

# The Barrister

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA



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VOLUME 3

DECEMBER 1987

NUMBER 8

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## SEASON'S GREETINGS

### Dr. Richmond's Inauguration

by Robert C. Vowels, Jr.

On October 17, 1987, North Carolina Central University added another illustrious piece of history to the school's 77-year-old existence. The inauguration of Dr. Tyrone Richmond as the university's sixth leader was a step that will keep the institution progressing toward higher goals. In his inaugural address, Dr. Richmond stated as his central theme that North Carolina Central University must serve as "a bridge of opportunity" for minorities and the economically disadvantaged.

According to Dr. Richmond, by the year 2000, approximately one-third of America's population is expected to be minority. However, if the current decline of minorities in higher education continues, minorities will not constitute one-third of the nation's university enrollment. Dr. Richmond's address also focused on the alarming fact that if such a decline continues, then the result can only cause a greater polarization in the society.

Dr. Richmond feels that the institution's mission during his tenure involves rekindling the academic vigor of expectation throughout the campus from dorm

room to class room. The plan is to stimulate students' intellectual curiosities, enhance and develop academic and professional skills, instill a sense of pride, dignity, discipline, and promote a consciousness of social responsibility. Dr. Richmond outlined how the university can meet the educational needs of current and future students.

The outline which consisted of four major categories interwoven with various subcategories, envisioned the following efforts on the part of the university: (1) serving as a source for future master teachers for Durham city and county schools, (2) focusing research efforts of the faculty and students on local problems, (3) entering into a partnership with the government and private sector to foster economic development and (4) remaining committed to the liberal arts and sciences program. Dr. Richmond feels that these goals will help build a strong management that will consolidate the gains of his predecessors.

Finally, although Dr. Richmond's outline mentioned emphasizing strong liberal arts and sciences, he also feels that the university must remain strongly committed to the professional programs such as the law school. Leaders come from all facets of the university's various programs and that progress must continue. With

Dr. Richmond's leadership, the university is taking a giant step out of the 1980's and into the 1990's with a fresh, bright, and rekindled direction that will indeed serve as "a bridge of opportunity".

### Homecoming — Alumni Weekend

by Stephanie Commander

Homecoming and Alumni Weekend 1987 was a great success. More than 1,000 alumni, friends of the college, parents and students were present for a weekend full of celebration.

The weekend celebrations started off with numerous activities and parties ranging from Greek shows sponsored by undergraduate sororities and fraternities to a Halloween costume party sponsored by the Student Bar Association of the law school.

On Saturday morning a board of directors meeting was held and hosted by Professor Mark Morris, acting dean of the evening law school program. During this meeting, Mr. J.J. Sanderson, a 1947 graduate of NCCU Law School, was elected to the board.

The day of Homecoming was perfect for football weather, a crisp

## Homecoming — Cont.

autumn day. That afternoon the mighty NCCU Eagles took on the Bowie State Bulldogs. Defense was the name of the game and the Eagles won 16-7. The Eagles played ball control during the entire game, especially in the first half. They allowed the Bulldogs to handle the ball for only 7 minutes and at half-time the score was 7-0 in favor of the Eagles. The Eagles continued domination of the ball in the second half but the Bulldogs were able to score once in the 3rd quarter.

After the game, numerous alumni receptions were held among the different departments and professional schools on campus. The alumni reception at the law school was held in the reception area of the law school building, and was hosted by Dean Janice Mills, assistant dean of the law school. She was assisted by several of the law school students in welcoming back the alumni. The reception was well attended and provided a great opportunity "for catching up" and reminiscing about times spent together on the campus and of course the victory of the Eagles.

The annual alumni dance was held that evening at the Raleigh Inn from 9 p.m. until. Music was provided by Master Traxx and her's d'oeuvres were served. Greeting all those alumni who had come from near and far as they entered the door were Ms. Peggy Ward, national alumni president; Gardner Johnson, Mr. Alumni; Sylvia Alston, Ms. Alumni; Chancellor and Mrs. Tyrnza Richmond, and other members of the executive board. A good time was had by all and plans were made for a great weekend in 1988.

## EDITORIAL

Recent events involving presidential candidates and Supreme Court nominees have shown that one's past can prove to be very important. The intense scrutiny to which public individuals are often subjected demonstrates what has been in the dark will eventually come to light. It is therefore imperative that we as potential lawyers, judges, elected officers and individuals in society become more conscious of our actions. When we begin seeking employment soon, our past can play an important role

in determining whether we will get the job or not.

I bring this to your attention because over the last few months the past has made a difference to those in the legal profession. For example, Gary Hart a leading Democratic presidential hopeful withdrew from the race because the media made big headlines of his possibly having an affair with a young actress while still being married. Joseph Biden, another presidential candidate, withdrew because it was disclosed that he plagiarized a law school paper and that he falsely indicated that he had finished in the top of his law school class and that he had participated in a National Moot Court Competition.

Potential presidential candidates are not the only ones who are closely scrutinized. Judge Douglas Ginsburg was a nominee for the United State Supreme Court but later withdrew from consideration after he failed to disclose that he had smoked marijuana while in law school and as a law school professor. The media made a big story of his use of an illegal drug. Likewise, Judge Robert Bork was not confirmed by Congress as a Supreme Court Justice in part because of his views towards women's rights, abortion, and the First Amendment. I realize we are not perfect and that we all have faults; however, we must start now being more conscious of our conduct so that there is nothing in the dark that we would not want to later come to light. When we find ourselves someday running for president or being nominated to the United States Supreme Court or to bring the point even closer to home, looking for a job upon graduation, our past may be the deciding factor.

11-30-87

To the Editor:

Upon learning of Harold Washington's death on the eve of Thanksgiving, I reflected back to my visit to Chicago this summer. Walking along the busy downtown streets of "The Windy City" I felt a certain pride in knowing a Black man was mayor of this great city.

Now I feel a great loss. Harold Washington was more than the Mayor of Chicago. He was a shining example of what a Black man could achieve in America. His memory lives in the aspirations and dreams of young Black men everywhere.

Chicago. Be Strong.

Gregory A. Davis, 2L

## HOW TO TAKE A LAW SCHOOL EXAM

by Omar Saleem

The initial step towards doing well on an exam is to bring your reviewing up-to-date. When exam time arrives you should not put yourself in a position where you are studying the material for the first time. A well prepared outline will aid you in the process of proper review and will help you to put the whole course together.

An effective method that may help you to prepare for an exam is the *practice of problem solving*. Develop the habit of going through old exams, using both the multiple choice questions and the essays to sharpen your exam taking skills. The practice method is most effective if you do three things: First, allot yourself the same amount of time you will have under actual exam conditions; second, develop a system so you will know what you will do when you go into the exam room, and; third, discuss the practice exam with your study group members, upper class students, or your professor.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

The results on the multiple choice part of the exam are linked to your effective use of time. Keep in mind that you may have less than two minutes for each multiple choice question. You must use your time effectively. If the professor allots you twenty minutes to complete the multiple choice section of the exam, then follow his instructions and go on to the essay part of the exam when twenty minutes are exhausted. Your ability to use your time effectively is best developed by taking practice multiple choice exams.

The multiple choice part of the exam is an effective means for the professor to test your understanding of the rules. You must memorize the rules, go through the appropriate analysis and employ the appropriate exceptions. In other words, know the rules "cold".

Professor Wright-Hunt .....Faculty Advisor  
Mark Anthony Clayborne ...Editor-in-chief

### Editorial Staff of this issue

Debra Cole  
Stephanie Commander  
Randy Emory  
Addie Harris  
Omar Saleem  
Robert C. Vowels, Jr.  
Vince White

## Taking Exams — Cont.

A multiple choice question can be "tricky". You must read the question carefully. Quite often a lack of thorough reading of a question may cause you to believe that the question involves a particular party or line of defense when in fact the opposite party or line of defense is what you are required to discuss.

Remember, when you take a multiple choice exam that you are looking for the best answer among the four presented. The best answer among the four given may not be absolutely correct, but your task is to choose the best answer or answers before you.

### ESSAY QUESTIONS

The essay portion of the exam can be intimidating if it is not approached systematically. An essay fact pattern can be a page in length, and involve numerous issues and a few parties. You must keep it in perspective and effectively manage your time. There is a systematic method I suggest.

First, look at all of the essays and see what each is worth. Read each essay. Decide, based on the points given, how much time you will devote to each essay. Take into consideration how well you know the legal rules presented in each essay. Naturally, if one essay is worth a lot of points and your understanding of the rules presented in the essay is blurred then you will give yourself more time to tackle that essay.

Second, reread the particular essay before you begin to answer it. Remember to highlight the key points and keep in mind what your particular professor wants.

Third, outline your answer on the cover of your bluebook. A skeleton outline or listing of the points you plan to discuss is sufficient. Do not write before your outline your answer to an essay. An outline prevents you from forgetting a key point, issue or defense, and it also is a device to help you effectively manage your time. The professor presumes that you do not know; therefore, a missed discussion is a lost point.

Fourth, "IRAC" your answer unless the question demands otherwise.

Finally, proof your essay after you have completed it.

## FEE TAIL MALE REVUE BY 1 L'S A ROUSING SUCCESS

by Vincent White

The first year law students decided to get together and assist a needy family for Christmas. In order to raise the necessary funds, we decided to have a woman-less beauty pageant dubbed the "Fee Tail Male Revue." Each section chose five males to represent them in the contest. The contestants from section 101 were Willie Gilbert, Charles Gurley, Vince White, Derek Crawford and Freeman Walker III. From Section 102, the contestants were Kevin Kears, Greg Lewis, Paul Quinn, Mark Black and Marshall Pitts.

For three hours on Wednesday night, November 11th, the contestants were locked in a battle of fierce competition. The four phases of the contest consisted of talent and lingerie competitions, a question and answer period and total ticket sales by the sponsors of the contestants. There were several volunteers on hand to advise the contestants about their clothing and makeup and to assist them in making their various changes.

The ten judges for the contest were members of the law school faculty and the MC for the pageant was none other than Associate Dean Irv Joyner. A crowd of about 80 persons attended the event which netted a total of \$124.00. The second runner up was Paul Quinn; the first runner up was Freeman Walker III and the winner was the devastating Willie Gilbert.

Thanks to the many 1 L's who contributed their time and energies, especially the guys who agreed to be the contestants, the "Fee Tail Male Revue" was a rousing success.

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by Randy Emory

We are approaching that time of the year in which we take time out to realize and to be thankful for the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. This is also the time of year in which our consciousness should be heightened to be aware of those who are less fortunate.

Recently, five NCCU Law School student organizations agreed to donate food baskets to five needy families at Thanksgiving. These organizations were Phi Delta Phi, Phi Alpha Delta, the Women's Caucus, BLSA and Law Journal.

We would like to thank everyone in the law school community who participated in this very worthy case.

Let's remember that we can all make a difference by caring and sharing with others during the holiday season. Thanks again for your support.

## Law Journal

by Addie Harris

The hustling and bustling of achieving good grades and preparing the casenote is over and additional staff members for the Law Journal have been selected. The new Law Journal staff is composed of 27 members. The majority of the staff are members of the second year class.

The new members of the staff were immediately put to work editing articles that are scheduled to appear in the fall semester's volume of North Carolina Central Law Journal. The staff plans to publish two volumes during the 1987-88 school year. All students and faculty members are encouraged to submit articles for the spring semester's volume. The success of the staff's goal in publishing two Law Journal volumes this school year is depend-

### Best Wishes from the MEDICAL-DENTAL PARK

601 Fayetteville Street  
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*Obstetrics & Gynecology*  
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Sampson E. Harrell, M.D.  
Russell Harrell, M.D.

*Family Dentistry*  
Stanley L. Fleming, D.D.S.

## Law Journal—Cont.

ent upon the cooperation and participation of all the North Carolina Central Law School family.

Another goal of the staff is to follow and implement procedures that will facilitate a smooth transition from one staff to the other. In order to achieve this goal, February has been set as the month to integrate the new Executive Board members into their respective positions.

The staff also anticipates revising its Constitution so that more students will be encouraged to participate on Law Journal.

We look forward to working with the Law School family in achieving our new goals and having Law Journal's most productive school year.

## Student Spotlight

by Debra Cole

Listening to a discussion between 2 third year law students, I found out what law school is good for.

"Law school teaches you one thing," the first student said, "how to think differently, how to think like a lawyer."

"Well, that's true but it is good for one other thing," the second student claimed, "to see how much stress you can take."

Hearing this discussion prompted this reporter to find out what other students' impressions of law school were. I never got the same answer twice.

Beginning at the beginning, the first years all had different comments. For some it is about what they expected. Others said it's nothing like they expected. The first year students realize this difference and they take law school seriously. "It's a time to come to grips with yourself," said Stephanie Durant, who was in the library studying the old Contracts exams with two of her classmates. And there are the usual first year illnesses — brain tumors, rashes, hives, etc. "Law school is definitely stressful," said Cassandra Montford, "I'm getting a nervous condition."

Does the second year get any better? The second year students seem to be in consensus that there's more work.

Michelle Farrell commented "I don't think the material is any harder, there's just more of it."

"Relating it (this year) to the first year I'd say I'm more equipped to handle the work this year," stated Ed Phelps. "I'm still enjoying it."

Mac Mitchell is enjoying his second, "because I'm not having to brief myself to death. Now, we're focusing more on implementation of what we've learned and the policy behind what we're doing."

One second year said "drink alot!" Another said to tell them for fall break to "take a picture of their favorite place and hang it up because that is the only vacation you're going to get for three years." Another student's advice was "don't get involved in a serious relationship because you won't have time."

Most of the third years seem intent on getting out. "I'm just looking forward to getting my degree" said one student.

George Spirakis looks at the third year as "as time to reflect, to looke back on what you've done, to prepare for the bar exam and to look for jobs."

Other students have disagreed about the third year. "There's no reason for the third year," commented one student. Gina (Robertson) Grey advises us not to believe the old saying that they bore you to death in the third year. "It doesn't seem any different from the first or second year. It doesn't get any easier."

The third years advice to the second years was to start thinking about the bar and about what kind of job you want when you get out.

The one impression that seems to be overriding in all the students is that it's worth it. For all the sleepless nights, headaches, no vacations and social life — most of the students said they would do it again, even knowing what they know now.

## We're Here

Members of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity would like to make it known to all that we are here at North Carolina Central University School of Law.

Through the help of God and with much hard work, the fraternity has revived itself and will continue to live. We ask that you read the bulletin boards and the newsletters

of the women's caucus and the first year class as well as the Barrister to become aware of upcoming events and activities the fraternity will implement.

If anyone has any questions concerning the fraternity, please contact any member. The members are Melinda Lawrence-Dula, Iris Gibbs, Yvette Chesson-Gibson, La-Tanya Mansfield, Reggie Mombrun, Omar Saleem, and Lorrie Whitfield.

We look forward to your questions and participation in forthcoming endeavors.

## A Law Student's Christmas Break

by Mark Clayborne

Now that Christmas is near, it is time for some Holiday cheer. It is time to go home and visit with the folks but somehow or another they don't get your law school jokes.

The food at home is real and straight from mom's hands, and not from Wendy's or McDonald's burger stand. You look forward to turkey and ham, which are two favorite dishes, as you hope that Santa will grant your wishes.

Once you're home for Christmas, family, friends, and strangers will ask for advice; too bad you can't receive the going price. Everyone is glad you're home, so you can never find time to spend alone.

Those who cannot wait to get back will surely put law books in their back pack. This safety measure is taken as a precaution because these students are not experiencing exhaustion.

Who would ever think that a Christmas cheer was so great this time of year? The professors—that's who—just like us, they need a break from school too.

Now that Christmas is near, you don't have to feel guilty about watching TV or drinking beer. Some will not feel guilty about watching TV because they have kept up to date on Cosby and Dynasty.

Now that Christmas break is here, some will travel far and near. May your travels be safe because after the Christmas cheer, we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.