Some of the objectives of our club are to have fun in the present, get ready for the future and honor our past. We had a phenomenal year in 2003. Winning the National Championship in football was the beginning. Our club hosted Ohio State’s living legend, Archie Griffin, with a reception of over 130 people. We funded our scholarship fund with an additional $6,000 and gave 4 local students scholarship money to attend our university. We held our first ever beach party. Between 100-300 fans showed up each week at the National Sports Grill to watch our Buckeyes “fight the team across the field” and of course we ended the year with a fun holiday party attended by 100 great Buckeyes.

In December of last year our own Will Gronek came up with an incredible idea to start honoring our past, A YEAR IN REVIEW NEWSLETTER! Our plan is to do this each year with photos and articles about our events of the year. We hope you find this fun and informative.

Go Bucks!
Mike Kourie
President

Well, as Mike mentioned above, this newsletter you hold in your hands was my little brainchild. The seed was planted at a committee member meeting when we were discussing the exciting year to come. I want to thank Mike for giving me the opportunity to make my vision a reality and for the opportunity to give to something that has given so much back to me. I hope you like it, so without further ado…
I work for All Pro Broadcasting. All Pro Broadcasting is owned by Willie Davis, former Cleveland Brown, former Green Bay Packer and the proud owner of two Super Bowl rings for Super Bowls one and two. I was in the office with Willie and his son Duane, who played his college ball at Missouri, discussing the upcoming game between Miami and the Ohio State Buckeyes. Duane informed me that Ohio State didn’t have a chance and that Miami was going to beat us by four touchdowns. Duane mentioned some nonsense about Miami’s speed and their explosive offense. I then explained to Duane about Big Ten football and the importance of a strong defense. I told him about the likes of Matt Wilhelm, Chris Gamble and of course Michael Doss. This is when Willie Davis stepped into the conversation and said “Duane, you better listen to Richard. He makes a good point here.” I then told Duane that if we could hold Miami to three touchdowns or less we could win this game. Duane then backed down a little and said we would lose by only two touchdowns. Fast forward one week and Peg and I are on the road to Tempe. The cooler is full of soft drinks, water and food for the trip. The flag is flying proud above the truck. Two Buckeyes are ready for some football. We left a day early so we could watch the band practice. We encounter several Buckeye fans on the road. We honk and wave at each other. The first order of business is band practice. I had been to a practice session when I was in high school but Peg had never seen them apart from games. I told her she would have new respect for them when she saw what it took to put a half-time show together. She was impressed. Those guys and gals really work hard. There were alumni band members there and they did a few numbers with the current band members.

Next we find a place to park downtown near the stadium and get lunch. Then it is pep rally time. The band, the cheerleaders, Brutus, the coach, representatives from the team and of course thousands of Buckeye fans. One nice touch that most people missed was the band marching in chanting, “We are the Buckeyes. We are killer nuts.”

Game day is finally here. Hey, we are in the last row at the top of the stadium. But wait, I can’t complain. We are about to witness history being made. I’ll let someone else analyze the game. All I will say is where are the Miami fans? This stadium is 85% Buckeyes. This is like a home game. O-H-I-O resounds through the desert on a night that can only be described as epic. We win. We are undefeated. We are National Champions. My voice is gone. My emotions are drained. Go Bucks!

Hey wait a minute. I have to call Duane.

– Rich McIntosh
A Better Person Than an Athlete...

I am new to the club and one of my first events other than cheering for the Buckeyes at the National Sports Grill was attending "An evening with Archie" on June 17th. As it turns out this event is on my personal highlight reel for 2003. I was lucky enough to graduate from The Ohio State University far too long ago but I was around for Archie Griffin’s football career. I am a Columbus native like Archie so I knew of him when he played high school football locally and I continued to follow his pro career as I do for all former Buckeyes. How could I turn down the chance to visit with one of my favorite Buckeyes right here in Southern California? The site of the event couldn’t have been better, a beautiful California summer evening poolside at the home of Mike and Kitty Kourie. I hoped there would be a chance for autographs so I brought along my original Sports Illustrated cover of Archie when he was a freshman. There was a long line but Archie signed everything that was put in front of him. I always suspected that Archie was a better person than he was an athlete and this evening certainly confirmed it for me. The highlight of the evening was Archie’s talk. Someone asked Archie what was his best memory of his days as a football player at Ohio State. I was sure he was going to mention his two Heisman trophies, beating that school up north, winning Rose Bowls, or any of the other many team and individual awards while he played. Instead Archie told us a story about "Coach Hayes". As a freshman, Archie’s the first home game was a typical Ohio State blow out so there were many substitutions later in the game. When Archie heard the call for Number 45 to go into the game, he was confused because there were four players wearing that number that day. Archie did however get into the game and fumbled his first carry as a college player. Archie was devastated but determined. After the game Archie mentioned to his dad that is career was probably over because Coach Hayes despised fumbling. Archie pressed on and continued to impress his coaches with his work ethic and determination at practice. Archie was surprised to enter the next home game this time early in a tight contest and rest as they say is a part of Ohio State football history. Archie set a single game rushing record that day and inspired his teammates on to victory. The standing ovation Archie received when he left the game that day is one of his best memories as a Buckeye football player. Doesn’t that story say it all about Archie as an individual and the great fans we are all a part of at Ohio State. Early in the evening, Archie was introduced as Ohio State’s first two-time Heisman trophy winner. That maybe true someday but there will never be another athlete like him and I doubt there will ever be a better person. I know that there will never be another Number 45 for me.

– Bo Kehrer
Family Get Together at Doheny State Beach

Think of surfer dudes, beach babes, waves, sandcastles and the Ohio State Fight Song in the background. This was the scene at Doheny State Beach for the awesome OSU OC/IE Alumni Club Summer Family Get Together. Everybody enjoyed themselves as we had our own area to play games and barbecue while many played in the sand and the water. As a bonus, Andrew Brown, one of our scholarship students brought his scrapbook and shared his events at Ohio State. He attended with his father. Hilary LeBail, another of our scholarship students attended with her mother, and enjoyed the day while interacting with her new Buckeye family. The whole group stayed for hours, as it was a relaxing and fun time to share with other Buckeyes. At the end we all gathered around while President Mike Kourie enthralled us with some of his Ohio State stories. Our club loves to have these family events. Look forward to another one this summer and plan on attending!

– Jackie Lancina
### Season Results • 2003

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Aug. 30</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>W 28-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Sept. 6</td>
<td>San Diego State</td>
<td>W 16-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Sept. 13</td>
<td>North Carolina State</td>
<td>W 44-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Sept. 20</td>
<td>(23) Bowling Green</td>
<td>W 24-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Sept. 27</td>
<td>Northwestern</td>
<td>W 20-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Oct. 11</td>
<td>at Wisconsin</td>
<td>L 10-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Oct. 18</td>
<td>(8) Iowa</td>
<td>W 19-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Oct. 25</td>
<td>at Indiana</td>
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<td>Sat., Nov. 8</td>
<td>Michigan State</td>
<td>W 33-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Nov. 15</td>
<td>(18) Purdue</td>
<td>W 16-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Nov. 22</td>
<td>at (6) Michigan</td>
<td>L 21-35</td>
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**Postseason**

Fri., Jan. 2     (14) Kansas State     W 35-28
What fun! Our Alumni Association of Orange County and The Inland Empire is the greatest! It is truly a pleasure to open up our home to such gracious guests. Over 100 proud Buckeyes came in their holiday regalia to share some good cheer and discuss their Buckeye Bowl Strategy. The delightful California weather allowed us to dine & chat poolside as we basked in the warmth of our Ohio State friends.

The food was both delicious and plentiful thanks to the support of our wonderful Board. They also showed their appreciation by presenting our president, Mike Kourie, with a lovely framed collage of 2003 Club Events. Other Board members were honored with certificates of achievement for their dedication and hard work.

There were some outstanding raffle prizes given away. Along with a basketball signed by Coach Jim O’Brien, there was also an OSU Louisville slugger bat, won by Matt McCroskey. It was signed that night by our own All-American former OSU baseball player, Stew Hein.

It was a great way to “wrap up” a great year! — Kitty Kourie
On To 2004

Well there you have it. Our first YEAR IN REVIEW NEWSLETTER! It’s now our challenge to make 2004 even better. Christie Brockhage, our new events chairperson, is busy working on plans for this year. We will notify you once our events have been established. Your officers and board members are committed to making this year more fun and exciting than ever before. Our motto is “LET’S DO MORE IN ‘04”!

“Come and sing Ohio’s praise.”

Waiting…past member Andrew Gronek impatiently awaits the 2004 season.

Empty…soon, these seats will be full again, and so will our hearts with pride.

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