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The Forum (Volume 6, Number 7)

Valparaiso University School of Law

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The din has quieted. The courtroom has cleared. The vanquished retire to lick their wounds and console their minds, while the victors make ready for more preparation and a trip to warmer times.

It was not a war (though the participants outside knew that, at times), but the regional Mock Trial competition held last Friday at John Marshall Law School. The host school entered two teams and both tasted the thrill of victory before suffering the proverbial agony of defeat.

Friday afternoon started at a hectic pace as thirteen teams from eight law schools and three states descended upon Valparaiso, and the halls were filled with participants, witnesses, bailiffs, and judges trying to be in the right place at the right time. Through the valiant efforts of an overworked crew of SBA officials and volunteers they all made it.

Though teams were referred to solely by numbers to ensure impartiality, identity was later ascertained. Team H, consisting of three of Valpo's finest advocates, Dave Capp, Randy Sproule, and Diane McNeal, had previously opposed a team from Toledo. Capp and Sproule demonstrated solid technique and a mastery of the substance, while evidence as defense counsel to Stemmler and as a witness. Valparaiso's other team, Diane "Judge Wade" McNeal, Paul "801 (6.82)" Wenloff, and Jeff Schlesinger, took the government side in their trial, with Edged and Sproule as opponents. Diane and Paul took a split decision determined largely by Mr. McNeal's attire and their lack of Italian ancestry, and particularly impressed the judges with his knowledge and technique. When Notre Dame's counsel gave away a moving closing argument, however, Schlesinger responded by doing his impersonation of Boris Karloff in "Frankenstein." Unimpressed, the Judges handed down a unanimous decision favoring Notre Dame, thereby sending both South Bend teams to the national finals in Houston.

Rather than argue against each other, Notre Dame waived final argument in a trial that had been scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Despondent, the Valpo six agreed never again to argue against Notre Dame on a religious holiday.

Sincerely, Valparaiso and Notre Dame went hand in hand and shoulders above the other schools, with their teams capturing ten of the eleven decisions awarded in this competition. Both judges and participants acknowledge the excellence of the final day's competition, and credit must be given to advocates and sponsors from both schools. (Though I'd trade my credit for a better arrangement and a ticket to Houston.)

The teams from Valparaiso would like to extend their most sincere thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this come off as well as it did: the judges; the organizers (especially Keith Vanderburg and Andrea Knish); the judges; the participants from all schools, our sponsors, Judge Willis and Mr. Stevenson, whose long hours or work insured they would do as well as they did; and, Mrs. Willis, Mrs. Stevenson, and Mrs. Capp for putting up with it.

Judge Willis provided strong motivation for the Mock Trial Team.

by Andrea Knish

That say I "will never do it again" is a lie, for I'm sure, a lie. Though usually when one begins to organize, project the size of a Regional Mock Trial Competition, it takes on willingly, I prefer to think of myself as being sucked into the project at a time when I was enjoying the plight of Keith Vanderburg who had just been appointed to head this SBA ad hoc committee. "Everything is the appropriate word; there is just a bit of the sadist in all of us. Yet, that little bit of sadism combines with a dose of ego, resulted in what amounted at times, to full blown masochism.

Initially we only needed arrange fundraising for several trials and complete a small bit of paper work. It seemed reasonable, besides there were three weeks until finals and then a month's vacation-the work product would be a mere bagatelle. So outside of a few general inquiries and letters, there was little to do. Bob Zenta would contact the local Bar Association and enlist the aid of 25 or so lawyers to be judges. Tom Hoffman could contact more attorneys if necessary. Professors and/or late-night phone calls to appropriate for absence was their own death. Being friends, they agreed to give up his time on a Friday afternoon that due to a

seriousness, the Valparaiso and Notre Dame were left and shoulders above the other schools, with their teams capturing ten of the eleven decisions awarded in this competition. Both judges and participants acknowledge the excellence of the final day's competition, and credit must be given to advocates and sponsors from both schools. (Though I'd trade my credit for a better arrangement and a ticket to Houston.)

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TO THE FACULTY AND STUDENTS:  

This is written to express a few concerns about the second-year examination. There are two areas of discussion I would like to raise for faculty-student consideration: (1) what type of competency does a grade of 70 require, and (2) what better approaches could students use to achieve minimum, this level of competency?  

Initially, I would state my purpose quite clearly. This year's second-year students are interested in anything concerning university education than an admission ticket into the legal profession. I want to express the view of the faculty to say that it is unwise of people who are expertly informed and interested people. I believe class members have already observed this tendency to learn to become competent attornies. This year, over these three semesters, good class attendance, decent class participation, and healthy sympathy of community within the group. As a former, admittedly novice elementary school teacher, I would like to tend to have great expert on the theories of human character, but it has been my impression that the class that has presented, in fact, a group is not achieving.

However, these rather extended and hopefully honest observations, we come to the reality that we do not think many of our class members did not achieve the level of their true potential this semester's exams. I don't think they serve any valid or useful purpose and they are not, in fact, the basis upon which we must see the reactions of our future and, that is the reason why I believe that the students and the faculty should be strongly encouraged to respond to the comments that the students that have made.

Therefore, the question unavoidably rises as to what type of competency remains. In this way, many students have been able to attain the scores of 70 or 80. I believe that these students have a sufficiently severe, corresponding drop in at least a few of the subjects that would explain these kinds of results. Each student has, in fact, a distinct criterion for himself/herself, but the important thing, however, is that we must see our continuous class attendance and participation and, I believe, a substantial agreement of the students and the faculty on this criterion.

Parochiality is a condition that there were a great many unskilled persons. This larger group of this period in our knowledge, and to explain these kinds of results. Every student must have a distinct criterion for himself/herself, but the important thing, however, is that we must be able to achieve competency in that particular area. In terms of survival, it's the one that interested us as professionals, and we are interested in the largest legal/professional fraternity in the state, are cordially invited.

Hiring Veiled

The Delta Theta Phi Law Review holds its first meeting of the new year and outlined activities and plans for the year. Rush for perspectives new members will be invited to fraternity functions so that they can familiarize themselves with the fraternity and its members. Some of the many activities planned for this semester include: a Celebrity Roast of Professor Greenway, a literary raffle, the annual spaghetti dinner, guest speakers, sorority baggers and fraternity parades.

DTP Rush Set for February

by John Tasker

The Delta Theta Phi Law fraternity held their first meeting of the new year and outlined activities and plans for the year. Rush for perspectives new members will be invited to fraternity functions so that they can familiarize themselves with the fraternity and its members. Some of the many activities planned for this semester include: a Celebrity Roast of Professor Greenway, a literary raffle, the annual spaghetti dinner, guest speakers, sorority baggers and fraternity parades.

PAD Meeting on Monday

The Phi Delta Alpha Legal Fraternity will meet this coming Monday evening to begin their regular meetings for the new semester. During the meeting, the names of the members who will be elected next year will be made with election of the officers two weeks hence. Future plans for the fraternity will also be discussed. All members are invited to attend this meeting and the members of the fraternity are cordially invited.

Letters to the Editor

The Forum's negative treatment of the Law Review's 1977-1978 issue issues are not necessarily those of this paper, but the views expressed in this paper arc not necessarily those of the Student Editorial Board or Staff.

FORUM's "Law Review Review," there is not one accepted style of Law Review writing. To be sure, the REVIEW demands adherence to the established conventions of composition and usage, and our editors stress clarity and precision in the writing and presentation of our work. Within these bounds, however, there is enough room for creativity and resourcefulness. Distinctions in writing style exist. These are apparent when one reads different law review articles and different law reviews. I would submit that the articles and notes appearing in our REVIEW are not nearly so bloodless in style as those appearing in the Harvard and Yale journals, sacred cows which Mr. Heimsoth pays homage. In the Law Review a closed system. I learned that policy decisions are made by The Law Review Board, all of whom have weathered the second-year HE, and EX, experiences and are more familiar with the publication's operations. Positions on the Board, however, are for a term of one year. New editors with new ideas are elected to the Board each year, and it is they who will formulate REVIEW policy for the following year. This is our "stream of fresh water" which Mr. Heimsoth believes is lacking in the present REVIEW organization.

Furthermore, LAW REVIEW articles are written for popular circulation and input. Each full second-year students are invited to participate in the present LAW REVIEW competition.

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THE FORUM had no intention of appearing in the current issue in regard to LAW REVIEW. We merely wished to present some different points of view and are confident that our statements are substantially true, even though we asked for their submission four weeks in advance from Mr. Knish, the law review editor, to receive anything until after we went to press to balance the issue. Thus we are publishing his material at this time. We do not think that the law review editors cannot compare the points of view in their publication and be satisfied. If we were somewhat biased in our last issue, we certainly hope that we can rectify that with Mr. Carberry's tribute to the REVIEW.

We also regret that our comment about debating in a December meeting was unfounded. We had hoped to receive comments from the past LAW REVIEW staffs and were sorry that the referent, Mr. Carberry, did not have a LAW REVIEW staff, that problem does not exist this year.

January 28, 1977

THE FORUM
Potential Dean Visits Campus

by Mark Heselmans

This past week our campus was blessed with the visit of a real live candidate for the post of Dean. In three days, our task of locating a successor to Dean Meyer has proved so difficult, this occurrence was almost more than we could bear. Today, I would like to get the word out of the fact that the students have had a chance to talk with the new semester's starting, I am satisfied that the candidates still have a variety of legal problems and exposed to new and changing areas of the law. We have been completely exposed for a generally thought by many employers that the lawyers who are changing and creating law in the years to come are those who are associated with law review in their student career. As the Battle of Waterloo was won on the plain, so Eton's leaders in the legal profession from the ranks of law review students can be seen also. This statement may be the foremost asset of a lawyer, no mean degree of dedication, and the ability to think creatively, all in a concrete form.

WSLA Receives LSD Grant

by Debra Laszczynski

On behalf of the Women's Law Society, the Association, the StudentChapter, and the National Women's Law Society, I would like to congratulate those of you who worked toward the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in Indiana. We are poised to begin the last of the next semester, WSLA received notification of a grant from the American Bar Association Law Student Division. These monies were made available through the Legal Rights Services Program of the ABA/LSD. In order for a school to be eligible for this program at least 20% of its full time law students must be members of the ABA/LSD at the time of the application. The grant has to be used for any program that provides legal services to those who cannot afford them. The funds available to each school will be based on the number of students enrolled, the number of cases handled, and the amount of time spent on the case. Each school will be able to receive a maximum of $2,000 per year. The grant will be used to support the legal aid programs of the school, and will also be used to support the efforts of law students to gain access to legal aid for those in need. The grant will be used to support the efforts of law students to gain access to legal aid for those in need.

The ABA/LSD grant has enabled us to broaden the scope of these programs and open them to the community free of charge. WSLA encourages all students to join in and continue their affiliations with the ABA/LSD to the association can continue to exist. To expand the Services Fund and aid other groups in developing special programs.

The Forum
Suffering as this less chubby sportswriter is from second semester blahs (see Herter, Entropy, p. 3) and other pressures, Sports Shorts shall be forced to be just that. Secondly, things have gotten off to a slow start athletically (Anamastics speak for themselves), so we'll begin with a straw poll taken upon itself the task of listing what the numbers game with fall semester grades. The results are a product of our laborious counting.

Below are the grades according to the Registrar's office, only received as of this week. Some of the grades this week are a product of our laborous counting. For those interested, THE FORUM has retained copies of the posted grade sheets.

Administrative Law
Acquisition
Labor
Family Law
 Municipal Corporations
 Uniform Claims Code
Securities Regulation
Law of the Poor
Remedies
Torts and Estates
Constitutional Law
Equity
Federal Courts Clinic
Estate and Gift Tax
Debtors and Creditors
 Jurisprudence
Contracts
Torts
Civil Procedure
Property
Criminal Law
Legal Problems

Below 70 70-79 80-89 90 & above

14% 26% 24% 8% 79
16 76 24 29
18 20 50 32
20 96 16 60
32 44 10 28
24 61 20 5
50 57.5 12.5 8
50 33 55 54
70 22 4 50
13.5 49.5 30.5 5.5 101
24 45 28.5 2.5 95
12 7 81
60 90 40 50
3 78 19 69
45 11 2.5
43 27 13 60
4 39 41 16 82
18 68 19 4 113
17 63 60 113
14 65 17 4
17 50 31 2
17 50 31 2
14 56 39 0
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THE FORUM
January 28, 1977

Dave Myers' Sports Shorts

by Dave Myers

The Hung Jury hung on to their No. 1 rating as they smashed Wehrenberg East by a 47-34 count. The run and gun Wonders of Wehrenberg got off to a slow start as the late starting time caused some psychological impact. (The bars would be closed before the game was over.)

Knotted at 8-8 late in the opening quarter, the Juries rolled off a straight point keyed by Tommy "The Gun" Hoffner's three-point play and took a 13-8 lead after the first period. The second quarter was highlighted by the Jury's scrappy defense and a stunning free-throw by a jolly sports editor, as the lawyers took a 23-14 lead to the half.

The second half was all Jury as the margin went in 38-16 after three quarters before reaching the final mark. Mike "Wehrenberg East" Bush picked the winners, now 5-0 with 17 points and Coach Hoffman added 12.

In the later contest, Dan Berling hit a turn-around jumper with less than two minutes to go in the game and added a steal and a lay-up seconds later to break open a one-point contest and lead the incredible Hulk to a 40-35 win over the Hawks. The Hulk, now 3-2 on their year may have been looking ahead to their showdown with the Jury next Tuesday as some psychological impact kept the underdog squad close. The law school showdown will be a must for Hulk as a third loss would probably eliminate them from play-off competition. It should be a dandy ball game.

Hung Jury Remains Undefeated

Semester Grades Outlined

Once again THE FORUM has taken upon itself the task of playing the numbers game with fall semester grades. The results are a product of our laborious counting using the data of the posted grade sheets.

The figures we listed are percentages of the total number of grades recorded. This number slumped from a high of 113 in most of the first year class to a low of 8 for securities Regulation. Constitutional Law and UCC won top honors for depressing student grade point averages.

On the other hand, Land Acquisition and Jurisprudence appear to be the hard counts on the productive class of grades if indeed reflects learning taking place. For those interested, THE FORUM has retained copies of the posted grade sheets.

Grade Reports Delayed

A number of you may be wondering why you have not received any official grade reports from the University. THE FORUM has learned that the answer to that problem lies in the fact that the Registrar's office only received some of the grades this week. According to the Registrar's office, student copies of the reports will be forthcoming as soon as they are been run through the computer.