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THE DOCKET

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Volume 46, Number 1

THE DOCKET

AUGUST 1997

CAREER SERVICES CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

New programs, changes to OCIP, and an expanding economy seem to point to better job outlook

By Mark Lamb
News Editor

Jane is the personification of success. A 2L, ranking number 4 in her class, a Law Reviewer, and a former captain of the college basketball team, she is in a position every 2L would like to be in. O'Melveny wants to know if she would prefer the LA or the Century City office, Latham boasts of its astronomical partner profits, and Munger points to its 5 year partnership track. John, on the other hand, is dreading the prospect of the On-Campus Interview Program (OCIP). His 2.72 GPA, while not horrible, is not what every Century City firm is looking for. Is this the end



The Career Services staff (from left to right) Lori Shead, Linda Kressh, Amy Berenson, Laura Weseley, and Elizabeth Moeller

of the road for a once promising legal career? Absolutely not, according to Amy Berenson, Assistant Dean for Career Services.

In a recent interview with *The Docket*, Berenson discussed OCIP, changes in the Career Services office, and the state of the job market. In par-

ticular, she addressed the findings of a survey by Of Counsel 700, which seem to suggest that the market for lawyers is heating up once again after a long period of little growth in the early 1990's. The survey of the nation's largest law firms reveals that firms ranging in size from 50 to over 1,900 lawyers increased in size by an average of 3.9% last year. This figure is up from 3.4% growth last year.

In particular, the survey found that the biggest growth was among the largest firms, which grew at a rate of 6%. This includes firms with 400 or more lawyers. The next tier of firms, from 300 to 400 lawyers, grew on average by 4.7%. Firms with 200 to 300 lawyers also grew at a healthy clip of 4.4% (compared to a paltry 1.7% last year).

Many speculate that the increased

See **CAREER**, page 3

Five UCLA Students Win State Bar Scholarship

By Armen Martin
Editor-in-Chief

In a near unprecedented action, the Foundation of the State Bar of California awarded scholarships to five UCLA students, only the second time in the history of the award that all five nominees from one school have received an award. The only other school to do it was Stanford, which has done it once. The scholarship is awarded to students who distinguished themselves through their work in the community. Four of the students who received the award, Jessica Aronoff (3L), Jeanette Jose (2L), Karen Pang (2L), and Jason Pu (2L) received \$2500 scholarships. The fifth student, Wendy Stanford (3L), was awarded a \$5000 scholarship. Each of the students won the award as a result of unique experiences which the selection committee deemed worthy of recognition.

Pang has worked mostly with immigrant communities. After college, Pang moved to D.C. and worked with



Jeannette Jose, scholarship recipient

two policy groups, the Strategy Group and the Immigration and Refugee Services of America. Since beginning UCLAW, she has worked with the LA free clinic, is a member of El Centro Legal, and she spent this past summer working at Bet Tzedek Legal Services. Most of the work she deals with involves immigration and the problems faced by immigrants once they get to the

US.

"I am honored to be part of the group that has been chosen by the State Bar for recognition and I hope that it continues to encourage public interest work," said Pang.

Jose won the award as a result of the work she did while she was assigned to the case of a WWII Pilipino veteran who had been denied military benefits since the end of the war. Unfortunately, as the law now stands, does not recognize the contributions of Pilipino-American, as well as Pilipino, war veterans. Jose is quick to point out that there is a bill pending before Congress that would recognize and provide benefits for Pilipino-American veterans. Jose believes that this piece of legislation would go a long way toward remedying the past injustices against Pilipino-American soldiers.

According to Jose, "The thing that

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Black Letter

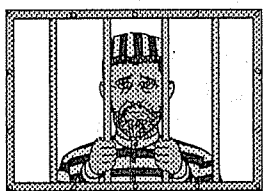
Campaign Finance Reform: Is It Just Another Lincoln Bedroom Dream?

By Mark Lamb
News Editor

During the waning weeks of the 1996 Presidential campaign, serious questions emerged about the fundraising practices of the Democratic National Committee (DNC). President Clinton could afford to ignore the accusations, given his commanding lead and Bob Dole's hapless campaign. But in the months following the election, the DNC was forced to return several million dollars in potentially illegal donations from Asian businessmen. Embarrassment grew when it was discovered that many of these same businessmen had gained unprecedented access to the White House, including one late-night tour given to Chinese arms dealers. Americans soon learned that the Lincoln

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WHAT'S INSIDE

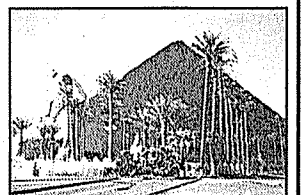


Billy's World
Billy goes to jail!!!

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BLAME IT ON THE RIO:
One Night in Vegas



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SCHOLARSHIP

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struck me was that the scholarship's primary focus is the student's dedication to the community. I had written my personal statement based on an experience I had volunteering with the Pilipino-American Legal Clinic. I feel like I was being recognized for my work at this particular clinic which serves such a small community. This distinguished me from other students that volunteer."

Pu feels that he was awarded a scholarship because of his accomplishments both at Stanford (his undergraduate institution) as well as his work since he has been at UCLA. While at Stanford, Pu was a founding member of Concerned Students for Asian American Studies, Students Together Opposing Prop. 187, and the Students of Color Coalition. He also worked off-campus for Asian and Pacific Islanders for Community Empowerment. While he was still an undergrad, Pu organized a class to teach conflict resolution and self-advocacy skills to youths at the East Palo Alto Community Law Project.

Pu continued his community activities after leaving Stanford by going to work for the Haas Center for Public Service. This past summer he worked for Public Counsel. Pu currently volunteers his time at the Asian Pacific-American Legal Center, a weekly direct services free clinic. In addition to his work in the Asian-American community, Pu has also volunteered at the Temporary Restraining Order Clinic for the Support Network For Battered Women.

When asked about his thoughts on the State Bar Scholarship's significance, Pu said, "I think that the legal profession can ill-afford not to participate in public interest activities. I am happy that there are resources out there that

reward law students' willingness to give."

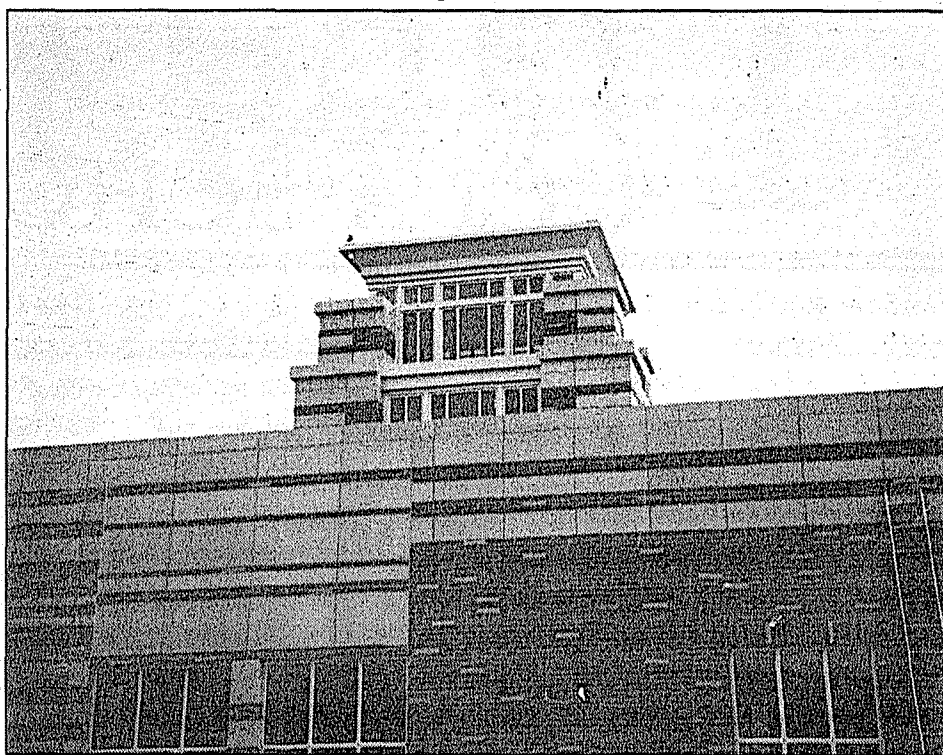
Unfortunately, *The Docket* was not able to contact Aronoff for this article. However, it should be mentioned that Aronoff's work with El Centro Legal was part of what earned her a scholarship.

Stanford has been working on children's issues since the 8th grade when she did work for a shelter which housed abused women and their children. She still works for the shelter and serves as a liaison between the American Legion Auxiliary and the shelter. She helps provide donations, money and gifts at Christmas and Easter based on wish lists made by the children.

Stanford also works in the area of child abuse and neglect. She has worked at the Orange County DA's office as well as the Orange County Social Services Department. She served as a Supervisor on UC Irvine's child abuse research project. For the past year she has been a law clerk at Public Counsel's Children's Rights Project. She was also a researcher and legal consultant on the UCLA TIES for Adoption Project. The goal of both the Children's Rights Project and the UCLA TIES Project is to establish guardianship and adoptions for underprivileged and prenatally drug exposed infants and children.

Stanford summed up her feelings and those of all the award recipients by saying, "It is very exciting and a great honor to have public service, and children's issues in particular, recognized on their own merit. The fact that all five nominees from UCLA received scholarships is a direct reflection of the on-going commitment UCLAW makes to public service."

Picture of the Month



A view of the "Tower," the spectacular new centerpiece of the Hugh and Hazel Darling Law Library. Construction continues and the building is expected to be completed in November. The building should open by December or January.

THE DOCKET

UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

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In The Next Issue
of *The Docket*...

**Affirmative Action at
UCLA Law School**

**What effects have the new
admissions policies had on UCLAW?**

We are going to be doing a poll and news story on this subject. We are looking for opinions pieces on this topic. Please contact David Simonton (3L) if you would like to contribute.

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CAREER

From page 1

growth reflects a strong market and blossoming profits throughout law firms. It also seems as though profits are outpacing new-hires by firms. The survey concludes that this most likely means that firms are expecting fewer lawyers to generate more revenues by working longer hours, finding new clients, and ensuring that bills are paid in-full instead of being written off or down.

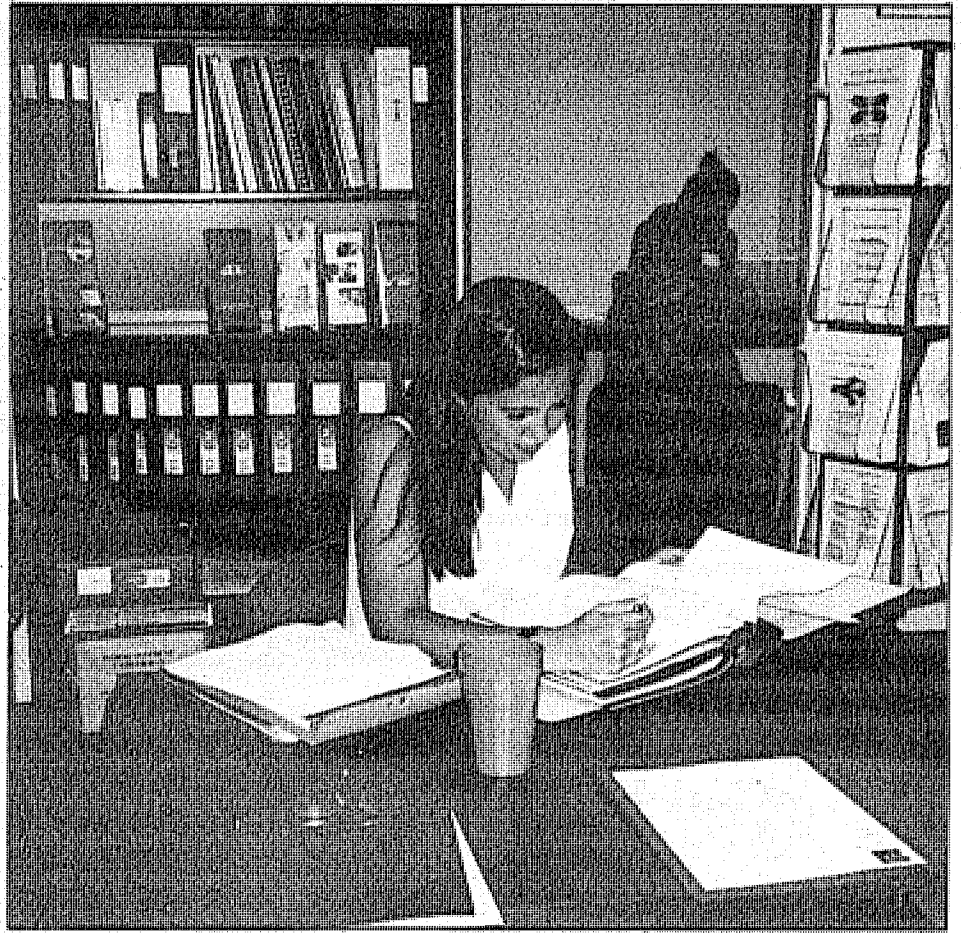
Berenson, however, disagreed with the conclusions reached by the survey. "From my personal observation, it would be hard for me to conclude [that firms are expecting more work from fewer associates]. I know that there are certain types of firms that have always worked hard and always been profitable, [but] I think that without a longitudinal comparison among people that have experienced the change, it is a difficult conclusion to draw. It is a good indication, however, that the market is growing at a healthy pace, rather than at a pace that will eventually lead to many layoffs."

Much of the growth took place in the intellectual property and high-tech practice areas. This growth resulted in a \$12,000 increase in first-year salaries that were first offered in the Bay Area, which has now spread to Los Angeles.

The news was not all good, however. Mid-size firms, between 100 and 200 lawyers, grew only 1.2%, a drop of 2.6% from last year. The size of small firms, below 100 attorneys, actually decreased by 0.7%.

The survey's findings with respect to smaller and mid-size firms do not seem to be supported by firms that are attending this year's OCIP. While the largest firms are once again aggressively interviewing this year, Berenson noted that there are more mid-size firms from other locations such as Arizona and elsewhere that traditionally not been a part of OCIP at UCLA. She also noted that there are a greater variety of employers taking part in OCIP this year. Berenson pointed to Deloitte and Touche as an example of a new breed of firms that are taking part in OCIP in larger numbers than usual.

Berenson also discussed an effort by the Career Services office to contact firms that used to interview at UCLA but have not in recent years. She pointed to Baker & McKenzie as a firm that was a regular OCIP participant until 1990. This year, as a result of the work by the Career Services office, Baker & McKenzie has once again chosen to interview at UCLA. Berenson and staff have attempted to contact these



Christina Alvarez, 2L, gets a jumpstart on OCIP

firms in order to see what has kept them away from UCLA and how the situation can be remedied.

In order to expand OCIP and encourage new employers to participate, the Career Services office has also continued to host employer lunches which Berenson hopes will yield more information about what they like and don't like about UCLA.

Berenson also discussed some of the other changes that are being considered for OCIP. The most significant of these changes would be moving OCIP up a week. "The reason for this is some of the east coast schools, if not all of them interview earlier than we do, and I want students to be able to be in there at the same time," Berenson explains. "I think this way students can schedule their callbacks earlier rather than scheduling them in November."

Another area in which Berenson would like to improve the Career Services office is by providing students with a greater variety of geographic representation at OCIP. To that end, Berenson is constantly looking for input as to which geographic areas students would like to see targeted. "We know our students like to work in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, and Washington D.C. We outreach everywhere, but if the focus starts shifting to other areas, I would want to know that so that we can target those areas. It is a catch-22 because we can't go out and market to Chicago firms if none of the students want to go. Then the firm comes here, nobody signs up, we are embarrassed, and that's it. If there is a demand on the students' part, that will drive our marketing."

Berenson summed up her thoughts on OCIP and the state of the job market by saying, "[a]s the overall job market gets better, the opportunities obviously are going to increase for qualified candidates, [such as] UCLA students." However she was also quick to point out that "the one thing people have to keep in mind is that [they will not always have a job] at the time of graduation, and I think people have to be aware that not having a job by graduation does not necessarily signify that they will not get one. I hate to see people think that it is somehow a reflection of their ability to get a job if they don't get something by graduation, because smaller employers clearly recruit differently than bigger ones." This sentiment was prevalent throughout the interview as Berenson repeated, "[w]e don't want to make OCIP necessarily our top priority because we know a lot of students are looking for other types of things and employers that are a little broader in their hiring criteria."

The Career Services office is also in the midst of establishing a number of new programs, including a mock interview program where students go to an alum's office for an interview in an office environment, the development of rolodex cards which should help in bringing in new employers, and a comprehensive guide to legal job search on the Internet. Berenson also mentioned that the office will continue to do the government reception, the small firm reception, and the practice area brown bag lunches. As far as the future, Berenson discussed plans to re-establish an alumni mentor program, develop a directory of small firms, and reach out to corporate counsel in the LA area to gauge their hiring intentions.

According to 3L Stephen Cazares, "You can tell from the summer gatherings that were arranged on the Westside and in Downtown, as well as the growth in the number of non-big city firms, that Career Services seems to really be moving forward. Grades can not be given, however, until we see how many 3Ls have jobs after taking the bar."

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Billy's World

By Guillermo Frias
Features Editor

A Night in a Mexican Jail

It seems that just about everyone that travels to Mexico has a police story to tell. I know I have a bunch of them. My experience with Mexican *federales* (cops) this summer was fairly typical, with the exception that I got the feeling that it is becoming harder to be a cop in Mexico.

My first episode with the police involved three fellow students that were participating in the same legal program I was. They were taken to a police station by four cops because they were not used to giving *mordidas* (which translates into "bites"), as bribes are known in Mexico. In the past the cops would have experienced little trouble, but times they are a' changing. After the student related his experience our professor in Mexico, Professor Gonzalez, a member of the Federal Election Institute, a search for the cops was begun, which of course came to an end when the students decided (as usual) to not get involved.

The second episode involved a night of heavy drinking. That night the streets in the Zona Rosa, the upscale touristy side of town, were jammed with cars that were hardly moving. Soon we were pulled over by four patrol cars. My cousin

refused to pay the *mordida* and proceeded to call the officers crooks. All the while the waiters from my aunt's restaurant who were accompanying us rudely heckled. I think my cousin refused to pay the bribe because he thought we were still in Sinaloa, our home state, where drinking and driving has not yet been elevated to the status of a sin. We don't believe we were stopped because we were drunk, since the car was hardly moving and everyone on those streets was pretty much drunk as well. Nonetheless, we were soon taken to jail where our heckling continued. Had I been a cop, I think I would have been tempted to beat us. After all, those officers at the police station had nothing to do with the arrest and neither did their mothers. We were soon let out after a friend of the family with some influence negotiated the fine from 1000 pesos per person down to 1000 pesos for the whole group, for which we did not get a receipt when we paid, if you know what I mean. Before leaving, I asked why they had not worked over some of the guys. I was

told that it was getting a little harder to do that.

The third episode involved a dispute between the two networks in the Republic, TV Azteca and Televisa. Upstart TV Azteca had a show that utilized clips from Televisa. This practice resulted in substantial legal problems for TV Azteca. Most believed that TV Azteca was right about its claims that money and influence (by Televisa) were at play. Since the use of images without permission is a crime, an arrest order was issued for Pati Chapoy, the host of the show. But TV Azteca was ready; it had her offices covered with cameras. When they asked one agent to identify himself, he refused and got into a car without plates, which is against the law. Several such cars were shown. This came as no surprise to me, since my cousin Memo, a state police officer, uses unmarked cars all the time. TV Azteca reported that 30 officers were present when "the bust" was made. This figure was

See **BILLY**, next column

BILLY

From column to left

denied that night by the police spokesman who claimed that the cameras only showed seven agents. Obviously, Mexican police were not accustomed to being watched by Big Brother in the form of a network out to make a peso. The cozy self-censorship of television was over. The next day, TV Azteca released footage showing thirty cops. They even dug up all the dirt on the guy who refused to identify himself. They televised his name and asked how he could afford all that tacky jewelry federal agents are prone to wear. It also turn out that his brother, a federal captain, was possibly involved in a kidnapping case. I'm not sure that attributing the wrongs of a brother to another brother is the honorable thing to do, but it did get TV Azteca's point across.

The fourth episode involved a sting operation by the *federales* aimed at trapping highway robbers. The sting worked, and the cops proceeded to throw one of the bandits in the trunk of a police car. All of this was caught on tape by a news helicopter. The media was quick to call it a violation of human rights. The cops were suspended and their fate is uncertain, while those caught red-handed were set free. Many supported the police, but even those that did not were angered by the fact that the criminals were allowed to walk. I believe that the cop's supporters rightly pointed out that members of the media do not have to ride the bus or take the metro in Mexico City.

Although I am glad to see the institution change a little, I cannot help but feel a bit sorry for some of these guys. They are paid very badly, their lives are in great danger from the rise in crime, they are hated by just about everyone, and are now under pressure to change. It just keeps getting harder to be a cop in Mexico, and they don't know quite how to deal with it in front of the cameras.

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We've all heard the Administration's propaganda: the three biggest advantages of going to law school at UCLA are the location, the low tuition, and the national reputation. Yadda, yadda, yadda. What do these advantages *really* mean for the average UCLA student? First, you are only four and a half hours away from Las Vegas. Second, you have enough money left over from student loans to gamble in Las Vegas. Finally, even if you get C's because you went to Las Vegas the weekend before finals, you still have a better chance of getting a job than some night school hack. So, as proud members of the 1000 Club — those select few who can claim to have logged over 1000 Vegas miles in one month — we feel obligated to provide UCLA with our comprehensive guide to overnights in Sin City.

The Trip

The optimal time to leave for Las Vegas is when you get the urge and can convince at least two other people to come along. You must strike while the iron is hot; the more time people have to think about it, the more important that Federal Courts final will start to seem. If you meet resistance from a target, remember: alcohol always helps. Even if he or she starts to have second thoughts (sober up) by Barstow, it'll be too late to turn back. Speaking of Barstow, this desolate little cowtown provides a good opportunity to stop for some food on the way. We recommend the traditional In'N'Out route. Although Del Taco may seem

like an economizing alternative, be wary; the 39¢ taco you get in LA will cost you an astonishing \$1 in Barstow (see BLACK'S LEGAL DICTIONARY, **monopoly**: a description of a market condition where all or nearly all of an article of commerce within a community is brought within the single control of one company, thereby excluding competition and screwing unsuspecting consumers). We think there may be serious Sherman Act violations here, but then again we spent most of our time in Anti-Trust debating the intricacies of playing a soft eighteen when the dealer has an 8 showing.

If you are afraid that your once-undecided friend might be sobering up, we recommend you make a quick pit-stop in Baker. There, attached to the classiest restaurant in town (Denny's) you will find Pike's Watering Hole. Sure, there are bloodstains on the carpet, and the only non-Country Western song in the jukebox is "Funky Cold Medina," but the beer is cheap and so are the waitresses. Ask for Doug (the toothless barkeep); he is one hombre who will give you the low-down on what *really* happens in Vegas. Finally, if you're traveling late at night, you should stop at the McDonald's on the Nevada state line for coffee (but please, resist the temptation to gamble at Buffalo Bill's).

Any trip to Vegas would be incomplete without music and travel games. With that in mind we have compiled a Vegas trip

soundtrack for your listening pleasure. For the trip to Vegas, try Don't Look Back (Boston), Money for Nothing (Dire Straits), Live and Let Die (Paul McCartney), Take a Chance (Ratt), and of course The Gambler (Kenny Rogers). For the trip back to LA more appropriate songs might include My Friend of Misery (Metallica), Desperado (The Eagles), and Who's Crying Now (Journey).

As for travel games, it really all depends on your mood. If you're in a Hollywood mood, try "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon." The goal of this game is to tie various actors and actresses to Kevin Bacon through movies in which they have co-starred. For example, if the question is Gene Hackman, a possible answer is to link Hackman with

Coast Casino.

Where to Stay

Our suggestion is: don't stay. The best way to do Vegas is an all-nighter; that way, you can save room-money for gambling. However, if you have your heart set on staying, we have some suggestions. First of all, avoid the Aladdin (a.k.a. the Arabian Dungeon) at all costs. The corridors in this place have more twists and turns than a Primadonna rollercoaster. Upon checking in it took us half an hour just to get to our room. Also stay away from the (Sub-)Sahara and the Excalibur. If you are a big hitter, try New York, New York, the Rio, or the Mirage. These places are definitely classy, but will cost you an arm and a leg (and a couple of kneecaps if you try to steal the towels). For those looking merely for a place to crash for a few hours, try the Sports Book at Boomtown. Most of the crowd is made up of RV-sporting senior citizens, so the waitresses expect you to take a nap.

Where to Gamble

We now get to the essentials of where to gamble. If you consider yourself a professional gambler, try Downtown (lowest table minimums, most liberal rules, most single deck shoes). While you may have to deal with your occasional redneck and a lot of senior citizens (what better way to "in-

vest" your Social Security?), this is really the best place to try to win money. The guys should head straight for the Rio. Not only is this place classy, but it also has the youngest waitresses wearing the skimpiest clothing in Vegas. The women should go to the Hard Rock. It was there that we spotted former teen heartthrob Emilio Estevez, star of upcoming movie "D4: Ducks in Vegas." Our inside sources tell us that the plot of this movie has something to do with an ill-conceived point-shaving scheme involving the unsuspecting Ducks. For the alcoholics, you've got a serious dilemma. If your purely thinking about drinking without playing, you need to land at the Tropicana (the Island of Las Vegas). This place has \$1 beers (including Heineken and Corona) pretty much 24 hours a day. If you plan on gambling, we suggest NY, NY. The drinks here come so fast that, before you know it, you'll find yourself wanting to double-down on a twenty. If you are there on a trip with your parents, we suggest the Monte Carlo. This is probably the cleanest and classiest hotel in Las Vegas. One word of caution

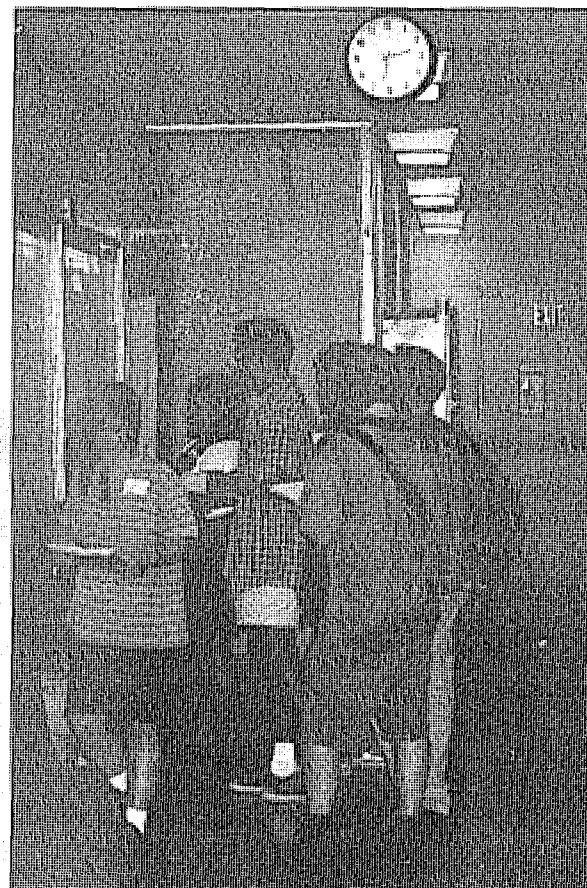
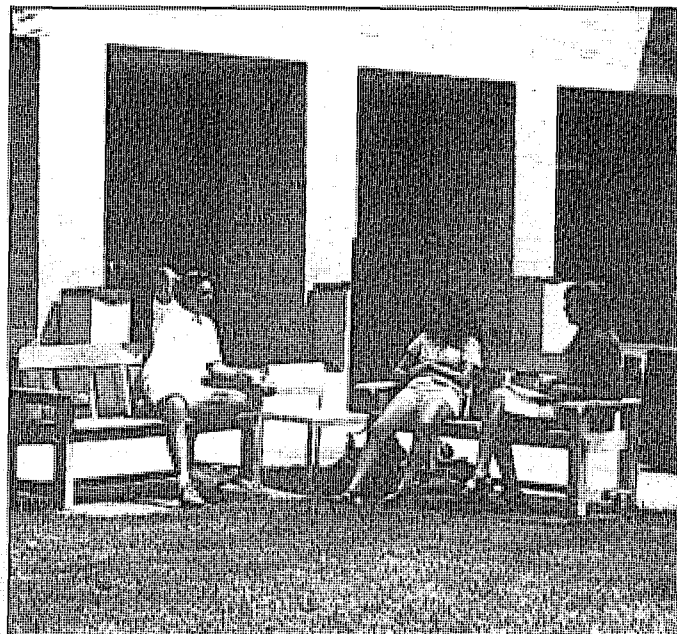
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XX	NEVER SPLIT									

S=STAND H=HIT P=SPLIT D=DOUBLE

Tom Cruise in "The Firm," and then Tom Cruise with Bacon in "A Few Good Men." If you think you're ready for the big-leagues, try Ricardo Montalban (see answer below). For those who can't wait for the party to start, many drinking games are easily adaptable for travel. But please, for your own sake, use common sense. Nothing looks worse on an Application for Moral Character than getting pulled over for reckless driving while playing "Automotive Quarters." Finally, for those of a more juvenile bent (or those who are already toasted) try "B.B. Bridges." This game is fairly simple. When anyone says a word that starts with the letter "b," everyone else starts whaling on 'em until he or she utters the phrase "B.B. Bridges." Driver participation is optional.

The rules are different for the trip back from Vegas ("Leaving Las Vegas," if you will). Don't stop before Barstow (again, resist the temptation to gamble at Buffalo Bill's). If you're into bargain-hunting, you might want to stop in Barstow to do some clothes-shopping at the retail outlet stores. This is particularly useful if you've spent the night in gutter outside the Barbary

O R I E N T



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ABOUT 7

The Docket is the monthly newspaper of the UCLA School of Law. The advertising you see in these pages. Our goal is to make sure you have fun at law school and to have fun in doing it.

Every month *The Docket* selects a topic which becomes the cover story of the month. This month's topic is the Campus Interview Program, politics on campus, and drinking on campus. We will have a cover story on the theme, opinions articles written about the theme, and a poll.

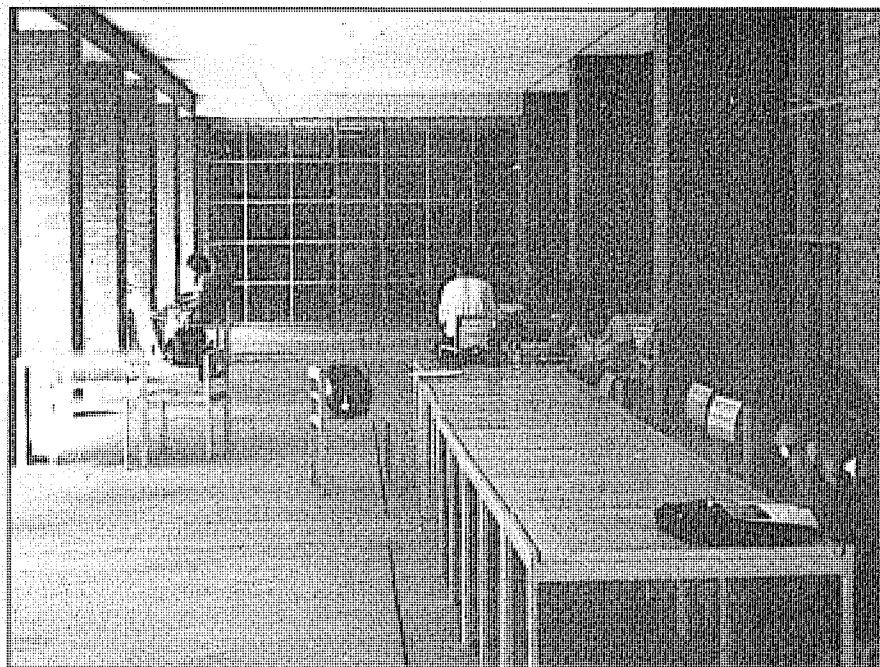
The cover story usually includes quotes by students, faculty, and administrators. The poll results will include some of the results from our monthly poll.

In order to get accurate results about student attitudes we send out all polls we send out in order to ensure accuracy. Poll results will be posted on the cover of the next issue. Poll results will be posted on the cover of the next issue. Poll results will be posted on the cover of the next issue.

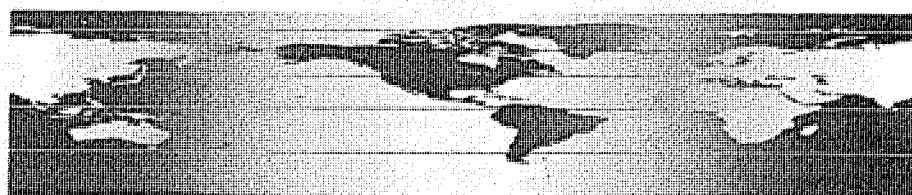
We try to get opinions pieces on every issue that come from students. We try to get opinions pieces on every issue that come from students. We try to get opinions pieces on every issue that come from students.

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THE DOCKET

aw. We do not receive law school funds and are supported wholly by what the students of UCLAW are informed as to what is going on in the

me for the issue. Last year we did issues on the 1996 elections, the On-law students. The theme for the issue usually means that we will have me, and a poll of the students on the theme.

and others about the issue that we are discussing. It will usually also

150 students AT RANDOM and anonymously. It is crucial that we get s are always kept confidential and anonymous, and we only mark the m every student polled. If you get a poll in your box, please do not

n all viewpoints. This is the area in which we really need student resent. Look out for the "In the next issue of *The Docket*" box (which ng the next issue. If you would like to contribute, please talk to David

l newspaper in the US. In order to do so however, we need your help

VEGAS

From page 5

though: stay away from belligerent law students. If you are a sports gaming fan, you probably should go to the sentimental favorite, Caesar's Palace. But shop around: contrary to popular perception, different casinos post different odds for the same sporting events.

Gambling Strategy

Okay, here is the ultimate low-down on how not to lose your shirt and your pants in Vegas. First, you need to accept the fact that you are going to lose money if you plan on gambling for an extended period of time. We therefore suggest that you take what you are comfortable with losing, give your ATM card to a friend, and go with the mindset that you are going to lose *all* the money you have brought. Remember, if you lose \$100, you can't think of it as losing \$100; you have to think of it as paying \$100 for the thrill of gambling.

As far as what to play, you should definitely stay away from Let it Ride. Although this game looks pretty appealing, it has the worst odds in Vegas besides Keno. Other sucker games include Wheel of Fortune and Spanish 21 (don't ask why, just trust us, we know). For the cheapos out there, there is something a little more stylish than 5¢ slots: Pai-Gow poker. What makes Pai-Gow great is that, although you very rarely win big, it's easy to push a lot and

still get free drinks.

Our recommendation, though, is Blackjack. The key to this game is playing it correctly. The table we have reprinted here outlines the "Basic strategy," which — when followed fastidiously — has been statistically proven to deliver the best odds in Vegas (outside of counting cards). The column on the left-hand side represents your hand, and the top row represents the dealer's "up-card" (the card that the dealer is showing). Although some of the recommended plays might seem counterintuitive at first, you've got to learn to trust the statistics. For example, if you stand on a 16 when the dealer has a 7 showing, you will lose an extra 11 hands (out of every 100 hands) to the house that you would have won had you hit (and you will lose even *more* if the dealer has something higher than a 7 showing). Further, if you don't double-down and split when you should, you are *losing* money. If you play correctly, you have almost even odds against the house.

Where to Eat

For many, this will be the most important part of the article. The question everyone wants answered in any Vegas review is: Where's the best buffet? Since we cannot preserve our journalistic integrity and name only one, we have picked the three best. The best variety at a buffet can be found at the Rio. From sushi to BBQ ribs to pasta, this place has it all. If you

are a big meat eater we recommend the Frontier buffet, which features rack of lamb, prime rib, turkey, and excellent fried chicken. The award for best overall quality must go to the buffets at the Mirage and Bally's. While they are more expensive than others, you do get what you pay for.

Our favorite eating tradition is the cheap after-hours breakfasts. The best in Vegas can be found at the Luxor. You get a 8 oz. steak (and we're talking good stuff), hash browns, two eggs, and toast for \$2.99. It is served from 11 PM to 6 AM, making it particularly convenient for the overnight Vegas trip.

The Three Cardinal Rules of Vegas

We have tried to give the average law student a guide to a successful Vegas trip. No guide would be complete, though, without the Three Cardinal Rules of Vegas:

- 1) Never gamble at the Holiday Inn or Circus Circus (don't trust the clowns)
- 2) Never eat a 95¢ shrimp cocktail at Slots of Fun
- 3) Never double down on a hard 12

ANSWER: Ricardo Montalban was in "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" with Kirstie Alley, who was in "Look Who's Talking" with John Travolta, who was in "Broken Arrow" with Christian Slater, who was in "Murder in the First" with ... Kevin Bacon.



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BLACK LETTER

From page 1

Bedroom had been treated like a casino suite; donors who were "rated" by the party bosses were comped a night at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. It was then revealed that the Vice President had made fundraising telephone calls from his office in the White House, but had used a DNC calling card so as to not violate a federal law preventing officeholders from soliciting contributions on government property. According to Mr. Gore, "no controlling legal precedent" prevented him from doing so.

Apparently, those who supported Dole in '96 had a similarly liberal interpretation of the nation's campaign finance laws. Although Dole's campaign was never strong enough to exert the influence that a sitting President can, the Republican National Committee (RNC) was undeniably engaged in the solicitation of big money during the 1996 election as well. Indeed, the Christian Coalition was investigated earlier this year by the Federal Election Commission (FEC) for its questionable use of voter guides. The guides were mailed to voters who identified themselves as supporters of the Christian Coalition and compared the stands of the candidates on issues important to Coalition voters. The FEC claimed that the voter guide comparisons made *de facto* political endorsements of Republican candidates, something which the Christian Coalition — as a tax-exempt organization — is prohibited from doing under federal law.

This series of revelations made it clear that a Congressional investigation was both needed and likely. However, given the spectacle of Senator Alfonse D'Amato's (R-NY) Whitewater inquisition and the obvious potential for bitter partisanship, it was unclear who would be best suited to lead the investigation. Many inside the Beltway reacted with relief when it was announced that Senator Fred Thompson (R-TN) would head up the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee investigation of the campaign abuses of the 1996 election cycle. Thompson was minority counsel to the Watergate Committee under the venerated Senator Howard Baker (R-TN), in which role he distinguished himself by asking the question that revealed — before a live television audience — the existence of the secret White House taping system that ultimately brought down the Nixon Administration. Those of us who were infants during Watergate are more likely to remember Thompson for his on-screen role as the S.O.B. Chief-of-Staff in Clint Eastwood's "In the Line of Fire."

However, even those who were politically sentient during the early 1970's may find the legal issues at the root of the current campaign finance scandal to be murky at best. To illustrate, major donors routinely give thousands of dollars to the DNC and the RNC for so-called "party-building" activities. These huge donations are perfectly legal, so long as the donor is an American citizen, a resident alien, or a business in the U.S. By comparison, these same donors are strictly limited in the amount of money they can directly give to candidates for federal office. Because most of the "party-building" that goes on in a presidential election year is in support of the party's candidate, however, donors can bypass these limitations by giving large sums of money to the political parties — with the full expectation that it will be used on the behalf of the party's candidate. These massive donations to the DNC and RNC are commonly referred to as "soft money."

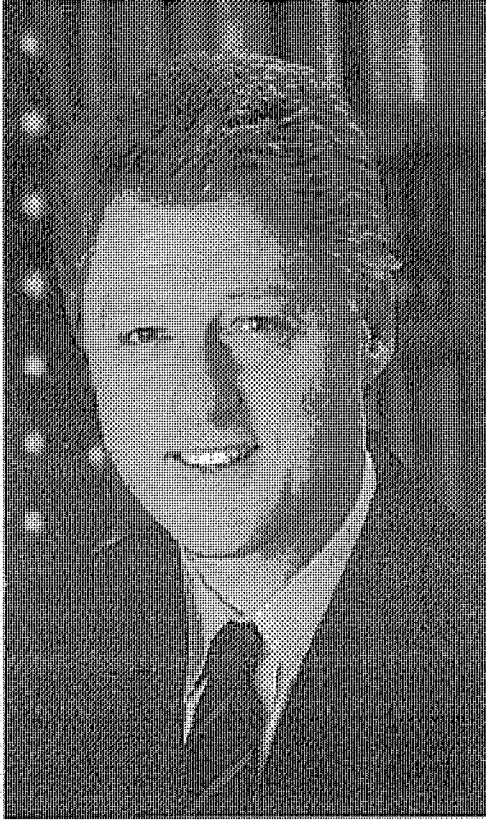
As a result of soft money, the substance of an attack ad produced and paid-for by the RNC may be almost indistinguishable from one produced and paid-for by the Dole campaign.

Soft money, in and of itself, is not necessarily a bad thing. Political parties can and probably should help elect people to public office. Rather, the problem lies in the sheer size of the soft money donations, as well as its sources. The current system permits wealthy individuals and corporations to exert considerable influence by making *de facto* contributions to candidates for national office through the political parties. Indeed, last year the DNC was little more than a subsidiary of the Clinton-Gore reelection effort. But make no mistake: the solicitation of soft money is a thoroughly bi-partisan affair. Whatever statutory changes may come about as a result of the Thompson Committee, the first order of business must be enhancing the mechanisms for discovering and punishing violations of campaign finance law. If Congress fails in this primary task, any new legislation will earn little respect.

The 1996 elections also saw an unprecedented level of advertising by so-called "independent expenditure committees" and special interest groups. Independent expenditure committees are organized by interest groups who wish to elect or defeat a particular candidate or group of candidates. Much like the RNC and DNC use soft money to subvert the limitations on direct contributions, interest groups can channel funds through their respective expenditure committees. As a result, the interest groups can raise and spend more on a candidate (or against his or her opponent) than the candidate's campaign could by itself. Currently, the Thompson Committee is investigating both the National Right to Life Committee and the AFL-CIO for this practice.

Both independent expenditure committees and soft money do present opportunities for those with strong political views to enter into the fray and voice their opinions by contributing money. As a result, opponents of campaign finance reform often claim that limitations on political contributions violate the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. However, in *Buckley v. Valeo*, the Supreme Court held that the contribution limitations imposed by Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 were constitutional. In so doing, the Court distinguished the Act's limitations of campaign contributions from its cap on campaign expenditures, the latter of which the Court found to be constitutionally infirm. "By contrast with a limitation upon expenditures for political expression, a limitation [on] the amount of money a person may give to a candidate or campaign organization [involves] little direct restraint on his political communication, for it permits the symbolic expression of support evidenced by a contribution but does not in any way infringe the contributor's freedom to discuss candidates and issues."

Although it may be settled that reasonable limitations on campaign contributions are constitutional, however, there still remains the equally contentious question on whether tightening those limitations to reduce the influence of soft money and independent expenditure committees is either wise or necessary. Given the questionable role that these sources of funding played in the 1996 election, however, there might only be one answer. The two-party system ought to be more than a giant loophole to be exploited by the rich and influential; let's hope that the Thompson Committee sees things that way, too.



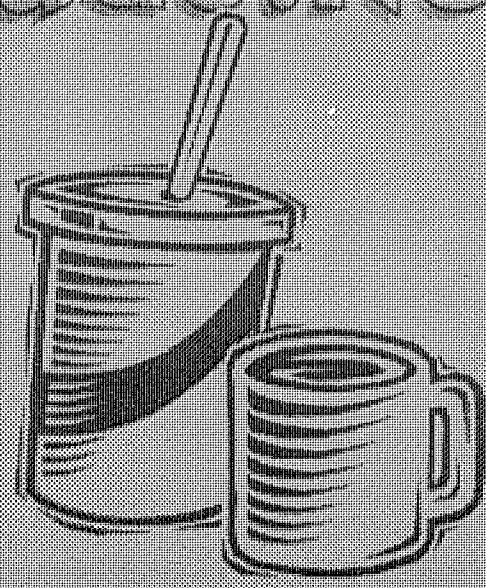
Republicans want to know what the President is smiling about

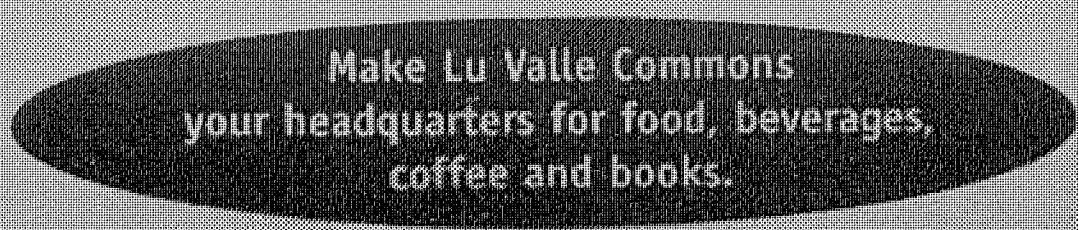
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1. Washington Huskies

HEAD COACH: **Jim Lambright**
 LAST SEASON: 9-3 (7-1 Pac-10)
 THIS SEASON: 10-1 (8-0 Pac-10)

If you're not the lead dog on the sled team, the scenery is not all too pleasant. And for the rest of the Pac-10 this season, that scenery will mainly consist of the Washington Huskies' collective backside. The Huskies, ranked No. 4 in the nation in the preseason AP Poll and No. 1 by both Street & Smith's and Athlon Sports, are clearly the leaders of the Pac. The backbone of UW's offense is its O-line, which features First Team All-American **Benji Olson** at guard and Outland Trophy Candidate **Olin Kreutz** at center. Although senior tailback **Rashaan Shehee** was sidelined for most of last year by ankle injuries and the subsequent emergence of **Corey Dillon**, now with the Cincinnati Bengals, the Huskies' offensive line should power Shehee to a 1,200-plus yard season. Another beneficiary of the Huskies' powerhouse line will be sophomore quarterback **Brock Huard**, the 1994 High School Player of the Year whose impressive 1,678 passing yards last season convinced senior QB **Shane Fortney** to transfer. The anchor of the Huskies' "Purple Haze" defense is senior outside linebacker **Jason "The Croatian Sensation" Chorak**, whose 14.5 sacks last season made him the Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year and a current Butkus Award candidate. The defensive line should also be strong, featuring sophomore nose tackle **Mac Tuiaea** and undersized but speedy senior end **Chris Campbell**. The one Achilles heel for the Huskies may be its young defensive backfield, although all-conference senior free safety **Tony Harris** should provide leadership as well as a ton of tackles (a team-leading 71 in 1996).

2. Stanford Cardinal

HEAD COACH: **Tyrone Willingham**
 LAST SEASON: 7-5 (5-3 Pac-10)
 THIS SEASON: 8-3 (6-2 Pac-10)

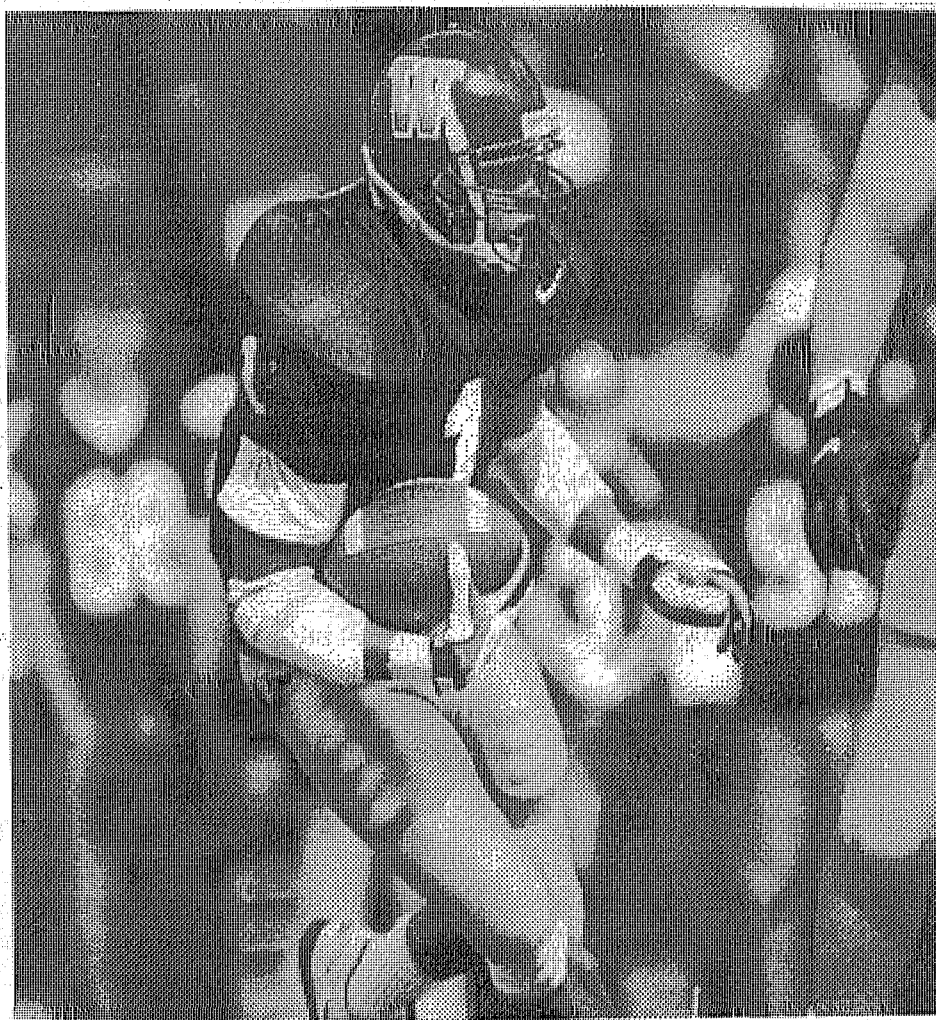
After a slow start last season, Stanford turned it on to finish with a five-game winning streak that included a 38-0 blowout of Michigan State in the Sun Bowl. Coach Willingham hopes that momentum carries over to the start of this season, with tough out-of-conference games against North Carolina and Notre Dame looming early. Still, with Pac-10 favorite Washington not on the Cardinal's schedule, things are definitely looking good for the folks up at The Farm. One major source of such optimism is the dramatic improvement of junior QB **Chad Hutchinson**, a pro prospect on the Stanford baseball team who threw for over 2,000 yards last

SIMONTON SAYS:

1997 PAC-10

FOOTBALL PREVIEW

season. The backfield is further strengthened by the return of halfbacks **Mike Mitchell** and **Anthony Bookman**, both of whom are adept receivers in Stanford's "West Coast Offense." Although junior wide receiver **Troy Walters** did not start a single game last season, he exploded in the Cardinal's final six games, hauling in 22 receptions and scoring two touchdowns. The offensive line remains a



Rashaan Shehee of the Washington Huskies

question mark, but should improve on last years' pitiful 44 sacks allowed. By contrast, there are no questions with the defensive line, which returns seniors in All-Pac-10 end **Kailee Wong** (12 sacks, 21 tackles for losses), tackle **Carl Hansen**, and end **Bryan Werner**. The Cardinal's linebacking corps is undersized, but features the Pac-10's best inside linebacking duo in **Chris Draft** and **Jon Haskins**. Despite the departure of three key starters, the presence of junior free safety **Tim Smith** should help strengthen the defensive backfield.

3. UCLA Bruins

HEAD COACH: **Bob Toledo**
 LAST SEASON: 5-6 (4-4 Pac-10)
 THIS SEASON: 6-5 (5-3 Pac-10)

Allright, I confess: Bruin partisanship played a major role in picking UCLA to finish this high. But in my defense, the middle tier of the Pac-10 is wide-open this year, and UCLA has as good a chance of placing third as

does any other team. After all, the Bruins have senior tailback **Skip Hicks**, who ran for over 1,000 yards and scored a school-record 20 touchdowns in 1996 — his first full season without injury since coming to Westwood. Hicks will benefit from a more experienced offensive line that returns every starter from last year, including senior **Chad Overhauser** at right tackle. Rather than creating holes for Hicks,

however, Overhauser's main duty will be to protect the Bruins' left-handed quarterback, junior **Cade McNown**, who threw for 2,424 yards and 12 touchdowns last season. At wide receiver, the Bruins feature speedy flanker **Jim McElroy**, a senior who ran a 10.7 in the 100 meters for the UCLA track team, and a steady possession receiver in sophomore **Danny Farmer**. On defense, the front line is still undersized, but bulked-up big time with the arrival of redshirt freshman **Micah** and **Josh Webb**, a pair of 264-pound identical twins from Turlock, California. The linebacking corps will be lead by returning senior **Brian Willmer**, who recorded 71 solo tackles last season, and converted end **Danjuan Magee**. As usual, UCLA's secondary will be a strong point, with senior free safety **Shaun Williams** evoking memories of Bruin stars of yore **Kenny Easley** and **James Washington**. Williams will have a solid supporting cast in junior strong safety **Larry Atkins** and senior cornerbacks **Javelin Guidry** and **Aaron Roques**. But

of course, the real question this season is whether the Bruins can beat USC for an unprecedented *seventh* straight year. My prediction: UCLA 27, USC 24, and a pink slip for Trojan Coach **John Robinson**.

4. Southern California Trojans

HEAD COACH: **John Robinson**
 LAST SEASON: 6-6 (3-5 Pac-10)
 THIS SEASON: 6-5 (4-4 Pac-10)

Last season, USC's inexperienced offensive line forced Coach Robinson to move away from Southern Cal's traditional run-based offense in favor of a more "balanced" attack. What the Trojan faithful got was a mediocre offense that was ineffective at either running or passing the ball. Now, without quarterback **Brad Otton** and stuck with the same weak receiving corps as last season, Robinson has little choice but to attempt a return to the days of the "Student Body Left" running game. He could have worse options: senior tailback **Delon Washington** ran for over 1,100 yards his sophomore year before discipline problems sidelined him last season, and fullback **Rodney Sermons** returns as the Trojan's leader in receiving yards. The offensive line still has some questions, but returns every starter — only one of whom weighs in below 300 pounds. The starting quarterback position is still up in the air (perhaps an inappropriate cliché, as none of the eligible returnees have thrown more than three college passes), but **John Fox** would seem likely to get the nod. On the other side of the ball, the Trojan defense is in for some tough games. **Darrell Russell's** departure for the NFL left a huge void in the defensive line, one which none of the returning players will be able to adequately fill. The linebackers don't look much better, although sophomore ILB **Chris Claiborne** displayed a lot of potential last season. Southern Cal's one bright spot on defense should be in the backfield, which features All-American candidate **Daylon McCutcheon** at cornerback and senior **Brian Kelley** at free safety.

5. Washington State Cougars

HEAD COACH: **Mike Price**
 LAST SEASON: 5-6 (3-5 Pac-10)
 THIS SEASON: 6-5 (4-4 Pac-10)

Last year, I blasted the Cougars as the posterchildren for the overall decline in Pac-10 talent. I stand corrected. Although Wazzu's record may not so indicate, Washington State was a tough team last year, and should be even tougher this season. In large part, this resurgence of Cougar Football owes its being to **Ryan Leaf**, the junior quarterback who broke all of **Drew Bledsoe's**

PAC-10

From page 10

sophomore records at Washington State. Leaf threw for over 2,800 yards and 21 touchdowns last season and should have plenty of able targets this year, as the Cougars return six of their eight top receivers. Senior running back **Michael Black**, who rushed for nearly 950 yards last season and is an adept pass-catcher, will nicely complement the offensive backfield, although Wazzu lacks depth at his position. The offensive line will be a problem area for the Cougars, and may not be able to provide Leaf sufficient time in the pocket. The defensive line, on the other hand, should be excellent, with senior ends **Dorian Boose** and **Shane Doyle** returning. If tackles **Gary Holmes** and **Leon Bender** successfully return from injury, Wazzu should have the biggest and most intimidating front line in the Pac-10. The Cougar's linebackers are solid tacklers, if weak on the pass rush, and the secondary, led by junior corner **Dee Moronkola**, provides quality run support.

6. Arizona Wildcats

HEAD COACH: **Dick Tomey**
LAST SEASON: 5-6 (3-5 Pac-10)
THIS SEASON: 6-5 (4-4 Pac-10)

In the world of popular culture, the high point of Wildcat Football may have come in the summer of 1994, with the release of the hit movie "Speed." In the movie, upon noticing the Arizona University sweatshirt worn by co-star Sandra Bullock, Keanu Reeves comments, "Good football team." Of course, a jinx of such proportions could never go unrealized, and 'Zona's next three campaigns were almost as disappointing as "Speed II." This season, however, ex-UCLA offensive coordinator **Homer Smith** appears ready to take the traditionally stagnant offense out of cruise control. The centerpiece of the new offense is sophomore quarterback **Keith Smith**, a dual threat who passed for 1,450 yards, rushed for a team-leading 546 yards, and generated a total of 19 touchdowns last season. If Smith plays as he did in last season's game against Cal, in which he racked-up an NCAA freshman record 502 yards total offense, things in Tucson could be exciting indeed. Other than Smith, however, the Arizona running game is suspect, although speedy sophomore **Leon Callen** holds some promise. Arizona once again has an outstanding receiving tandem in seniors **Rodney Williams** and **Jeremy McDaniel**, and has a quality receiver in junior tight end **Mike Lucky**. The offensive line is green, but then again, Smith doesn't spend much time in the pocket, anyway. As far as defense goes, the days of "Desert Swarm" may be but a memory, but recent graduate **Joe Salave'a** should keep the line respectable. Moreover, senior inside linebacker **Chester Burnett**, who finished second in the Pac-10 last season with 124 tackles (98 solo), will help shore up the middle. The heart of Arizona's defense, however, is in the backfield, which returns outstanding cornerbacks in seniors **Rashee Johnson** and **Kelly Malveaux**, as well as junior **Chris McAlister**, the Pac-10 leader in interceptions.

7. Arizona State Sun Devils

HEAD COACH: **Bruce Snyder**
LAST SEASON: 11-1 (8-0 Pac-10)
THIS SEASON: 6-5 (4-4 Pac-10)

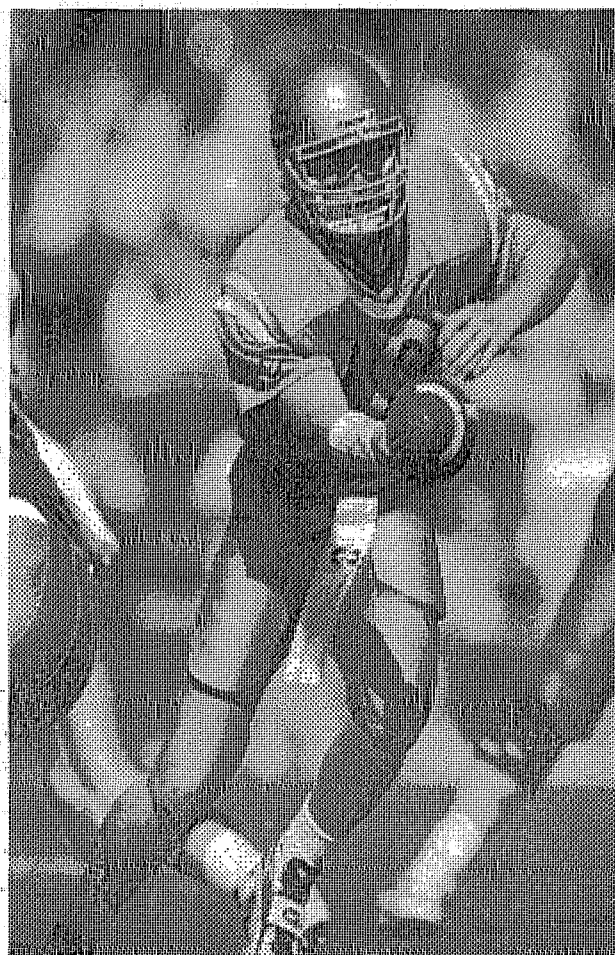
Oh, the double-edged sword of senior leadership. Last season, Arizona State returned 19 of 22 starters.

including senior standouts in quarterback **Jake Plummer**, left tackle **Juan Roque**, and wide receiver **Keith Poole**. The result was an undefeated regular season and a nailbitingly close loss to Ohio State in the Rose Bowl. Now, the major players from last year's near-national championship team are gone, as is any chance of a repeat Pac-10 crown. Coach Snyder still has some talent left in Tempe, however, most notably senior tailback **Michael Martin**, who was the Sun Devil's starter last season until suffering a fractured vertebra against UCLA. Junior quarterback **Steve Campbell** is no replacement for Plummer, but showed promise in the last quarter of ASU's victory over rival Arizona by piecing together two impressive touchdown-drives. ASU is well-stocked at wide receiver, returning juniors **Lenzie Jackson** and **Kenny Mitchell**. The offensive line will miss the imposing presence of Roque at left tackle, but junior **Grey Ruegamer** should do an adequate job protecting Campbell. Defensively, Arizona State can rely on the quickness and intensity of senior outside linebacker **Pat Tillman** and the size of its front line, but the pass rush will be suspect. The secondary should be competent, featuring excellent tacklers in senior strong safety **Damien Richardson** and senior cornerback **Jason Simmons**.

8. Oregon Ducks

HEAD COACH: **Mike Bellotti**
LAST SEASON: 6-5 (3-5 Pac-10)
THIS SEASON: 5-6 (2-6 Pac-10)

Last season, the Ducks racked up a 34.4 points-per-game scoring average, good enough to place second in the Pac-10. So, why did Oregon finish in the bottom half of the conference? Here's a guess: the Ducks defense allowed 32.4 points-per-game, and gave up 4,807 yards on defense. This season, without a legitimate replacement for standout quarterback **Tony Graziani**, these Ducklings should be in for some pretty ugly games. Oregon's one saving grace is senior tailback **Saladin McCullough**, a versatile back who scored 15 touchdowns last season. The receiving corps isn't bad either, featuring a second-team All-Pac-10 player in senior **Damon Griffin**. The Ducks's young offensive line could be a serious problem, but



Bruin Quarterback Cade McNown

the real questions remain on defense. Other than 300-pound senior end **Desmond Byrd**, the D-line looks unpromising, and the linebackers look even worse. What's more, Oregon's soft pass defense — ranked No. 9 in the Pac-10 last season — lost its key player when All-American **Kenny Wheaton** left for the NFL.

9. California Golden Bears

HEAD COACH: **Tom Holmoe**
LAST SEASON: 6-6 (3-5 Pac-10)
THIS SEASON: 3-8 (1-7 Pac-10)

For a while last season, things looked pretty good up in the East Bay. Rookie Coach **Steve Mariucci** had led the Golden Bears to a 5-1 record and a second-place standing in the Pac-10. Shortly thereafter, Cal fans' premature dreams of future football glory were shattered. The Bears lost their last four games of the season, at the end of which Mariucci ran off to assume head coaching duties for the San Francisco 49ers. To make matters worse, California lost star quarterback **Pat Barnes** and tight end **Tony Gonzales**, the Golden Bears' two best players. This season, facing a tougher schedule than last year (which isn't saying much), Cal's prospects don't look too rosy. Diminutive junior college transfer QB **Justin Vedder** will no doubt struggle while trying to learn Cal's complicated West Coast offense, but at least he has an All-Pac-10 receiver in senior **Bobby Shaw** to ease the transition. Senior tailback **Tarik Smith** is talented, but injury prone, and lacks a reliable backup. Cal's dearth of experience at the tackle position should compromise the offensive line's run-blocking and pass-blocking ability, bad news for the new quarterback. On defense, Cal has made improvements to its front line (again, that's not saying much), complementing senior tackle **Brandon Whiting** with Notre Dame transfer **John McLaughlin** and much-touted freshman **Andre Carter** at the ends. The linebackers look weak, however, and junior cornerback **Derrick Gardner** is the secondary's only standout player.

10. Oregon State Beavers

HEAD COACH: **Mike Riley**
LAST SEASON: 2-9 (1-7 Pac-10)
THIS SEASON: 2-9 (0-8 Pac-10)

Issue No. 1: The Beavers' 1-10 record in the 1995 season. *Rule:* Teams that score only one passing touchdown in an entire season don't win very many games. *Application:* Then-head coach **Jerry Pettibone** decides to scrap the disastrous wishbone offense. *Conclusion:* The Beavers compile a 2-9 record in 1996, OSU's 26th straight losing season.

Issue No. 2: The Beavers' 2-9 record in the 1996 season. *Rule:* Teams that rank No. 109 in the nation in passing offense, with only 71 completions and a per-game average of 85.1 yards, don't win very many games. *Application:* Fire Coach Pettibone in favor of current Coach Mike Riley, a local hero from Corvallis High's state championship team, and stock OSU's schedule with out-of-conference patsies. *Conclusion:* The Beavers will improve in 1997.

Question: What's wrong the foregoing analysis?
Answer: OSU's football woes are not due to either its boring offensive philosophy or its boring head coach. Rather, the reason why the Beavers have not had a winning season for over a quarter century is that they have lacked talented players. Not much has changed this season, and neither should the result.

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