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USD poll shows San Diegans’ sympathy for illegals

BY MIKE ALLEN
Staff Writer

A recent poll of San Diegans shows a clear majority support sanctions against employers who hire illegal immigrants. The survey also found that most want to maintain English as California’s official language.

The results are contained in survey conducted by Transborder Institute at the University of San Diego. The telephone survey of 551 randomly selected respondents was done during the first week of March and contains a margin of error of 4 percent.

The survey revealed some surprising attitudes of San Diego residents regarding border issues, said Michael Pfau, a USD associate professor of political science who directed the survey.

“I think one of the more surprising things we found is that we are more sympathetic to illegal aliens than we give ourselves credit for,” Pfau said.

Asked whether most crimes in San Diego are committed by illegal immigrants, a resounding 70 percent either disagreed or strongly disagreed, while only 10 percent agreed or strongly agreed.

Pfau said perhaps the most surprising finding of the survey was the large majority, 72 percent, for fining employers who hire illegal immigrants.

A proposed national identification card for everyone to control illegal immigration received support from 50 percent of the survey, while nearly 39 percent disagreed with the idea.

Another majority of those surveyed, 57 percent, agreed that English should be the only language the state’s business is conducted in. Nearly 37 percent disagreed with that.

On the issue of welfare for illegal immigrants, residents were nearly split evenly, with 46 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing they should receive social services “when they are in great need.”

Another 46 percent either disagreed or disagreed strongly that illegals should receive the services. Eight percent had no opinion.

Securing the border is apparently a top concern of most San Diegans, according to the survey. A statement that border enforcement should be a top priority of the federal government drew a 67.3 agreement rating.

To pay for increased border enforcement, most — 66 percent — said a crossing fee would be a good way to finance the Border Patrol.

A slight majority, 51 percent, also support building a fence along the border as a good way of reducing illegal crossings. Thirty-seven percent disagreed with building a fence.

A proposal by Rep. Duncan Hunter to add two more fences along the San Diego border as part of an immigration bill is still pending in Congress.

While many local elected government officials and business leaders profess that San Diego and Tijuana are really one metropolitan area, most respondents, or 57 percent, disagreed. Thirty percent agreed the two cities form one metropolitan area.

The survey also got a glimpse into this November’s presidential election. Asked what candidate they would vote for if the election was held that week, 39.6 percent said they would vote for President Bill Clinton. Sen. Bob Dole, the de facto Republican nominee (although he did not have sufficient delegates when the poll was taken), received 25.7 percent, and Steve Forbes got 9.8 percent. Other candidates received 18 percent.
Tony Betancourt and Brock Marsh hit solo home runs to help USD defeat Loyola Marymount 12-8 in a West Coast Conference baseball game yesterday at LMU. Toreros starter Travis Farrell lasted only 1 1/3 innings, but Brian Mazone came on in the seventh and preserved USD's lead. Jeb Dougherty (3-for-5) and Jeff Powers (2-for-6) continued to lead the Toreros (21-23-1, 15-5 WCC) offensively. USD plays UCLA tomorrow at 3 at Cunningham Stadium.

More baseball
Menlo College used a five-run seventh to rally past UCSD 9-4 in Atherton, Calif.

Women's water polo
San Diego State beat Stanford 8-7 in the third-place match of the Western Qualification Tournament. The top seven teams, including UCSD, which lost to UC Davis 7-1 in the fifth-place match, advance to the Collegiate Championships in May. SDSU's Heather Moody and UCSD's Heather Kohler were named to the all-tournament first team.

—JOANNA SCHMITZKE
Baseball

Bart Miadich gave up only two hits, one run and struck out nine for the USD Toreros, who beat Loyola Marymount 3-1 in the first game, but were routed 10-3 in the nightcap of a West Coast Conference doubleheader at George Page Stadium.

Shortstop Jeff Powers led USD (20-23-1, 14-5 WCC), going 2-for-3 with two runs scored.

Tennis

The USD Toreros defeated St. Mary's 6-1 yesterday, giving coach Ed Collins his 350th career victory and USD a shot at the WCC title. The Toreros (13-13) will face sixth-ranked Pepperdine in the finals today at 1 p.m. at the USD tennis courts.

The USD women's team, ranked 21st by Intercollegiate Tennis Association, also will face Pepperdine, ranked 11th in the nation for the WCC crown in Moraga after beating Loyola Marymount 7-2.
His photographs chronicle Collins’ USD tennis deeds

By DON NORCROSS
Staff Writer

Jim McNamee is a 32-year-old market manager for a Seattle storage company. He has accumulated many of the toys of a college graduate. The nice ride. The multidisc CD player. The big-screen TV.

But of all his possessions, one matters most. Not the car. Not the suits. Not the electronic gizmos.

What McNamee cherishes most is a collage of pictures. They’re pictures from his tennis career at USD, pictures snapped by Toreros coach Ed Collins and framed by Collins, a gift Collins gives all his senior players.

“I could lose everything I have, but I wouldn’t want to lose that,” said McNamee. “That wasn’t in his job description. He didn’t have to have that level of caring.”

For 18 years, Collins, 49, has coached at USD, drilling forehands, drilling backhands, coaxing baseliners to come to the net. His career record is 349-189. Seventeen winning seasons. His teams have won two West Coast Conference titles. And tomorrow, at the conclusion of the WCC tournament the Toreros are hosting, the ride comes to an end. Collins is leaving USD, not to get away from the game, but so he can coach it more. He will devote his time to teaching local junior players.

“That’s what I should be doing,” says Collins, a Monte Vista High graduate. “I’m good at it. I enjoy it. I seem to have an ability to help kids see the fun in tennis.”

The photo collage that Collins gives his seniors as a going-away present? That’s just one of the ways Collins thanks his players. He writes a newsletter, keeping alumni informed on past players’ lives. His Christmas parties included a gift exchange. If he’s not pointing his 35mm camera at the players, then he’s filming with the video recorder, tapes that have become treasures among players.

“I used to have a real bad temper when I played,” McNamee says. “I was pigeon-toed. So he imitates my walk. He throws these rackets and a bag in a garbage can. And he keeps a running commentary. The most memorable thing to me about Ed is that he made tennis fun.”


On a warm Thursday morning, a day before the conference tournament began, Collins was holed up in his cluttered office, next to the USD pool. At least 50 framed pictures of past teams and players hang on the walls. There’s a stringing machine. Wall units are stacked with books and papers. Hanging above the doorway are a collection of rackets, including a wooden Jack Kramer Autograph model.

Asked why he took the time to make pictorial collages for his players, Collins at first explained he was simply making use of his photographic skills.

“It’s a gift. It’s a talent. It’s a hobby,” he says.

Pressed more on the subject,

continued →
Collins hits an emotional chord. Tears well in his eyes, his lower lip quivers and he says, "I can't talk about this." He breaks into tears and walks away.

But first he hands his visitor the letter he wrote to his current team at Christmas break when he decided to retire.

"This explains things," he says.

The letter eloquently details his love of USD.

"...When I began this job, there were eight unlighted courts, a set of bleachers and a patch of pickle weed. Now, it's a garden spot."

He talks about the memorable wins, the lasting relationships and his loathing of recruiting and fund raising.

He allows a former assistant coach to poke fun at his decision. Wrote Mike Reid: "If you're crazy enough to quit a job which is the envy of all... A tortuous walk to get your mail, fraught with poolside babes tanning their good skin. Throw in some health insurance and generous vacation time."

Says Collins: "Quitting is not easy. It's not like I want to. But I'll be glad not to be involved in the recruiting part and fund raising."

If Collins seems your atypical coach, his background is definitely abnormal in tennis. The son of a milkman and a housewife, Collins grew up in Spring Valley in the '50s, far removed in distance and style from private La Jolla clubs.

He picked up the sport only because an adult neighbor liked tennis and gave him a racket.

He didn't become hooked on the sport until he got to San Diego State. The sport would take him to teaching positions at Lake Tahoe, San Francisco and back to San Diego. Among his former students: ex-USD president Author E. Hughes, who took his instructor to lunch one day and said, "Would you be interested in running our tennis teams?"

Eighteen years later, Collins must box that clutter in his office and sort through the memories.

Another way he made the sport fun for the players? Each January, Collins took his players to Baja for tennis, fitness and camaraderie.

"He made it out to be like paradise," said Jack Whigham, a sophomore on Collins' final team. "It was nice, but we all ended up sleeping on the floor. The scenery was beautiful, but there were muddy dogs running around. There were a couple of tennis courts that looked like they'd been hit by a monster earthquake. I thought we were going to Club Med. I don't know what the town was called. I don't know if it was a town.

"He does a lot of zany, crazy stuff. It's definitely sad to see him go."
Former White House executive chef Henry Haller let out a secret the other day at USD. Rosalyn Carter was the only first lady who cooked in the White House kitchen during his 22-year tenure, spanning presidencies of Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan. The only other presidential family member to get her apron dirty, says Haller, was Lynda Johnson-Robb, who baked brownies to send to Charles Robb while he was in Vietnam.
On the Web: Larry Hinman, on the USD campus, has assembled an electronic guide to ethics resources in cyberspace.
Looking for ethics@theweb

With new on-line resource, a wealth of info on moral issues is just a few clicks away

Think of it as a kind of window to the World Wide Web of ethics.

Interested in “Religion and Ethics”? Point and click. You soon could be browsing an electronic version of the Journal of Buddhist Ethics.

How about “Punishment and the Death Penalty”? Click that and, among other things, you’ll find the home page by Dean Carter, a death-row inmate at San Quentin (“Dean Man Talkin’”). Carter is awaiting execution for the murders of a Pacific Beach woman and three women in Los Angeles.

“Abortion”? Go ahead, click it. And scroll down to Pope Paul VI’s 1968 encyclical on birth control, “Humanae Vitae.”

Welcome to “Ethics Updates,” a Web site that is a virtual diving board into a cybersea of resources and references about moral issues (http://www.acusd.edu/ethics/).

“Ethics Updates” is the creation of Larry Hinman, a philosophy professor at the University of San Diego. Hinman got the idea when he began putting the bibliographies for the ethics books he’s written in his computer so he could update them as new resources became available.

But the more he explored cyberspace, the more he realized that he could link together what he found, organize it by subject and then create ways to help his students — and others — access it on the Web, a part of the Internet that allows people to view and send graphics, text and sounds.

By roving and linking, Hinman created a Web site that resembles a trail of electronic bread crumbs, turning research into a series of points and clicks.

Religion
& Ethics

SANDI DOLBEE

Take “Euthanasia,” for example. Point the arrow at the subject and click the mouse.

Want to read the decision on physician-assisted suicide by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals? Keep clicking. Still curious? Check out “DeathNET,” which bills itself as “an international archive specializing in all aspects of death and dying.”

Internet boosters say Web sites such as Hinman’s are much needed. While there is a wealth of information orbiting cyberspace, sorting through it all can be overwhelming.

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Try typing in the word “ethics” on WebCrawler, America Online’s search service, for example. On Monday, it came back with more than 3,000 matches.

At last count, Hinman had set up pathways for nearly two dozen ethics subjects — from the theoretical (such as “Kant and Deontology”) to the practical (“World Hunger”). Along with his indexing, Hinman also provides recommended additional readings and suggestions for discussion topics and term papers. That’s the way a teacher’s mind works.

70,000 visits

“Ethics Updates” got started last August. In its first six months, it had about 70,000 visits.

And while Hinman designed it primarily as a research aid for his students and other professors, he suspects that many of those visitors were from rank-and-file computer users.

In a society hurtling at warp speed toward the 21st century, ethics has become a hot topic. When life ends. When life begins. Workplace conduct. Plastic or paper at the grocery store.

“That’s exactly the tool that a democratic society needs for educating itself,” Noelle adds.

But he and others agree that the downside is not everyone has equal access to this tool. Not everyone can afford a computer, and a modem to go with it.

“One of the goals of many working groups in CPSR is to try to provide access to these network services to everyone,” Noelle says, pointing out that many public libraries now have terminals hooked up to the Internet.

The irony about ethics, says Hinman, is that while people are curious about these issues, they often aren’t comfortable talking about them with their friends.

“We don’t live in a kind of society where you can bring it up at a barbecue with your next-door neighbor,” he adds. “Many of these things are touchy issues.”

Hinman estimates he spends two to three hours a day working on the Web site.

“One of the things about being at a university is that we are paid to teach and nurture students — but also they pay us to contribute to our profession,” says the 51-year-old professor, who lives in Poway with his 4-year-old daughter and his wife, Virginia Muller, who teaches political science at USD.

Democratic tool

David Noelle, a local member of the national advocacy group Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR), sees “Ethics Updates” as a library resource that indexes a large amount of information for students, teachers and others interested in these issues.

“That’s exactly the tool that a democratic society needs for educating itself,” Noelle adds.

Also aware of this disparity, Hinman teaches a free class at USD’s computer lab to help students who haven’t had much experience with computers catch up to their classmates.

“The on-line search service Yahoo, for example, has a link that points the way to subjects ranging from medical ethics to media ethics (http://www.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/Philosophy/Ethics/).” The media-ethics link leads to, among other things, a Web site complaining about the bias and insensitivity of the media in Japan.

The University of British Columbia’s Centre for Applied Ethics maintains an index Web site (http://www.ethics.ubc.ca/papers/AppliedEthics.html) with gateways to eight specific ethics subjects and one marked “Miscellaneous.” Among the items found in that last category: codes of ethics for tennis players and the National Rifle Association.

Philosophical need

Closer to home, Paul Lester, an associate professor of communications at California State University Fullerton, opened an ethics indexing site in October (http://www5.fullerton.edu/les/ethics_list.html) — and is averaging about a thousand visitors a month.

“I think there’s a need in people, and it may be a sign of the times, to get back to some of the basic philosophical arguments that people have about moral behavior,” says Lester.

Hinman speaks of using the Web to weave together new types of communities: global classrooms linking students from around the world; virtual seminar rooms, where all that’s missing is the coffee; and chat rooms where folks “can try out a new idea without having people think you’re a troglodyte.” Or at least not having them think it to your face.

But that brings up a potential problem of another kind.

“There is the possibility that real, live conversation may get eclipsed because people get so involved with on-line,” Hinman admits. The key is to realize that the Web is “an adjunct, not a substitution,” for personal interaction.

Phil Agre, assistant professor of communication at UCSD, believes it’s important to see the information superhighway as part of a larger picture.

“The Internet all by itself doesn’t solve any problems.” Agre explains. “But connecting people is the first step in solving problems.”

Ethicists argue over and over again that the key to society forming a code of conduct — whether it involves genetic engineering or hunting mountain lions — is discussion.

The Net and its Web open another door for doing that.

“I love it,” says Hinman. “I think it’s a place that has so many possibilities. How good it becomes will be a function of how willing people are to put things on it.”
A Scholar Who Worries the Bishops

By Denise K. Magner

THE REV. Richard P. McBrien thinks women should be ordained in the Roman Catholic Church. He would like to see the celibacy rule for priests disappear. And although he believes that abortion is morally wrong, he is not in favor of laws banning the procedure, because he says they are unenforceable.

As one of the most prominent theologians in the U.S. Catholic community, he is frequently asked about his views. When reporters seek his opinion, he says, that's exactly what they get—his opinion, not the Pope's.

"When I speak," says Father McBrien, a professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, "I speak the truth. I don't give boilerplate. I don't give the party line."

And this, he believes, is why a panel of U.S. bishops has sharply criticized the new edition of his popular textbook, Catholicism (HarperCollins, 1994). "They did it to try to punish me for my outspokenness in the public forum."

A RARE MOVE

First published in 1980, Catholicism has sold more than 150,000 copies and been widely used by colleges and parishes. But in a rare move, the Committee on Doctrine of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement this month discouraging its use as an introductory text to the Catholic faith. The committee sent a 16-page review of Catholicism to all U.S. bishops, saying the book could confuse theological beginners and lead some to dissent from church teachings.

In Father McBrien's book, the review said, "the teaching of the Pope and bishops is often reduced to just another voice alongside those of private theologians.... For example, the presentations of the questions of contraception, homosexuality, and women's ordination all take for granted that these are open questions; the official Church teaching appears as merely one of the options for the reader."

Despite its criticisms, the committee said the review "raises no questions about the author's standing as a theologian and priest."

But Father McBrien and others say, How could it not?

"Of course it's intended to harm me. It's intended to tarnish my reputation with the general Catholic public," he says.

Father McBrien asked for a "formal doctrinal dialogue"—a new process in the church by which bishops resolve disputes with theologians—but the panel refused. Its acting chairman, Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk of Cincinnati, offered to meet informally with the professor, but Father McBrien refused, saying the committee had already made up its mind about his book.

The panel's mistake, he says, is in treating his book as if it were a catechism. "This is a work of theology, for theology students."

In its 1,286 pages, Catholicism explores the history of church doctrine and modern debates on an array of topics, including human existence, original sin, divine revelation, and the virginal conception of Jesus. It also looks at modern social debates—over homosexuality, for example. "In my book, I simply give the arguments on both sides," Father McBrien says. "They're mad because I don't say, 'But the Pope's right.'"

That certainly is part of the problem, says the Rev. J. Augustine Di Noia, theologian to the bishops' conference. Father Di Noia oversaw the writing of the book review.

"These are concerns of moderate bishops," he says. "These are not bishops inclined to inquisitorial actions." The committee, he says, "does not want to be the watchdog for orthodoxy." The panel acted in this case, he adds, because of the book's "use in introductory-level programs" and because of the author's prominence.

As for the Vatican's involvement, Father Di Noia says, "There is nothing to hide here. The Holy See was a partner in the conversation on the book from the '80s and has remained interested."

AN ENDLESS CRITIC

For some, the committee's action is long overdue. "We don't use the book, precisely because there are many problems with it," says the Rev. Giles Dimock, chairman of the theology department at the Franciscan University of Steubenville. "Father McBrien does not adequately distinguish the formal teaching of the church from the opinions of theologians."

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Father Dimock describes Father Mc斌 as "an endless critic of everything—and it's not a loving criticism."

Many theologians say Father Mc斌 and his book have plenty of support in Catholic higher education. The Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, former president of Notre Dame, wrote a foreword praising the book for "fairly" contrasting "the old and the new in theology."

"NOT A HOUSE ORGAN"

Sister Elizabeth A. Johnson, a professor of theology at Fordham University who uses the book in her courses, calls it "moderate" in tone and says it represents church views clearly. "But it's not a house organ. I think that's the fundamental objection to it."

Sister Johnson, president of the Catholic Theological Society of America, says the panel could have reviewed other books that theolog­ically are much more liberal than Father Mc斌's. "Why pick on Dick? Because he speaks out."

Father Mc斌 would probably have a hard time not speaking out. He has always been opinionated, he says, but when he was younger he was usually quieter. "At 30, it would have been arrogant and presumptuous of me to speak so forthrightly and confidently on matters pertaining to the church and theology. I was basically a beginner."

He did not join a religious order, but became a diocesan priest in the Archdiocese of Hartford, where he was born. He earned his doctorate in theology in 1967 from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Since 1980 he has been a professor at Notre Dame, where, like many other priests in academe, he rarely wears clerical garb.

His standing on the campus will not be affected by the review, says Timothy O'Meara, Notre Dame's provost, who recruited Father Mc斌 to the campus. Mr. O'Meara says he has given Catholicism as a gift and will again.

Father Mc斌 doesn't plan to let up on his criticism. "If this is their way of trying to rein me in," he says, "it's not going to succeed."
A new USD School of Law scholarship program established in the memory of San Diego Gas & Electric Company corporate secretary Delroy M. Richardson ('69) will help foster ethnic diversity within the Law student population beginning Fall 1996.

“The Richardson Scholars” program will aid highly qualified students of diverse ethnic backgrounds with much needed financial assistance. Each Richardson Scholar will receive a $2,500 yearly scholarship to help defray tuition and other education costs.

Mr. Richardson, an attorney who spent 23 years with SDG&E, was the 1978 USD Distinguished Law Alumni Award recipient. He served as a member of the School of Law’s Board of Visitors, and he also was involved with USD’s minority mentoring program.

The Richardson Scholars Program has been made possible by a $25,000 endowment from SDG&E, an Enova company. Many private individuals and firms also have been generous benefactors, including:

- Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, a $2,500 gift;
- Nissan North America, Inc., a $2,500 gift;
- Mrs. Greta Richardson, the widow of Mr. Richardson, whose gift of $5,000 will be used to create two scholarships named for Gayle and Monique Richardson, the couple’s daughters.
"Love to know, love to give, love to death, unto life." This was Bishop Brom's exhortation to the members of the University of San Diego community receiving the sacraments of initiation April 21, a message directed also to the more than 400 in attendance at USD’s Founder's Chapel. Because school is not in session at Easter, the five members receiving baptism, eucharist, and confirmation and 25 receiving confirmation celebrated these sacraments at a special Mass, displaying what university president Alice B. Hayes called "the heart of a USD education." University vice-president for Mission and Ministry Msgr. I. Brent Eagen expressed a "great sense of joy to see these outstanding young people committing themselves to Christ."
Holland finds Toreros point guard for future

By BILL CENTER
Staff Writer

The University of San Diego's search to replace point guard David Fizdale was partially completed yesterday when Toreros head coach Brad Holland signed the son of a former Los Angeles Lakers teammate.

Jim Brewer, an incoming freshman from Peninsula High in Palos Verdes, signed a letter of intent with USD.

Brewer is the son of Jim Brewer, who played at the University of Minnesota (with future baseball star Dave Winfield) and with several NBA teams, including the Lakers.

"You could say I've been chasing this kid around for 15 years," said Holland, whose first experience with the younger Brewer came when the 2-year-old attended Lakers practices with his father. "We started talking again two years ago," said Holland.

The 6-foot-3, 170-pound Brewer moved from Minnesota to the Los Angeles area last summer and played only one season at Peninsula, where he averaged 15 points in a deliberate offense.

"Because he moved west last summer and had to adjust to a new team whose style was to slow the ball down, Jim wasn't heavily recruited and didn't make a lot of all-star teams," said Holland.

"But I'm excited. I really like his upside. He has great size for a point guard. He's very skilled and fundamentally sound. He's played very well in some traveling all-star games I've seen. He'll be a solid backup as a freshman."

To whom is the biggest question facing the Toreros.

The Toreros have a solid cast of returnees at every spot but point guard — a position dominated by Fizdale last year. En route to all-West Coast Conference first-team honors, Fizdale set USD records for single-season and career assists. He was recently named the Toreros' MVP for the 1995-96 season.

The only returning point guard is little-used junior Kareem Mutrie, although Holland is considering moving sophomore Lamont Smith to the position. USD has one scholarship remaining, and Holland wants to use it on an experienced junior college point guard.
USD’s index on the economy goes up once again

The University of San Diego’s Index of Leading Economic Indicators for San Diego County rose .5 percent in February. It’s the 11th month in a row the index has risen, said USD Professor Alan Gin, who compiles the index.

“Until the data indicate otherwise, the San Diego economy appears to be on a moderate growth path for the foreseeable future,” Gin said.

“The index received a big boost from the sharply improved outlook for the national economy, as measured by the national Index of Leading Economic Indicators. In February, the national index registered its biggest gain in 20 years.”

Some analysts, however, attribute the national index’s gain to a rebound from very poor January numbers, Gin said.

Locally, weak spots include the number of building permits issued and initial claims for unemployment insurance, Gin said. Strong areas include tourism, help-wanted advertising and local stock prices.
AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Political consultant Tom Shepard has been elected to serve a two-year term on the board of directors of the American Association of Political Consultants. Shepard is the only San Diegan ever to serve on the national, bi-partisan trade organization. He is vice president and general manager of Campaign Strategies, Inc.

USO will present the second annual Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Awards April 29. The awards honor USD alumni who have attained outstanding success in their career fields. This year's winners are: Dr. M. Elizabeth Hirst Bruns, class of '66, an expert in endocrinology; businessman Joseph J. Schmidt, class of '80, who is vice chairman of Schmidt-Cannon International; Bertha O. Pendleton, Ph.D., class of '89, superintendent of the San Diego Unified School District; Sister Sally M. Furey, class of '72, USD's provost and academic vice president; Mary B. Middleton, class of '80 and also '83, associate director of hospital and clinics and director of patient care services at UCSD Medical Center.
Study: Locals fear illegals

By Paul Morris
Daily Californian staff writer

SAN DIEGO — The co-author of a recently completed survey says that county residents are frightened by illegal aliens, but he found no reasons other than the media and hyped-up political rhetoric.

“It so much falls into the whole idea that there is no enemy that San Diegans can see other than illegal immigrants,” said Michael Pfau, who co-authored the University of San Diego survey. “San Diegans simply fear illegal immigrants. I think a psychological dynamic is happening here. It’s us versus them, and whoever them is that’s who people fear. What this has very much to do with is the media coverage.”

Pfau saw a correlation between people who supported strict border enforcement and those who watched local news and paid attention to newspapers. During the past two years, the media has covered crowds of aliens being apprehended in sometimes violent confrontations with police.

“Violence and action tends to instill fear,” Pfau said.

He added that it’s interesting that 90 percent of the people questioned don’t think undocumented aliens are responsible for most of the county’s crimes, but they supported a border fence, a national identification card and reporting illegal immigrants.

A March 4-8 telephone survey, which was sponsored by the TransBorder Institute at USD, asked 551 randomly-selected residents of San Diego County questions about immigration.

The questions pertaining to security issues like the national identification card, the border fence, crimes and reporting aliens were found to be 50 percent more important than economic issues. The study listed economic matters as employer sanctions, welfare, official language and contributions to the economy.

“At least in this county, the immigration issue is not an economic issue,” Pfau said. “What drives the anxiety of this is a security concern whether real or imagined.”

Fifty percent of respondents said a forgery-proof national identification card is a good way to control illegal immigration while 38 percent said it was not. The border fence was supported by 52 percent of those answering and 61 percent said it’s the duty of public employees to report undocumented aliens.

About 67 percent of residents thought controlling the border should be a top priority of the federal government.

The results on whether social services should be given to illegal immigrants contrasted strongly with Proposition 187, with 47 percent agreeing to pay while 45 percent refusing. And 57 percent said that official state business should be conducted in English.

The authors were most surprised by the 72 percent of the residents who supported employer sanctions against companies who hire undocumented workers. It broke down to where 60 percent of Democrats were in favor of sanctions and 60 percent of Republicans, said Pfau, an USD associate professor of political science.

The study indicates that making immigration a major issue during the upcoming presidential election would appear to benefit the Democrats and hurt Republicans.

“The Republicans are really caught in a pickle here — take again the employer sanction issue — the employers are a key backer of the Republicans, but the rank-and-file call for employer sanctions; so either they lose they financial support or their populous support.”

Pfau suggested that the Republicans divert campaign attention from the issue.

However, by assigning Attorney General Janet Reno to oversee the border rather than the Secretary of Labor, President Clinton is identifying immigration as a law-and-order problem rather than an economic one, Pfau said.

“The Democrats now have the chance to say they are going to be tough on immigration and by doing that they satisfy their own clientele and make inroads into the Republicans, and that’s what they are really looking for,” Pfau said.

The study was conducted because Pfau and his colleagues Daniel Wolf and Patrick Drinan wanted to find out what people think about border issues instead of allowing politicians to form beliefs, Pfau said.

“The border issue needs to be infused with some realism,” he said. “We have to find out where we stand first and what we think about the issue, then we can devise strategies.”

The study was delivered to the Conference on Borderlands Scholars in Reno, Nev. on Friday. Within a year Pfau plans to poll residents of Tijuana about the same issue.
The index, a forecast of economic activity six to nine months in the future, anticipates moderate growth, a healthy tourist trade and improved prospects for locally based companies.

February's local report received a major boost from the national index of economic indicators, which posted its largest gain in 20 years during a month of unusually strong job creation.

Generally, however, the fitful national economy has trailed behind California's and San Diego's in recent months.

"Although the news is generally positive, the picture is not completely rosy," said Gin. "Building permits continue to stagnate, even when compared to low levels seen in 1995."

Another local downer: initial claims for unemployment insurance. They were up.

The index, which is based on six indicators — building permits, jobless claims, local stock prices, tourism, help wanted ads and the national economy — gained 0.5 percent in February, reaching an all-time high of 126.6.
Local Scene

Economic Indicators Up

The University of San Diego's Index of Leading Economic Indicators for San Diego was up 0.5 percent in February, continuing a now 11-monthlong rise in the index. The report, released Thursday, showed jumps of 1.45 percent in local stocks, 0.14 percent in help-wanted advertising and 0.16 percent in tourism. However, residential building permits declined slightly, by 0.37 percent. Initial claims for unemployment insurance were also up in February, by 0.44 percent. The moderate boost in local indicators reflects an overall gain in the national Leading Economic Indicators of 1.98 percent, the biggest national gain in two decades, said USD associate economics professor Alan Gin. "It just continues the trend of more good news for the San Diego economy," Gin said. "Because it's a leading index, it's forecasting reasonably steady growth for the future."
USD catcher proves to be talented beyond his years

By TIM WILLERT

Tony Betancourt should visit Moraga more often.

The USD catcher put on quite a show there over the weekend, going 8-for-15 with eight RBI and seven runs scored as the surging Toreros won three of four from St. Mary's.

Betancourt was named West Coast Conference player of the week. He is just a freshman.

"I'm out here to play my game," said Betancourt, who has started 34 of 35 games and leads the team with 29 RBI. "Being a freshman doesn't have much to do with it."

The Rancho Bernardo High alum had five extra base hits in the St. Mary's series — including two home runs — and came within a single of hitting for the cycle in a 10-3 win Saturday.

"Tony is probably as good a young player as there is in the conference right now and he's just going to get better," said USD head coach John Cunningham, who has seen his share of players in 33 years at the school. "He's got a maturity that not all freshmen have."

USD, which plays a non-conference game at 2:30 today at Point Loma Nazarene College, has turned around its season, winning 11 of 12 after a disastrous start.

The second-place Toreros (16-18-1, 11-1) have played their way into WCC title contention, but have to face third-place Santa Clara and conference leader Pepperdine. Santa Clara (25-14, 10-2) comes to town for a four-game series beginning Friday.

"This is a very young club," said Cunningham, who lost eight starters from last season's team. "We played a very tough non-conference schedule and took our lumps, Tony included. That rough start really helped us."

Betancourt has raised his average to .328 (45-for-137), trailing junior outfielder Jeb Dougherty (.373) and Kevin Schramm (.333), a senior. Behind the plate, the 5-foot-9, 195-pound Betancourt has improved to the point where he is now calling pitches, something he didn't do earlier this season.

"I'm just trying to put the pieces together, work as hard as I can," said the soft-spoken Betancourt. "I don't think I'll ever be satisfied with the way I'm playing."

Even the umpires in the St. Mary's series were impressed with the way Betancourt handled himself.

"They said working behind Tony was a real pleasure, that he is a class act," Cunningham said. "On the road, this sort of thing doesn't happen a lot. When they found out he was only a freshman they said, 'Wow.'"

Enough said.

Tim Willert is a Union-Tribune news assistant.
Bribery Probe Frays Close-Knit Legal Community in San Diego

Scandal: Charges against former judges are troubling to many accustomed to the friendly bench-bar relations in a city proud of its small-town flavor.

By TONY PERRY and ALAN ABRAHAMSON
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

SAN DIEGO—The defendants are pillars of the local legal establishment, with long ties to the community and lots of friends in high places. Their accusers, for the most part, are outsiders, newly arrived from out of town and still eyed with some suspicion by the clubby San Diegans.

For 18 months, while federal prosecutors and FBI agents probed the illicit links between three former San Diego judges and a prominent trial attorney, there had been sub rosa grumbling among other judges and lawyers.

The investigation, it was said, was too long, too heavy-handed, and bent on rehashing charges for which the judges had already been punished with the loss of their jobs.

And, worse yet, the investigation was being run by prosecutors and FBI agents who had no appreciation for the collegial nature of bench-bar relations in this sunny city and were just looking to rack up some career-booster convictions.

Last week, when the grand jury phase of the case ended in a second set of indictments, U.S. Atty. Alan Bersin conceded that he was aware of such grumbling. Other officials smiled wryly.

“None of us took it personally,” Bersin said.

Now that the evidence will be presented, Bersin said he hoped that it “will cast an entirely different light on what had become accepted wisdom about this investigation.”

The evidence led the grand jury Tuesday to indict two former judges, G. Dennis Adams and James Malkus, and attorney Patrick Frega Jr. in an alleged bribery scheme whereby the judges received more than $25,000 in gifts and gratuities to assist Frega with his cases. Ex-judge Michael Greer, indicted earlier, pleaded guilty March 11 to receiving $75,000 from Frega.

Much of the evidence had to be amassed through a “paper trail” of checks, phone records and court documents and from testimony extracted from witnesses who were reluctant, and sometimes resentful, at being asked to give damaging information.

The federal investigation seemed to strike at the heart of the San Diego ethos, the kind of boosterism that has led to the civic motto “America’s Finest City” and a feeling that attorneys and judges can be friends outside the courtroom and still remain scrupulously proper professionally.

The argument at trial might well be that San Diego’s easygoing history of informality and friendliness between lawyers and judges created an atmosphere that Frega, a self-described “street fighter” from Newark, exploited bit by bit until he had three judges doing his bidding under the guise of friendship.

Hayden Trubitt, president of the 6,000-member San Diego County Bar Assn., said that a good many lawyers had been upset as the investigation, cloaked in secrecy, seemed to drag on without end.

“People were assuming, incorrectly, that they [the judges] were being challenged for having accepted financially trivial courtesies,” Trubitt said.

“People were very concerned to have this sorts festering for that period of time,” said attorney Michael McDade, an insider with three San Diego mayors.

For Trubitt, any doubts disappeared after Greer pleaded guilty.

“Before that, we didn’t know the truth,” he said. “We didn’t know that there was serious money involved and obviously deep corruption. That’s not what we had been told before.”

McDade is still not so sure.

“I think they [the federal investigators] were looking for criminality in what was, at worst, horribly indiscreet behavior,” he said.

“Knowing all three judges, particularly Adams and Malkus, I find it difficult to believe they could do anything corrupt.”

Part of the annoyance at the investigation was that it came on top of a probe by the state Commission on Judicial Performance. That probe prompted Greer and Malkus to resign in 1989. Adams fought a losing battle to avoid ouster by the state Supreme Court.

But nothing in the aborted probe of Greer and Malkus or the ouster of Adams suggested the scope of the alleged bribery—$100,000 in gifts and favoritism in more than 40 cases—later to be contained in the indictments. To much of the public, the commission’s concerns seemed almost picayune—some car repairs, a computer and other small things—and there was no indication of the judges helping with Frega’s court cases.

“After all, the judges were already gone, so there was a lot of feeling of, ‘Hey, what the hell is going on here?’” said one lawyer.

“And the feds can be very intimidating. Sending two FBI agents to interview small-fry like clerks and bailiffs, that’s very heavy.”

Greer, Adams and Malkus were tenured members of the local establishment, appointed to the bench by then-Gov. Edmund G. “Jerry” Brown Jr. Frega, who arrived in the late 1970s, was widely admired for his million-dollar victories.

Greer had served as presiding judge of the Superior Court and was respected statewide for developing a “fast-tracking” system for civil cases. Malkus was esteemed for his tenacity in unraveling com-

Continued →
plex cases, particularly in arriving at settlements to avoid trial. Adams was noted for his expertise in cases of construction defects.

Adams is married to Superior Court Judge Barbara Gamer. On Thursday, after her husband’s arraignment, she sent an e-mail message to her fellow judges:

“Dennis is not guilty. During these difficult times for us personally and for the bench, please give us the benefit of the presumption of innocence. Please keep us in your thoughts.”

If the defendants were well-known and well-connected in San Diego, the lead prosecutors and FBI agents were definitely not. Bersin was named U.S. attorney for San Diego and Imperial counties in 1993; most of his career had been spent as a civil attorney in Los Angeles. Charles G. La Bella, chief assistant U.S. attorney, was transferred in 1993 from New York, where he headed an investigation into corruption in the government of former Philippine leader Ferdinand Marcos.

Robert Walsh, special agent in charge of the San Diego office of the FBI, came to San Diego in 1994 from Washington, and Grant Ashley, the assistant agent in charge, was assigned here in September, also from Washington.

Walsh and Ashley were leaders in the FBI’s “Greylord” sting operation in Chicago that led to corruption convictions of a dozen judges in the 1980s for fixing criminal cases. That, too, rankled San Diegans.

“There was a lot of thought that these were outsiders, carpet-baggers, looking to make a case in San Diego that would help their careers,” said one lawyer. “When word got out that these were ‘Greylord’ guys, a lot of people were offended that the feds would somehow think that the San Diego courts, in any way, shape or form, are similar to the Chicago courts.”

Jerry Coughlan, attorney for Malkus, complained that the FBI and U.S. attorney seemed to have “a presumption of guilt” during their investigation.

Elisabeth Semel, a noted San Diego criminal defense attorney, said that the subtext of the story is the difficulty judges face in keeping a proper distance from practicing attorneys, particularly in San Diego.

“This town grew very quickly,” she said. “While the population of the town grew, the legal community has maintained a closeness—or smallness, for lack of a better word; perhaps it’s nostalgia—that belies its size.”

Many lawyers in San Diego have chosen to practice here—some forsaking more money and the grind of big-firm practice in Los Angeles and San Francisco—because of the easier San Diego lifestyle. And unlike the enormous maw that is the Los Angeles judicial system, most lawyers in San Diego know that they are bound to run across a colleague at the downtown courthouse or a restaurant.

A few years ago, several San Diego judges received scolding letters from the judicial commission for letting law firms pay their greens fees at an annual golf tournament. The practice was halted.

Robert Simmons, professor of law at the University of San Diego, said he has been surprised to find judges at Christmas parties thrown by attorneys “and being made much of by the attorneys.” Still, he thinks San Diego judges are careful to prevent any socializing from influencing their official duties.

“San Diego is a unique place,” said Howard Wiener, a former justice on the San Diego-based 4th District Court of Appeal. “It’s the sixth-largest city in the nation, yet it retains a small-town flavor.”

“The town is small enough that bad apples stick out like sore thumbs,” said lawyer Michael T. Thorsnes. “In my 28 years of practice, I have never once felt in any circumstance that I got less than a fair shake in court.”

After Greer was indicted and pleaded guilty, the San Diego Union-Tribune wrote that the investigation was being broadened to include other judges and lawyers besides Adams, Malkus and Frega. An already shaken legal establishment was increasingly agitated.

Bersin asked the newspaper for a correction but the paper refused.

In the Wednesday news conference, Bersin said that “no other judges or attorneys are now, or have ever been, targets of the investigation. The judges and attorneys serving the public in San Diego do so with distinction.”

Walsh struck a similar tone. “These indictments do not suggest that corruption is systemic in the San Diego judiciary,” he said. Their conciliatory tone may have reduced the anger among attorneys who believed that the investigation put a cloud over the entire San Diego legal system.

“I am saddened by [the indictments] for sure,” said John Seitman, former president of the State Bar of California. “On the other hand, I am not walking around with my head down because I’m a San Diego lawyer.”
Alicia Cole played a lawyer on "Renegade," a stewardess on "General Hospital," and a symbol in a Denny's ad. "There's a little irony there," said Cole. There is indeed, although "irony" is not the word I would use to describe Cole's career. Instead, try "amazing.

Cole, who moved here from her native Ohio to attend USD's law school, began acting at the age of 30. In the three years since, she has polished up a very bright resume.

And why not? She's quick, funny and beautiful, with green eyes and auburn hair. Oh, and a lovely coffee-with-cream complexion.

In 1994, Denny's began disbursing $56 million to 293,000 diners with similar and darker skin tones. This settled a U.S. Justice Department lawsuit, charging the national restaurant chain with subjecting minority diners to hostile or non-existent service.

"I've never had any problems at Denny's," Cole said. "Generally, though — unfortunately, the people who are bigoted, the lighter you are, the less bigoted they are."

Outrages and ice cream

Until recently, the list of Denny's horror stories was longer than Stephen King's backlist. Hear the one about the black FBI agents who could not get service in a Los Angeles diner? How about the Hispanic travelers who mistakenly tried to pay for a meal at a Carlsbad diner with Mexican currency — and were tongue-lashed by the cashier?

Sure, I had heard those tales. So had Cole.

In 1994, the chain paid for ads in black newspapers across the United States. The Justice Department settlement, Denny's Inc. President C. Ronald Petty wrote, "closes the chapter of racial discrimination at Denny's."

To help write a new chapter, last year Denny's hired Cole.

"With my friends and family," Cole said, "there was a little joking. 'They want to fix up their image,' that sort of thing."

In the Mira Mesa Denny's, Cole sampled the chain's new ice cream offerings while cameras clicked. The result was a print ad, mailed out to households around the country.

"The message was, 'We are trying. And that's what you want them to do,' Cole said. "Try to do better."

Time will tell if that message is taken to heart. But on a recent sunny spring afternoon, Cole and I lunched at a Denny's on Pacific Highway. She ordered a Super Slam of eggs, hash browns and sausages. I had a Belgian waffle.

The food was good. The service — courteous and prompt — was even better.

The way things look

Working before and behind the camera, Cole is well aware of the symbolic power of skin tone.

While casting a training video for J.C. Penney, Cole was approached by a friend, an under-employed Hispanic actor.

"I could play the robber," he told Cole.

"I know you need the work," she replied, "but I can't give you that part."

Her friend was unhappy but, Cole said, "there's a larger issue here. It was very important to me that the robber not be an African-American or a Hispanic. Television is already full of those negative stereotypes."

Appearances aren't everything. But Cole is a devout Christian — she attends Bayview Baptist Church, and before tucking into her Super Slam, she bows her head in prayer.

Besides, her profession depends, in large part, on camera angles, makeup, lighting.

On appearance.

The other day, Cole heard from Aunt Neenie and Uncle Bob in Miami. They had just seen her in a TV ad for Embassy Suites.

"They were sitting, watching me on TV," Cole said. "It's the biggest thrill. You can't buy that happiness."

You can't buy tolerance, either. Only time and effort will overcome an ugly past. But, by alerting the country that Alicia Cole enjoys its restaurants, Denny's just looks better.
By GUSTAV NIEBUHR

A basic religious question that pollsters tend to ask Americans is, "Do you believe in God?"

Time and again, enough people seem to say yes (usually around 95 percent) to confirm the long-standing observation that Americans are a religious people.

But, really, outside of showing a national inclination to acknowledge some concept of deity, what does that response disclose? Certainly nothing of the depth of belief, or the amount people may actually know about their own religious traditions.

It is only when pollsters go deeper, and especially when they quiz members of a particular religious group, that answers become more meaningful, providing a measure of the effectiveness of institutions that would shape people's spiritual, moral and ethical lives.

To this end, four sociologists have drawn a book-length study from a 1993 national Gallup Poll of what Roman Catholics in the United States think about their church. The book, "Laity: American & Catholic" (Sheed & Ward), by William V. D'Antonio, James D. Davidsonson, Dean R. Hoge and Ruth A. Wallace, also draws on other polls, including a similar national Gallup Poll conducted in 1987, as well as a few much smaller but more detailed sociological surveys of Catholic groups.

What do the authors report? In some areas, the responses they received seem familiar, especially when it comes to showing that large majorities of Catholics, like many other Americans, say they tend to follow their own consciences in many matters of sexual morality. This is an area that has been picked over by numerous news organizations, which have done their own polling, often timed to coincide with the arrival of Pope John Paul II on one of his visits to this country.

But outside the spotlight on sex, the terrain of Catholic opinion becomes less familiar, but no less important for the church's future. For example, the 1993 survey that the authors discuss shows a high degree of loyalty to the faith, with nearly 80 percent of the 802 respondents either flatly agreeing with, or leaning to, the statement, "I would never leave the Catholic Church."

Furthermore, nearly half of the Catholics regularly attend church; 2 percent in that survey said they went to Mass daily, 39 percent at least weekly and another 5 percent "almost" weekly.

But as they remain loyal and fairly active, what do they want?

The authors say the 1993 and 1987 polls show that the majority of Catholics are clearly desirous of more democracy in church affairs. That the desire exists is not in itself news, but the proportions of people who responded that way to certain questions are notable.

In the 1993 poll, 74 percent said they thought lay people should have a say in selecting their parish priest, rather than leaving the choice to their bishop. (In the 1987 survey, 57 percent voiced that opinion.)

Not only that, but a majority of those surveyed in 1993 wanted lay people to be allowed to participate in sweeping, institutional church decisions. For example, 68 percent said lay people ought to help decide whether women should be ordained — a matter that Pope John Paul II has said is not open for discussion.

"In the future," the authors wrote, "the laity will probably accept the church's authority more readily if clergy-lay cooperation and lay participation increase."

In one chapter, the authors note that two bishops, when asked separately what they would most like to learn from within their dioceses, answered that they wanted to know "what young Catholics are like."

Catholics under 35 years old, the generation that grew up knowing only the church after the changes brought by the Second Vatican Council, are a distinct group on several counts, to judge by the survey data.

The authors indicate that these young Catholics, in their spiritual lives, are not institutionally bound, talking more about being "good Christians" than good Catholics; they are more likely than their elders to disagree with church teachings, while also lacking a specifically Catholic vocabulary (terms like stations of the cross, holy days of obligation, confession) with which to frame and discuss their faith.

Even more interesting, the authors reported that their most recent poll showed striking differences between young Catholic men and women. The women, they said, were considerably more religious, but at the same time more inclined to favor greater democracy in the church. And that prompted the authors to close their chapter on an ominous note for the bishops, a warning "to expect tension between church leaders and highly involved Catholic lay people in the years ahead."
Colleges

Toreros, Aztecs get baseball victories

Left-hander Brian Mazone (3-3), a sophomore from San Dieguito High, pitched a six-hitter to help USD’s baseball team remain unbeaten in the West Coast Conference with an 8-2 victory over St. Mary’s yesterday in Moraga.

Freshman Tony Betancourt (Rancho Bernardo High) led the Toreros (14-17 overall, 9-0 WCC) with two hits and two RBI. Brock Marsh (Poway High) and Matt Kuseski each contributed three hits and combined for three RBI.

The Gaels (8-20, 3-6) committed six errors and starter Brian Hedley fell to 3-7.

The five-game series continues today with a doubleheader at noon.
Attitudes on Mexico not what they seem

San Diego's newest center for the study of Mexico-related issues is poised to issue a report that suggests local residents are compassionate about illegal immigrants but determined to punish the people who hire them.

The report by the TransBorder Institute at the University of San Diego comes at a time of increasingly angry election year debate over methods to curtail undocumented immigration.

Based on a telephone survey of 540 San Diego County residents early in March, the report is the most ambitious project undertaken by the 8-month-old institute.

Previewing the report, which will be published Wednesday, institute Director Daniel Wolf said a fairly solid majority of those surveyed supports measures that would strengthen U.S. control of the border.

But, Wolf said, a slight majority of the Republicans polled and a substantial majority of the Democrats would extend social services to undocumented immigrants in need.

That result would seem to contradict the support of San Diego County voters for Proposition 187, the November 1994 ballot measure denying social services to the undocumented.

The proposal swept the county by a 60-40 majority as part of its overwhelming statewide voter approval, but is now tied up in the courts.

Chuck Nathanson, director of the San Diego Dialogue, a UCSD-affiliated public policy forum on the border region, said it was helpful to have "more resources, more expertise and more education" in the effort to solve binational problems. Nathanson cautioned, however, that there was always the danger of friction among the many institutions studying border issues.

But Wolf said there was enough work to go around. The TransBorder Institute "is not going to trample on anybody else's turf," he said.

The institute was launched in September with an $85,000 budget. Funding for the year beginning Sept. 1 was boosted to $150,000, Wolf said, and the institute's future appears to be assured.

The institute's activities illustrate the dramatic growth of research in this country on U.S.-Mexico issues.

Besides the 17-year-old Center for U.S.-Mexico Studies at the University of California San Diego and the Institute for the Regional Studies of the Californias at San Diego State University, which was founded in 1983, at least a dozen other universities and think tanks in the United States are significantly involved in Mexico-related activities, said Kevin Middlebrook, head of the UCSD center.

Middlebrook said a challenge for all those institutions is to find constructive ways of working together. Academics studying Mexico sometimes pursue similar lines of inquiry, he said, "and people miss opportunities for collaboration."
Church leadership, finding devout are not all devoted to the rules, fights to bring sheep back to the fold

PARTING WAYS

Religious disobedience is as old as Adam and Eve.

Don't eat the fruit,

God tells the Bible's first couple.

They ate the fruit.

Now there is another wave of defiance that is not so much about original sin as it is about organized religion.

The denominational ties that bind are beginning to fray:

- Roman Catholic Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz has told Catholics in his southern Nebraska diocese to drop their memberships in a dozen groups he considers unacceptable, or face excommunication.

- Among those on the banned list: Planned Parenthood, Hemlock Society, Catholics for a Free Choice and several Masonic groups.

- Four American Baptist churches in the San Francisco Bay Area were expelled last month from the regional association for their open acceptance of gays as members.

- The churches join a growing number of congregations who have run afoul of their denominations over the issue of homosexuality.

- Closer to home, St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Coronado is locked in a standoff with Methodist officials over who will be its minister.

St. Paul's current minister, Thomas Warmer, quit the United Methodist clergy in February, on the opening day of his church trial for "immorality." But he's still at St. Paul's, courtesy of a defiant leadership that is standing behind him.

The list goes on: In the Episcopal denomination, retired Bishop Walter Righter has been charged with heresy by colleagues who accuse him of disobeying church rules by ordaining a noncelibate gay man in New Jersey.

With shades of the civil disobedience movement of the 1960s, more and more sheep are scattering from the shepherds.

"I think the one thing that we're observing, at least to some extent, is the breakdown of denominationalism," says Ronald Youngblood, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at the San Diego campus of Bethel Theological Seminary.

"There are very few people who would deny the fact that we are coming to what some call a post-denominational age," Youngblood adds.

From Catholics to Protestants, loyalties are beginning to wane, agrees religion sociologist Dean Hoge, whose book, "Vanishing Boundaries," deals with erosion among mainline denominations.

"I just have a general feeling that people are becoming gradually a little more local in their religious commitment," says Hoge, who teaches at the Catholic University of America in Washington. "Denominational loyalties are gradually weakening."

Continued &
Is this a good thing?
Maybe not, responds Youngblood, who thinks denominations do a lot of good in the world. There’s a certain strength that comes in numbers: Denominations provide children’s curriculum and seminaries, fund hospitals and schools, staff soup kitchens and shelters.

Hoge answers with questions: “Who knows the will of God? Does the bishop know the will of God or do the people know the will of God?”

Either way, Hoge predicts, “Church authority will not remain strong in the modern society we’re coming to.”
In other words, be prepared for more disobedience.

The standoff between St. Paul’s United Methodist Church and the denomination took on the tone of a revolt in January, when St. Paul’s leaders turned away Bishop Roy Sano.
It was a Sunday morning and Sano had gone to the Coronado church to try to replace Warmer and preside over the worship services.
Sano had suspended Warmer pending a church trial. The 58-year-old minister was accused of lying to Methodist investigators over allegations that he sexually abused four teen-agers at another church during the late 1960s and early 70s.
But three months later, Warmer remains in the pulpit at St. Paul’s. He denies any wrongdoing and says he surrendered his credentials because he believed he was being treated unfairly.
St. Paul’s, whose members credit Warmer with spurring growth and financial stability, has independently hired Warmer and refused to accept the interim pastor appointed by Sano (under Methodist rules, it’s the bishop’s job to appoint pastors to churches).

The Rev. Patricia Farris, local district superintendent of the United Methodist Church, says she’s never experienced this kind of resistance before. “This is fairly unique,” she adds.
Denomination officials aren’t backing down.
“Because clergy are expected to be trustworthy and reliable, it is therefore a serious matter if clergy falsely deny sexually abusing adolescents,” Bishop Sano wrote to the members of St. Paul’s in a pastoral letter last month. “Because there was considerable weighty evidence that sexual misconduct had been committed, denials appeared to be false.”
Sano compared the situation to that of a commanding officer on a military base who had surrendered his commission “and then proceeded to claim authority to function as a legitimate commander.”
But St. Paul’s leadership argues that the structure is archaic and arbitrary.

“The issue is not the perfection of Tom Warmer,” says Scott Metzger, one of St. Paul’s leaders and Warmer’s attorney. “The issue is the laity having a voice in the affairs of our church.”
“We’ve been deceived so much,” says St. Paul’s member Gerry Brummitt about the denominational hierarchy. “And the only one who’s helped build the church here is Tom.”
One expert is not surprised at the lingering stalemate.
“Churches love nothing more than martyrs,” says the Rev. Leo Booth, an Episcopal priest, counselor and author of “When God Becomes a Drug: Breaking the Chains of Religious Abuse.”
“Believe me,” adds Booth from his Long Beach office, “the denominational government has little hands-on influence on the individual church today.”

The disobedience among the American Baptists in the San Francisco Bay Area is over gays.
“The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching,”

ROBERT RASMUSSEN, executive minister of the American Baptist Churches of the West, told reporters about the expulsions.
But the way Rick Mixon sees it, he and others at Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church in Oakland are being a “faithful witness” to Jesus, who he believes was a role model for openness and acceptance. The other expelled churches are in San Jose, San Leandro and Berkeley.
“Sometimes, you just have to take a stand on stuff, even when it’s painful,” says Mixon, a gay man who has been an American Baptist all of his 49 years. His church recently voted to ordain him as a local pastor.
Mixon sees this defiance as part of a nationwide struggle between those who want change and those who don’t.
“My pessimistic side is that I think denominations are going to split,” he adds. “I think in the next 10 years we’re going to see some significant realignment of denominations.”
But Youngblood, the Bethel professor, cautions that doctrine is a necessary part of religious affiliation. Without rules, there can be no denomination.
“What happens to a constituency within any particular denomination if the recalcitrant people are allowed to have their own way and go too far?” he asks.

In the Roman Catholic Church, Bishop Bruskewitz has decided enough is enough.
He’s given members of his diocese in Lincoln, Neb., until May 15 to either quit 12 groups that are “perilous to the Catholic faith” or face excommunication.
Two of the groups, Planned Parenthood and Catholics for a Free Choice, oppose the church’s teaching on contraception and abortion. Another, the Hemlock Society, advocates legalizing euthanasia. Still another, the liberal Call to Action, supports the ordination of women and married men, and wants the church to be more democratic.
The conservative Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights applauds Bruskewitz’s stand.
The Catholic League has long taken a position that drawing a line in the sand is healthy in the Catholic Church,” says William Donohue, president of the New York-based organization. “It helps to promote a great deal of clarity amidst the confusion.”
But while Bruskewitz’s spokesman told reporters the bishop is trying to “call persons back to the faith,” there is little indication that the schism is healing.
Several other bishops have criticized Bruskewitz's move and predict that other dioceses will not follow his lead. Some of the targeted groups report a boon in membership since his order.

In a February lecture at USD, liberal priest Richard O'Brien told the audience that gone are the days when Catholics would obey rules just because they came down from the hierarchy. O'Brien, a theology professor at the University of Notre Dame, said real moral authority will have to be earned — one leader at a time.

Sociologist Hoge agrees. "Arbitrary authority will not have much power in the long-run future," he says. "Parishioners will honor moral exemplary authority... They're not just going to obey a bald statement of authority."

"I think in the next 10 years we're going to see some significant realignment of denominations."

RICK MIXON
American Baptist

Religious disobedience can be a good thing when "it reflects their own understanding of justice, of compassion," says Evelyn Kirkley, assistant professor of religious and theological studies at USD. "I think, however, that individuality and rebelliousness can go too far," Kirkley adds. "But where that line is drawn is very difficult to determine."

She sees this tension continuing at least for the next couple of decades. But, she warns, it cannot go on indefinitely.

Denominations, Kirkley predicts, will either implode or there will be some kind of truce, "some act of divine grace that can bring all this together."
Notable

PAULA POUNDSTONE The comedian puts her spin on current events and more at 8 p.m. Wednesday. Shiley Theatre, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcala Park. $12; 260-4600, Ext. 4901.
Services Are Today For 'Gentle Giant' D'Angelo, Of San Diego Law Firm

By THOR KAMBAR BIBERMAN

James A. D'Angelo, a partner in the local law firm of Aiken & D'Angelo, died of a stroke from a brain aneurism on Friday. He had celebrated his 40th birthday on March 16.

Services are to be held at 10 o'clock this morning at the Pius X Catholic Church at 14107 Lyons Valley Road in Jamul, not far from his home.

D'Angelo, known to some as "the gentle giant" because of his 6-foot-9 frame, specialized in insurance litigation on the defense side.

"If God wanted an attorney, he picked the right one," said Dominick Lane, an Aiken & D'Angelo associate trial attorney.

"He was highly regarded throughout the community both professionally and ethically, and he had a heart of gold," said Susie Pears, the law firm's administrator.

Michael J. Brown, partner with Hurley & Brown who has worked against D'Angelo, said D'Angelo was exceptionally warm, even in the midst of difficult litigation.

"He was one of the nicest guys. This is a real loss to the community," said Brown. "He was always fair in evaluating the merits of the case."

Law is very much in the D'Angelo family. His sister, Julianne D'Angelo Fellmeth of Coronado, teaches public interest law at the University of San Diego; another sister, Elisa D'Angelo Weichel, also is an attorney here; and their father, Peter T. D'Angelo, is a Superior Court judge in Maricopa County, Ariz.

Robert Fellmeth, University of San Diego law professor, is D'Angelo's brother-in-law.

D'Angelo also leaves a wife, Christine Chapman-D'Angelo, a veterinarian; a 7-year-old daugh­
ter, Sydney Christine; and his son, Jackson James, who turned 5 on April 8.

D'Angelo graduated from the University of San Diego in 1979 and earned his Juris Doctorate in 1983. His sister Julianne graduated from USD the same year. D'Angelo joined what was then the law firm of (George) Murray & (Dennis) Aiken in 1987. Murray retired in 1991. The firm became known as Aiken & D'Angelo at that time.

D'Angelo also was involved in the Children's Advocacy Institute at USD. Donations in D'Angelo's name may be made to the Children's Advocacy Institute, University of San Diego School of Law, 5998 Alcalas Park, San Diego 92110.

biberman@sddt.com

Corrections

The headline for yesterday's lead story about Rockwell International should have said Rockwell will pay a $6.5 million fine, not $6.5 billion. Also, brother Tom D'Angelo, mother Nancy D'Angelo, and sister Annemarie D'Angelo Dau's names were omitted; and Julianne D'Angelo Fellmeth's and Robert Fellmeth's last names were misspelled yesterday in an article about the death of James D'Angelo. The Transcript regrets the errors.
Bevins’ bat still sizzles as Aztecs top Toreros

By PAULA MASCARI-BOTT
Staff Writer

A day’s worth of dirt decorating his San Diego State baseball uniform, Andy Bevins headed up the steep stairs of USD’s Cunningham Stadium. He lost his footing in sports sandals and nearly slipped, but before he could fall, braced himself with his bat.

Bevins’ bat has also picked him up on the field lately.

In SDSU’s 7-4 win over USD yesterday, Bevins had three hits in four at bats. The 6-foot-3, 200-pound junior is on a tear, going 14-for-18 the last four games and raising his average to .343.

Bevins is the team’s second-leading hitter behind Travis Lee (.377).

“Everything is falling in whether I hit it on the nose or not,” said Bevins, the Aztecs’ starting right fielder.

“He’s been a streaky hitter,” said SDSU coach Jim Dietz. “He’s better when he’s not thinking. We try to tell our hitters to have a good zone, and Andy is getting better at hitting in the zone and staying aggressive.”

Bevins began to lock into the zone about the middle of last month. In games against Gonzaga, Long Beach State and Cal State Northridge, he went 7-for-16, including two home runs, a double, eight RBI and six runs scored. The effort earned him WAC player-of-the-week honors, a first collected by an Aztec this season.

His bat was even hotter during last weekend’s in Fresno, when he punished Bulldogs pitching for 11 hits in 14 at-bats.

“Earlier in the season I was swinging at a lot of pitches that weren’t strikes,” said Bevins, a right-handed batter who has 33 RBI. “But I’ve been picking out an area and looking for the ball in that zone. I’m seeing the ball real well and hitting it hard.”

Against USD (13-17-1), he singled to right in the second and singled to center and scored in the third. He was hit by a pitch in the fifth and came around to score, giving the Aztecs (24-16-2) a 5-0 lead. He finished with a shot through the left side of the infield.

Lee and Rene Rodriguez were the only other Aztecs with multiple-hit games. Lee singled, doubled and was intentionally walked twice; Rodriguez tripled and singled. Designated hitter Jacob Freeman picked up the game-winning hit — his triple in the third brought home Kalin Foulds and Lee for a 2-0 lead.

Bevins’ only blemish happened in the first, when a fly ball came his way. As he crossed the right-field line and hovered under it, the ball dropped out of his glove. The error didn’t hurt the Aztecs, and, maybe more importantly, didn’t affect Bevins at the plate.

“Before I would have let that bother me,” said Bevins, a 3.4 student who is majoring in journalism. “But I’ve learned you have to have a short memory. You have to let it out of your mind.”

Playing college ball was always on Bevins’ mind while starring at Sacramento High. He walked on at SDSU in 1994, making junior varsity as a freshman. The next season, he impressed Dietz enough to make the varsity and played in 25 games, hitting .317. This season, he earned a scholarship and a starting spot.

“I feel very fortunate,” said Bevins. “Coach Dietz is real fair with walk-ons and there’s no division on the team between scholarship players and walk-ons. I’m happy to be here. It’s been a real positive experience.”
Eucharist minister Doris B. Kupras

Doris B. Kupras, who was active in many facets of the Catholic Church during more than a decade in San Diego, died of heart failure April 2 at Harbor View Medical Center. She was 78.

Mrs. Kupras had been a Eucharist minister both at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in North Park and at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in City Heights. While at St. Patrick's from 1985 to 1992, she was involved in a meal program for the homeless, St. Peter's thrift store and annual fund-raising festivals and fellowship dinners.

Her work from 1992 to 1995, in connection with Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, included volunteering at the parish thrift store and the University of San Diego Charismatic Center. She also was active in the Ladies Guild and the St. Dismas Guild, Bible study group.

Born and raised in Buffalo, N.Y., Mrs. Kupras moved to San Diego in 1985, continuing a history of church work despite rheumatoid arthritis and a heart condition.

While raising nine children in Buffalo, she was involved in Boy Scouts of America, the PTA and church work. She also bowled in a league from 1964 to 1984 and had been an American Red Cross volunteer.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Thaddeus; daughters No­el Kupras-Bauer, of Kettering, Ohio, Natashe Kupras, of Portland, Ore., and Cheryl Baptiste, of Crom­pond, N.Y.; sons Paul, of San Ra­mon, Craig, of Portland, Ore., Todd, of San Diego, Jeff and Peter, both of Sacramento, and David, of Seattle; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Mass was celebrated yesterday at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Donations are suggested to Second Chance Homeless, Alpha Project for the Homeless or a charity of choice.
At Buchanan’s railings against free trade in general, and NAFTA and GATT in particular — and his advocacy of tariffs to “protect the American worker” — appear to have resonated with some of the American public, albeit not a majority.

Lest anyone believe, however, that protectionism is good for Americans in general, as opposed to a few Americans who are willing to impose costs on other Americans, it may be useful to recall why the policy of free trade is always the best national policy.

Let us begin with the concept of the trade balance. We often hear it said that because of Japan’s or other countries’ unfair trade policies, the trade balance is tilted in their favor and against America. Now, in fact, it may be and often is the case that Americans buy more products from foreign countries than we sell to them. But is this bad for America?

Suppose Japan sells us $10 billion worth of Toyotas and Sonys. And suppose further that we sell nothing to Japan in return. We have shipped dollars to Japan in return for cars and VCRs. What can Japan do with the dollars? Only three things.

First, Japan can buy American products in the future. If it does, trade will balance out.

Second, Japan can invest the dollars in America by lending them back to us, helping us to expand and modernize our economy. Eventually, of course, we will have to send dollars back to Japan to repay the loan and interest. But then Japan to repay the loan and interest. But then Japan will either have to buy even more American products or re-lend us even more money.

Third, Japan can use the dollars, not to purchase now from America, and not to invest now and purchase later from America, but to paper the walls of its houses. In this case, America has gotten Toyotas and VCRs in return for green wallpaper that costs almost nothing for us to produce, quite a good deal for us.

(There is, of course, a fourth possibility: Japan could use the dollars to buy from or invest in a third country. But then, that country would be in the same position Japan was in and would have the same three options Japan had.)

Japan won’t choose the third option, so it will either purchase from America now or invest in America and purchase from us later. Trade is always in balance if one includes investments as well as product purchases. And it is always in balance in the long run if one counts product purchases and not investments.

So much for the bogey of the balance of trade. Well, what about competition from low-paid workers overseas? Isn’t that unfair to our workers, and doesn’t it harm us as a nation?

The politicians tell us that an American worker making $10 an hour cannot be expected to compete with a Guatemalan worker making $2 an hour. The story obviously has a surface plausibility, but it is ultimately a mischievous half-truth. What is absurdly missing from the politicians’ story is any explanation for why American wage rates are so much higher (in dollar terms and, more importantly, in terms of what real goods those dollars can buy) than those of other nations. To listen to the politicians, one would think that high wage rates simply dropped out of the sky but have fortunately dropped more in the United States than in Guatemala. But to tell the true story of American wage advantages would completely undermine the persuasiveness of the protectionist rhetoric.

American wage rates are higher because of the dynamism and competitive character of the American economy. For two centuries, the economy has witnessed thousands of disruptive changes in products and productive methods. Every change has come at the expense of some class of workers, but the benefits of that change have incurred to workers as a whole, and, as an aggregate matter, have greatly exceeded the costs. The development of an American automobile industry was terrible news for trained blacksmiths. However, the new industry provided not only jobs for auto workers but also increased real wages for all workers, by increasing the level of transportation services they could procure with a given number of dollars. The automobile industry in turn was hurt by foreign imports, but American workers as a whole received enormous benefits from the resulting competition not only in terms of well-made foreign cars, but in greatly improved American cars made necessary by the competition.

American workers can have $10 or higher wage rates (and the real standard of living they signify) only because they are producing in the high-productivity industries in competitive struggles. It is painful to watch the Southern textile firms bemoaning foreign competition after realizing that their prosperity is entirely owed to the fact that the government did not protect Northern textile mills from their competition.

American workers as a whole cannot preserve or enhance their prosperity by promoting industries in which Americans have no substantial productivity advantage over other workers. That is the path of decline, ironically the very fortress mentality that has so often made poor countries poor. Future American prosperity can only be earned in the same way that past real wage rates have been earned. We must, as a matter of principle, resist the siren songs of those who, in a well-meaning desire to protect people from transitional pain, would block the movement to the higher productivity future that alone can make future American workers the envy of the world.
USD to honor alumni leaders

San Diego

The University of San Diego will honor five leaders in education, science, business and medicine at its second annual Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Awards to alumni.

Named for the longtime USD president who retired last year, the awards will be presented during a dinner at the San Diego Hilton on April 29.

The honorees are:

- Dr. M. Elizabeth Hirst Bruns, an expert in endocrinology at the University of Virginia and a 1966 graduate of USD's College of Arts and Sciences.
- Sister Sally M. Furay, who will retire this year as USD's provost and academic vice president. She earned a law degree in 1989.
- Mary B. Middleton, associate director of hospital and clinics and director of patient care services at UCSD Medical Center. She earned degrees from the School of Nursing in 1980 and 1983.
- Bertha Pendleton, superintendent of the San Diego Unified School District and a 1989 graduate of the School of Education.
- Joseph J. Schmidt, vice chairman of Schmidt-Cannon International, a retail promotions company with offices in Canada and Hong Kong. He is a 1980 graduate of the School of Business Administration.
Women thrive in financial careers

Peg Eddy is a certified financial planner who has run Creative Capital Management with her husband, Robert, for the past 20 years. She is also the founder of the San Diego chapter of the Association of Women Business Owners and co-founder of the Family Business Institute at the University of San Diego. Though she can hold her own when crunching numbers, Eddy says her strength lies in her people skills. “Women tend to still be the nurturers in our society,” she says. “Some clients call me ‘Mother Eddy.’”

Eddy offers new clients the option of dealing with her or her husband, but says her gender has almost never been an issue. Indeed, women advisers say they rarely, if ever, encounter discrimination from employers or clients.

Taylor can recall only one time her gender might have made a difference, when she was working on Wall Street and went to visit prospective clients: “I remember going to Texas nine months pregnant in a bright pink suit and thinking, ‘There’s no way I’m getting this money.’”

But being a woman and nurturers in our society, they sometimes attract women clients who don’t feel comfortable with male advisers.

However, women advisers themselves say gender should not be the overriding factor in making the selection — competency should. But how, in a society where women often feel intimidated by math and finances, did these successful advisers gain their competence?

Typically, from their early childhood experiences.

Sinclair, who has an MBA in finance and a master’s degree in financial and tax planning and runs her own firm, Arcadia Financial, says her parents entrusted money to her at an early age because she showed great responsibility. “I saw early on how you could use money to save for certain goals,” says Sinclair. “I saved my allowance, my birthday and Christmas money. I actually bought a horse for $350 when I was in sixth grade.”

Candace Bahr, an investment executive and the only woman in her 15-person office at PaineWebber in Carlsbad, grew up in a blue-collar Milwaukee family, the daughter of a cabinetmaker. Though her father’s income was modest, she says, “he would buy stock. He would point stuff out in the newspaper. He’d say, ‘Someday you should do this.’”

Not only has Bahr made investing her career for the past 15 years, she has helped other women get started. Six years ago, she and financial planner Ginita Wall founded the Women’s Institute for Financial Education, which publishes a newsletter and hosts a series of educational forums (call 619-736-1660 for more information).
Marlo Stil is a San Diego certified financial planner who last year became the first woman ever to sell more investment products for Massachusetts Mutual than any of the firm's other 4,000 associates. She was motivated to enter the field after seeing the financial hardships her divorced parents face.

"I understand the fear of financial insecurity," she says. "I have been driven by the 'bag-lady' syndrome. My response was to get proactive instead of burying my head."

Financial advisers say women are waking up to the need to assume responsibility for themselves. They no longer expect that a man, or what Eddy calls "a knight on a white horse," will provide for them all their lives.

"Let's face it," says Eddy, "Cinderella doesn't live here anymore.

Once they're introduced to finance, women often make excellent money managers and investors, experts say.

"Women typically want and need more financial education," says Stil. "By the time they do get around to making decisions, they're informed decisions. Women are pretty organized. They don't get sidetracked. Because they're long-term investors, they don't worry about the ups and the downs in the market."

The math involved in investing — or in being an investment adviser — is not as difficult as most women fear, says Warschauer. "The truth is, it's a technical field, but it's not a mathematical field," he says. "This is not the kind of math that's going to hold back their careers."

Warschauer says he has no hesitation encouraging women to become financial planners, because there are few barriers.

"Performance is very easily measured," he says. "You're either successful or you're not. Women have not been held back in any significant way."
A case for raising the minimum wage

By GEORGE J. BRYJAK and JOHN CHRISTIANSON

Talk, as the saying goes, is cheap, and this is especially true when the talk turns to "family values." As political campaigns move into high gear, this phrase will resonate across the nation as politicians attempt to out "family value" each other. Unfortunately, espousing one's unswerving support for lowering one of the world's highest divorce rates, decreasing out-of-wedlock teenage pregnancies, reducing domestic violence and muttering the political will to bring about these changes are two entirely different matters.

Consider the relationship between low-paying, minimum-wage jobs and divorce. Almost 40 percent of minimum-wage employees are the sole providers in their families, and another 35 percent are one of two family workers.

Rates of marital dissolution in this country have always been highest in the lower class, and family breakups in this stratum would be even more numerous if desires were counted. Untold thousands of people too impoverished to afford a formal termination of their marriages simply pack up and leave spouses and children every year.

Today's minimum-wage job ($4.25 a year, $17,000 annually if both spouses work for these wages) means almost never-ending frustrations and arguments over how to spend one's meager income.

What bills are to be paid first, which child will get shoes this month? If the family's economic needs are met, there is little, if any, money remaining for even the most modest forms of entertainment and relaxation.

Extended periods of marginal economic existence can lead to divorce, as individuals decide it is financially easier to live alone or find a new marriage partner with greater earning potential. Research suggests that the more dissatisfied a woman is with her husband's occupational achievement, the greater the likelihood that the marriage will fail.

Over 30 years ago, sociologist Mira Komarovsky reported in "Blue Collar Marriage," that wives' feelings of deprivation and anxiety from the poorness of these marriages often led to severe criticism of their husbands. This, in turn, produced feelings of frustration and anxiety in the husbands.

Komarovsky noted that "not many men can handle these destructive emotions without further painful consequences such as drinking, violence, irritability, increased sensitivity to criticism and withdrawal."

Data clearly indicate that the economic well-being of today's lower class has significantly deteriorated since the Komarovsky study. In 1950, the minimum wage was 59 percent of the average American wage; by 1980, it had declined to 48 percent. By 1994, the minimum-wage earner took home only 38 percent of the salary of the average worker in this country.

A shrinking (in terms of buying power) minimum wage has also contributed to the explosion of single-parent families, a significant number of which are headed by poor, black women. Anecdotal evidence suggests that many of these women choose to remain unmarried rather than worry a man with limited earning potential.

One recent study concluded that 34 percent of white males between the ages of 20 and 34, and 56 percent of black men the same age, did not earn enough money to marry and start families. According to a report by the Economic Policy Institute, the most direct beneficiaries of a higher minimum wage would be women and minority men.

Against this backdrop, it is difficult to comprehend why a proposal to raise the minimum wage from $4.25 to $5.15 an hour (a modest increase) has met with such a torrent of opposition. Much of this hostility comes from those same individuals who pontificate about family values. One politician even boldly proclaimed that he would fight any increase in the minimum wage with "every fiber in my body."

The best empirical investigation of the minimum wage was commissioned by Alan B. Krueger, a former member of the Federal Reserve Board, have argued that the primary impact of an increase in the minimum wage would be "...a restriction of their (unskilled workers) employment opportunities." Is this true? Will there be a significant loss of jobs for the working poor?

The most prosperous 20 percent of the population (about 50 million individuals) accounted for 98.7 percent of the increase in the minimum wage from $4.25 to $5.15 an hour.

Opposing an increase in the minimum wage in the name of fighting inflation is nothing short of blantant hypocrisy. A recent study in the New York Times reported that the most prosperous 20 percent of this economic growth had been viewed as inflationary and, therefore, undesirable.

One could argue that raising the minimum wage is a step toward recouping some hope for the future that had been lost in 1979.

Increased earnings that better enable people in the lower class to pay their bills, put each dollar in the bank and give them some hope for the future would go a long way toward stabilizing marriages in this segment of society.

If those politicians championing domestic values sincerely want to strengthen the American family, they could find no better place to start than the long overdue increase in the minimum wage from $4.25 to $5.15 an hour.
The paper chase

The USD Law School student newspaper, “Motions,” is raising administration hackles again. This month’s issue wasn’t submitted for administrative review 48 hours before publication, as required. And new editor Fred Hagen was reminded by the faculty adviser that student stipends and campus office space are at risk. Former editor Belinda E. Rachman thinks articles critical of the Law School dean and new grading policies have tweaked administrative noses. The dean, Kristine Strachan, says, “I don’t want to put them out of business . . . but I think it’s time to go to the woodshed.” She says she doesn’t police content. “I just look for obscenity, libel or things that will subject the university to liability.”
Brave Taffy wins salute in granite memorial

Upbeat economic reviews for California continue in London's authoritative Economist. This week we're the state "that beat dystopia." Dystopia was those recession years, you will surely recall, when California was not utopia. . . . Dr. Alice B. Hayes, president of the University of San Diego, was warmly welcomed as speaker at the Rotary Club of San Diego. She was not shy in correcting the podium: Her institution is not UCSD. . . .
USD's Snyder to head International Sports Council

The San Diego International Sports Council has named Ky Snyder as its new executive director.

Snyder, who is the director of athletic development at USD, will assume his duties May 1.

At USD, Snyder has established the Torero Athletic Association, created the Athletic Hall of Fame and increased corporate sponsorship.

"Ky's energy and vision will lead us to a new level of success," Sandy Purdon, president of the council, said in a statement. "He brings proven talents in the sports industry to our organization."

Formed in 1960 as the Greater San Diego Sports Association, the International Sports Council promotes sporting events and activities in the San Diego/Tijuana region. The council has a membership of more than 500 business, professional and civic leaders.

Snyder graduated from San Diego State with a bachelor's degree in marketing. He played football at SDSU and remains active in the Aztec Athletic Foundation and SDSU Varsity Club.
A class project; a classy success

Students learned enough to market educational games

By ROD RIGGS
Staff Writer

Planted as a class assignment and fed by student energy, Freetime has flowered into a business with real profits to harvest — from more than 300 locations across the country.

Less than a year ago, founders Hans Bergman and Brian Tompkins met as graduate students at the University of San Diego.

The Freetime seed germinated in a class in entrepreneurship. Bergman developed a business plan for a company that would produce a card game he designed. The instructor, Dr. William R. Soukup, encouraged him to enter the plan in national competition.

"Although he didn't go forward with the competition, I encouraged him because I thought the project had real possibilities," said Soukup, who teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in entrepreneurship.

"Hans has an essential — passionate interest," Soukup said. "He got out and left a lot of shoe leather on the pavement, talking to suppliers and retailers. He has done a marvelous job of carrying out the project, making mistakes, but recovering from them."

Bergman met his partner only after Tompkins put out a notice to students in entrepreneurial studies that he was willing to invest capital and time to develop a concept.

"I got a lot of responses, met Hans and we played the game together at Carlos Murphy's," Tompkins said. In the game, Flux Wild Animals, players compete on the basis of five animal characteristics — size, maximum speed, weight, life span and danger level.

"Flux" is Swedish for luck, explains Bergman, a native of Sweden. Freetime was chosen as the business name because the partners see it as providing a way for children to learn while playing in their free time.

Impressed by Bergman's handmade model, Tompkins agreed to put up his savings for venture capital while Bergman developed a prototype.

Soukup says the entrepreneurs made meticulous preparations, even to specific dimensions and other specifications for the cards.

Games maker: Hans Bergman of Freetime at work in his office. In the foreground, samples of Flux Sea Creatures, one of his company's card games.

"I would like to believe the course helped," he said, adding that Bergman "had to go through all of the steps because it was for the course, but did it very carefully and realistically."

"I didn't know a thing," Bergman admits. "I researched data from the Encyclopedia of Animals and got aggressiveness ratings by asking zoologists and teachers." And some of the animal photos were taken by Tompkins' parents on safari.

Bergman tested response to a prototype black-and-white version by hanging around outside a Toys R Us store and asking passers-by, "Would you buy this?"

The response encouraged the entrepreneurs. For $25,000, they got 20,000 full-color versions of the game, 900 display boxes, mailers and promotional material. They bought used computers and a used...
fax machine, "and at that point, we could accept orders," Tompkins said.

In May 1995, Bergman began calling on retail toy stores. He closed sales at 19 of the first 22 stops and decided, "if the buyer has a child, we'll get in the store."

Half of the first production was sold by July. Next, Freetime got sales representation in the Western states from a Los Angeles organization, then found other reps for Eastern states. The game was exhibited at toy industry shows in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Flax Wild Animals and a second game, Flax Sea Creatures, can be found at 320 locations in 41 states, Tompkins said.

That's not only toy stores, but drug stores, "anywhere parents shop, even a car wash," he said. "We're working on children's hospitals, gift shops in airports and train stations and cruise ships," Bergman said.

The games retail for about $5 each. Sales since July total $48,000 and are expected to reach $200,000 for 1996.

Sales are expected to reach $200,000 for 1996.

The partners are an unlikely combination.

Bergman, 27, is a self-described dreamer who "sometimes can't sleep and comes up with these ideas." After coming to the United States from Sweden, he went to Grand Canyon University in Phoenix on a golf scholarship, got a degree in marketing and came to San Diego "because my brother is here and I missed the ocean."

Tompkins, 29, the administrator, capital-raiser and bill-payer, is from the Bay Area and has a marketing degree from University of the Pacific.

He met Bergman's brother during a summer abroad at Oxford University in England and was working in a bank here while taking MBA classes, but gave up his job to work full time with Freetime.

They are the company's only employees, though they get part-time help from friends. "In the last few weeks, we have been working long hours because we have had a lot of back orders. We just shipped about 150 boxes ourselves," Tompkins said.

However, the entrepreneurs try to outsource as much work as possible by contracting with other companies for production, assembly, packaging, shipping and order filling.

In December, Freetime was incorporated and the partners sold 20 percent of the company to raise money for new products.

Freetime's next game "Fraction Action," is designed to teach fractions and percentages. A "Flax Dinosaurs" card game is set for introduction in May.
Universities Scout For Students On Internet

By WILLIAM McCALL

Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Ore.

Universities are opening electronic doors to prospective students, inviting them to "tour" their Internet campuses no matter how far away they live.

"Students can apply from any part of the globe and take a walking tour of the university by computer," says Joel Stitzel, a computer specialist at the University of Minnesota.

"Instead of having a huge inventory of brochures from colleges, you can actually 'visit' them," Stitzel adds. "I think this will change the way students approach admissions."

The University of Oregon was one of the first to provide admissions information on the World Wide Web, allowing prospective students to cruise through course offerings, faculty publications and a wealth of information about campus life listed on its electronic home page.

"I was talking recently to families in a very rural, hard-to-reach area on the Oregon coast who were using this as a very important tool," says Martha Pitts, Oregon's admissions director. "But that's always been the real beauty of this technology. It allows people to gain access to a whole new world of information no matter where they live."

Clay Hollingsworth, one student who went online to apply to graduate school this fall, says Oregon's home page streamlined the process for him and made it easy to "visit" the Pacific Northwest campus from his home in Denton, Texas.

"I do a lot of Internet surfing and they're one of the few colleges that have it, I've found," Hollingsworth says. "It's the greatest thing that's happened for a student like me."

Penn State University has a goal of processing at least 80 percent of its applications electronically by the year 2000. The 22-campus university system now receives about 50,000 applications a year.

Penn State President Graham Spanier has been a national leader in getting college applications onto the web.

"He's set the standard for all of us," says Steve Mostert, the university's communications director.

Mostert describes a recent staff meeting where he learned that Spanier had received an application query by e-mail that morning, responded to the prospective student electronically, forwarded the query to admissions and received a reply confirming the student had an answer — all in less than half a day. The same process by mail would have taken weeks.

Penn State students can even take a virtual tour of Spanier's office, using a computer mouse to click on paintings hanging on the walls to get information about the artists.

"We're really setting ourselves up to join the electronic world," Mostert says. "That's where everybody's moving."

Like the University of Minnesota, Oregon and Penn State plan to have the entire applications process online soon, so students can complete forms, participate in e-mail interviews and even send tuition payments on the Internet, in addition to touring the campus electronically.

But J.Q. Johnson, an Oregon researcher who coordinates the school's admissions project, says the change will be gradual because many families still lack computers. Parents and students without Internet access will have to take the traditional approach — printed brochures, paper mail, college recruiters and an actual tour — instead of a virtual tour.

"It's certainly not going to replace all that anytime soon," Johnson says. "The Internet may be faster, but it's not the only way to get to school."
San Diego's most venerable rowing institution was also the area's top performer at the Joe Jessop San Diego Crew Classic yesterday.

Eights from the San Diego Rowing Club won two events and the club joined forces with the Long Beach Rowing Association to win the men's open eights.

San Diego RC crews won the handicapped men's club eights and the master's C races.

Mary Nelson coxed both complete SDRC teams, while Glenn Schweighart and Kurt Bausback rowed in both boats. The club eight had senior nationals champion Alfred Czemer in the bow and included Dustan Bonnin, Matt Sargent, Chris Gooding, Dave Weigel and Mike Filippone.

The master's C eight included Bill Byrd, Fred Schock, Bruce Beall, Mark Norelius, Rick Lopez and Jim Brinsfield.

Other local results:
- San Diego State finished fourth in the men's Cal Cup, sixth in the women's Cal Cup and fifth in the women's lightweight eights.
- Eosophobic Boat Club finished fourth in the women's open and club eights and second in the women's master's B.
- USD won the consolation finals of the Cal Cup men's eights.
- ZLAC finished second in the women's junior JV consolation finals and seventh in the club eights.
- UCSD finished fifth in the women's novice B.

Olympic exhibition

Among the highlights yesterday was an exhibition by the U.S. men's national crew headquartered at the ARCO Training Center on Lower Otay Reservoir.

The U.S. eight, which won the World Championships in 1994, rowed the 2,000-meter Mission Bay course in 6:01.5 in an exhibition race against Canada.

"We're not looking at times right now," said Jon Brown, stroke of the U.S. eight. "It's our first race together. We're looking to set a basic strategy that we can build on."

Also rowing yesterday were six boats representing the U.S. canoe and kayak team headed for this summer's Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Expanding borders

The Cal Cup races were originally designed to feature the top California crews unable to qualify for the featured men's Copley Cup and women's Whittier Cup. Yesterday, Columbia won the men's Cal Cup and Oregon State the women's Cal Cup.

Second in the men's Cal Cup was Washington State followed by Gonzaga. The first California crew: San Diego State in fourth. UC Davis was third in the women's Cal Cup.