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Darts & Laurels

♦ DART to U.S. News & World Report, for flunking the course in elementary principles of journalism research. The March 18 cover story, a “News You Can Use” ranking of “America’s Best Graduate Schools” in such fields as law, business, medicine, engineering — and, not incidentally, journalism — was a study in dubious data. In an instructive letter to the editor published in the magazine’s April 1 issue, Ted Glasser, director of the graduate journalism program at Stanford, and Tom Goldstein, dean of the Graduate School of Journalism at Berkeley, scored the madness of the survey’s methods. “Not more than two dozen universities take graduate journalism education seriously, yet you found 170 ‘recognized’ programs. You do not indicate who recognizes them. After we received our ballot” — academics and practitioners were asked to rate the programs on a five-point scale — the authors went on, “we sent away for catalogs. Some no longer offer journalism or mass communications. . . . Others specialize in such distant cousins to journalism as speech.” Another point: “[You report] that practitioners rate Stanford in the top five in ‘radio/television.’ Stanford does not offer this sequence.” Responding in an accompanying note, the editors indicated that the list of 170 programs had been provided by Professor Lee Becker of Ohio State University, “the leading expert” in such matters, and that the information about Stanford’s programs had come from a “mid-level administrator” there. Becker has since told CJR that his list was not designed to produce — and in fact could never produce — the kind of survey conducted by U.S. News. It also turns out that Stanford’s “mid-level administrator” was a receptionist. (In the interest of full disclosure, it should be noted that Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism — under whose auspices CJR is published — was rated by academics as second in the print category, and seventh in radio/television, while practitioners rated the school as first in both.)
Prof denies he threatened wife

By Anne Krueger
STAFF WRITER

A University of San Diego psychology professor charged with threatening his ex-wife was only venting his anger about his divorce when he used her picture for target practice, his lawyer said yesterday.

Daniel D. Moriarty Jr., 50, was suicidal, but he had no intention of carrying out threats to kill his former wife, schoolteacher Suzanne Bounds, Moriarty’s lawyer, Jerry Utti, told a judge.

Moriarty’s 20-year-old son, Sean, and Bounds testified about the threats Moriarty made in a journal that he gave to his ex-wife, and about a picture of Bounds that Moriarty kept in his garage that read “I miss my wife, but my aim is getting better.”

“They were offensive, irritating, annoying and in bad taste,” Utti said of Moriarty’s actions. “But they certainly were not threats.”

After the testimony and arguments, Moriarty was ordered to stand trial on one felony count of making a terrorist threat. He remains in County Jail in lieu of $500,000 bail.

San Diego Municipal Court Judge Charles Patrick dismissed a second charge related to a journal entry in which Moriarty wrote, “They took my guns away. I’ll get another and kill you and Larkin (Bounds’ new husband).” Patrick said there was no suggestion the threat was immediate, as the law requires for the charge.

Prosecutor Daniel Goldstein said he may file the second threat charge again later.

Sean Moriarty, who lived with his father in their Poway home, testified that Moriarty frequently expressed anger about his August 1995 divorce. He said Moriarty once used a computer picture of his ex-wife during a round of target shooting.

Several months ago, Sean said he was in his father’s bedroom when he saw several bullets on a shelf. Three of the bullets had been marked, he said.

“They had his name on one, my mother’s on another, and Larkin’s name on another,” Sean said.

On June 12, Sean saw a will his father had drawn up just a week before. On one table in his father’s bedroom were three red candles and a dagger on a Bible opened to a page with wedding vows. That concerned him enough that he called sheriff’s deputies. His father, who was chairman of the University of San Diego’s psychology department, was arrested June 14 at Lindbergh Field as he was returning home from a flight.

Sean said he had complained previously to his father about putting his mother’s picture up in the garage. One picture had a bull’s-eye over his mother’s face, with the words “always and forever” at the bottom.

“He said for him it was an emotional release, a way of dealing with anger,” Sean said.

Suzanne Bounds said on the witness stand yesterday that her former husband never threatened her to her face, but she said he left disturbing phone messages and gave her a journal filled with threatening suggestions.

One item in the journal, referring to accusations that O.J. Simpson murdered his ex-wife, said, “He should be given a medal for what he did,” Bounds said.

“It made me very uncomfortable,” Bounds said of the barrage of threats. “It made me afraid.”
Solving the problem of third parties

By Michael B. Rappaport

With the announcement by former Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm that he will seek the Reform Party nomination — and with Ross Perot's own impending candidacy — it appears that the 1996 presidential election will involve a major third-party candidate.

While third-party candidates expand the choices of voters, they also have the potential to undermine the democratic process. Under our presidential-election system, the entry of a third party may result in the election of one candidate, even though a majority of voters would have preferred another candidate.

In presidential elections, the candidate who receives a plurality of the popular vote in a state is entitled to all of the state’s electoral votes. A majority is not required. Under this system, a candidate who is more popular than any other single candidate may still lose in a three-person race.

For example, it is possible that in 1992 President George Bush was more popular than then-Gov. Bill Clinton, but that Bush lost because many people who preferred him to Clinton voted for Perot. This aspect of our electoral system violates democratic principles without promoting any other important values.

The damage that a third-party candidacy can cause under plurality voting is not limited to electing the wrong candidate. If a candidate receives only a plurality, then the public may question how much support he has, even when he would have beaten either of the other candidates in a two-person race. It is quite possible that President Clinton would have won the 1992 election, even if Perot had not run. Clinton has nonetheless borne the stigma of having received only 43 percent of the vote.

Despite these problems of plurality voting, it is often assumed that nothing can be done about it without amending the Constitution. But this view is mistaken. The states could eliminate plurality voting without a constitutional amendment. In fact, progress could be made even before the November election.

The Constitution establishes a two-step process for electing the president. First, each state must select presidential electors, known as the Electoral College.

If no candidate receives a majority of the vote, it is not necessary to hold a separate runoff because the voters have already indicated which of the top two candidates they prefer.

If states wanted to hold a separate runoff shortly after Election Day, even that might be possible. While federal law requires that the Electoral College be chosen on Election Day, it also permits any state that has held an election on that day and “failed to make a choice” to appoint its electors “on a subsequent day in such manner as the legislature may direct.”

Thus, if the initial election does not produce a winner, because no candidate receives a majority, there is a strong argument that federal law authorizes a runoff. Federal courts have approved runoffs under a similar statute for senatorial elections in Georgia.

While every state should be urged to adopt majority voting, this reform is most likely to pass in states where it will benefit the party in control. In 1992, the conventional wisdom was that the Perot candidacy helped Clinton. If polls suggest the Reform Party candidate would help the president again this year, then states controlled by Republicans would have an incentive to employ majority voting.

If the Reform Party candidate would help Bob Dole, then a different group of states might favor majority voting. In either case, the adoption of majority voting by only a few swing states might change the election and help to avoid the appearance of electing a president who has only minority support.

In the long run, though, many states might employ majority voting. While Republicans would benefit from majority voting when Patrick Buchanan runs as a third-party candidate, Democrats would benefit from it when Jesse Jackson does. Thus, each major party has an incentive to support majority voting to promote the legitimacy of the electoral system.
Partners fined $600,000 for rigging bids

By Bill Callahan, STAFF WRITER

A Pacific Beach businessman and a New Mexico contractor agreed to pay a record criminal fine of $600,000 to the county yesterday for rigging contract bids against a developer, Hahn Co.

Consumer advocates said the massive fine imposed on local consultant Thomas Sytko, 56, and former Republican presidential adviser Fernando DeBaca, 58, of Albuquerque, breaks new legal ground by significantly upping the ante for white-collar crimes prosecuted in state courts.

In a plea bargain with San Diego prosecutors, both men admitted violating state anti-trust laws. Several other charges stemming from the scheme against Hahn — the University City-based developer of such shopping centers as Fashion Valley and Horton Plaza — were dropped in exchange for the guilty pleas.

The $600,000 fine is the largest criminal sanction ever imposed in state courts, said Robert Fellmeth, founder of the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego School of Law.

"This is a very remarkable result because usually such cases have been treated very softly," Fellmeth said. "It sends out a message to the business community that the law is the law and it's going to cost you a lot more than you gained if you engage in anti-trust violations."

Typically, white-collar criminals and corporations are required to pay for what they stole, but they are only slapped on the wrist with token fines, Fellmeth said.

A former prosecutor, Fellmeth wrote the 1976 state legislation that boosted the maximum fines for anti-trust offenses from $10,000 to $1 million.

The new law brought state penalties closer to those imposed in federal court. Fines of over $1 million are not uncommon in the federal system. In 1992, for example, San Diego-based National Health Laboratories paid $111 million in fines and penalties for overbilling federally insured health programs.

However, state prosecutors usually lack the resources of their federal counterparts and rarely have been able to devote the time and effort to win such cases, Fellmeth said.

"This is the first time that any fine has come anywhere close to the high six figures," he said. "The local District Attorney's Office has set an important precedent."

In San Diego Municipal Court yesterday, prosecutor David Stutz detailed the bid-rigging scam in which Sytko and DeBaca conspired to steal at least $310,000 from Hahn Co.

Sytko worked as a consultant for Hahn between 1991 and 1994 and arranged what was supposed to be competitive bidding for the removal of asbestos at Los Cerritos Mall in Orange County and the Coronado Center in Albuquerque, according to the charges.

At the same time, he was in business with DeBaca, a longtime Republican Party activist who once served as an adviser on minority affairs to Presidents Nixon and Ford. Sytko arranged the bidding so DeBaca would win inflated contracts in return for kickbacks, Stutz said.

There were no allegations of bid-rigging in connection with San Diego County shopping centers developed by Hahn.

Local prosecutors began investigating after Sytko and DeBaca had a falling-out and sued each other, publicly airing charges and countercharges in court documents.

Judge H. Ronald Domnitz scheduled sentencing for Nov. 6 and indicated that Sytko and DeBaca proba-
bly will be placed on probation. They also could be prohibited from operating their businesses in California.

Domnitz also noted that both men still are liable for the financial loss suffered by Hahn Co., which has sued them for damages.

DeBaca and Sytko also agreed to pay $25,000 each in civil penalties in New Mexico to resolve an investigation there into the case, Albuquerque lawyer Charles Daniels told the judge.

Fellmeth, who was not involved in the local case, said the anti-trust law under which Sytko and DeBaca were convicted directs such fines to the county’s general fund.

Technically, Sytko must pay $250,000 out of his own pocket and $200,000 through Asbestos Environmental Consultants Inc., a firm he owns in Nevada. DeBaca must pay $150,000.

“Every penny that Mr. Sytko has is going to the district attorney as a criminal fine,” Sytko’s lawyer, Juanita Brooks, told the judge.

She said after the hearing that Sytko “has been wiped out by this.” Much of Sytko’s fine already is in county accounts.

Stutz said $340,000 seized from Sytko’s stock portfolio during the investigation was transferred to the county last month and counts toward the fine. The county earned another $30,000 from the money because the stock market climbed while the case was being negotiated, Stutz said.

Under terms of the plea bargain, the county also will take over Sytko’s half-interest in a Sorrento Valley company that is marketing an emergency rescue device that fires a line and harness from a backpack. Stutz said Sytko invested nearly $400,000 in the company.
Remembering the man who was Stardust


Tebbetts: "When Frank Alesio died, Chet took over as president. That was a natural, because he had been the vice president. And he was an insurance man, so he could sell at the club just as well as at his office in North Park. "I used to say Frank lit up a room when he entered it; Chet did the same."

Crandall: "Chet was Mr. Stardust. Stardust wasn't an equity club, but we wouldn't take a back seat to any equity club."

Tebbetts: "It was tough being the president of a club at a resort hotel; there were conflicts for the amount of play, tee time priorities, the usual things. Chet was very sensitive to the rights of the owners, but the rights of his members came first."

Earp: "I respected him, but oh, we butted heads. He could be tough. It was my job to promote the facility and Chet guarded that membership like it was his own. It felt like an equity club even though it wasn't."

Crandall: "Bob didn't really catch Chet in his heyday. He could really light into some of those general managers."

Goodman: "Stardust wasn't a democratic society. (Owner) Paul Handlery told Chet he was president and that was it. Every once in a while members would say, 'Let's have a meeting, let's take a vote,' but we didn't have votes. We had Chet."

"There was a board of directors, that Chet appointed, and every once in a while we'd have meetings, but he'd get stubborn. Everything that happened at the club, changes made on the course, tee prizes in the member-guest tournament, club rules, everything went through Chet. "Ha, ha, if he wanted a new shirt, we got new shirts in the member-guest packages. But he was a good man, a good friend."

A leader and a donor

Burke: "Twenty years ago when we were exploring ways to move into Division I athletics, Chet suggested we stage a fund-raising banquet and agreed to be the chairman. His efforts had a direct effect on our ability to make that jump."

Ringer: "Chet was one of the forgers of our Chapter. Without him and a few others, it wouldn't be here."

Coupee: "A lot of people got helped by Chet and didn't even know about it. It seemed like every time I got roped into helping some organization he'd send along a check for $100."

Burke: "We used to have our Sports Banquet at the Town and Country. At one planning meeting, John Brolini, who was negotiating for us, said the hotel was going to charge $100 for a microphone. All Chet said was, 'I didn't hear that,' which meant Brolini was to go back and tell them we weren't paying $100 for that microphone."

Ringer: "Chet put on our first golf tournament and next month we're having our 20th. He was a member of our board for almost 25 years and we're now the third or fourth-largest chapter in the country."

Morgan: "Chet organized a tribute to Scott Simpson at Stardust after Scott won the U.S. Open in 1987. Fifteen minutes before it started, Chet told me his emcee had canceled, and I did the job. Chet gave me some more background and we pulled it off without a hitch."

"It was a a case of, 'The dinner turned out great but you didn't want to know what went on in the kitchen.' But that was Chet, a man who could get things done."

Tebbetts: "You could talk him out of any situation if he thought he might be wrong, but if he knew he was right you had to take a step back."

Coupee: "Over the course of a lifetime you make 100 friends, but only three or four are really deep-seated. Pagni was that way with me, and I'm sure with a lot of other people."

Burke: "I'm telling you, he's selling sports banquet tickets in heaven right now."

Crandall: "Chet was president through the glory days at Stardust and had a lot to do with our success in this era. I wish we could turn the clock back, but like Chester, you only get one shot at it."
USD indicators rising

The University of San Diego's Index of Leading Indicators rose 0.2 percent in May for the 14th monthly increase in a row.

The gain was led by a sharp rise in local stock prices and smaller gains in building permits, tourism and the outlook for the national economy.

One potential problem area is the labor market, although "the outlook for the San Diego economy remains positive, at least through the beginning of 1997," said Professor Alan Gin, who compiles the index.

On the downside, there was a sharp increase in initial claims for unemployment insurance, which resulted in a strong negative influence. Help-wanted advertising fell slightly.
Filipinos bridge cultural gaps at USD conference

Event aims at stronger ties for youths, parents

By Pham-Duy Nguyen

Until yesterday, 19-year-old Sara San Juan had never hung out with Filipino friends.

“I don’t kick back with a lot of Filipinos,” San Juan said.

Yesterday, San Juan got a chance to meet about 180 Filipino-American youths at the Kabataan Pinoy Pride Conference. The one-day event at the University of San Diego was aimed at bridging cultural and generational gaps between Filipino youths and their parents.

Joel San Juan had brought his niece, Sara, to the conference for her first real exposure to the Filipino community.

“I wanted her to touch base with her Filipino heritage,” he said. “It’s important to get an opportunity to talk to each other and share experiences, to see your culture not as a hindrance, (but) to see it as an asset,” he said.

Sara San Juan wished her 14-year-old brother, Erik, had come along, too, for the cultural introduction.

“He’s proud of his roots but my parents wanted to assimilate us into the white culture and forget who we are,” said the Vista resident. Both her parents are Filipinos, but her mother is remarried to a Caucasian, San Juan said.

Previous generations of Filipino immigrants tended to hurry their children into the mainstream and place less emphasis on cultural identity, said parent and organizer Juanita Nacu.

But events like Kabataan Pinoy (which means “Filipino youth” in Tagalog) signal a new awareness among the older and younger generations, Nacu said.

“The younger generations are more aware of their roots and the older generations are beginning to become role models,” said Nacu, a doctoral candidate in education at the University of San Diego.

Nacu said the idea for the conference grew out of concern for her children. The conference for 7th- to 12th-graders was organized by high school students, and college students served as advisers.

Funding was provided by the Asian and Pacific-Islander Tobacco Education Network and the Southern Coast Regional Board.

For Mary Grace Almandrez, president of USD’s Filipino Ugayan (which means “to link” in Tagalog) Student Organization, bringing together Filipino youth attracted her to the project. Her grandmother’s gift for sharing stories inspired her to share her own experiences of how she coped with her parents.

“I see a lot of parents practically give up,” said Almandrez, 20, who has worked on Project Heart to Heart, a group that brings parents and children together every few months to air out the issues and reach understandings. “We need to communicate and compromise,” she said.

Before attending Heart to Heart and working on the Kabataan Pinoy Pride Conference Committee, Anna Repato, 16, couldn’t talk to her parents. “Right now, I’m starting to talk to them,” she said.

Anna is constantly trying to do the right thing because she is the oldest of three children. “I feel like I’m the one who has to set the boundaries, I’m the guinea pig,” she said.

But Anna has found others at the conference who share similar stresses. The conference taught her she’s not alone, she said.

Joel San Juan said parents need a conference, too. Since children are growing up in a very different social environment than their parents, parents need to be open-minded and supportive, he said.

When she arrived at the conference, Sara San Juan said the Filipino-American experience seemed alien to her. Near the end, however, she said she realized that the Filipino community is like a big family.

Pham-Duy Nguyen is an intern for the Union-Tribune.
More Economic Growth Predicted
USD’s May Index Shows Continued S.D. Gains

By WILL BEALL
Daily Transcript Staff Writer

San Diego’s economy will show continued growth for the rest of 1996, according to the University of San Diego’s Index of Leading Economic Indicators for San Diego County.

With May’s overall gain of 0.2 percent, the index has now increased for 14 months in a row, leaving the outlook for San Diego’s economy positive through early 1997.

“These have been pretty good years,” said Alan Gin, professor of economics at USD’s School of Business Administration. “We’ve seen net job growth in 1995, and I think we’ll see it again in ’96. The pace of economic activity is going along pretty well.”

The May gain was led by a sharp 1.5 percent rise in local stock prices as well as gains in building permits, tourism and the outlook of the national economy, according to the index. Gin said these indicators are valuable because they provide a window into the economy’s near future.

“We look for local variables that lead the economy,” Gin said. “For instance, when we see an increase in building permits, we will see an improvement in the economy when those buildings are completed months down the line.”

Gin’s overall forecast for the San Diego economy is good. However, the index cited the labor market as one potential problem with San Diego’s economy.

A sharp increase in claims for unemployment insurance was recorded in May. According to Gin, this increase affected a strong negative influence on the index.

“That increase is in initial claims for unemployment insurance is an indication that there continue to be job losses here in San Diego,” Gin said. “We’ve been saying that for months.”

The index said monthly hiring, as measured by help-wanted advertising, seemed to have reached a plateau with a May increase of just 0.03 percent.

“We’re not getting much help from the other side of the job market,” Gin said. “We don’t see a pick-up in hiring. That’s not to say there won’t be a pick-up in hiring. The signs just don’t point that way.”

According to Gin, the sluggish growth of the San Diego labor market is a long-term problem with long-term solutions.

“The big problem that we face here is that we lack the diversified manufacturing base of the rest of the country and state,” Gin said. “We don’t have the transportation infrastructure to develop a diversified manufacturing base.”

Gin said manufacturers in this global economy must be able to ship their goods with expediency.

“We just don’t have that transportation capability,” Gin said. “That’s why it’s difficult to attract more manufacturing.”

The rest of California is doing well with manufacturing exports, the entertainment industry, and high technology, according to Gin.

“San Diego has some of that, but to the same extent,” Gin said. “We don’t get as many benefits from an upward moving economy as other regions.”

According to Gin, the return of an east-bound rail line out of San Diego would alleviate this transportation problem. Improvements to Lindbergh Field would also help, but Gin said that prospect is bleak after Tuesday’s City Council decision favoring construction of a Public Safety Facility over expansion of the airport on the site of the old Naval Training Center.

“I’m disappointed with the action of the City Council,” Gin said. “Anything they could have done to help the airport would have helped our economic situation.”
National, local economic news is upbeat

Another gain logged by San Diego index

By Uri Berliner
STAFF WRITER

An index that tracks San Diego's economic performance rose in May for the 14th consecutive month, but warnings about the local job market tempered optimism about the survey.

"There's been an uptick in initial claims for unemployment," said economist Alan Gin, who compiles the monthly index for the University of San Diego. "That indicates to me we're still seeing job losses and downsizing by local companies."

Gin predicts San Diego will gain jobs in 1996 — with payrolls growing by about 1.5 percent — but the pace will lag behind a more robust statewide recovery.

"We just don't have the manufacturing base to take advantage of this recovery and truly prosper from the growing demand for exports," he said.

Last week, Stuart Eizenstat, Commerce Department undersecretary for international trade, echoed the same sentiment about exports on a visit to the city. A city of San Diego's size should be shipping more goods overseas, he said, encouraging the region to exploit its potential for growth.

Overall, the USD index climbed 0.2 percent in May, led by strong gains in local stock prices and more modest increases in tourism and building permits. On the downside, initial claims for unemployment spiked up sharply and help-wanted ads fell a bit.

The San Diego index, which seeks to forecast economic activity six months to a year in the future, remains positive, "at least through the beginning of 1997." But stocks, which buoyed the index much of the past year, have taken a beating since June.

A cross-section of local stocks in the San Diego Stock Report has tumbled about 12 percent since peaking June 5. And the key biotechnology sector, after months of dramatic gains, has tumbled nearly 30 percent.

Those declines may ultimately be felt in workaday San Diego, said Gin.

"It might hurt the confidence of employees and shareholders of these companies. And if people's wealth is affected adversely, they could become reluctant to buy big-ticket items," he said.

But San Diego will swell with visitors and national exposure next month when the Republicans hold their national convention.

"Obviously, that's going to give us a boost to tourism," said Gin. "But there will also be spillover effects that last well into the future."
Chester C. Pagni; strong amateur sports backer

Chester C. Pagni, a pillar in San Diego's amateur sports community who was president of Stardust Country Club in Mission Valley for 27 years, died yesterday in his San Diego home.

Mr. Pagni, 85, died of complications from emphysema.

As founder and longtime chairman of the University of San Diego's annual sports banquet, he raised more than $1.5 million for the school's athletic program from 1978 to 1992.

His contributions earned him a charter membership, along with former basketball coach Bernie Bickerstaff and baseball standout John Wathan, in USD's Athletic Hall of Fame at its November 1994 opening.

"Chet was the godfather of athletic fund-raising here," said Tom Burke, USD's vice president for student affairs. "He was a dream of a volunteer. You can live a lifetime and not find someone who was as thorough on a project as he was.

"We made him an honorary alumnus of USD and named a student volunteer award after him while he was alive," Burke said.

An avid golfer whose handicap was once as low as 8, Mr. Pagni was a charter member of Stardust Country Club. He was president of the club, which at one time num-

bered 750 members, until 1994, when the course was opened to the public and became Handlery Golf Club.

His fondest memory at Stardust, Mr. Pagni told The San Diego Union-Tribune in 1993, was winning the San Diego Open Pro-Am with Kermit Zarley in 1967.

"I also remember things like Sam Snead playing saxophone and the Hebert brothers (Jay and Lionel) playing trumpets in the Terrace Room, just off the golf course," Mr. Pagni said.

Mr. Pagni also contributed to junior golf as a member of the board of directors of the San Diego Junior Golf Association.

Born and raised by Italian immigrant parents in Chicago, Mr. Pagni excelled as a pitcher and outfielder in high school. He signed a contract with the Chicago White Sox in 1930, briefly playing in their farm system.

He was in the Navy before settling in San Diego in 1937 and taking a job with the Automobile Club.

His livelihood, from the time he founded an insurance brokerage in San Diego 1940, was insurance. He sold the brokerage in 1986.

Mr. Pagni was a past president of the North Park Kiwanis Club and was on the board of directors of the National Football Foundation.

He was a benefactor of Catholic charities and served as knight commander of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

"Chet did an awful lot for San Diego," said Walter J. Zabel, founder and chief executive officer of Cubic Corp. "You don't find many people like that who go all out for a good cause without trying to get something in return."

A student of the stock market, Mr. Pagni was active in recent years in the Monday Boys, a group of elderly investors.

Survivors include his wife, Marguerite; a son, Jim, of San Diego; a daughter, Maureen Steputis, of San Diego; and three grandsons.

Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. July 23 at the Immaculata at USD, followed by an Italian wake at noon at the Handlery Hotel, Mission Valley. Donations are suggested to the USD athletic department.
"I got very good advice from a teacher at USD. She said I should keep my mouth shut but my ears open."

Accountable: Gabriela Gonzalez got a job as a staff accountant at Arthur Andersen right out of college.
First-job jitters

Starting out needn’t be a disaster, employers and recent graduates agree

By Sarah Schaffer

For many recent college graduates, finding a job is hard enough.

But once they’ve landed the perfect job, bought the perfect suit and sharpened their pencils, they actually have to brave the office.

How should they avoid potential disasters?

Be enthusiastic and willing to learn, cultivate relations with co-workers, ask lots of questions and work like the devil, said recent graduates, college career counselors and employers.

Neil Murray, director of the UCSD Career Services Center, urged graduates to make the most of what they’re given.

“A pretty good job can be made into a very good job,” Murray said. Someone just starting out should “be the kind of person who always seems eager to learn and take on additional responsibility.”

Timothy Mathy, a consultant for Olsten Staffing Services in Scripps Ranch and Mission Valley, stressed working hard.

“One thing I always get asked is, ‘You’re so young — how can you handle my account?’” said Mathy, who graduated from the University of San Diego in May 1995 and started working in June. “I say, ‘I’m young, but I’m going to work hard.’”

Employers as well as clients look for that kind of drive.

“The advice I always give to our employees is get really active, jump in and ask a lot of questions, and don’t be afraid,” said Susie Ireland, human resources manager for San Diego Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

Enterprise, like many other San Diego companies, holds an orientation for all new hires to acclimate them to the company’s goals and culture. College graduates say these programs help train them in such areas as customer service and allow them to meet their co-workers. But Patrick James said even a monthlong training program couldn’t completely prepare him for his home-office job in sales.

“Even after training you’re not really ready until you go out there by yourself,” said James, who is an account manager for Maxim Integrated Products, a company that handles wireless communications.

In school, there’s a next step

Graduates must realize that working at a job is very different from being in school, James said.

“A lot of times in school, there’s always a next step, the next year, the next class you’re supposed to take,” said James, who graduated six months ago from USD’s communications program.

“When you’re in a job, it’s not like that. You have to make your own way.”

James and college career counselors stressed the value of internships for providing students with real-world work experience while they are still in college.

“The shortcut (to learning about corporate culture) is internships,” said Linda Scales, director of career services at USD. “When you talk to students who do internships, it really is a completely different world from those who haven’t.”

But regardless of whether one has had an internship in the field, graduates and recruiters said, tread carefully until it becomes clear who’s who and what’s going on.

Off to a good start

Tips for success during your first weeks on the job:

- Ask lots of questions.
- Be enthusiastic about any task you’re given.
- Observe office culture and politics carefully before jumping in.
- Find a mentor.
- Dress slightly more formally than you think is appropriate.
- Work hard.
- Enjoy what you do.
"I got very good advice from a teacher at USD," said Gabriela Gonzalez, a staff accountant at Arthur Andersen for the past six months. "She said I should keep my mouth shut but my ears open."

A recruiter from Deloitte and Touche gave similar advice.

"The more information people have before they go in, the less uncertainty and discomfort they have," said Helen Adams, partner and recruiting director at Deloitte and Touche. "Do a lot of listening before you do a lot of speaking."

**Keep up with journals**

Gonzalez also advises keeping up with business journals to stay knowledgeable about the profession.

Although doing the job well and working hard are crucial, many people interviewed said that little things mean a lot in the first weeks and months on the job.

"If you traditionally come in five minutes late and they like people to come in five minutes early, it doesn't create the kind of impression you want," said Judith Gumbiner, director of career services at San Diego State University.

**Attitude is key, Gumbiner said:** Be willing to do even grunt work with a smile, or you could lose points with the boss.

"A couple of students over the years came back and said that they were asked to do something. It didn't seem like a very big issue to them, but they really preferred not to, so they did (it) reluctantly or without enthusiasm," Gumbiner said. "It turned out to be a mistake, because the employer is looking for someone who is willing to pitch in."

"Still, you want to avoid being a pushover, one teacher said.

**Make yourself valuable**

"You don't want to look too desperate, because then, of course, they will use you," said Scott Scarbrough, a seventh-grade world history teacher at Hilldale Middle School in Rancho San Diego. "But you need to make yourself as valuable as possible, because if it comes time to rearranging staff, the bosses are going to keep in mind who's doing what, in addition to their standard job."

Dress is another detail that matters, especially in conservative professions such as accounting.

"Dress more conservatively than you think it's going to be," said Robin Ryan, an entry-level staff accountant at Deloitte and Touche who began in September 1995 after being a flight attendant for 10 years. "People will treat you with more respect."

One of the most important issues is relationships with others in the office, or office politics.

In teaching, there is certainly more involved in work than the kids, said Ron Damschen, assistant superintendent of personnel for the Cajon Valley Union School District.

"The children obviously are the most important part of the job, and that's where the most amount of training takes place, but there are other components," such as getting along with staff members and discussing problems with parents, Damschen said.

**'Buddy' system recommended**

Scarbrough recommended finding a "buddy" or mentor if the employer does not provide one.

"You have to talk to other teachers," he said. Another teacher at the school advised him on discipline issues, he said, which proved invaluable.

One difficulty for young hires is being placed in a superior position to people older than they are. Ma-
Affirmative action just one weapon
in professor's war on status quo

By Matt Miller
STAFF WRITER

If California has emerged as the front line in America's battle over affirmative action and multiculturalism, then the University of California Berkeley is ground zero.

A leading tactician in that battle is Ronald Takaki, a Berkeley professor of ethnic studies and a pioneer in teaching and writing about multiculturalism.

"Even with these decisions to abolish affirmative action, our students will not allow it to happen, the faculty will not allow it to happen," says Takaki defiantly.

"We've reached the point of no return. We are not going to resegregate our institutions."

That recalcitrance is vintage Takaki. While he may not be a household name, he represents a kind of historic encapsulation of affirmative action, which factors ethnicity and race into admission and hiring practices.

These days, he has a huge fight on his hands. The University of California Board of Regents voted last year to prohibit such practices; the decision will take effect next year. In addition, voters this November will decide on the California Civil Rights Initiative, a state ballot measure that would prohibit race and gender as criteria in school admissions, state and local government hiring and state and local government contracts.

Takaki's own writing, such as the books "Strangers From a Different Shore" and "A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America," has altered the way many Americans now look at their own history and heritage. It's this multiethnic prism that is under attack as well.

"He has changed the field (of history), at the same time he has advanced it," said Gerald Vizenor, a UC Berkeley professor of ethnic studies.

Takaki's fierce defense of affirmative action is based on his belief that universities are an essential step in gaining a foothold into greater society, and that without affirmative action that foothold is far more slippery.

"We are the institutions of certification," said Takaki. "Minorities who have been left out of the professions know this. They know that if they can't get into law school or medical school or even as undergraduates in a place like Berkeley or the University of San Diego, they're not going to make it."

Takaki also believes that the current attack on affirmative action is part of a much larger "culture war," a conflict over who defines the constitution of American culture.

"Only he parts company with conservative voices who warn that traditional American culture is under siege. Indeed, Takaki is dismissive of the old notion of the United States as a melting pot. He believes that the country is — and will remain — a multicultural society and that a growing number of popular and academic figures strengthen this view.

"We have new voices entering this cultural terrain, not only our poets and our novelists, but also our scholars," said Takaki. The Berkeley academic was in San Diego recently to address a conference at USD on diversity. "We are defining what it means to be an American, what America is."

Understandably, he concluded, "This is generating nervousness and fear."

Not that Takaki's view has garnered the undivided support of California's Asian-Americans. Within the community, "there are two, deeply divided camps," said Lester
"It's the redefining of America and it's going on in front of our very eyes."

RONALD TAKAKI

Lee, who served briefly as a UC regent in 1993, but who wasn't confirmed by the Democratic-controlled state Senate.

In fact, Lee is among Asian-Americans leading the charge to have affirmative action dismantled: two of the UC Regents who voted to abolish affirmative action considerations in admissions are Asian-American.

"I call affirmative action 'affirmative discrimination," said John Liu, the director of research and public policy for the private San Francisco-based think tank Pacific Research Institute, and another vocal opponent of affirmative action.

Lee and Liu maintain that Asian-American students — specifically Chinese-Americans, Japanese-Americans and Korean-Americans — would benefit if the program were abolished. Lee believes that the number of Asian-Americans on UC campuses would increase by "four or five percentage points."

UCSD, for example, is 33.6 percent Asian-American, and most Asian-Americans are not part of an affirmative action pool.

By contrast, of UCSD's approximately 15,000 undergraduates, 2.2 percent are African-Americans, 11.2 percent are Hispanic and 44.6 percent are white. (The student body also includes international students and those who didn't indicate an ethnicity.)

Politicians take advantage of this disparity between Asian-Americans and other minorities, believes Takaki, a third-generation Japanese-American from Hawaii.

"Asian-Americans are being exploited as a wedge group, a wedge between whites and blacks and Hispanics."

Takaki cites Republican presidential nominee-apparent, Bob Dole.

"I think it's really symbolic that Dole made his speech attacking affirmative action in (Orange County's) Little Saigon. It was a very calculated move."

'We can't go back'

That affirmative action is under attack now is no surprise to the historian. The United States is at one of the most critical junctures in its history, Takaki believes. "It's the redefining of America and it's going on in front of our very eyes."

The end of the Cold War has created, he believes, "tremendous economic ripples" that cascade across the country. This is exacerbated by a globalized economy that is no longer dependent on American labor.

American demographics are also at a turning point. Within the next decade, for example, whites in California will be in the minority.

In the midst of all this, there is a fight — on many levels and on many fronts — for what constitutes American culture.

"The cultural wars are related to how we define America, who is an American, what is America," Takaki said. Conservative commentators, politicians and pundits, Takaki charges, are saying, "We have to take back our culture."

Takaki counters that his more inclusive definition of America is here to stay. "We can't go back."

An eye-opener

The 57-year-old Takaki has been a significant part of the change he describes.

As a youth in Hawaii, he was known as "ten-toes Takaki" for his surfing prowess. He wanted to stay in Hawaii for university and surfing, but a high school teacher persuaded him to go; he became one of two Asian-Americans on The College of Wooster campus.

It was an eye-opener. "I thought of myself as American. Then, I realized there's this larger society that views me as 'the other,'" he said.

Takaki related the story of one of his English professors' calling him in for an initial meeting.

"He asked: 'How long have you been in this country?' I said, 'I'm from Hawaii.' He then asked, 'So how long have you been in this country?' How do you tell a professor that Hawaii is part of the United States?"

Takaki puts much of the blame for this exclusion — then and now — on the educational system.


Not just binary

After being caught up in both UC Berkeley's free-speech movement and in the civil-rights movement, Takaki focused his doctoral research on a history of American slavery.

That led him to UCLA where, in 1967, he taught the university's first black-studies course and spearheaded the movement to establish a Black Student Union. It garnered him a national cult reputation as "a bad Asian dude."

That first black-history course made a significant impact on the young scholar.

"It was a huge class, 400 students. I saw African-American students, white students, but I also saw Chicano students, Asian-American students."

He began to redefine race in the United States as "more than just a binary of black and white."

Takaki pressured the school to initiate courses for American-Indian, Chicano and Asian-American studies. However, he was fired from UCLA before the school realized his dream. He was dismissed, he said, "because of my activism, my demands" for ethnic studies.

But he quipped that, given those circumstances, it was "pretty honorable" to be fired.

In 1972, he took this vision back to Berkeley. Since then, Takaki has blazed trails in both Asian-American studies and multicultural history.

He is credited with spearheading the country's first graduate program on ethnic studies. Even several critics acknowledge that his writing brought Asian-American history and multicultural history to the general public.

Corporate changes

Takaki believes that his message of multiculturalism is beginning to find acceptance among a wider audience. He cites corporate America.

"Corporations are in the forefront of diversity," Takaki said. "Of course, this hasn't been integrated at the management level, but they realize they have a multiracial workforce."

By contrast, politicians have seized upon educational institutions as being vulnerable to fear-based politics, Takaki believes.

"Politicians know the fears are out there and these can get them elected."

With a shock of white hair in a style that hints of a surf-riding past, Takaki is still making waves. At the USD symposium, he reminded students critical of the private university's record on minorities that "nothing happens without action."
State May Launch Own Online College

**Computers:** California educators consider opening program separate from joint project planned by western states.

By AMY WALLACE
TIMES EDUCATION WRITER

Two weeks after 10 western governors announced plans to launch a regional online college, California officials are investigating the possibility of going it alone, creating their own "virtual university" that could deliver instruction to students from Fresno to Tokyo. Although Gov. Pete Wilson has not ruled out participation in the regional college, he and the state's top educators have agreed to explore a California-only institution that would take advantage of the state's vast educational and technological resources.

The thinking, according to one source: "Why would California [schools] carry so much weight for the other western states when they can do the same job on their own?"

On Tuesday, a design team made up of representatives from Stanford University, USC and the state's three public systems—the University of California, California State University and the community colleges—met for the first time with officials from the telecommunications industry in the governor's office in Sacramento.

"Our first task is to focus on what product we will be offering—the range of courses and degrees—and what time frame we are working under," said Joe Rodota, Wilson's deputy chief of staff, who organized the meeting.

Wilson has until mid-August to let the other western governors know whether California will join them. Some factors that will influence his decision, Rodota said, include an estimate—not yet completed—of how much an independent venture by the state would cost. Already, Wilson appears to be leaning toward going it alone.

"We have advantages that no state or group of states can match," Rodota said. "We view this as a significant revenue opportunity for both public and private campuses and as a long-term way of attracting additional faculty to California."

Wilson unveiled his enthusiasm for such a project in April, when he told the California Business and Higher Education Forum in Palm Springs that "distance learning" could bring educational opportunity to students in remote areas, and turn a tidy profit for educational institutions.

"We are, in this state, the epicenter of information technology," he said. "Most people are thinking about distance learning primarily as a means of saving money. Friends, ... think about it as a way to make money."

Higher education leaders have been enthusiastic as well. Last month, on the same day that the western governors made their announcement, officials from Wilson's office queried, via conference call, several California educators: Would they consider a California-based collaborative online college?

"We spent about an hour going over the agenda," said Barry Munitz, chancellor of the 22-campus California State University, who convened the call at Wilson's request. "Everyone said yes."

Munitz praised Wilson for seeking the input of higher education leaders and endorsed the California venture as "something that should happen."

There are many details to work out. Some schools, including Stanford, already market some of their courses online, and it remains to be seen how a new umbrella university would incorporate that kind of program. There are questions about who would be on the virtual university's faculty and about whether a student could piece together a degree from courses offered by multiple institutions.

The online university also has potentially broad ramifications for some institutions. Higher education experts note that an online university that offers UC courses might call into question the necessity of building a planned 10th UC campus in Merced.

"There are all kinds of possibilities for distance learning that could help UC accommodate Tidal Wave II," said Lt. Gov. Gray Davis, a UC regent, referring to the flood of college-age students that is expected during the next decade. But so far, he said, "UC isn't thinking that way. They're thinking bricks and mortar."
New attorney Lynne Reid took a novel approach to her job search during last month's "Lawyers Have Heart" 5K run/walk to benefit the American Heart Association. The mother of four and University of San Diego Law School graduate printed her resume on the back of the T-shirt she wore during the race. "A few people noticed it," said Reid, who is hoping to work in the area of employment or media law, and has a special interest in First Amendment law.
Campus chief calm while sea of change approaches

Stephen L. Weber
New SDSU president

By Jeff Ristine
STAFF WRITER

If you're wondering whether the new president of San Diego State University enjoys a challenge, consider this:

As Stephen L. Weber completed his formal education with a doctorate in philosophy at the University of Notre Dame in 1989, he wrote a dissertation on God.

More specifically, Weber looked into assorted "proofs" for the existence of God. His conclusion, in a nutshell: The arguments fell short of actual proof.

Weber, the former interim provost of the State University of New York system, faces a different but almost equally daunting set of challenges at San Diego State. Coping with an imminent enrollment surge and budget shortfall. Employing new technology to deliver education. Developing a nearly $1 billion "university village" on the southern perimeter of campus. Seeing the Aztecs win a conference championship.

With the wisdom of most new presidents hired from outside the institution, Weber holds no prepared agenda.

"That would be presumptuous and probably wouldn't get you very far anyway," said Weber, who takes over tomorrow but quietly arrived on campus four weeks ago. "I want to spend a lot of time listening."

"I can't imagine, frankly, a more interesting place to be than California for the next 10 years. I think this is where the action is."

Job satisfaction

It is amazing but true: SDSU, founded nearly 100 years ago as the San Diego Normal School to prepare elementary school teachers, has had but six -- count 'em -- six presidents in all that time. Weber will be the seventh.

He has worked in Maine, Connecticut, Minnesota and New York state -- never more than eight years in one place -- but has some theories about what makes SDSU's chief executives last so long.

"Some of it is surely the very nature of San Diego and its desirability," said the 54-year-old Weber, who by his own admission was "absolutely obnoxious" to Empire State friends and colleagues about the environmental appeal of his new job site.

"Another part of it in the modern period," he added, "is there's been a lot of exciting stuff to be associated with as president. They were getting things done."

"The ultimate satisfaction in a job like this is, of course, getting things done," Weber said. "Making a difference."

Weber, however, does know he is likely to preside over Montezuma Mesa at a time of enormous change.

"I can't imagine, frankly, a more interesting place to be than California for the next 10 years. I think this is where the action is."

Taking charge: SDSU's new president, Stephen L. Weber, says he has no agenda but expects to listen a lot.

After the 18-year, sometimes stormy tenure of Thomas B. Day, the change for SDSU will be unusually visible. Day worked from the stately administration building in the center of campus. Weber's office occupies the corner of an unfinished administrative wing of SDSU's brand-new library addition, with windows and a securely gated walkway overlooking the Open Air Theatre.

But the floor otherwise is empty and eerily quiet -- the building won't open officially until January.

During an interview last week, Weber's digs were beginning to take shape. His shelves were lined with books; a laptop computer on his desk was open and a clock was in crates, awaiting reassembly.

The campus has been warm and enthusiastic. "This will be the first day that I have gone home without a gift," he said. Presents have included plants, homemade cookies, T-shirts, neckties and the obligatory Thomas Guide.

"You always have to remind yourself that the real issues lie ahead of us, and the test is to have that same kind of level of support years from now," he said.

Weber got his job Dec. 8. The long interim was supposed to ensure a smooth transition, but the president-designate found it difficult.

"All one's instincts are to get on with it, so to speak," said Weber, whose annual salary is $158,004 (a record high among the CSU's presidents). "It required a good deal of self-discipline to keep myself focused on the issues of SUNY."

"Now that I'm here, I'm able to sort of lift the hood (and) look inside. It looks very good. It's really a fine university."

Taking over at a time many faculty members, staff and students are happy to see Day leave, Weber nevertheless does not sense any unrealistic expectations of him.

"Remember that a lot of... people have impressions about the pr:...
or administration. I don’t, because I didn’t work here,” he said. “That’s not one of my reference points.

“My job is going to be to translate those good, positive expectations into meaningful, constructive change for the organization,” he added. “So those positive expectations are the energy that we’ll use to move forward in the next couple of years.”

The view ahead

To Weber, the biggest challenge to SDSU is one facing all public colleges and universities in California: a massive increase in demand, driven by children of baby boomers, dubbed Tidal Wave II. A study by the Rand Corp. predicts an “access deficit” — students who would be expected to enroll in the state’s taxpayer-supported institutions but who are driven away by high fees or other enrollment controls — of more than a million students a year by 2010.

“All of us are going to have to figure out how to address that shortfall,” said Weber. “That will ask just as much of us as educators as it will of society as a whole.”

Another likely challenge, he said, is making “our unique kind of services more accessible to society” in “more user-friendly ways.”

CSU Chancellor Barry Munitz made sure the newcomer in the 22-campus system will lose no time seeing the big picture. He appointed Weber chairman of one of the task forces considering implications of Tidal Wave II, group focused on graduate and continuing education.

Weber also serves on a separate committee on kindergarten-through-12th-grade issues, a major priority for the CSU as it works to reduce the need for remedial education among its students.

The listening comes first. “I want to learn what SDSU aspires to,” he said. “Another thing I need to learn is what’s possible, and that’s not self-evident. If you overstretch and snap the fiber of the institution, it’s a great disservice. Frankly, if you understretch, you’ve also done it a great disservice.”

Weber’s attitude is part of an approach former colleagues have described as ambitious and visionary.

He headed to the shores of Lake Ontario as president of the State University of New York’s 9,000-student Oswego campus in 1988.

While there, he developed a five-year plan to revitalize the liberal arts college that called for strengthening the faculty, improving student-body diversity, building ties to the community, bolstering fund-raising and improving aesthetics.

He was tapped a year ago to become interim provost of the entire state university system, its No. 2 position.

Weber is known for having good rapport with faculty and students, and he seems to have made few enemies as an administrator. At SDSU, he said, tough decisions will be made openly.

Day was an administrator who liked to “do his homework” and arrive at a course of action, striving more to be understood than to be well-received. He would sometimes take input, but the decision was often personal.

Weber’s style may be different, but the philosophy behind it sounds surprisingly similar. “What I’m working on is the assumption that when intelligent people of good will have access to similar information, they often reach more or less compatible conclusions,” he said. “Even when they don’t reach the same conclusion, they can at least understand why you made the decision that you did.”

Weber and his wife, Susan, aren’t rushing into any decisions about home life in San Diego. After checking some housing possibilities, they opted to lease a condominium in Coronado for a year before buying property, meanwhile trying to get a feel for the city and the new job.

“We need to understand what the demands on my time will be,” Weber said. He has “lots and lots of appointments” with business and civic leaders his first few weeks — Mayor Susan Golding and the chairman of the county Board of Supervisors, Ron Roberts, both are on tomorrow’s schedule. He is wondering how much time he will need to spend downtown as he strengthens those and other contacts.

He figures he’ll have to suspend two of his hobbies — woodworking and gardening — until he finds a permanent home.
The sprawling San Diego State University that Thomas B. Day will turn over to Stephen L. Weber tomorrow is considerably different than the institution that Day encountered in 1978 when he became its sixth president.

Because of Day's hard-charging leadership, SDSU's grants and contracts now exceed $68 million, more than double that received by any of the other 21 California State University campuses.

Day's standing in the scientific community was instrumental in the creation of the university's highly regarded Graduate School of Public Health. He pushed for the establishment of six doctoral programs that currently operate in conjunction with UCSD. He was also the driving force behind behind the CSU campus at San Marcos. In short, Day presided over SDSU's transition from an up-and-coming commuter school to one of the nation's most comprehensive institutions of higher learning.

But Day's penchant for making some tough decisions without fully consulting his faculty and staff caused internal dissent and greased the skids for an early departure. That's unfortunate because, despite his stormy 18-year tenure, Day placed the university on a solid academic and financial footing as it prepares to enter its second century.

Weber is eagerly anticipating the challenge of taking SDSU to an even higher level. The former State University of New York administrator has no illusions about the problems he faces in his new post, beginning with finding the funds to bring about some of the innovative changes he has in mind.

Among these changes are flex-scheduling that would enable students greater latitude to enroll in the classes they need to graduate in four years. Weber also wants to make greater use of the information revolution to better serve students. Examples include computer-imaging in science labs and a more extensive menu of satellite classes that encourage off-campus learning and ease campus overcrowding.

These kind of changes are essential if SDSU is to accommodate the tidal wave of students who are on the horizon.

Since Weber is keenly aware that public and private universities are scrambling for scarce funds, he wants to forge a closer relationship with UCSD and the University of San Diego. Such an alliance could generate more cost-effective joint ventures. He also is committed to greater cross-border cooperation with Tijuana and with Mexican universities. And he is determined to develop a stronger connection with SDSU alumni, a large percentage of whom live in San Diego.

Weber's willingness to listen, learn and work hard should serve him well as he sets about making San Diego State University an even more valuable community asset in the 21st century.
USD Grad Takes to the Pros

Put a soccer ball at his feet and an opponent's goal within sight and L.A. Galaxy striker, Guillermo Jara, can be lethal. With a combination of aggressiveness, a nose for the ball and the power of a cannon packed into both of his legs; Jara spells trouble for opposing goal keepers.

JOHN PHILLIP WYLIE

After the Galaxy's Father's Day victory over Tampa Bay, played before 92,000 screaming fans at the Rose Bowl, I spoke with the 22-year-old Jara, who in less than a year has made the transition from being the University of San Diego's all-time leading scorer, to becoming a frequent starter for the best team in the MLS.

"This has been so exciting!" says Jara. "Last year I was playing at USD in front of at most, 2,000 or 3,000 thousand students and now I'm playing alongside great international stars like Jorge Campos and Eduardo Hurtado. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I feel very fortunate to be out here." Fortunate, yes, but then, he has earned it.

Growing up in one of the rougher neighborhoods in Sacramento, Jara wisely avoided the trouble and violence that many of his peers sought out.

"Soccer was my first love. As a kid, I would always rather be out on a soccer field than out on the streets getting into trouble," Jara said. "My parents taught me a good set of values and helped me on the soccer field." It didn't hurt that Jara's father once played professional soccer in Mexico. But his parents were not only supportive of his efforts on the field, they were also influential in his spiritual development within the Church.

"Mom and dad took us to Mass every Sunday and encouraged me to become an altar boy. They also had me in Catholic school from my first day in kindergarten. When it became time to pick a college, it was important for me to continue with a Catholic university."

"Guillermo is not only a great soccer player," according to his coach at USD, Seamus McFadden, "he's also a good natured, genuine person. He was always one of our most popular players when we held youth clinics. His million-dollar smile and charisma won him a lot of friends, especially among the Hispanic kids who attended those clinics."

"I remember how exciting it was for me as a kid to meet the soccer players and get autographs after a game. I looked up to those guys, just as the kids today look up to us," said Jara. "I hope I can be a role model that can teach kids some values. Maybe I can help take some of them off the street and get them onto the field."

Despite his unique talent, Jara remains modest and greatly appreciative of the good fortune and help he has received.

"The Catholic Church and the Catholic schools I've attended have been very good to me."

But Jara finds a lot of support from another source. "I learned from my grandmother, mother and father when I was just a little kid, that God is always with us and that He is the reason we are here. So whenever I step on to the field, at the end of every game and after every goal, I say a little prayer."

Judging by his recent performances on the field, (two goals and three assists in the last five games), it would appear that Jara's prayers have been answered.
Growth pains along the Internet

Entrepreneurial companies that connect people to the World Wide Web have been in business only a few years, but they're already facing buyouts, tough strategy decisions, and looming competition from telecommunications giants.

BY PETER VALDES-DAPENA
Review Staff

JUST two years into a period of explosive growth, the fledgling Internet access industry is about to enter its first shakeout.

As many as 40 South Florida companies are providing homes and businesses with connections to the global computer network, depressing prices. Now, with the coming entry into the market of some of the biggest names in telecommunications, local access providers are looking for mergers or radically altering their business strategies to concentrate more on commercial accounts, leaving a big chunk of the home market to AT&T and MCI.

In 1993, when then 17-year-old Yanek Martinson started his Internet access company, SatelNet, in Cooper City, few people knew much about the Internet or the World Wide Web. In those early days, if you were in South Florida and wanted to log on, SatelNet, housed in Martinson's bedroom, was one of the few choices available, as were Shadow Information Services in West Dade and CyberGate in Deerfield Beach.

By the end of 1994, Netscape, a Mountain View, Calif., company, had improved the program that allows packages of information transmitted across the Internet, including pictures and audio, to be accessed by a personal computer. With a simple mouse click on a word or picture, users could now visit sites on an increasingly popular part of the Internet called the World Wide Web.

The Web and Netscape's browser software gave the Internet graphics capability and made it easier to use. In South Florida, as in other parts of the country, dozens of techies began launching Internet service provider businesses to connect businesses and homes.

ISPs, as they're called, provide the computer connections and the telephone numbers that users dial with the computer modem to hook into the global network. Most also provide other services, such as allowing users to put their own Web "pages" on the Internet.

The costs for ISPs can be as low as several thousand dollars or as high as hundreds of thousands, depending on the type of equipment a provider uses and the volume of customers it anticipates.

By the beginning of last year, there were about a half dozen Internet service providers in South Florida.

The ISPs have continued to multiply. But most of those in Florida only have 1,000 to 2,000 customers, said Jeffrey Rubenstein, vice president and general counsel for CyberGate, which claims to be the largest local ISP, with 12,000 subscribers. Although CyberGate is profitable, Rubenstein said, most companies in the industry are struggling, regardless of size.

“We're all betting on the future,” he says. Prices for access have been coming down, and now range between $15 and $25 a month, usually for unlimited access.

Adding to the pressure of intense local competition is the entry of the nation's two largest long-distance carriers into the business. On Feb. 26, AT&T announced it would offer its long-distance customers five free hours per month of Internet access. MCI followed with a similar deal for its customers.

Just last week, the Miami Herald launched its Internet access enterprise, HeraldLink. HeraldLink will offer Internet access in a combination deal that includes the newspaper on line. For now, the on-line newspaper is available free to anyone who can use the World Wide Web. Later this year, those accessing the service through another Internet provider will have to pay an additional fee to see the full content of the newspaper, said Richard Gordon, the Herald's manager of on-line services.

The telephone companies are joining a few big national service providers like Netcom, the largest, which has over 400,000 users, and on-line services such as America Online, which has 5 million users and provides access to the Internet.

Analysts are saying that the industry may come to resemble the long-distance telephone business, with a few big national players and a number of smaller companies taking up niche markets.

"Even through the end of the year, you'll see this as a trend," says Robert Seidman, who lives in suburban New York and edits an Internet business newsletter, Seldman's On-Line Insider. Yousefi Squaili, a technology analyst with Laidlaw & Co. in New York, predicts that most home users will get to the Internet through large companies.

The independent Internet service providers that make it, say Squaili and providers themselves, will shift their focus to business clients, where profit margins are higher and proximity to the provider becomes more of an advantage. But maintenance of complex systems becomes an issue.

The independents could win in this market by providing specialized services to a small number of clients that use the Internet for promotion, sales and research.

"These companies are really doing the only thing they can do, which is move out of old AT&T's way," Squaili says.

Commercial accounts can be more profitable because these clients usually demand so-called direct connections to the Internet that can be used by multiple users at the same time. Many companies will also ask the access provider to create and maintain Web sites for them. Another new business that some companies are developing is the creation of commercial Intranets. These are small networks that operate within a single company. They can be used to post information, such as company announcements, to be read at computer terminals in different departments.

New Reach Communications in Deerfield Beach is concentrating its business.
Internet

FROM PAGE A8

Deciding on how many customers it has signed up, a small ISP can get a good return on its investment by selling out.

half his company’s business is now with commercial accounts.

Larger local Internet service providers, such as Icanect and CyberGate, and even some smaller companies, say they are getting calls regularly from competitors wanting to discuss mergers.

Icanect, which is only a year old itself, bought Compass.Net of Fort Lauderdale, and Exe.Com, an Internet access marketing firm based in Miami, Hurwitz says Icanect is in negotiations with other acquisition candidates.

CyberGate is also in negotiations with several smaller ISPs, with deals expected to close in a few weeks, says company vice president Rubenstein.

Gary Schneider, assistant professor of accounting and information services at the University of San Diego, said ISP acquisitions are usually negotiated for about one to one-and-a-half times annual revenues. This is similar to the range for other service businesses, like insurance agencies, he said.

The decision by a small company to sell out can be brought on by success as often as by failure. An industry rule of thumb is that a company should be able to provide Internet access to at least 10 percent of its customers at one time. So when a company reaches its capacity in terms of phone lines and computers, it must decide whether to make the additional investment in new lines and equipment, or sell out.

Another pressure is the cost of customer service. The market for technical support staff, the people who answer the telephones when customers call with problems, is highly competitive, Hurwitz says. The job requires a combination of technical savvy and “people skills,” he says.

Depending on how many customers it has signed up, a small ISP can get a good return on its investment by selling, if it has watched costs, says Seidman.

Schneider, of the University of San Diego, says companies considering the acquisition of a smaller ISP will usually calculate the cost per customer first. If it would cost more, based on the buyer’s own marketing history, to bring in the same number of customers, a buyer will be inclined to make a deal.

Hurwitz says he looks at projected revenues, outstanding contracts and the quality of the personnel. In the case of Compass.Net, the deciding factor was the cost of the company’s customer base.

Hurwitz said Exe.Com was attractive because it had a new contract to provide Internet access to the Dade County public schools. More than 75 schools are now wired, Hurwitz said, and two to five schools a day are being added.

The short term effect of the entry of big-name competitors from mainstream communications industries is a matter of debate.

It doesn’t hurt that AT&T has, by its own admission, botched the roll-out of its new service. Demand was much stronger than the telephone company had anticipated, and many customers were left on waiting lists for software diskettes or had to make costly long-distance calls to connect because there was no access in their own area.

But at some point, even some local providers concede, AT&T will learn from its mistakes and will provide competitive service to customers.

Nevertheless, Martinson of SatelNet and Hurwitz of Icanect say that AT&T’s entry adds luster to the Internet’s image.

“If this creates an impression, a proper one,” Hurwitz says, “that the Internet is becoming mainstream.”

Shaw

FROM PAGE A7

the property settlement, Leander Shaw — also a 36.7 percent owner — said for con-

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After she challenged the post-nup, Vidya Shaw was asked about quarterly payments of $7,500 to Mohan that allegedly were not reported to the Internal Revenue Service, half of which wound up with her. She also was asked about a Cayman Islands account she whose name came up in connection with the alleged lesbian affair when Leander Shaw attempted to seal the divorce file.

According to Walborsky, her client is Walborsky has asked the judge to strike that statement, saying Carson’s competence wasn’t before the court — since Norris had granted a motion excluding any evidence on that topic.

Carson referred a reporter to his attorney, Rob McNeely, who said the idea of a
What is an Adult?

Please see page 30
THE ROCKY Road to A

More than one-fifth of 25-year-old Americans still live with their parents, and the definition of adulthood is no longer clear. The full-nest syndrome is more common among whites than other races, and many adult children are free to spend their wages on luxuries without paying rent. While few kids want to stay home forever, more of them aren't leaving home without good reasons.

by Marcia Mogelonsky

Twenty-nine-year-old George Brown considers himself an adult. He has a wife, a steady job, and a healthy income. But unlike a lot of adults, George still lives at home. He lived at home while he attended the local community college. He stayed there when he got his first job. Now married for three years, he and his 25-year-old wife live in the basement of the house in which he grew up. His parents live upstairs.

"We don't pay any rent," says Brown. "My parents say they don't want us to.

Marcia Mogelonsky is a contributing editor of American Demographics.

But we pay our own expenses, and we do help out in all sorts of ways. We drive my parents to appointments, help with shopping, do repairs, things like that."

Brown and his wife are both employed full time. By not paying rent, they have ample discretionary income to spend as they see fit. They have two new cars and season tickets to every home game for their city's baseball, football, basketball, and hockey teams.

While Brown never left home at all, Joseph Cassano, a 29-year-old from Wantagh, New York, went to college and returned home after two years. "I decided to switch majors, and as it turned out, the school I wanted to go to was right near..."
dulthood
When Will They Leave?
The average non-Hispanic white child leaves home at age 19 and 1 month, three months later than in 1966-79 and 17 months earlier than in the 1930s. The average black child leaves home at age 20 and 6 months; for Hispanics, it's 19 and 7 months. (median age of leaving home for cohorts turning 18 in selected periods, by race and ethnicity)

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Source: Population Reference Bureau

my home. So I moved back in with my parents while I finished my degree.” Cassano got a job after college and continued to live at home. He finally left when he got married two years ago. “There’s a lot of stability associated with living at home. You don’t have to worry about meals or things like that. It gave me a real sense of security,” says Cassano. “I paid rent the entire time I lived at home, but I was still able to save enough money to buy a house as soon as I got married and moved out.”

Getting married has never been the primary reason for American men to leave their parents’ homes, although it used to be the primary reason for women to leave home. Some young people still leave home to get married, but others do so to go to school, join the military, take a job, move into a nonmarital living situation, or simply be on their own. Even with all of these choices—or perhaps because of them—young adults are waiting longer than their parents did to venture out of the nest. Some young adults who do leave are circling back, at least for a while. The result is that young Americans are following a winding path toward the residential and financial state of self-sufficiency that many consider the true definition of adulthood.

DEFINING ADULTHOOD
Pinning down the threshold to adulthood is about as difficult as pinning Jell-O to a wall. Children may become adults anywhere between the ages of 12 and 25, depending on how you define adulthood. It could be the age at which a person can drive or rent a car, vote, be drafted for military service, drink or purchase alcohol, get married, or have an abortion without parental consent, to name just a few rites of passage.

Many societies mark the onset of adulthood at puberty, with the assumption that people who are old enough to reproduce are old enough to deal with parental and other adult responsibilities. Religious ceremonies such as Jewish bar and bat mitzvahs are derived from this tradition, and they celebrate a child’s transition to adulthood in the early teen years. But modern American life acknowledges an interim life stage known as adolescence. During the murky depths of this confusing time, a myriad of definitions mark adulthood at a variety of ages.

A host of age-specific parameters mark the transition from child to adult, even within specific areas. In the world of aviation, a 17-year-old can hold a private pilot’s license, a 15-year-old is “adult” enough to sit in an emergency exit row and assist in evacuating the craft, and some airlines have determined that 12-year-olds are “adult” enough to travel unaccompanied.

Sometimes the age of majority for one situation contradicts another. In 1990, more than 50,000 U.S. teenagers got married before age 18, legally condoning their participation in intimate activities before they were allowed to watch them in X-rated movies. Americans can buy cars before they can drive them, and they can do both of those things long before they are ordinarily eligible to rent them.

Distinguishing between childhood and adulthood got even more complicated when baby boomers reached the end of their teenage years starting in the late 1960s. “You must put the childhood/adulthood definitions in historical perspective,” says Frances Goldscheider, professor of sociology at Brown University. “The difficulty we are currently having in determining where adulthood starts stems from the Vietnam era, when the age of majority was lowered from 21 to 18.”

The 26th Amendment to the U.S. Contr...
The Full-Nest Syndrome

The most striking evidence of the delayed adulthood trend is the increasing share of young adults living in their parents' homes until well into their 20s. The 1990 census revealed that 21 percent of 25-year-olds were living with one or both parents, up from 15 percent in 1970. Some young people are not moving out at all before their mid-20s, but many more are doing an extra rotation through the family home after a temporary or lengthy absence.

Although young adults in the 1990s are achieving residential independence somewhat more slowly than baby boomers did, they are not slower than their great-grandparents were. In fact, Americans who came of age before 1930 waited longer than the 18-year-olds of the 1980s did to leave home. This is largely because few people went to college back then, so they did not move out until they found a steady job or a spouse. Yet today's young adults are more likely than any other generation in this century to make a return trip to their parents' home after moving out. And they are most likely to return after college or a military stint.

In a study of Detroit-area whites aged 23 in 1988, nine in ten had left home at least once for a period of four months or more, according to a study by Goldscheider, Arland Thornton, and Linda Young-DeMarco, the latter two from the University of Michigan. Most in the study left home for the first time at age 18 to go to residential colleges.

Ten years later, young adults are not particularly eager to get away. Just 19 percent of full-time first-time college freshmen surveyed in fall 1995 said that wanting to get away from home was an important reason to go to school. An even larger share (25 percent) were living at home while they attended school, according to UCLA's annual American Freshman Study.

Most people who move away to college stay away after they finish school. They set up a household as an adult on their own, with friends, or with a spouse. Many students return home temporarily during summer months and other school breaks. But one-third of young adults who had left home for at least four months to live in group quarters such as dorms and barracks
Se1N.1ration Optimism

Both kids and parents underestimate how soon the family nest will empty.

(Percent of high school seniors and their parents who predicted in 1982 they would be residentially independent within two, four, and six years, and percent who actually were by 1988)

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<td>six years</td>
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Sources: Population Reference Bureau

had returned for a comparable length of time by age 23. Of this group, 37 percent made a comeback to the parental home within three years of leaving. Two-thirds did so within five years.

The choices young people make about their living situations when they leave home have an impact on their likelihood of returning. Those who get married are unlikely to move back in with Mom and Dad, although some do come back if the marriage fails. One-third of divorces occur within the first five years of marriage.

Young adults who live by themselves for any length of time are also unlikely to return after experiencing this level of independence. Those who move in with roommates, on the other hand, move home at a greater rate than do those in other living situations. Young adults who "cohabitate without benefit of marriage" are also more likely than average to end up back at the parental home at some point; usually they come back alone after the nonmarital relationship fails.

Most research about the migration patterns of early twentysomethings focuses on the white middle class. "The phenomenon seems to be more of a white thing than one that affects the African-American, Asian, or Hispanic communities," says Goldscheider. But this may be changing. Hispanics are still more likely than other young adults to take the traditional route of staying home until they marry. Blacks are less likely than whites or Hispanics to leave home for marriage. All three groups are less likely than they once were to leave home for marriage by age 25, and more likely to leave for school, military service, or other situations.

Finding a good job and an exciting career has become an elusive goal for many recent graduates.

Family income may influence nest-leaving, but it does not have as much clout as ethnic or racial traditions. In a study of parental income and leaving home in the transition to adulthood, Roger Avery, Frances Goldscheider, and Alden Speare, Jr., of Brown University find that parental income has little impact on whether an adult child leaves home or not—with one exception. The more money parents have, the less likely a young adult is to leave home via marriage. The researchers suggest that a well-fixed young adult living at home may not feel the need to rush into marriage as a way of leaving.

A family's financial status has little effect on whether that adult child will leave to be alone or live with housemates. And according to the Brown University study, income does affect a young person's decision to stay home in young adulthood. "Most of the people I deal with are middle class," says Rebecca Haddock, a career counselor at the University of San Diego. "Their parents can afford to have them move back home. There is enough space, there is enough food to go around, and if the parents are looking for a financial contribution from their returning children, it's a small one."

MAKING A PLAN

When a college education became the norm for a large share of American women and men, the deferral of adulthood began. People got married later, had children later, bought homes later, and started careers later. In the 1990s, a sluggish economy has caused this delay to spread to noncollege youth. It is also increasingly common to go to school while living at home. Forty-four percent of full-time freshmen attending two-year colleges in fall 1995 were living at home, according to the American Freshman Study.

Even after young people have finished their schooling, they are not always ready to tackles the challenge of jobs and families. They are creating a new phase of life between dependent childhood and independent adulthood. And they're often doing it on purpose. "Many of the students I work with are planning to return home
It's not viewed as a last resort. It's part of a plan.

Finding a good job and an exciting career has become an elusive goal for many recent graduates. The slowing economy of the 1980s and early 1990s, the trend toward downsizing, and the sheer number of not-ready-to-retire baby boomers make for long lines at career placement offices. For many, living at home is the solution.

Some graduates defer job searches altogether and return to their parents to prepare for an independent future. But most spend the time actively looking for work, just as earlier generations of college graduates did. The difference lies in what they do with the money they earn.

"I tend to divide those planning to move home into two groups—the planners and the strugglers," says Haddock. "The planners—who are most often men—expect to go home, the rationale being that they are planning to get married and raise families of their own in the future. What better way is there to get out of debt and save for the future? Living at home cuts down on spending and encourages saving."

"I found a job right after college, but I didn't see the point of moving out," says Joseph Cassano. "I had a serious girlfriend who also lived at home. I knew we were going to get married. I didn't see the point in moving twice—once just to be on my own, and a second time after I got married."

Even if they don't hit the career track right away, most young adults living at home are working at some sort of job. "Almost all of the young adults I have interviewed were employed while living at home," says Brown University sociology professor Lynne Davidman. "Only about half were contributing to the household. One who had been away and then moved back home were more likely to contribute by paying rent or making some other household contribution. But those who had never lived on their own usually didn't pay into the household, even if they were employed."

Young adults who live at home and work, but don't help pay for utilities, mortgage, or food bills often seem to have more discretionary income than their parents do. "The mean income of working live-at-home young adults I surveyed was about $17,000," says Davidman. Some buy new sport-utility vehicles and expensive stereo systems, but others spend the money elsewhere.

"Some of the grads I have advised are living at home and paying rent," says Rebecca Haddock. "But even if they are not, they have an arrangement with their parents about the use of the money they are earning. There is some sort of structure to their fiscal responsibilities." Haddock points out that many of those who are not paying rent are not spending their money just to have fun. They are paying off college loans.

Amy Haber didn't have any college debt. But when she ended up back at home a few months after graduating, she found something else to do with her earnings. She returned home because she stumbled on a job in her field of interest while visit-

Emily Hess, age 21

Education: A bachelor's degree in history and teaching from Emory University in December 1995; took certification exam to teach grades 7 to 12 in New York State last March.

Current employment: Substitute teacher for a small school district in her hometown. "I could have stayed at Emory for another semester and gotten certified to teach in Georgia. That would have cost $10,000. I decided instead to move back home, work in New York, and get certified for free."

Money rules: She does household chores and watches her stepbrother; but pays no room and board. "Because of my job, I have to have a car. I also have student loans from hell. I do set aside some money."

House rules: "I don't have to make an accounting of my whereabouts. I know people my age who do, though."

How many of her friends live with their parents? "A lot of my high school peers are college seniors. One friend just moved home during her last semester of school. She gets along well with her family, and she preferred her room to her apartment choices. I also lived at home part of the time I was in college, and that was my choice. Of my high school friends who didn't go to college, one is managing a gift store and living with her parents. Another dropped out of college to live with a rock band, then moved with them to San Francisco."

In one year: She would like to be a full-time high school teacher in New York City. "I'd like to teach at one of the alternative schools in Manhattan that takes kids who are at risk of not graduating."

In 25 years: "I'd like to live in a larger town with a warm climate. Other than that, I'm content to aspire to my mother's place in life. She has a nice house and family, and she works in youth programming and educational policy. That's pretty much exactly what I want to do."
Young Graduates Still Ask: Now

In the 1967 film The Graduate, Dustin Hoffman epitomized the baby-boom generation's angst about leaving the familiar world of school for the unknown of adulthood. Instead of looking for a job, young graduate Ben Braddock spends the summer lolling around his parents' swimming pool and setting his sights on less lucrative, albeit more intriguing, romantic goals. The movie may be almost 30 years old, but for many newly minted Generation X graduates, the sentiments are the same. Now what?

When baby boomers were leaving college, the traditional European “Grand Tour” was a viable option. For some, it is still the best way to recover from years of college study. But high airfares and shifting fortunes here and abroad have made this option riskier in the 1990s than in the 1960s. Today, other alternatives exist for those who need a break between college and “real life.”

For those with a social conscience, an almost endless array of charitable organizations accept volunteers. The Peace Corps, a U.S. governmental agency established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, places volunteers in a number of countries around the world. Another alternative is Interns for Peace (with U.S. headquarters in New York), an independent, nonpolitical, community-sponsored program dedicated to building trust and respect among the Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel. The group requires a two-year commitment in exchange for housing and a monthly stipend. The Washington, D.C.-based International Voluntary Services, whose volunteers provide technical assistance to local organizations in Asia, southern Africa, and South America, also requires a two-year commitment in trade for food, transportation, and other daily living expenses. The Washington, D.C.-based International Voluntary Services, whose volunteers provide technical assistance to local organizations in Asia, southern Africa, and South America, also requires a two-year commitment in trade for food, transportation, and other daily living expenses. The Washington, D.C.-based International Voluntary Services, whose volunteers provide technical assistance to local organizations in Asia, southern Africa, and South America, also requires a two-year commitment in trade for food, transportation, and other daily living expenses.

Young adults don't have to go abroad to do good. Habitat for Humanity International, based in Americus, Georgia, was founded in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller as a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry to provide affordable housing for all. Full-time volunteer positions have no salary but a small stipend, and volunteer opportunities require work only on weekends. Some of the projects may even be in your own community. Habitat has more than 1,000 active affiliates in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Young people who work with this organization could be literally constructive and still live at home.

Grand tours are still an option, but they are far from free. Airfares can be expensive—a 60-day ticket to London runs between $800 and $900, and that's just to get there. Travel within Europe, food, lodging, and all the “extras” are extra. “But there still are a lot of kids who want to do just that,” says Dawn Baiguini, senior travel counselor at Stone Travel in Cortland, New York. “We get a lot of students coming into the office in the spring, saying, 'I'm graduating, my brain is fried, I just want to go to Europe.' They want a ticket to London and one for the Chunnel. The rest of their trip is what the industry calls 'FIT'—foreign independent travel."

If two months isn't enough, wanderers can extend their trips. "Most tickets allow you to stay longer if you pay a penalty of $100," says Baiguini. But what happens when the money runs out? It may be time to look for a job. Organizations like New York City-based Inter-Exchange help American citizens find short-term work throughout Europe. Jobs range from teaching English to au pair work for American families living abroad.

Those who find teaching or babysitting too dull may prefer to work at a Club Med location in Europe or North Africa. The resorts routinely hire young singles for direct benefit from college. Others try to make a go of it alone and then return to the nest. Financial pressures, loneliness, or the need for emotional support may govern a person's choice to move back home after an extended absence. The share of those who left home by age 18 because they got married but later returned, usually af-

IT'S NOT A PLAN

Amy Haber would not qualify as one of Haddock's “strugglers.” This group of young adults plans to go home, but their plans don't go much further than that. "They just don't want to struggle on their own. They want the security afforded them by life with Mom and Dad," says Haddock.

Some young strugglers come home directly from college. Others try to make a go of it alone and then return to the nest. Financial pressures, loneliness, or the need for emotional support may govern a person's choice to move back home after an extended absence. The share of those who left home by age 18 because they got married but later returned, usually af-

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two-thirds of biology majors continue their schooling, for example, usually in medical school.

The University of Rochester in Rochester, New York, offers a different approach. The Take Five program offers selected students a fifth year of undergraduate study, for free. "Take Five was launched as a way of awarding students who are self-aware and want to enrich their education," says dean of undergraduate studies William S. Green. "It is not designed to be a career preparation program. It provides a way for students with demanding majors to have some time to explore other fields before they graduate, and it doesn't cost them anything."

One of the students who opted for Take Five spent a year exploring French literature, even though his career goal was neurosurgery. Another majored in engineering, but did his fifth year in Japanese language and culture. That student, currently completing a Ph.D. in optics at Rochester, is already in demand by engineering firms eyeing the Far East for their next ventures. "In a world where people have to change jobs a lot, knowing yourself is very important," says Green. "Take Five gives qualified students the opportunity to get to know themselves a little better before they graduate."

Whether they get to know themselves better by building houses or cruising the Mediterranean depends on both the personality of a college graduate and his or her financial situation. Either way, parents may be comforted to know that the route to self-knowledge is usually navigated within a year or so after tossing the mortar board. From then on, it's the more traditional road to careers, kids, mortgages, and other trappings of adulthood. It also happens to coincide, oddly enough, with the expiration of the grace period on most student loans.

—Marcia Mogelonsky
The Rocky Road to Adulthood
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dence. Financially, though, it is the only thing that seems sensible to me."

How long young people will stay at home once they have returned is hard to predict. Goldscheider, Thornton, and Young-DeMarco found that about half of those who moved home after an extended period away left again by age 23. Three in four left within two years. "Most of my clients stay home about a year before leaving again," says Rebecca Haddock. "Many of them say that's all they can take." Their parents might agree. But Lynne Davidman reports that most of the young people she interviewed did not have any set plans about when they would leave home again. "Most are not thinking that far ahead," she says.

GOOD REASONS

Young men are especially likely to hang out with their parents for an indefinite period. "Young women make transitions to new family roles at younger ages," write Goldscheider, Thornton, and Young-DeMarco. They "marry at earlier ages than men, and they are more likely than young men the same age to cohabit with partners who are able to support an independent residence based on age and on earnings."

Women often have more incentive than men to minimize their time in parents' homes. "The young men I speak to don't lose their autonomy when they go home," says Haddock. "They can pretty much do what they want. But women find that they have more responsibilities when they go home. They feel obligated to help around the house with cooking and cleaning. They also have more rules to obey."

"The traditional division of labor within the household has a lot to do with the expectations that surround returning home. Young men in general find it easier," says Frances Goldscheider. "They aren't expected to contribute to certain aspects of household organization in the way young women are." Amy Haber can relate to this. While living with her parents and saving for a home, she paid only a token amount of rent. Her main contribution to the household was being on call to help with shopping and other errands.

Some young women find that being on their own, even if it means having to economize, is worth it for the privacy it brings. "I may not have the best stereo in the world," says one young woman who lives alone in a studio apartment. "But I also don't have to explain why my boyfriend is still here in the morning."

There is one way in which young women are less willing to cope, however. "They are much less likely to take a chance on living alone if they feel their safety is being compromised. "If a young woman cannot afford to live in a safe neighborhood, she will choose to live at home rather than try to live alone," says Nancy Woodhull, scholar-in-residence and director of media studies at the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York. "Women put their personal safety first, even if it means having to live at home."

Few parents will turn away a child in need of physical, emotional, or financial security, no matter how old that child is. But those who looked forward to an empty nest may find that having it feathered by adult children is nothing to crow about. "Some young adults complain about having to follow rules, and help around the house. But that's nothing compared to the parents," says Haddock. "Many parents feel that they did something wrong. They are relieved to find out they're not the only ones to have their grown kids return."

"As long as my children were doing something responsible with their lives, there was no problem with having them at home," says Marilyn O'Connor, whose two sons lived at home for varying periods of time before and after college. "My husband, however, always felt differently. He felt that if they were so responsible, why weren't they living on their own?"

It may be cold comfort to parents who look forward to grandchildren's toys around the house to find instead the detritus of post-adolescence. Knowing that this transitional state is usually a stopgap measure may soften the blow. "The majority of those who return home see it as a transitional phase—a hiatus—while they try to figure out what to do next," says Frances Goldscheider.

As more and more young adults return to the nest as a deliberate step on the path toward their future, the phenomenon is losing its stigma as a last resort of the insecure and irresponsible. What looks on the surface like a denial of adulthood is taking shape as a bridge to true maturity. Maybe the kids are more grown up than we thought.

TAKING IT FURTHER