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Res Ipsa: April 1992

Southern New England School of Law

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RES IPSA...

Newsletter of the Student Bar Association • Southern New England School of Law

VOLUME #3

APRIL 1992

ISSUE #7

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION NEWS

Elections are in full swing and the active campaigning begins on April 11. The elections will be held on Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Certification of the voting results will be on May 2. With so much happening at SNESL this year's election is particularly significant. As the school develops, the importance and influence of the SBA will continue to grow. As the classes get bigger, student representation requires that many more individuals be committed to serving their fellow students. And of course as the school, we hope, heads for ABA approval, a strong student government can be a valuable asset to the administration. Thoughtful participation in your student government will effect your academic future. Consider this on April 25th, as you place your votes for the most dedicated and qualified candidate.

During the March SBA meeting the body voted unanimously to appoint David Johnson as vice president pro-tempore for the remainder of the term. David is a second year student and is serving his second year as a member of the SBA.

The SBA was pleased to learn that we have a confirmed date for a long awaited visit from the advisory committee. The group includes the Honorable Florence K. Murray, Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court and Judge John Markey, Presiding Judge of the District Trial Court here in New Bedford, as well as several other distinguished visitors. They now plan to visit on October 30 and 31 of 1992. Our preparation for this visit is an independent but important step toward ABA approval.

The international legal fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta has been on the agenda at two recent SBA meetings. Several students have supported the idea and are interested in starting a branch of Phi Alpha Delta here at SNESL. If there is enough interest SNESL would initially be established as a colony. A letter from the international field representative indicates that the fraternity will only charter a colony when a school has a good chance of becoming accredited. They will only charter a full chapter at an accredited law school. For more information please see your SBA representative or first year student Scott Geiger.

Editor: Karen Augeri Benson

Staff Writer: David Berger

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Hazel Inglis, the Law Librarian, attended an American Association of Law Libraries Winter Institute in February. Held in Dallas, the Institute was an intensive three-day workshop on emerging library technologies. Hazel is assessing integrated library automation systems with the hope that SNESL's Law Library will be automated in the future.

Howard Senzel is the proud father of a son Noah, born on March 11, 1992, in Providence. Norina, Howard's wife, is doing well and Howard claims not to mind the lack of sleep. Two other new people have joined the staff as library assistants. One needs no introduction. He is Joe Medeiros, Jr., the President of the SBA, who divides his time between book keeping and working on technical services. Martina Santos-Ewing is the other new employee. Martina recently returned from several years in California and Colorado where she worked in public libraries. At SNESL she divides her time between working at the circulation desk and providing secretarial support to the Law Librarian.

Please be aware of two changes in the Library schedule. The Library will close at 5pm on Friday April 17 and will re-open at 9am on Monday April 20. The Library will be closed starting Monday May 11 and will re-open on Monday May 18 at 9am.

The Library staff is troubled by two recent incidents of theft and destruction of library materials. The missing items have been in demand by students working on two different writing projects. In fact, library staff can often narrow the pool of "likely" thieves to a small number of students. The actual thieves not only deprive their classmates of essential resources, but cast suspicion on them as well. The Law Librarian suggests that the responsible individuals return the stolen materials to their proper place on the Library shelves. The theft and destruction of library materials is a serious matter. Students engaging in such activities jeopardize not only their future as law students, but also their candidacy for admission to the Massachusetts Bar. With these few exceptions, SNESL students are considerate and cooperative Library patrons.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - SURVEY RESULTS

The Academic Affairs Committee has tabulated the results of their curriculum survey. Designed to determine what courses students would like to see offered, the results have been made available to Associate Dean Hillinger. A slight majority of those responding thought that we should arrange required and elective courses in a path which represents an area of specialization. For additional required courses Advanced Evidence, International and Transportation Law were mentioned as well as two courses being offered this summer, Family Law and Environmental Law. The students also requested Student Advisors, and some thought that registration for electives ought to be based on performance.

BROWN BAG BLUES

by Professor Irene Scharf

On Saturday, March 14, 1992, Professor Dwight Duncan, Law Librarian Hazel Inglis and I enjoyed an informal "Brown Bag Lunch" with SNESSL students on the topic of preparing for the bar exam. Unfortunately, though, very few of the June '92 graduates attended. Why? Not because of a scheduling conflict, as the talk was scheduled with the 4th year schedules in mind. Could it have been because of a lack of concern or interest in the bar exam? Or perhaps a sense of confidence? Or anxiety? The reasons are unclear. But we do know that the bar exam is a challenge ... a challenge for anyone who takes it, an especially for those of you who have full lives of family, career, elderly parents, and the like to worry about.

After four years of honorable struggle, it certainly makes sense to put a best effort into this final hurdle, whose results are important, not only to you, but also to those who remain at SNESSL. I'd hope that those of you who are about to graduate do all you can to take a bar review course and to spend 6-8 weeks prior to the exam devoted solely to preparing for it. I'm sure that, if the interest were there, the faculty would meet again to talk with you about this important topic.

ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COURSE OFFERED

by David Berger

In the last issue Res Ipsa raised the notion that maybe SNESSL should offer a course on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). We noted that ADR is increasingly being considered a viable option to the more traditional court setting. It is, for instance, successfully being used here in Massachusetts in Suffolk County Superior Court. ADR often saves time and money, placing less stress on the judicial system as parties settle disputes outside of the usual litigation process.

Next Fall and Spring such a course will be offered at SNESSL. It will be called Dispute Resolution Clinic and will be taught by Professor Irene Scharf and Judge Baron Martin. This course will teach students about negotiations, arbitrations, client relations and other methods of dispute resolution. The most interesting part of the course will be the chance to actually mediate a case in Small Claims Court.

This real life situation will be held at the Wareham District Court on Thursdays. The students will be split into groups to become co-mediation teams. Individuals before the court will have the option to have their case heard by the students or go it alone. The student mediations will be video taped and later critiqued. This will be a highly intensive course that will include a great deal of clerking. It is a unique opportunity to experience the real life implications of your legal skills. A limited number of students from the 3rd and 4th year classes will be eligible. You must have taken both Evidence and Ethics to enroll in this exciting new learning format.



IS OFFERING A SPECIAL FOR SNESL STUDENTS. FREE SMALL-SIZE SOFT DRINK OR SMALL-SIZE HOT DRINK WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY LARGE BREAKFAST SANDWICH OR ANY LARGE SANDWICH.

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~~~~~  
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Thursday and Friday

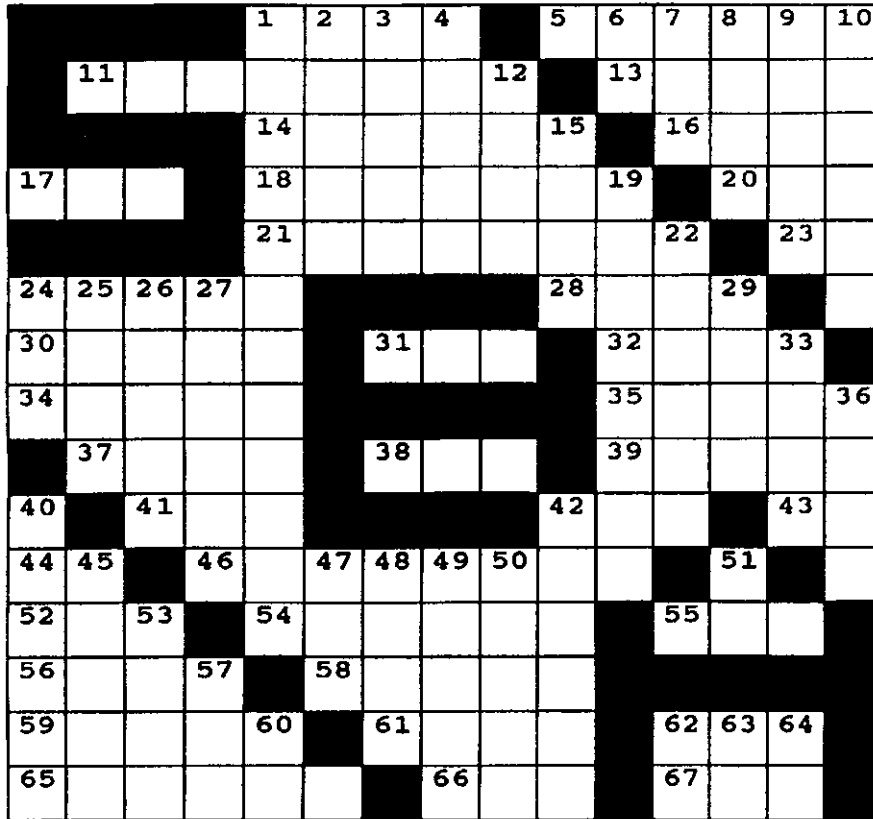
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APRIL 11th - 30th

One coupon per customer please

SNESL SBA LEGAL MAZE

BY : ED SCALLON



- 25. Unwrought metals
- 26. Lg. mackerels
- 27. Greeted
- 29. Furnace
- 33. Lust (slang)
- 36. Fraud
- 40. Bury
- 42. Bat
- 45. Stan's partner
- 47. Green seedpod
- 48. Weak excuse
- 49. Proud
- 50. Dakota tribe
- 51. 14th Letter (Gr.)
- 53. Rollers
- 57. Seizure
- 60. Company (ab.)

ACROSS

- 1. U.S. Lawyer (1800's)
- 5. Shock absorber
- 11. A lesser God
- 13. Principal
- 14. Priers
- 16. Absorbs
- 17. Wager
- 18. Unit of Inductance
- 20. To an extreme
- 21. Fragrances
- 23. Thou (pl.)
- 24. Arabian coffee
- 28. Star or Travel by ox
- 30. Backward
- 31. Chaos of air
- 32. Profit
- 34. Worth
- 35. To waste
- 37. Bottom
- 38. River in NE Scotland
- 39. Mollusk shell
- 41. Indonesia penny
- 42. Regulation (ab.)
- 43. Exclamation
- 44. Negative
- 46. Empties

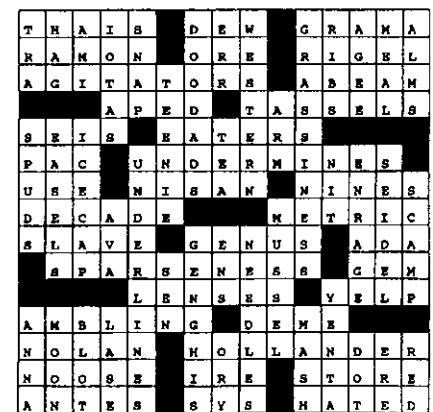
DOWN

- 52. Type of care
- 54. Trader
- 55. Coat or Roger Rabbit fear
- 56. Norway King (995-1000)
- 58. Italian violin maker
- 59. Copy
- 61. English College (for boys)
- 62. Speed description
- 65. Give
- 66. England (ab.)
- 67. An Esperanto

DOWN

- 1. Discourage
- 2. Hagnos (Gr.fem)
- 3. Middays
- 4. Worship
- 6. Down (opp.)
- 7. Not Mister
- 8. Atoms' binder
- 9. Void
- 10. Thin French bacon
- 12. Twist
- 15. Religious group
- 19. Notifications (law)
- 22. Old sailor
- 24. Female greeting

Solution to last months puzzle



B O O K S T O R E H O U R S

Summer Session

MAY

MONDAY	4TH	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
TUESDAY	5TH	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY	6TH	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	(EXAM WEEK)
THURSDAY	7TH	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
FRIDAY	8TH	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
SATURDAY	9TH	12 p.m. - 2 p.m.	

TUESDAY	26TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY	27TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
THURSDAY	28TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	

JUNE

MONDAY	1ST	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
TUESDAY	2ND	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY	3RD	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
THURSDAY	4TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	

MONDAY	8TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
TUESDAY	9TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	

MONDAY	15TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	
TUESDAY	16TH	4 p.m. - 7 p.m.	

**THE BOOKSTORE WILL BE OPEN ON THESE DATES AND TIMES ONLY.
ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**

RES IPSA IS LOOKING FOR STAFF WRITERS AND EDITORS. YOU SHOULD BE LITERATE, FAMILIAR WITH COMPUTER TYPESETTING AND AVAILABLE TO DEDICATE AT LEAST TWO HOURS PER MONTH. WE ALSO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO SUBMIT SINGLE ARTICLES, GRAPHICS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

RES IPSA IS ALSO IN NEED OF NEW ADVERTISERS. ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO PLACE AN AD SHOULD SEE KAREN AUGERI BENSON OR DAVID BERGER FOR RATE/DEADLINE INFORMATION. YOU MAY ALSO LEAVE A MESSAGE IN THE SBA BOX LOCATED IN THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION OFFICE