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Justice Thomas visits Valpo

By Malini Goel and Marianne Manheim

The Swayne Court Moot Court Competition was held in the VUCA Theater on Monday, March 16. The judges at the competition were Honorable Clarence Thomas, Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court; Honorable Michael S. Kanne, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; and Honorable Sarah Evans Barker, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. Dean Bodenstein introduced the three judges with Professor Rosalie Levinson, who taught a course in Cambridge with Justice Thomas. The students chosen to participate were Joel Blair and James Hough, petitioners; and Charles Parkinson and Jason Paupore, respondents.

The topic was whether, under the First Amendment, the Illinois POPE program, which provides tuition vouchers to qualifying Chicago families to send their children to religious institutions, violated the Constitution.

The respondents argued that the program goes beyond just getting a better education through choice of schools; it actually gives money from the government directly to religious institutions, violating the Establishment Clause. A little comedy was available from Judge Barker with her example of the “Lukewarm Lutheran School”. Justice Thomas, also added some humor and told a story about parents who sent their child to parochial school because he kept getting Ds in all his public school classes. Soon, the child began to get As in all of his new classes and the parents asked the child why he had changed. The child explained that he was sitting in Math class and saw a man hanging on the plus sign. He did not want to be that man, and it was time to make a change.

The parties continued to argue and in the end, it was the respondents who won. James Hough was best oralist. The award for best brief submitted in this year’s competition was earned by Moira Kinnally.

At the end, the Judges gave advice to those planning to argue in an appellate court. Try to remember to have rush to list all your points, it may dilute the impact.

Moot Court judges show their support for the Valpo basketball team by revealing VU basketball T-shirts.

The honorable Justice and judges acknowledged they weren’t the main attraction in town, and showing their support for the Valparaiso University Crusaders, unzipped their robes revealing Valparaiso University basketball shirts!

The focus of the media coverage was the story of a father and son. Homer and Bryce. Good-guy coach and good-guy player. This dynamic duo made every fan proud to live in Hoosierland.

Only God knows what the future will hold for Homer and Bryce. But it’s pretty safe to say that Homer will one day lead his Crusaders back to the NCAA tournament, and Bryce will be draining three-pointers for an NBA team. We’ll be watching, guys.

Coach Homer Drew thanks fans gathered at pep rally at the Old Gym.

Valpo team captivates America

Commentary
By Mark Pappas
Editor

It was a week none of us will ever forget. It was a week to dream the impossible dream. A week that made you proud to live in Hoosierland. It was a week that will forever change the destiny of Valparaiso University and the City of Valparaiso.

With one dramatic and miraculous three-point basket, Bryce Drew, the hometown hero that we all admire, turned the eyes of America onto a small midwest town and university. In 2.5 seconds, a town and university that most Americans had never heard of suddenly became the talk of the nation.

CBS, ABC, CNN, ESPN, The New York Times, Washington Post and Chicago Tribune were among the dozens of media outlets that featured our hometown Valpo Crusaders on T.V., in newspapers and on internet websites.

Who can forget the celebration at the Old Gym following the Crusaders return from their victorious weekend in Oklahoma City? Seven television crews along with a dozen or so photographers turned the victory celebration into a media frenzy reminiscent of a White House scandal or an L.A. style court trial. The VU campus was filled with enough satellite trucks to make Brentwood envious.

The focus of the media coverage was the story of a father and son. Homer and Bryce. Good-guy coach and good-guy player. This dynamic duo made every one of us proud to be associated with Valparaiso University.

Only God knows what the future will hold for Homer and Bryce. But it’s pretty safe to say that Homer will one day lead his Crusaders back to the NCAA tournament, and Bryce will be draining three-pointers for an NBA team. We’ll be watching, guys.

By the way, why don’t we rename ‘the ARC’, ‘The Homer and Bryce Drew Center’, or ‘The Drew Center’ for short?
**VUSL Voices**

**Basketball fever!!!**

Kelly Kraft: “Bryce Drew rocks my world. It’s very exciting to go to Valparaiso University.”

Jason Paradis: “I’ve been here 8.5 years and it’s about time they won something.”

Soo Kim: “I feel somewhat ashamed that I’ve never taken an interest in undergrad activities, but now that the team has proven to be successful, I am going to give as much support as I can.”

Rachel Anderson: “Coach Homer Drew and the basketball team members and staff: Thank you for all of your hard work and all you have done for Valparaiso University!”

Barb Schmidt: “One of the best things that even happened to this school.”

Kim Kleiman: “I find it exciting. No one ever thought it would be Rhode Island and Valparaiso in the Sweet 16. It’s so fun.”

Tanya Biller: “If it couldn’t be the Wolverines, I’m very glad it’s the Crusaders”.

Mark Bloomer: “I hope we win it all because my cousin went to Duke and I want to send her a Valpo T-shirt.”

Penny Meyers: “It was cool to see the Supreme Court Justice realize that there is something more important than law... March Madness! I was happy to see the newspaper report the scores, but was more excited when they told of the important values of our Coach and University.”

Malini Goel: “The moral of the story, bigger is not always better!”

**Goodbye stacks, hello racks**

By Marianne Manheim & Malini Goel

M&M salute the Library in providing the newspaper rack in the library. The rack is located on the first floor. The rack will allow all students to read the news on a daily basis and in an organized fashion. At present, the rack includes the Chicago Tribune, The Times, Post-Tribune, Indianapolis Sun, and the New York Times. M&M thanks the library for establishing the rack for the law school.

**Serving law students for over a quarter century**

**The Forum**

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

**Headline News**

By Marianne Manheim

**News Editor**

The Pope released a statement about the Church’s “errors and failures” during the Holocaust. The mild statement, which did not include a formal apology, caused a negative reaction by many Jewish leaders. Others said it is an important step in the right direction.

President Clinton began his week by facing more allegations about improper sexual advances toward women. The latest came from an interview with 60 Minutes. He has, of course, denied the allegations and has offered letters from the woman to disprove her allegations.

The U.S. News and World Report ranking has rewarded Valparaiso this year by sending us up from the bottom of the barrel to the Third Quarte. Last year, we were located in the Fourth. The jump up in ranking has nothing to do with basketball—that happened after the rankings came out. Many say that the improvement comes from the school’s plans to enter the Master’s Program area.

**March 17 -- April 1, 1998**

Mark your calendars on April 1 at 3:30 PM. SBA will present a panel in Tabor Classroom including Professors Lind, Blomquist, Carter, and Hart as well as guest speaker Assistant Deputy Prosecutor Brian Gensel on The DEATH PENALTY. A discussion will follow at the event will finish at 5 PM. Refreshments will be served!!! Join the FUN and speak out.

**Death Penalty Debate**

**The Forum**

is seeking energetic and enthusiastic 1Ls and 2Ls to join the 1998-99 staff.

**Writers—Editors—Photographers**

Contact The Forum at 465-7831 or e-mail: forum@valpo.edu
African art featured in Atrium

By Malini Goel
Features Editor

Many of you may have wondered why there is a glass case in the middle of the Atrium or why there are photographs on the walls of places seemingly much more exotic than Valpo. In honor of Black History Month (February) and thanks to the generosity of Professors Hiller, Hatcher, Brietzke, and Moskowitz, BLSA, the Bauer Museum on campus and the Colours Art Gallery, we are able to have the colorful and historical exhibit consisting of approximately 25 African statues, as well as photographs and prints which depict and reflect Africa and all her riches. The exhibit was set up in February and continues to run throughout the month of March.

“We wanted to bring something different to the Law school for Black History Month,” said Adren Harris, member of BLSA and Coordinator of the Black History Month Art Exhibit. “We wanted to convey a sense and taste of African culture,” he added. When asked why BLSA chose the exhibit as a way of celebrating Black History, Harris stated that many people in this country have been exposed to European Art but have seen very little of African Art. He explained that Mackonde Art, the type of art displayed in the cases in the Atrium, is one of the most neglected forms of art. Mackonde art comes from talented wood sculptors from the Mackonde tribe of Tanzania, East Africa. The art of the Mackonde (which means "thicket-covered plateau") has not been recognized, partly because of economic and cultural reasons and partly because many of the statues are carved into perishable wood, making it difficult to transport to Western museums.

“There is a pricey market for it now,” Harris said. The Mackonde have started to carve in ebony for its durability. Most of the statues are “pole figures.” The Mackonde also make jewelry and masks and use a plethora of other materials for these art, including boar tusks, metal and shells. Much of the art can be categorized as naturalistic, expressionistic, or surrealistic. The statues express dynamism, power, freedom and in many of them, uninhibited sexuality.

Of all the Mackonde sculptures, some of the most dynamic are the “Shetani,” which means "spirits" in Swahili. Mackonde sculptures often portray unique combinations of humans, snakes, birds and animals. The snake is a special entity in Mackonde culture, symbolizing power and fertility. The snake symbol is also used in many ceremonial dances. Each sculpture has a different meaning and significance.

The prints that were previously on the walls were provided by the Colours Art Gallery in Gary. The prints included, among other things, visions of Harlem and Malcolm X, bringing light to entities and individuals who were and are representative of periods of Black History. The photographs on the Atrium walls, which portray up-close shots of native African culture as well as those of Kenyan wildlife, were taken by Professor Brietzke during his recent trip to Kenya.

Adren Harris said that he hopes the exhibit will teach African-Americans about their heritage and give them something to take pride in. He also hopes that the law school community as a whole will have a better appreciation of African art as a result of the exhibit. “This art is significant to America,” says Harris. “It adds to the enrichment of African culture and gives a perspective how Africa fits into the American history.”

Thanks to BLSA, all the professors, the Bauer Museum, and the Colours Art Gallery for contributing to the exhibit. (For more information on the exhibit, contact the above-mentioned and see the informational booklet in the Atrium.)
March Madness: Valpo Style

Philip Pulliam is interviewed by a reporter from WBBM-TV prior to rally.

Photo by James Jordan

The now famous Ford truck carrying Crusader fans down Union Street.

Photo by James Jordan

VUSL faithful Camille Waters, Jennifer Eigenfeld, Mark Gumz, Amy Ferris and Chad Hoffecker gather to lend support to the VU basketball team.

Photo by James Jordan

The Jenkins twins are interviewed by media at rally.

Photo by James Jordan