Dole edges Clinton by 1 in straw poll

Top three candidates were Robert Dole, President Clinton and Colin Powell.

By David Novak
Federalist Society President

And the winner is Bob Dole with 27 votes. The Presidential Straw Poll that was held Tuesday, November 7, and Wednesday, November 8 was a big success. All of the declared candidates were on the ballot except for Lamar Alexander (a mistake on my part).

Many different things can be read from the results. First of all, Rick Cominigore, a 2L here at the law school, tied for 6th place with Steve Forbes. What does this mean? It means that Rick, who is not a retired military general or a U.S. Senator, is more popular than many of the other Republican presidential candidates who have campaign funds, TV appearances and big name endorsements.

The results were:

- Dole — 27
- Clinton — 26
- Colin Powell — 17
- Richard Lugar — 12
- Patrick Buchanan — 8
- Steve Forbes — 7
- Rick Cominigore (student) — 7
- Lamar Alexander — 6
- Phil Gramm — 5
- Alan Keyes — 2
- Robert Dornan — 2
- None of the above — 2

The following candidates received only one vote: any other democrat, Professor Smoot, Nicole Kimble, Jack Kemp, Alton Spector, Professor Dooley, Bill Bennett, Tupac Shakur, Paul Tsongas, Louis Farrakhan, Michael Jackson, Warren Buffet, and for those in Professor O'Drobinak's Trust Kemp, Alren Spector, Professor Dooley.

Nevertheless, the citizens of Valparaiso University who have spoken, and their choice for president is Bob Dole.

VUSUL rated 33rd in nation for women

By Christopher Hedges
Editor-in-Chief

Valparaiso University School of Law was rated 33rd in the nation as a law school that strives for equal treatment of women.

The National Jurist poll of U.S. law schools rated schools based on the percentage of women law students and faculty, as well as on the number of women who are in leadership positions in law reviews and student bar associations.

VUSUL scored the following in the survey:

- Percent Students: 45
- Percent Faculty: 35
- Equal Treatment: 2.77
- Leadership Score: 93.5
- Overall Score: 85.5

According to the survey, an ideal score for a law school in the leadership and overall scores categories is 100. The equal treatment score is an index of how women at VUSUL view their treatment.

The top school in the survey, North Carolina Central scored a 3.09 in the equal treatment category, 159.5 in the leadership score and 120.6 in the overall score.

NCC's campus is comprised of 54 percent women law students and 58 percent women faculty.

The equal treatment category, according to the survey was derived from a survey of 18,000 law students at ABA accredited law schools and asked the question, "Female students are afforded equal treatment by students and faculty." The students rated their school on a scale of 1 to 4, with 4 being a perfect score.

The leadership score assumes that 50 percent of women should be involved in leadership activities at a law school. A school with 50 percent of women in leadership positions in student government and law review scores 100.

The top five schools in The National Jurist poll are North Carolina Central, CUNY/Queens, Northeastern University, Santa Clara University and Arizona State University.

The lowest rated schools in the poll include Indiana University—Bloomington at 160, University of Chicago at 166, Harvard University at 167 and the lowest rated school, Brigham Young University at 168.

Other Indiana schools surveyed include: IU—Indianapolis (48) and Notre Dame (147).

2nd Circuit's Judge Calabresi to lecture on torts

Forum News Report

The Valparaiso University School of Law will sponsor a lecture by the Honorable Guido Calabresi, Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Calabresi will deliver his speech at 4 p.m. today in the Taber Classroom in Wesemann Hall.

President Bill Clinton appointed Calabresi to the United States Circuit Court in September 1994.

Prior to his appointment, Calabresi served as Dean of the Yale Law School from 1985 to 1994.

DTP hosting party at Oneida's tonight

By Steve Etzler
Public Relations Chairman, DTP

Delta Theta Phi, along with the Women's Law Student Association will be hosting another party at Oneida's tonight at 9 p.m.

The first 50 to 60 pitchers of beer, as well as snacks, will be provided.
Letters & Opinions

Our Opinion

Happy Thanksgiving

It's that time of the year again. Time to pack up some books and dirty laundry and hit the road to grandmother's house for a large Thanksgiving dinner with all of the family. Or, maybe its just a time to spend a few days relaxing while making plans to head over to the law school to share in the school's own Thanksgiving dinner.

Everyone at The Forum would like to give thanks for this fall semester. And, we'd like to wish everyone a safe journey, no matter where they are going whether it be to the law school or around the world.

Thanks for the stories

The last couple of issues of The Forum have seen several personalized accounts of major events happening in our nation and the world. Since The Forum isn't a daily newspaper, we cannot really cover the breaking news of the day before most students have read or watched reports of the events. We can hope to put the issues and events of the day into a light so that students can understand what their fellow classmates are thinking, as well as provide a wrap-up of what occurred.

Since this is the Thanksgiving season, special thanks goes out to Joe Barksdale and Professor Hatcher for their stories which put the Million Man March into a local and personal perspective. Thanks also go out the Jeremy Sozin and Stacy Schlein for writing personal accounts of the tragedy of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. Jeremy took the extra effort of coordinating with Stacy Schlein, who is living in Jerusalem, so that The Forum could print this story.

Thanks for all the hard work and effort.

In the Hot Zone

With all of the viruses infecting the computers in the library, we all need to take special precautions to prevent the spread of infection to other computers. Scan your disks before using them on the library machines. It takes a short period of time and you won't risk the risk of spreading a computer virus to your home or work system. This is also a good time to plug email. Generally, electronic mail is virus free. The Forum encourages everyone to use email to contribute stories to this paper. Our email address is forum@wesemann.law.valpo.edu. You can coordinate with EIS to get a PPP account so that you can write and check messages on the Wesemann system from home using free internet programs (Pegasus and Eudora) widely available via World Wide Web sites. Not only does it protect from viruses, it means you don't have to turn in a disk to have a story printed in the paper!

Serving law students for over a quarter century
The Forum

"Let the people know the truth and the country will be saved." — Abraham Lincoln

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All are welcome to participate.

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The Forum encourages submissions from all law students. Please contact Christopher Hedges, editor-in-chief, chedges@wesemann.law.valpo.edu, for more information. Contributions can be placed in Locker #302 for placement in the paper. Please use Word Perfect 5.1 on a 3.5" floppy disk (available at the Library Circulation desk).

Some lite reading

In case anyone has some extra time for divulging in a little politically correct reading, the new Bible just released by Oxford University Press might be worth your attention. Then again, if you have no time whatsoever for any extracurricular activities and just need a few laughs, this piece is a find. The only thing I could possibly think of that might reach the level of idiocy found here won't be seen until Bill Clinton writes his presidential memoirs. Actually, the funny part will be watching him find a library to accept their. At any rate, a short preview of this holy Bible should help readers decide whether they want to put this on their Christmas shopping lists. Where to begin?

For you ladies out there disturbed by the trend set in the Garden of Eden, your troubles have been cured. All male pronouns for God have been eliminated, or at least been placed on equal footing with those of females. The only thing I could possibly think of that might reach the level of idiocy found here won't be seen until Bill Clinton writes his presidential memoirs. Actually, the funny part will be watching him find a library to accept them. And, we'd like to wish everyone a safe journey, no matter where they are going whether it be to the law school or around the world.

CONTRA MUNDUM
By Felix Sternfels

Want to contribute?
Contact The Forum
Email: forum@wesemann.law.valpo.edu
Tel: (219) 465-7831
Mail: Heritage Hall 202
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383
To the Editor:

The Million Man March was a success and it is absolutely horrible that someone would keep running this Louis Farrakhan stuff into the ground. The man has a first amendment right to say what he wants! You do not have to agree with what he says; however, he does have a right to say it.

Mr. Furman does not have the right to plant evidence and beat people in the name of the law. To compare the two under an analysis of hypocritical views of people on race is absolutely hypocritical in and of itself.

If you do not like what Farrakhan says, then at least give him some credit for his tireless efforts to clean up the streets in the African-American Community, his efforts to rehabilitate ex-cons, and his example of education and discipline that he presents for young African-American Men.

Novenber 16 -- 1995

YourOpinion

Views on race

hypocritical

To the Editor:

Isn’t “sucks” an inappropriate term for a newspaper headline? It is either non-descriptive; or it’s a vulgar slang term for perversion, and it’s still non-descriptive. Had that been an article on hard candy I would have understood, maybe, but it was an article on sports.

If you gave your sons freedom (including money) to do as they pleased, or of the son who spent all the money on things that he enjoyed, would you be proud of the son who established a business and became a success, or of the son who passed out in the gutter or the son who used his freedom to develop character and independence?

J. Richardson 
VIA EMAIL.

OJ sticker flyer

offensive

To the Editor:

Did anyone see the sign in the large locker room advertising the “O.J. Sucks” bumper sticker? I did, and I was offended.

The sign went on to state that if you would send $2.50 to a St. John, Indiana post office box, a bumper sticker would be sent to you. Furthermore, the sign stated that the profits would be donated to the Brown and Goldman family -- sure they would be.

I do not have a problem with people trying to make a buck, however, not only has the time passed for such an endeavor, but it is in bad taste.

How many of you would proudly place such a bumper sticker on your car? I surely would not and I hope neither would you.

David Novak

FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

By Edward M. Gaffney, Jr.

Senate rejects LSO cuts: Congressional proposal would end loan deferments

In my last column in The Forum I suggested that you might consider involving yourself in the political decision about federal financing of legal aid. To be sure, as I have heard from some of you, there is room for debate among reasonable people on this issue.

The update is that Senator Peter Domenici (Rep.-N.M.) has persuaded the Senate to reject the House approach of killing the Legal Services Corporation [LSC]. The vote in the Senate was 60-39, and the matter must be reconciled in a conference committee.

So it's still not too late for you to write or phone your representative in the House to urge the House to accede to the Senate on this matter, if you are so minded.

Now a few replies. First, when I urged people to write to members of Congress about this matter, I did not mean to suggest that anyone is unethical for failing to do so. Goodness knows that we all lead busy lives as students of the land. We cannot even keep up with all the hot issues.

But from this fact I mean to suggest that anyone is unethical for failing to do so. Goodness knows that we all lead busy lives as students of the land. We cannot even keep up with all the hot issues. On the other hand, I was appealing to an ancient tradition about lawyers, underlined in Aristotle’s Ethic. That is, we have a special duty to be good citizens. And I still think that the issue of providing legal aid for poor people is one of those important issues that lawyers and future lawyers might well regard as a special concern of our calling.

Second, I acknowledge that the middle class is underrepresented by attorneys in many of the legal problems that beset them. But from this fact I would argue not for cutting back on funds for poor people, but for thinking more imaginatively about meeting the legal needs of the middle class. I don’t think that the British system of shifting legal fees to the losing party solves the problem, but merely provides a dicey remedy for poor and middle class alike.

Third, some of you imagine that the Legal Services Corporation is a vast centralized bureaucracy in Washington. Actually, LSC is one of the most decentralized programs in the entire panoply of federally funded programs. Since federal funds account for less than 25% of the needs of poor people, local committees decide which needs need our attention.

Fourth, some of you think that federal support for LSC is “massive.” On the contrary, it is exceedingly parsimonious. The amount of federal aid appropriated for LSC has never approximated the very modest goal of funding two lawyers for every 10,000 poor people.

Even if federal funding of LSC were more generous, the fact that many members of the middle class suffer injustices does not negate the validity of aiding those who cannot afford to pay a legal fee.

Finally, some of you think that my argument was just more of the same “old liberal” talk that the country repudiated by electing the 104th Congress. My argument, based on the equal dignity of all persons before the law, may indeed be

Let your voice rise across the land!

Write a letter to the editor or an opinion piece.

All viewpoints of interest to law students welcome.

Deadline: November 16, 1995 at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact The Forum via email.
Legal services legislation update; Congress wants to stop deferments

Legislation, from page 3

old, but not in the sense in which we speak of tired "old liberals." It is an old argument in the sense with which we venerate the ancient obligations set forth in the command of Deuteronomy 16:19 that wealthy folks should have no greater advantage at justice than poor folks. That obligation is reflected in the commitment of the Fourteenth Amendment to "equal protection of the laws," a provision that was added to the federal constitution precisely because the States could not be trusted to do equal justice without that federal guaranty. So central is the theme of equal justice under law to our American system that none of us — whether paeleo-liberals or neo-conservatives — should let the 104th Congress trample upon it or treat it with contempt. Meantime, there is another legislative issue that I would commend to your attention. I have endorsed a petition to the 104th Congress that opposes its proposed termination of the deferment of the payment of interest on federally funded student loans. Like the termination of the LSC endorsed by the House, this proposal would, of course, help to balance the federal budget. But it would do so by adding a crushing burden of additional debt to students who cannot afford much more than what you are already carrying. I hope that a lot of you will be willing to add your names to this petition. It affects all of you.

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Have a story idea? Contribute to The Forum. Call 465-7831 for more info. Meetings every Tuesday @ 10 a.m. in Heritage Hall 202. forum@wesemann.law.valpo.edu

Thanks contributors! The Forum editors
Rabin, Israeli peacemaker, killed

By Stacy Schlein

VIA EMAIL

JERUSALEM -- My Prime Minister was shot. Although I have never seriously considered living in Israel permanently, Yitzhak Rabin was my Prime Minister. Even more so than Bill Clinton is my president. Even if I never move to Israel, it is my home. These are my people.

About 9:30 that evening I was talking to my parents. They asked, "Is there anything going on in Israel?" I responded, "No, not a thing."

I hung up the phone and a few minutes later my roommate ran into the apartment.

"Rabin has been shot."

I didn't think he would live. I didn't think he would die. I didn't think. I was too busy trying to find an English broadcast. We listened and waited.

My sister called, "You know what's going on?"

Yes.

We heard that the assassin was Jewish, an Israeli law student. We were shocked. How could a Jewish person do this to another Jewish person? Then we heard Rabin died on the operating table.

I talked to my family again. We were hurt, confused and sad. I felt a throbbing pain in my abdomen. As I lay in bed, I cried myself to sleep. I cried because I felt as if I lost a member of my family. I cried because I couldn't understand how one person could kill another. I cried because I didn't understand how one person could kill another. I cried because Israel will have huge challenges to face.
Adopt-a-family assists families during the holidays

By Joanne Albers
Registrar

For almost ten years, the law school has participated in the campus-wide Adopt-a-Family Project whereby various groups and organizations assist local indigent families for the holidays. The Chapel Office, in association with the local welfare department, assigns the families. The law school's participation in this project has been coordinated through the Registrar's office with various fundraisers to raise between $500-$600 for the purchase of Christmas gifts for one or more very needy families.

One of our fundraisers is selling Entertainment Books, which are coupon books that save up to 50 percent on dining, travel (plane fares), shopping, theatre, sports, gasoline, dry cleaning, and more in the NW Indiana and Chicagoland area. (Other books are available for various suburbs of Chicago or South Bend-Michiana, if you prefer). The discounts are good for a year's time (most until November 1996) and include Billy Jack's, Pass Times, The Spa, Strongbow's, Old Style Inn, The Court, in addition to many fast food places.

A sample book can be viewed in the Registrar's Office (Lisa Cannon's desk). You can purchase the book for $30.00 (of which $6.00 goes toward the family fund).

Check it out. The books also makes a great Christmas or holiday gift!

Suffolk Lawyers Guild announce contest

Forum News Report

Suffolk University Law School and the Suffolk Lawyers Guild announce their call for papers for presentation at the First Annual Academic Convocation for Law Students scheduled for March 8, 9 and 10, 1996 at Suffolk University Law School in Boston.

The Convocation's theme is "Law in a Changing Society." Any student at an ABA-approved law school may submit a proposal for consideration. Fifty proposals will be accepted. The convocation will be arranged into approximately fifteen panels of two-three students and a moderator, selected from prominent local scholars and practicing attorneys. The 50 students whose papers are selected for presentation will discuss their paper in a fifteen minute talk, followed by comments by the chair of the panel.

On Sunday, March 10, the convocation will conclude with a luncheon, at which time the top five papers will be honored. The top paper will be reviewed for publication in the Suffolk University Law Review.

To be eligible to present papers, students must submit a one-page abstract of the paper. The deadline for submission of the abstract is Dec. 3, 1995. Papers selected will be announced Jan. 15, 1996.

For more information, please contact Lisa Fisher of the Suffolk University Lawyers Guild at the SULS SBA at (617) 573-8174 or write to the SULS Lawyers Guild at 41 Temple Street, Boston, MA 02114.

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Information interviews: excellent networking tool
By Gail Peshel
Director of Career Services

After finals and over semester break, consider spending some of your time in half-hour conferences with attorneys in your home town. This is "networking," and networking is an important part of any job search. Networking builds relationships. Networking acknowledges three points: 1) people are the best sources of information; 2) information is power; and 3) the better informed you are, the better career decisions you'll make.

How to schedule an informational interview by telephone:
1. Telephone your contacts and first ask if they have a few minutes to talk.
2. Tell them you wish to work in the area and wish to speak to experienced people in the field to acquire additional information.
3. Politely explain that you would like to arrange a time to meet at their office — or a time to call back and talk with them in greater detail.
4. Keep the appointment — be prompt (and wear a suit).
5. Indicate your reason for the interview — a) you wish to learn about potential employers in the area; b) you would like feedback on your resume and how realistic your goals are; c) you have particular goals and wish to learn about some of the avenues that will allow you to reach those goals.

What to ask during an informational interview? A few suggestions follow:
1. Are particular courses, experiences, or personal attributes important in obtaining a job in your contact's practice areas?
2. Are there particular professional journals that should be read?
3. What qualifications does your contact look for when hiring an associate (or a summer clerk)?
4. What does your contact think of the experience you have had so far and which of your skills are considered strong points?
5. What experiences does your contact have that s/he considers invaluable to her/his practice?
6. What does your contact like about her/his position? What are some of the challenges encountered?
7. Does s/he foresee developments that will affect future opportunities?
8. What else does s/he think you should know?

Follow up is important!
1. Write down any employer names that are given. Include phone numbers, firm names, and addresses. Obtain permission to use a contact's name in your cover letters to the suggested employers. (Double check the spelling of each employer and whether "Mr." or "Ms." is appropriate.)
2. Send a thank you note to every attorney who meets with you — no later than the day after your meeting.

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Have a story idea or want to contribute? Write for The Forum -- Call 465-7831 for more info.