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NDLS Update 03/1996

Notre Dame Law School

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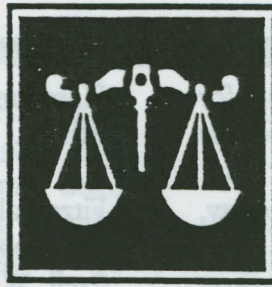


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NDLS Update

News from the Notre Dame Law School

Vol. V, No. 8
March 1996

TEX DUTILE

NDLS MAKES "TOP 25" IN U.S. NEWS RANKINGS

The Notre Dame Law School ranked twenty-fifth in the recently released rankings of law schools by U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT. The rankings accompanied an article entitled "1996: America's Best Graduate Schools," appearing in the March 18 issue of the magazine. NDLS climbed fourteen places from its position last year.

The rankings are based on student selectivity; placement success; faculty resources; reputation among academics, practicing lawyers and judges; and the conversion of these criteria into percentiles. Notre Dame scored 82.4 out of a possible 100. In the magazine's ranking of specialties, NDLS ranked eighth in trial advocacy. Congratulations to the students, staff, faculty and administration for this recognition of their achievement.

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NDLS HOSTS SYMPOSIUM ON INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

At a day-long conference March 23 in the Notre Dame Law School courtroom, Judge Richard Goldstone, chief prosecutor for the tribunals investigating war crimes in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, and other leading jurists discussed the creation of a permanent international criminal court.

Judge Goldstone, M. Cherif Bassiouni, vice chairman of the United Nations ad hoc committee on the establishment of an international criminal court, and Graham Blewitt, deputy prosecutor of the tribunals and former director of the Nazi War Crimes Unit, assessed the progress of the investigations, describing the achievements and challenges of each. Based on their experiences with these investigations, they will offer recommendations on the establishment of a permanent international criminal court.

The conference was sponsored by the Law School's Center for Civil and Human

Rights and the Midwest Coalition for Human Rights, in cooperation with Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International USA, the Law School's International Law Society, Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and Kellogg Institute for International Studies, and the St. Joseph County chapter of The United Nations Association.

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JEFFERSON POWELL FEATURED IN TWO-DAY EVENT AT NDLS

On March 25 and 26, H. Jefferson Powell, Professor of Law at Duke University and Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the United States, visited the Law School, along with a host of other scholars. The two-day event opened with Professor Powell's public lecture, entitled "Loyalty to the Law: Politics and the Practice of Public Lawyering in the United States," in the NDLS Courtroom. The lecture addressed the role played both historically and currently by lawyers practicing before the Court. A dinner that evening at the Morris Inn honored Professor Powell, a lawyer-theologian, and created an opportunity for informal conversation with him and with others interested in his work.

On March 26, there took place a formal assessment of Professor Powell's book, *MORAL TRADITION OF AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONALISM*. The two sessions were chaired by Professor Joseph Vining of the University of Michigan Law School and Professor Maura Ryan of Notre Dame, respectively. These conversations included Professor Mark Tushnet of Georgetown Law School; Professor Marie Failing of

Hamline; and Professor Harold Berman of Emory.

Outside theologians included Laura Fitzgerald and Andrew McThenia from Washington & Lee in Virginia, Randy Lee from Widener University, Douglas Sturm, Fr. John Haughey, Kenneth Craycraft, Fr. James T. Burtchaell and Fr. Michael Baxter. Political theorist Graham Walker also took part, along with many Notre Dame scholars, both from the University and from the Law School. After a lunch, Professor Powell responded to the morning's formal assessment of his work.

* * *

CASS SUNSTEIN SPEAKS AT NDLS

On March 21, Cass Sunstein, the Karl N. Llewellyn Distinguished Service Professor of Jurisprudence at the University of Chicago, spoke in the Law School Courtroom. His public lecture was entitled "Against Tradition: Why Tradition is a Bad Source of Constitutional Rights." Following the lecture, Professor Sunstein lunched with members of the NDLS faculty. John Robinson, "Lecture Czar" at the Law School, arranged the event.

* * *

BLSA HOSTS 23rd ANNUAL BLACK ALUMNI WEEKEND

On March 29 through 31, the Black Law Students Association at NDLS held its twenty-third Annual Weekend. This year's celebration, entitled "Bridging the Racial Divide in America," promised to make it one of the most memorable and well attended in

Black Alumni Weekend history. Highlights included tours of the College Football Hall of Fame; a panel discussion titled "Reclaiming Society or Destroying Lives?"; a keynote address, entitled "Bridging the Racial Divide in America," by Professor Derrick Bell of the New York University Law School; and an awards dinner honoring law-school students, professors and alumni.

All events were open to the University and surrounding communities, including other universities. The Alumni Associations for both the University and for the Black Alumni also met that weekend. Moreover, the University held diversity day for prospective students of both the University and the Law School.

NDLS ALUM SERVES ON IBA BOARD OF MANAGERS

Joseph F. Quill, NDLS '48, is a member of the 1996 Board of Managers of the Indiana Bar Association. "Of Counsel" at Rocap, Witchger & Threlkeld, in Indianapolis, Mr. Quill focuses on liability-defense work. He also does real-estate and corporation law.

As Senior Lawyers Division Chair, he plans a series of forums at which experienced attorneys speak to law students and answer their questions. Early in his career, he served as a deputy prosecutor. His later private practice included several high-profile criminal cases. Mr. Quill did his undergraduate work, as well, at Notre Dame.

NEWS FROM THE LAW LIBRARY

Joe Rosenfeld was quoted at length in an article entitled "Laptops & Law Schools" in the February issue of COMPUTER COUNSEL.

NEWS FROM THE LEGAL AID CLINIC

With 430 open cases, the Clinic has reached an all-time high in workload. Another all-time high, included in this figure, is represented by the 150 open immigration cases for the team of immigration interns led by Barbara Gasperetti. Fifteen of the immigration cases are complex asylum petitions, several being pursued for refugees from Rwanda and Burundi, several others for people from Honduras. The Clinic draws regularly on its Spanish and French-speaking student lawyers.

The Cord Foundation recently announced a continued grant of \$25,000 to fund the Clinic's work in Children's Rights, under Eileen Doran's direction.

Much of the Clinic's training and representation in trial practice occurs in the Small Claims Division of the St. Joseph Superior Court. David Nozick, Karen McGill, and Joy Smith recently tried cases in that court--David and Karen under Steve Morse's supervision, Joy under Tom Shaffer's.

Two student lawyers--Melissa Day and Allison Smith--are involved in in-depth study and planning for Medicaid transfers for Clinic clients.

Seven student lawyers are working on large-scale law-reform cases under Tom

Shaffer's supervision. One team is pursuing a case involving misrepresentation in home sales: Julie Shaflucas, Alphonso Castillo, Trent Cornell, and Tom Waggoner. Another team is handling three cases, one on appeal in the Indiana Court of Appeals, against utility companies that deny service based on bills barred by the statute of limitations: Scott Hardy, Allison Smith, Christina Henriques, Stan Wruble, and Matt Hicks. One of the cases is pending; in the other two, judges of the St. Joseph Superior Court have issued preliminary injunctions against the utility companies' practice.

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NEWS FROM LONDON

Rob Neate, NDLS '82, dropped by the London Programme on February 28. Rob was visiting England and Wales, on holiday from Paine Hamblen Coffin Brooke & Miller in Spokane, Washington.

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On March 1, Professor Brendan O'Leary of the London School of Economics gave a lecture at the Notre Dame London Centre on the problems in Northern Ireland. Professor O'Leary concentrates his research on matters of national and ethnic conflict. Among the books he has published, two directly address the situation in Northern Ireland: *THE FUTURE OF NORTHERN IRELAND* (1990) and *THE POLITICS OF ANTAGONISM: ETHNIC CONFLICT IN NORTHERN IRELAND* (1993). Professor O'Leary, who taught in Notre Dame's Arts & Letters Programme in London from 1991 to 1995, has been prominent among the media

—British, American and European—on the problems of Northern Ireland. A reception followed the lecture.

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NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

Tex Dutile has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the British publication *EDUCATION AND THE LAW*.

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Judge Kenneth Ripple's wife, Mary, underwent abdominal surgery at Memorial Hospital in South Bend on February 8. She is recuperating at home. Both her progress and the prognosis are excellent.

* * *

Jim Seckinger's step-daughter, Ellen Block, has recovered from the coma into which she fell as the result of spinal meningitis. By March 5, she had been removed from the ventilator and taken from the critical-care unit to an intensive-care unit. She was expected to be home within a week to ten days. All of us are delighted at the good news!

An article in the March 18 issue of the *TORONTO STAR* described how a poisonous gas, nitric oxide, was used "to save the life of a 16-year-old Toronto girl with meningitis."

Commented one doctor: "I can't think of very many people...who have been sicker and survived."

* * *

On March 3, Tom Shaffer led a Seminar on Clinical Ethics in the NDLS Courtroom.

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Recently, Pete Thornton and his wife Kit moved to California. Their address: 4735A Eighth Street, Carpinteria, California 93013.

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NEWS FROM THE ALUMNI

Anne Bechamps, NDLS '90, has joined Villa Julie College, in Baltimore, as a new faculty member for the spring semester. She will teach in the Paralegal Department.

* * *

J. Patrick Galvin, Jr., NDLS '84, was recently appointed general counsel at The Arcand Co. The Arcand Company is a full-service real-estate investment firm specializing in Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit programs as provided by the Tax Reform Act of 1986. Patrick oversees all legal matters for the affordable-housing investment firm.

* * *

John D. Goetz, NDLS '86, has become a member of the firm of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue. John, who received his undergraduate degree from Notre Dame in 1983, will practice in the firm's Pittsburgh office.

* * *

Patrick E. Maloney, NDLS '70, has been elected president of the 20,000-member Defense Research Institute (DRI), the nation's largest association of civil-litigation defense lawyers. A founding partner of the Chicago-based law firm of Tressler, Soderstrom, Maloney and Priess, he specializes in environmental law, product liability, insurance coverage, and toxic-tort litigation.

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Hon. Andrew Napolitano, NDLS '75, will participate in a conference addressing "The Entire Controversy Doctrine" on April 12, at the Rutgers-Camden Law School.

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Harold Ray, NDLS '81 and a member of the Board of Directors of the Notre Dame Law Association, founded the Redemptive Life Fellowship, which he serves as senior pastor, in 1991. The Fellowship boasts a new, 42,000-square-foot complex named The Restoration Center. The Center includes classrooms, a gymnasium, a fitness facility and an arcade. The Fellowship promotes community development and entrepreneurial programs.

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Jeffrey Senkeleski, NDLS '95, has joined McElroy, Deutsch & Mulvaney in Morristown, New Jersey.

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MISCELLANY

On March 1, Suzanna Sherry, the Earl R. Larson Professor at the University of Minnesota Law School, gave a colloquium entitled, "The Sleep of Reason."

On March 5, Professor Andrea Lyon gave a talk, entitled "The Death Penalty as a Political Tool," at the Law School. The event was sponsored by the National Women Law Students Association.

On March 6, in the Law School, the St. Athanasius Debating Society addressed the topic of "Lotteries."
