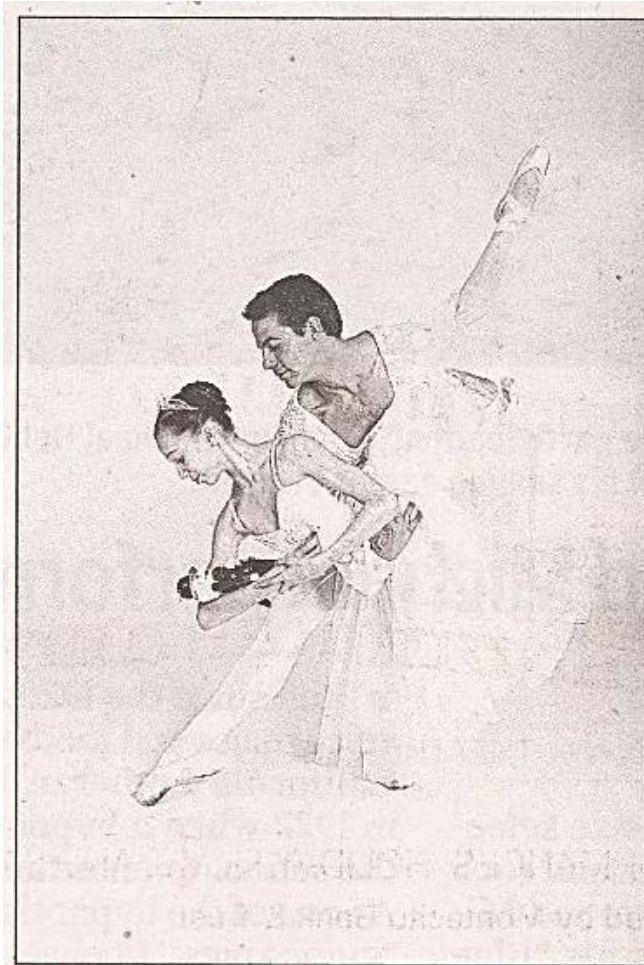


■ Celebrate the season with 'The Nutcracker'

Ventura County Ballet:

The company, backed by Ventura College's 52-piece symphony, will perform its 16th annual production of "The Nutcracker." Aaron Smyth, lead dancer of Joffrey Ballet Chicago, will

reprise his role as The Prince for a fourth season and 14-year-old Oxnard resident Jazmine Quezada will play Clara. 7 p.m. Dec. 13 and 1 and 5 p.m. Dec. 14, Ventura College Performing Arts Center, 4700 Loma Vista Road, Ventura. \$30 general admission, \$25 seniors, \$15 children. 648-2080; venturacountyballet.com.



Jazmine Quezada, 14, of Oxnard, (seen posing with Ryan Camon) will portray Clara in Ventura County Ballet Company's production of "The Nutcracker."