Vol. 04, No. 07 (April 1994)
LAW JOURNAL COMPETITION LEADS TO SENSELESS ATTACK!

by Mike and Lilly Hammer

This week saw a dramatic breakthrough in the ongoing investigation of the vicious attack on second-year law student Clancy Nerrigan, widely considered the leading contender for Editor-in-Chief of the Indiana Law Journal. Local police sent shock waves through the I.U. Law School community this Monday when they announced that they had traced the treacherous assault back to Nerrigan’s own classmate, Donald Lardthing, who is also competing for a position on the Board of Editors. In a nationally televised press conference, Dean Alfred Aman told an outraged America that “In all my academic career, I’ve never seen anything like this,” adding “well, actually, it sounds vaguely familiar, but I just can’t remember what it reminds me of.”

The attack itself took place during the middle of Spring Break. Nerrigan, the top student in his second-year class, had just sat down in the Library’s Computer Center to type up his note, when a large, camouflage-clad figure managed to sneak into the cluster and smashed Clancy’s fingers with Volume 3 of the 1992 Martindale-Hubbell. Nerrigan was rushed to the Student Health Center, where he was mistakenly treated for gout and mono. Doctors later pronounced him unfit to continue typing his note, although they did say he would type again once the swelling and bruising subsided. In the meantime, detectives working the scene of the assault discovered that Nerrigan’s attacker had dropped an I.D. card used to open the door to the Computer Center. The ID card belonged to another second-year law student who was quickly identified as Donald Lardthing’s bodyguard during first-year Property. (Lardthing was later asked why he needed a bodyguard in Property, to which he responded, “Hey, I got a lot of Stake’s questions right, and he kept flinging stale pancakes at me! Do you know how much damage a fastball pancake can do? I paid Brawn to shield me with his massive body.”) It was at this point in the investigation that Professor Alex Tanford came forward with a videotape from one of his Trial Techniques classes. Using high-tech computer-aided enhancement equipment, FBI specialists were able to isolate a conversation between Dreckheart and first-year student Sam Stain, who were sitting in the jury box. Dreckheart was clearly heard to tell Stain that Lardthing’s estranged wife, Stephanie Patchouli, had hired him to “put Nerrigan on ice” and clear the way for Lardthing’s play for the Board of Editors. Confronted with this damning evidence, Dreckheart and Stain began to sing like canaries, with Stain admitting that he was the actual...
attacker. Steph Patchouli, an MBA student, was soon apprehended, and quickly implicated her spouse in a bid for clemency.

For his part, Lardthing immediately filed a six million dollar lawsuit against the Law School, demanding that his note stand in competition until the investigation was concluded. The Law School demurred in its efforts to oust Lardthing from the competition. (It should be noted that Lardthing's entry finished a dismal 8th in the competition.) On Wednesday, realizing the jig was up, Lardthing entered a plea agreement with the Prosecutor's office and hastily transferred to Indianapolis.

Faculty reactions to the plot have ranged from anger to wistful bemusement. Law Journal faculty advisor Pat Baude told this reporter that, "This is the silliest thing I've heard since reading Burger's opinion in Paris Theatre. There's something about this case that gives me a feeling of déjà vu... why is this so familiar?" Professional responsibility expert Aviva Orenstein remarked that she didn't see how Lardthing would ever be able to sit for a state bar. "He'll never make it past a character and fitness review with this on his record," she said. "Any perceptive board of examiners will realize this figure's skated over the edge of criminal conduct.

By Marlin Perkins

In an announcement that read like a story from the pages of The National Enquirer, Dean of Admissions Frank Motley stated last week that next fall's incoming first-year class would include one Res Apesa Loquitur, a lowland mountain gorilla trained to use sign language by animal behavioralists at the University of Minnesota. News of the simian's imminent arrival caused a near riot at the last faculty meeting, with members of the Admissions Committee valiantly attempting to quell the anger and jeers of their colleagues. "Mr. Loquitur possesses reasoning skills and life experiences far beyond any instate candidate," Don Gjerdingen insisted, to which Lynne Henderson acidly replied "All you Minnesotans do is stick up for one another!" Gjerdingen immediately reminded Henderson that while he might be accused of having a weak spot for students of Norwegian extraction, Res Apesa hailed from Burundi. "Besides," perennial Admissions Committee member Harry Pratter interjected, "Mr. Loquitur scored in the 99th percentile on the LSAT, in spite of the fact that he was forced to fill out the test form with fingerpaints and an overripe banana!"

In somewhat calmer tones, Rob Fischman questioned the wisdom of admitting a member of an endangered species and noted that "animal rights activists will certainly charge us with inhumane abuse by taking an innocent beast and turning him into a lawyer." Admissions Committee member Alysa Rollock wryly observed that PETA representatives had yet to protest similar treatment of Purdue graduates, which only served to fan the flames of faculty wrath. "Look here, this is absolutely absurd!" growled Tom Schornhorst. "It says in Loquitur's file that he only responds to soothing, encouraging tones! How the hell am I supposed to do that?! And furthermore, if I've got to chuck peanuts at the little bastard every time he gets an answer right, all of the students will start demanding peanuts!" Ken Dausschmidt was heard to mutter that "turning the classroom into a giant Skinner box was not economically efficient," although Ed Greenebaum was moved to hypothesize that all lawyer-client roles and relationships might be viewed as a giant Skinner box. At this point Dean of Students Len Fromm reported that any additional debate was mooted by the fact that Res Apesa was already on campus and his trainers were in the process of acclimatizing him to his room in Eigenmann. Although most faculty members accepted Res Apesa's enrollment with what might be described as seething resignation, Sarah Jane Hughes left the meeting in a fit of pique when Dean Motley asked her if she would help the new student learn how to sign his tuition checks.
WRITING AND RESEARCH INSTRUCTOR GOES PRO!

by Dick Vitale

During his press conference last week, Magic Johnson rocked the sports world and the I.U. School of Law by announcing that Writing and Research Instructor Mike "The Bomber" Barron would be joining the L.A. Lakers as backup scoring guard. Citing Barron's phenomenal shooting prowess in the annual Student-Faculty games, Johnson claimed that "Mike's range is anywhere in the arena. I don't know about the rest of you, but I want all my players to be like Mike!" The new Lakers coach went on to reveal that I.U.'s own Bobby Knight pleaded with the NCAA to waive its redshirt rule so that he could add Barron to his decimated roster after both Evans and Leary went down with injuries.

When reached by phone at his Bloomington office, Barron modestly said "I don't see what all the fuss is about. Just because I toss in a few three-pointers against a wheezing pack of worn-out legal realists doesn't mean I can go head to head with the likes of Threatt and Kenny Anderson every night! I'd fully intended to go into private practice after this season, but Magic says he believes in me, so I'll give the NBA my best shot."

Rumors are circulating around the Law School that Barron's fellow writing and research instructor, Mark "The Shark" Adams will be joining the pro-golf circuit this summer. While Law School officials confirmed that Adams is indeed planning a major career move, they reported gossip concerning Roger Dworkin's departure to enter his Advanced Torte in the Pillsbury Bake-off was "just a really stupid pun."

BLEAK EMPLOYMENT PICTURE FORCES CURRICULUM OVERHAUL

by Rhonda Rumorooter

Following Career Services Director Kelly Toole Townes' depressing announcement that at least three Law Journal editors will either be driving cabs or caddying for Mark Adams after graduation (see related
story), Dean Alfred Aman demanded that faculty members take evasive action and reorganize their courses to better prepare students for alternative forms of employment. Dean Aman said that he would take the lead in this bold new adventure by teaching his Administrative Law students the rudiments of drumming, adding that he'd throw in lessons on the Indian tabla and Latin American salsa stylings to give his pupils "a more global approach."

Professors Bethel and Hicks quickly chimed in, eagerly stating that they would be more than happy to present clinics on auto repair. They did stipulate, however, that their students would have to start with the teachers' own broken-down heaps. Noted gourmet chef Doug Boshkoff then volunteered with cooking classes, warning that any student who couldn't produce a lump-free hollandaise would be well advised to stick with Secured Transactions. Faculty members applauded Library Director Colleen Pauwels, who offered to train would-be lawyers in the finer points of recycling broken staplers, yet boosed Tom Schornhorst, who hastily drew up an elective course aimed at recruiting galley slaves for his Lake Monroe-based barge. Fred Cate's suggestion that students could always sell spare organs while waiting for the legal profession to reopen was met with varying expressions of glee and nausea.

HOW TO DRIVE LAW STUDENTS CRAZY: YET ANOTHER TOP TEN LIST

by Dr. Sigmund Fraud

Yes, boys and girls, this article reveals what most of you have long suspected: a vast majority of I.U. Law School faculty, staff and librarians sit up late into the wee hours of the morning, concocting devious strategies, fiendish mindgames and brutally cruel pranks to make your three years here as miserable as possible. No—these sadistic schemes go far beyond Professor Gene Shreve insisting that civil procedure is fun stuff. We're talking about unmitigated crimes against humanity, and extracting this information cost this reporter most of the proceeds from his black market sale of broken library staplers! Limitations of time and space prevent us from publishing a complete catalogue of every nefarious plot against your sanity, so we've selected ten of the most vicious ways in which the Law School tries to push you over the edge.

10. Earl Singleton & Phyllis Kenworthy: Assign Community Legal Clinic interns cases in which the clients wish to challenge parking tickets as Ninth Amendment violations.
8. Bruce Markell: Constantly reminding his Bankruptcy class that filing under Chapter 13 will not expunge outstanding student loans.
6. John Scanlan: Beginning every Immigration Law lecture by singing "It's no fun being an illegal alien!"
5. Perry Hodges: Requiring that all assignments be written in iambic hexameter.
4. Craig Bradley: Three unexcused absences or "not prepareds" and it's lethal injection time.
3. Marianne Mason: Two words—SuDoc numbers!
2. Roger Dworkin: Showing his Torts class detailed color slides of Mrs. Palsgraf's head injuries.

... and the number one way to drive law students stark, raving mad
1. Sherrilyn McCoy-Lawrence: "Are you kidding?! Do you have any idea of what I can do to your GPA with just a flick of my wrist? I can turn your entire career into toast ANYTIME!!! BWAHAHAHAHAHA!!!"

PLEASE DO NOT ADJUST YOUR PICTURE: A VISUAL LAW EXAM

A team of internationally renowned legal scholars spent years (oh, okay—five minutes) designing these four purposefully obscure scenes in an effort to plumb the shallows of your legal acuity. Correctly answer all four questions and, hey, who knows . . . in ten or fifteen years you may be an internationally renowned legal scholar wasting away your life designing these moronic tests!
Question 1

1. This law student
A) Is listening to one of Professor Heidt's lawyer jokes.
B) Tried to cite-check a one hundred page tax article over the weekend.
C) Just came back from Financial Aid.
D) Has consumed far too much vending machine coffee this semester.

Question 2

2. This scene
A) Occurred during the last Law School Christmas Party.
B) Occurred during a recent criminal law exam.
D) Occurred in a Law Library conference room.

Question 3

3. These law students
A) Obviously prefer LEXIS and WESTLAW over traditional forms of legal research.
B) Are showing their total disregard for the Law Library's "Please Reshelve" signs.
C) Have just discovered the resale value of their first-year casebooks.
D) Have just discovered Professor Popkin's legislation text is required reading.

Question 4

4. The unfortunate man in the middle of this scene
A) Just saw the grade board.
B) Just received his fiftieth ding letter.
C) Forgot to make a back-up copy of his B706 paper.
D) Just learned that the Law School's no smoking policy also applies to exam rooms.

Correct Answers:
1. (D) 2. (D) 3. (D) 4. None of the above: the unfortunate man was working at the Library Reference Desk when Professor Gellis called asking how many municipalities have enacted ordinances regulating the licensing of pet ferrets in the last five hundred years.
WORKING WITH TROWELS

Governor Evan Bayh, to the dismay and chagrin of many I.U. administrators, announced this week that he was naming three of Professor Fred Cate's monkeys to the I.U. Board of Trustees. (Second and first-year law students are encouraged to review Vol. 2, No. 8 of this publication for a full report on Cate's shocking animal abuses.) "Any primate that has the ability to untangle the intricacies of American copyright law is certainly capable of making executive-level decisions," Bayh ruefully noted at a press conference. The most senior monkey, an orang calling himself Bonzo Demaree Banta, explained through an interpreter that his agenda included nominating wannabe law student Res Apesa Loquitur (see related story) to replace outgoing I.U. President Thomas Ehrlich. Assistant Dean Lauren Robel categorically denied that she ever said, "Well, at least the top banana would be on our side during budget talks" when told of Bonzo's proposal.

We can only imagine Professor Kevin Brown's surprise and consternation when he was recently slapped with a torts suit filed by the Michigan Law Review. Litigation was initiated after Ann Arbor civil engineers concluded that the collapse of the Law Review's foundation was caused by the excessive weight and length of the title to an article Brown recently submitted for publication. While Brown candidly admitted he had to hire a sixteen-wheel flatbed to deliver the monumental work, he was quick to point out that he warned Michigan that before accepting the article, they should make sure the construction of their offices adhered to the Uniform Building Code. In a related story, Professor Pat Baude was retained as local counsel by the shipping company that delivered the book after Michigan authorities also complained that the truck's mudflaps violated state traffic safety regulations. In a barely related story, Professor Cathy Crosson has been retained as yet another local counsel by the same shipping company when an Indiana State Police officer gave the truck a citation for obscene performance because the mudflaps "did not completely cover the lewd gyrations of the vehicle's axle."

THIS MONTH IN LAW SCHOOL HISTORY

April 14, 1985: Quoting public opinion polls that reflect a national demand for quicker trials, U.S. Sentencing Commissioner and I.U. Law School Professor Ilene Nagel proposes that new rules be adopted requiring trial by combat between defendants and district attorneys in all federal criminal cases that end in hung juries. Nagel cites ample precedent for such proceedings in early common law tradition.

April 29, 1988: Four students in Professor Julia Lamber's Employment Discrimination class go into convulsions after reading a final exam question that asks if employers who refuse to cover disparately impacted wisdom teeth in their health care policies can be sued under Title VII. Lamber is later heard to grumble, "Geez, exam time rolls around and nobody has a sense of humor left."

April 7, 1991: Moot Court Faculty Coach Joe Hoffmann issues a hasty apology at National Finals when members of an I.U. team, frustrated by the line of questioning, challenges their opponents to a pistol duel. Hoffmann later maintains that, although his students' behavior was completely inappropriate, "they did make some good Second Amendment arguments when the judges asked them why in the world they were packing weapons."

April 3, 1993: I.U. Law Library Technical Services Librarians Nona Watt, Mike Maben and Dick Vaughan are charged with numerous counts of criminal conduct after authorities claim the trio have reprogrammed the Library's on-line catalogue terminals to behave like money movers. The victims of this heinous scheme complain that they inserted their cards, typed in their personal identification numbers and were then told "the machines were out of order," only to discover several months later that hundreds of dollars had been transferred out of their checking accounts. The three librarians are later exonerated when University Computing Services confesses they installed the errant program in an effort to automate the tuition collection process.