

Media Advisory on interesting graduates

June 13, 1985

MEDIA ADVISORY

Note: With graduation fever pervading the UCSD campus, we checked with college deans and academic advisors to get the names of graduating seniors with particularly interesting histories. Here are brief sketches of five students who were suggested by our contacts. All come enthusiastically recommended. And each is willing to speak with the media. If you're interested in meeting with any of them, give us a call--we will be happy to furnish additional information and phone numbers. (All four UCSD colleges and graduate studies will hold graduation ceremonies on Sunday, June 16, 1985.)

MICHELE HOYT, 32, Muir College, psychology

After high school, Michele Hoyt became a hairdresser because no one in her family, least of all Michele, believed she had the drive to do anything else. This Sunday, in spite of tremendous odds, she will graduate from the University of California, San Diego's Muir College with a degree in psychology. In the fall, Michele, who says she is "first generation college," will attend the University of Texas at Galveston as a first year medical student. Following medical school, the former beautician from Point Loma expects to realize a childhood dream and enter pediatric medicine. Michele is married to her second husband, a systems analyst, and is the mother of five-year-old twin girls.

ANGE MASON, Third College, psychology

Detached retinas left psychology major Ange Mason legally blind during her junior year at UCSD. Nonetheless, she will graduate on schedule Sunday with her Third College classmates. She completed her degree with the help of fellow students who read all her assigned reading, research materials and exams to her. Following her sight loss, Ange abandoned plans to go to law school--"it requires too much reading"--and now intends to go into business management, preferably for a large retail corporation.

JAMIE BAUDIZZON, 23, Revelle College, psychophysiology

Jamie Baudizzon's approaching graduation from UCSD's Revelle College has created a great deal of excitement among family and friends in his hometown of Weaverville, a tiny burg in Northern California. "I'm the only Baudizzon to go through college and graduate," he explains. He expects there will be even more excitement during commencement exercises when his family realizes he's receiving the outstanding service award from the UC Alumni Association and delivering one of two student addresses. Jamie, an admitted "overachiever," will graduate with a degree in psychophysiology, a major he developed himself in order to pursue the interaction between the mind and the body. Throughout his years at UCSD, he was active in some two dozen campus organizations, at the same time working off-campus as an emergency medical technician. Jamie will spend a year in Sacramento working on a special legislative project for California's Health Planning Agency before either entering medical school or joining the Peace Corps.

DORA COBIAN, 33, Third College, Spanish literature

Dora Cobian, was a member of UCSD's Third College charter class back in the early 1970s, but she dropped out during her freshman year. The cultural gap between her traditional, Mexican upbringing in San Ysidro and the new freedoms and social activism on the La Jolla campus was too great for her. However, in 1980, she tried it again, and this time she's making it. Despite an enormously trying five years, during which a number of family tragedies struck, Dora will graduate from Third College with a degree in Spanish literature. The single mother of two will return to campus in the fall to enter a Ph.D. program in Spanish literature. She hopes eventually to teach and write.

CHRISTIAN SHINABERGER, Revelle College, animal physiology

Christian Shinaberger, who lost his sight and 70 percent of his hearing as a young child, is graduating from UCSD's Revelle College with a 3.6 grade point average (out of a possible 4.0) and a degree in animal physiology. He will enter UCLA's School of Public Health in the fall with a Will Rogers Memorial Fellowship from UCLA worth \$3,200 a year plus fees, bolstered by a \$2,000 scholarship achievement award from Recording for the Blind (presented to him in New York by Barbara Walters) and a \$2,000 prize from the American Council of the Blind. He plans to pursue a doctorate in epidemiology and embark on a career in the public health service. Noted for his intelligence, determination and fantastic memory, Shinaberger has tutored his classmates and served as a teaching assistant in a course in biochemistry. He grew up in Santa Monica.

(June 13, 1985) For more information contact: Susan Pollock, 452-3120