"Lord of the Dance" Celtic Dancing Into To Cal Poly May 13-15

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA - American-born dance pioneer Michael Flatley's name is synonymous with the wave of Celtic dance that began sweeping the world in the mid-1990s and has grown steadily ever since. Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance" will perform Tuesday through Thursday, May 13 - 15, at 8 p.m. at the Christopher Cohan Center.

Cal Poly Arts presents Flatley's 40-member "Lord of the Dance" event, which the Los Angeles Times called "a showpiece extravaganza." The Celtic spectacular is reported to be the most popular touring dance production in history, seen by more than 50 million people worldwide.

Flatley spent much of his childhood in Ireland, where he developed an affinity for the traditional form of Celtic dance. Conceived and choreographed by Flatley, "Lord of the Dance" combines the Celtic dance form with ultramodern techniques, high-energy styles of movement, lavish costumes, and pyrotechnics.

Flatley's own muscular style, precision movement, and spectacular speed -- 35 taps per second, according to the "Guinness Book of World Records" -- transformed a quaint folk-dance form into mass-appeal entertainment. Having originated the title role, Flatley presently serves as the show's artistic director.

Tickets for the "Lord of the Dance" performances range from $46 - $58, with student discounts available.

These performances are sponsored by Coast FM 101.3 and La Cuesta Inn.
The three-night Cal Poly Arts engagement represents the end of their 2002/2003 performing arts series.

The Cal Poly Arts Center Stage Summer series begins June 22 with "Weird Al" Yankovic and his Poodle Hat Tour. Other Center Stage Summer events announced to date include "An Evening with Dave Brubeck" on August 29 and vocal artist and three-time Tony winner Audra McDonald on September 12.

Tickets for all Cal Poly Arts events may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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