

1 Vu was so determined to play football during the 1992  
2 season that when he was unable to schedule an appointment to see  
3 a doctor, Vu forged his family physician's name to the medical  
4 release. This is but one instance of Vu's tenacity in his  
5 commitment to the game and the Escondido High School football  
6 team.

7 This does not negate the duty of the school district and  
8 the football coaches and medical personal. The head coach and  
9 athletic director, Bruce Ward had a duty to implement a system  
10 to ensure that the physical well being of all the players is  
11 given top priority. No such system was in place at Escondido  
12 High School. Further, throughout the relationship between  
13 NC&EPT and Escondido High School there has been conflict between  
14 the coaching staff and the trainers. The trainers did not have  
15 the support of the coaches and there were many times that the  
16 coaches did not conform to the instructions provided nor the  
17 recommendations made by the trainers.

18 Although denied by the coaches, it was the opinion of the  
19 trainers that the primary concern of the coaching staff was  
20 winning a game rather than the safety of their players. While  
21 this attitude is expected at the professional and possibly the  
22 college level, it is opposed to the attitude which should  
23 predominate at the high school level.

24 The athletic trainer, Steve Jessop, told Vu and the coaches  
25 that Vu was restricted from contact for the week following the  
26 Temecula game. Vu and the coaches chose to ignore this advise  
27 and Vu played in the San Marcos game. At this game, Vu  
28 sustained a serious injury. The coaches admit that they did