

and return to SJC. "Our presentation left no doubt in their minds," Treadway says. "In about five minutes, they came up with

PARKING WHOAS

U. of Utah — A parking services officer says he was nearly run down by the owner of a car he'd just ticketed. The owner approached the car and swore at the officer, who hopped on his bike and pedaled away. [Insert *Jaws* theme here.] The officer heard a car engine revving behind him, looked over his shoulder and found himself being pursued by the aforementioned disgruntled ticket holder. The officer made a narrow escape by ducking between two parked cars. He claims the man pulled up, stared him down and drove off.

COLUMBO U.

U. of San Francisco — Sam Spade never had it so good. For the past two years, professor Bruce Talbot has been running a detective agency from the U. of San Francisco law school — using students as his gumshoes-for-hire. Students have worked with the San Francisco County public defender's office, interviewing friends and character witnesses of assault, carjacking and even murder suspects. "We offer trained investigators for free," Talbot says. "It's a good move for both of us." The only trouble Talbot reports is the tendency of some students to run around the county offices yelling, "Book 'em, Dano! Book 'em! Book 'em!" No, not really.

CRUNCHING NUMBERS

Trinity College, Conn. — Students in professor David Henderson's chemistry class are counting their chips for every batch. Each semester, Henderson's students learn about standard deviation by counting the number of chips in a bag of Chips Ahoy cookies. They also investigate Nabisco's claim that every bag has 1,000 chocolate morsels. (Last semester's final average: 1,196 chips/bag.)

SMITHSONIAN UNCLOTHED

Washington, D.C. — The Smithsonian Institute last month shredded thousands of photographs of nude Yale U. freshmen taken decades ago by the university's physical education department. The "posture" photos, originally used to place freshmen in "appropriate" gym classes, were acquired by a researcher and donated to the museum. Yale asked the Smithsonian to shred the 9,000 student photos after nervous alumni protested. The museum complied. Damn.

Wayne Treadway remembers when his college had only four computers. "Well, eight, but some were Apple Classics. And we could only access them for three hours per night."



Andrew Figel, Daily Pennsylvanian, U. of Pennsylvania

That was almost four years ago. Now Alaska's Sheldon Jackson College has four 24-hour computer labs, and 75 of its 200 students have their own computers.

"If we wanted to attract quality students, we had to get technology up here," explains Treadway, who was student body president in 1993. The student government that year decided that it couldn't wait for the administration to get around to updating the campus. It reallocated funds and came up with \$10,000 and the draft of a program.

The program called for the board of trustees to forgive two-thirds of the price of a new computer as an incentive for students to attend

[another] \$60,000."

Starting in the spring of 1994, students had the option to get a new IBM, Dell or Macintosh LC3 for \$350 down. For a little extra, they can get notebooks or laptops. Students pay off the computers by returning to SJC for two more semesters. When they leave, they own them.

"I love it," says Tim Andrew, a senior and one of the first to take advantage of the program. "It definitely gets you up-to-date on what's available in technology." Andrew communicates all over campus via the internal fax modem that came with his Dell.

"Mine's paid off now," says senior Erin Downey about her Mac. "You can't beat it. I volunteer for a botanist who paid much more for the same computer."

Treadway says he shrugged off the idea that students aren't responsible for making huge changes. "In two years, students have put a big dent in getting Sheldon Jackson up to modern times," he says. "We told the administration, 'Hey, we want to go this way,' and we went for it."

■ Bonnie Datt

Raising 'Cane

Miami musicians can thank Chicago's Columbia College for a shot at stardom. It was Columbia's own record label that inspired U. of Miami School of Music students to start 'Cane Records in fall 1993.

Today, the Coral Gables, Fla., record label is a unique proving ground for about 35 music industry students as well as a tremendous vehicle for local artists.

"Up-and-coming artists get an incredible break," says Serona Elton, 'Cane vice president of promotions and fund raising and a UM grad student. "They get a chance to be on a label, with a CD and a ton of promotion."

Unlike students at Columbia College, UM students take the process from beginning (signing an artist) to end (producing and promoting the group's CD). They also learn about copyrights, publishing and song writing. And they do it for the experience — they get no course credit for their work, and profits, if any, get reinvested in the company.

Tracks are recorded on campus at Gusman Concert Hall studios and are mixed, pro bono, by the renowned Criteria Recording Studios in North Miami.

The first group 'Cane signed was treehouse, a student band whose sound is a fusion of jazz, rock and classical.

Working from an \$8,000 per project budget based on loans and independent sponsorship, the label had the treehouse CD, *Listen to Reason*, in local music stores by September 1994.

"One of our goals for 1994 was to put out a CD," says treehouse drummer and UM '94 grad Scott Garapolo. "The ['Cane] contract turned out to be treehouse-friendly. [They have] no rights to our songs. They didn't want to own us — they wanted [us for our] educational value."

Unlike a traditional recording contract, which typically spans several years and releases, 'Cane works on a 16-month timetable and with only one band at a time. In exchange for producing and printing 1,000 CDs, the UM label keeps all but a 10 percent royalty after breaking even on the investment. 'Cane is in the process of signing its next artist.

"Other universities that have music industry programs can use us as a model, because we're doing it on a bigger scale than the few other student



U. of Miami music industry majors put hands, heads and hearts together to make a record company.

labels around the country," Elton says. "We do it from A to Z."

■ Jason Molinet, *The Miami Hurricane*, U. of Miami

Sean Hemmerle, *The Miami Hurricane*, U. of Miami