CHIEF JUDGE **MARY M. SCHROEDER** WINS NATIONAL AWARD

PHOENIX—Judge Mary M. Schroeder of Phoenix is one of five honorees to be awarded the 2001 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award by the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession. It will be presented at the ABA's annual meeting in Chicago on Sunday, Aug. 5.

Judge Schroeder is the first woman chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the nation's largest judicial circuit. She joined



JUDGE MARY M. SCHROEDER

the Ninth Circuit in 1979. She also served on the Arizona Court of Appeals and was the youngest woman appellate judge in the United States at the time. She worked at Lewis and Roca in Phoenix and as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice. She has been president of the National Association of Women Judges.

As a lawyer, she chaired the committee that drafted and secured passage of Arizona's first civil rights law. Among her noteworthy cases is *Hirabayashi v. United States*, which held that the internment of Americans of Japanese descent was unconstitutional.

"Judge Schroeder has been a pioneer at virtually every step of her career," said Deborah

L. Rhode, chair of the ABA Commission. "Throughout the last quarter century, she has broken new ground for women lawyers and women's rights."

Established in 1991, the Margaret Brent Award is named for the first woman lawyer in America, and it honors outstanding women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence and have paved the way to success for other women lawyers. Previous winners include U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

LAWYERS FUND **STUDENTS AND IMMIGRATION** LAW

TEMPE—ASU Law students and the Florence Project will benefit from a \$100,000 gift from two Phoenix immigration law attorneys. Roxana Bacon and Diane Dear of Bacon & Dear have established the Bacon & Dear Immigration

Law Fund, through which four students will receive financial assistance each year for the next three years. Bacon and Dear serve as adjunct professors at the ASU College of Law.

"There are lots of ways to learn to be a really good lawyer and one of them is to do something off the beaten path," said Bacon. "This is not your traditional externship clerking for a law



ROXANA BACON

firm or a judge. But it does provide an opportunity to learn substantive law issues while doing something emotionally engaging."

The gift will support students in working with the Florence Project, a program that aids immigrants held in detention.



GAVEL FALLS ON ABA **JUDGE** NOMINEE **REVIEW**

WASHINGTON, DC—In a controversial decision, the Bush administration has ended the American Bar Association's half-century role in evaluating nominees to the federal bench.

After eight years of a Democrat in the White House, commentators say that the decision is part of a larger objective to move the courts to a more conservative viewpoint. It has been a

recurring complaint of some that the ABA's evaluation is liberally biased, which the association denies. The ABA says that it will continue to review the qualifications of nominees, but it will not be



MARTHA BARNETT

provided the names of potential nominees before they are made public. The ABA fears that those interviewed about nominees will be less candid in their appraisals after names are announced.

"We ... believe the Standing Committee's work has contributed significantly to making America's federal judiciary the envy of the world," said ABA President Martha Barnett. "It is a mystery why the Administration would not want this input."

The Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary was created at the behest of President Dwight D. Eisenhower to counter pressure to appoint judges as a reward for their work or financial contributions for political campaigns.

ASU ETHICS CENTER EXPANDS ITS BRAIN TRUST

Arizona State University College of Law Professor Rebecca Tsosie has been named the Lincoln Professor of Native American Law and Ethics



by the Joan and David Lincoln Center for Applied Ethics at ASU.

As a Lincoln professor, Tsosie will work with other Lincoln professors on campus, be involved in

upcoming Center conferences and serve as a liaison between the law school and the Center. Tsosie is nationally recognized for her

research on Native American issues, including tribal environmental policy and cultural resources management.

"My research is directed toward cultural preservation and the interrelationship between land and sovereignty," Tsosie said. "I look forward to exploring these important issues and sharing them with the many communities that will be served by the Lincoln Center." The center was funded with a \$5 million gift from the Lincolns of Paradise Valley last year.

Tsosie, who is also the executive director of the Indian Legal Program, joined the law faculty in 1994 after serving as a visiting professor for a year. She received her J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1990. After law school, she clerked for Vice Chief Justice Stanley Feldman of the Arizona Supreme Court and worked as a litigation associate with Brown & Bain in Phoenix.

"Professor Tsosie may well be the leading scholar of Indian law of her generation," said Patricia White, Dean of the ASU College of Law. "Her work just gets better and better."