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The Res Gestae

Vol. 34, No. 22

The University of Michigan Law School

April 9, 1986

Panel argues U.S. Aid policy in Central America

By Steve Hunter

"We promised the Nicaraguan people that we could carry out free elections, and we did." So said Francisco Campbell, Minister Counsellor to the Embassy of Nicaragua. Campbell was a member of a panel, sponsored by the Hispanic Law Students Association, which met Wednesday, April 2nd to discuss the U.S. policy in Central America. Also sitting on the panel were Jose Sorzano, (former U.S. deputy to the United Nations under Jeanne Kirkpatrick), and Professor Wayne Smith of Johns Hopkins University.

In addition to the assertion that the Sandinista government had carried out free elections, Campbell also said that one third of the

seats in Nicaragua's National Assembly are held by 6 different parties, with the remaining two thirds held by Sandinistas.

Sorzano disputed the freedom of the Nicaraguan elections, and said that "When governments like the Sandinistas take over, they produce massive amounts of refugees... I take it that they have voted with their feet."

Smith responded to this statement by pointing out that the great majority of refugees in the United States are "Salvadorans fleeing from the government we support." Smith cited Immigration and Nationalization Service figures which indicate Salvadoran refugees in this country outnumber Nicaraguans 6 to 1.

Sorzano also charged that the Contras are

popularly backed and have support among the "people with humble backgrounds." Smith countered that if the Contras really had the popular support claimed by the Reagan administration, the Contras would have camps within Nicaragua instead of just along the border.

Campbell was questioned about the treatment of Indians inside Nicaragua and charges by the Reagan administration of human rights violations. He responded that he thought "North Americans should become very, very suspicious whenever this administration expresses interest in Indians anywhere in the world." Campbell also charged the "U.S. mercenary army of Contras" as the major violator of human rights.

He cited the mining of Nicaraguan harbors and the CIA assassination manual as additional human rights violations.

Campbell then went on to explain that Nicaragua has a cultural difference between the people on each coast. The Pacific coast residents were formerly colonized by the Spanish, and are mainly Spanish-speaking Catholics with a history of political involvement. In contrast, Campbell said, the Atlantic coast was settled by the British and contains mostly English-speaking Protestants with a tradition of less political involvement. The Nicaraguan diplomat maintained that this difference caused some

See FORUM, PAGE THREE

ELS forum stresses state cooperation in toxic regulation

By Jim Komie

Anyone who has taken enterprise organization is familiar with what Justice Brandeis termed "the race... of laxity" — the competition between states to relax their corporate laws in order to attract incorporation.

Last Wednesday night in Room 100, the Environmental Law Society presented a forum — "The Future of the Great Lakes: Water or Waste?" — that examined a similar problem involving the control of toxic waste discharge into the Great Lakes.

James Murray, the keynote speaker and chairperson of the Michigan Water Resources Commission, framed the problem. Under the national Clean Water Act, the individual states are responsible for implementing programs aimed at "zero discharge" of toxic wastes. States issue permits to polluters that allow them to discharge toxic wastes.

A problem arises when many states border the same body of water, as with the Great Lakes. Murray said that Michigan is commit-

ted to the zero-discharge goal. But if Michigan "adopts a get-tough stance," then what happens if Chicago doesn't? The lack of strong federal leadership under the Reagan Administration compounds the problem by "relaxing on pushing states to reduce their toxics."

The panel included representatives from state and federal government, the Canadian government and big business. Peter Wise, director of the Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes National Program Office, defended the zero-discharge goal of the federal government, especially with toxics like PCB and dioxin. "I think it's going to be costly, but I think that's the direction we have to go," Wise said.

Leonard Charla, a senior counsel in General Motors' environmental law department, basically agreed with Wise, but added that environmental standards have an important impact on regional economic planning. Charla said, "The goal of G.M. is to comply



Panelists at the ELS Great Lakes forum size up the toxic-pollution problem.

Photo by Tom Morris

with all environmental laws and regulations," but that G.M. would lobby or litigate to change any standards they felt were too onerous.

Bringing a foreign perspective to the forum was William Steggle, an environmental technical advisor for the Ontario Ministry of Environment. The Canadian government oc-

asionally will join a suit in U.S. courts when the matter being litigated affects Canadian interests, as in a recent dispute involving Niagra Falls. Steggle said, "The Canadian government is not about to tell anyone how to butter their potatoes," but stressed that there must be communication between the neighboring nations, especially on matters like toxic waste control in the Great Lakes.

'The Firm' Reveals True Talent in the Law Revue

By Linda Kim

J.J. White "rapping" in a Raiders of the Lost Ark hat, five "lawyers" stripping down to their underwear amidst an array of sexual innuendos, bands with names like "Willful, Wanton and Willing," and "Hostile Takeover"... Sounds like a law student's nightmarish hallucinations, but these and other spectacles were bigger than life at Saturday's Law Revue talent show.

Sponsored by the LSSS Social Committee, the 3½ hour show featured 16 acts connected by running commentary from emcees Sue Mellin and Steve Lakind.

One of the highlights of the show was the three-member group of Student Funded Folk, who started out with a rousing rendition of the "Ballad of Dudley and Stevens." To the refrain of "It's a crime/To do what they have done/Save the lives of three men/By taking the life of one," the trio set the scene of the

fateful lifeboat incident, noting that "this ain't no Gilligan's Island, this ain't no Loveboat scene..."

To follow this stirring tune, the group consisting of Pat Courtemanche, Jim Davis and Chris Kaliardos swung into their own folk version of Prince's "Little Red Corvette."

Another act that prompted considerable audience reaction featured Robin McGee, Doris Wilson and Jill Chenault as the Transactions, rapping to J.J. White that if "you don't like my ways, you can kick me out in 35 days." About halfway through the tune, J.J. White himself started grooving to the beat with the Transactions, even managing to sing along when he could remember the words.

J.J. was the subject (or object) of a couple other numbers throughout the night; the Willful, Wanton and Willing band sang, among other things, about the "Shaking and Aquaking, J.J. jjjjust Won't Let Me Pass

Blues."

Other musical groups included the Headnotes singing the Manhattan Transfer's "Java Jive" as well as their own version of "Law School Classes" to the tune of "Rockin' Robin," the Chief Justice and the Supremes rock band, and an a cappella vocal group called Koyaanisquatsi.

Not to be left out was The Firm, a five-member act reminiscent of a Chippendales exercise video. Featuring the Adonis-like bodies of Geoff Gist, Jeff Ward, Reggie Turner, Javier Rios and Mike Huyghue, the act was a combination strip tease and Mr. Universe contest. Huyghue, for example, was dressed (at least at first) as a tennis instructor who was said to have "good strokes." When he got down to his boxers, he was rewarded and encouraged by getting a dollar bill stuffed in them.

Newly elected Senate President Turner, described as an attorney who "always gets his clients off," maintained decorum by

keeping on his bow tie as almost everything else came off.

Not all the numbers were musical, though. Jeopardy Big Money Winner Chuck Forrest demonstrated his winning ways during the law school's version of the show. The categories included "Torts and other Desserts," "Sex and the Law," and "Public Nuisances."

This year's Law Revue came complete with a commercial for the Grade-O-Matic — "to be used to get to the top." Announcer Mike Pearson explained the kit comes with "ink, white-out, anything you need to change your transcript." Satisfied Customer Jeff Ward claimed that the Grade-O-Matic "raised my GPA from a 1.8 to a 4.2."

The Social Committee itself even managed to get in the act, with their own stunning performances of "Addicted to Law" and "We Just Hate to Bartend All the Time," both of which were well-received by the responsive and appreciative audience.

Res Gestae

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So long

Well, folks, here it is, the last issue of the RG. We've exhausted just about every conceivable editorial topic we can think of. Besides, one member of our staff tells us we are beginning to sound whiney.

So, instead of criticizing something, we thought we would thank a few people who won't be around next year.

To begin with, we'd like to thank Andrea Lodahl. She is the person whose work we know best, and a lot of work was involved in being Editor-in-Chief. Not only that, but she taught us almost all we know about running the RG, (although she might deny it). We would also like to thank all the third years who worked or contributed in some way to the RG. When you come back to sit on the other side of the barbed wire in room 200, you can pick up a copy and tell all your interviewees how much better the paper was when you worked for it, (that is what RG alums do now). If not, at least know that you made everyone's Wednesdays just a little bit nicer.

Next we'd like to thank Russell Smith, and everyone who missed many a Monday Night Football to make the student government run.

We think almost everyone had a good time at a LSSS party at some time this year, and even the teetotalers could enjoy the Law Revue. We are sorry about your tapes, though we didn't take them, and appreciate your tending bar for the year. Other third year committee members deserve credit, but they are too numerous to list here.

Another group of third years who worked hard for the benefit of many of us is the Moot Court Board. Lori Silsbury, Sheila Foran and all the rest worked hard so that more people could participate in the competition this year.

Orientation leaders also deserve thanks. Many of the third year orientation leaders left lucrative summer jobs early so they could come back to Ann Arbor. They didn't get paid, so they must have done it because they wanted the first years to have a good law school experience.

Finally, let's not forget all the graduating law students who spent three years in the basement under the Reading Room. For those of us with an interest in a particular area of law, it was nice to have symposiums, forums and work shops in which to pursue that interest. And though some of us didn't join any of these organizations, it created a series of interesting speakers and events.

We are sure that there are many deserving third years and organizations that we left out. But far more gratifying than an RG kudo would be for everyone to tell their altruistic friends how much they have done is appreciated.

Happy trails, third years.

Opinion

Attention, smokers! Don't light-up here

To the Editor:

It's not obvious, but smoking is *not* permitted in law school hallways or classrooms. Weather worn signs on the courtyard doors into Hutchins proclaim: NO SMOKING/ Lighted Tobacco is not to be brought into or through this building/ Please/ By order of the Regents. Across from Room 100 we are told: Smoking permitted in offices, washrooms and other designated areas. Common rules of construction dictate where smoking is not permitted.

Yet frequently, we are forced to breathe toxin-ridden

cigarette smoke. Many professors light up after class and many students smoke in the hallways.

This transient exposure may not increase my risk of lung cancer or aggravate my asthma or angina, as passive smoke does with chronic exposure. But since my respiratory tract has not been deadened, it is irritated by cigarette smoke. I suggest that the Law School make a greater effort to publicize the "No Smoking" status of classrooms and hallways.

Nat Pernick 3L

Mitchell condemns PIRGIM class plea

To the Editor:

Last week a representative from PIRGIM addressed our class and passed their controversial petition. The petition is supposed to show the Regents that more than half the students support PIRGIM and want to donate \$2 each term at registration. (Any group that gets support from the majority of students can get donations through the registration form.) Although I think PIRGIM is a fine organization, I became very upset when the PIRGIM rep, Andy Buckshaum, spoke to our class. I don't think PIRGIM belongs in the classrooms or on the students' registration forms. The part that is most frustrating is that I would normally support this group. So why am I bitching? Because I don't think the end justifies the means. Just because PIRGIM is a worthy organization doesn't mean I can condone its fundraising techniques.

So what's wrong with these techniques? First of all, the refuseable, refundable fee means that you pay unless you check "no". This means that you have to actively refuse to pay if you don't want to give to PIRGIM. Doesn't this go against what you would expect? Getting "donations" from the unsuspecting is not a very respectable way to fund an organization. Andy says this system is the only way to raise enough money for this type of group. Sad.

Now for my classroom gripe. A class of 100, assuming half pay in-state tuition, pays about \$28.75 for each minute of instruction. Andy spent about a minute and a half talking to our class and students spent however long they needed to read the petition. Since this is a controversial petition drive, appropriate time should have been given to the op-

posing point of view or for questions. But that would have cost the class even more time and money. And what if there isn't anyone in the class to give the opposing point of view? Since Andy's visit was unannounced, those opposed to the petition were caught unprepared to ask the appropriate questions. Do we really want our classrooms used as a forum for political debate? I think not. The classroom is for academics. We have a few hours each day for classes and the rest of the day for our other interests. If Andy had announced that the PIRGIM petition would be available outside after class, I wouldn't have bothered. Andy said he spoke to us at the beginning of class instead of the end because law students don't want to hang around any longer than they have to. So Andy had to get our attention during one of the most costly hours of our day. I resent that. Anyone who wanted to sign the petition could donate a few minutes out of class. Andy's response to that one was that he keeps asking people who have already signed. Well, if those who haven't signed yet make themselves scarce, then perhaps they aren't such avid supporters of PIRGIM. Furthermore, I think many in-class petition signers (maybe not in the law school, but among the undergrads anyway) sign for the wrong, or without reason. PIRGIM says "We need 17,000 signatures, will you help us?" And they say, "Sure, all it costs me is a signature." This is part of the majority that urges us to donate \$2 to PIRGIM each term. Sad.

So that's why I'm bitching. PIRGIM's fundraising tactics have led me to oppose an organization I would like to support.

—Tami Mitchell 2L

How soon until lawyers conquer space

By Reid J. Rozen

The NASA program has, over the past quarter-century, given Americans a thrilling glimpse into the future. The recent space shuttle disaster has, regrettably, given us a less sanguine view of the world of tomorrow. For not only did the Challenger explosion raise grave doubts about the safety of space travel, but it also raised the frightening specter of a host of products liability lawyers descending on Cape Canaveral, all pressing wrongful death and emotional distress claims against the space agency. It would be only a small step from there to the ultimate in future shock.

Lawyers in space.

Although the American public did not witness the same spectacle after the Jan. 28 explosion — attorneys running after victims in a mad scramble for wealth and fame — that attended the Bhopal tragedy, the Challenger disaster has given NASA cause to worry about possible lawsuits from aggrieved family members of the shuttle crew. Already, one unidentified family has contacted a law firm in Chicago concerning possible claims against NASA. With the continuing investigation into the tragedy uncovering all manner of questionable policy decisions on the part of the space agency, the incentive to hit NASA with large claims on the basis of its negligence grows.

There is a certain amount of compensation that the crew members' families deserve, and such compensation is not unprecedented. Astronaut Gus Grissom's widow collected \$350,000 in an out-of-court settlement after a launch pad explosion killed her husband in 1967. The five shuttle astronauts who were NASA employees were probably covered by a life insurance program set up by the federal government, and can be additionally compensated by NASA or by Congress. Christa McAuliffe and Greg Jarvis were not employed by the space agency, but their families could conceivably recover damages under the Federal Tort Claims Act.

If, on the other hand, the families are not willing to restrict their search for villains to the halls of NASA, the size of their claims could grow in relation to the number of parties to be sued. Contractors such as Morton Thiokol, Rockwell International, and Martin Marietta could all be hauled into court for their roles in the shuttle explosion. They, in turn, would be indemnified by NASA for their losses under the terms of pre-existing agreements.

The problem is not that the families of the seven crew members do not deserve compensation, but rather the effect such a spate of lawsuits would have on future space missions. NASA might, by necessity, become more cautious about making new advances in technology, or planning groundbreaking programs or experiments, on the assumption that the risk of possible lawsuits would be too great. Bureaucracies are, by their nature, tentative and timid, but NASA needs to rise above such tendencies if it wants to reach its goals. It would be counterproductive if NASA had to contact its attorneys before making any decisions.

Right now, NASA is counting on the traditional loyalty of its employees and their families to deter the relatives of the Challenger crew from rushing to the courthouse. Whether the space agency can remain immune from legal challenges indefinitely is a question which is, as yet, unanswerable. However, lawyers have, in the past, proven that the law can keep pace with technology. The tremendous strides in medicine, for example, have brought in their wake tremendous innovations in malpractice litigation. It may very well be the case, then, that the exploration of space will be accompanied by lawyers who will boldly practice where no lawyer has practiced before. If that is the vision of the future that is the legacy of the Challenger, then perhaps NASA will consider sending some attorneys into space on the next available shuttle.

Forum Discusses Contadora process

FROM PAGE ONE

disgruntlement and divisiveness after the revolution, but that the Nicaraguan government is now promoting regional political autonomy for the people of the Atlantic.

Sorzano responded to Campbell's indictment of the Contras by stating that he doesn't believe the Contras would risk their lives just for money. As for atrocities, he said, "I'm sure there are atrocities committed, this is

one of the problems of the area."

The debate also touched on the United States' refusal to submit to the judgment of the World Court concerning the mining of Nicaraguan harbors. Sorzano explained that the World Court has fifteen judges, eleven from countries that deny the world-court jurisdiction. He added that these judges are elected by the United Nations General Assembly, a very political body. The current professor of government at Georgetown

University then added that he didn't think the Nicaraguans would honor any World Court judgment since he felt they had broken an earlier pledge to another international court to protect human rights and respect pluralism.

Campbell and Sorzano also differed over the Contadora process. Campbell briefly outlined the process as follows: removal of all foreign military advisors, no Central American country allowing its territory to be used for a foreign military base, gradual

reduction of the size of armies, and no Central American country allowing its territory to be used for subversion against neighboring states. Campbell endorsed the Contadora plan as a workable solution to the problems in Central America, and said the U.S. should support it.

Sorzano, on the other hand, said that Contadora was "designed to be a regional process. Contadora was deliberately designed from the beginning to exclude the United States."

New Senate Scraps the Committee Faculty Meeting

By Jim Komie

The din of quarters being sorted into rolls and champagne corks popping provided the backdrop to the April 7 Law School Student Senate meeting. In a room packed with old and new senate members, ex-President Russell Smith wound up the business of the old senate, thanked the 85-86 senators, and wished the new senate luck.

President Turner opened the new senate with congratulations all around, and challenged the new senators "to reach out and be more to the student body than the LSSS has been in the past." Turner also revealed,

by way of the Faculty Hiring Committee, that the law school had extended three job offers. One was made to Jeff Lehman, which he has accepted. The other offers were made jointly to "a couple," who turned down the law school.

Third-year Representative Brian Peyton was very active, making two formal motions. First, he moved to "trash" the Faculty Meeting Committee, a unit of two students who are supposed to attend faculty meetings and report back to the senate. Peyton complained that these reports were never made and proposed that two members of LSSS at-

tend the faculty meetings in place of the committee. His motion passed unanimously.

Peyton also made a motion to create a standing committee to deal with the introduction of computer technology into the law school, monitoring the status of the Sub-one facility and making sure that law students are kept informed on how to take advantage of computer resources. The motion passed unanimously.

Students interested in a position on the computer committee, or any other standing committee, can apply from April 9 to April 16. A list of committees is on the senate's bulletin

board outside its office on the second floor of Hutchins Hall. President Turner also announced that the senate will be accepting nominations for the L. Hart Wright Award (for excellence in teaching), April 9 to April 16.

The senate wound up its meeting with yet another discussion of the oft-damaged futsal table. Second-year Representative Marty Castro said that he had been approached by students about the repair of the table. In a moment of altruistic passion, Castro accepted responsibility for overseeing the repair of the table.

Indian law students sponsor Law Day Friday

By David Purcell and Melody McCoy

Legal issues involving American Indians will be explored in a series of discussions sponsored by American Indian Law students at the Law School on April 11, 1986.

The theme of the "American Indian Law Day" is tribal-state relations, and the position of the federal government on what should be the relationship. Topics to be discussed include: the history of tribal-state relations; current federal legislation affecting Indians; the immutability of federal and state guarantees to Indians of benefits such as health and education; recent Indian rights cases in Michigan; the development of independent tribal judicial systems; federal recognition and federal regulation of Indian gaming facilities.

American Indian Law Day is free and open to the public. The conference will run on Friday, April 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in room 150, Hutchins Hall. A reception will follow. It is offered in conjunction with the 1986 Ann Arbor Pow Wow on April 12th and 13th at the coliseum, sponsored by the Native American Students at the University of Michigan.

A tentative schedule of Law Day speakers and their topics includes:

—At 10:00 a.m. Charles F. Wilkinson, visiting professor of law from the University of Oregon (Indian law, public lands law) will start the discussions.

—At 11:00 a.m. Dan Lewis, staff assistant, Navajo Nation, Washington, D.C., will speak.

—At 1:00 p.m. Theodore Holappa, former Chief Judge of the Tribal Court of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, will speak.

—At 2:00 p.m. Jim Bransky, attorney with Michigan Indian Legal Services (MILS), Traverse City, Michigan will discuss recent cases in which MILS has been involved, and the benefits and burdens of federal recognition of Indian communities in Michigan.

—At 2:45 p.m. John Wernet, Attorney for the State of Michigan, State Attorney General's Office, Lansing, Michigan will discuss areas of Indian law in which he has been involved, and a proposed model for tribal-state relations.

—At 3:30 p.m. Tom Wilson, attorney for the Saginaw-Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan will discuss the role of tribal attorneys and the work of the National Indian Gaming Task Force.

—At 4:15 Michael Mahsetky from the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. will discuss the Committee's role in Indian affairs.

Native American

Law Day

Friday, April 11, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Room 150, Hutchins Hall



Ann Arbor Pow Wow

Sat. & Sun., April 12 & 13, 1:00 p.m.
Sports Coliseum
For info call 763-9044

Notices

Crease Ball announcement: Crease Ball tickets will be available outside Room 100 between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. through Friday. The price of admission includes an open bar, live music by the Detroit dance band "Intrigue," and hors d'oeuvres. Crease Ball festivities begin at the Michigan League on Friday at 8:30 p.m. (not 9:00 p.m. as originally communicated to the faculty). See you there!

FACULTY FORUM presentation scheduled for Thursday, April 10, has been cancelled, due to scheduling difficulties on Professor Wilkinson's part. I appreciate your understanding.

Sigma Iota Rho, an interdisciplinary international relations honorary society, has been formed on campus. The Society, which will sponsor speakers and social events, is very interested in obtaining members from the law

school. Those interested in applying for membership in the Society should contact the Economics Department, 764-5567, the Political Science Department, 764-9598, or Bill Kohler, 761-9234. Applications will be accepted until Friday, April 11.

The American Indian Law Students Association is looking for volunteers to help at the Ann Arbor Pow Wow, Saturday and Sunday April 12th and 13th at the Coliseum. Admission will be waived in exchange for your time. Contact Mike Dashner (763-9044), 3L's Tom Adams (761-8483) and Melody McCoy (662-0871) or 1L Jeff Crawford (764-9008) by phone or pendaflex if interested.

PICK A SPEAKER! The LSSS Speaker's Committee will have a suggestion box on the table in front of room 100 next week. Nominate your favorite speakers for next fall.

Feature

Architecture & Law: A house of cards

By Bob Mullen

Now that the hotly contested Student Senate elections have been decided, it's time to consider the candidates for the Student House of Representatives. While those running for House positions tend to receive less publicity than their peers in the Senate, they arguably will, if elected, wield nearly as much power in the resolution of student matters in the year to come. For this reason it is essential that their respective platforms be made known to the voters before the ever-nearing June elections. We called each of the probable candidates at their home, asking them to summarize their qualifications and aspirations for the House post they seek.

DOORMAT

Shirley Eugest: "As doormat I feel my responsibilities will entail keeping eyes and ears open to the inevitable problems which face students on a day-to-day basis throughout the school year, and devising effective means to best address the implementation of fair resolutions which will serve the tangible needs of the diverse and varied student body which deserves the thorough and responsible representation which I see myself as providing. I will be open to the views of all and seek to provide accessible and most of all responsive leadership in fulfilling the uncompromising mandates of my position. Also, I take shit really well. That's what doormats are for, right? As doormat I will seek to be accessible and responsive to the needs of all my fellow students with too much shit on their feet."

Dick Ivory: "Naturally you can understand my chagrin, upon discussing the state of affairs with several of my Fed Society cronies, over the fact that our student government tends to be dominated by women and MJ... uh, bla...uh, rather under-qualified individuals, and the sense of urgency which we all felt toward establishing one of our own, one of you, really, in a position of responsibility. Keeping in mind the imperative of all governing bodies within the United States to maintain firm support for the free market and a strong defense while remaining unfettered by less important and often debatable side issues, I sense my role will be that of executi...not now, Honey...Excuse me for a moment, Mr., uh...Ohhh Bruce, honestly, you

never gave much thought to, uh...will I have to keep still when those gals with high heels start poking me in, uh..."

FIRST-FLOOR JOHN

Manny Juevos: "I will bring to my office the taking of action instead of the talking of words. After college I served an internship under international terrorist "Carlos," but soon became fed up with impotent leftist drivel and formed my own guerrilla team of anti-Sandinista freedom fighters, which I abandoned when we started to get too much help from the United States. I see my role in the House as catalyst to student activism, and I don't mean carrying signs and laying down. I intend to turn Michigan from a Law School into a LAW(Law and Warfare) School and help students to give real meaning to the anemic words which flow like so many pathetic second flushes from their lips. I won't be just any john. You won't have to stick that plunger in me to get me gushing. I'll suck in anything ugly which even comes near my door, and you'll never hear it from it again."

If you want the man for the job, you want me. I'm a prick. I love being one and I'm good at it.

Also, I take shit really well. That's what doormats are for, right?

Fred Vuarnet: "As attested to by numerous photos of House sessions over the last year, I'm quite photogenic and lend endless credibility to the meetings I attend and to the offices I hold. Perhaps my most famous pose, and oft-copied, I might add, is the one where I lean slightly forward, affect a half-quizzical, half-assertive demeanor, and, with pen extended thoughtfully and elbow propped on table, form my lips as if I'm about to say something important. You have no idea what practice this takes, especially when you're working much of the time with amateur photographers who spend minutes faking you out as they try to find the best angle. One difficulty which I felt the First-Floor John must address in the coming year is deciding exactly how the position might best be stated on his resume. Think about it. It is important that they see "First-Floor" or "House" first, or should I accent "John," seeing as "Pantry," the position I held this year, will appear above it and I want to display my versatility?

This difficulty and perhaps others must be dealt with and conquered, and I'm confident that another term in the House will provide me with the means to do it."

can be such a bitch! I'm not even going to tell you who it is! Go away! Shoo! ...As I was saying, Mr., uh, the dire necessity which this student body, which America, really, faces at this bend in the trail cannot be too thoroughly emphasized. Doormat? Well, I imagine one or two firm rubs against my bristles will be good enough for most of those who...to be honest, I

SECOND-FLOOR JOHN

Rhonda Rump: "First-Floor Activities: Indigent Student Housing Committee, Minority Access Guild, Gay Rape Trauma Center, Semiformal Balloon Inflation Committee, Green Bike Emancipation Association(Vice-Chair), Wave Starter Flailing Instructor, Faculty-Football Team Liaison, Selected Delegate to the 1988 Democratic Convention,

Oversee-Freshman Hiking Club. Also, do you remember when the Student Senate got that batch of "Michigan Law School" tee-shirts with the little words printed on both sides of the chest and they ended up cutting circles around each side and selling them as "Tit-Tees" to that Ypsilanti boutique? That was my idea. No shit. I thought of it. As Second-Floor John I'll be overflowing with stuff like that."

Ben Dover: "The Unflushable party believes that the views of students must not be sent down the tubes for appearance's sake, because it is the stench of student output which prevents School authorities from imposing their single-mindedly aromatic rules on our lives. As former Linen Closet at Eureka I authored several regulations prescribing the maintenance of the Dewey-Decimal System which stand today by unanimous support. Furthermore, I set sev-

eral Division III records in the area of running for office which I still proudly hold. Here at Michigan I've already rewritten the unpopular Code on Shrubbery Pruning, which stands to be unanimously accepted by the Board of Regents should I be elected. As Second-Floor John I will be in a position to do what I do best: give the higher-ups a comfortable forum in which to release their burdens while I relentlessly brown-nose them to achieve crucial objectives."

CHIMNEY

Sal Fluv(unopposed): "Do you want snivelling wee-wees or do you want representation? Do you want nose-picking or do you want chest-thumping? Do you want nods of assent or do you want cries of "Hell no! Go back to your poly-sci texts!" If you want the man for the job, you want me. I'm a prick. I love being one, and I'm good at it. Goddamnit. I'm what this House needs. And everybody knows it—no one will even run against me. Come on! Take me on. Chickenshit demagogues. God, I'm hot. I better be the Chimney or I'll burn the whole school down. You got a gripe? I've got one too. A truckload, as a matter of fact. Vote for me, if you want to blow on the fire. Or don't — you don't have to — everyone knows I can do it by myself."

GARAGE

Maura Ether(unopposed): "If it were up to me I'd let every one of you hold my position for a day, I really would, because that's how much I value the idea of House — and Garage — as entities of community rather than of ivory-tower. Everyone should feel good about coming to me with their junk, useful or not, because there's a place for it in this students' community. Just seeing those old tires hanging off the same hook as that garden hose fills me with the sensation that, no matter what anyone says, we're all in this together and as Garage it will be my privilege to make sure we continue to interact as positive, social beings, and not sole puddles of oil. Although sometimes when I stare into those little puddles I begin to see an infinity of rings, colorful rings, which fill me with the sense that even the most... What's that? I'm unopposed? Hot damn! Ciao, baby. Oh, wait. Just my picture's good enough, isn't it?"

Law In The Raw

Communication Gap

Around the offices of a large New York City law firm, the story is told of one attorney, Sergio Smith.

While working on one particular litigation matter, Sergio Smith needed to talk with a gentleman living in some town in the South. He called and introduced himself: "Hello, I'm Sergio Smith..."

At the conclusion of the business discussion, the southerner commented, "I want to tell you one more thing. I ain't called nobody "sir" since my daddy died, Joe."

Anonymous 31.

Legal Vermin

Did you hear that research laboratories are now using lawyers instead of rats in their experiments? They sure are: there are more of them and you are less likely to get attached to them.

Quotes

"It's not a crime to be unprepared." Professor J. J.

White, January 13, 1986. In all fairness to Professor White, he followed that statement with "It's obnoxious and offensive."

"Appellate judges are the ones who enter the battlefield after the battle is over and shoot the wounded."

Judge Wilfred Feinberg, April 1, 1986

Now You Know

Three men were adrift in a small boat in the South Atlantic after their ship had sunk. Their supply of food and fresh water was limited. Occasionally, they were able to capture a turtle or some rain water to supplement their meager rations. Finally, they decided that in order for any of them to live they would have to kill one and eat him. They decided to kill their cabin boy, Richard Parker.

Law students are likely to recognize these as the facts of the famous case of Dudley and Stevens. However, this is the storyline of *The Narrative of A. Gordon Fynn*, written by Edgar Allan Poe in 1838, 46 years prior to the time Dudley and Stevens were brought to trial for murder of

their cabin boy, Richard Parker.

Paul Harvey, "The Rest of the Story" January 20, 1986

Share the Title Equally

Charlton Heston was filming *The Colbys* when he objected to the nameplate on one female lawyer's desk which read "Monica Colby, Esq." Heston argued the nameplate said in effect, "Monice Colby, Gentleman." He sent his question about the use of the term "Esquire" for female attorneys to the *New York Times*.

After tracing the origins of the term "Esquire," the *Times* concluded: "If a female lawyer wants to be a pretentious oaf, she can call herself Esq. with impunity, same as the status-hungry male lawyers who affect the term. The word is being stripped of its male sexual connotation, and can be defined as 'an appendage to a name seeking to assert importance or status; when accompanying a signature, an affectation, and when added to the name of an addressee, a form of flattery bordering on the obsequious.'" At least now all the members of the profession can share the pomposity equally.

New York Times, April 22, 1985