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Britain's Black Watch Military Pipers Return to Cal Poly March 5

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA – Britain's 94-member Black Watch performs the music of Scotland, England, Ireland, and Wales and the Band of the Welsh Guards' own 1st Battalion Highland Dancers celebrate the pipes, drums, and ceremonial dancing in a spectacular evening of color and pageantry.

Cal Poly Arts presents the return engagement on Sunday, March 5, 2006 at 8 p.m. in the Christopher Cohan Center,

The Black Watch is renowned for its thunderous sound, complex drills, and ability to evoke the mysterious beauty of its ancient, honor-bound calling of service to the Royal Family.

The bagpipes, drums, and band music of the British military have fascinated audiences of all ages around the world for centuries.

Supported by the Band of the Welsh Guards music and Highland Dancers, the Black Watch event will feature traditional folk music, military tunes, and specialized uniforms that convey the rich legacy of the British Isles.

With a tradition dating back to 1745, the Black Watch continues to serve as a fully operational unit in the British Army while also maintaining the highest standards of musicianship.

During the 19th century, the Black Watch served all over the world; the Regiment raised 27 battalions for service on all fronts during World War I and had several notable engagements during World War II.

The Black Watch has recently seen service in Iraq in both 2003 -- when the Battalion played a key role in the liberation of the Southern city of Basra -- and again in 2004, when the Black Watch formed a Battle Group which was sent to help the US Marine Corps during the November 2004 assault on Fallujah.

Tickets for the performance range from \$42 - \$54, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

Sponsored in memory of Steve Moss and by KCBX 90.1 FM. For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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