Orchestra impresses crowd
By Corey Strickland
Staff Writer

As the lights flickered back on, a crowd of around 650 gave a standing ovation to The Dublin Philharmonic Orchestra on Jan. 27 in GPAC.

The production was a part of the Broadway and More Series and UNCP was the orchestra’s 12th performance on their 2009 first U.S. tour.

The tour has 49 various stops across America and runs from January to March.

The finest Irish and European orchestral musicians were conducted by Coleman Pearce, guest conductor. They performed pieces by Johannes Brahms, Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven. Various Aria’s including: “The Jewel Song” from “Faust” and “Song to the Moon” from “Rusulka,” were also played.

Pearce tossed in his own surprise for the audience as Aidan O’Brien played the Uilleann pipes in an Irish piece not included on the program.

Also performing was female soprano, Celine Byrne.

Byrne was all smiles as her voice captivated the audience and echoed throughout the center.

Student Shay Carson said she held a “very nice voice to be so small” and that the orchestra itself was a “very pleasant” experience.

Others, like student Jon Moore, “didn’t like the singing.” He said, “I think it was too much” for an orchestra setting. He continued by saying that the orchestra “was very professional and far more superior compared to most.”

Student Jaquahn Glover said the orchestra had “stage presence” and said the “showmanship and non-students really enjoyed” the performances, she said.

The Broadway and More Series at GPAC continues on Feb. 6 with Sweeney Todd.

For more information or tickets to upcoming events, call the GPAC box office at (910) 521-6361.

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Pepsi C.E.O. set to speak
By Wade Allen
Managing Editor

Hugh Johnston, president and C.E.O. of PepsiCo’s North America, will visit the UNCP campus on Feb. 4.

Head man in charge
As one of the top businessmen in the country, Johnston has worked his way up the corporate ladder of success to be the leader of one of the largest food and beverage companies in the world.

He is responsible for the sales, operations and marketing of the company.

New logo
In the past few months, the Pepsi beverage logo has received a facelift. Keeping with the red, white and blue Americana theme, the new logo has a different icon and the font marking the famous name Pepsi has been changed drastically to an almost subtle and much smaller design.

Many well-known logos are being redesigned in order to continue to compete and not become stale.

Internet buzz
Many well-known websites including www.aol.com have featured before and after logos of popular brands and retail stores for informative and entertaining purposes.

Television interview
Johnston’s visit to campus will include an interview on the WNCP television studio.

The interviews is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Feb. 4, followed by a dinner to be held in the Chancellor’s dining room. Johnston’s visit to campus was originally scheduled for Jan. 22 and had to be rescheduled.

Although notices were posted around campus, many students still thought that the event was going to be held on Jan. 22.

Recently, large poster displays have been made and scattered around the campus, informing passersby of the event and the new date.

Get a ticket
Tickets to the speaking event in GPAC are available by calling the box office at (910) 521-6361.

Prices are $10 for the general public, $5 for faculty and staff and, as always for the Distinguished Speaker Series, free for students.

The Distinguished Speaker Series presses on when Academy Award-winning actor Lou Gossett, Jr., visits UNCP on Feb. 24 and football great Doug Flutie speaks on March 17.