Scott Moot Court

By Mauricio Rauld

For over 26 years, the Scott Moot Court Honors Program has given a small number of elite students the opportunity to develop their advocacy, research, writing, and communication skills. The “Board” is divided into three teams that compete in various competitions and a group of justices who oversee the Board and prepare and run the annual Scott Moot Court Competition. The three competing teams research, draft briefs, and deliver their arguments in front of a distinguished panel of lawyers and judges. In many cases, the competing teams have the opportunity to travel throughout the country.

The National team, composed of two teams with two board members each, compete at the national level arguing on constitutional law issues. Topics range from unlawful searches and seizures, to the fascinating world of murder and deceit. A few years ago, the National team placed second at the New York competition. This year, we intend to bring home the gold. The Jessup team competes on international issues of law. They are required to take an international law class in the fall. The final rounds of the competition are usually held in different states (yes, Hawaii is among them). Finally, we have the Traynor team which is the California version of the National team and competes on state issues.

This year’s Scott Moot Court Competition package and information is due February 15, 1999 with Oral arguments scheduled in case the forces that be involve more intense oral advocacy. Top competitors will be invited to participate in a second round which tends to involve more intense oral competition. The top 10 competitors will compose next year’s Scott Moot Court Honors Board. The four competitors with the highest oral argument score will participate in the final round which is argued in front of distinguished members of the legal community. Last year, Loyola Law School was honored to have the presence of a California Supreme Court Justice among its elite panel of judges.

So mark January 15th on your calendar and join the elite, the proud, the 1999 Scott Moot Court Honors Board.

Scott Moot Court Members

Rachel Richmond, Nicole Catanzeri, & Mary Reed

Alumni in the News

By Gil Serrano

On October 12, 1998 Carol Browner, head of the US Environmental Protection Agency, appointed Mark J. Spalding to the presidential and congressional advisory committee, the Good Neighbor Environmental Board. The committee advises the President and Congress on U.S.-Mexico border issues concerning the environment and infrastructure. In addition to his appointment by the EPA, Mr. Spalding was recently appointed as the Chair of the Environmental Law Section of the California State Bar. The State Bar’s Board of Governors made the appointment effective October 4, 1998.

Mark Spalding is one of the nation’s foremost experts on NAFTA’s environmental components and institutions. He is a consultant/attorney in Del Mar, California and primarily handles international environmental policy and conservation projects for non-profit environmental groups.

Along with his impressive credentials in the legal field, Mr. Spalding is also a successful scholar and professor. He is currently a guest lecturer at UCSD’s Graduate School of International Relations where he teaches courses in International Environmental Policy and the Law and is the Executive Editor for its Journal of Environment and Development. Mr. Spalding also teaches a course in Trade and Environmental Policy and is argued in front of distinguished members of the legal community. Last year, Loyola Law School was honored to have the presence of a California Supreme Court Justice among its elite panel of judges.

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CONTINUED: Page 3

“Freedom of expression is the matrix, the indispensable condition, of nearly every other form of freedom.”
Justice Benjamin Nathan Cardozo

SUBMISSION DEADLINES for THE LOYOLA REPORTER

PUBLICATION: February Issue
DEADLINE: January 15

ALL STUDENTS AND FACULTY ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION.

Letters to the editor should be submitted on a 3.5" floppy disk in IBM compatible format. Preferably in Microsoft Word 6.0. Attach a print copy of the article, including your name and phone number. The Loyola Reporter is located in the Student Services Building, Room 224. Either slip it under the door or leave it in the envelope posted outside the door.

All material expressed in The Loyola Reporter reflects the views of the individual writers or advertisers and not those of Loyola Law School, Loyola Marymount University, its faculty or student body. The Loyola Reporter reserves the right to edit or reject all submissions, including articles or other contributions that are objectionable or outside the bounds of good taste. The Loyola Reporter retains the right to edit for space and style. Complaints concerning the content of the newspaper should be directed to The Loyola Reporter.

We look forward to printing what you have to say!

THE LOYOLA REPORTER
Loyola Law School Student Newspaper

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The Loyola Reporter

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LOYOLA LAW STUDENTS TAKE TO THE STREETS

By Lucia Gonzalez

On October 22, 1998, thousands of people gathered in major cities across the nation to express their anger and concern over the epidemic of police brutality. Watching the daily news programs may give us the latest demonstration against police abuse, but ignored by many. Few lawyers comprised of young adults, ministers, punk rockers, families of victims killed by the police, law students and others gathered to voice their disgust with the epidemic of violence. Yes, law students. You see the freedom of speech that we have in this country is not self-executing, that is if you don’t demand it, you won’t get it. For example, the protesters may use sound amplifiers during the demonstration, yet police officers can demand that such devices be turned off since they represent a nuisance. Students to the rescue - Loyola law students made copies of the Los Angeles sound ordinance which allows for sound amplifiers in marches and dispersed them to people holding drums, bullhorns or other noise makers. Other students held on to copies of the march permit just in case they are right to assembly was questioned by police or city officials. The protesters welcomed us and felt a sense of security in our presence.

Five Loyola law students and four USC law students were present at the march to assure that no one’s first amendment rights were deprived, and also to instill peace to a possibly volatile demonstration against police abuse. We worked in pairs and walked up and down the procession of protesters jostling down our observations. These students were trained as Legal Observers through the National Lawyers Guild Project and their role was to observe the march and in particular the exchanges between the protesters and the police. The event was a success. Almost every news program aired a story on the days event and exposed a problem shocking to some, but ignored by many.

We all had our reasons for attending law school, but regardless of that reason exists a simple fact. We will leave this academic and social demonstrations are forums where law students can become involved in social issues and put their novice legal knowledge to work. Students interested in becoming legal observers for political and social demonstrations should call the National Lawyers Guild Office at Ext. 1069.

ALUMNI: from page 1

Law as an adjunct professor at the University of San Diego.

As a student at Loyola, Mr. Spalding participated in moot court, mock trial, and trial advocacy competitions. He credits much of his success as an educator to his legal training. He believes that attorneys are trained to communicate, and that much of their communication is in the form of education, whether it be with a client, a jury, or the public.

On his spare time Mr. Spalding likes to go hiking in the mountains or along the beach. He enjoys the time away from the computer and the opportunity to be in touch with the environment he helps protect. However, as an ultimate stress reliever from work, Mr. Spalding trained to race Formula 2 cars at the British School of Motor Racing.

Mr. Spalding’s advice for Loyola Law students is: “Keep your options open and don’t limit yourself. How do you avoid limiting yourself: 1. do well in school (bad grades close a lot of doors); 2. choose your path well; and 3. don’t be afraid to change your path if the first one doesn’t work out.”

Help us to make this newspaper one that serves the Loyola Law School student community. Please send us any suggestions or ideas about how to make this paper more interesting and informative.

Tell us what you want to read. Tell us what you think will make your law school experience more fulfilling and personal. Remember, this is your law school and this is your newspaper. Make the most of it! Please call us at (213) 736-8117 or drop a note in the envelope outside our door at Student Services Building, room 224.

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If law school is so hard to get through, how come there are so many lawyers?”
Calvin Trillin

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (213) 736-8117 OR VISIT LOYOLA REPORTER WEBSITE.
Congratulations to:

Byrne Trial Advocacy Team for winning the 1998 Georgetown White Collar Crime Mock Trial Competition

David DeRubertis, John Henry, Roxanna Manuel, Kristin Walker

La Raza de Loyola Congratulates

Javier Serrano, Lucia Gonzalez, Gil Serrano

For being chosen to represent Loyola at the 1999 Hispanic National Bar Association Moot Court Competition at Hastings Law School March 12th-13th.

IL QUESTION

OF THE MONTH

What is your favorite way to relieve stress from finals?

Katherine Mast

"Get lots of sleep!"

Regis Guerin

"Smoke lots of weed!"

Lawrence Innell

"Watch tons of football!"

Simone Schiller

"Vegas Baby, Vegas!"

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L S

E G H O W A

Professor Profil

BY TIMOTHY R. PEÑA

The young attorney was poised for cross-examination. This was her first case, and though she may have had the nervous energy of an eighth-grader, she was confident that her side would carry the day, defending the rights of her client, accused of a criminal deed.

Feeling a sense of power, knowing that her use of words would create a distinct impression on the judge, jury and observers, she started in on the unsuspecting witness.

In fact, she was an eighth-grader; the young "attorney" was now-Professor Susan Poehls, taking part in a mock trial competition in her American History class at Patrick Henry Junior High in Granada Hills. Her "client" was one of the protesters accused of dumping tea into the water at the Boston Tea Party. Professor Poehls does not remember whether she won or lost, but she does recall this: after the trial, her teacher told her that being a lawyer was something she should seriously consider. That she did, and stayed the course through her undergraduate years, law school, and as an attorney, wife and mother.

Professor Poehls attended the University of California, Los Angeles as a political science major with a minor in American history with plans to attend law school and pursue a career as a criminal defense attorney or prosecutor and further her interest in teaching. As a day student, she obtained her JD from Loyola Law School in 1989. Although she got off to a rough start, she graduated in the top 25-30% of her class.

Professor Poehls attained the honors of Best Oralist in the Scott Moot Court Competition; Best Oralist in the region for the National Moot Court Competition; Byrne Trial Advocacy Competition Winner; and, Regional Mock Trials Competition Winner. While at Loyola, she enjoyed Criminal Law, Trial Advocacy, Evidence and Constitutional Law. Her most difficult subject was Property because she had a hard time with the subject matter. Despite this difficulty, she feels the course was taught by her best professor, Bill Coskran, who still teaches at Loyola today. Professor Poehls took advantage of opportunities outside the classroom as well. In addition to participating in the Moot Court and Trial Advocacy teams, she served as an SBA representative during her first and second years, as well as being a research assistant for professor Larry Schum.

Poehls passed the California bar exam on the first try, and began working for the law firm of O'Melveny and Myers. Whether she knew it or not, she foreshadowed her current occupation, doing research and writing for civil litigation. Her time at the firm was highlighted by a case in which she argued before the California Court of Appeals and won. From 1991 to 1994, Poehls took a 50% pay cut to work for the Los Angeles Public Defender's office because the District Attorney was not currently hiring. In 1994, she moved on to the Alternate Public Defender's office, handling more serious crime and homicide cases until 1996. The position afforded her more immediate control of her cases as well as trial experience.

Usually, the next portion of an article such as this involves how the professor came to Loyola. However, in the case of Professor Poehls, she actually never left. Her first year out of law school, she began assistant coaching Loyola's trial team, and moved up to coach her second year out. Reaching a point where she was anxious to leave her job as a practicing attorney to be with her students, her team started winning, and a solid reputation was being built. Switch to being on campus full time was not a difficult decision. Poehls began her teaching career as a professor of Legal Research and Writing as well as Ethical Lawyering, and still teaches those courses today. She remains as the Faculty Advisor and Coach of the Byrne Trial Team, and serves on the Strategic Planning, Library and Moot Court Committees.

Poehls has been married for 16 years to her husband Karl, an Accounting and Credit manager for an air conditioning company. They have two children, Nicholas, age six; and Caroline, age 2, who just made it into the world two weeks before Poehls' first teaching assignment.

Poehls sees her political heroes as John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King; not as much for their political views, but for their ability to motivate young people, missing that she can watch them deliver speeches all day and never get bored. She cites her disappointment with the current crop of politicians, fearing they have gotten away from the issues. As her "pet issue," she points to issues of ethics; in a nutshell, the way that lawyers behave. Poehls observes that today's attorneys behave poorly, and need to return to a more professional way of behavior.

Her office is scattered with books, stacks of papers for her classes, the artwork of her children, photos of her family, and of presidents. Through all the clutter emerged
a clear picture of a woman who through hard work and determination fulfilled her childhood dreams, sharing her views on a wide range of topics along the way.

Question: Congratulations are in order for your trial advocacy team’s recent victory in Washington, DC. Tell us more about the nature of the competition, key performers and the significance of the victory to Loyola Law School.

Answer: This was a new competition that we had never attended before. It was hosted by Georgetown Law School, and it’s called the “White Collar Crime Invitational.” They basically invite twelve of the top trial ad schools from around the country. It was a lot of fun, because I like criminal law, which made it a little more interesting; but it was a good group of schools as well, which I have a lot of respect for, such as Georgetown, the University of Michigan and Stetson, which is one of the top two schools for trial advocacy. They have an amazing program. We had beaten them (Stetson) in several other competitions, and they have become sort of our arch rival, which is fun; and, we actually had to beat them to win in the final round. The team went up against five different teams to get the championship, so we did five fall trials. It was long, three days worth of trials, and kind of grueling...but, they did great! We had two returning members to the team, John Henry and Christie Walker; and then we had two students who were new to the team.

One is a third year evening student, Roxanne Emmanuel, and the other is a second year day student, David De Robertis. They just did fabulous - it was their first competition ever. We had some rough spots in our final round, Stetson is very polished and smooth and we went a little ballistic on them; but the judges thought we had a lot more personality, and that’s something which I pride myself on. I try to coach a team that has a lot of different personalities on it, and let that come out in their advocacy.

Q. You mentioned white collar crime. What specifically was the case or scenario that you were arguing about?

A. It was the bribery of a U.S. Congressman by a private party who was trying to get a government contract for his building company. It’s actually pretty politically on target with what you hear about today. We had great white collar crime lawyers come and judge us.

Q. What side did you represent, the “briber” or the “bribee”?

A. (Overlapping) Both! That’s the fun thing about trial ad is that you get to do both sides. We were the government prosecuting him half the time, and the other half of the time we were his defense attorneys. So you really have to look at every problem from both sides. It’s a great educational experience.

Q. And, as far as the significance of the victory to the school?

A. I think it’s significant because we have, at Loyola, developed a really good reputation nationally, as a school who produces good lawyering skills. We produce real lawyers that know how to do some great stuff in the courtroom, and it was another chance for us to show that. Our reputation has built steadily over the last ten years in this area, and it’s fun to see it continue.

Q. When is the next major competition?

A. We just got our packet in the mail this week, and we start preparing right away...for the competition the first week of February in San Francisco involving a cocaine drug trafficking case. It is a regional competition, and if we win that, we go on to San Antonio, Texas, and don’t find out the topic until three weeks before the competition.

Q. You mentioned that your first year of law school was fairly rough, as it is for many students. During that time, did you ever think of packing it in and going to Dootson Truck Driving School instead? What kept you going during that time?

A. A couple things kept me going. One is the sheer determination not to let someone else be right. So when my writing instructor told me that I would never be able to write like a lawyer, I was convinced that I could prove him wrong. Also, it was a goal that I had in mind for so long that I knew exactly where I wanted to be, and I wasn’t about to let it go. So I just looked at it as sort of a challenge. I knew that the second year would give me opportunities to do more of what I was interested in, so it was just a matter of surviving the first year. That and a great family backing me up.

Q. Did you significantly alter your study skills, or

Continued: page 8
Celebrity
A film by Woody Allen

Celebrity, Woody Allen’s latest film follows with his trend of unconventional film making techniques. Like in Deconstructing Harry where he puts a character out of focus and does a lot of jump-cutting in the opening scenes, he opts for throwing out conventional plot structure in his latest film as well. As a result, it becomes a sticky stew of Hollywood clichés and vintage Woody Allen manic. Watching Celebrity is like sitting to enjoy a rerun of your favorite sitcom, only to realize as the show comes on that the actors have all been switched. What was funny, entertaining and comical becomes a parody of itself. For any Allen aficionado, you feel like Kenneth Branagh’s neurotic energy borders on annoying and Judy Davis’ insecurity, a-la Diane Keaton, makes your skin curl.

Nonetheless, the primary question posed by Allen, what does the people we celebrate in our society say about us, makes for interesting late conversation. In a touching scene where the manic energy is set aside for realism, Joe Montegna turns to his wife, played by Judy Davis, and tells her, “Andy Warhol was wrong, not everyone has their fifteen minutes of fame and those who do are few and far between.” He epihates her into quitting her job as an English high school teacher and into working for his production company as a reporter. Before long, she becomes a celebrity interviewing other celebrities for an obvious news show. She becomes everything she detests, but realizes her life has become more exciting and interesting. Whether we detest or love celebrities, the truth is ever present: deep in our hearts we all want to be a star.

Perhaps if the movie had been released a year ago before many of the “celebrity” and “Hollywood” clichés had been used, the movie’s impact would be more shocking. Instead, it becomes like the nihilist who in his ardent attempt to believe in nothing becomes a devotee of his nihilism. Celebrity takes a stab at a society who exalts movie stars and television personalities, but ends up coming across more like a prick. Its overly annoying and when your done with it, you’re embarrassed you dragged your friends through it.

PM Dawn
“Dearest Christian, I’m so sorry for bringing you here. Love Dad”

While other hip hop acts are busy mixing their next track on a drum machine, sampling from a cute girl with red curls and rapping about money, power, and sex, PM Dawn offers a refreshing song and dance. On their fourth album, entitled, “Dearest Christian, I’m so sorry for bringing you here. Love Dad” this hip hop band with an other-world conscious and real music structures delves into the spiritual light. With a blend of contemplative lyrics and soulful music, Astral Cordes reveals an emotionally strong soul amidst a world filled with darkness and evil.

Unlike contemporary R & B crooners who assault you with their love and obtrusive affection. PM Dawn’s strength is boldly revealed in vulnerable lyrics. He confronts his guilt for bringing a child into this harsh world. He admits to being nothing like the carnivores and savage people around him. He longs for a woman to let him into her heart. To be the star which sheds light on her darkened and lonely heart. He comforts himself in ruminating thoughts of an afterlife. Unlike the self loathing music of Duncan Shiek or Counting Crows, these songs itch to be the star which sheds light on her darkened and lonely heart.
**ENTERTAINMENT**

**College Hoops Predictions:**

**Professor Tunick vs. E-man**

**Men’s Top 16**

1. Duke
2. UConn
3. Stanford
4. Kentucky
5. Michigan State
6. Maryland
7. Kansas
8. North Carolina
9. Purdue
10. Arkansas
11. Temple
12. New Mexico
13. Arizona
14. Utah
15. Xavier
16. UCLA

**Women’s Top 16**

1. Tennessee
2. Purdue
3. Louisiana Tech
4. UConn
5. North Carolina
6. Georgia
7. GW
8. Virginia
9. Rutgers
10. Duke
11. Alabama
12. Notre Dame
13. Texas Tech
14. Old Dominion
15. UCLA
16. N. Carolina

**All-Americans**

**Men’s**

1. Elton Brand - Duke
2. Lee Nailon - Texas Christian
3. Wally Szczzerbiak - Miami (Ohio)
4. Mateen Cleaves - Michigan State
5. Richard Hamilton - UConn

**Women’s**

1. Amanda Wilson - Louisiana Tech
2. Tanika Catchings - Tennessee
3. Chimique Holdsclaw - Tennessee
4. Elton Brand - Duke
5. Mateen Cleaves - Michigan State

**Player of the Year**

**Men’s**

Elton Brand - Duke

**Women’s**

Chimique Holdsclaw - Tennessee

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**CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

1. Dress to the nines (4,9)
6. Andy Cap’s wife (5)
14. Ellen Russian With Love (9)
16. Chuck Wills (9)
19. Part of NOW (5)
26. Magazine for businesswoman (11)
28. Buttoned up (8)
30. Not quite normal (8)
32. E.O. peeling (6)
33. Northwest Passage (9)
34. Railroad crossing warning word (9)
36. Magazine for Chinese restaurateurs (9)

**DOWN**

1. Central Europe (9)
2. Complain (3)
3. Caprese (4)
4. Boat’s (15)
5. “Contemplating the Hop” (5)
6. Draw strength (7)
7. Smallville’s daughter (7)
8. Swing the bat (7)
9. Squall (7)
10. Hang-gliding, chicken teamster? (13)
11. Composer of “I’ll Take My Chance” (7)
12. Actress once more shindig (13)
13. Actress, once again (repose in the Rotunda) (13)
14. “Man...” (2)
15. “Man...” (2)
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**Puzzle Created by Fred Piscop**

Edited by Stan Chess
POEHLs: from page 5

was it just grit and determination
that got you through? A. No, I think I had to
actually alter my study skills. I was one of those people in col-
gege that could get by with
writing a paper the night before,
and could get away with a cou-
ple of heads of students with
who perform pretty well on exams.
It was kind of tough to find out
that is law school; that wasn’t
gonna go to work anymore. I really
did have to sort of re-learn how
to study. That took some time. I think I did an really learn how
to do that very well, but it was
a whole new experience...it was
tough. You need to not just get a
base level of understanding, but
really going more in depth on
the issues that you read about and
cover.

Q. We just had recent elections, where in California at
least, it was a virtual
Democratic sweep. Given the appearance of some of the
heroes that you sight, as well
the photos in your office, do
feel any kind of vindication
in here that think some of this
can be done to elevate the pro-
cession? A. I'm really proud of the
students that have gotten away
from the judges in the individual
courtrooms. I think if judges step
in and say "I'm not going to tol-
ernize" that, it could make a big
difference. I see real lawyers do
demonstrations and lectures. I
try to show the students that this isn't
just for the heck of it. It
does have a purpose and a
value. I think that helps.
Whether that inspires them, I don't
know...my style is to let them
know that even though it may not
be that exciting, I'm going to
make it so. I have seen how
attractive it is. But my next
goal, I think is to argue before
the Supreme Court. I was just
there, and got to watch argu-
ments. It was very
inspiring.

Q. Any final thoughts? A. I'm really proud of the
way Loyola is responding to the
needs of the students and the
community in creating a pro-
gram and writing program and hiring
professors that have a lot of practi-
cal experience like the skills fac-
ulty
each other. I don't think
writing. It seems to me
that it's a huge
to the students to
teach what they are

Some air parties...