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Class of 2004 Commencement

Leah Ward Sears
Georgia Supreme Court

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Graduation is always a special time as it brings friends and family together at a time of great celebration. This year’s Georgia Law commencement was no different. Over 220 students received their Juris Doctors, and 20 Master of Laws candidates were recognized. Photographs of the pre-graduation reception and commencement day follow.

As the pre-graduation reception are soon-to-be Law Dawgs - (l. to r.) David Rich, Kristen Beystehner, Stephanie Kirven, Brian Mathis and Alicia Timms.

LL.M. candidate Jinwook Choi receives assistance donning his academic regalia from a family member prior to lining up for the processional.

A proud Anjula Singh spends a few moments with her nephews, Arnav (l.) and Jaser.

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The 2004 honorary class marshals were Hosch Professor Thomas Rainey (l.) and Carter Clore Perry Sentell (LL.B. ’58). Also selected were Associate Professor Larry Blount and Brock Professor Ray Patterson, both passed away during the academic year. The empty chairs with bows and flowers were for the professors who are greatly missed.

Georgia Supreme Court Presiding Justice Leah Ward Sears delivered the keynote address. Speaking just two days prior to the 50th anniversary of the momentous Brown v. Board of Education decision, she said, “America is like a big family, and diversity has its strengths, more strengths than its weaknesses. There may be differences and disputes among members of our family from time to time. But you young people, who represent the future, must see to it that ties that bring our family together are preserved.”

The graduating Class of 2004 answered the call and presented Law School Association President Julie Lumpkin (J.D. ’90) (center, r.) and Interim Dean Rebecca White (center, l.) with a $23,000 check, representing gifts to the law school from 62% of the graduates. Class President Russell Blythe (r.) and Vice President Caroline Castle (l.) noted that it was only fitting for their donation to be the largest by a graduating class as their class was the recipient of the largest-ever scholarship pool awarded at the institution.

Associate Dean Paul Kurtz (l.) gives Caroline Castle a congratulatory kiss. Castle won the William King-Meadow Award. The Meadow award recognizes an individual “who best exemplifies the integrity, sense of responsibility and high standards of the legal profession and who has the keen sense of humor necessary to afford a proper human perspective to the resolution of legal problems.”

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