

Law enrollments stabilizing

By LORA CUYKENDALL
Of the Emerald

Although national statistics gathered by the American Bar Association (ABA) show that law school enrollments, which have more than doubled in the last decade, are leveling off nationally, the competition to get into the University's Law School was just as tough this year as last.

Becky Anderson, admissions director for the school, reports that while the number of applications decreased slightly this year, the quality of the applicants is still on the rise. "It looks like only the top students are bothering to apply," she says. "The average GPA of applicants this year was about 3.5." She says that figure is slightly higher than last year's average.

Anderson also reports that the average score on the Law School Admission Test of the Fall 1975 entering class was 650. That compares with a national average score on the test of 518 for men and 523 for women. Average score on the 1973-74 test was 527.

Besides finding that average test scores have declined this year, the ABA reports that for the first time since 1968, the

size of first-year law classes has declined. James White, the ABA's consultant on legal education, says that from fall 1974 to fall 1975, the number of first-year students dropped from 38,074 to 37,892 in the 156 law schools accredited by the ABA.

"Many law schools experienced a decrease in the total number of applicants who met the given admission criteria in each law school," White says. "Additionally, a number of law schools experienced a greater number of 'no shows' in their first choice of admittees."

But he says only one law school reported any unfilled seats in its 1975 entering class.

Anderson says the size of the University's fall 1975 first-year class was 488, up from last year's enrollment of 452 and the 1973 enrollment of 417. She expects the school to reach its maximum capacity of 490 students next year.

According to Anderson the level of competition among applicants has remained about the same since the dramatic jump it made in 1971. For example, the average test score of beginning law students in 1968 was 565 and the average GPA only 2.78. In 1970, the average GPA jumped to 3.0 and since 1971 it has re-

mained at about 3.5. The number of persons seeking admission in 1968 was one-third the number applying in 1971.

The year 1971 also saw a big jump in the number of women applying to the school. In 1970, the school received 40 applications from women, but in 1971, 168 women wanted in. Anderson says that for the past seven years, women have made up about 26 per cent of the incoming class. Of this year's 1,337 applications, 275 were from women.

Nationally, the number of women enrolled in law schools increased by 22 per cent. This year, women made up more than half of the classes at Antioch School of Law, the University of California at Davis and Northeastern University.

The ABA also reports minority group enrollments in law schools nationally continued to rise this year. The total enrollment of persons from minority groups increased four per cent from 8,333 to 8,676, compared with 10 per cent last year. The number of minorities applying to the University's law school has increased from 20 in 1970 to 90 in fall 1975. However, Anderson says minorities make up only 5 per cent of the law school enrollment.

'Galaxy' duels spaceships

(CPS) — They sit there ominously in the Stanford University Coffee House, their large screens showing simulated spaceship battles in outer space, their coffers filling the pockets of a Stanford graduate to the tune of \$1,300 each month.

"They" are "Galaxy," a computerized contest for electronic game nuts in which spaceships duel to the finish in ferocious battles among the stars. Contestants stare at the intergalactic battlefield through a large screen and manipulate their spaceships by tiller-like controls on the machine's instrument panel. By all accounts, the competition is fierce. Student Greg White says he plays

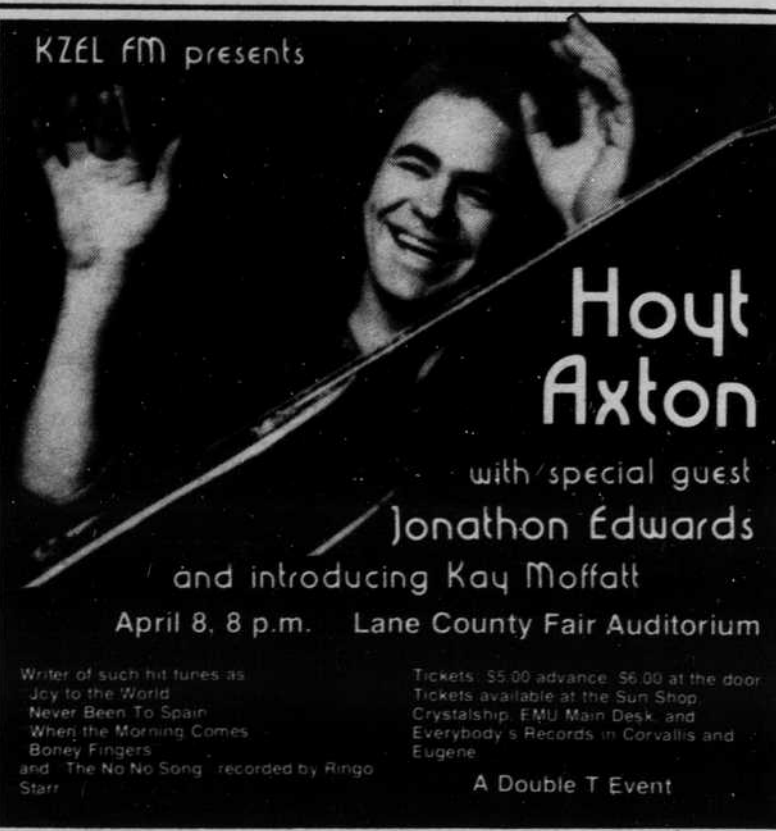
"Galaxy" six times a week.

"I've got a job," he explains. "What else would I spend my money on? It's like jousting, you just get in there and kill."

Galaxy is the brainchild of Bill Pitts, who left Stanford in 1968 with a degree in statistics. He says each machine costs \$20,000 to build, not counting labor. Repair costs on the two human brains cost \$500 to \$600 each time one malfunctions.

A local high school student who said he played twice a week, won a recent three and a half hour contest. "I used to play more but school got in the way," he said as he collected his prize—an afternoon of free games.

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