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RES GESTAE

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR

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**NUMBERS
GAME**

Not long ago, the Admissions Dean at New York University Law School told a writer for the Commentator there that the number of applicants who forfeited their 100 dollar deposits through declining to enroll had almost doubled since last year. The Dean made the startling suggestion that some of the latest college grads were now eschewing the legal profession because Watergate and associated scandals were largely perpetrated by attorneys, damaging the image of lawyering.

Here at Michigan, however, movements in admissions data which are similar to those at NYU have not been similarly interpreted. According to Assistant Dean for Admissions, Jane Waterson, there is no evidence that the beating lawyers' reputations have been taking recently has affected decisions not to enroll here. Interestingly, the volume of applications to UM Law School dropped to 4500 this year from 4900 last year - contrary to the trend at NYU - while the number of women's applications jumped to 807 from 711 over the same period. But the influence of Watergate seems minimal with respect to these figures. Rather, it is much more reasonable to believe some people now taking their first steps toward a legal education are more realistic about their chances of acceptance at the better schools, future job opportunities, than they have been in previous years and don't apply. This latter view is at least circumstantially supported by analysis of the "numbers" of this year's entrants, the class of '76, compared with last year's as shown in Table I. The "numbers" of mere applicants are not tabulated by the Law School.

(see NUMBERS page 4)

COPPÉ OCT 26 1973

UNIV. OF MICH.

Thursday, October 18, Albert Coppé, former member of the Belgian cabinet and Vice President of the European Economic Community governing committee, was the speaker for the International Law Society's weekly meeting.

Urbane and witty, Coppé spoke of the necessity of creating multi-national corporations and unions within Europe. He said these bodies would increase the EEC's competitiveness in world trade.

Coppé's importance to the EEC and the emphasis it is placing on successfully competing with the world's industrial powers can be found in Prof. Coppé's presence in the U.S. He is here on an EEC program that sends top Common Market officials abroad for two week speaking tours.

Prof. Coppé proposed four points to increase European unity in economic terms. First, he called for a code of ethical behavior to be adhered to by all persons involved in running the European economy. Second, he asked for greater political unity among European states. Third, he said there must be co-determination of major industrial policies by committees made of management and labor representatives. Fourth, he asked for better lawyers to facilitate the changes.

After expressing and defending these idealistic proposals, Prof. Coppé took a brief tour of late-night student hang-outs. Ending-up at the V-Bell, Coppé is reported to have wondered how U.S. students, who have to work to put themselves through school, have such freedom in the middle of the week. He explained that European students might be liable to do this since they pay very small fees. But then again, Prof. Coppé

(see COPPÉ page 2)

NOTICES

ABA EVENT

YEARBOOK PUBLICATION

The Codicil, Law School yearbook, is seeking an Editor, Business manager, and Photographer. Salaries are, respectively, \$400, \$300 and \$200. Last year's copy is on reserve at the desk in the library. Applicants should leave a note with name and phone number in Barbara Klimaszewski's mailbox outside the Lawyers Club desk.

IMPEACHMENT DISCUSSION

A panel of experts will review constitutional removal of the President of the United States today (Friday) at 1:10 pm in Room 100 of Hutchins Hall. On hand will be Professors Robert Burt, Richard Lempert, Terrance Sandalow and Vince Blasi, with moderation by Theodore St. Antoine (pun intended).



"Trust me, National Security is involved."

(COPPE cont'd from page 1)
doesn't know the drinking talent, strengthened by recent nostalgia for the 50's, of the U of M student.

— Scott Ewbank

The 1974 Client Counseling Competition of the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association will take place in February, 1974. Last year 25 schools participated; this year, with wider notice, it is hoped that many more will enter the Competition.

The Client Counseling Competition developed as a legal teaching technique. In some ways it is analogous to Moot Court, except that the skill tested is counseling rather than appellate argument. At a time when interest in both clinical tools in legal education and preventive law as a substantive area is growing, this Competition fills a real need. The Competition tries to simulate what arises in a real law firm consultation as closely as possible. A typical client problem is selected and a person acting the role of the client is briefed on his or her part. Before the day of the actual Competition, students, who work in pairs, receive a very brief memo concerning the problem. This data is equivalent to what a secretary might be told when a client calls to make an appointment. The students are asked to prepare a preliminary memorandum based on the problem as it is then understood.

The actual Competition consists of an hour with the first 45 minutes devoted to an interview with the client during which the students are expected to elicit the rest of the relevant information, propose a solution or outline what further research would be necessary. Then the students can use the last quarter of the hour to confer between themselves and verbally prepare a post interview memorandum. This memorandum can be used to explain to the judges why the students handled the interview as they did.

All American Bar Association approved law schools are invited to enter a pair of students in the Competition. Application forms and a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) entry fee per school should be received by the Law Student Division by November 19, 1973. These forms and more information about the Client Counseling Competition are available from the Law Student Division upon request. A book containing 17 Client Counseling problems with analyses of the
(see ABA page 3)

RES GESTAE October 26, 1973

PLAYING THE GAME

(Editor's note: For those inclined to football and legal philosophy at the same time, RG offers the following article by Harold W. Fuson, Jr. which appeared in the October 3, 1973 issue of The Gavel of Cleveland State University Law School.)

ON THE STUDY OF LAW

Don't read.

Well, no, I didn't mean it quite the way it sounds.

Do read, but do it a little differently then you might have been accustomed.

Our first grade teachers, in their deluded but gentle way, presumed that by teaching us to read they were teaching us to learn. Other educators, the hope went, would write clear, concise statements of whatever they wanted us to know and we would read them and be educated. The more we read, the more we would learn.



But the protestations, not to mention the literacy, of a handful of legal technicians and scholars to the contrary, legal materials were not written to be read. They were intended, like Jim Brown or O.J. Simpson to escape comprehension at all costs.

The purpose of most legal writing, it will swiftly appear to the neophyte is to obfuscate. The purpose of most casebook writers is to compound the sin.

What is the law student to do?

Don't read. Tackle. Learn, as Willie Lanier has done, when to pancake--to let them knock you down so you can scramble by them unawares. They will run over you at

first. But soon you will catch glimmers of enlightenment. You will soon notice that all that furor over demurrers and plaintiffs in error and petitioners and rule nisi is like so much bump and run.

You'll see that when the judge says, "the question for decision is..." he seldom means it-its just a play fake.

But the key to success is not finding the ball carrier. It is finding that in a profession where morality counts for little or nothing, right and wrong matters even less in the cases the law student reads. It is not whether Marbury won or lost, but how he played the game.

In short, the aspiring law student should measure his progress not by how much he has covered, but by how much trouble it caused him. If he knows the answer before he goes to class, it will be because he or she read it in a canned brief. If he knows the answer when he gets out of class, it is because his instructor has dropped the ball.

(ABA cont'd from page 2)

problems is available from the Law Student Division at a cost of three dollars (\$3.00). Three copies of this book are sent free to all schools which enter the Competition.

In order for a school to enter, its Dean must approve and a faculty member must be willing to serve as advisor. Each school may select its entrants in any way it chooses. After the deadline date for applications, the exact location of the Regional Competitions will be announced. There will probably be about nine regions. It is expected that the Regional Competitions will take place on February 3rd and that the National will take place two or three weeks later.

The travel and lodging costs incurred because of participation in the Competition cannot be reimbursed. There will be an award of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to the winning team in each Regional Competition. The National winning team will receive three hundred dollars (\$300.00) and the National runner-up team will receive one hundred and fifty dollars (150.00).

-ABA Law Student Division

(NUMBERS cont'd from page 1)

TABLE I
LSAT-GPA Averages in the Past 3 Years

	residents	non-residents	both
<u>class of '76</u>			
GPA	3.55	3.67	3.57
LSAT	685	709	695
<u>class of '75</u>			
GPA	3.49	3.49	3.49
LSAT	684	706	695
<u>class of '74</u>			
GPA	3.44	3.52	3.47
LSAT	677	684	680

in LSAT-GPA Ranges in the Past 2 Years

	LSAT			GPA	
	'76	'75		'76	'75
775+	4	4	3.85+	12	8
750-74	7	5	3.75-.84	14	11
725-49	12	14	3.50-.74	34	26
700-24	17	14	3.25-.49	24	28
675-99	21	18	3.00-.24	9	16
650-74	14	14	2.75-.99	3	5
625-49	10	12	2.50-.74	2	4
600-24	4	4	2.25-.49	1	1
575-99	3	4			
550-74	1	3			
525-49	2	1			
500-24	1	2			

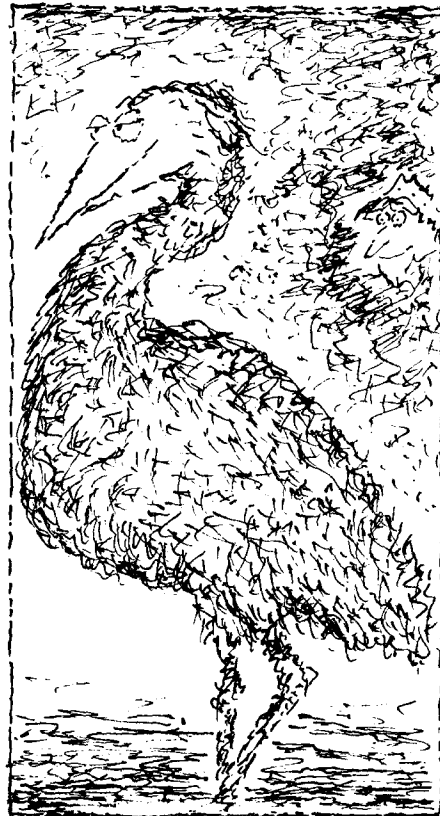
Dean Waterson noted that the latest applicant pool is markedly better qualified as a whole than even the previous year's. "There was not a spectacular rise in the averages," she remarked, "but there seems to have been more clustering - a narrower range of scores." This trend is especially noticeable in GPA distribution, where the class of '76's grades are much more bunched around a slightly higher mean than were those of last year's first year group. In other words, if one can assume that entrant data distribution is a fair reflection of the data distribution of all applicants, it's possible to conclude that more better students are being drawn to law school while the bulk of relatively weaker candidates, who've inflated recent application figures, are now less willing to pursue false hopes. In addition to depressing the price of Educational Testing Service stock, the suggested trend could mean more competitiveness in law school as students become more equally brilliant.

Well, back to the main point. If the taint of scandal among the D.C. and California bars seems unlikely to have reduced the volume of applications to law school here, albeit from inconclusive evidence, the absence of any Watergate factor in rejections of acceptances to UM is clear. Dean Waterson acknowledged such pre-enrollment withdrawals have risen to 95 this year from 71 last year and 65 the previous year, but said "the reasons are finances, going to other schools and just the desire to be out of school for a few years." Table II shows how many accepted individuals forfeited their deposits and why, based on the contents of letters sent by those who withdrew. There were a few expressions of some sort of dissatisfaction with lawyering, but not one associated with scandal.

TABLE II
Having Various Reasons for Withdrawal

chose other school	38
no reason	29
finances	12
personal (family, fiancé rejected)	10
took a job	4
chose other degree program	2

(see MORE NUMBERS page 6)





We have some very interesting Pro games on this week's card as the only undefeated teams (L.A. and Minnesota) play each other. On the other end of the spectrum, we have Houston - with its best chance for a win this year - at Chicago. Then there's two evenly matched but mediocre teams, the Giants and the Cardinals, ready to battle. And finally, the Steelers (perhaps with Terry Hanratty in control) will try to avenge their only loss of the season.

There are only two decent college games on the schedule this week. Iowa at Illinois is interesting solely because the teams are evenly matched (both lousy), and Illinois remains undefeated in the Big Ten. The other game, of course, is Southern Cal at Notre Dame. If you're watching on the tube, look for the Turk in the stands.

- Tommy the Turk

THIS WEEK'S PRIZES

- 1st place - one mighty Dominick's sub
- 2nd place - Tommy the Turk's autograph
- 3rd place - 55% interest in the Detroit Lions

Last week's winner, with a fine score, was Bob Bunda.

(Editor's note: I've been attempting to reach the omniscient Turk to tell him of complaints about not publishing the previous week's results so all you over-achievers can see how close you came to winning this ridiculous game. Just hang on.)

COLLEGE	PRO
Southern Cal at Notre Dame(3)	Atlanta(5) at San Francisco
Holy Cross at Army(9)	Cincinnati(7) at Pittsburgh
Navy at Pitt(even)	Green Bay at Detroit(12)
Miami at Syracuse(17)	Denver at Jets(9)
Michigan at Minnesota(15)	Houston(3) at Chicago
Michigan State(3) at Purdue	Los Angeles(3) at Minnesota
Northwestern(28) at Ohio State	Giants at St. Louis(even)
Indiana(5) at Wisconsin	Oakland at Baltimore(7)
Iowa(8) at Illinois	San Diego(13) at Cleveland

Tie-breaker - Notre Dame completed passes vs. USC _____

Of course
I'm a Liberal.



But I eat lettuce
because I'm fat,
not because I
don't support
farmworkers...



I got fat because
I'm a pig when it
comes to apple pie,
strawberry shortcake,
and cherry pie.



All made with fruit...



picked by farmworkers.

By eating lettuce I
can lose enough weight
to start eating apple pie,
strawberry shortcake, and
cherry pie again.

Farmworkers,
I support you.



(MORE NUMBERS cont'd from page 4)
It could be argued that the effects of scandal didn't have a chance to turn off last year's law school applicants. What about present aspirants to the bar? "There are no new questions," observed the Admissions Dean in review of the stream of people presently flowing through her office in quest of some talisman for acceptance at Michigan, and thus none about ethical indignation. "They're still basically interested in what their chances are, why the Law School selects students the way it does, etc. They're also interested in the job market, which is a much harder question to answer. I don't

try to kid them. Normally I say, 'graduates with reasonable records from good schools will have good chances of finding a job - which is a pretty nothing answer. It's very hard to say what will happen in four years.' The issue of "lesser" schools comes up, too, recalled Ms. Waterson. "I don't know what to tell them. I hate to be negative because the best people from those schools are very good."

All in all, Watergate or no, it's apparent that the Golden Gravy Train remains untarnished in the minds of its most recent passengers.

- Mike Slaughter