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Caveat, April 10, 1978

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CAVEAT



Vol. XIII, No. 28

Golden Gate University School of Law

April 10, 1978

ELECTION SNAFUS

RUN-OFFS: Vote TODAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY

President: Donna Courtney
 Alice Montgomery

Secretary: Randy Brummett
 Sheila Gaughan

Treasurer: Eugene Burton
 Ralph Eliseo

2nd Year Day Rep: Joan Blades
 Walter Riley

2nd Year Night Rep: Chuck Crane
 Elizabeth Shivell
 Malcolm Sowell

3rd Year Day Rep: Larry Bittner
 Janet Mangini

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APR 10 1978

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY

This has been a pretty hectic week for the Caveat staff, so we've been a bit behind in covering the follow-up on the election. Basically this is what we've been able to gather: Candidates and other concerned students talked informally on Monday with Richard Wright and each other over how to fill the positions that were not filled by the election. They were also concerned about how to determine exactly who did win. Following discussion Richard decided on a method to determine the above questions. Dissatisfied with Richard's solution, people consulted the SBA Constitution which informed them that if an interpretation of the Constitution is necessary (as in determining how to and when to conduct a run-off election) it is for the SBA as a body to make such an interpretation. Filling out the required petition of 25 students' signatures, folks called for a special meeting of the SBA to be convened on Tuesday, April 4. At that meeting a new way was worked out to determine who would be run-off against whom and when. The elections will be today thru Wednesday. For more details read Larry and Janet's article as well as letters to the Editor.

D.C.

RESULTS (No run-off necessary)

V.P. Night: Anne Hipshman
 V.P. Day: David Cooper

4th Year Night Rep: Rod Guyette
 Thomas Anders

3rd Year Night Rep: Diana Taylor
 Richard Clark

3rd Year Day Rep: Chuck Rubinoff
 2nd Year Night Rep: Philip Robertson
 2nd Year Day Rep: Sandy Van Broek

ELECTION IRREGULARITIES

by Janet Mangini and Larry Bittner

In the last few days there has been a lot of talk about "irregularities" surrounding the recent SBA elections. This article is intended to inform the entire student body of these irregularities and to point out what has been done to correct them.

First, a primary cause of the irregularities was the failure of the current SBA to appoint a standing Election Committee as mandated by the Constitution. Such a committee is charged with running the election, tabulating the results, making decisions concerning any disputes, and overseeing a run-off election if necessary. Without such a committee SBA President Richard Wright undertook the running of the election

as a near-solo performance. The result, unfortunately, was an election clouded with doubts.

The following are some of the irregularities which have been noted:

- 1) the elections were held after the Constitutionally mandated date of March 15th, pushing a run-off election closer to finals and thus increasing the already rampant apathy surrounding the process...
- 2) the only candidates forum held was arranged by the candidates themselves and not by an impartial election committee...
- 3) the polls were inadequately staffed and open only at odd and irregular times resulting in many students not having an opportunity to vote...
- 4) the candidates did not receive guidelines as to proper campaign procedures...
- 5) the integrity of the ballot counting procedure is in question - i.e.:
 - a) tabulation was done by only two individuals without adequate cross-checks.
 - b) the ballots were taken home by the SBA President and also left unattended in the Caveat office.

The above outlined irregularities are minor in comparison with the procedures for tabulating votes & certifying candidates which were undertaken by the executive fiat of SBA President Wright. The SBA Secretary's race presents a graphic example. No one ran as a declared candidate, therefore all votes cast for that position were write-ins. Randy Brummitt received 9 votes. Two other people received 5 votes apiece, another got 4 votes, and 23 others received 1 vote each. Richard Wright cancelled out

(Continued on page 2)

FSC POSTPONES AFF'V ACTION MTG. TO THURS.

OPEN MEETING THURSDAY THE 13th AT 3:00

After several weeks notice by the Third-World Coalition that it wanted the FSC to consider its proposals, last week, the FSC postponed the scheduled April 6 meeting to the 13th. While third-world students and supporters were upset over this further delay, there was some sympathy with Dean Judy's request to delay until after her recuperation from recent surgery. Instead, the scheduled time was to be used for a curriculum meeting which failed to occur due to a lack of a quorum.

Coalition members continue to ask all students concerned about affirmative action to attend Thursday's meeting to be held in Room 205 or 207 at 3:00.

In Memoriam

Jim Trail of the 3rd year day class died March 29 in Modesto. Jim was in Section A his first year and was known as the most industrious and clear-headed person in "The Pit" section of the class. A rosary was held Sunday night, April 2 and friends from his class attended his funeral Monday morning.

the votes of the two people who received 5 votes because they both stated they did not wish to run for that position. The person with 4 votes was cancelled out because she was a declared candidate for another office. Finally, he then called each of the persons with one vote and asked them if they wanted to run in a run-off election and cancelled out the votes of those who didn't until he got to 17 valid votes... since 9 is a majority of 17 Brummitt was declared the winner!!!

In all cases where there was no clear majority the SBA President utilized the above-described method of wholesale invalidation for certifying some winners and determining the run-off candidates. Clever Richard, but not correct!

At a recent meeting called on petition of 25 concerned students these methods were discussed, criticized, and finally overturned by the SBA. During the course of the meeting when he was presented with the concerns of attending students, Wright defended his actions by stating that he was left with no alternatives due to student apathy. He gladly relinquished the responsibility for conducting the run-off election to an ad-hoc committee composed of students attending the meeting. The SBA declared a run-off for all offices where no candidate received a majority of all votes cast. The two individuals who received the greatest number of votes were declared to be run-off candidates in an election scheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

All students are encouraged to vote in the run-off elections. There is still a chance for student government to work and the irregularities of the recent election can be the exception rather than the rule.

(While Janet and Larry cooperated on this effort, they are opponents in this week's run-off election for 3rd year Day rep.)

Dear Editors:

In the 1972 primary election, I was a poll watcher in a precinct in a Chicago suburb. At the end of the election when the judges counted the votes, there was one for Shirley Chisholm for President. In that grand tradition of Illinois politics, the judges wanted to ignore the vote, just not count it.

Well, this was a polite suburb and the judges weren't accustomed to vociferous poll watchers; neither did they realize that the vote for Shirley Chisholm was my vote.

They counted the vote.

Here last week at GGU in our SBA elections we continued in the best tradition of Illinois politics: discounting votes, tossing names off the ballot; the election was being stolen.

But the difference was that the election was not being stolen in favor of any candidate but rather in the interest of expediency.

I won't detail the irregularities here. We all are very aware that they existed and other candidates have discussed them elsewhere in this issue.

But what I do want to emphasize is the high level of student motivation and involvement. That interest stands in marked contrast to the normal apathy existing at GGU.

Last week the students themselves called the special SBA meeting. The students have discovered that at least one means of insuring an effective organization is to take active participation. I hope we won't soon forget it.

What we see here is what we will see out there in that world we are all waiting for so expectantly.

They do say that voters get the kind of government they deserve.

Sheila Gaughan

Letters

RUBINOFF SUPPORTS COURTNEY

I would first like to thank those of you who supported my candidacy with your votes, and I assure you that I shall keep my promises of accessibility and responsibility as your representative. I would also like to thank all those students who expressed their interests in maintaining a functioning, responsible SBA Board of Governors by voting in the election. Until now, I have hesitated to involve myself with the presidential election because I felt that all of the candidates would take an active and positive interest in their job if elected. However, I now feel a definite choice in the up-coming run-off can be made. I believe that Donna Courtney is the stronger of the two candidates for president. She has maintained an intelligent, reasonable and, above all, responsible position during the current "constitutional crisis" over this year's election. While others have lost their heads (myself as guilty as the rest) in what can best be described as too many chefs poisoning the broth, Donna has remained rational in her inquiries and moderate in her stance. I believe that this is very indicative of her capability in managing a political body and that Donna Courtney is the best person available to keep the SBA viable next year. Therefore, I will vote for Donna for president in the run-off election and encourage everyone else to do likewise.

David "Chuck" Rubinoff

COOPER SUPPORTS MONTGOMERY

I've been hesitant about writing anything in the Caveat in support of candidates except in my own capacity as a candidate. But seeing as how Chuck and other folks have appropriately used these pages as an open forum on the candidate issue, I feel silly closing them to myself. I want folks to know that I support Alice and hope to serve as her Day Vice President.

This past year's SBA, although weak, was kept afloat by the energy and effort of a few (too few) of its officers and representatives. Alice has been one of these few. While maintaining a low profile she has nevertheless been very active in all important issues that have come up this past year. She is the only current Presidential candidate who has been tried and true over a period of time and who has put out as much consistent effort in all affairs involving the needs of student advocacy.

While I tend to be a bit hot-headed in matters of student concern, I've been impressed with Alice's level-headedness coupled with her ability to act decisively. I have come to depend on her and I'm convinced that she'll continue to work for us students (and hopefully with the recognition she well deserves).

Before I sign-off these elections, I want to express my feelings of appreciation to all students who helped my election either through their votes or their leg-work. Now I owe you-all one.

David Cooper

announcements

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Lawyers' Wives Organization of Solano County is offering a \$500 scholarship to a second or third year law student (1978-79 term) who is a resident of Solano County or a graduate of a Solano County secondary school.

The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of financial need and a satisfactory school standing. The recipient is required to use the money for law school and living expenses.

The scholarship is not available to relatives of any member of the Lawyers' Wives Organization of Solano County. Application must be made by August 15, 1978 in order that the award may be given for use in the Fall semester 1978. For application terms, please write: Mrs. Thomas L. Gill, Solano County Lawyers' Wives Scholarship Committee, 114 Camino Alta, Vallejo, Calif. 94590.

MORE SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund Legal Essay Contest: Aims to encourage a sustained interest in serious legal research in areas of civil rights that directly or indirectly affect the Raza community.

A first award of \$300, a second award of \$200 and a third award of \$100 will be awarded to those Raza law students who submit the most creative, original and scholarly research paper. Additionally, the first place winner will have the option of accepting employment with MALDEF as a law clerk on a full time basis during the summer months following the contest for a maximum of 12 weeks. If the first place winner does not accept this clerkship, it will be offered to the second and third place winners, respectively.

Any law student enrolled full time in a law school who is of Mexican or Latino descent is eligible to enter. Entries are due on May 5, 1978; winners will be announced on May 20, 1978.

Papers must be a minimum of 10 double spaced typed pages on one of four topics. For a listing of topics, see the Dean's office or call MALDEF at 981-5800. Mail entries to MALDEF, 28 Geary Street, SF 94108.

National Association of Black Women Attorneys: The topic for this essay contest is "The Role of the Black Woman Attorney in Economic Development". Contestants must be black female law students already in an accredited law school.

The essay must be submitted in triplicate and be double spaced. The number of words should not exceed 2,000. Essays must be received no later than May 8, 1978 and submitted to Attorney Mabel D. Haden, 506 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

The winner will receive a scholarship of \$500 which will be announced at the Annual Luncheon Banquet on May 18.

GRADUATES

\$18.00 graduation fee is due -- pay to Molly in the Dean's office.

Please see Molly in the Dean's Office if you would like to usher for the graduation. 1:30 - 5:30 pm, Saturday May 27. There is a small stipend for this pleasant afternoon's work.

FSC TO DECIDE ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION THIS THURSDAY

April 13, 3:00, room 205 or 207. Last week's meeting was postponed due to Daan McKelvey's absence, so the Faculty Student Council is to decide on our proposals this week. All students who are concerned about affirmative action please attend. We must have your support to win.

Third World Coalition

LEARN ABOUT A NEIGHBORHOOD -- NIHOMACHI

The Nihomachi (Japantown) Legal Outreach (NLO) will present a slide show on April 11 at 3:00 pm in room 205 and at 5:45 in room B-9. The slide show presents an overview of NLO activities which will include a history of Japantown as well as current issues facing the community -- redevelopment, housing, employment/labor problems and Bakke. NLO, comprised of Japanese-American attorneys, law students and community workers, provides legal and law related services to Nihomachi. Organized in 1976, NLO emphasizes the political and community context of law through direct services, educational forums and group study sessions. Golden Gate is encouraged to attend and take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about Asians in San Francisco. After the slide show, members will be available to discuss issues and answer questions from the audience.

CORRECTION

Last week's Hiring article contained an error to the effect that Rosezella Canty-Letsome received her L.L.M. from Howard when, in fact, Harvard claims that distinction. For authority on the spelling of her name, see 11 Duquesne Law Review 439 (1973). Keep 'em coming.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, April 12, at noon in room 207. This will be the last official meeting of the 1977-78 academic year. Agenda items include the upcoming banquet to honor graduating women on April 21, and topic suggestions for panels in the Women in Law Conference next fall. If you want to add any agenda items, please sign the list in the lounge. Our apologies for the conflict with the criminal law makeup class, but at this point time is dear!

THANKS TO ALL!

The Women's Association and the Child Care Committee want to thank all who participated in the 2nd Annual Talent Show. This includes audience, hams, refreshment supplies and technical assistants. Hopefully this seed money for the Child Care Center will inspire more support from the GGU administration.

(Ed. Note: Pat Warner of the Committee tells us that the show netted \$400 for the center. She also tells us that 117 (roughly 1/8 the school) filled out the questionnaire.)

LAST CAVEAT (Whew!)

Next week's Caveat will be the last of the semester. Any announcements you want in etc., etc. by Noon Thurs.

EVENING EXAM TIMES

Will be 6:30 - 9:30 pm instead of 6:50 - 9:50.

MOVIE REVIEW: BLUE COLLAR

by Christopher R. Lucas

Blue Collar is a movie that starts out funny and ends bitter, in a didactic but potent frozen motion scene of violence suggesting the status of that same potential violence ten years later, -- unimproved, frozen, fruitless. This is not escapist art, but art with the emotional impact of a D9 bulldozer. The movie with its revolutionary realism should be of interest to anyone if only for its boldness in bucking the trend towards sentimental space fantasies by a blunt strip mining of the very countenance such romanticism presents. It should hearten those who are encouraged by the truth being told no matter what it is, though on seeing it, it struck me that I have gotten soft, and probably prefer that life have a face on each morning and not stare at the fact of individual powerlessness before the "Force" of mass society. Blue Collar is a tough movie and a good one, and should be seen if only to patronize truth and purpose in an occasional film.

GRADUATING STUDENTS - PLEDGE TO EQUAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION

Are you prepared to take on the responsibility of being a member of the law profession? Do you have a thorough understanding of the state of the bar today? Are you aware of the needed areas of reform within the bar association, such as its practices of price-fixing, prohibition of all advertising, and restrictions on pre-paid legal service plans?

As a member of the Equal Justice Foundation, you will be at the forefront of your profession, supporting an organization dedicated to promoting integrity and accountability within the legal system and among lawyers. Exercising an immense amount of leverage from the combined efforts of law students and young lawyers, committing once percent of their salaries to the Foundation (tax deductible), EJF will be pressuring bar associations and the government to fully implement merit-selection for judges and US attorneys. In addition, EJF will be litigating and issuing reports on monopolistic behavior by the bar.

As well as working to improve the state of the law profession, EJF will also be litigating, drafting legislation, providing research information for the improvement of the hearing process in the areas of consumer protection, the environment, discrimination, poverty, health care, energy, and corporate abuse.

You can play a significant role in this historic thrust to establish a powerful tither-supported public interest advocacy organization. Simply pledge to the Equal Justice Foundation. Your contribution will be felt across the nation, and in every forum of every institution wielding the power to determine the fate of the public's welfare.

Join Chesterfield Smith (former president of the ABA), Ralph Nader, Ramsey Clark, Jim Lorenz and fellow law students across the country in pledging to the Foundation. While you devote your energies to the substantive issues of establishing your law career and serving your community, let a portion of your well-earned income be supporting the procedural issues at the state and federal level, opening up both citizen access to equal justice and your access to a more responsive legal system and legal profession.

Attend an open meeting of the EJF this Tuesday at 3:15 in room 203. There will be pamphlets and pledge forms available, as well as an informal discussion of the exciting goals to be achieved in the foreseeable future.

Michael Pitts

SOUTH of MARKET GOURMET

by David Cooper

I know, I know, I missed two weeks, so I'll try and make it up to you with two short reviews and a letter to reflect on.

M & M's

This is it folks, the last place I could track down within the block and a half area that is available for night students. Opens 6 a.m. closes 2 a.m., located at 359 Mission Street across Fremont from the Bus Station. M&M's is a bit like the Sunflower except that the food is a bit better and a bit more copious. Decor is about the same, but the atmosphere is homier. I had a chicken dinner there one evening and thought it was pretty good. Most dinners are specials so you can only depend on your favorites showing up a few times a week. The dinners are in the \$2.50 to \$2.90 range. Their soups are apparently made on the premises. The chicken soup was all right but the barley looked better. This is about all I can tell you except the prices on some of their other offerings. Sandwiches range from \$1.40 for American Cheese to \$1.95 for pastrami. Club sandwiches are about \$2.50. Hamburger and french fries: \$1.75.

MING'S

After searching long and hard I've concluded that this place is the best one in the area for breakfast in terms of quality and money. They also serve lunches but I can't speak to that yet (maybe next week). They open at 7:00 and close after 3:30; 54 2nd Street right across the way from the Coffee Cup. I've had their Sausage and Eggs Breakfast which at \$1.35 includes hash browns (not greasy - hurray). The best item I've had there though was the Hot Cakes and Eggs (3 pancakes, 2 eggs) for \$1.09 (this is not a misprint). They also have French Toast and Bacon at the same price. If you're feeling real rich you might try the Sirloin and eggs at \$2.10, but I haven't felt that extravagant yet. Lastly, their omelettes do look good. Plain they're 95¢ and range up to \$1.45 for the ham & cheese omelette.

Letter

Here at the Caveat we print almost everything that comes across our desk. Some of our best material however is anonymous, like this letter which I couldn't resist printing in this column:

dear folks,

last night my dinner consisted of 4 pieces of fried chicken, three hard rolls, 2 bowls of raisin bran (two with half & half), a jar of green olives, ½ of a family-pack of Granny Goose barbeque flavor potato chips, two apples and a glass of sherry.

that's what law school does to you. I think the Sba should supervise dinners, especially around exam time, when the pressure really steps up.

Yrs,
Sub-student

(dear Sub, take two alka-seltzers & call me in the morning. Yrs, david.)