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USD women face host in tournament

By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

USD women's basketball coach Kathy Marpe holds no false hopes going into tonight's West Coast Conference Tournament opener at Santa Clara. "Portland and USF are the class of our conference," said Marpe. "They can play an average game and win."

Other than that, Marpe concedes nothing as her sixth-seeded Toreros prepare to play Santa Clara at 8:15 in the last of the four quarterfinals. "We're among four teams that are pretty evenly matched," said Marpe. "The question is, can any of those four teams step up to the level of Portland and San Francisco?"

Riding a roller coaster of a season, USD finished 11-15 overall and 5-9 in WCC play. Included was a school-record nine-game winning streak, followed by an eight-game losing streak.

Included in the slide were two losses to Santa Clara — 72-58 at bubble-domed Toso Pavilion and 69-66 at USD. "In both games we had leads," said Marpe, who doesn't fear playing the tournament host in the first round. "We've played there so many times it shouldn't matter. The last time we played them at Toso in the tournament (1993), they were (seeded) No. 1 and we beat them in the title game ... after they had beaten us by 25 in the regular season."

But that is USD's only win in the last 13 visits. And in this year's game at Toso, the Toreros had a 28-point swing go against them in the second half — from a 14-point lead to a 14-point defeat.

Marpe said USD "matches up well" against Santa Clara, meaning both teams are short and young.

"I think we're in position to surprise some people," said Marpe. "No one expects us to do anything. But we're playing better and on a little bit of a roll while Santa Clara (14-12, 8-6 and seeded third) has taken a dip."

"But we're not taking anyone by surprise by our style anymore. People know we're going to press and run."

USD is led by All-WCC honorable mentions Nailah Thompson (12.2 points per game) and Michele Bravetti (10.9 ppg, 6.9 rebounds per game) plus Kari Ambrose (9.4 ppg, 3.2 assists per game) and Laura King (8.2 ppg). Suzanne Ressa scored 42 points in Santa Clara's two wins over USD, and Lisa Sacco scored 35.

Portland (21-5) and USF (19-7) tied for the WCC regular-season title with 12-2 marks. Portland won its last 10 games after a 54-44 loss at San Diego.

Top-ranked Portland faces eighth-seeded Gonzaga (4-22, 2-12) in the 6 o'clock opener of the evening session. The tournament starts at noon with fourth-seeded St. Mary's (17-9, 7-7) meeting fifth-seeded Pepperdine (14-12, 7-7); second-seeded USF meets seventh-seeded Loyola Marymount (12-15, 3-11) at 2:30.

Portland and USF feature the WCC's top two players. Portland is led by WCC Player of the Year Laura Sale. USF is paced by 1995 Player of the Year Valerie Gillon.
By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

By any other name, a win is still a win.
Just ask USD reserve Val Hill, a poet by avocation.
A senior making his last appearance at the USD Sports Center, Hill could just as easily have lost.

Cal Poly SLO (15-12) is a quick team that fires threes at will on offense and presses on defense — a style the Toreros seldom see in the possession-minded WCC.

The Mustangs gave the hosts fits. A 14-point run in the first half produced a seven-point lead. And USD struggled against the press.

The Toreros were up by a point when Hill entered the game with 13½ minutes to play. Hill immediately hit a three to make it 44-40. He was one of USD's steadiest players against the press. With 61 seconds to play in the game, he fired a half-court pass to a wide-open Brian Bruso under the basket that resulted in a rare USD slam and a 74-68 lead.

For the fourth time this season, freshman guard Brock Jacobsen nailed down the victory with two free throws — the pair coming with seven seconds to play.

"This game was a test of our ability to scrap," said Hill. "The run, gun and press game Cal Poly played isn't something we see very often. We passed the test."

So did Hill. His senior season hasn't been the happiest of experiences.

"I expected to play more than I did this year," said Hill. "It's been a little frustrating. But I think I handled it well. It teaches you what team means."

Cal Poly coach Jeff Schneider thought his Mustangs were robbed.

"They were getting 12 seconds to get the ball over half court," said Schneider. "This is the last time we're playing a WCC team on the road. We'll finish the home games the WCC owes us. After that, the series will be dropped."

Forwards Brian Miles (16 points, 13 rebounds) and Bruso (16 points, eight rebounds) led the Toreros, who also got a career-high 14 points from Nosa Obasohan.

Point guard David Fizdale, who a day earlier was named to the all-WCC team, had 10 assists to become the USD career leader with 452 — surpassing Stan Washington by one.
The college touch

That USD sophomore Jack Whigham has a 10-3 record this spring is impressive. But it pales to his work in the classroom. A business major, Whigham boasts a perfect 4.0 GPA...
College Baseball

USD drubbed again by UCSB

Designated hitter Kevin Schramm hit a home run and catcher Mickey Lippitt added another, but it wasn't enough for USD. The Toreros were shelled 16-6 by UCSB in Santa Barbara.

Schramm (4 RBI) and Lippitt (2 RBI) had a hand in all six USD's runs.

It was the second straight loss for USD (3-8-1) and the second consecutive time UCSB (11-3) scored 16 runs against the Toreros. On Saturday, the two teams split a doubleheader, USD winning the opener 7-4 before dropping the second game 16-4.

USD starter Chad Halliburton, a senior transfer from Fresno State, was assessed his first loss of the season after giving up five runs and walking two in two innings.

The Toreros are home again tomorrow against UC Riverside at 2:30 at Cunningham Stadium.
Attorney Kathleen Dunn Wellman received the University of San Diego's 1995 Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Award for Outstanding Alumni Achievement. She is a founder of the La Posada de Guadalupe Carlsbad shelter for homeless men in Carlsbad.
San Diego's economic growth is lukewarm

San Diego's economy is headed in the right direction, but the growth is fairly tepid, according to the USD Index of Economic Indicators.

For the ninth consecutive month, the index showed an increase, but it rose only by a half a percent in December, to 125.9.

The index is a compilation of six different economic indicators: building permits, unemployment insurance claims, local stock prices, tourism, help wanted advertising and the national index of leading economic indicators.

Alan Gin, the USD economics professor who compiles the index, said the largest jump — 1.67 percent — came from a reduction in initial unemployment claims for the month. The 15,755 initial claims filed in December was the lowest value, both in absolute terms and seasonally adjusted, since June 1990, Gin said.

While some weaknesses persist, including the lack of strong increases in hiring, "the trend remains up for now, and 1996 is shaping up to be a good year for San Diego County," he said.

The index also included a 1.03 percent rise in the San Diego stock price index and 0.61 percent rise in tourist activity.

Building permits were down considerably in the fourth quarter and showed a drop in December index of minus 0.4 percent. The index also showed decreases in the national economic index and in the lack of growth in help wanted advertising.
A tax system must meet three tests

By ROBERT O'NEIL and DIRK YANDELL

Scholars Robert Hall and Alvin Rabushka, who popularized the flat-tax concept, claimed recently that flat rates are in wide use throughout the United States. They cite the Social Security tax, which levies one uniform rate on all employees and the self-employed, as the best example.

While this is an accurate statement, it is incomplete and therefore very misleading. The Social Security tax does impose a uniform rate on all earnings, but currently only on earnings up to $62,700 per year. This tax is really a "progressive" tax, which means that the tax impact is proportionally heavier on lower-income families. A tax is said to be regressive if the amount paid by those with low incomes represents a larger percentage of total income than the amount paid by the rich.

In the case of the Social Security tax, burden also increases. Flat-tax advocates are urging reform and imply that the only fair tax is a flat tax. Many of the suggested reforms are appealing to us and to millions of Americans. When considering tax reform, however, policy-makers must not forget three principles upon which our tax system was founded. These principles are simplicity, efficiency and equity.

Today's tax code clearly is not simple. Previous efforts at tax reform have not attempted a complete overhaul. Changes and additions have created a patchwork and amended tax structure that has become increasingly difficult to understand.

The current tax system is unnecessarily complex. Reduced record-keeping and simplified forms would save hours of taxpayer time. After all, determining the correct tax is not the problem; we simply look it up in a table. The task that requires so many hours of joyless work is calculating how much of our income is actually taxable. An enormous reduction in compliance costs will accompany a simplified tax system.

The current tax policy also fails the efficiency standard. One of the most important efficiency considerations is the degree to which incentives are altered by the tax. The best tax systems minimize the extent to which individuals alter their economic behavior to avoid paying the tax. Different tax treatment of certain types of income or spending can create serious economic distortions. These distortions are paid out of current or past income. Clearly, this newspaper reported recently that "wages and benefits paid American workers rose just 2.9 percent last year, the smallest increase on record and fresh fuel for the unhappiness of a middle class convinced it is falling behind."

Although the euphoric optimism of the supply-siders would have us believe so, America's problems will not be solved by changing to a system that taxes the poor more and taxes the rich less.

We hope tax reform prevails, but taxes can be simplified and made more equitable and efficient without resorting to a completely flat tax.
USD gets win, more momentum

Toreros bury Waves, await date with LMU in WCC Tournament

By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

MALIBU — USD has picked the perfect time to get hot.
"I think we might have some people worried," point guard David Fizdale said last night after the Toreros hit a season-high 11 three-pointers in an 80-61 West Coast Conference victory at Pepperdine.

Fizdale's 10th and final assist was his 172nd of the season, breaking Stan Washington's single-season USD record.

The Toreros (12-13, 6-8 WCC) came to the Los Angeles area Friday looking for their first WCC road win of the season. After wins at Loyola Marymount and Pepperdine, they've swept a road doubleheader for the first time since 1991 and have won three of four overall going into next weekend's WCC Tournament.

Certainly USD isn't the WCC's most gifted team. And the Toreros will enter the WCC Tournament seeded sixth. But USD has beaten tournament host Santa Clara, plus first-round foe Loyola Marymount.

"The way we're playing defense, nothing would surprise me in the tournament," said forward Brian Miles. "When you're playing with the confidence we had tonight, this is a fun game. Everyone contributed."

OK, the latest victim was Pepperdine (9-17, 2-12), which finished last in the WCC and failed to win a conference game at home in a season marred by the midseason resignation of coach Tony Fuller. But last night's loss was the Waves' worst of the season.

"It seemed like everyone came out tonight and ran the offense," said Miles, who had a career-high 23 points. "We set screens and found the open man. I had some great looks when I was shooting. Threes aren't that tough when you don't have to rush the shot."

And there was no rushing USD, which won this game at home in a season marred by the midseason resignation of coach Tony Fuller. But last night's loss was the Waves' worst of the season.

"We finally got everyone buying into the system," said Fizdale. "Play defense and rebound and the points will come if you're patient in running the offense."

Said coach Brad Holland: "I just told my team I'm very proud of them. We didn't give in when we hit that bad spell (five straight WCC losses). I see this team believing in each other. And Fizdale played solid back-to-back games."

USD's Brian Bruso led all rebounders with nine and scored an equal number of points. Freshman guard Brock Jacobsen, the hero of Friday's 65-59 win at Loyola Marymount, took only three shots from the field last night but made them all, two from three-point range.

When Pepperdine again closed to 49-44, Ryan Williams scored on a nifty inside move and added a third point via a free throw.

"This was a bunch of guys getting into their roles," said Speech, who had 11 points, eight rebounds and three blocked shots. "This weekend was about everyone doing their job."

Which for Fizdale was running the offense. Fizdale had 12 points and the 10 assists, giving him 26 points, 17 assists and five steals for the weekend.

"We finally got everyone buying into the system," said Fizdale. "Play defense and rebound and the points will come if you're patient in running the offense."

Said coach Brad Holland: "I just told my team I'm very proud of them. We didn't give in when we hit that bad spell (five straight WCC losses). I see this team believing in each other. And Fizdale played solid back-to-back games."

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USD shot 54 percent from the floor, had a 34-30 edge in rebounds and held Pepperdine to 41 percent shooting. WCC scoring champion Gerald Brown scored a season-low nine on 3-of-12 shooting against USD's matchup zone. Marques Johnson scored 21 to lead Pepperdine, which finished its regular season with eight straight losses and 13 in its last 15 games. The Waves finished last in the WCC for the first time in 18 years.
COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Toreros win at road ‘home’

By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — For the University of San Diego, there is one place better than home.
Gersten Pavilion.

Toreros 65
LMU 59

Last night, for the fourth season in a row, the Toreros upset Loyola Marymount on the Lions’ home floor.

But if the first three were nice victories, this one was particularly special.

Before their 65-59 victory, the Toreros hadn’t won a road game in the WCC this season.

And the Toreros desperately needed a win to move into sixth place and — at least momentarily — dodge a first-round WCC Tournament date with Gonzaga or Santa Clara.

“This is such an important step for us,” said USD coach Brad Holland after freshman guard Brock Jacobsen hit four straight free throws in the final 30 seconds to stop a Loyola Marymount rally.

“I’m so happy ... I can’t exactly tell you how we did it right now.”

The Toreros did it with their matchup zone defense, 14-point efforts from point guard David Fizdale (plus seven assists) and Brian Miles and a 12-point, eight-rebound outing by Jacobsen.

“You’re not a freshman anymore,” Fizdale told his running mate. “No freshman is that cool with the game on the line.”

Last night marked the third time this season that Jacobsen won a game at the foul line in the final seconds. He earlier turned back San Diego State and UC Irvine.

“I wasn’t nervous tonight,” said Jacobsen, who is making a strong run at WCC Freshman of the Year honors. “I wanted a win on the road so bad. I was tired of losing.”

With 2:21 to play, Jacobsen hit a running 8-foot jumper to cap a 13-1 USD run and hand the visitors the biggest lead of the game at 59-51.

The Lions then ran off seven straight points while Fizdale was missing two one-and-ones and USD was turning the ball over twice. A bad inbounds pass by Andre Speech after a timeout led to a breakaway basket by Loyola Marymount guard Mike O’Quinn that cut the gap to one with 35.9 seconds to play.

Enter Jacobsen.

Fouled intentionally, he swished two free throws to make it 61-58 with 29.6 seconds to play. Then Jacobsen was fouled by 6-foot-9 Lions center Ime Oduok as he rebounded a wild three-point attempt by Jim Williamson. Jacobsen’s next two foul shots made it 63-59 with 18.8 seconds to go.

In the first meeting between the teams, Williamson scored 21 and Oduok had 11 rebounds. Last night Williamson scored five and WCC rebounding leader Oduok had six caroms.

The Toreros zone hounded Williamson. Brian Bruso, who missed the 63-56 loss to the Lions with a broken foot, battled the 250-pound Oduok to a draw.

“San Diego is the most improved team in the conference from the first round,” said Loyola Marymount coach John Olive, whose team slipped to 17-9 overall and 7-6 in WCC play.

USD is now 11-13 overall and 5-8. A win this evening at Pepperdine (9-16, 2-11) would clinch sixth place. The game against the Waves will be televised on a delayed basis at 11 p.m. on Prime Sports.

When asked if he no longer felt like a freshman, the 6-5 Jacobsen said: “Don’t rush me ... I’m happy to be a freshman.”

USF 63, Pepperdine 51

At Malibu, John Duggan scored 15 points as the Dons handed the Waves their seventh straight loss. Zerrick Campbell added 14 points and grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds for the Dons (15-10, 8-5).
USD women end 8-game loss streak

Sophomore Nailah Thomson led all scorers with 18 points and collected eight rebounds to help the USD women's basketball team halt an eight-game losing streak with a 68-50 win over Loyola Marymount last night at USD.

Michele Brovelli chipped in 15 points as the Toreros (11-15, 5-8 WCC) assured themselves at least a sixth-place finish in the West Coast Conference. LMU fell to 12-14, 3-10.

USD led by 20 points at the half after holding LMU to just 16 points on 25 percent shooting from the floor.

The Toreros play for fifth place tomorrow when they host Pepperdine in the season finale.
San Diego economic index climbs for 9th month in row

The leading economic indicators for San Diego County rose 0.5 percent in December. That is the ninth straight monthly increase and the fifth month in six that the indicators have increased at least 0.5 percent.

University of San Diego economist Alan Gin, who created the index, said 1996 "is shaping up to be a good year for San Diego County."

In December, the brightest spot was initial claims for unemployment insurance. The index was up 1.67 percent, meaning that claims were down sharply.

The 15,755 claims in December were the lowest since June of 1990, Gin said. The highest month in the decade was January of 1992 at 28,013.

"We have come down quite a bit," Gin said. "The severe job losses we have seen in recent years are behind us."

The index of San Diego stocks was up 1.03 percent, the tourism index was up 0.61, and the U.S. leading indicators were up 0.28.

On the negative side, the building permits index was down 0.40, and help-wanted advertising was down 0.05.

County building permits closed the year at 6,603, down 5 percent from the previous year, Gin said. In recent years, permits have been stuck around 6,000, compared with the 30,000 to 35,000 annually of the late 1980s.
25-year-old Ecumenical Council to hold its annual meeting Sunday

SAN DIEGO — The Ecumenical Council of San Diego County, which is celebrating its silver anniversary, will hold its annual General Assembly on Sunday.

Ed Starkey, library director at USD, is expected to be installed as the new president of the council at Sunday’s meeting, which begins with registration at 2 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan, 4321 Eastgate Mall. The Rev. Wayne Sanders of Good Samaritan is expected to become the new vice president.

Along with continuing the council’s social-service programs, Starkey said he would like to “regenerate the ecumenical dialogue between the major Christian denominations.”

Starkey, who replaces the Rev. Nancy McMaster, the council’s outgoing president, added that he’d also like the council “to reach out to the Jewish community in a more formal way than we have in the past.”

The Ecumenical Council, meanwhile, has a new home. It moved last month to the Disciples Center, 1880 Third Ave. Its new phone number is 238-0649.
LOS ANGELES — The way Brad Holland sees it, the West Coast Conference basketball tournament begins this weekend for USD.

Officially, the 10th weekend tournament is March 2-4 at Santa Clara. But the USD coach thinks the Toreros need to win at least one game this weekend to build momentum going into the tournament.

"We've got to get a little run going," said Holland, whose team plays at Loyola Marymount tonight and at Pepperdine tomorrow. "Defensively, we've shown we can compete with anyone in our league. But we've got to get more going on offense and on the boards.

"If we can win a game this weekend, I think we could be a factor in the tournament."

There's one problem: The Toreros are the only WCC team without a conference road victory this season.

If it doesn't win this weekend, USD will draw either host Santa Clara or Gonzaga in the first round of the tournament. The Broncos and Bulldogs meet to determine the regular-season WCC title Sunday in Spokane, Wash.

Physically, the Toreros don't match up well with the big, strong Bulldogs. And Santa Clara has lost only one game at home this season. The Broncos beat USD 72-52 in Toso Pavilion.

The Toreros entered the final weekend of league play tied with St. Mary's for seventh place. But the Gaels won both regular-season meetings with USD, giving St. Mary's the tiebreaker.

St. Mary's is on the road in the Pacific Northwest this weekend, where Portland and Gonzaga have lost one home game between them.

Although USD hasn't won on the road, WCC tail-ender Pepperdine hasn't won a WCC game at home.

The Waves got a boost earlier in the week when UCLA assistant coach Lorenzo Romar was appointed Pepperdine's head coach.

Marty Wilson has been filling in since Tony Fuller resigned abruptly on Jan. 20.

Holland had been considered a candidate for the Pepperdine job.

"I did not pursue it," he said. "I wanted to stay here. My family and I enjoy living in the San Diego area. I think it worked out well."
Three new faces on S.D. campuses

UC President Richard Atkinson is hoping to announce a new chancellor to succeed him at UCSD by April. More than 100 candidates are said to have been pared down to a short list of five.

A potential blip on the horizon: UCLA Chancellor Charles Young has recently announced that he will retire in 1997. His is a position that some UCSD applicants may elect to seek.

With Stephen Weber arriving in July to succeed Tom Day as San Diego State president and Alice Hayes installed as Author Hughes' successor at University of San Diego, our city's Big Three campuses will be off on fresh tacks in tandem.
Those left high and dry have what it takes to win this race

The event involves an Olympic-size swimming pool, but water-walking is probably a long way from joining the Olympic Games. On the other hand, walking on water and miracles do have a certain history together.

Saturday's fifth annual "Walk on Water" competition at the University of San Diego's Sports Center will test the design skills — and the balance — of engineers and engineering students from across the county. Organized by the USD Department of Engineering to promote National Engineer's Week in San Diego, this wacky-looking competition compels contestants to try to cross the campus' swimming pool, wearing human-powered buoyancy shoes.

There are a couple of rules: The shoes must be separate — in other words, you can't stand on a single shoe and use it as a self-powered water ski; also, the "shoe pilot" must remain upright, without support, while crossing the pool from one end to another.

Fastest time crossing the pool wins. There also will be prizes awarded for the best design (that's in buoyancy shoes — could this be the next hot item at Nordstrom?)

Oh, and for the first time, the water-walking course will be laid out as a slalom, with contestants required to maneuver around marks in the pool.

For more skinny on the water-walking competition, call 260-4609.

— David L. Coddon

"Shoe pilots" like this one will be competing Saturday in the 1996 "Walk on Water" event at USD's Sports Center.

DATEBOOK

1996 "Walk on Water" competition
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, USD Sports Center, University of San Diego campus, Alcala Park. Free; 260-4609.

— David L. Coddon
"The Soul of Charity"

Father James Anderson remembered as friend of the people

By Liz Swain
The Southern Cross

SAN DIEGO — The late Father James R. Anderson won't only be remembered as one of the founders of University of San Diego High School. The priest, who died Feb. 4, was also a champion of youth and of working people. He was the type of priest who would loan an impoverished seminarian a shirt from his closet. "He was the soul of charity," recalls Msgr. Charles Dollen, pastor of St. Gabriel Church, Poway. The two became friends in 1952 when Msgr. Dollen was a student at Immaculate Heart Seminary in El Cajon.

Father Anderson died from heart failure at Sharp Cabrillo Hospital. He was 75 years old. He had come to the Diocese of San Diego in 1949 and served in a variety of assignments until his retirement eight years ago.

Father Anderson was born in Chicago and graduated from that city's Quigley Preparatory Seminary. He went on to graduate and earn a master's degree from St. Mary Queen of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. He said he volunteered to serve in San Diego because there was a surplus of priests in Chicago.

Father James R. Anderson

Father Anderson was assigned to St. Mary's, the El Cajon parish now known as Holy Trinity. That's where he befriended seminarians challenged with meager budgets. "We would go to his place. We knew we could borrow a shirt," says Msgr. Dollen.

Father Anderson went on to influence the religious education of numerous local Catholics. During the early 1950s, he worked with Bishop Charles Buddy and Msgr. Donald Kulleck to plan construction of USD High School in Alcala Park. He served as the school's director of religion from the 1950s through 1962.

A former USDHS principal remembers Father Anderson as an advocate of Catholic action. "He wanted the young men to be involved in some sort of reach-out, what is now peer ministry. He was willing to give his time, he was a listening ear," says Msgr. John Dickie, pastor of St. Mary Magdalene Church.

Father Anderson also taught at the Academy of Our Lady of Peace and the now-closed Rosary High School. He was the first chaplain for the college of men and the college of women at the University of San Diego. The two colleges merged in 1972.

Father Anderson served for two terms as the adviser of the Young Christian Student Movement and helped found the local Cardijn Center. He also was on the staff of parishes in Old Town, National City, Coronado, Lake Arrowhead and Stockton.

Father Anderson helped found labor unions and would have joined San Diego city school teachers on the picket line, says Msgr. Dollen.

He also took on international assignments in Rome, India and Latin America. He served as the dean of students and the associate director for the Center for Intercultural Communications in Puerto Rico. He was honored in 1964 for his work developing lay missionary leadership in Latin America. He received similar recognition in 1959 for similar efforts in Davenport, Iowa.

Furthermore, Father Anderson contributed to leadership training manuals and conducted instructional forums in Japan, England and India. His final assignment in San Diego was as chaplain for the San Diego Naval Medical Center.

Father Anderson was commemorated with a Mass Feb. 9 at St. Joseph Cathedral. His family plans cremation, with the priest's remains to be scattered at sea.
USD Hosts “Walk On Water” Competition

Can engineers and engineering students walk on water? The public can see that question answered at the “Walk on Water” competition that runs Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the University of San Diego Sports Center’s swimming pool. Engineering teams from high schools, universities and businesses had to design human-powered buoyancy shoes—footwear that will be used in attempts to cross USD’s Olympic-sized pool, said Ernie Kim of USD’s engineering department. “The faculty has yet to walk on water, but the students do,” quipped Kim. He said the competition, now in its fifth year, demonstrates to high school students that “engineering can be fun.”
Pushing Students to Finish in 4

More public college undergraduates are taking longer to earn degrees. Educators worried about shrinking budgets and a projected boom in class sizes are prodding them to make a quicker exit.

By MARTIN MILLER
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Sandip Sehmi is what his classmates at UC Irvine call a "super senior." The 22-year-old biology major is also what a growing number of state lawmakers and educators nationwide regard as an unnecessary taxpayer burden.

Like well over half of his fellow full-time undergraduates at America's public colleges, Sehmi will take more than four years to obtain his bachelor's degree.

"It's my fifth year and I want to get out and get on with my life," said Sehmi, who works 20 hours a week as a car mechanic in addition to taking a heavy course load. "But it just wasn't realistic to get out in four years."

State educators, however, are increasingly unsympathetic to the plight of "super seniors," who may reduce admission space and—more worrisome to budget-conscious lawmakers—take revenue from state coffers.

California picks up about $8,000—68%—of the annual educational cost of each full-time UC student, and $6,500—77%—for their Cal State counterparts. And, with about two-thirds of UC students and about 85% of Cal State students staying in school more than four years, some educational analysts contend that "super seniors" tap California for tens of millions of dollars annually.

"My gut reaction is this has to be reversed," said state Sen. Quentin Kopp (I-San Francisco), a member of the Senate Select Committee on Higher Education. "It's a problem both because of the effect on the individual [student] and the cost to the taxpayer."

California is taking its first steps to speed up full-time students, whose reasons for staying longer than four years include working at part-time jobs, struggling to take overbooked required classes or fretting over joining the "real world."

Three of the nine UC campuses and all 22 Cal State schools have begun offering a loose "contract" that guarantees students hard-to-get classes in exchange for graduating in four years.

Other states have been far more aggressive. Three years ago, Montana began halting state subsidies to students who pile up course credits well beyond graduation requirements.

Under a proposal expected to be approved in March, the Montana Board of Regents will lower the course credit threshold by 15%—a move that would save the state about $6.2 million per semester.

"Look, we don't have the money," said state Commissioner of Higher Education Jeff Baker, the top administrator for the 30,000 students in Montana's public university system. "If you want more than [the new limit], then you are going to have to pay for it yourself."

In 1994, North Carolina imposed a 25% tuition surcharge on students who amass excessive course credits. Florida's Board of Regents recommended last week that lawmakers approve a similar surcharge.

Although critics question whether such measures will succeed given that many students hold jobs while they attend school, Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Maryland and South Carolina are either scrutinizing graduation rates or considering financial incentives to improve them.

"The volcano is rumbling about slow graduation rates," said Cheryl D. Blanco, policy director at the Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education, who has tracked the issue for two years. "States are under tremendous pressures."

"When we get into the crunch of how to accommodate all those students, the issue will become how can you let some students stay five, six or seven years?"

The state will consider three major strategies to make room for the huge student wave, according to Charles Ratliff of the California Postsecondary Education Commission. It can build more buildings and campuses, expand classroom technology so students can learn from off-campus sites or graduate students more rapidly.

"The first two ways require lots of money," said Ratliff, deputy director of the body that coordinates the state's higher education policy. "Faster exit times should be much cheaper."

But so far, California's initial attempts to accelerate graduation rates have had limited success. Since a 1993 speech by Gov. Pete Wilson that urged universities to graduate students more rapidly, only three UC campuses—Davis, Santa Barbara and Irvine—directly heeded the call.

Davis opened the first UC program designed to hasten student graduation times in fall 1993. The program drew about 400 from its...
latest freshman class of about 3,000. At Santa Barbara, which started its "Go For Four" program in fall 1984, about 325 freshmen—out of 3,300—signed up.

Meanwhile, Irvine attracted just 25 freshmen out of nearly 3,000 in fall 1995.

Participation is low despite the fact the programs are free and carry no withdrawal penalty.

"This just isn't a very high priority for most students when they first arrive," said Jim Danziger, UC Irvine's dean of undergraduate studies. "This is a decision that has to be made at a time in their lives when there is enormous uncertainty."

Results from the Cal State campuses, which were required by the state to institute similar programs by fall 1995, were only slightly better. For example, at Cal State Dominguez Hills, 15 freshmen out of 510 enrolled.

While systemwide strains are showing, campus officials—long acquainted with lengthy student stays—have rarely seen the issue as a top concern. Though they may keep out a small number of new students, long-term students nevertheless contribute to full classrooms, studies show. And, whether a student is a freshman or a sixth-year senior, the university still receives the same amount of state subsidy.

Without outside pressure, "There's just not a lot of incentive to speed things up," Ratliff said.

While acknowledging that four-year graduation programs are revenue-driven, university officials say they don't know how much long-term students may tax state resources. Officials say the fiscal impact can only be estimated because it has never been examined in California.

Still, there's little doubt it's a significant amount.

"It's certainly safe to say it's in the tens of millions of dollars," said Alexander Astin, director of the Higher Education Research Institute in Westwood.

Many educators contend that a more revealing benchmark for state expenditures is course or credit hour accumulation rather than raw time to graduation. (A course usually equals three or four credit hours.)

Reducing excessive credit hours—the number of courses taken after satisfying graduation requirements—is the target of the financial penalties enacted by Montana and North Carolina.

California statistics for the average number of credit hours racked up by students at graduation were not available.

National averages, however, show a steady increase in credit hours, according to the latest figures from the U.S. Department of Education. The freshman class of 1972 earned an average of 126 credit hours, roughly two courses over what is needed for a degree at most universities.

Students who entered college in 1982 amassed 139.4 credit hours, or about a full semester more than is needed for graduation. (Statistics for the freshman class of 1992, most of whom have yet to graduate, are still being compiled.)

But some educators contend that states that are banking on a budgetary windfall by pushing students out university doors faster will be disappointed. Many students today don't graduate in four years because they are older and work outside school more than their predecessors, educators say. Part-time jobs detract from class and study time, while older students frequently have family commitments and other obligations that younger students do not.

In the Cal State system, students frequently have to take a leave for a semester to earn extra money. Sixty-eight percent of students held at least a part-time job, according to a 1994 Cal State survey. At UC campuses, about 73% took part-time jobs while in school, according to a 1994 UC report.

UC Irvine student Sehmi understands the frustration of trying to graduate on time. Between his part-time job and a demanding course load, he said, it's nearly impossible to finish school in four years.

"There's pressure from my family. They keep asking what's taking so long," said Sehmi, who expects to get his degree after five years. "But I tell them of about 50 friends I know, only three graduated in four years."

"Frankly," she said, "I don't care about saving the university too much money. I just want to get the best education I can."

The latter is to blame for holding up UC Irvine student Tom Gretteenberg, who expects to graduate in five years. The 20-year-old San Pedro resident started college determined to be an engineer, like his father.

But after a year, he changed his major to psychology.

"My first year was really kind of a waste," Gretteenberg said. "But that's part of the maturing process."

Lost in the pursuit of leaner budgets and more efficient student processing, fear critics, is the spirit of higher education itself.

"You don't want to turn learning into a footnote," said Joyce Scott of the American Assn. of State Colleges and Universities. "A crucial part of learning and growing is time for reflection."

University of Montana junior Molly Wood, who is majoring in journalism with minors in German and French, may represent the view of many students nationwide.

"Frankly," she said, "I don't care about saving the university too much money. I just want to get the best education I can."

But even she is disappointed. Many students today are older and work outside school more than their predecessors, educators say. Part-time jobs detract from class and study time, while older students frequently have family commitments and other obligations that younger students do not.

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Students, administrators and officials point out a host of other reasons that delay graduation time. In California, students over 25 make up about 43% of Cal State's student body. Such nontraditional students account for 7% of UC's population, according to 1993 figures.

Other factors include fear of entering the job market, lax academic advising or student planning, losing transfer credits, and double majors or switching majors.
Trying to divine the loss of rational thought

Not long ago, a flotilla of trucks from the San Diego Water Utilities Department pulled up on my cul-de-sac. Several guys in hard hats jumped out. They began to mark the street with blue spray paint. Some of the men studied books of charts.

But one workman walked around holding two bent metal rods, one in each fist, pointed directly ahead of him. He watched the rods intently as they swung left or right or crossed.

"Just curious. But what are you doing?" I asked.

He looked a little sheepish and muttered, "Dowsing."

Like most people, I'm somewhat familiar with dowsing (or divining, or water witching, as it is sometimes called), a scientifically unproven method of using metal rods, sticks or branches to find subsurface water.

"Do many of you guys with the water department use dowsing rods?" I asked.

"Quite a few of us," he said, and wandered off, watching his rods.

Here's the really odd thing. The reason the water department was marking the street was so AT&T wouldn't break the water mains when its crews arrived a few days later to rip up the road, dig trenches and begin laying fiber-optic cable. The dowser, using what can best be described as 15th century sorcery, was preparing my neighborhood for the 21st century information highway - carrying Lord knows how many psychic channels.

I mentioned this scene to Virginia Muller, a USD professor and former co-host (with Dennis Rohatyn) of the late, lamented KPBS radio series "Free Thinking." Her theory is that "we're seeing pockets of pre-scientific wisdom that have always been present, but at times like this we just notice them more."

I think our wires are crossed. At the end of the 19th century, when the Industrial Revolution was overturning everyone's technological, political and social assumptions, the metaphysical - ectoplasm, spirits, mind-readers and the like - surged.

Today, in the Information Revolution, at the very moment when science and technology seem supreme, fundamentalist religion is on the rise around the world. Pat Buchanan, who says he does not believe in evolution, has a shot at the presidency; angels are big business; and 38 percent of Americans (according to a Harris poll), believe that finding and picking up a penny is good luck. And dowsing is getting even more metaphysical and bizarre.

"Until very recently, dowsing was used 99 percent of the time to locate underground water for rural families and livestock," writes Jack Hope in Smithsonian magazine. "All of this has changed radically in the past two or three decades."

The divining faithful don't even try to claim that dowsing can be proved scientifically. Electromagnetic explanations have given way to ESP and the paranormal - a universal force or a Jungian kind of superconsciousness.

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"At a convention of the American Society of Dowsers in Vermont, which attracted 900 practitioners, only one seminar, which was poorly attended, dealt with dowsing for water wells. The rest, more than 60 of them with packed audiences, focused on "Dowsing for Indian Effigy Mounds," "Dowsing and Emotional Well Being," "Communicating with Animals Through Dowsing" and "Deviceless Dowsing: Listening to the Trees."

The farmer in his field may have tapped some ancient wisdom, but what can you say about the woman who, at her local Blockbuster, dowses for good videotapes?

Maybe it's true we're seeing some irrational reactions to breathless technological change. On the other hand, many of the believers in science or metaphysics seem to be converging. These days advanced quantum physics and religion seem almost related.

Two years ago, John Eger, a professor and director of SDSU's International Center for Communications, listened to a speech by Bob Lucky, then director of Advanced Technology for AT&T. Lucky estimated that the speed of fiber-optic transmission would leap, within two decades, from a speed capable of transmitting an encyclopedia to your home in a nanosecond to fast enough to transmit the entire Library of Congress in a fraction of a second.

"Lucky was enchanted with this idea," says Eger. "Like many people in the information industry, he feels that fiber optics and the like are as close as we're going to get to God. And I guess I believe that the Internet has religious implications, too."

Indeed, far from rejecting the Internet, many mystical types are mastering it. I logged on the other day and found dozens of "cool sites & hot links," as one Web page called "Ancient Futures" put it, including pages on astrology, paranormal and psychic phenomena, Feng Shui Chinese Geomancy, Tarot cards, aboriginal mysticism and divining.

I don't know if this convergence is good or bad. I suppose I would prefer a universe in which these worlds communicate to one in which they collide.

In any case, dowsing our way down the information highway makes poetic sense.

"The water department does not issue divining rods," says Kurt Kidman, spokesman for the Water Utilities Department. "But there's no doubt that some guys out in the field are using them. They'll look you straight in the eye and tell you dowsing works." He laughed. "I'd love to tell you our department is on the cutting edge of both scientific and subliminal charting of water mains, but I can't. It's happening, but not officially."

So far, in my neighborhood, AT&T has hit no water mains, but they did cut through a gas line. Maybe the gas company should get on the stick.

RICHARD LOUV's column appears on Page A-2 on Wednesdays and in Family Ties on Saturdays. He can be reached by fax at 293-2148, by e-mail at rlouv@cts.com or by regular mail at P.O. Box 191, San Diego, CA 92112.
Walk on water: Human-powered buoyancy shoes and a floating slalom course will be the focus of USD's fifth annual "Walk on Water" competition set for 10 a.m. Saturday. Engineers from professional firms and universities are invited to participate. Contestants who cross USD's Olympic-size pool with their inventions the fastest will receive prizes. The free competition is sponsored by USD's Department of Engineering.

By Daily Transcript writers
Toreros beat Utah; Aztecs go 1-0-1

Jeb Dougherty's two-run triple keyed a four-run sixth inning for the USD baseball team as the Toreros broke open a close game and went on to beat Utah 8-5 yesterday in the Arthur J. Gallagher Classic at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

Dougherty's hit brought home Jeff Powers and Jay Parks. Powers was 3-for-4 with three RBI.

Bart Miadich pitched seven innings, striking out five, to earn his first win of the season for USD (2-6-1). Brian Springer got his second save. Utah fell to 2-5.
Record Numbers of Applications Are Reported by the Top Colleges

The nation's prestigious colleges are being flooded with record numbers of applications as high school seniors increasingly worry about getting into the top tier, admissions officers say.

Admissions officers from the Ivy League schools, Georgetown, Tufts, Stanford and other colleges are reporting that the number of applications has risen by at least 50 percent in the last decade, while the number of high school graduates has risen only in the last year as the children of the baby boom generation reach college age.

"The toughness this year is in the sheer number — we can't take everybody," said Fred Hargadon, the dean of admissions at Princeton.

Top high school students appear to be sending out more applications than ever — more than 10, instead of the 4 or 5 common a decade ago. Admissions officers said the increase was mostly likely driven by the same fears that have generated record numbers of students seeking early acceptance.

"There are definitely students who, if they would have applied 10 years ago or 5 years ago or even 3 years ago, would have had a better chance of getting in to the top tier," said Stephen Singer, director of college counseling at the Horace Mann School in the Bronx.

David Cuttino, dean of admissions at Tufts, said its increase of 8,500 applications from last year to 11,500 this year was unprecedented.

Admissions officers and high school guidance counselors suggested a variety of reasons for the increase: stepped-up recruitment by colleges seeking diversity; S.A.T. scores that were revised upward last April, giving students false hope; electronic applications forms on computer disks; and an increase in the number of 18-year-olds in the population. But the most common explanation is that students are worried about their prospects after graduation from college.

"The state of the economy and job market is probably scaring some people into focusing on recognized institutions," said Wayne Becraft, the executive director of the 8,400-member American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

Charles Deacon, the dean of admissions at Georgetown, also agreed that students today are more concerned about their economic well-being after graduation.

"Whereas 15 years ago a college degree kind of insured your success, right now it doesn't guarantee anything," said Mr. Deacon, who has seen the number applications grow from 6,500 in 1991 to more than 10,000 this year at Georgetown.

Students are focusing on the application process earlier and becoming more competitive, counselors said.

"There's more anxiety, more concern," said Daphne Rhodes, who runs college-counseling service in New Jersey, "with students worrying, 'Have I done the best to prepare myself? Am I going to present myself well? What kind of classes do I need to take? What should I be doing outside class?'

At Harvard, which received a record 18,000 applications this year, more students are including props with their written applications to get attention. The dean of admissions, William Fitzsimmons, cited everything from videotapes to all the papers a student ever wrote to Harvard logos made of chocolate.

Jon S. Katzman, president of the Princeton Review, the nation's largest S.A.T. preparation program and the publisher of a guide to colleges, said students now think in terms of getting into any good school, rather than getting into their first choice.

"Ten years ago, students were stressed because they wanted to be the winner," Mr. Katzman said. "Now, they're stressed because they don't want to be the loser."
Toreros can only dream

By CHRIS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Even as they were losing, the USD Toreros could look down at the other bench and find encouragement.

The team beating them 69-59 last night was, a year ago at this time, given little chance of taking the West Coast Conference tournament title.

"Gonzaga ended up winning the whole thing," said San Diego guard David Fizdale. "The same thing could happen to us, too."

It's quite a stretch to compare USD to a Gonzaga squad that started league play 0-6 last year and climbed to the fourth seed by season's end, but the Toreros (10-13 overall) have to reach for something, close as they are to last place. They're 4-8 in the WCC ahead of only Pepperdine (2-10).

By overcoming what was an 11-point USD lead, on the other hand Gonzaga took sole (if temporary) possession of first place with two league games remaining.

The Bulldogs (18-6) are 9-3 in the WCC, a half-game up on Santa Clara, which was idle last night and hosts St. Mary's today.

Still, an upset of Gonzaga might've made USD one of the scariest teams in the conference tourney, given the Toreros' earlier defeats of Santa Clara and Portland, the latter just three nights ago. And their sense of overachievement certainly was working against Gonzaga — right up to the time the Bulldogs began parading to the free-throw line.

As the visitors took command early in the second half, more than half their points were coming from the free-throw line. Twenty three of their 24 foul shots came in the second half. USD took 14, the same number Gonzaga sank, and the Toreros made good on nine.

"We seem to send teams to the line non-stop," said guard Brock Jacobsen, USD's leading scorer with 16 points. "Sometimes it's our aggressiveness. Sometimes, maybe, it's questionable calls."

Jacobsen's own two free throws and follow shot with 2:13 left drew USD to 61-58, the closest the Toreros would get as Gonzaga scored eight of the game's last nine points. Gone was the energy and tenacity USD had used to assume an early 30-19 lead, built by the inside work of Brian Miles (14 points, 10 rebounds) and Brian Bruso against the bigger Bulldogs.

Ultimately, the Toreros were undone by Gonzaga's guards. Coming off a 29-point night at USF, Lorenzo Rollins had 17 last night and Kyle Dixon had 15.

Sentiment paid off for the Toreros early as seniors Rocco Raffo and Val Hill, inserted into the starting lineup on the occasion of their final conference game at Alcala Plirk, where a crowd of 2,231 bade them goodbye, combined for all of USD's points en route to a 7-5 lead.

Just to beat a dying shot clock, Jacobsen launched one from the chest from a spot almost as close to the halfcourt line as the three-point arc, making it 25-15. Jacobsen's layup also gave USD its biggest lead at 30-19, whereupon the Bulldogs charged back to trail 35-32 at the half.

Less than a minute into the second half, however, Gonzaga was ahead 38-35 on a layup by Jon Kinloch and dunk by Scott Snider. On each basket, the scorer had sprinted behind a loping USD defense and taken a long pass from Dixon, an All-WCC selection last year.

"We were terrible against their transition," said USD coach Brad Holland. "Perhaps I should've started Rocco and Val in the second half; too. I'm serious. They put in quality minutes. I thought about it, I really did, but decided to go with the regular group."
Meet Wayne Dosick!
Barnes & Noble in La Mesa
5500 Grossmont Center Drive
Wednesday • February 21st • 7:30-9:00 PM

Parents—don’t miss this informative event! Wayne Dosick will discuss and sign copies of *Golden Rules*, a new, illustrated book of parables, stories and real-life examples that teach children ten essential moral values.
Move over, victims. Step aside, whiners.
Make room for personal responsibility, a movement — or at least a trickle — in which the mantra for the new ages is bound to sound something like this: Deal with it.

"No one is coming to save me; no one is coming to make life right for me; no one is coming to solve my problems," writes Beverly Hills psychologist Nathaniel Branden in his new book, "Taking Responsibility."

He adds: "If I don’t do something, nothing is going to get better."


He believes it’s an idea whose time has come.

"More and more people are challenging the whole idea that nobody is responsible for anything," says Branden.

Politicians, men’s groups and a new genre of behavior books seem to agree.

Bill Clinton invokes personal responsibility as a tonic for everything from drug abuse to fatherless
homes. Bob Dole predicts it will be a campaign issue, and Pete Wilson calls it a "fundamental value."

The Promise Keepers, the fastest-growing Christian men's ministry in the country, is heavily steeped in the responsibility theme. The Million Man March in Washington, D.C., exhorted African-American men to take responsibility in their homes and their community.

You say you just couldn't help yourself? Everything would be OK if you had better parents? The world owes you a living?

In the words of Dr. Laura: "Oh, puhleeese."

"Do you really believe that only those people graced with great genetics, perfect parentage and ideal social conditions can and will behave with character, courage and conscience?" writes radio psychologist Laura Schlessinger in her new, and already best-selling book, "How Could You Do That?!"

She continues: "Do you really believe that laziness, guiltlessness and selfishness are products only of some form of psychoneurosis? Nonsense."

People from a variety of faiths are embracing Schlessinger's message. Last month, the Los Angeles-based therapist spoke at a local Methodist church. On Sunday, the Jewish Chabad at La Costa is hosting "An Evening with Dr. Laura" (7 p.m. Golden Hall, call 236-6510 or 220-TIXS for the $20 tickets).

Journalist, author, and therapist Dr. Laura Schlessinger says, "The only way to get respect is to earn it."

"Fell like a stone"

Branden traces the fall from responsibility to the post-World War II era.

"The idea began that we were so big and powerful that we could do anything," he says. "We were omnipotent... in a risk-free universe of an endless stream of goods and services."

Self-responsibility, he adds, "fell like a stone from our culture."

Enter the age of entitlement. Branden quotes from a Time magazine article to sum up the American psyche: "If I want it, I need it. If I need it, I have a right to it. If I have a right to it, someone owes it to me. Or else I'll sue."

Janet Bernardi believes that people don't practice responsibility because they haven't been taught it.

"It's a value that's been lost. It's like hunting. We don't know how to hunt because we haven't been taught how to hunt," says Bernardi, a pharmaceutical researcher in La Jolla who co-wrote a book on the spirituality of Generation X's ("A Generation Alone").

Branden blames lawyers who've turned the tort system into a get-rich-quick scheme, politicians who believe it's government's job to take care of everyone and psychologists who hold that people can't really help the way they are.

About a year ago, Branden and his wife, Devers, were hurrying to a movie in Los Angeles when she slipped and fell, cutting her leg badly enough that the wound required stitches.

Then they went to Santa Barbara and recounted the trauma at a dinner party.

A lawyer told them they should sue.

His wife asked why.

It happened on the theater's property; they're responsible, the lawyer said.

She asked whether she wasn't responsible for walking more carefully.

The lawyer was exasperated, telling her: "What's the matter with you? I'm telling you that you can get money."

"We can't afford this stuff any longer. We can't afford to continue the way we've been going," says Branden.

Obsession with self

But some behaviorists think it was the self-esteem movement that Branden helped launch that's at least partially to blame.

Decades of emphasizing the self have had "horrible" results, writes Philip Hwang in his new book, "Other-Esteem."

"Today, we are waking up to a society consumed by moral decay, devastated by heinous crimes and overtaken completely by financial greed and almost completely oblivious to social order," writes Hwang, who is a professor of counseling at the University of San Diego.

Hwang doesn't think the personal responsibility movement is the total answer, either.

Instead, he suggests a balance of self-esteem, personal responsibility and social responsibility — a three-part harmony that he thinks will result in "other-esteem," in which people accept others as valuable equals.

Meanwhile, the ripples of personal responsibility are beginning to be felt on the surface of society.

"Five years ago, you walk in with a good case where a person was hurt and expect a jury to come up with a substantial settlement," says San Diego attorney Thomas Massey. "Now juries come back and award nothing or next to nothing."

Massey welcomes this ethic of personal responsibility (he has written a book on ethical decisions called "Healing the Wounds that Divide Us"). But he thinks responsibility needs to be tempered with reason.

"I do think we need to shift over to the right side of responsibility," Massey adds. "By the same token, I don't think we want to swing all the way over to the one side of the pendulum and forget that we are all products of our genetics, our upbringing, our environment..."

Sometimes, he warns, people truly are victims and attorneys are needed to make those who are culpable "take responsibility that they wouldn't take unless they're forced to comply."

The Republicans called their welfare-restriction plan "The Personal Responsibility Act," wording that earned House Speaker Newt Gingrich a Doublespeak Award.

Continued →
At California State University San Marcos, Renee Curry and Terry Allison have weighed in with a book, "States of Rage," which cautions that self-reliance breeds self-intolerance.

"One of the things that our book points out is that taking responsibility is a loaded term," says Curry, an associate professor of writing and literature.

Curry, and other detractors, fear that the personal-responsibility movement is just another excuse to turn society's back on the needy and others less able to control their lives.

"A mentally ill person who's just eaten table scraps for a year ... is not equally capable of getting a job as I am," says Curry, "no matter how much balance or personal responsibility that they take."

Others worry that politicians are using personal responsibility as a club. The Republicans called their welfare-restriction plan "The Personal Responsibility Act," wording that earned House Speaker Newt Gingrich a Doublespeak Award from the National Council of Teachers of English. (The English teachers apparently saw the title and purpose as something of a contradiction.)

Those qualifications aside, Branden believes that a personally responsible camper is a happy camper.

Try this, he urges: Look at an area of your life where you're not taking much responsibility; look at an area of your life where you are more responsible. "Will you please tell me which area of your life works better?" he asks. Got it? Get it.

Now, as Dr. Laura would say, "Go take on the day."
USD gets a jump on Pilots in upset

By CHRIS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Once again a team on the rebound, USD finally became a team that gets rebounds.

Coming off yet another fruitless West Coast Conference road trip — the only kind they’ve had — the Toreros returned home at this late date in the season with a new dedication to boardwork. The work paid off last night with a 76-68 upset of third-place Portland before 1,037 at the USD Sports Center.

“That’s the first time in a long time we’ve outrebounded a team,” said USD coach Brad Holland, whose Toreros had 33 boards to Portland’s 29. “Ryan Williams had 12 rebounds himself, and we haven’t had a guy with double-digit rebounds in 20 games.”

Actually, it just seemed like a long time, since the Toreros had grabbed more rebounds (33-31) than Santa Clara in the opening loss of last week’s trip. In the second game, though, USD lost by just four points at St. Mary’s while getting outrebounded 44-21. Hence all the extra jumping in the gym the past few days.

“Certainly, there’s an amount of technique involved in rebounding,” said Holland, “but it’s mostly just wanting the ball.”

Holland saw to it that his players started, uh, wanting it more.

“Coach has really been on us hard to go get the boards,” said Williams, who also had a dozen points. “We’d been getting killed. We had a lot more intensity tonight, putting bodies on bodies. Also, the refs were letting a lot of pushing go, so hey, whatever you gotta do.”

What the Toreros had to do was produce a key 7-0 run, orchestrated by point guard David Fizdale, at the game’s most critical juncture.

Portland was up 65-62 with 3:36 left. Fizdale had the assists on the next two baskets, by Brian Miles and Williams, then promptly stole the ball. Banged all the way down the floor by Portland’s Rick Brainard, Fizdale hit one of two free throws, then two foul shots with 2:16 remaining for a 69-65 lead.

Although not counted on for rebounds, Fizdale likewise had received some added attention from Holland in the first half.

“I wasn’t playing like myself,” said Fizdale. “I wasn’t concentrating well, wasn’t protecting the ball. All I needed was a good chewing.”

Holland chewed.

Before the game’s end, Fizdale had the Pilots chewing on their shoes with a sensational jumper from 15 feet that made it 73-67. Fizdale left the ground going one way, then spun around the other way in midair. It was impressive enough that Portland’s Sharif Metoyer still got a hand in front of the ball, whereupon Fizdale merely shifted the ball over to his right palm and one-handed the swish, all the while coming back down to the floor.

“That was the backbreaker there,” said Williams. “That took all the air out of them.”

Thereafter, the WCC’s second-highest scoring team was relegated to launching three-point shots, none of which went through and all of which became USD rebounds.

Portland (15-8, 6-5) dropped to two games behind the league’s co-leaders, Santa Clara and Gonzaga. The Toreros (10-12, 4-7) host Gonzaga tomorrow in USD’s final home game.
Affirmative action: California Women in Environmental Design will host a town hall meeting on affirmative action laws and policies 6 to 9 tonight at the San Diego Hospice. Town hall panelists include Gail Heriot, a law professor at University of San Diego; Katherine Spillar, national coordinator of the Feminist Majority; Ava Donner, founder of Engineering Associates of Los Angeles; and Michael Cornelius, vice president of Malcolm Drilling Co.
Kathleen Dunn Wellman of Carlsbad, a founder of La Posada de Guadalupe de Carlsbad shelter for homeless men, has been honored by her alma mater, the University of San Diego.

Since opening in 1992, La Posada has provided more than 1,200 men with shelter, food, health care and classes in English.

Wellman, an attorney, received USD's 1995 Bishop Charles Francis Buddy award for outstanding alumni achievement.

Wellman earned undergraduate and law degrees at USD. She was chosen for the award by the USD Alumni Association for her community and public service.

She practices law in the Oceanide-Carlsbad area and was instrumental in forming the North County branch of the Lawyers Club, an organization devoted to the advancement of women in the legal profession.

Wellman helped create "Caring Residents of Carlsbad," a nonprofit corporation that established La Posada in conjunction with Catholic charities.

Wellman also has been active with the Carlsbad Housing Commission. She lives in Carlsbad with her husband and their three sons.
By JOHN A. CHRISTIANSON

When President Clinton proposed AmeriCorps — his domestic version of the Peace Corps — many people, including myself, were dubious.

As an economist trained in the area of public finance, specifically government expenditures and taxation, my doubts usually are verified. Too often, I have witnessed presidential or congressional pet programs, however well-intentioned, turn out disastrously for the taxpayers.

When Congress questioned and probed the worth of the AmeriCorps, I began to feel vindicated. Then a strange, unexpected event happened in my family.

Adam, my son, joined the National Civilian Community Corp (NCCC), a branch of the AmeriCorps. He enlisted to help pay for his education, learn more about his nation and community, become more disciplined and meet people from other parts of the country.

Gradually, some actual facts about the NCCC and the AmeriCorps emerged. Could my hunch have proved wrong? Yes, not only are the AmeriCorps and the NCCC not boondoggles, they are worthy programs for the taxpayers.

After a three-week training period, Adam's group started to work on some projects. In just over two months, his group has been active in many varied activities. His first work was painting houses for the low-income elderly who either couldn't afford to hire painters or were too infirm to paint themselves. This program not only helped the owners but their neighbors as well.

Adam then went to Santa Barbara, where seven local parks were inspected to determine if they were in compliance with the American Disabilities Act, and if not, to make modifications to accommodate the disabled.

CHRISTIANSON is a professor of economics at the University of San Diego.

For example, trails were examined and changed to ensure they were accessible by wheelchair, free of poison ivy and poison oak, without low-hanging branches which would be dangerous to the blind, and furnished with enough rest areas and toilet facilities. More than 170 park tables were anchored with concrete.

Next, the group went to Yosemite National Park to rebuild hiking trails that had been ruined by overuse and the elements.

Now Adam's assignment takes him to an underfunded school, where he tutors junior high school students.

These projects, like all NCCC activities, help out communities with needs that have not been funded or have fallen through the cracks. The NCCC has campuses in San Diego, Denver, Perry Point, Md., and Charleston, S.C. Their projects cover four main areas: 1) environment, 2) unmet human needs, 3) education and 4) public safety.

The environment entails projects such as refurbishing log cabins, trail restoration, finding and cataloging artifacts, reclaiming forests and disaster relief.

The NCCC places the highest priority on aiding disaster victims during floods, hurricanes, fires and earthquakes.

AmeriCorps members hurried to Houston during flooding, going door to door to give special help to 1,300 households. AmeriCorps members rushed to Oklahoma City following last year's tragic bombing to establish the best donations program in the history of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Activities under the rubric of unmet human needs and public safety include building or remodeling recreation and community centers, getting rid of graffiti, administering a universal immunization outreach project, matching offender files and fingerprints, analyzing crime statistics and helping to restore the inner cities.

Educational projects primarily consist of working in the schools, aiding "at risk" students, and tutoring. The AmeriCorps goal of raising reading levels by two grades was beaten when scores jumped three grades in programs in rural Simpson County, Ky., and National City.

The AmeriCorps runs on a tight budget, averaging $17,629 per AmeriCorps member, which includes the $4,750 future educational stipend. This lean and mean budget has a federal overhead expense of only 7 percent per member.

The AmeriCorps program requires community and private involvement. Fortunately, it has become one of the nation's most innovative public/private partnerships. The outside funding goal for AmeriCorps from local and state governments and private charities was $32 million. Private donors — including General Electric, IBM, American Express, Anheuser-Busch, Nike and Microsoft — contributed $41 million with an additional $50 million coming from local and state agencies.

What a success story!

These young people will be future leaders who understand the many demands and requirements of a democracy. They will know through the hard teacher of experience that a democracy needs eternal vigilance and participation.

In this era of budget constraints and debt concerns, every new program becomes an inviting target. However, is it money or other issues that drive this debate when in fiscal year 1994 the federal expenditure on the AmeriCorps was a little over $124 million while the Federal Commodity Credit Corp. subsidized tobacco growers by $693 million? You need to be the judge.
King of the Hill

Plop, plop, Fiz, Fiz . . . oh, what a delight he is

By BILL CENTER, Staff Writer

Walking across the University of San Diego campus with point guard David Fizdale can be a tedious exercise.

Every 10 or 15 steps, someone stops USD's basketball captain. There's a classmate and a teammate . . . a campus administrator and a custodian . . . a professor and a fellow student.

“We call Dave the Mayor of USD,” says teammate Rocco Raffo. “People feel comfortable taking with Fiz about anything. He communicates in an effective way. He can talk to anyone . . . and he talks to almost everyone.”

Says USD assistant coach Randy Bennett: “He scores points for us without ever going on the floor. He brings to the university this special blend of leadership and attitude.

“I know the other side of campus views David as a resource.”

Each September, USD holds a special orientation program for inner-city students trying to make the grade in a predominantly white university.

The past couple of years, David Fizdale has been the keynote speaker.

“I don’t tell them much,” Fizdale said. “I show them that if I can do it, they can. I tell them that this is a great university for white, black . . . anybody. I let them know my door is open . . . and that they can call me to talk. Some of them are reluctant. I guess I don’t look inner city.”

continued ✴
David Fizdale knows the inner city. He grew up on a street called Corning in West Los Angeles. It is a notorious area — the headquarters of a violent gang.

“It was a bad area,” Fizdale said. “People ask me if I ever heard gunfire when I was growing up. I’m not kidding on this, as a kid, we’d run and hide every time we saw a car we didn’t recognize turn onto the block. We’d be playing street football, and we’d see a new car and we’d just disappear into the alleys.”

When Helen Hamilton moved her young family onto Corning in 1972, it was a nice neighborhood. It was that way in 1974 when her youngest son David was born. But before long, the neighborhood took a turn for the worse.

“That’s what David saw when he was growing up,” Hamilton said. “I bought a new car once and the gangsters decided to use it for target practice the first night I brought it home. There was a girl murdered on the block because she wouldn’t go out with a gangster. A young man was shot while sitting on a corner waiting for a bus.”

And two of David’s friends were gunned down one night while walking home after a schoolyard basketball game. Fizdale, then 11, was supposed to be walking with them, but stayed to play one more game.

“When he was late coming home, I thought one of those dead boys was David,” Hamilton said. “But he always had an angel looking over him.”

Sometimes, angels aren’t enough. Two weeks later, she moved her family to a safer neighborhood.

“David was an unusually perceptive boy,” Hamilton recalled. “I bought a new car once and the gangsters decided to use it for target practice the first night I brought it home. There was a girl murdered on the block because she wouldn’t go out with a gangster. A young man was shot while sitting on a corner waiting for a bus.”

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Sometimes, angels aren’t enough. Two weeks later, she moved her family to a safer neighborhood.

“David was an unusually perceptive boy,” Hamilton recalled. “He never wanted to run with the gangsters. And he was scared because he knew what that decision meant. But Corning Street has never left him.”

To gain entrance to USD, incoming freshmen must write an essay on why they want to attend. In his essay, Fizdale wrote of Corning Street... how it changed when he was growing up and how he wants to return one day to make things better.

Bennett has kept a copy of Fizdale’s essay in his desk.

“Best I’ve ever seen,” he said. On a recent sunny afternoon, Fizdale was studying his surroundings from a knoll atop Alcala Park. The view to the west, of Mission Bay and the Pacific, was breathtaking.

“Sooner or later, I have to go back to L.A.” Fizdale said. “This is beautiful. I know I could find somewhere else like this to live. But who am I to leave when there are so many problems back home? That’s why there are problems. The good people leave the area and turn it over to the gangsters. It has to stop.”

Th ere was a strong man in David Fizdale’s life — Robert Hamilton, his mother’s dad.

When college coaches came to visit Fizdale, the meetings were held at his grandfather’s house.

“David’s father vanished when he was born,” said Helen Hamilton. “David’s main influence was his grandfather. He was always there. I was David’s No. 2 fan.”

Said Fizdale: “My grandfather and I had a very special relationship. He was very proud and loving. I wanted him to see me do things. I love that man.” A week before Christmas in 1993, Robert Hamilton went to the bank to withdraw some savings to buy his grandchildren presents. Two robbers followed him home. He was robbed on the front porch of his home, then shot when he wouldn’t turn over the keys to the house.

“Some of my cousins were inside and my grandfather wouldn’t turn over the keys because he feared what would happen when the robbers got inside,” Fizdale said. “So they shot him. He chased them down the block.”

Two months later, Robert Hamilton died from complications caused by the wounds. It was Feb. 15, 1994. USD played at Loyola Marymount three days later. It was a game Robert Hamilton had promised to see. Fizdale had one of his best games as a Torero — 20 points, six rebounds, four assists — in an 89-82 USD victory.

During the game, he looked into the stands to the spot where his grandfather would have been sitting.

“He had a special place every time he came to see me play,” Fizdale said. “Up high. He’d tell me before games in high school: ‘Look for me.’”

To this day, when things are going good — or bad — David Fizdale will occasionally stop and stare into the top row of seats.

“He’s up there,” Fizdale said. “I still see him.”

A day after the Loyola Marymount game, Robert Hamilton was buried. Hank Egan, then USD head coach, and Bennett attended the funeral.

“My grandfather liked Coach Egan and Bennett,” Fizdale said. “When they visited, he said ‘Go there.’ The day I visited USD, I knew I wanted to play here, although I had not taken my other trips. I called my grandfather that afternoon to tell him I was going to commit to USD. He said: ‘Good choice.’ I still remember that.”

When Helen Hamilton deposited her son at USD in September 1992, she had one thought for the coaches.

“When I get him back in four years, he better have a degree,” she said.

Fizdale had no car. He was away from his family for the first time. And his family was almost every-
thing. He had matured as a player while playing for his uncle, Sam Sullivan, at Fremont High. As a junior, he was a reserve on the team that finished second in the state. As a senior, he was a starter but far from the star.

Teammates went off to much bigger basketball schools than USD. Most no longer are at those schools. Fizdale is within a semester of graduating.

"I always knew what I was as a basketball player," Fizdale said. "I'm not a scorer. I could defend and run the offense and play the floor. I always worked at the game."

As long as he worked at school.

During his junior year at Fremont, his grades dipped from A's to C's. Helen Hamilton called Sullivan and told the coach to bench her son until his grades improved.

As a sophomore at USD, Fizdale was again struggling with the books in the semester after his grandfather was shot. Helen Hamilton called Egan.

"I was nervous she was going to tell Coach Egan to bench me," Fizdale said. "If you know my mom, you'd understand."

Next month, Fizdale's eligibility will run out before he gets his degree in communications. He has had a couple of feelers about playing basketball in Europe. But he will return to USD next fall to finish his degree.

"I hear players say they'll come back and finish, but they never do," Fizdale said. "And I owe this to my grandfather and my mother. Besides, my mom said: 'If you don't have a degree, don't come home.'"

When David Fizdale was growing up, his mother dubbed him "Dinky."

"I was always short for my age," Fizdale said. "I was 5-9 in the 11th grade. No one was interested in me. Then I shot up to 6-2."

By then, most colleges had made up their minds on the 1992 recruiting crop. Fizdale was recruited by USD, Santa Clara, Cal State Fullerton and Montana.

"I was a goofy-looking point guard," Fizdale said. "I got these long arms and I weighed about 160 pounds. My shot was unusual, and I was still learning the position. The only thing that really changed in four years is that I got heavier."

A lot has changed in four years.

Last week, Fizdale passed Wayman Strickland as USD's Division I leader in assists. With five games remaining, including one WCC homestand tomorrow and Saturday, he needs 40 assists to break Stan Washington's career record of 451 back when USD played small-college ball. Not bad considering Fizdale played all of 50 minutes as a freshman.

"I should have redshirted because I think I'd have the game down by next year," Fizdale joked. "Besides, there are some things here I still want to do."

In basketball?

"Other areas," Fizdale said. He has become an unofficial counselor to kids throughout the area. Recently, he went to visit Montgomery High's Richard "Boo" Coleman to watch him play a game.

He takes minority students on one-on-one tours of USD and invites them to accept the challenge.

"The question I hear the most is about the lack of ethnic diversity at USD," Fizdale said. "The only way we change that is to get blacks and Hispanics to accept the challenge. I know the door is open. I came through it."
VALENTINE'S DAY FASHION SHOW:
Presenting "Gifts From the Heart"
luncheon and fashion show at
Saks Fifth Avenue, Fashion
Valley, 11 a.m. Tickets are $35. The event
benefits USD Financial and Scholarship
Fund. Phone: 260-4629 or 276-2631.
Gaels push USD closer to the cellar

By SCOTT M. JOHNSON
Special to the Union-Tribune

MORAGA — For USD’s men’s basketball team, the stakes were clear last night: rebound from one of their worst losses of the season and try to get on a roll entering the West Coast Conference tournament, or continue a late-season slide.

Another offensive slump in the middle of the game and a lack of rebounding pushed USD into the latter category in a 62-58 loss to St. Mary’s at McKeon Pavilion.

“We shot for a better percentage and made more field goals than in (Friday’s loss to Santa Clara), but St. Mary’s got too many second chance points,” USD coach Brad Holland said.

The Gaels outrebounded USD 44-21, including 10 offensive rebounds by St. Mary’s.

The Toreros (9-11, 3-7 WCC), who went more than nine minutes at the end of the first half without a field goal in a 72-52 loss to Santa Clara on Friday night, were outscored 25-9 by the Gaels over a 14:12 span at the end of the first half and beginning of the second half in losing their third straight game.

USD fell into seventh place in the WCC standings, one game ahead of last-place Pepperdine, while the Gaels (11-11, 4-6) ended a five-game WCC losing streak at home.

Reserve Reggie Steele scored a career-high 15 points to lead St. Mary’s.

But it was the Gaels’ rebounding that was the key to the victory.

Reserve Reggie Steele scored a career-high 15 points to lead St. Mary’s.

“St. Mary’s has a lot of size and they’re pretty good rebounders,” Holland said. “We have some guys who don’t like to mix it up and that’s what it takes in this game.”

Led by David Fizdale and Andre Speech, the Toreros fought their way back into the game late in the second half, cutting the Gaels’ lead to 59-58 with 2:12 remaining. But missed shots by Fizdale and Ryan Williams and a mishandled rebound off a St. Mary’s free throw allowed the Gaels to hold on.

Fizdale led the Toreros with 12 points; Brock Jacobsen and Speech each added 10.

USD took a 21-18 early in the game after Jacobsen and Nosa Obasohan provided unlikely scoring, combining for 10 points in the first 11 minutes of the game.

Then the Toreros picked up the tempo and ran with the Gaels. An 8-2 spurt highlighted by a Speech dunk put USD ahead 34-27 with 3:25 left in the half. But the Toreros again cooled as St. Mary’s closed out the half with a 13-2 spurt to take a 40-36 lead.

USD never led in the second half.

“There’s no consolation in losing,” Holland said. “We’ve got a lot of work to do to improve our toughness and rebounding. That’s the bottom line.”

WCC

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Yesterday's Games

St. Mary’s 62, USD 58
Portland 89, Pepperdine 76
Santa Clara 65, San Francisco 41

Today's Game

Loyola Marymount at Gonzaga, 2
Free throws sink USD women

St. Mary's outscored USD 15-2 from the free throw line, including 13-1 in the second half, and defeated the Toreros 71-68 in a West Coast Conference women’s basketball game last night at USD.

The Toreros (10-12, 4-6 WCC) led 38-35 at halftime but sent the Gaels (15-7, 5-5) to the foul line 19 times in the second half. USD was 1-for-1 from the line in the second half.

St. Mary’s had four players score in double figures, led by Elizabeth Wilkinson’s 17 points. Nailah Thompson led USD with 16 points; Michol Murray added 13 off the bench for the Toreros.

LAVERNE 66, UCSD 63 At LaVerne Leslee Rogers had 26 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists to lead the Leopards past the Tritons. Karli Jungwirth led UCSD with 15 points and seven rebounds, and Pam Contini had 10 assists.

BIOLA 64, PLNC 60 At La Mirada The Eagles (13-10, 6-2 Golden State Athletic Conference) made seven free throws in the final two minutes to seal the victory. Shanon Sincock led Biola with 21 points, and Ivana Kovacic added 17 points, 10 rebounds and seven blocks. Amber Cravy had 24 points, 12 rebounds and four steals for PLNC (9-18, 4-5).

Local Teams

UCSD 83, UC SANTA CRUZ 82 At Santa Cruz Matt Aune scored a game-high 29 to help the Tritons (7-13) edge the Banana Slugs (10-12). Dakarai Gillard led UCSD with 24 points. Teammate Adam Todd had 14 points and 12 rebounds.

BIOLA 84, PLNC 78 At Biola Vernaldo Butler made four free throws in the final 15 seconds to help clinch the win for the Eagles (19-7, 5-5 GSAC). Corey Reeder led Biola with 32 points. Brett Psilopoulos led the Crusaders (12-14, 3-7) with 18 points and Jason Mackenzie and Robert Amo Amo scored 16 each.
Make sure punishment fits the crime

By GEORGE J. BRYJAK

There has been a good deal of discussion (and some legislation) of late regarding the relation between crime and punishment. For the most part, this talk (and action) has centered on increasing the penalties for various crimes, a strategy that is hardly original.

In 18th-century Europe, punishment for crimes included public floggings, branding, burning and a wide assortment of other cruelties. Under English law, the number of offenses subject to the death penalty was in the hundreds.

A major outcome of the reform of what we would now call the criminal-justice system (the police, the courts and penal institutions) was establishment of a proper balance between a crime and the corresponding punishment for that offense. Hence, the now well-known maxim "let the punishment fit the crime."

These reformers realized that punishment had to be stern enough to deter potential offenders, but also believed penalties should never be excessive. There are at least two reasons for this philosophy of proportionality. In the first place, punishments far more severe than the crimes they were associated with (for example, the death penalty for theft) were unjust in and of themselves.

Furthermore, if two crimes that do not injure the individual or society equally are punished equally, the perpetrator will not be deterred from committing the greater of the two offenses. If burglary and murder are both capital offenses, a burglar would have little, if any, reason for not killing the surprised homeowner who caught him in the act. To the contrary, from the burglar's point of view, he would be better off killing the one witness to the transgression that could result in his execution.

While we have given lip service to the "let the punishment fit the crime" dictum for years (it rolls off the tongue like "law'n order"), it has never really been put into practice. Our history of criminal justice has been one of vigorously enforcing criminal laws violated by the poor, while allotting relatively few resources toward apprehending white-collar criminals.

If the latter are caught and convicted, they typically receive lenient sentences. A major shortcoming of this policy is that white-collar offenses are much more costly to society than street crimes.

Just one category of white-collar offenses — corporate price fixing and collusion, illegal mergers and acquisitions — is estimated to cost the American public $350 billion annually, a sum much greater than the $31.4 billion lost (1993) from the street crimes (known to police) of robbery, burglary, larceny/theft, arson and auto theft.

Although inappropriately light sentences are handed out to white-collar criminals — in part, because they are considered "nonviolent" offenders — a staggering number of these crimes are deadly.

Some criminologists are of the opinion that each year in the United States, 100,000 people die (many more are injured) as a direct result of corporate crimes such as illegally dumping toxic materials in waterways, routinely violating workplace safety laws and manufacturing unsafe products such as prescription drugs that are far more potent or much weaker than labeled. This figure is four times that of the approximately 25,000 murder victims in the United States as reported to the FBI in 1994.

Consider the recent telemarketing scam wherein elderly people across the country were verbally abused and collectively swindled out of tens of millions of dollars. How much mental anguish (with later physical consequences) did these individuals suffer during and between phone calls? To what extent was their quality of life reduced because of the money they lost?

By how many weeks, months, or perhaps years, will their lives be shortened as a consequence of these unscrupulous companies? By way of comparison, being robbed in the street would have been the lesser of the two evils. Victims of street muggings lose far less money and are spared the humiliation and self-hatred that often follows being "scammed" by white-collar criminals.

Even when targeted and apprehended by law enforcement, the monetary penalties, in some cases, do not equal the profits made from business crimes. Many companies realize this and regard court-imposed fines as nothing more than routine cost of doing business.

In 1986, Ivan Boesky pleaded "no contest" to insider-trading charges, paid a fine of $100 million and left prison a wealthy man three years later.

Former junk-bond king Michael Milken confessed to six securities violations which could have earned him 28 years in prison. "The biggest financial criminal in history" was sentenced to 10 years behind bars and served less than two.

Mutual-fund manager John Peter Galanis, who conned investors out of nearly $10 million (the equivalent of losses from approximately 8,400 residential burglaries), was sentenced to six months in prison and five years' probation.

Too many judges are still of the opinion that street criminals are the only real threats to society, that white-collar felons are nothing more than hard-working, if overzealous, business people.

The American public must also be held accountable for the disparate sentences traditionally given street predators (high visibility, low profit) and white-collar criminals (low visibility, high profit).

BRYJAK is a professor of sociology at the University of San Diego.
A survey of 60,000 people 18 years of age and older revealed that while both white-collar offenses and "common crimes" were viewed as serious, common street crimes were considered more serious. Causing the death of a person by knowingly selling bad cooking oil, or by a factory knowingly polluting the water supply, was thought of as about half as serious as stabbing one's spouse to death or killing an individual by planting a bomb in a public building.

Until the perception of the gravity of white-collar crime changes, the certainty of arrest and the severity of punishment given convicted felons will remain, as criminologist Gary S. Green notes, "unimpressively low."

Realistically equating white-collar crime and punishment would result in a significant reduction of these types of offenses in a relatively short period of time. Young, impulsive, "present-oriented" street criminals, often with little or no stake in society, comprise that group of people least likely to be deterred by the threat of some distant punishment.

While these individuals certainly deserve to be punished, prison recidivism rates clearly indicate that a sizable percentage of them will continue to be criminally active.

However, older, more rational, "future-oriented" business people, who have much to lose (wealth and reputation) by arrest and incarceration, are probably the most deterrable people in society. By making and implementing the necessary changes so that punishment does in fact fit the crime, we will not only have a safer nation, but one that is more just as well.
Victim's mother to speak on AIDS

Linda Vista

Jeanne White, the mother of the late Ryan White, will speak at 7 p.m. Monday at the University of San Diego as part of the university's AIDS Awareness Week.

Ryan White's battle with acquired immune deficiency syndrome led to the passage of legislation that helps low-income AIDS patients obtain needed drugs.

As part of the AIDS week, the AIDS Memorial Quilt, with more than 32,000 panels contributed by friends and families of AIDS victims who have died, will be on display at the University Center today through Thursday.
There are two needs. One, close the communication gap. Two, create a plan for greater collaboration between school site personnel and central office personnel. Each side must give up the power and prestige struggle and let the strike become the event that changed for the better the education of children in the city schools."

— Edward F. DeRoche, dean of education, University of San Diego
THE CAMPAIGN AND THE CAMPUSES

Washington U. and U. of San Diego picked as debate sites

Two of the three 1996 Presidential debates this fall will be held on college campuses, the Commission on Presidential Debates announced last week.

Washington University is scheduled to be the host of the first debate, on September 25, and the third will be at the University of San Diego on October 16, the commission said. The middle debate will be held in St. Petersburg, Fla.

The panel's choices still must be approved by each of the campaigns.

Washington University played host to the first debate in the 1992 Presidential campaign, too.

—MARY GERAGHTY
Now it's time for forgiveness and healing

By STEVE SCHMIDT
Staff Writer

At Marvin Elementary School in Allied Gardens, Principal Ernie McCray hung a sign yesterday, reading: "HAPPY NEW YEAR. IT'S A NEW DAY — WELCOME TO LOVE CITY."

In San Carlos, at Benchley-Weinberger Elementary, striking teachers returned to work to find fresh bagels, doughnuts and orange juice.

"It's strained. It's going to take awhile. We need a period of re-entry and healing."

ELAINE ARM, Walker Elementary principal

"It's strained; it's going to take awhile," said Elaine Arm, principal of Walker Elementary in Mira Mesa. "We need a period of re-entry and healing."

At Montgomery Junior High School in Linda Vista, one striking teacher, now back on the job, talked about holding a beach party and campfire to burn picket signs.

In small ways across town, educators are setting out to staunch the emotions unleashed by the strike. But healing a house divided won't be easy, many believe.

"It's strained; it's going to take awhile," said Elaine Arm, principal of Walker Elementary in Mira Mesa. "We need a period of re-entry and healing."

Mike Jimenez, a resource specialist at Memorial Junior High who went out on strike, gets a hug from Mary Jewell, a teacher who crossed the picket line.
period of re-entry and healing. It's kind of like a marriage that had a separation. At least we have the children in common."

Several experts in conflict resolution yesterday said they have volunteered to help the district — the state's second largest — move toward reconciliation.

"Psychologically, there's a need to forgive by those who felt they were hurt," said Dr. Philip Hwang, a professor of counseling at the University of San Diego.

Hwang and others, including mediators with the National Conference, have agreed to lead staff discussions at schools where the wounds may cut particularly deep.

Perhaps the sharpest schism is between the thousands of teachers who walked the picket line for several days and those who stayed in the classroom.

Many teachers saw crossing the picket line as a betrayal, while those who continued to teach complain their striking peers treated them with deep hostility.

Yesterday, some striking teachers came back hugging those who stayed, while others appeared guarded, if not openly aloof, toward their nonstriking peers.

Hwang, who writes about forgiveness in his new book, "Other-Esteem," said that harboring ill will toward others can prove crippling if not dealt with head on.

"If you do not forgive someone, you keep thinking about revenge. It occupies a lot of your energy," he said. "You end up thinking about avenging rather than the willingness to move on with your life."

And forgiveness, he said, does not necessarily mean togetherness. A person can forgive, yet still keep his or her distance from those that offended, he said.

Hwang is teaming up with Social Advocates for Youth, a nonprofit agency that works with schools, to offer conflict mediation sessions at district schools.

The sessions offer teachers and other staff members a chance to express their feelings about the conflict and to try to bridge whatever differences arose.

The local chapter of the National Conference, which promotes religious and racial harmony, began staging discussion groups at the invitation of schools yesterday.

Carol Hallstrom, regional director with the conference, declined to say which cam-
How swiftly the emotional wounds heal will largely depend on campus relationships before and during the strike, many said. Schools beset by intense hostility during the walkout will take longer to recover, some predicted.

"It's going to take a long time for some of this to heal," said Mary Louise Martin, principal of Central Elementary in City Heights. "There are still a lot of raw feelings."

Central is the largest elementary school in the district and 39 of its 61 teachers crossed the picket line.

That left striking teachers there in a mood less upbeat than at schools where a majority were walking the picket line.

"I do believe it's all going to be resolved. We were a strong, intellectual, caring staff before the strike," Martin added. "We are all adults. We live with our decision and move on."

At some campuses yesterday, many seemed giddy that the crisis was over.

"Right now, everyone's floating," said Ciprianita Powell, principal at Montgomery Junior High School. "I'm floating. It's won-

derful!"

Francine Williams, director of the school district's race and human relations office, expects the excitement to quickly fade.

"People are busy right now and focused on their children so they really don't have time to deal with the personal issues," Williams said. But, she added, "as time moves forward, more things are going to surface that have to be dealt with."

Williams said her office received calls yesterday from at least two principals anxious to schedule conflict resolution workshops at their schools.

Williams' own department was turned inside out by the strike. She said nearly all of her 20 resource teachers and counselors participated in the walkout.

Her staff tried to regroup early yesterday, meeting as a team to discuss the emotions churned up by the strike.

"It's important that we do this very quickly because we have to go out and help other people," Williams said.

Staff writers Joe Cantlupe, Ed Jahn, Angela Lau and Barbara Fitzsimmons contributed to this report.
Don't litigate when you can mediate!

San Diego Mediation Center promotes alternative dispute resolution as attractive solution

**BY CLAIRE YEZBAK FADDEN**
Special to the San Diego Commerce


O'Brien, president of the San Diego Mediation Center and an authority on alternative dispute resolution (ADR), speaks from many years of experience. During the past 10 years, she has been the guiding force and the endless energy behind what is now the San Diego Mediation Center.

O'Brien feels that there is another way to resolve disputes other than through litigation. "I see it as a continuum with litigation at the far end," she says. "There are some issues that don't warrant going to court." This is where mediation comes in. "We want people to think of mediation as their first choice to resolve a dispute."

Conceived in 1983 as a pilot project of the University of San Diego Law Center, the mediation center was then known as Community Mediation of San Diego. It was based on the premise that trained community volunteer mediators could successfully assist in the resolution of disputes.

In 1990 the mediation center was incorporated as a private, non-profit corporation. O'Brien has been instrumental in making the center the largest provider of ADR services in the San Diego region. It is a model for other programs throughout the country. Sponsored by the San Diego County Bar Association, it is funded by the Dispute Resolution Programs Act ($3 of court filing fees are allocated for mediation services). The mediation center also has a contract with the City of San Diego to provide mediation and training of volunteers.

Increasingly, mediation is gaining popularity as a dignified way to resolve conflicts. The mediation center's growing demand for services, along with a greater number of San Diegans interested in learning ADR techniques, indicates that it is fulfilling a critical role.

The mediation center does not involve itself with any criminal cases, but it does assist in cases that would, under other circumstances, end up in superior, family, juvenile, municipal or small claims court. Anything from a partnership dissolution to landlord/tenant conflicts to property damage can be resolved through the assistance of the mediation center.

In some instances, there are countless reasons to choose mediation over litigation. Mediation involves people in reaching their own agreements in a dignified way, O'Brien says. It is also economic and time efficient. Both individuals and businesses using ADR typically save between 11 and 50 percent of the estimated costs of taking their dispute to court. Because the center is typically able to schedule a mediation session within two weeks of receiving a request, disputants can obtain resolution swiftly.

Individuals seeking mediation will meet together with a trained neutral mediator in an effort to reach a specific written or oral agreement. No agreement is reached unless both parties consent to all of the terms. Because the disputants have control over the final agreement, the mediation center finds that there is an 80 percent agreement rate and an 85 percent compliance rate. "We follow up on our cases," O'Brien says, "so we know after the agreement has been reached what actually happened to the parties involved."

Mediators do not impose decisions or give advice. They also don't take sides. Their role is to assist the parties in reaching a solution to their dispute that both sides can live with. Mediation allows you to maintain control over your own issues, advocates say.

"Litigation is expensive, time-consuming and you still may not be satisfied," O'Brien says. "With mediation you take responsibility for your own solutions. We don't necessarily expect people to walk out arm-in-arm after mediation. But afterward they will feel that they have participated in a process and come to a mutually acceptable agreement."

O'Brien cites mediation as being used more and more by small businesses.
"These are difficult economic times," she says. "A small business can be ruined by litigation costs, when often a dispute could have been settled through mediation." Both the Escondido and the Chula Vista Chambers of Commerce are now offering mediation services to their members. Under the banner "Business solutions for business problems" the chamber members can receive mediation for disputes over business contracts and leases, vendor relations, employment issues and harassment, and other business concerns.

Many couples are turning to mediation as a way to avoid the established adversarial way to divorce. The mediator assists divorcing couples in identifying, addressing and resolving issues arising from the divorce. Division of property, spousal support and issues involving children are some of the most common areas of concern seen by the mediation center.

O'Brien says that a divorce through the center can run about $2,000 including the mediator and administrative fees as well as court filing fees. Recent surveys have pinned the average cost of a litigated divorce in Southern California at $17,000 per person. Divorcing couples generally are more satisfied with their mediated agreements, O'Brien feels, because they have chosen the outcomes themselves.

In divorce mediation, the mediator will act neutrally to assist the parties in resolving outstanding marital issues. The mediator also provides relevant legal information and prepares and files all legal paperwork including the Marital Settlement Agreement. The mediation center's Divorce Mediation Panel is comprised of experienced family law attorneys trained in mediation skills, strategies and techniques.

Originally from Pittsburgh, Pa., O'Brien is the mother of two adult children, Shawn and Ashley. She received her master's degree from the University of Denver in Social Work. Before joining the mediation center, she worked as a consultant in organizational development. O'Brien was recently awarded the League of Women Voters "Women of Vision" award in 1995 for her instrumental role in advancing mediation as a means to resolving disputes.

From its humble beginnings in an old wooden house in Golden Hills in 1983 with just a handful of volunteers and one staff member, the mediation center has expanded to a staff of 15, a mediator corps of 220 and a 27-member board of directors.

Through its fiscal year end, the mediation center had received some 7,200 requests for their services. During 1995, it formally mediated 1,000 cases. It's estimated that mediation saved the San Diego court system over $2.3 million in direct costs attributed to these cases.

In addition to mediation, where the disputing parties meet together with a mediator, the center also offers conciliation, mitigation and arbitration services. In conciliation, disputants reach a specific agreement through direct staff intervention, without a face-to-face meeting with mediators. Mitigation is a case in which a dispute is diffused due to intervention by the center. With arbitration, an impartial third party meets with the parties involved to hear testimony about fact and law and then render a non-binding decision.

The center provides training in mediation skills and offers a mediator credential. Once credentialed, the mediator is verified as competent as a practitioner based on training, experience and performance standards. The training includes courses such as "Understanding and analyzing the structure of conflict"; "Breaking deadlocks"; "Making agreements that work"; and "The role of attorneys in a mediation." O'Brien says that mediation training provides individuals with major skills that they will use throughout their lifetime.

Even though the costs to mediate are considerably less than what it costs to litigate, there still are costs involved. There is an administrative fee to open a mediation case. There is no charge, however, for the first two-hour mediation session. Charges for subsequent sessions vary according to the case.

For more information about the San Diego Mediation Center; call 238-2400.
Presidential Debate at USD: The Hot Ticket for 1996

The hot ticket event this year looks to be the Presidential Debate scheduled for Oct. 16 at the University of San Diego's Shiley Theatre. Ticket requests began pouring in right after the Jan. 29 announcement that USD was again selected as a presidential candidate debate site, according to university spokeswoman Kate Callen. While ticket allocations have yet to be determined, Callen says students will be given top priority. USD was selected as a 1992 presidential debate site, but the event was canceled. School officials are optimistic about this year's forum. "The students are tremendously excited," says Callen. "Four years ago, interest in the news just skyrocketed. Students were buying three or four newspapers a day."
USD names Kmetty as admissions chief

SAN DIEGO — Anthony Kmetty of Rancho Penasquitos has been named graduate admissions officer for the Masters of Business Administration and Masters of International Business programs at the University of San Diego's School of Business Administration.

Kmetty joins USD from Loyola Marymount University, where he served as graduate admissions coordinator from 1989 to 1995. Before that, he worked in corporate marketing for the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers.
Toreadors' slide continues

USD's woes on boards, at line lead to 5th straight WCC loss

By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

It was a game Brad Holland admitted "we needed in the worst way."

But USD — thanks to poor rebounding and free-throw shooting — lost a 66-62

St. Mary's 66
Toreros 62
West Coast Conference decision to St. Mary's last night at the USD Sports Center.

The loss was the fifth straight in league play for the Toreros.

Up next tomorrow is WCC leader Santa Clara and point guard extraordinaire Steve Nash. Then the Toreros go on the road.

The prognosis is not good. USD is 8-10 overall and slipped to last place in WCC play with a 2-5 record. St. Mary's improved to 10-9 and 3-4.

"We all understood it was of the utmost importance to come out on the winning end tonight what with the schedule facing us," Holland said.

And USD lost for the want of a rebound here and a free throw there. Actually, a lot of rebounds and free throws.

Led by 6-foot-9, 295-pound Ju-moke Horton, St. Mary's outrebounded USD 36-18, and seven of

the Toreros' rebounds were of the dead-ball variety on balls tipped out of bounds.

Eighteen rebounds is a season low for the Toreros — by six, WCC rebounding leader Horton had 14 boards himself. St. Mary's came down with half the 24 rebounds on its offensive board and USD got all of seven rebounds in the second half.

And the visitors downed 22-of-27 free throws while USD hit but 10-of-18 — three of the misses being the front end of one-and-ones.

Make 15-of-21 and the Toreros win. Or the outcome might have been reversed if the hosts had grabbed a defensive rebound late in the game.

"We are arguably the worst rebounding team in the nation," said Holland. "Their second chances off rebounds and our lack of shooting is the ball game.

"It's fundamental basketball. And we're really deficient in that area. We got the stops. We played good defense. We got them into bad shots, and we kept giving them second chances."

The Torero problems were most evident down the stretch.

After trailing by 10 a minute into the second half, the hosts went on a 23-7 run fueled by 15 straight points on three-pointers — three by point guard David Fizdale, who had been blanked in the first half.

The fifth three-pointer of the run — by Lamont Smith — put the Toreros up by six. With 8:57 to go, reserve center Rocco Raffo had a chance to extend the lead to eight with a one-and-one opportunity. He missed.

Behind WCC three-point leader David Sivulich — 18 of his game-high 21 points came on threes — the Gaels ran off 10 straight to take the lead for good.

USD had chances down the stretch. But St. Mary's scored on its last six trips downcourt — usually on free throws resulting from a foul after an offensive rebound.

Said Holland: "We force them into 18 turnovers while turning the ball over only nine times ... we outscore them from the floor ... and we lose a game we needed to have."

There was a fitting conclusion to the game. A tick after the final buzzer, Fizdale — seconds after missing three straight free throws — threw in a 25-footer. It didn't count.

At the end of the first half, St. Mary's Kamran Sufi threw in a 75-foot buzzer beater.

USD IN MORAGA Trying to regain their winning ways, the Toreros (10-8, 4-2 WCC) visit St. Mary's (13-3, 3-3) tonight. After winning nine straight, the Toreros lost two in a row to San Francisco last week and slipped into a second-place tie with Portland in the West Coast Conference. The Toreros will play at Santa Clara tomorrow.

Pressure: USD's Brian Bruso looks for a teammate as St. Mary's Reggie Steele applies the defensive pressure.
The University of San Diego's Institute for Christian Ministries will present Father Richard McBrien, an author and theology professor at the University of Notre Dame, speaking on "The Future of the Church: Looking Toward the Third Christian Millennium," 7:30 p.m. today, Hahn University Center, USD campus. Cost: $15; students, $10. Information: 260-4784.

A teleconference on "Jesus at 2000" will be co-sponsored by USD's philosophy department and aired Feb. 9 and 10 at the Manchester Conference Center. The conference will be broadcast from Oregon State University and will feature six scholars — including John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg. Registration is $15 for both days; conference begins at 8:45 a.m. next Friday and 9 a.m. Feb. 10. Call: 260-4705.
Lectures have Jewish perspective

SAN DIEGO — The Agency for Jewish Education will sponsor a series of noontime lectures by local rabbis and professionals next week as part of Jewish Education Week. There will be 18 noontime classes; a schedule is available from the Agency for Jewish Education, 268-9200. A sampling of classes includes:

Rabbi Martin Lawson will talk about “Jewish Medical Ethics,” on Monday, 9191 Towne Centre Drive (at La Jolla Village Drive), Suite 200.

Morris Casuto of the Anti-Defamation League will speak on “Black/White Relations,” on Tuesday, 8220 University Ave., La Mesa.

Rabbi Deborah Prinz will discuss “Jewish Magic and Superstition,” on Wednesday, 3131 Camino del Rio North, Suite 900.

Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlgelernter will speak on “Treaties, Disobedience and Assassinations: a Halachic Perspective,” on Thursday at 5855 Oberlin Drive, Sorrento Valley.

Rabbi Wayne Dosick will talk about “Bringing Up Ethical Children in an Unethical World,” on Friday, 401 B St., Suite 1200.

In addition, there will be a panel discussion 7:30 p.m. Tuesday on “Jews by Choice Speak Out” at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla. There also will be a concert for adults and children at 3:30 p.m. Feb. 11 ($10 for adults and $5 for children) at Congregation Beth El, 8660 Gilman Drive, La Jolla.
‘The Mormon guy’ making his mark at Catholic USD

By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

Brian Miles sticks out at the University of San Diego, and not just because he’s a 6-foot-9 basketball player.

"I’m something of a rarity on this campus," Miles said the other day. "Sometimes people will say, ‘Oh, you’re the Mormon guy.’ Or I’ll be introduced by, ‘This is Brian ... he’s Mormon.’"

Miles isn’t upset by the references. Just the opposite.

“This is a Catholic university,” he said. “I know of only two other Mormons attending here right now. But I feel totally comfortable. It’s fun. Usually, people use the fact that I’m Mormon to open the door.”

Through Miles, the Toreros one day will reap some of the benefits usually reserved for Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

A sophomore playing his first season at USD, Miles returned in July from a two-year Mormon mission to the Philippines.

The original plan was for Miles to attend BYU after his mission. "I was ticketed for BYU," he said. "My brother (David) is the ticket manager at the Marriott Center (BYU’s on-campus arena)."

San Diego State football fans might remember David Miles. He

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ST. MARY’S (9-9, 2-4)
at USD (8-9, 2-4)

Time/Place 7 p.m., USD Sports Center.
Radio None.

USD update In an attempt to end a four-game West Coast Conference losing streak — during which USD has averaged 53.8 points — coach Brad Holland is adjusting the lineup. A healthy Brian Bruso moves to center, Brian Miles (9.7 points per game) goes in tandem with Ryan Williams (12.1 ppg, 6.1 rebounds) at power forward and Andre Speech (7.9 ppg) moves to small forward. Point man David Fizdale (9.1 ppg, 7.1 assists) and freshman Brock Jacobsen (7.8 ppg) open in the backcourt.

St. Mary’s update Although tied with USD for last in the wee, the Gaels have a great inside-outside combo in 6-foot-9, 295-pound C Jumoke Horton (13.0 ppg, 8.1 rpg) and record-setting three-point shooter David Sivulich (16.6 ppg, 69 three-pointers). Horton, a senior, is second in the wee in rebounding and is shooting 72.9 percent in wee games. Sivulich, a sophomore, is second in scoring and first in three-pointers.

St. Mary’s lost at home last weekend to Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount. PG Kamran Sufi is third in the WCC at 6.2 assists per game. The Gaels lead the league in scoring (76.7 ppg) but are last in team defense (79.2 ppg).

— BILL CENTER
“This is a Catholic university ... But I feel totally comfortable.”

Brian Miles

was a BYU wide receiver from 1985-87. Instead of following the preplanned path to BYU, Brian Miles opted for USD.

“I caught a lot of people by surprise,” said Miles, who attended Utah Valley State as a freshman in 1992-93. Utah Valley is a feeder junior college to BYU and was coached by Duke Reid, brother of BYU coach Roger Reid.

“I was supposed to go one year to Utah Valley, do my mission and transfer to BYU,” Miles said. “But I didn’t have a great experience at Utah Valley. So when I was on my mission, I changed my mind.”

It was while he was on the island of Mindoro that Miles went over his limit of two phone calls a year to call USD assistant coach Randy Bennett.

Bennett had recruited Miles when Miles prepped in Santa Rosa. “It was hard making contact with Brian and getting a commitment,” said Bennett. But the effort could pay rich dividends for the Toreros.

Miles is USD’s No. 2 scorer with a 9.7 point average. He is shooting 52 percent from the floor and 48 percent from three-point range — excellent marksmanship for a big man. But he’s not in prime basketball condition.

Two years playing on a dirt halfcourt with a metal net in the Philippines set Miles back in his basketball development. And he suffered a stress fracture in his right shin, a pulled groin muscle and a dislocated thumb since resuming his basketball career at USD.

“I was already behind when the shin set me back 3½ weeks,” said Miles. “Then came the thumb. I was so out of shape. It’s slowly coming around. It’s amazing where I am now compared to where I was last July.”

Miles’ role with the Toreros is still developing. He has been playing both power forward and the post. But with the return of Brian Bruso, coach Brad Holland plans to use Miles in tandem with Ryan Williams at power forward down the stretch while leaning on Bruso to give USD a more physical presence inside.

“Still need to get more physical,” said Miles. “The basketball has been rougher than the adjustment to USD. School is great. At BYU, I was just a number. Here, the classes are so small that you can get to know everyone.”