

the years. So some communities are grumbling that Scripps needs a new competition model. Mr. President, we want a bee b-a-i-l-o-u-t. —KR

Ante

40TH WORLD SERIES OF POKER Las Vegas, Nevada

27 WED Though Las Vegas casinos are taking a beating—gaming revenue is down this year by double digits—one segment of the gambling industry remains evergreen: high-stakes poker. The WSOP is celebrating its 40th anniversary with a \$40,000 No-Limit Hold'em tournament, surely intended for the recession-proof... or soon-to-be broke. Last year, 58,720 entrants competed for a record \$180 million in prize money, and 22-year-old Danish player Peter Eastgate won the main event (buy in: \$10,000) and \$9 million, becoming the youngest person ever to win the WSOP. Looking

to emulate Eastgate but can't quite come up with the cash? Try the "stimulus special" event on Saturday, May 30th—buy-in is a measly one grand. —KB

Go Nuts

WORLD NUT AND DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS

Monte Carlo, Monaco

29 FRI For this year's Golden Nut Award, the Oscar of the nut-and-dried-fruit world and the highlight of this three-day congress, we nominate Dr. Atkins. High-protein diets have helped boost **nut consumption** in the United States by almost 50% over the past decade, with almonds tightening their hold on the No. 1 spot. Why the International Nut and Dried Fruit Foundation doesn't give out a more inclusive Trail Mix Award, we don't know. But for the record, the most popular dried fruit in the U.S. is the raisin; the average American noshes 7.3 pounds each year. —KR



Watch

JAY LENO'S LAST TONIGHT SHOW

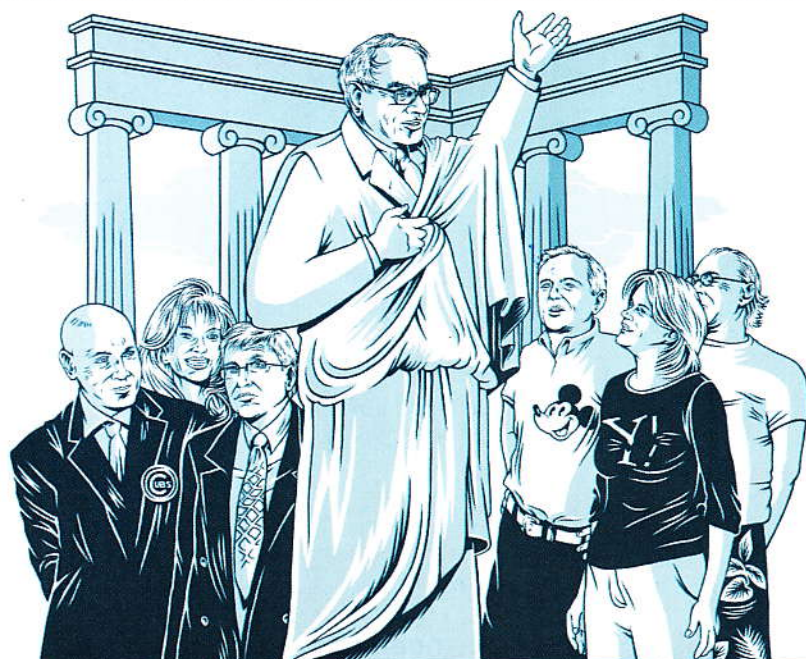
29 FRI After some 3,800 episodes, Jay Leno will relinquish his 11:35 p.m. slot to Conan O'Brien. (Jimmy Fallon, above, with Leno, is already in O'Brien's old slot.) Here's our take on **Leno's last monologue**:
* After 17 years, Jay Leno is stepping down as *Tonight Show* host. That's a long time in one job. How long? When Leno started, there was no Internet, O.J. Simpson was

respected, and the economy was merely George H.W. stupid.

* You excited about summer vacation? It officially started this week. Or, as Jay Leno calls it, "temporary unemployment."
* Leno says he's never touched any of the salary he's earned as host. In a related story, CEO Jeff Immelt today asked Leno to bail out GE.
* NBC wanted to break it gently to Jay that his last day would be May 29. I don't know if having Donald Trump make the call was such a good idea. —DL

Gather: Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meeting

2008? Worst. Year. Ever. At least for Berkshire, the \$113 billion holding company. That won't stop some 30,000 shareholders from trekking to Nebraska for its annual meeting. In fact, we expect they'll be more eager than ever to hear what wisdom CEO Warren Buffett, the Oracle of Omaha, has to offer in his annual address on May 2. It's usually a starry crowd; these famous faces have played pilgrim in recent years. —Kate Rockwood



ERNIE BANKS, Baseball Hall of Famer: This retired Chicago Cub met Buffett at a golf tourney in Omaha. From 1998 to 2001, he stepped into the batter's box each year when Buffett, wearing a uniform with "The Whip" emblazoned on the back, threw out the first pitch at an Omaha Royals game—a meeting tradition.

SUSAN LUCCI, soap-opera star: Each annual meeting starts with a short film poking fun at Berkshire's CEO and his cantankerous sidekick, Charlie Munger. Lucci starred last year, and then showed up to try to take Buffett's job. Others who have made cameos include Arnold

Schwarzenegger, Donald Trump, and the women of *Desperate Housewives*.

BILL GATES, chairman of Microsoft: The two megarich men are pals and occasional bridge partners. Gates, a Berkshire Hathaway director since 2004, bought wife Melinda's engagement ring at Borsheim's (a Berkshire subsidiary). He and Buffett have also cut loose postmeeting by playing Ping-Pong.

BOB IGER, CEO of Disney: Berkshire Hathaway used to be one of the biggest investors in Disney, though it now owns zero shares. Still, Buffett's a big fan of Iger, calling him a "first-class CEO."

SUSAN DECKER, outgoing Yahoo president: The 12-member Berkshire board has four octogenarians. So thank God for 45-year-old Decker, not just for her business brains (she is also on the boards of Intel and Costco) but also demographic balance: She is the youngest board member and one of two women.

JIMMY BUFFETT, musician: These distant cousins first shared a stage in Omaha when Jimmy opened a Cheeseburger in Paradise outpost. (Warren played the ukulele.) Jimmy kick-started the 2007 annual meeting with the familiar-sounding ditty "Wastin' Away Again in Berkshire Hathawayville."

•• "HAIL BOUNTEOUS MAY that doth inspire/ Mirth and youth, and warm desire,/ Woods and groves are of thy dressing,/ Hill and dale doth boast thy blessing." —John Milton