth J. Armstrong, Dean of Basic and Applied Sciences stated that the proposed budget cutback will not include Prop. 98 money. Next year the district (College of San Mateo, Skyline and Canada) sees a short fall of approximately \$3 million. The budget in her department is primarily for salaries for teachers.

"I have to maintain enrollments and increase enrollments and at the same time try to reduce the number of sections. Some of the budget cutbacks could be restored but that is not a likely prediction. We have to develop a balanced budget to be submitted next week."

In the area of reducing supplies and equipment, she said that most of

the supplies are bought separately- media is the material cultures grow in and these kind of supplies are extraordinarily expensive. Trimming supplies used in athletics is another area where costs will be contained.

Classes which have a low enrollment and are not essential to a program will be cut, but not when it is required to graduate from the program.

John Friesen, Dean of Humanities, stated there would be fewer courses, and that there would be cuts into multiple sections. His division is trying to make cuts in non-direct instructional areas such as supplies, repairs of equipment and maintenance contracts. Instructional aides are all part time and will not be affected. Friesen also said that tuition would be raised from \$5 per credit to \$6.

The Drama Department will not experience a reduction in the number of productions; however, there will be some Reader's Theater for the 1991-92 season. The cost of supplies, costumes, scripts and royalties will virtually be eliminated in such productions. **"Don Juan in Hell"** is an example.

It won't be until this coming August when the state finalizes its budget for the coming year and then the district and colleges will know how much they have to cut back. Until that time each department will have to prepare its budget based upon last year's figures and hopefully the cuts won't take place until next year.

