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Gay/Lesbian Law Scholarship Awarded

SAN FRANCISCO—JB Brainerd, a third-year student at Golden Gate University School of Law, is the winner of the 1998–99 Michael A. Zamperini/W. Clay Burchell Scholarship, designed to benefit lesbian and gay law students.

Now in its sixth year, the scholarship was established by a \$15,000 gift to the law school by Michael Zamperini, Professor of Law and Director of Writing and research at Golden Gate, and his partner, Clay Burchell, formerly an official with the federal government. They established the scholarship as a positive way to provide financial support and encouragement to openly gay and lesbian law students who have shown academic excellence.

Brainerd has an impressive academic record. In 1988, he received an A.B., *cum laude*, in political science from Middlebury College. In 1994, he received an M.S., *summa cum laude*, in psychiatric rehabilitation counseling from Boston University. Brainerd has lived in San Francisco since 1988.

(More)

Brainerd explains that he chose to attend Golden Gate because, in addition to its strong academic program and presence in San Francisco, he appreciated the way it welcomes gay and lesbian students and encourages their participation in programs. He is pleased to be this year's recipient of the Zamperini/Burchell Scholarship. "The scholarship means that I am part of a strong and positive legacy that has been established by an openly gay professor in a reputable institution in the heart of San Francisco," says Brainerd.

While at Golden Gate, Brainerd has served as chair of the student group LEGALS (Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Law Students) and on the student advisory committee for Law School admissions. He also works full-time as a staff member of Golden Gate University School of Law. Outside of law school, Brainerd has been the student representative for Pride Law Fund, which provides funding for students who are doing summer internships with public interest law firms serving gay/lesbian civil rights and HIV/AIDS clients. Has also served on the community advisory board for the mayor's committee dealing with entry and reentry to work for people with HIV and AIDS.

Brainerd expects to graduate in December 1999. He plans to pursue employee benefits tax law.

Golden Gate University welcomes contributions to the scholarship endowment. Interested donors may call Susan Worth at (415) 442-7829 or send contributions to the Michael A. Zamperini/W. Clay Burchell Scholarship, Golden Gate University School of Law, 536 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.