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ON THE COVER

Cal's three seniors – Donte Smith, Joe Shipp and Brian Wethers – hope to lead Cal back to the postseason for a fifth consecutive year. Entering the 2002-03 season, they have helped the Bears to 61 wins, a quarterfinal NIT berth in 2000 and NCAA Tournament appearances in both 2001 and '02.



CREDITS

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GOLDEN BEAR ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown/Last School
0	Rod Benson	F/C	6-10	195	Fr	HS	San Diego, CA/Torrey Pines HS
1	Tashaan Forehan-Kelly*	G	6-3	170	So	1V	Irvine, CA/Woodbridge HS
2	A.J. Diggs	G	5-9	175	Jr	2V	Long Beach, CA/Long Beach Poly HS
3	Donte Smith	G	6-2	190	Sr^	3V	Washington, DC/Anacostia HS
10	Jordi Geli Vilardell	F	6-10	190	Fr	HS	Girona, Spain/Montessori-Palav HS
15	Richard Midgley	G	6-1	200	Fr	HS	Burgess Hill, England/Modesto Christian HS (CA)
20	Martin Smith*	G	5-11	155	Fr	HS	Escondido, CA/The Bishop's School
22	Mark Thompson*	F	6-4	215	Jr	JC	Santa Rosa, CA/Piner HS/Mesa College
24	Amit Tamir	F/C	6-11	260	So	1V	Jerusalem, Israel/Ort HS
25	Brian Wethers	G/F	6-5	215	Sr	3V	Murrieta, CA/Murrieta Valley HS
30	Erik Bond	F	6-7	205	Fr^	RS	Seattle, WA/Seattle Prep
33	Gabriel Hughes	C	6-11	225	Jr	2V	Carson, CA/Bishop Montgomery HS
34	Joe Shipp	F	6-5	220	Sr	3V	Los Angeles, CA/Fairfax HS
35	Steve Panawek*	F/G	6-5	190	Fr	HS	Moraga, CA/Miramonte HS
40	Conor Famulener	F	6-6	230	Jr	2V	Walnut Creek, CA/De La Salle HS
55	David Paris	F	6-9	260	Fr	HS	Modesto, CA/Modesto Christian HS

Head Coach: Ben Braun (7th year)

Associate Head Coach: Louis Reynaud

Assistant Coaches: Jon Wheeler, Joe Pasternack

^denotes player has used redshirt season

*denotes walk-on

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

No.	Name	
3	Donte Smith	DON-tay
1	Tashaan Forehan-Kelly	TAY-shon FOR-han-Kelly
10	Jordi Geli Vilardell	JOR-dee JELL-ee VEE-lar-DELL
24	Amit Tamir	ah-MEET tah-MEER
35	Steve Panawek	PAN-ah-wek
40	Conor Famulener	CON-er fah-MEW-len-ur
	Louis Reynaud	RAY-no

BEAR FACTS

Location: Berkeley, CA

Founded: 1868

Enrollment: 32,000

Nickname: Golden Bears

Colors: Blue (282) & Gold (116)

Conference: Pacific-10

Chancellor: Dr. Robert M. Berdahl

Athletic Director: Stephen C. Gladstone

Arena (Capacity): Walter A. Haas Jr.

Pavilion (11,892)

Press Row Phone: (510) 642-3098

2001-02 Overall Record: 23-9

2002 Pac-10 Record/Finish: 12-6/T2nd

2002 Postseason: NCAA Second Round

Lettermen Returning/Lost: 8/6

Starters Returning/Lost: 2/3

Redshirts Returning: 1

Newcomers: 7

Roster Breakdown (Sr/Jr/So/Fr): 3/3/2/8

Basketball Office (510) 642-0361

125 Haas Pavilion, Berkeley, CA 94720 Fax: (510) 642-6807

Head Coach Ben Braun (Wisconsin '75)

Record at Cal 118-70 (6 years)

Career Record 451-305 (25 years)

Associate Head Coach Louis Reynaud (San Francisco State '82)

Assistant Coach Jon Wheeler (California '87)

Assistant Coach Joe Pasternack (Indiana '99)

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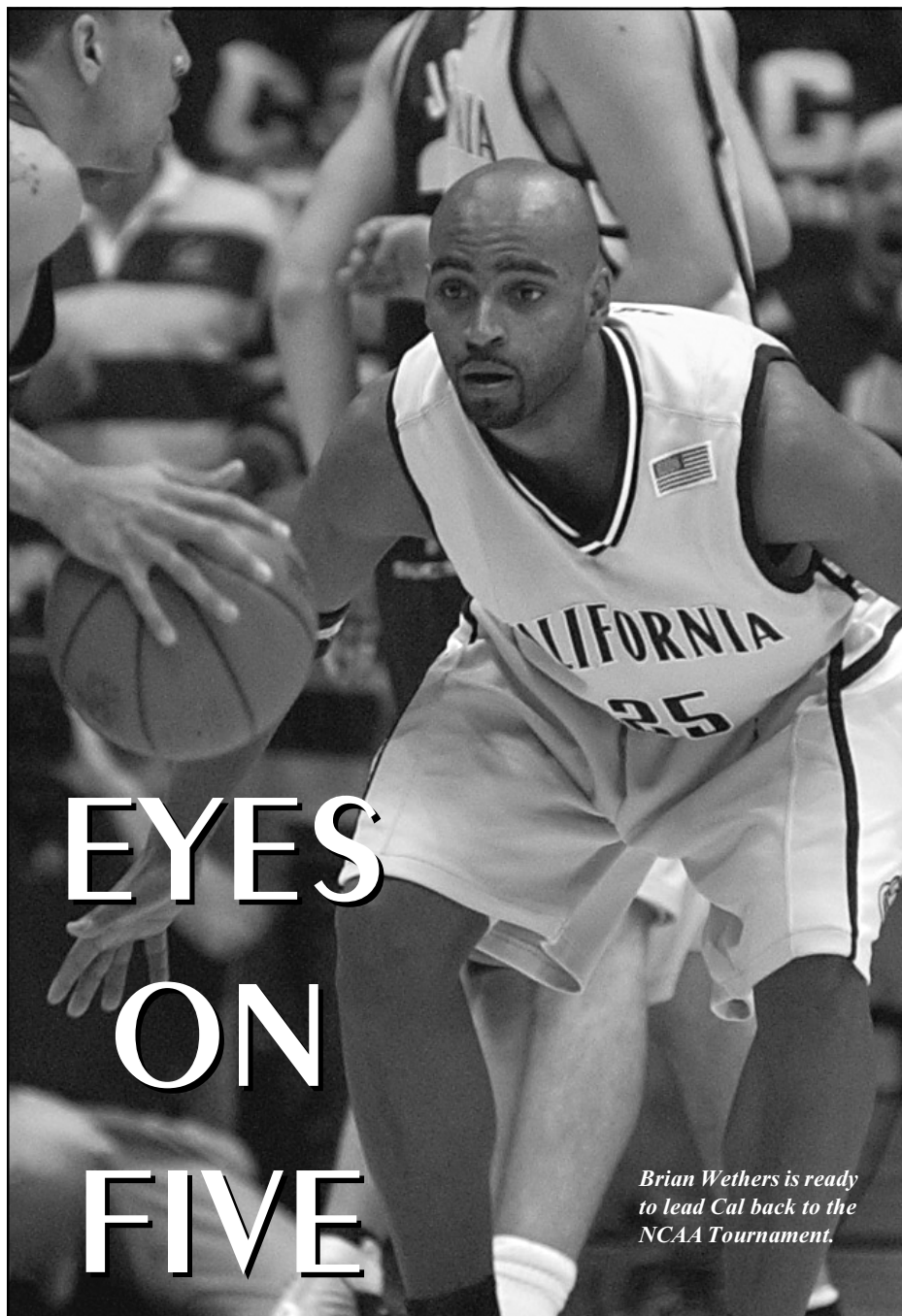
Publications Assistant Evan Kerr



A black and white photograph of a basketball player, Joe Shipp, in mid-air performing a dunk. He is wearing a white jersey with "CALIFORNIA" and the number "34" on it. The basketball hoop and net are visible above him, and a crowd of spectators is blurred in the background.

2002-03 SEASON Outlook

Joe Shipp
SENIOR FORWARD



EYES ON FIVE

Brian Wethers is ready to lead Cal back to the NCAA Tournament.

GOLDEN BEARS SEEK FIFTH STRAIGHT TRIP TO THE POSTSEASON

In Cal's long basketball history – one that started in 1907 and includes one NCAA championship and another NIT title – the Golden Bears have made 17 postseason appearances.

Not once, though, has Cal warranted five consecutive playoff berths. Legendary coach Pete Newell took the Bears to four NCAA

Tournaments in a row from 1957-60, and Lou Campanelli had his teams playing in March four times in a five-year span from 1986-90. No one else has come close.

That is, until **Ben Braun** arrived on campus in the fall of 1996.

In his initial season in Berkeley, Braun guided Cal to the Sweet 16 of the '97 NCAA Tournament. Then, after a one-year hiatus, he has since led Cal to four straight postseason bids. Braun's Bears captured the 1999 National Invitation Tournament and reached the 2000 NIT quarterfinals, while the last two clubs have garnered NCAA berths.

Now, Cal has the opportunity for a fifth straight postseason appearance.

To reach that level, Braun has the benefit of fielding a team that sports eight returning lettermen, including a pair of senior starters, from last year's unit that finished 23-9 overall and claimed a spot in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Wings **Brian Wethers** and **Joe Shipp** – Cal's top two scorers in 2001-02 – return for their final campaigns, while 6-11 sophomore forward **Amit Tamir** gives the Bears a versatile big man with inside-outside abilities.

"Familiarity will be a key for us," Braun said. "That's always a plus for any team. Brian and Joe came on strong last year, and they were playing really well at the wing for us. Amit certainly was a solid first-year player. I think we've got a good nucleus coming back."

The biggest concern for Braun is at point guard, where junior **A.J. Diggs** will be the only player available with any collegiate experience during the first part of the season. Senior **Donte Smith** expects to return to the lineup in early January, following quadriceps surgery in the fall, while freshman **Richard Midgley** will be learning the ropes early in the season.

"Point guard is the hardest position to play," Braun said. "You're directing your team. You're making decisions late in the game. You're the coach on the floor. I think A.J.'s up for the challenge. There's pressure, but I think it's an opportunity for him."

A master at devising game plans that fit his personnel, Braun is certain to develop a system that will take advantage of the quickness and athleticism that his 2002-03 squad possesses. Almost every player on the roster runs the floor well and can adapt to several positions, giving Cal the ability to cause match-up problems on both ends of the court.

"With the players we have this year, a lot of people will get an opportunity to contribute," said Braun, who has compiled a 118-70 record with the Bears and owns a 25-year mark of 451-305. "Not only are our veteran players going to have to perform at a high level, but our young guys are also going to need to step up."

Cal's biggest foe may be its schedule, which is one of its strongest in several seasons. After opening at the Pit in New Mexico and traveling to Cleveland State, the Bears return home to host Howard. Preseason Top 10 schools Kansas (in the Pete Newell Challenge) and Georgia (in the Wooden Classic) loom ahead, while the Golden Bear Classic features a pair of 2002 NIT teams in Louisiana-Lafayette and Detroit-Mercy. Pac-10 regular-season play opens and closes with Stanford (Jan. 4, March 8) and concludes with the Pac-10 Tournament in Los Angeles March 13-15.

If Cal can successfully navigate through that



2002-03 SEASON OUTLOOK



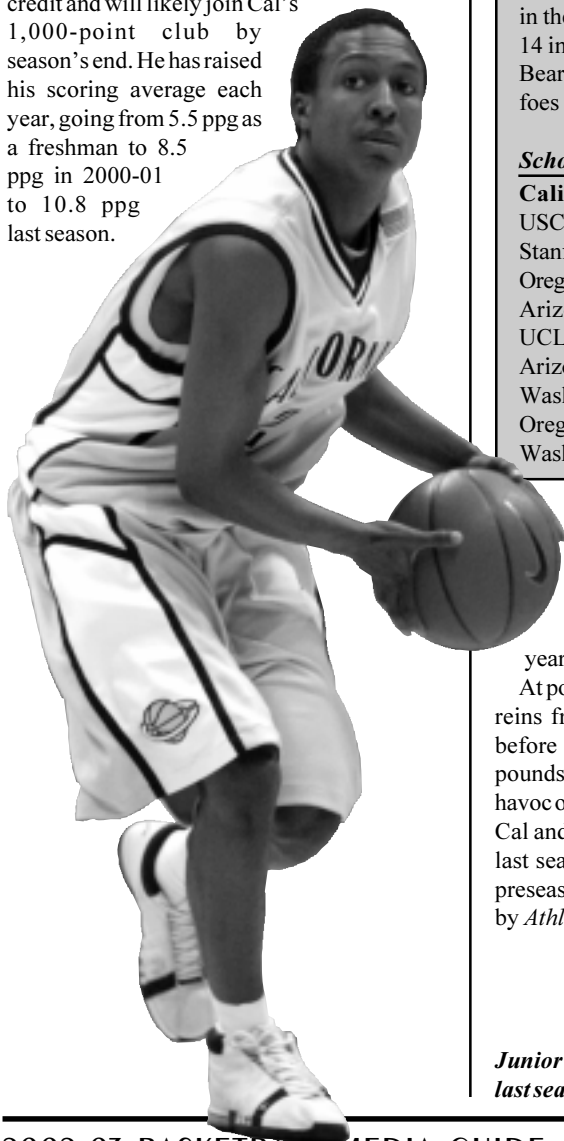
minefield, then a fifth straight postseason berth should be on the horizon.

BACKCOURT

Brian Wethers, a 6-5 senior, gives the Bears a strong, athletic personality at the shooting guard spot. He averaged 10.8 ppg last year, but came on especially strong down the stretch by pouring in 15.8 ppg over the last five games of the season, including 19 points in Cal's NCAA first round win over Penn.

Wethers has the ability to dominate a game on any given night, as in Cal's 92-91 overtime win at USC last Jan. 24. He scored 20 of his 24 points after halftime, including a turnaround three-pointer at the end of regulation to send the game into the extra period. Defensively, Wethers can help control the tempo, as well, leading the Bears in rebounding seven times in '01-02, including eight boards in a home victory over Stanford.

Wethers enters the year with 58 starts to his credit and will likely join Cal's 1,000-point club by season's end. He has raised his scoring average each year, going from 5.5 ppg as a freshman to 8.5 ppg in 2000-01 to 10.8 ppg last season.



CAL: BEST HOMECOURT ADVANTAGE IN PAC-10

With 31 victories in Haas Pavilion over the past two seasons, Cal boasts the best home record in the Pac-10 during that span. The Bears have led the league in home wins both years, with 14 in 2000-01 and 17 more in '01-02 – Cal's highest home victory total since 1946 when the Bears were 24-2 in Berkeley. Here is a look at how the Bears stack up against their Pac-10 foes at home the last two seasons.

<i>School</i>	<i>2000-01</i>	<i>2001-02</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Pct</i>
California	14-3	17-1	31-4	.886
USC	12-3	11-2	23-5	.821
Stanford	12-2	10-3	22-5	.815
Oregon	8-6	16-0	24-6	.800
Arizona	13-2	9-4	22-6	.786
UCLA	12-3	11-4	23-7	.767
Arizona State	10-7	10-5	20-12	.625
Washington State	10-6	6-8	16-14	.533
Oregon State	7-7	8-7	15-14	.517
Washington	5-9	6-6	11-15	.423

"Brian is going to have to carry a lot of the load this year," Braun said. "It's a pretty big responsibility, but we feel he has the determination and leadership skills to fit that role this year."

At point guard, junior **A.J. Diggs** inherits the reins from Shantay Legans, who transferred before the start of fall classes. At 5-9, 175 pounds, Diggs is a heady player who can cause havoc on the defensive end. Not only did he lead Cal and rank 10th in the Pac-10 with 47 steals last season, but Diggs was named the '02-03 preseason Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year by *Athlon* magazine.

Junior A.J. Diggs led Cal with 47 steals last season.

Although he has started just six times in his career, Diggs played a key role in several of the Bears' biggest victories of 2001-02. In a start against USC Feb. 23, he scored 12 points and dished out four assists to lead Cal to an 83-64 triumph over the Trojans, and he had four assists, no turnovers and three steals in the Bears' NCAA Tournament win over Penn. In addition, Diggs picked off six steals in only 11 minutes vs. Harvard in the Golden Bear Classic last December.

"A.J. worked very hard over the summer on his offensive game," Braun said. "He needs to be the guy who gets everybody else going. It's a tall order, but I think he is capable of doing it."

Senior **Donte Smith** will figure into the mix as soon as he comes off the disabled list, hopefully by the Jan. 4 Pac-10 opener against Stanford. A 6-2, 190-pounder, Smith provides experience on the perimeter and is one of Cal's best at driving to the basket. Although he



appeared in just 14 games this past season, Smith spent much of the offseason working to improve both his ball-handling skills and his outside shooting touch.

Richard Midgley, a 6-1, 200-pound guard, played his high school basketball at Modesto Christian High School, but grew up in Burgess Hill, England, where he won 11 national age-group championships and twice scored 96 points in a game. In Modesto, he helped his team to the final of the 2001 California state championship, averaging 19 points and five assists during the season.

A pair of walk-ons – sophomore **Tashaan Forehan-Kelly** and freshman **Martin Smith** – round out the backcourt group. The younger brother of former Cal wing Ryan Forehan-Kelly, Tashaan saw action in seven games last season, seeing his greatest amount of activity vs. Washington State Jan. 19. Smith is the son of the late Phil Smith, who starred at both the University of San Francisco and with the Golden State Warriors. Martin averaged 21.3 points to earn first team all-league honors at The Bishop's School in Escondido last year.

FRONT COURT

Senior forward **Joe Shipp**, Cal's Most Valuable Player last season, is poised for an even more productive campaign this year. After averaging a team-high 14.8 ppg as a junior, the 6-5, 220-pounder spent much of the offseason working out with former Bear All-American Lamond Murray and enters his final campaign in the best shape of his career.

During his junior season, Shipp played his best basketball of the year when it counted most. He had 25 points in the semifinals of the Pac-10 Tournament vs. Arizona and 20 more against Penn in the NCAA first round. Along the way, he became the 31st Bear to cross the 1,000-point barrier, and he enters this year with 1,034 points and a good chance to move well into the school's Top 10.

Noted for his scoring prowess – Shipp tallied 31 points, including a school-record nine three-

pointers vs. Fresno State last Dec. 11 – he brings an all-around game to the floor, as he is Cal's leading returning rebounder (4.7 rpg), shot blocker (18) and assist man (53).

"Joe has worked as hard as anybody on his conditioning over the summer," said Braun. "He really wants to be in tip-top shape."

Alongside Shipp will be sophomore **Amit Tamir**, a 6-11, 260-pounder who can post up on the block or extend his range out to the three-point line. A member of the Israeli National team and a 2002 Pac-10 All-Freshman selection, Tamir showed flashes of his abilities last season with a 39-point outburst against Oregon – a performance that earned him National Player of the Week honors from ESPN.com.

For the season, Tamir averaged 9.9 ppg and displayed his range of skills by leading the

Bears in assists in three games and in rebounding in three others. To further his game, Tamir traveled to Hawaii in August to participate in the Pete Newell Big Man Camp.

"Amit had a really good summer," Braun said. "He has to be able to go inside and out, and he needs to rebound for us. He knew what he needed to work on and went out and did it."

The remainder of Cal's front line will essentially need to learn on the go. Juniors **Gabriel Hughes** and **Conor Famulener** will move into more prominent roles after seeing limited action the last two seasons, while the rest of the forwards and centers are all gearing up for their first stabs at collegiate play.

Hughes brings a shot-blocking presence that will help compensate for the loss of centers Solomon Hughes (Gabriel's brother) and Jamal Sampson, who combined for 85 blocks in 2001-02. An accurate shooter who connected on 70.4 percent of his field goal attempts last year, the 6-11, 225-pounder has 15 career blocks to his credit.

"Gabriel will be very active for us," Braun said. "I like his spirit and enthusiasm."

Famulener, a 6-6, 230 pounds, is a strong, physical forward who has good range on his jump shot. A former walk-on who was awarded a scholarship after last season, he joined Tamir at the Pete Newell Camp in August.

Redshirt-freshman **Erik Bond**, who sat out last year following ankle surgery, has gained more than 15 pounds since his arrival in Berkeley, now measuring 6-7, 205. A long-range bomber, he was the Washington state Player of the Year as a junior at Seattle Prep in 2000.

"Erik is going to have to give us a lot of help," Braun said. "He's going to be a guy who will play significantly for us."

Five new faces round out the group, including **David Paris** (6-9, 260) and **Jordi Geli Vilardell** (6-10, 190). Paris teamed with Midgley at Modesto Christian High School and averaged 18.5 points and 12 rebounds his senior year on his way to first team all-district honors, while Spanish import Geli Vilardell is a former guard with good range and ball-handling skills.

Like Hughes, 6-10 rookie **Rod Benson**, who played both volleyball and basketball at San Diego's Torrey Pines High, can be a menace on defense with his shot-blocking ability.

Walk-ons **Steve Panawek** (6-5, 190) and **Mark Thompson** (6-4, 215) complete the roster. Panawek averaged a team-high 16.0 ppg at Orinda's Miramonte High last year, while Thompson, a transfer from Mesa College, was MVP at Santa Rosa's Piner High School his senior year when he poured in 19.0 ppg.



Sophomore Amit Tamir is an inside-outside threat for the Bears.