The Forum

Vol. 19 October 12, 1988 No. 3

VU Hosts Competition

By Kristi Brown Forum Staff Writer

Valparaiso School of Law will be hosting the regionalABA/LSD Negotiation Competition on November 19. The topic for the competition this year is "Children and the Law:"

A neophyte, six-member negotiation team, coached by Professor Ruth Vance, is practicing diligently for the fall event in hopes of surpassing their premier showing of 4th place at last year's competition in Chicago. "In our first year competition we beat the other Indiana law schools and many of the Chicago schools," said Vance. "We really want to make it to the national competition in Denver next spring:" The goal of the negotiations process is to reach settlement in each of the clients' best interests. The negotiators are paired to face-off against each other to resolve a dispute within provided guidelines. At competition, the "pairs of attorneys" discuss the matter in two rounds consisting of "negotiation," "caucus," and "reconciliation for a solution" time periods.

Not all of the problems are resolved. The methods of reaching a negotiated solution are style and tactics. The pairs may opt for a co-operative or an aggressive approach with the opposing co-counsel. An integrative approach of these two may also be used. The highest cumulative score wins the regional competition.

Auditions for the team were held two weeks ago. From a field of twelve, three new members were added alongside the team who competed last year. Each person was paired-up to negotiate a contract. A panel including Vance, student coach Brian Stillner, and the two returning members critiqued and selected the new members. The returning negotiators are Tony Makin, Kingsley Regnier, and Roger Wiegandts. The three new members are Allen Forre, Georganna Orlich, and Linnea Ritsema.

"The negotiation competition is a wonderful natal debate," comments new member Georganna Orlich. "Each side balances the problem objectively. Negotiation is not taught extensively in law school, and this competition allows students to role play situations we'll be confronted by in the not-so-distant future. We hope to do well this year:" Echoing that sentiment is returning member Kingsley Regnier. "This year we will be building on our accomplishments from last year. We hope to negotiate some torsoes would be in an actual situation." One primary team will be chosen to compete at the regional level. If selected, there should be an odd number of team members, an alternate team from VU may also be allowed to enter.

President Harre Seeks Challenge

By Allen Fore Forum Staff Writer

His workdays usually begin around 7:00 A.M. and often last until 10:00 P.M. in the evening. It's unusual to find Alan Harre in his office throughout the weekend. Even though his inaugural is still a few weeks away, the new President of Valparaiso University hasn't wasted any time completely immersing himself into his new office.

"My number one reason for being here is because I felt called by the Lord to this new challenge. It's a challenge I readily accept, and I'm looking for someone who values education, a broad education. We want to have top caliber students from all over the country." President Harre says, and his "dedication to the in-state hunting" of students has not wasted time coming. "It's a new challenge. It's a wonderfully successful entry into space after a 32-month explosion of the Challenger. The vice administrator of NASA, who has flown more shuttle missions than anybody, said before the Sept. 29 mission that the launch would not go until he was personally assured by more than 20 experts who represented every critical engineering system that Discovery was safe. "I've got absolute control," said the vice administrator, symbolizing the change that has taken place within NASA. "We don't go unless it's safe.

After the launch, NASA officials and a sampling of Americans across the country agreed that the launch had put the U.S. space program back on an equal footing with the Soviet Union. Government officials, such as Michigan Senator Donald Riegle, had been afraid that another disaster would occur if the U.S. space effort collapsed, and the country would have fallen far behind the Soviets in space technology. To prevent such a scenario from happening again, President Reagan appointed William P. Rogers as head of the commission that investigated the Challenger accident. The commission's findings were that NASA had grown into a large government bureaucracy more interested in its own identity and well-being than the actual objectives of the space program.

As a result, safety suffered, the findings concluded. No one paid attention when people responsible for monitoring systems were reporting directly to the managers of the systems they were supposed to be monitoring.

Americans Applaud Discovery

By Mike King Forum Staff Writer

The space shuttle Discovery lumbered into the sky, tearing it to pieces in a wonderfully successful launch Sept. 29. Americans everywhere applauded the U.S. re-entry into space after a 32-month period of trial and reorganization within NASA that followed the explosion of Challenger. The vice administrator of NASA, who has flown more shuttle missions than anybody, said before the Sept. 29 mission that the launch would not go until he was personally assured by more than 20 experts who represented every critical engineering system that Discovery was safe. "I've got absolute control," said the vice administrator, symbolizing the change that has taken place within NASA. "We don't go unless it's safe."

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Analysis

But all of this has changed. New NASA administrator James C. Fletcher paid attention to the criteria the Rogers commission and an intricate system of checks and balances, and authoritative independent means have been set up to ensure that the process under the supervision of astronauts was put into operation. The result has been positive. When a leak developed after the orbiter had been wheeled to the launch pad, the independent safety people were able to sit down with the engineers and administrators to negotiate the safest way to fix the leak. In this case, instead of a hasty decision aimed at keeping the launch on schedule, the decision was made to prevent any future leaks until the orbiter's leak could be fixed in the safest manner.

Yet, despite the success, there exists within NASA differing views and a critical attitude toward safety. On the one hand are those who believe that only as much of the available (Continued, see Return, p.2)
...Return to Space

(Continued from page 1)

resources should be allotted to safety. They argue that space flight is so dangerous that no matter how much attention is placed on safety, there will still be a risk to accident. They advocate a safety system less dependent on "witnessing" the accident and one that places responsibility for safety where everyone's shoulders.

The other side seeks a balance between safety and efficiency. They say the safety process consists of negotiations between engineers and managers to improve decisions and others ready to delay decisions.

Internship Program Provides Experience

By Nadine Dahm
Forum Editor

The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) 1988 Summer Internship Program offers second year law students an experience in legal practice and a practical trial and pretrial experience.

This summer, PAAM will employ a number of law students as full-time interns for eleven weeks in selected prosecutors' offices throughout Michigan. The interns' duties will range from preliminary screening of cases to handling hearings or assisting the county government to represent the people of the State of Michigan in actual criminal trials.

Each internship will be assigned to the participating prosecutor's office by personnel from the Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council (PACC) after consideration of the application materials, the personal interview, and the applicant's indication of office preference. Every effort is made to accommodate the applicant's preference; however, the final placement decision remains with the Council.

Prior to beginning their in-office assignments, the interns will be required to attend a one-week training and orientation seminar to be held at the MacMullan Conference Center, Higgins Lake, May 21-26, 1989. Although interns are not paid to attend the training seminar, the Council does provide meals and lodging during the week.

Selection Process:

Each applicant must complete the application materials by October 31, 1988. Application materials are available in the Career Service Offices. After completing the application materials, interested applicants should schedule a personal interview. A screening interview will be held on campus on November 15, 1988.

The interview information and the application materials will be evaluated, and preliminary placement assignments will be made. Applicants generally receive notice of their selection by January 1, and assignment decisions will be finalized by March 1, 1989, that interns will practice in by March 1, 1989.

Selected applicants will thereafter be required to contact the host prosecutor in the county in which they have been placed to secure the host prosecutor's approval of their placement. Acceptance of the nominated applicant by the host prosecutor is normally routine, unless the student requests special conditions, such as time off for a special event, etc.

The contact may be in person or by telephone, as is practical.

Application Requirements:

Prior to the personal interview, each applicant is requested to submit the following materials to the Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council:

1. A personal resume.
2. A certified copy of the applicant's law school transcript.
3. A writing sample.
4. A statement of the applicant's interest in the criminal justice system and public prosecution.
5. An indication of geographical placement preference.

As a former PAAM intern, I strongly recommend the program to anyone interested in public prosecution litigation, as well as anyone wanting to practice law in Michigan. As an intern, I learned how a typical prosecutor's office runs on a day-to-day basis. I also gained much trial and pretrial experience. I went to hearings, made court appearances, and even got to try two bench trials.

For more information on the PAAM internship program, contact the Career Service Office.
By Bridget Ryan
Forum Staff Writer

After two and one half years of struggling through language, cultural, and business barriers of the Japanese marketplace, Jeff Bernal's company finally received its first purchase order of $500 from a Japanese company. Bernal is chairman of the Board of American Rubber Products and he was one of the participants in a presentation by the International Law Society on Thursday Sept. 29. In 1979 Bernal purchased American Rubber of LaPorte but his goals reached much further than the boundaries of Indiana. When the auto industry declined in the early 1980's he realized that in order to survive, he must expand his company's product demand overseas. He decided the best place to start was Japan. American Rubber had very little excess money at that time and could not afford a consultant to guide them into the Japanese market. Instead, Bernal contacted the Department of Commerce in Indianapolis. "They advised us that the best way to learn about the Japanese culture was to travel to Japan and live in the weeds and watch," explained Bernal. After many trips to Japan, Bernal was sensitized to the many cultural, legal, and language differences between the two nations. "What may be an empty gesture to the Americans could be obscene to the Japanese," explained Bernal. There were many obstacles to good relations with Japanese businesses, such as a huge upfront investment of money and time with no guarantee of prosperity. The original investments have greatly profited American Rubber since they now distribute their product to many Japanese companies, including Toyota and Nissan. This expansion into Japan has helped change American Rubber from a small company grossing $8.5 million in 1979 to a booming company, now averaging over $25 million per year. "The biggest problem with American companies is that they want instant success," explained Waxman. "The Japanese also had been studying German business techniques and from these observations the Japanese began to develop large companies and bureaucracy." This led Japan into their modern era where they have risen to one of the most powerful product and market leaders of the world. "We need a marketplace that reacts with swiftness to our com­petitors," commented Catarina Cegren; President, Corporative for Indiana's International Future (CIF) and formally with the Indiana Department of Commerce in international trade. "The U.S. is shy at pushing business people out into the world­wide market," commented Cegren. "We are still fighting the American attitude of self­sufficiency." CIF has set up many programs to promote wider accept­ance and understanding of international trade. Indiana is eleventh in the U.S. in international development, which calculates one out of every four jobs relying on direct or indirect export.

WHERE? VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
WHEN? OCTOBER 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31
WHAT? 1st PRIZE - $200.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE AT CASBON'S OR ROUCHY'S
2nd PRIZE - $25.00 GIFT CERTIFICATES AT BIG ELM'S
3rd PRIZE - $25.00 GIFT CERTIFICATES AT KILROY'S PIZZA
4th PRIZE - $20.00 GIFT CERTIFICATES AT THE BEEF MART OR MILLER'S
5th PRIZE - $10.00 GIFT CERTIFICATES AT THE BEEF MART OR MILLER'S

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO WIN ONE OF THESE 15 PRIZES?
$ ANY MEMBER WHO BUYS A CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ($100.00 MINIMUM) DURING OCTOBER (WITH NEW MONEY)
$ ANY MEMBER WHO SIGNS UP DURING OCTOBER FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT OF PAYROLL CHECKS OR MONTHLY GOVERNMENT OR PENSION CHECKS
$ ANY MEMBER WHO INCREASES HIS OR HER PRESENT PAYROLL DEDUCTION BY $50.00 PER MONTH BY OCTOBER 31 IN A SAVINGS ACCOUNT
$ ANYONE WHO JOINS THE CREDIT UNION DURING OCTOBER AND OPENS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:
(1) a checking account
(2) a savings account with $100.00 minimum deposit
(3) a Christmas Club account with $100.00 minimum deposit
$ ANY MEMBER WITH A NEW APPROVED LOAN OF $500.00 OR MORE DURING OCTOBER
$ ANY MEMBER WHO APPLIES FOR AN ATM CARD DURING OCTOBER

SPECIAL ADDED BONUS!!!
THE $5.00 PROCESSING FEE WILL BE WAIVED FOR EVERYONE WHO JOINS THE CREDIT UNION DURING OCTOBER. AND YOU GET CHANCES TO WIN ONE OF THE 15 PRIZES AS WELL.

H ow can you lose?
You need not be present at the drawing on November 1 to win.
(Maximum of 5 chances per person)

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Clinic Offers Experience
By Donna McCoy
Forum Staff Writer

Law school is supposed to teach students how to be lawyers, but where do we learn how to act like attorneys?

For those of you pondering this question, the legal clinic at Heritage Hall may be your answer. Under the Indiana student prac­tice lawyer program, law school students who have completed two-thirds of their legal education may, under the supervision of an attorney, repre­sent certain clients.

A law student may participate in the clinic program at the discretion of clinic faculty, as long as their work does not involve a courtroom ap­pearance. In addition to work with clients, students involved in the clinic program meet weekly in a classroom environment to discuss various topics they encounter through their work in the clinic.

The legal clinic is divided into three sections, the General Practice Clinic and the Criminal Practice Clinic. The General Practice Clinic is run by adjunct professors Barbara Schmidt and Martha Giesamp, in association with the Gary Legal Services Program. This clinic focuses on varied problems, such as child support/custody cases and juvenile delinquency cases.

The Criminal Practice Clinic is run by Professor Vanderheyden, and allows students to focus on com­plex criminal courtroom experiences with efforts to better understand the elements of criminal law and procedure.

Students may sign up to work in the legal clinic the same way they sign up for traditional courses— during pre-registration. Work done in the clinic receives from three to six hours of credit per semester.

The Forum, October 12, 1988 3
A message From Murray

A message from the SBA: please don't park in the Student Housing or Faculty Parking Lots. I do not know what part some people understand, but it seems as though some of you hot shot law students are having problems with English language.

On the brighter side, the security lights in the law student parking lot are now functional. This means you can see by day or night.

The attendance for the October student body meeting was less than optimal, but special thanks go to those who did attend. The SBA will sponsor the Halloween party October 29, time and place to be announced. Last year's gathering and the costume competition were well attended (100-150 people including faculty, staff, and so on.)

SBA, keep in mind our graduation photos. The photo company will be here sometime in November to capture your essence on film. Also, there will be a 3L class meeting Wednesday, October 12, at 3:40 P.M. in classroom D to discuss graduation, costs, etc. Until the offices in Heritage Hall are made available to law school organizations, the student conference room will be named The Present, Miss. The photo company uses Nadine Dahm's apartment.

The move to Heritage is "supposed" to take place around Christmas, this time. It will probably be Christmas in July, but until the move, the student conference room is off limits to all school types except Forom staff members.

To the lowly 1Ls that wrote the BE THERE!

SBA President Tim Murray

editorial had-mouthing orientation, obviously you have been missing Bodensteiner's "Civ. Pro." class or you would understand procedure. Any grievances, complaints, suggestions, or yes, compliments should be addressed to members of the Board of Directors. The Board will be here by the end of the semester.

If there are any worthwhile comments or suggestions concerning Orientation Day or any other law school related affairs, please feel free to discuss them with a SBA Board member or at the student body meetings. The next student body meeting will be held at 3:40 P.M. on November 3 in classroom D.

Barbara Bolling tells me that the new typewriter for the library will be here by the end of the week. The typewriter is only to be used for resumes, envelopes, letters, short memos, etc. Please don't use it to type your Law Review Notes or Appellate Briefs. Watch for signs in the library for location and usage.

The other day a 1L told me she was planning to spend 5-6 days in Las Vegas over Thanksgiving Break—I laughed.

New hours for the SBA office are M-F 9 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Saturday and Sunday, take your chances. The office doors will be locked on weekdays at 5:00 P.M. Speaking of bulletin boards, how about everyone reading them once in a while. Some people act like it takes up all their precious study time to be informed and kept up to date on activities in and outside the law school.

I only have one class where an attendance policy is enforced. (I'm sure you'll interpret that sentence in your own way.)

Quote of the week from the SBA President: "He is rich enough who can always enjoy." Some French dude, 1700s.

Until the next issue, this is your SBA slave saying, "YEAAH, BABY!"

The next Student Body Meeting will be held on Nov. 3 at 3:40 in Classroom D.

BASKIN ROBBINS

Buy One Sundae, Get One Free

When you mention one of the 1L's: Giovanni, Buck, Chris, Frank, or Scott

222 Lincolnway
You're Place or Mine?  
Something on Nothing  
By Tim Baker

Renowned philosopher Noah Tall once said everybody's got a place in life. Having never contemplated deeply on such a weighty topic, I shall offer a less profound theory: everybody's got a place to study. Whether it be at home or in the library, or in bed practicing osmosis with a casebook beneath their pillow, every student has a favorite place to study.

This makes perfect sense. Because no one's favorite activity is studying, finding a comfortable place to brief that case is only natural. Noah Tall would be pleased.

Every study spot has its unique characteristics. Perhaps most notably the second floor of the YU law library. The large open area on the second floor is typically the social gathering for those who study either as much as they study for class. I confess to often studying there myself. That is, when I study. I often study on the second floor. I clarify this to avoid accidentally claiming that I study often.

Geometrically opposed to the second floor is the basement. I've never quite figured out what breed of law student dwells down there. All I know for certain about the basement is that there was a flood there once. All law students reportedly were away, along with some government documents on water management.

I do remember one additional factor about the basement. There used to be a study lounge down there for smokers. The smoking lounge is no more. I guess the students who used it died. Anyways, IL Brs Soos is investigating the former smoker's lounge for a possible Law Review logo.

Between the basement and the second floor is the main level of the law library. I sometimes study there between classes. The 2nd floor I save by not walking upstairs gives me time to brief another case.

Library employees often attempt to study at the desktops while they work. This requires a special skill unique to library employees, which perhaps is tested for when job applications are submitted. Anyone who can retrieve horsecorns, answer the phone, look up from their books while someone talks with them, and put up with nosey conversation while preparing for class gets the job.

The library isn't the only place in the law school to study. Some students prefer the student lounges. Based on the air quality in the student lounge, this must be where the smokers of the smoker's lounge migrated. The Environmental Protection Agency was call- ed to the lounge last week; fines could result.

The student lounge, in all fairness, is nice because you can eat and drink there while you study. Then again, that was the idea behind the law library too.

Some students prefer to do their studying away from the law school. For a change of pace, I once tried to study at the undergraduate library. I quickly learned why the undergraduates prefer the comparatively plush environment of the law library. Student's homes are perhaps the favorite non-legal setting surrounding law school study.

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## Applications Software A Must

### Toys For Lawyers

By David Clark

The last two articles in this series dealt with the basics of applying computers to legal problems and the variety of available hardware. This column will introduce some of the applications software that can be used on the most popular personal computers. Applications software is computer programs designed to make the personal computer perform a particular function. Popular applications are word processing, financial analysis spreadsheets, database programs that organize and sort large numbers of files, communications programs for communicating with remote computers via phone lines, and utility programs that make computer use more efficient. Without applications programs, the personal computer is a useless lump of silicon and plastic.

Applications software packages are written by programmers at large software companies and sold on floppy disks accompanied by instruction books. The quality and ease of use of applications programs vary greatly, but a buyer can usually be assured of competent quality when dealing with one of the large, reputable software manufacturers. Many packages come with tutorial programs right on the floppy disk that take the user by the hand and lead him or her through the learning stage.

The most common applications software package used by lawyers and law students is word processing. Since documents are the work product of most lawyers, a word processing program that can handle the special requirements of legal writing is desirable. All word processors have common functions permitting text revisions by inserting, moving, deleting, and copying text. More advanced programs permit manipulating large documents, like books or treatises with indexes, tables of contents and author indexes, footnotes, etc. The word processor you choose should be able to do these functions that you will need and in the future.

Another factor to consider when choosing a word processing program is compatibility with the system used in the law office where you will eventually work. The better programs allow saving and retrieving documents in generic formats that can be transferred from one program to another. This feature will save you the agony of having to relearn a new program, if your office ever switches software or if you move from one firm to another.

The most popular word processing for PCs with the legal profession is WordPerfect. WordPerfect is available for the IBM PC standard, the Apple Macintosh, Apple II, and a host of other systems. WordPerfect is easy to learn and use, comes with an on-line tutorial and help system, and is capable of the most complex document manipulations. WordPerfect is one of the most popular word processing packages.

Another popular word processing program is Microsoft Word. Word is capable of most of the common functions, like inserting comments or footnotes, required memorizing of cryptic key commands. I understand that the program has been completely re-written recently and is now much easier to use. Unfortunately, the re-write came too late and Wordstar has lost most of the market share to the more elegant programs.

My suggestion is that you go to a software store like Egghead or ComputerWorld and watch the software demonstrations of these various word processing packages. A demonstration program is usually supplied to the stores. All you have to do is sit in front of the computer and watch the software demonstrate itself to you. Try to think ahead when you select a software package.
From the Left: Duke Measures Up

By Roger Weitgenant
Forum Staff Writer

Every presidential election has its own special theme. These themes have run from the "Bull Moose" of the "Fruit Belt," "G.I. Like Ike," on up to "Camelot." This presidential election is no exception, with a different twist. The theme being played out is not a rallying cry for a better tomorrow, although those slogans are gratuitously made. Rather, the distinction in this year's election is the division between the liberal and the conservative.

For Michael Dukakis, the label placed upon him is that of "Liberal." The word "Liberal" defines a liberal as one who is marked by generosity and openhandedness, broadminded and not bound by authoritarianism, orthodoxy, or traditionalism. If Michael Dukakis is a true, dyed-in-the-wool liberal, his policy stances on the issues present in this election would attest to this label. An examination of Michael Dukakis' positions may paint a wholly different picture.

Michael Dukakis believes that every American should be afforded the opportunity of higher education and that the government should take an active role in assuring that promise. Education for all has always been a liberal tenancy. This position comes down to a trade: Guns or Books. A trade even the current administration recognizes as necessary to balance the budget. On this position, Dukakis clearly falls within the liberal category.

Health Care

From P.D.R. to L.B.J., a society in which basic health needs were met was attempted. Although the idea was sound, the funding methods were not. Michael Dukakis proposes to place the funding for the current health care and insurance crises within the open market to form the free and increased health care plans. This approach is a true overall view that government must provide these services.

Michael Dukakis' proposal embraces both conservative privatization, and liberal provision of basic necessities. Based on that view, Dukakis rates as a moderate on health care.

All in all, Michael Dukakis does rate as a liberal. His open views on abortion, affirmative, yet quiet method of administration, and his eagerness in facilitating certain programs which would insulate basic human dignity and equality demonstrate this liberalism. Although other liberals have been known to plunge in head first, Michael Dukakis is not a flamboyant liberal. He is cautious and careful, keeping the concerns of this country in the perspective of solid social growth.

Abortion and the Pledge of Allegiance

For Michael Dukakis, the issue of abortion is not a simple decision, although he takes a very practical approach to the subject. The decision to be made is whether to have an abortion is left to the woman. This position brands Dukakis as pro-choice. But is Michael Dukakis really acting as a liberal on this position?

Similar to his position on the pledge of Allegiance, Michael Dukakis supports choice in abortion on very practical, traditional lines. Unlike the Carter administration, Dukakis defers to the holdings of the U.S. Supreme Court. This non-deviation from a traditional form, rather Michael Dukakis is sitting on the decisions of a formal and traditional body. Though we could associate these views as liberal, Dukakis favors accepting the mainstream. Therefrom these positions Michael Dukakis scores as a moderate.

Education:

Michael Dukakis believes that every American should be afforded the opportunity of higher education and that the government should take an active role in assuring that promise. Education for all has always been a liberal tenancy. This position comes down to a trade: Guns or Books. A trade even the current administration recognizes as necessary to balance the budget. On this position, Dukakis clearly falls within the liberal category.

Health Care

From P.D.R. to L.B.J., a society in which basic health needs were met was attempted. Although the idea was sound, the funding methods were not. Michael Dukakis proposes to place the funding for the current health care and insurance crises within the open market to form the free and increased health care plans. This approach is a true overall view that government must provide these services.

Michael Dukakis' proposal embraces both conservative privatization, and liberal provision of basic necessities. Based on that view, Dukakis rates as a moderate on health care.

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Abortion and the Pledge of Allegiance

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In Our Opinion

"Talk is Cheap When the Story is Good"

The present atmosphere at Valparaiso University School of Law brings to mind the song "Take It on the Run," by REO Speedwagon. For those of you who have never heard the song, have never heard REO Speedwagon, or have never been to a rock concert, the song laments, "When the story is done, gossip is demeaning to day based lifestyles."

It is unfortunate that a person of Mr. Ritsema's talent and intellect allows his prejudices to dominate an otherwise fine argument. Mr. Ritsema's letter in the last issue of The Forum completely misses the purpose and reasons behind Affirmative Action. The purpose of Affirmative Action is not to give someone an advantage but to make the quest for jobs, education, and other opportunities equal.

A good analogy to Affirmative Action is a hundred meter race. Everyone in the race is competing for the finish line. Every finish line is individual to the runner. The goal may be a college education, entry into graduate school, a "good job," or a long sought after promotion.

Before Affirmative Action, not all the competitors in the race started at the same starting line. White High School seniors were given unrestricted entry into all schools and degrees. Black High School students could not finish the same line. However, women, blacks, and other minorities were placed ten meters back when starring the race.

What evidence do we have that everyone is not allowed to start the race at the same line? Two weeks ago a jury found the FBI guilty of discriminating against Hispanic applicants. In his letter, Mr. Ritsema brings us back to the same line. However, women, blacks, and other minorities were placed ten meters back when staring the race.

These incidents bring to mind the song "Talk is Cheap When the Story is Good". Is Mr. Ritsema implying that the white candidate was qualified and the black candidate was not? I would have found his characterization more palatable if the black candidate was qualified and the white candidate characterized as "more qualified." I will not even postulate the possibility that both candidates have equal capabilities.

Mr. Ritsema concludes in his letter to make the statement "people competing for jobs or promotions should be forced to stand on their own two feet - not their color." That statement had me ready to applaud until I thought about the fact that white people have had affirmative action programs working for them for the "old boy network." The University of California at Davis, the school involved in the recent calculus abuse cases, has mentioned that several places were set aside each year for the sons and daughters of school faculty. One alumna, A. Pinkney, The Myth of Black People, notes that her "race" was standing on your own two feet - not their color!

I wonder if Mr. Ritsema's dislike for affirmative action programs a matter of semantics? Certainly his objection cannot stand against the objective of the programs: the objective stated in the dictionary definition was one of remedying past discriminatory practices. I would argue that affirmative action programs were permitted to continue because of the large numbers of people and groups who have been discriminated against and/or gossip.

Our purpose in writing to this paper is to try and bring a bit of light into the target of vicious rumors. If not, then what sense does it make to take part in that activity?

We are all guilty of gossiping and spreading rumors. In order to kill the rumor mill, we must first start with ourselves and "clean our own houses." Then, we can attack rumors and gossip at their source. Next time someone says to you, "Did you hear who Suzie Q. left the bar with last night?" or "Guess who's been blowing off contracts lately?" just say "No" and walk away.

Another way to attack gossip and rumors is to simply confront the situation head on. If you hear a story about Suzie Q and you have reason to believe it is false, ask the "story teller" where he got his information and how he knows it is true. If the person cannot give you a good answer, let him know that you don't appreciate him slandering a person's name.

As future lawyers, we should not feel intimidated by dealing with problems. Part of our legal education is to learn how to deal with other people. As a member of the community, you should be brief, to the point, and courteous in your letter. A letter which asks the reader to take part in judgment upon another person, unless he himself is fault free.

In our opinion, the spreading of unsubstantiated rumors and gossip is demeaning and unprofessional. After all, "talk is cheap when the story is good."
Letters to the Editor (Cont.)

(Rolling continued from page 8) someone who will argue the pro-life solution? Certainly that someone needs to be in a powerful position in order to effect the change in the law that solution is discovered. Since Black people, women and the poor are represented in all positions which command any power, what incentive will it be in these positions to have a solution? I believe the goal should be equality and depend on some faceless unknown in a distant political position to solve a grave problem. I ask Mr. Ritsema, “is it fair to take programs which have experienced some success in balancing the discrepancy between races and leave nothing in its place simply because the programs have some side effects”? If those side effects make people uncomfortable, will this not be incentive for those dissatisfied persons to develop better and more workable solutions? Creativity is born out of adversity.

Finally, I ask Mr. Ritsema, “at what point does White America take responsibility for the plight of the black man in society”? For it is your forefathers who recognized that the most effective way to suppress a people was to deny them the most basic of rights, the right to an education. Black people did not choose not to become educated, they were legally prohibited. Perhaps Mr. Ritsema is sorry about what happened in the past but he was not responsible, he had nothing to do with it. But I say to Mr. Ritsema, you are enjoying the benefits of those past acts which you classify as respectable. “The site of the father shall be visited upon the sons for generations.” Exodus 20:5. Mr. Ritsema talks about reverse discrimination but I was told by a person that there is nothing that is reverse discrimination unless there is a reversal in power. Yes, I am a supporter of affirmative action. If a school, business or governmental agency has a non-diverse population and that entity is found with two equally qualified candidates of different races, hopes affirmative action tips the scales in favor of the Black candidate. When looking at quality, perhaps the changes in the evolution process needs to be changed. When you present your assessment tools which are used to grant success have no correlation to the desired results, then those tools need to be discarded (I.e. L AKE scores).

I only ask for the opportunity to get in the door. Once in the door I will do the job. Justice Blackmun wrote in his dissent in the Bakke case “in order to get beyond race, we must first take account of race, there is no other way.” And in order to treat some persons equally, must treat them differently.” A. Pinkney, The Myth of Black Process (1985).

Sincerely,
Barbara Bolling
Abortion Debate Heats Up

Dear Forum Editor:

Much to no one's surprise, emotions run high on the issue of abortion. In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court held that unborn humans were not legal "persons" under the U.S. Constitution. It followed that an unborn baby was the property of the mother and should therefore have the baby killed at her request because of her health (mental distress). Proponents of abortion argue that merely because one is morally, ethically, or religiously against abortion, one should not impose a particular ideology on moral framework of the rest of society.” The right to an abortion is an exercise in democracy and freedom.”

In Mr. Goss' latest article entitled "Abortion: Personal Matter: Women Entitled to Choice," Mr. Goss stated that "[p]receded to its essential element, the anti-abortionist argument is: You should do what is right, right? We are the ones who are going to tell you what the right thing is."

Unfortunately, this bald assertion by Mr. Goss misses the point of the pro-life movement. Pro-life advocates are a group of "self-righteous" individuals trying to "impose a particular ideology and moral framework upon the rest of society." Rather, pro-life advocates seek to protect the rights of the most helpless category of human beings- unborn children. The pro-life movement stems from a belief that killing is wrong. This belief, in turn, stems from the 6th of God's 10 Commandments, "Thou shalt not kill," which is the corner-stone of the Judeo-Christian ethic. The pro-life movement does not seek to limit women's choices. In my opinion, women have a choice. Women can either choose not to put themselves in a situation where they are confronted by an unplanned, unwanted pregnancy, or they can choose to face the consequences of their actions. The choice should be made before the problem arises. People should be held accountable for their actions.

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Sincerely,
Stephen L.Krentz

The Forum, October 12, 1988

From the Editor

Women Must Be Responsible

In Mr. Goss' latest article entitled "Abortion: Personal Matter: Women Entitled to Choice," Mr. Goss stated that "[p]receded to its essential element, the anti-abortionist argument is: You should do what is right, right? We are the ones who are going to tell you what the right thing is."

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Apathy Hurts Everyone

By Joe Wiegert  Forum Staff Writer

There is an epidemic spreading through the law school which is insidious and fatal. No, I'm not trying to cause an AIDS scare, I'm trying to state the obvious.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines apathy as "lack of feeling or emotion: indifference." Apathy is contagious because, humanly speaking, it allows less amount of effort and possible the best and easier. However, apathy is "no one else is." As a result, because it allows us to get lazy and leads to professional suicide. The legal profession (not the class, the real legal profession), by its very nature, forces us to be aware. All aspects of the law affect and are affected by, community issues and opinions. Given the importance of politics to a successful legal career, there is a natural divergence toward community awareness and involve and professional suicide.

As law students we imply that we have school work, some of us have children, we have school work, you get the picture. But, I believe the law school which is comprised of over 100 students, how could it be argued that our current attitude is inherently apathetic. We lack a cause. Past generations have volunteered for battle to lead them to rally and fight. We simply are not young enough old for the war on drugs. We're the Apathy generation. We have never been asked to deal with reality in the past, why should we go out and look for problems now? One reason is that it will eventually be our job (that's a big assumption). Attorneys help solve problems. If we ignore problems now, whether they're in the school or the world, we won't be more inclined to ignore problems later? We realize that we're too young and we can't be as "hard core punk." This type of music and attitude addresses sexual norms through its art. The real issue surrounding the court of events is censorship. I'm not referring to the censorship we learn about in the book, I'm talking about censorship as it exists in the real world of music. Most music that people listen to is already carefully filtered for them by the record labels which has been escalated by groups such as the Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC), who claim not to be censors. However, they real, or not, the PMRC was the owner of the parking lot who shut down the Astral Zombies, are censoring music.

The PMRC wants warning labels to be placed on records containing offensive material. But here in the great Midwest many record stores are run by chains that are in turn housed in chain shopping malls (obviously Beyegovich is not included in this group). These chain shopping malls, like Southlake Mall in Merrillville for example, will often not allow the chain's customers to listen to records with warning labels on them. The malls enforce their policies by threatening to not renew the store's lease. Therefore, in order for these stores to stay open, they can't sell certain types of music. If the artists are left without an outlet, hence, censorship!

It isn't often when one is able to visit the Southlake Mall in Valparaiso; more often, one must settle for bands attempting to play Grateful Dead covers. By pulling the plug on Astral Zombies, the owner of the parking lot at the southwest corner of Franklin and Jefferson effectively reduced the young people of Valparaiso to less offensive discussed (unless these young people are old enough to drive, or able to afford a trip to Chicago, or buy songs live!). It should be noted for those readers focused exclusively on music, that the reason for censorship is not music. This article is referring to privacy and freedom vs. government. Therefore, the issue is censorship vs. privacy, rather than one of legality. This doesn't change the fact that what we hear, is determined by those with power and influence. To question this standard is no less legitimate.

Society Has Duty to Protect the Unborn

By Julie Zandstra  Forum Contributor

"Abortion Personal Decision!" seems to have been a frequent event as a desire to play an active role in our world (or we just want to win that big tont case and retire at thirty). All this concern is based on, well, your opinion. No one ever head in our books and pretend that none of this is really as important as getting those cases out so that we can make it to Jackson's on time. The cold fact remains, however, that if we're going to be truly successful in the legal profession we will have to face these issues sooner or later.

Doesn't seem much more reasonable to enter the "real world" with at least a basic understanding of the upcoming events, than to try and figure it all out later? I don't think an employer is going to hire a law school graduate who has never heard of a late week problem, or doesn't understand why shows are put off. We can't, or hasn't realized that there has been a resurgence of racial tension in the nation.

"Apathy is fatal because it allows us to get lazy and leads to professional suicide."
Steroid Use More Noticeable in Women

By Matt Begeske
Forum Staff Writer

Before I start on the subject of my article this issue, I’d like to take an informal poll. How many of you think we should replace the Valparaiso University football team with a group a little more able to play the game, like the Porter County League of Women Voters?

I admit I haven’t kept up on all the team action, but I know they played their first game to a “RUTHLESS” (not one player named Ruth on either side) 56-0. The lack of scoring was because both teams a) didn’t know where the endzones were, b) couldn’t humiliate themselves in such a fashion. That is, until Big Rider B.B. Gun.

By John Garman
Forum Staff Writer

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By John Garman
Forum Staff Writer

The Forum

The Hearts lost their last week 6-4 to the covert fig, Ep. team who they best last year in the championship game. The Hearts played most of the first half, with 8 men, then 9, thus making substitution impossible. I still can picture R.R. wheeling on the sidelines. There was hope that, if the team was at full strength, a repeat was possible. But, after losing 4-1 in their last regular season game to the covert fig, Ep. team, the Hearts know a repeat would be tough.

When you win you feel no pain.

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Renamed to all! Coed Volleyball players, please check bulletin board for date and time of next game.

Good Luck to the Noloch Contendres, Dazed & Confused, Bracy’s Bombers, and the Depraved Hearts.

Hunting Adventures

By John Garman
Forum Staff Writer

All I ever wanted was a Red Rider B.B. Gun.

I was never much of a hunter until that fateful day when my girlfriend’s father said, “Going out to the farm, wanna go shoot some pheasants?” At first I was hesitant. Did I really want to blast a bird and scatter feathers from here to eternity? You’re Dam right I do.

Ah, the relationship a man has with a gun. A primitive instinct with the advantage of technology. Soon, instead of waiting for our non-athletic friends, I saw them, they practiced their flight, in my mind I studied their flight pattern. I practiced loading my shot; I shot and it was good.

Is this sport? Do I feel guilty? Is this worth it? Was the adrenaline surge tremendous? Maybe, maybe, YES! I can’t help it, it’s a primitive instinct, a virtual sport.

I was always a P.R. Inc. I was never much of a hunter until that fateful day when my girlfriend’s father said, “Going out to the farm, wanna go shoot some pheasants?” At first I was hesitant. Did I really want to blast a bird and scatter feathers from here to eternity? You’re Dam right I do.

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