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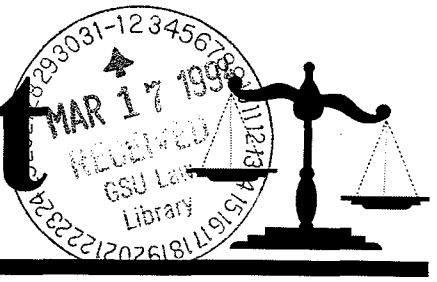
The Docket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Vol.2 No.6 *A Publication of the Student Bar Association, Georgia State University College of Law* March 1994

FROM THE DEAN

It hardly seems possible that we are beginning the transitions for leaders of our student organizations. As usual, the first occasion in this sequence was the Law Review's Annual Banquet, at which outgoing Editor-in-Chief Susan Motter and Managing Editor James Westbury reported on a very successful year. Our student-led organizations add a very valuable range of experiences to our classroom training. We certainly appreciate your willingness to take on the additional time-consuming responsibilities which such leadership requires.

This month also is the busiest for our moot court competitors and represents the conclusion of the season for their trial-ad[illegible]e counterparts. We are proud of all of your accomplishments and understand that your RWA training, which has been provided this year by Linda Robinson, Linda Hall, Lisa Chang and Kelley Koelker, makes a very valuable contribution to your potential for success.

During this same period, the faculty has been engaged in an intensive "self-study" process. The "accreditation" process for law schools is a complicated one. It requires that a law school first be fully accredited by the American Bar Association, as our College was in 1990. As you know, the ABA's decision to grant full accreditation to a law school is very important to you, because that status permits you to take the bar examination in every state.

Thereafter, the law school can seek eligibility to apply for membership in the Association of American Law Schools. That association is viewed as the "learned society" of the legal academic profession. M[illegible]rship in the AALS signifies that the quality of the academic program and of the faculty's research is fully accepted by our peers. It is also important to students, because, for example, some law schools will not accept transfer students whose original school is not an AALS member.

The AALS process requires first that a very experienced legal academic expert certify that a law school is eligible to apply. We were very pleased that our consultant, Dean Jeffrey Lewis of the University of Florida's law school, found us to be "eligible" last fall. That finding triggered this year's self-study process, which permits the faculty to re-examine its long-standing goals and to set priorities for the future. Our process began with extensive surveys of students, graduates and faculty members. We especially appreciate receiving the completed questionnaires from more than 100 students during that process.

Professors Lynn Hogue and Charity Scott are the chair and vice-chair, respectively, of our Accreditation Committee. They have coordinated the process, beginning with the development of the survey instruments and then later analyzing the surveys' results. As self-study drafts were developed, the surveys' responses were considered along with reports from faculty committees concerning their agendas and issues that are generated by the College's ongoing operations. At this time the faculty is discussing the resulting draft version of the complete Self-Study Report.

That report will be submitted to the members of the AALS site team who will visit us from April 10-13. You will be invited to meet with them during their visit, once their final schedule is established. Those of you who were at the College last year may remember that we had a similar visit in March from an ABA site team, which was conducting a routine third-year follow-up visit.

In the early years of a law school's life, accreditation issues receive a great deal of

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FROM THE OVAL OFFICE

On February 9, the SBA hosted our first "Coffee Talk," an informal gathering, where we served refreshments and invited law students to share ideas and concerns with representatives of the SBA. We started a list of suggestions on a legal pad, and we hope to maintain that list as a sort of running "to do list" of SBA projects. It is also our intention to make "Coffee Talk" a regular event, where we can gather new ideas and report our progress to you. Watch for signs announcing our next "Coffee Talk," then stop by and join us for breakfast. If afternoons are better for you, come by between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. for snacks. There is no charge for "Coffee Talk" refreshments, and all law students are invited. Special THANKS to Bill Little, Kevin Demer and Sam Kaplan for organizing this event!

The SBA has also been busy preparing for this year's Barrister's Ball, which is coming up on Saturday, April 9, 8:00 p.m. at the Ritz Carlton in Buckhead. The food and the entertainment will be plentiful (and good!), and it promises to be one of the best Barrister's Balls yet! Due to the size of the room, tickets will be limited. We are inviting faculty as well as alumni, so if you plan to attend, get your tickets early. The price of the tickets will be $10 per person, which is a good deal, considering the fact that the SBA is paying over $30 per person for food alone! (We're not talking about a 3 oz. chicken breast and a sliver of cheesecake here! This is going to be REAL FOOD, and lots of it!) Or, for $18 you can get a ticket AND a quality original Absolut Barrister's Ball 100% cotton T-Shirt! The T-Shirts, like the tickets, are limited, so don't miss out. Tickets and T's go on sale Wednesday, March 16.

Due to overwhelming demand, the SBA has re-ordered the popular "Make Love Not

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Per .D62

DEAN from p 1

attention. It is also true that neither ABA accreditation nor AALS membership is automatically granted the first time that a school applies. Nonetheless, visits by in identifying our strengths as well as those areas which our performance needs to improve. We see the AALS site team's upcoming visit as another opportunity to assess how much progress we have made toward achieving our goals and to reconsider our priorities in the years immediately ahead. I hope that you will accept our invitation to participate in this next round of these processes.

Marjorie L. Girth, Dean

OVAL OFFICE from p 1

Law Review" T-Shirts. We also have a new addition to our designer collection. These new shirts salute the class of '94, with a slogan sure to give us a competitive edge in the job market. Stop by and get yours today!

In my last article I mentioned a phone service, where students can call to find out which classes have been cancelled, before making the trip to school and paying for parking. That service is now available as follows. You may call 651-2096 at any time, day or night. The 4th floor staff has agreed to maintain a list of cancellations, and to provide student callers with that information. When they go home, they will leave a recorded message of class cancellations, so that you may avoid unnecessary trips downtown. Stop by our next "Coffee Talk," and let us know how this service is working for you.

Finally, I would like to remind you that SBA elections are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Don't forget to vote! To all the candidates, GOOD LUCK! As soon as the election is over, we'll have a big inauguration party, where we will teach you to make the infamous SBA coffee, one of the many "perks" of our job!

Lesli Seta

STLA NEWS

The ABA National Mock Trial Southeastern Regional Tournament was held in Fayetteville, Arkansas with 24 teams participating. GSU's team of Julie Pomerantz, Brett Pinion, and Bonnie Ellis advanced to the semi-finals before losing to the eventual winner, Memphis State. GSU's other team of Tony Del Campo, Rebecca Grant, and Kelli Mathews advanced to the quarter finals. The two GSU teams finished 5th and 9th overall.

GSU teams also competed in the ATLA regional mock trial competitions held in Denver, Colorado. GSU's team of Lesli Seta, Dan Whitworth, Dawn Petruschke, and David Marmins finished 4th overall advancing to the semi-finals before losing a 163-162 decision to the University of Wyoming. GSU's other team of Christine Koehler, Tracey Moore, Karen Morgan, and Paul Vignos finished 5th overall.

GSU has one more competition this spring: the Georgia Intrastate Mock Trial Competition. The results of this final competition are widely publicized to practicing attorneys in Georgia. Practices will be held for the next 6 weeks. Audiences are welcome. Check the STLA office for times and places.

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW ASSOCIATION

The 2nd Annual Public Interest Law Auction was a tremendous success! PILA would like to thank the faculty, staff, students, and businesses who donated items or bid at the auction. We raised $3,600, which is more than twice what we raised last year. Two summer fellowships will be awarded as a result of the fantastic participation at the auction. Thank you!

Our next meetings will be on Wednesday, March 23rd at 12:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. in room 232. Terry Walsh, an attorney with Alston & Bird, will speak about the Truancy Project at 12:15 p.m. on the same day. He's quite an accomplished attorney, so be sure to make time to be there.

LGLSA

OVER 100 IN ATTENDANCE

On March 2nd the Lesbian and Gay Students sponsored a day long multi-media forum which sought to educate both the Georgia State and the greater Atlanta community about the legal and social status of lesbian, gay and bisexual people. The forum was a great success. During the entire day, over one hundred people visited the West Exhibit area in the University Center to look at the exhibits, watch the videos, or listen to the lunch time address by an experienced family law attorney. Brenda Corneilius informs us that she even had people call from outside of Atlanta requesting directions to the forum.

LGLSA would like to thank all of those students who signed a petition to support the implementation of a law class designed to specifically focus on issues of sexual identity and the law. As the forum illustrated, a class of this type would be very broad based, reaching into many areas of the law including but not limited to Constitutional law, family law, estates law, and employment discrimination. [illegible] people with alternative sexual orientations are recognized under the civil rights laws of the United States, it will be important for attorneys to be educated in the creative ways with which they can protect their gay, lesbian and bisexual clients.

SPECIAL vs. HUMAN RIGHTS

It is surprising to hear students in law school refer to the battle for gay and lesbian civil rights as a desire for "special rights" and to criticize anyone who compares it to the 1960's civil rights movement. As law students we should be able to distinguish between the legal rights of people and the moral judgments made about those same people. There is no doubt that racism still abounds in our country and that racist attitudes hinder the movement towards true equality between the races. A federal law can never change bigotry. Yet, a federal law now provides people of color with a legal remedy when they are discriminated against in housing, employment, and other areas. On this level the movement fo[illegible]

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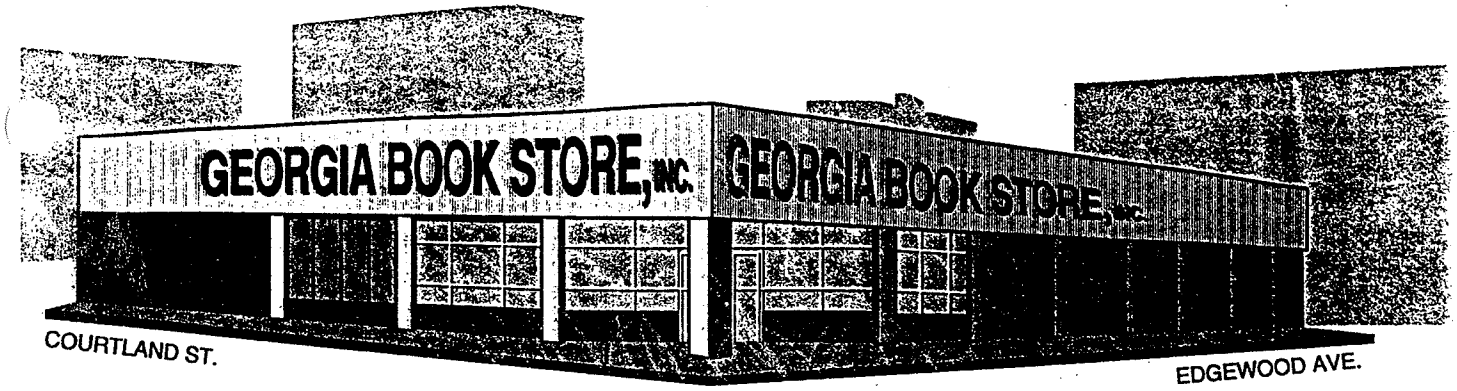

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for Law and Public Policy Studies

presents

Llewellen H. Rockwell

Founder & President of
The Ludwig von Mises Institute

A Reassessment of Civil Rights:
The Socialization of the American Labor Market

Wednesday, March 16th
12:00 Rm. 230

The SBA presents

The Barristers Ball

Saturday, April 9th, 1994
8:00 pm

The Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead

Student Tickets $10.00

The Black Law Student Association of GSU

in association with
John Marshall Law School
will sponsor the
Minority Bar Reception
Fulton County Atrium
Friday, March 18th

Judge Leah Sears-Collins
Speaker

THE DOCKET

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John A. Creasy, Jr.
Editor

lesbian civil rights is the same as the 1960's civil rights movement. We are not asking for general acceptance from those who do not approve of us. All we want is to also have a legal remedy when we are discriminated against. That is not special, its just humane.

Steering Committee, LGLSA

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE TO GSU STUDENTS

Are you puzzled by the tax law and which credits and deductions you can take? Free help is available through VITA, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, sponsored by the Georgia State University College of Law.

Help with basic income tax returns will be offered to students on

March 2nd- April 15th.
Wednesdays 1pm- 6pm
in Room 141 Urban Life

Students should call 651-1412 for an appointment.

Law Library News

"The Library would like to include student's publications in its BOOK DOCKET report for the faculty. If anyone has an article, or a book published, please send the cite to BOOK DOCKET (c/o Rhea Ballard) Law Library."

FREE E-MAIL !

The Library News message was sent to SKIPPY! by Jackie Shieh from the Law Library and posted in the public Bulletin forum "/GSULAW". SKIPPY! also features a Private Message Service (e-mail). There is no charge for GSULAW students, staff, or faculty to use SKIPPY! You can send your class notes to your study partners or exchange notes 24 hours a day. SKIPPY! is both DOS and MAC compatible.

SKIPPY! is a student operated electronic bulletin board open to all students in the GSU College of Law. Modem connections are standard ANSI-BBS (8 bits NO parity 1 stop). Set your telecommunications software to dial 892 1028. (MS-Kermit freeware is available from the Law Library.)

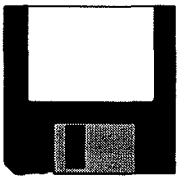
IBM PC and compatibles - Lexis commands you wish you knew:

by Paul Vignos

Printing to disk instead of to your printer:

Downloading cases onto your hard drive lets you print them at your convenience, or just read them on screen offline, or best of all: search them for particular words with a word processor.

The commands to print Lexis materials are:



.PR to print

Y to confirm

.SO to sign off

D to download to disk

Finally enter name of file.

alt-Q to quit or .RES to resume

Before you download LEXIS materials, you may first wish to establish the location on your hard drive into which files from LEXIS are stored. From the DOS prompt C:\LEXIS type:

CONFIG2 <enter>

and select USER OPTIONS. Then select DOCUMENT TO DISK and name the directory into which you want to download your LEXIS materials. I generally use C:\DOC\ so that I don't have to look all through my LEXIS directory for the files I have downloaded and later elect to delete. CONFIG2 will allow any directory. If you name one that does not exist then you should create it before attempting to download from LEXIS by using the MAKEDIR (or MD) command from DOS. At the C:\ type:

MD C:\DOC

LEXIS also has an excellent utility to strip out most of the LEXIS online formatting. It is invoked by typing LEXFORM from the C:\ prompt in the LEXIS directory on your personal computer.

At the DOS prompt enter CD\ followed by name of directory - normally LEXIS.

CD\LEXIS <enter>

LEXFORM <enter>

Then choose the format features you prefer by selecting F2 to change the LEXFORM setup. When that is done, enter the name of the file which includes all the cases you have just downloaded from LEXIS and the name of the file which will result after LEXFORM finishes stripping out undesirable formatting. Finally, leave LEXFORM by hitting the ESC key and switch to your wordprocessor to print, read, or search the file.

TOUCH THE EARTH THIS SPRING

Jennifer Stewart

Spring quarter is always a very busy time for the Touch the Earth outdoor recreation program sponsored by Recreational Services here at GSU, and this spring quarter is no exception. Each weekend van loads of eager participants will pull away from behind the P.E. building headed for such places as the Ocoee River in Tennessee, the Glade Riding Club on Lake Lanier, the Chatooga River in South Carolina and the Cohutta Wilderness Area in North Carolina. These outdoor enthusiasts will go rafting, horseback riding, whitewater canoeing and backpacking amid these beautiful natural resources just hours outside Atlanta city limits.

In the coming weeks participants will have the opportunity to travel to Sand Rock in Alabama, Petty John's cave and the Appalachian Trail in North Georgia and even Lake Allatoona just up the high[illegible]. These rock climbers, cavers, backpackers, windsurfers and waterskiers will

undoubtedly enjoy the spring colors and warmer temperatures while learning new skills, making new friends and leaving behind the pressures and stress of school work in the big city.

Not only can the GSU community take advantage of these organized Touch the Earth trips and clinics, but each weekend a wide variety of camping gear, mountain bikes and watersport equipment to include rafts for the Chattahoochee are available for rent through the Outdoor Equipment Rental program. Students, faculty and staff who have planned their own outdoor adventures have access to this equipment at nominal cost. It is definitely a great alternative to buying new equipment or renting it commercially.

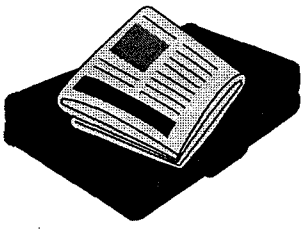
The Southeast is so endowed with beautiful scenery that each weekend of the year could be spent enjoying a different National Forest, State Park, river, lake or cave, all of which are very accessible to the residents of the Atlanta area.

The possibilities are endless for opportunities to hike to breath-taking vistas and cascading waterfalls, paddle exciting rapids, climb challenging rockfaces, mountain bike along rugged off-road trails, camp along a beautiful lake, ride horseback through wooded forests or explore an intriguing cave system.

The Touch the Earth program is in its 20th year of existence here at GSU and continues to be geared toward the never-ever-beginner. Experienced leaders provide quality instruction and supervision to learn the skills and safety procedures. This presents a perfect opportunity to learn the sport for those who have no experience or gear. Once participants gain basic skills and experience intermediate and advanced programs are offered in a number of outdoor sports.

The Touch the Earth program strives to make it easy for the GSU community to take advantage of these natural resources so close to home by offering organized trips, rental equipment and resource information and materials. This program is one way to take advantage of the student activity fee and an incredible way to enjoy the rich beauty of the Southeast.

For more information about the Touch the Earth program or any of these outdoor destinations in the Southeast stop by the Outdoor Equipment Rental Desk located on the second floor of the P.E. building or call 651-3634.



CAREER PLANNING

UPCOMING JOB FAIR INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Patent Law Interview Program:
Information Session
Monday, March 21, 1994
5:30 p.m.
Career Planning Office (Room 145)

Southeastern Minority Job Fair:
Information Session
Wednesday, March 23, 1994
5:15 p.m.
Career Planning Office (Room 145)

MENTOR MEALS

Mentor Meals, sponsored by the Career Planning Office, offer students a unique opportunity to speak frankly and openly with graduates of the College of Law. Bring your dinner, and enjoy sharing ideas and experiences with graduates. Attendance is limited to students and graduates (no staff or faculty) to facilitate open discussion.

Minority Mentor Meal
Monday, March 14, 1994
5:00-6:00 p.m. Room 144

Minority graduates will discuss employment issues and concerns with students.

Non-traditional Students Mentor Meal
Wednesday, March 16, 1994
5:00-6:00 p.m. Room 144

Graduates who attended GSU as part-time/evening students or as "older" students will discuss their experiences and offer advice for students.

CAREER PLANNING PROGRAMS

Trial Viewing Experience
Wednesday, March 23, 1994
4:00-7:00 p.m. Room 405

Get litigation credit for Bar certification by viewing ICLE motions hearing tapes. Supervised by a GSU law graduate.

Summer Clerkship Success
Thursday, March 24, 1994
3:00 p.m. Room

Former summer clerks and recruiting coordinators discuss strategies for success in summer employment.

Curriculum Advice Workshop
Wednesday, March 30, 1994
5:15 p.m. Room 170

Meet with faculty members to discuss curriculum planning and course offerings.

LEGAL CAREER SERVICES FOR PART-TIME/EVENING STUDENTS

Since half of the students at Georgia State University College of Law are enrolled in the part-time program, the Career Planning Office offers special services and advice for part-time students.

All students are encouraged to visit the Career Planning Office early in their law school experience. The informational, networking and job search programs are helpful in assisting students to develop and pursue their career goals. For evening students, who are usually already working full-time and have limited free time, almost all programs are videotaped. The videotapes can be checked out in the Career Planning Office. Most Career Planning programs are scheduled during the lunch hour or between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.

It is highly recommended that students develop their resumes and individual job search strategies with the advice of Beth Brown or Colleen Mattingly. Beth and Colleen are available on a "walk-in" basis during office hours, or appointments can be scheduled if a student's schedule is limited. Appointments outside of office hours are also available upon request. The Career Planning Office spring semester hours are:

Monday and Wednesday
8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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GSU Bookstore

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Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

The Career Planning staff also works with ev students via the telephone and fax, giving advice and resume revisions over the phone system.

The job listing notebooks, which contain many postings for immediately available positions, are placed on reserve in the law library any time that the Career Planning Office is closed. In this way, job listings are easily accessible late in the evenings and on weekends.

Many part-time students find it difficult to take advantage of employers' summer clerkship programs. There are a couple of strategies utilized by part-time students in past years:

Some evening students have been able to leave their regular jobs and work during their last summer in law school, making enough money to live on until graduation;

Others have found that they can obtain twelve-week leaves of absence from their regular employers, but this is a somewhat rare occurrence;

Many evening students have been able to negotiate six-week leaves from their regular jobs, and to work a half-summer clerkship (called "splitting the summer") with a legal employer.

The summer prior to graduation is the most logical time to participate in a summer clerkship, if possible. Since many employers, particularly large law firms and government agencies, make permanent, entry-level hires almost exclusively from their summer clerkship pools, it is important for all students to at least consider summer employment. Since most of these employers interview almost a year in advance, the student can interview, and receive job offers, and still have plenty of time to make arrangements to accommodate summer employment.

On-campus interviews are scheduled with the part-time student in mind. The interview day at Georgia State begins at 10:00 a.m. and runs until at least 6:00 p.m. Evening students are given priority in scheduling, and usually schedule interviews around the lunch hour or between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Part-time students need not come into the Career Planning Office to sign up for an on-campus interview time; they can call to schedule.

Many part-time students have expressed frustration at trying to obtain some legal experience before graduating from law school. There are ways to do this without working a summer or part-time clerkship. Many employers (particularly small law firms) have "ebb and flow" workloads; they may need occasional project work performed. Additionally, students are uniquely advantaged because of their constant access to and familiarity with the GSU law library. The Career Planning Office maintains a list of students interested in performing project work. Also, many students have been able to establish good relationships with legal employers (sometimes leading to post-graduate employment) by networking and offering themselves for part-time "emergency" research work.

The Career Planning Office continues to evaluate and expand services for part-time students. Any suggestions in providing better services are welcome and encouraged.

NEW PUBLICATIONS IN CAREER PLANNING

<u>What Now? Your Legal Career Search</u>
Written by law students, for law students, about planning and landing a legal career.

<u>Best Resumes for Attorneys</u>
Sample resumes and cover letters, practice area summaries, and interviewing tips.

<u>Non-Profit Times</u>
Newspaper including excellent classifieds for non-traditional non-profit career opportunities.

<u>Job Opportunities in Public Affairs</u>
Monthly job listing periodical with opportunities in government, lobbying, and public sector.

TOP 10 RECENT STUDENT JOB LISTINGS

1. #3398
   Posted 3/09/94
   Summer Legal Intern
   FDIC - Atlanta

2. #3397
   Posted 3/09/94
   Receptionist
   Pursley, Howell et al

3. #3396
   Posted 3/09/94
   Files Clerk
   Schulten & Ward

4. #3395
   Posted 3/09/94
   Research Project
   Appel, Chitwood & Harley

5. #3392
   Posted 3/08/94
   Asst. Public Defender
   PD - Douglasville

6. #3391
   Posted 3/08/94
   Summer Internship
   Rutgers Enviro Law Clinic

7. #3389
   Posted 3/08/94
   Student Rep.
   Casenotes Publishing

8. #3386
   Posted 3/08/94
   Research Clerk
   US Monitoring

9. #3383
   Posted 3/01/94
   Law Clerk
   Hayes & Maysilles

10. #3382
    Posted 3/01/94
    Law Clerk
    The Keenan Law Firm

These job listings and more are listed as they are received in the "Blue Books". The Blue Books are kept in the Career Planning Office during office hours and are available in the evening and on weekends at the Cir. Desk in the Law Library.

The Verdict is In.

We Win!

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