2-1-2013

02/2013 Newsclippings

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Recommended Citation
Office of Communications and Public Relations, "02/2013 Newsclippings" (2013). Media Archives. 33.
https://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/media_archives/33

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BUILDING BETTER RANKING

U.S. News & World Report's rankings have been criticized for incentivizing law schools to increase costs to improve their standings. Is it possible to build a better ranking that promotes efficiency and excellence? We take a stab.

BY JACK CRITTENDEN

February 2013 | The National Jurist  23
The U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings of law schools will be released next month, and with it, some law schools will celebrate, some will cry foul and a few will fire their deans. The magazine's rankings have become so important to legal education that school's now measure their success based on them.

"U.S. News has created a single model for what constitutes value for a law school," said Brian Leiter, a law professor at the University of Chicago Law School who has studied the issue in depth. "They have created perverse incentives for law schools." By perverse incentives, Leiter means the rankings encourage law schools to make policy changes that improve their rankings, but that are damaging for legal education as a whole. For example, U.S. News measures law schools' expenditures and rewards schools that spend more money per student.

"It is a remote proxy for anything that is actually interesting," Leiter said. "You get punished for economies of scale."

By Leiter's estimation, the only reason Yale Law School, instead of Harvard Law School, is No. 1 each year is because of the per capita expenditures. Yale has far fewer law students than Harvard and so must spend more per student. But the increased cost does not mean a better education.

Brian Tamanaha, a law professor at Washington University School of Law, released a book this past summer, "Failing Law Schools," that highlights the problem. "Once you had a ranking metric, all law schools broke it down and focused on strategies to maximize their score in each metric," he said. "When you do that, the metric becomes a template that drives policy."

Tamanaha cites the University of Illinois College of Law as an example. Because the school was caught lying about its average LSAT and GPA scores, it issued an investigative report that detailed its five-year strategy to boost its ranking. The public school's stated goal in 2006 was to move from its then 25th rank into the top 20.

To improve its academic reputation, it planned to hire more faculty and match the compensation level of other schools. It also set specific goals for incoming LSAT and GPA scores, creating a calculator to determine whether a "165/3.8 LSAT/GPA combination was preferable to a 167/3.6 combination."

The last strategy eventually led to the admissions director fabricating the numbers in order to reach the goal.
Tamanaha said most law schools have followed a similar path, writing in his book "that educational institutions are under the thumb of the ranking to such an extreme degree is stunning."

“It may be inevitable given rankings that law schools will change policies to do better,” he said in an interview. “So you have to pick criteria that is good criteria. We have to decide what really matters, and that means making decisions about substantive aims that legal education should follow.”

Leiter and Tamanaha agree, U.S. News’ rankings use criteria that do not lead to positive results for legal education — especially given the current concern regarding the cost of legal education.

And the primary problem, according to Leiter and Tamanaha, is that U.S. News has no competition.

“If there were competing rankings, we would not all focus on the same metrics and it would not have as much significance,” Tamanaha said. “Because it is the only one, we all obsess and compete based on it and it has had a real homogenizing impact on policies.”

So what would good rankings look like? The National Jurist set out to create an alternative ranking that would encourage positive policy changes at law schools and focus on what students find most important. To do so, we interviewed students and leading educators to identify the most relevant factors. We then narrowed down the list based on data available in the public domain. In the end, we focused on nine factors that assess postgraduate success, student satisfaction, affordability and diversity.

While many of the school’s at the top of The National Jurist ranking look familiar, the focus on quality reaching and affordability, in particular, shook up the rankings quite a bit. But it is also what we don’t include that makes The National Jurist ranking different from The U.S. News & World Report ranking.

Input numbers
Theodore Seto has studied rankings perhaps more than any other person in legal education. The Loyola Law School, Los Angeles tax law professor has broken the U.S. News ranking down so that he could understand the mathematical formula. He has pondered the matter, and like Leiter, is aggravated by the perverse incentives.

“There are two sets of data in U.S. News: input and output,” Seto said. “I think the input data are misleading at best and lead to this perverse incentive to spend more money and charge a higher tuition. Because the more you spend the higher you
are ranked.”

The input data he is referring to are LSAT and GPA numbers. He said LSAT scores play a heavier role in the ranking than most people realize. And he would scrap both for a more responsible ranking that is focused on measuring value added.

Tamanaha said LSAT scores provide value for schools in selecting students who can perform well in law school. But, he said, there is no proof that LSAT scores predict success as a lawyer.

“Students with higher scores have better analytical skills,” Tamanaha said. “But there is not a big difference between a student who scored a 168 and one who scored a 170. But there is a big difference in the rankings for that same difference. It is using the LSAT score to make a fine gradation which is clearly inappropriate.”

Leiter would exclude LSAT and GPA scores because they are self-reported by law schools and can be manipulated, as evidenced by University of Illinois and Villanova University School of Law. In 2006, Leiter helped Maclean’s, a weekly news magazine in Canada, create its own ranking.

“I persuaded them to rely on data that are in the public domain so as not to be a hostage to schools’ fabricated data,” he said. “Students don’t want to know if the average person has a high LSAT score. They want to know if they will get a job when they graduate.”

Maclean’s measures employment at elite law firms, Canadian Supreme Court clerkships and law school faculty. It also uses faculty journal citations, a study that Leiter does for U.S. law schools.

The National Jurist chose to exclude LSAT and GPA scores from its ranking. It also excluded direct expenditures, which do not necessarily lead to better quality, but can encourage poor cost efficiency.

Most experts agree that it is better to focus on output criteria. But there are problems with the data.

“The bar pass rate is quite important to students,” Seto said. “And the American Bar Association has put bar pass rates into the accreditation standards. But the data available are misleading in many regards and can be manipulated.”

For example, U.S. News compares a school’s bar pass rate against the average of the state where the greatest number of its graduates took the exam. So, where there is only one school in a state, like Nevada, that school’s pass rate will mirror the state average, meaning the school will never be able to perform better than average. In states with lots of schools, schools can perform much better or much worse.

“In California, the bottom schools will get killed no matter what — statistically,” he said. “And that is not valid and doesn’t tell you what you are trying to get at.”

Seto said the best solution would be to get the raw Multi-state Bar Exam data from the National Conference of Bar Examiners, and to compare schools based on the average score, not the percentage that passed. However, NCBE has not made that data available to the public.

“If we could get those numbers, they would provide the most defensible measure of bar pass performance,” he said. “You lose a lot of data when you make it dichotomous (pass/fail).”

The National Jurist chose to include the best bar exam data currently available — the ratio of a school’s first-time bar pass rate to the average state rate. This data come from the ABA.

Employment data provide similar challenges. While the ABA recently improved and expanded the data that it provides on employment, it is still self-reported data by the law schools.

To avoid that, Maclean’s tracks the number of associates at the largest firms in Canada, collecting data from the law firms’ websites. But Seto thinks the best employment results come later.

“I have looked at employed-at-graduation figures and employed-nine-months-out. They are really radically inadequate,” Seto said. “What we ought to be worrying about is three or four years out.”

Seto said many law firms don’t hire entry-level graduates, but wait until they have experience. As a result, graduates of top schools get hired by the largest firms and other graduates take much lower paying jobs. But in four years there is far greater salary differentiation.

Seto compiled his own study that counted the number of graduates of each school who made partner at the largest law firms. He used the National Law Journal’s list of the 200 largest firms. To be most useful, he recommended that data be tracked per capita, as a percentage of student body. He said to determine the value a school adds to a student, data should be controlled for incoming LSAT scores.

Super Lawyers, a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas, also published a study that counted the number of graduates per school who made its annual list as a super lawyer. This peer assessment study did not
We looked at nine criteria for grades to assess schools based on postgraduate success, quality of teaching and cost-efficiency. For details on how we did the listing of Best Law Schools 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Employment Rate</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
<th>1st Job Rate</th>
<th>LSAT</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<th>Rank</th>
<th>School Name</th>
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<th>Graduates</th>
<th>1st Job Rate</th>
<th>LSAT</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>Ohio State University</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Univ. of Missouri - Kansas City</td>
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<td>71.0%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
track by per capita.

The National Jurist ranking uses the employment-nine-months-after-graduation rate, modifying it to account for the various types of employment. It also uses data from Seto’s study on National Law Journal 200 partners, and data from Super Lawyers, both tracked per capita, as a percent of graduates from 1971 to 2004.

But this did not address one concern by the experts — the fact that most schools place very well within their geographic region, but sparingly outside.

“How do you compare University of Florida and University of New Mexico?” Tamanaha asked. “Many schools are simply local.”

Tamanaha said there is justification for a ranking of the top law schools, but not an ordinal assessment of every school.

Reputation
Perhaps the most criticized part of the U.S. News ranking is the reputation survey. The magazine sends surveys out to faculty, legal employers and judges and asks them to rank every law school on a scale of one to five.

“The day I realized that it is highly problematic is when I filled one out for them,” Tamanaha said. “I didn’t know anything about nearly all of them. I knew about the national schools and our closest competitors, and that was it.”

He believes a reputation survey should not be included in a reliable ranking. Seto, however, believes it would be valuable if done right.

He would survey people only about law schools within their geographic area, then ask them to choose schools they would recommend to a friend.

“What do I know about Emory University or University of Miami? They are both 2,500 miles away,” he said. “But for two schools nearby, I know a lot more people at each institution.”

Leiter also sees value in a reputation survey. He conducts one for philosophy Ph.D. programs in the U.S. But he provides judges with a list of faculty members and does not allow them to assess their own schools or their alma maters.

“We don’t even give them the school names,” he said. “Of course they usually know that it’s Harvard. But it forces them to look at the faculty.”

Leiter’s study looks at scholarship and the scholarly impact on citation in the U.S. Maclean’s uses the same metric in its ranking. But Tamanaha warns that a school that aims to excel at scholarship may not also be able to achieve quality teaching or practical education.

“Ranking faculty productivity and recognition is not the same thing as ranking for education or employability,” he said.

The National Jurist ranking does not incorporate reputation in its formula. Instead it focuses on the employment outputs and quality of teaching.

The Princeton Review, which surveys students every year, rates each school on a number of factors, including professor accessibility and quality of teaching.

(See the sidebar on page 30 for more information.) RateMyProfessor.com provides similar comparison data on the quality of teaching. Students rate professors for helpfulness and clarity. Scientific studies show that RateMyProfessor.com reviews are consistent with internal school evaluations.

The National Jurist ranking uses data from both, finding a correlation in the data from a large majority of schools.

Cost of attendance and diversity have been discussed recently as important factors. Seto believes cost is something you look at after the ranking is complete, similar to how Consumer Reports assigns a Best Buy honor. The National Jurist ranking includes debt and diversity as factors. Both factors weigh heavily in other National Jurist rankings — Best Value Law Schools and Most Diverse Law Schools.

Tamanaha and Seto would include diversity, but weight it less.

“There is validity to the diversity arguments,” Seto said. “But it is not viewed as important as whether you get a job or pass the bar exam.”

In the end, The National Jurist ranking does not mirror exactly what any of the experts would prefer. But it is an alternative voice, which Tamanaha, Leiter and Seto all agree is needed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school</th>
<th>Employment Rate</th>
<th>Employment grade</th>
<th>NIL200 Partners</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>NIL200 Partners Grade</th>
<th>Super Lawyers 2012</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Super Lawyers grade</th>
<th>Firm Size Ratio</th>
<th>Fair Pay Ratio</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>SMU Dedman</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>1.65%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>597</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>6.50%</td>
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<td>0.12%</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>C+</td>
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Where does your school rank? For a list of the 157 law schools with a 2.0 GPA or higher, download the National Jurist iPad app in the iTunes store. The iPad app also includes detailed numbers behind each of the grades.
Prosecutor appointed to State Court judgeship

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Posted: 4:36 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013

Prosecutor appointed to State Court judgeship

Related

By Andria Simmons

A senior assistant district attorney in the Cobb Judicial Circuit has been selected by Gov. Nathan Deal to fill a vacant seat on the Cobb State Court bench.

Henry Thompson, a 44-year-old Carroll County native, earned his law degree from the University of Georgia law school in 1994. He started his legal career in the Athens-Clarke County District Attorney’s Office. He first came to the Cobb County District Attorney’s Office in 2000.

Thompson then spent some time in private criminal-defense practice, but returned to the Cobb DA’s office six years ago. He and his wife, Deana, live in west Cobb with their four children.

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Georgia prepares for impact of immigration reform in D.C.

By ANDRE GALLANT AND NICK COLTRAIN NEWS@ONLINEATHENS.COM - updated Saturday, February 2, 2013 - 10:48pm

Georgians directly involved with state and federal immigration policy expressed hope and doubt this week that the most recent national push for reform might adequately address an issue that affects the state's largest industry and the country's sixth-largest undocumented population.

The four-pillared plan that emerged from a bipartisan group of national politicians to address unauthorized immigrants in the United States includes tighter border security, a path to citizenship for unauthorized immigrants, tougher enforcement on employers and a reforming of the legal immigration program.

More details than that have yet to emerge, leaving state officials wary, if not outright pessimistic, though the fact that an effort is being made also gives some of them hope.

"This proposal is a statement of principles," said Georgia Sen. Saxby Chambliss in a statement. "The details that arise out of these principles is what will matter, and I look forward to following their progress."

Chambliss noted in the statement that the principles did not adequately address agricultural guest workers, an important part of Georgia's top industry. He also reiterated the need for a secure border. The lack of details — and the terminology — left Atlanta immigration attorney and adjunct professor of law at the University of Georgia Charles Kuck somewhat in agreement with Chambliss, in that what's arising doesn't seem to be addressing some of the major issues faced by Georgia and its undocumented immigrants.

"Frankly, it's not reform at all," said Kuck. "It's couched in terms of the anti-immigration movement. It doesn't solve many of the due process that causes much undocumented immigration."
Frustrated by a lack of federal action in recent years, state lawmakers sought resolve for the issues locally by passing a stringent immigration law in 2011. HB-87 made a crime out of transporting undocumented immigrants, enticing unauthorized immigrants to come to Georgia for work, harboring undocumented immigrants and required local law enforcers to check the legal status of anyone arrested in their jurisdiction, a doubling of similar federal programs.

The Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights sued to block the bill's passage, and a mostly toothless HB-87 went into effect, though it still had a direct impact on the state economy.

Following the passage of HB-87, Georgia experienced an agricultural labor shortage of almost 50 percent, according to the 2012 Georgia Ag Forecast.

"H-2A (a type of visa) and other programs aimed at buffering the labor shortage problems are too bureaucratic, expensive, inclusive and fail to attract grower participation," wrote Greg Fonsah, an associate professor in the University of Georgia's Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics.

A farm labor shortage was not made easier by recently announced cuts to a liaison program in Georgia's department of agriculture that aimed to help farmers navigate federal visa programs.

Department officials said the program underperformed and that any solution to a labor shortage would have to come from the federal government, according to Associated Press reports.

Executive director of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials Jerry Gonzalez called the move "penny wise, but pound foolish."

Agriculture is the No. 1 economic engine in Georgia, and he called placing such burdens on our agricultural businesses "shortsighted."

\textbf{Kuck called HB-87 a joke.}

"All it did was give Georgia a black eye," he said. "I think you are going to see a comeback (of agricultural workers)."

HB-87's author, state Rep. Matt Ramsey, R-Peachtree City, did not respond to requests for comment.

While some of the harsher tones in HB-87 did not survive legal challenge, the bill placed renewed focus on requiring contractors on Georgia public works projects use E-Verify, a federal database that determines immigration status. In 2013, E-Verify will spread further into the private sector, requiring that any business with more than 10 employees must check the status of new hires using the program.

A national E-Verify system, though, is not as contested as cleaning up legal immigration and the path to citizenship for undocumented
immigrants.

Both Republicans and Democrats agree that attention must be paid to the amount of visas awarded to skilled workers and laborers and clarification needed in the process to obtain the visas.

Echoing statements made by Georgia Agricultural Commissioner Gary Black, Kuck said it's the federal government's job to help farmers find workers for their fields.

Critics of the bipartisan plan say a path to citizenship is little more than amnesty for lawbreakers.

But a pathway that takes years to complete, requires civic and language tests and costs thousands of dollars in fines, which are potential benchmarks for citizenship, doesn't sound like amnesty to Kuck.

“Everyone I know who is undocumented would do that in a heartbeat,” he said.

Since President Obama signed an executive order granting temporary relief from deportation for undocumented immigrants who came to the country as children, the local immigrant population adopted a wait-and-see approach with the program commonly called Deferred Action, said Jesse Zimmerman, regional director of Athens Latino Center for Education and Services, an outreach nonprofit for the Latino community.

Thousands of immigrants have applied for the relief, which grants a two-year work eligibility but not legal status, and Zimmerman said application turnaround times have slowed. After early adopters swooped through the process in a month, some October applicants are still awaiting final word of their status.

Zimmerman said details matter in the verbiage used in defining a pathway to citizenship. English language requirements, for example, need to be clear, he said.

“If it’s passable conversation, that’s going to be a whole lot different than if they need to write an essay,” he said.

As more immigrants are here legally and out of the shadows, Zimmerman said they'll be able to get better jobs, receive tax returns that can be spent locally and be more willing to start local businesses — all a boon to the local economy. Overall, he's optimistic if for no other reason than the conversations about reform are being had nationally and some action is being taken, including Obama's executive order.

“We've come so far just in the past couple of months,” he said.

• Follow reporter André Gallant on Twitter @andregallant and at [www.facebook.com/GallantABH](http://www.facebook.com/GallantABH). Follow Nick Coltrain on Twitter @ncoltrain and at [www.facebook.com/NickColtrainABH](http://www.facebook.com/NickColtrainABH).
The sole finalist to serve as the University of Georgia's next president doesn't bring with him the demonstrative personality of the man who currently leads the state's flagship institution.

Rather, those who know longtime UGA administrator Jere Morehead describe him as a quiet and brilliant academic with an unparalleled understanding of the university's inner workings.

While President Michael Adams has never been shy about ruffling feathers, friends describe Morehead differently. He's a collaborative type more likely to make thoughtful, nuanced changes to the institution as opposed to an overhaul.

And that --- friends, colleagues and lawmakers said --- is why he is the right person to lead UGA at this time. Morehead, they said, can navigate UGA through a period of financial uncertainty that threatens the trajectory of an institution consistently ranked among the top 25 public colleges in the nation.

The university's influence and that of its president extend far beyond the Athens campus. The college's research supports farmers and other businesses across the state and country. Its graduates fill Georgia's boardrooms. And its reputation attracts new employers, making it a crucial economic driver for the state.

Morehead has spent nearly his entire career at UGA and currently serves as provost, overseeing instruction, research, public service and outreach, as well as student affairs. His insider status promises an easier transition of leadership and sends the message that the State Board of Regents is not focused on drastic change, but rather on continuing the school's current path.

Many in the campus community lauded Morehead's selection, noting his decades-long allegiance to the state and --- above all --- the university. Faculty and students say he makes time to listen to their concerns and problems. He's a familiar sight at different sporting events, often accompanying Adams on away football games.

He's familiar to lawmakers too, several of whom called his selection "inspired." By picking him, the regents have continued the pattern of trying to please the Legislature and improve their relationship with the people who control the purse strings. State and federal support will be crucial as UGA focuses on graduate programs and winning more research money.

Morehead "knows the university so well and he knows what areas really need
the money at this time with the budget reductions," said O. Lee Reed, a retired UGA professor and a friend for more than three decades. "It's all about the budget and who gets the money."

Reed has heard limited grumbling about Morehead being the finalist, mostly from a few who had hoped one of their own candidates would have been picked.

The regents named Morehead as the finalist to become the next UGA president after spending about $207,000 on a national search that began last summer. The search committee scheduled interviews with nine candidates last month, a group that consisted of five presidents, three provosts and the dean of a large public university.

Under state law, the regents do not have to release the names of those who applied for the job or were interviewed. Only finalists must be released.

The 56-year-old Morehead said he is "honored and humbled" to be selected, but declined further comments until after the regents take action. They are scheduled to vote Monday.

Adams is stepping down June 30 after serving as president for 16 years. During that tenure he helped turn what was once regarded as a second-rate academic university obsessed with athletics into one of the nation's most respected public institutions. In doing so Adams alienated some alumni and football fans in 2003 by refusing to extend the contract of athletic director Vince Dooley, a beloved figure in Georgia. He caused controversy again in 2010 when he successfully won permission for UGA to offer engineering degrees in areas long dominated by Georgia Tech.

Morehead was promoted to provost by Adams but he's expected to be a different type of president. Consider how longtime friend Mary Jane Stewart described his communication style: "Why use a hatchet when a boning knife will do?"

Morehead's elevation to the presidency would not be unusual. About one-third of college presidents previously worked as provost and about one-third were promoted from within, according to the American Council on Education, an influential umbrella group for higher education.

The prevailing wisdom used to be it was best to hire a president from the outside to bring in new ideas and shake things up. Now colleges are focused more on succession planning, said Gretchen Bataille, a senior vice president at the council.

"Maybe change is not the order of the day, but sustaining and building on what you have is more important," Bataille said.

Morehead has moved up the college's ranks since starting as a business professor in 1986. His teaching, legal and administrative experience fit the profile of what colleges are looking for, Bataille said.

He saw and contributed to the massive change UGA underwent during Adams' tenure. And his connections with the university and lawmakers allow him to hit the ground running, she said.

UGA received about $373.8 million from the state during the 2008 fiscal year but stands to receive $291.6 million this year as the state struggles to rebound from the recession.

Lawmaker relationships remain critical in the battle for more money. Several lawmakers welcomed the idea of an in-state president, knowing he is committed to Georgia and won't leave the state for another university in a few years.

"I've never been one who thought we had to look to California to find
someone," said state Sen. Buddy Carter, R-Pooler, who until this year led the Senate Higher Education Committee. "There's no set of rules that says just because you do a national search that you can't find the right person right here at home."

Selecting Morehead shows the regents are continuing to improve their relationship with lawmakers, said state Rep. Earl Ehrhart, R-Powder Springs and chairman of the House Higher Education budget subcommittee.

That work started in 2011 when the board picked Hank Huckaby, a longtime political insider, as chancellor of the University System of Georgia. Before Huckaby, the system and lawmakers often butted heads over how colleges spend money and why they taught certain subjects.

"I feel they are being deliberate in making these hires and we are all getting along better because of it," Ehrhart said.

Ehrhart has known Morehead for more than a decade. He doesn't expect Morehead to maintain the status quo but said he doesn't come across as the type who will be a "major reactionary."

He acknowledged that the man's quiet and serious demeanor could lead some people to think he's stiff, but Ehrhart said Morehead has a dry, witty sense of humor.

And while Morehead doesn't seek the spotlight, he can handle it, the legislator said.

"Mike Adams just has that larger-than-life personality. You know his presence as soon as he walks into the room," Ehrhart said. "You won't know Jere is in the room until he starts talking to you. And when he starts speaking to you it will be with gravitas because you know he thought about everything he was going to say."

Morehead is quiet, friends say, but he's no push-over.

"If there's something he believes is important enough, he's going to do everything he can to make it happen or prevent it from happening," Stewart said.

Stewart has known Morehead since they attended UGA Law School in the late 1970s. Morehead enrolled at Georgia State University at 16 and was 23 when he graduated from law school in 1980.

While some say Adams' leadership style can be autocratic, students, faculty and staff described Morehead as a good listener who has been responsive to their concerns and issues. Faculty note Morehead has approved programs they initiated to provide grants to help with research and teaching.

"He knows we are a strong university, but he knows where we need to improve so we are competitive with schools like Michigan and Chapel Hill," said Marisa Pagnattaro, a legal studies professor in the Terry College of Business.

Some in the Bulldog community were surprised by Morehead's selection because they didn't know he aspired to be president. Stewart knew Morehead was interested but said he was nonchalant about it.

Becoming UGA president is ideal for the man who bleeds red and black, friends said.

Morehead, who's never been married, likes sports and discussions about national politics. But that's not where his special interests lie.

"I don't know that he has hobbies in the traditional sense," Reed said. "I
was being quite candid in saying I think his hobby is the University of Georgia...
His whole life has been the University of Georgia."

Staff writer Kristina Torres contributed to this article

Challenges for UGA's next president

Financial struggles will be one of the greatest challenges waiting for the next president of the University of Georgia as state funding has dropped since the recession.

Fiscal year State appropriations Enrollment

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NOTE: Lawmakers are currently debating the amended FY 2013 budget. Figure is based on proposed reductions.

Source: University System of Georgia

About Jere Morehead

Jere Morehead is the sole finalist to serve as the next president of the University of Georgia.

Age: 56

Family: Single

Childhood: A native of Lakeland, Fla., he moved to Atlanta as a teenager with his family.

Education: Enrolled at Georgia State University at 16 and graduated four years later in 1977 with a bachelor of arts. Earned a juris doctor from the UGA School of Law in 1980.

Work experience: Assistant U.S. Attorney for Department of Justice from 1980 to 1986. He joined the UGA faculty in 1986 teaching in the Terry College of Business. After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, he returned to the UGA faculty in 1996 and joined the UGA administration in 1998, serving as vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the honors program, and acting executive director of legal affairs. He has been the provost since 2010.

Awards/Honors: Editor-in-Chief of the American Business Law Journal, Richard B. Russell Undergraduate Teaching Award, the Terry College of Business Teacher of the Year Award, and the Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Award, UGA's highest honor for teaching excellence.

Memberships: Vice Chair of the UGA Research Foundation, vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association, and a trustee of the UGA Foundation and the UGA Real Estate Foundation.
University System of Georgia issued the following news release:

Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, was named today as the 22nd president of UGA by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Morehead will assume his new post on July 1, 2013, according to Board of Regents Chair "Dink" NeSmith.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia and he has a great passion for the University and its service to students and the State of Georgia," said NeSmith. "He knows the University and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby said that Morehead's appointment "is the right decision for UGA. I have known and worked with Jere for many years and am delighted he will have this great opportunity to serve the university he loves so well. Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership. Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, "This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field."

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," said Morehead. "While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The University is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

Morehead noted, "In preparation for the UGA Presidency, I plan to spend the coming months evaluating our strengths and weaknesses, visiting with other presidents and key constituents, contemplating possible organizational changes, and beginning preparation for a major capital campaign. I am appreciative to the Chancellor, the Chairman, and the Board of Regents for giving me the opportunity to serve the University and the state of Georgia."

Morehead’s career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA's vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board.
of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks of associate professor to full professor. He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, Morehead returned to the Terry College faculty in 1996.

Before joining the UGA faculty, Morehead worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a United States Attorney from 1980-1986.

Morehead has published numerous books and scholarly articles on several legal topics ranging from export controls to jury selection, and he has served as editor-in-chief of the American Business Law Journal.

He is the recipient of several University-wide teaching awards, including the Josiah Meigs Teaching Award, the highest award the University provides for teaching excellence, the Richard B. Russell Undergraduate Teaching Award, the Teacher of the Year in the Terry College of Business, and the Tresp Teaching Award in the Honors Program.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., Morehead moved with his family to Atlanta as a teenager. He earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University. He is a 1980 graduate of the UGA School of Law where he earned his J.D. degree.

Morehead will assume the UGA presidency from Dr. Michael Adams, who will retire on June 30 2013, after serving as president since 1997.


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TNS 23ng 130216-4208510 61NaushinaQamar

LOAD-DATE: February 17, 2013

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Targeted News Service

January 28, 2013 Monday 3:34 AM EST

LENGTH: 375 words

HEADLINE: Finalist Named for UGA Presidency

BYLINE: Targeted News Service

DATELINE: ATLANTA

BODY:

University System of Georgia issued the following news release:
Board of Regents Chair "Dink" NeSmith and University System of Georgia Chancellor Hank Huckaby have announced the name of the finalist for the University of Georgia presidency, Jere Morehead.

Morehead is currently the senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at UGA. He previously served as UGA's vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986.

In his current position, the deans of the various schools and colleges report to Morehead, as well as several vice presidents. Several other campus units report to the provost including the University Libraries, the Office of International Education, the Office of Institutional Diversity, the Office of Academic Planning, Honors Program, and the Museum of Art.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

Morehead has published numerous books and scholarly articles on several legal topics ranging from export controls to jury selection, and he has served as editor-in-chief of the American Business Law Journal.

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He has served as a visiting faculty member at the University of Michigan and served as an assistant United States attorney with the Department of Justice from 1980-86.

He is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law where he earned his J.D. degree.

The Board of Regents will take final action on the selection of the next president of UGA at a future meeting.

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LOAD-DATE: February 17, 2013
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US State News

February 4, 2013 Monday 12:08 PM EST

LENGTH: 785 words

HEADLINE: JERE MOREHEAD NAMED PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

BODY:

ATLANTA, Feb. 4 -- The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia issued the following news release:

Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, was named today as the 22nd president of UGA by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Morehead will assume his new post on July 1, 2013, according to Board of Regents Chair "Dink" NeSmith.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia and he has a great passion for the University and its service to students and the State of Georgia," said NeSmith. "He knows the University and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby said that Morehead's appointment "is the right decision for UGA. I have known and worked with Jere for many years and am delighted he will have this great opportunity to serve the university he loves so well. Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership. Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, "This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field."

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," said Morehead. "While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The University is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

Morehead noted, "In preparation for the UGA Presidency, I plan to spend the coming months evaluating our strengths and weaknesses, visiting with other presidents and key constituents, contemplating possible organizational changes, and beginning preparation for a major capital campaign. I am appreciative to the Chancellor, the Chairman, and the Board of Regents for giving me the opportunity to serve the University and the state of Georgia."

Morehead's career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA's vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.
In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks of associate professor to full professor. He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

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Before joining the UGA faculty, Morehead worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a United States Attorney from 1980-1986.

Morehead has published numerous books and scholarly articles on several legal topics ranging from export controls to jury selection, and he has served as editor-in-chief of the American Business Law Journal.

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A native of Lakeland, Fla., Morehead moved with his family to Atlanta as a teenager. He earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University. He is a 1980 graduate of the UGA School of Law where he earned his J.D. degree.

Morehead will assume the UGA presidency from Dr. Michael Adams, who will retire on June 30 2013, after serving as president since 1997.

Please see Governor Nathan Deal's statement on Morehead's appointment at:  

For any query with respect to this article or any other content requirement, please contact Editor at htsyndication@hindustantimes.com
Board of Regents OK's Morehead as UGA president

Phillip Lucas
The Associated Press
02-04-2013

ATLANTA (AP) - The Georgia Board of Regents voted unanimously Monday to hire University of Georgia Provost Jere Morehead to succeed Michael Adams as university president.

Board members voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School, who also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. He becomes the 22nd president of the university and is set to start on July 1.

Board of Regents Chair William "Dink" H. NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.

"He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs," NeSmith said.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

Adams, who has praised Morehead for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university, is set to retire in June.

Morehead said he plans to spend the next few months evaluating the university's strengths and weaknesses and meeting with key groups, while considering possible organizational changes and beginning preparations for a "major capital campaign."

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," Morehead said in a statement. "While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby called Monday's vote "the right decision for UGA."

"Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership," Huckaby said. "Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."
Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, was named today as the 22nd president of UGA by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Morehead will assume his new post on July 1, 2013, according to Board of Regents Chair "Dink" NeSmith.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia and he has a great passion for the University and its service to students and the State of Georgia," said NeSmith. "He knows the University and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby said that Morehead’s appointment “is the right decision for UGA. I have known and worked with Jere for many years and am delighted he will have this great opportunity to serve the university he loves so well. Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership. Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission.”

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, “This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field.”

“Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus,” said Morehead. “While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The University is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States.”

Morehead noted, “In preparation for the UGA Presidency, I plan to spend the coming months evaluating our strengths and weaknesses, visiting with other presidents and key constituents, contemplating possible organizational changes, and beginning preparation for a major capital campaign. I am appreciative to the Chancellor, the Chairman, and the Board of Regents for giving me the opportunity to serve the University and the state of Georgia.”

Morehead’s career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA’s vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks of associate professor to full professor. He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, Morehead returned to the Terry College faculty in 1996.

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Morehead named president of the University of Georgia - Newsroom...

http://www.usg.edu/news/release/morehead_named_president_of_th...

Year in the Terry College of Business, and the Tresp Teaching Award in the Honors Program.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., Morehead moved with his family to Atlanta as a teenager. He earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University. He is a 1980 graduate of the UGA School of Law where he earned his J.D. degree.

Morehead will assume the UGA presidency from Dr. Michael Adams, who will retire on June 30, 2013, after serving as president since 1997.

Please see Governor Nathan Deal’s statement on Morehead’s appointment at: http://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2013-02-04/deal-morehead-will-lead-uga-next-level

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NC court orders new sentence for Carson's death

Board of Regents OK's Morehead as UGA president

Published: February 4, 2013 Updated 15 hours ago

By PHILLIP LUCAS — Associated Press

ATLANTA — Just after he was officially hired as the University of Georgia's 22nd president Monday, Jere Morehead announced that a major capital campaign is in the school's future and changes to the university's organizational structure could be on the horizon.

The Georgia Board of Regents quickly voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, who is the current provost and a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. He also as senior vice president for academic affairs. He will start his new job on July 1.

Morehead says he'll assemble a small team to help him transition into the new role after Michael Adams retires at the end of June, and will focus on nurturing relationships with lawmakers, other school presidents, students and alumni.

"I plan to devote much of the next five months to evaluating our strengths and weaknesses now from a different perspective," Morehead said Monday afternoon, adding that he aims to make the university less bureaucratic and more responsive to students and faculty concerns.

"I'm going to spend a great deal of time thinking about the organizational structure of the University of Georgia," he said. "I think in these economic times, you need to demonstrate a belief in a lean machine that gets the job of the university done with as few bureaucratic layers as possible."

Morehead, 56, says it is too early to elaborate on whether tweaking the university's organizational structure could translate to certain positions or offices being eliminated or consolidated. Following the announcement Monday, Morehead said his short-term goal is to help the school hire qualified deans for several vacant positions and continue attracting top-tier students. Morehead Monday also emphasized the importance of focusing on the school's academic priorities - including the construction of a center for molecular medicine - and fundraising efforts early during his term as president.

"If I'm a successful president, I will have led us through the largest capital campaign in the history of the University of Georgia," he said.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates - five of whom were college presidents.

"When it came down to it, the goal always was - whether an inside candidate or an outside candidate - we wanted the best person," said University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby. "Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership," he said. "Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."

Aside from his position as provost, Morehead also serves as vice chairman of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chairman of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee. Board of Regents Chairman William "Dink" H.
NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.

"He has tremendous challenges ahead and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs," NeSmith said. When Morehead was named provost in 2009, Adams praised him for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university.

"The learning curve is very, very small," NeSmith said. "He knows the University of Georgia from the athletics, to academics to student life."

Morehead's annual salary has been set at $450,000, and he says he plans to announce an interim provost to take his place after the transition.

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," Morehead said in a statement.
ATLANTA (AP) - Georgia Board of Regents Spokesman John Millsaps says the board is scheduled to discuss picking a president for the University of Georgia.

Millsaps says officials will conduct a teleconference Monday at 2 p.m. from the Board of Regents offices in Atlanta.

Last week, officials announced University of Georgia provost Jere Morehead was named the sole finalist for university president. Morehead is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law.

When Morehead, 56, was named provost in 2009, current president Michael Adams praised his integrity, compassion and institutional knowledge of the university. Morehead previously served UGA as vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the honors program and acting director of legal affairs.

Adams is set to retire at the end of June.

(Copyright 2013 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.)
ATLANTA — The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia announced Monday that Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, has been named as the 22nd president of the university.

"Becoming president of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half his life on this campus," said Morehead.

"While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

Morehead added, "In preparation for the UGA presidency, I plan to spend the coming months evaluating our strengths and weaknesses, visiting with other presidents and key constituents, contemplating possible organizational changes and beginning preparation for a major capital campaign.

"I am appreciative to the chancellor, the chairman and the Board of Regents for giving me the opportunity to serve the University and the state of Georgia."

Morehead, who is replacing outgoing President Michael Adams, will assume his new post on July 1, according to BOR Chair "Dink" NeSmith.

Adams is a former resident of Albany.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia, and he has a great passion for the university and its service to students and the state of Georgia," said NeSmith.
"He knows the university, and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead, and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, "This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field."

Morehead's career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA.

Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA's vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors and vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation.

He was a UGA Foundation trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation trustee.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business, where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks from associate professor to full professor.

He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.
Georgia notes: UGA president Jere Morehead promises to take active role in athletics

Published: February 4, 2013 Updated 10 hours ago

By SETH EMERSON — semerson@ledger-enquirer.com

ATHENS, Ga. -- Jere Morehead was officially confirmed on Monday as UGA's next president, a job that entails many duties and challenges, which he outlined in his opening statement.

Then the first question from a media member was about sports.

And, about a half-hour later, so was the last one.

As Morehead himself pointed out, it's the SEC, athletics cannot be ignored. And Morehead, while not carrying the reputation of his predecessor for being involved in athletics, vowed not to be a spectator.

Morehead knows plenty about athletics, having served on the school's athletic board in his current role as provost, and as the faculty rep for athletics for much of the 2000s. But will he be as visible and as active as Michael Adams has been in athletics for more than a decade as UGA's president, or would he kind of take a backseat?

"Well I don't think any president of a Southeastern Conference school can take a backseat when it comes to athletics," Morehead said. "Athletics is very important to this university and to its supporters. But I also believe that we have a very competent and highly qualified athletic staff. I will certainly continue to work with them, as I have in my current role."

Morehead then pointed to his current roles on the board, which put him in the middle of some critical decisions. And he said he would be in "regular communication" with Georgia athletics director Greg McGarity, including a conversation on Monday morning.

Morehead also said he had spoken to SEC commissioner Mike Slive within the past couple days.

"So I haven't really been taking a backseat to athletics," Morehead said. "It will remain important."

When the press conference began, Morehead was asked his thoughts on the relationship between athletics and academics.

"I believe the academics drive any university. I'm pleased to say that at the University of Georgia we have a very good relationship in that regard," Morehead said, then speaking about a monthly meeting with administrators, and mentioning his confidence in McGarity and his staff.

"In the end, I want to see our student-athletes be successful in the classroom, and earn their degrees. And I also want to see them win a few championships along the way as well. I don't think that's mutually exclusive."

Morehead is a native of Lakeland, Fla., who moved to Atlanta as a teenager. He earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State, then earned a law degree from UGA in 1980. He will officially take over from Adams on July 1.
Richt’s hip surgery

Head football coach Mark Richt was released Monday from St. Mary’s Hospital in Athens, two days after having hip surgery. The timing was surprising, since it was on the final day that coaches could visit with recruits.

But Richt said in November that he wanted the long overdue surgery in time to be rested up for spring practice, which is tentatively set to begin on March 2.

Back in November, Richt dated the injury to a swing set accident in his 20s, when he was trying to impress his future wife.

"I felt like I had pulled a hip flexor muscle and it wasn't going away," Richt said in November. "I could wait until it feels good again or I could keep going to stay in condition and all that, so I kept kind of sucking it up, and kept exercising. The pain got a little worse."

UGA announced Monday that Richt and his coordinators, Mike Bobo and Todd Grantham, would meet the media on Wednesday at 2 p.m. to discuss the signees.

Morant leaves team

As Georgia prepares to add close to three dozen more players, room continues to open up on the 85-man scholarship roster.

Dexter Morant, who played sparingly in three seasons at Georgia, has left the university due to "academic considerations," according to UGA. Morant, an outside linebacker-defensive end, was one of the team’s tallest players, at 6-foot-7, but was never able to stay healthy or play well enough in practice to crack the playing rotation.

It’s not the first time Morant, a native of Manning, S.C., has left the team: During the first week of preseason practice in 2010 Morant got homesick and his departure from the team was announced. But he returned a couple days later, and ended up redshirting his first season at Georgia.

Georgia has updated its official roster on the web site: Morant is the only notable player missing. Tailback Ken Malcome is the only other scholarship player with eligibility left confirmed by Georgia to be leaving the program. (Other than the three players who left for the NFL draft.)
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When Morehead, 56, was named provost in 2009, current president Michael Adams praised his integrity, compassion and institutional knowledge of the university. Morehead previously served UGA as vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the honors program and acting director of legal affairs.

Adams is set to retire at the end of June.
University of Georgia hires 22nd president

ATLANTA (AP) — The University of Georgia has hired a longtime administrator as its president. The Georgia Board of Regents on Monday voted unanimously to hire provost Jere Morehead to succeed Michael Adams.

Morehead is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School. He has also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. He becomes the 22nd university president.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December the committee announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

Adams has praised Morehead for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university. Adams is set to retire in June.

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Board of Regents approves Morehead as UGA president

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PHILLIP LUCAS, Associated Press

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(Copyright 2013 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.)
Calling his new job “a dream come true,” University of Georgia president-to-be Jere Morehead promised to budget carefully, keep academics a priority over athletics and make serving the people of Georgia the top priority for everyone who works at the university.

The state Board of Regents officially named Morehead the next UGA president on Monday, just days after a search committee announced Morehead as its lone candidate to succeed Michael Adams, who steps down June 30 after 16 years as UGA’s top administrator.

Morehead also said his presidency will be judged in large part on his success as a fundraiser for the university during an upcoming drive.

“If I’m a successful president, I will have led us in the largest capital campaign in the history of the University of Georgia, because without private support, we’re not going to move to the next level,” he said.

Morehead spoke Monday afternoon at a press conference in UGA’s Miller Learning Center, less than an hour after the regents voted to hire him to lead the university.

In a meeting that lasted less than 10 minutes, the regents voted unanimously, without discussion, to make Morehead UGA’s 22nd president, said Board of Regents Chairman Dink NeSmith, who called Morehead a “rock star.”

“I know he will do a great job. The heights to which we all aspire for this university will be achieved,” said University System of Georgia Chancellor Hank Huckaby, a former UGA vice president who flanked Morehead at Monday’s press conference. NeSmith was on the other side.

Adams, who picked Morehead in 2009 to succeed Arnett Mace as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, was not at the press
morehead will be considering changes in UGA’s administrative structure during the next several months.

"In these economic times, you need to demonstrate a commitment to a lean machine," Morehead said, saying institutions like UGA need to be “less bureaucratic and more responsive.”

As provost and senior vice president for academic affairs for the past three years, Morehead has been both the university’s chief academic officer and its chief operating officer. The deans of all UGA’s colleges and schools report to Morehead, as well as several vice presidents and other units such as the University of Georgia Press and the Georgia Museum of Art.

Morehead has been at UGA since 1986, beginning as a professor in the Terry College of Business.

Before becoming UGA’s top academic officer in 2010, Morehead was the university’s vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the honors program, and for a while acting executive director of legal affairs.

He was also for a time director of the UGA Law School’s Advocacy Program. His teams won national and world championships.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., Morehead moved to Atlanta with his family as a teen. He got his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University and went on to get a law degree from UGA in 1980. He worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a United States attorney from 1980-86 before beginning his career in academia.

UGA faces tough economic times, but even so is “poised to become one of the great public universities in this country,” Morehead said Monday. “I believe if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights.”

Morehead will devote much of the next five months to meeting with alumni, state and federal officials, presidents of other colleges and many others to learn what they are thinking about the university’s future, he said. He also has tasks to complete in his job as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, including hiring new deans for four of UGA’s schools and colleges as well as beginning the process of finding a new vice president for student affairs.

UGA vice president for student affairs Rodney Bennett has been picked to become president of the University of Southern Mississippi.

Lawmakers have cut deeply the appropriations the university gets from the state, but UGA is still “in a good place,” said Morehead, the first in his family to graduate from college.

Morehead said one of his top fundraising priorities will be to raise money
for need-based scholarships at UGA.

“My goal will be to raise the private resources necessary to supplement the HOPE Scholarship,” he said.

Morehead will make $450,000 a year as UGA president, plus $100,000 in annual deferred compensation, health insurance and other normal benefits, according to a document the University System of Georgia released Monday. He is also required to live in the UGA President’s Mansion on Prince Avenue.
Board of Regents OK's Morehead as UGA president
By PHILLIP LUCAS, Associated Press
Updated 4:42 pm, Monday, February 4, 2013

ATLANTA (AP) — Just after he was officially hired as the University of Georgia's 22nd president Monday, Jere Morehead announced that a major capital campaign is in the school's future and changes to the university's organizational structure could be on the horizon.

The Georgia Board of Regents quickly voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, who is the current provost and a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. He also as senior vice president for academic affairs. He will start his new job on July 1.

Morehead says he'll assemble a small team to help him transition into the new role after Michael Adams retires at the end of June, and will focus on nurturing relationships with lawmakers, other school presidents, students and alumni.

"I plan to devote much of the next five months to evaluating our strengths and weaknesses now from a different perspective," Morehead said Monday afternoon, adding that he aims to make the university less bureaucratic and more responsive to students and faculty concerns.

"I'm going to spend a great deal of time thinking about the organizational structure of the University of Georgia," he said. "I think in these economic times, you need to demonstrate a belief in a lean machine that gets the job of the university done with as few bureaucratic layers as possible."

Morehead, 56, says it is too early to elaborate on whether tweaking the university's organizational structure could translate to certain positions or offices being eliminated or consolidated. Following the announcement Monday, Morehead said his short-term goal is to help the school hire qualified deans for several vacant positions and continue attracting top-tier students. Morehead Monday also emphasized the importance of focusing on the school's academic priorities — including the construction of a center for molecular medicine — and fundraising efforts early during his term as president.

"If I'm a successful president, I will have led us through the largest capital campaign in the history of the University of Georgia," he said.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

"When it came down to it, the goal always was — whether an inside candidate or an outside candidate — we wanted the best person," said University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby. "Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership," he said. "Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."

Aside from his position as provost, Morehead also serves as vice chairman of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chairman of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee. Board of Regents Chairman William "Dink" H. NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.

"He has tremendous challenges ahead and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs," NeSmith said. When Morehead was named provost in 2009, Adams praised him for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university.

"The learning curve is very, very small," NeSmith said. "He knows the University of Georgia from the athletics, to academics to student life."

Morehead's annual salary has been set at $450,000, and he says he plans to announce an interim provost to take his place after the transition.

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," Morehead said in a statement.
The Georgia Board of Regents has voted unanimously to hire University of Georgia Provost Jere Morehead to succeed Michael Adams as university president.

Board members voted Monday to hire Morehead, a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School, who also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. He becomes the 22nd president of the university.

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Adams, who has praised Morehead for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university, is set to retire in June.
Regents approve Morehead as next UGA president

ATHENS — The next president of the University of Georgia said Monday the campus is on the verge of becoming "one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

For that to happen UGA must focus on its academic mission while demonstrating that it can operate as a "lean machine" as the economy struggles to rebound, Jere Morehead said.

The state Board of Regents approved Morehead as the new president Monday. He starts July 1 and will replace Michael Adams, who is stepping down June 30 after leading the college for 16 years.

He will earn $550,000 in a total compensation package that includes base salary, allowances and deferred compensation. That puts him on par with what Georgia State President Mark Becker will receive this year, but is less than what Georgia Tech President Bud Peterson earns.

Morehead, the current provost, said he will appoint a transition team and evaluate the college's strengths and weaknesses.

He will contemplate changes to how the college is structured so that it is less bureaucratic and more responsive to the needs of students, faculty and staff. He will also prepare for a major capital campaign.

"While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights," Morehead said.

He provided few specifics, noting UGA currently has a sitting president. Morehead said there will be plenty of time for him to discuss key issues in-depth once he takes office.

His hire wasn't a surprise since he was the sole finalist. The University System of Georgia spent about $207,000 on the national search for the next UGA president.

Morehead, 56, said becoming president is a "dream come true."

He graduated from the university's law school and has spent most of his career at the college. He started as a faculty member and after holding several administrative positions currently serves as provost, overseeing instruction, research, public service and outreach, as well as student affairs.

The regents didn't need to bring in an outsider to shake things up. Gov. Nathan Deal said in a statement. UGA has made "tremendous strides" under Adams, and Morehead will take the school to the next level, the governor said.

"His mandate from the Board of Regents and me is not to maintain the status quo: it is to push to reach new heights," Deal said.

His challenge will be to build on the reputation UGA has created for itself and the state. The university is routinely ranked among the top 25 public colleges in the nation. That standing has helped lift the state's higher education reputation and has attracted employers to Georgia.

Regents Chairman William "Dink" NeSmith said Morehead's learning curve will be small and in many ways "he has already hit the ground running."

NeSmith and Chancellor Hank Huckaby both spoke of Morehead's love for UGA and the state.

He's a Bulldog fan in a professional and personal capacity. He meets monthly with the athletic director and his staff, for student athletes' success in the classroom and on the field shouldn't be mutually exclusive, he said.

And he's a constant presence at athletic events both on campus and at away games.

"If you haven't seen me at athletic events then you haven't been looking very closely," he joked.

Presidential pay

When Jere Morehead becomes president of the University of Georgia in July he will earn $550,000 in total compensation. Here's what the presidents of Georgia's research colleges will earn this fiscal year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Total Compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Tech</td>
<td>Bud Peterson</td>
<td>$756,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Health Sciences University</td>
<td>Ricardo Azziz</td>
<td>$650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State</td>
<td>Mark Becker</td>
<td>$550,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Georgia</td>
<td>Michael Adams</td>
<td>$1,260,318</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Adams' earnings include a one-time deferred compensation of $600,000.

Source: University System of Georgia

More News

More from ajc.com

Super jumbo jet coming to Atlanta in August

From around the web

ATLANTA — The University of Georgia has hired a longtime administrator as its president.

The Georgia Board of Regents on Monday voted unanimously to hire provost Jere Morehead to succeed Michael Adams.

Morehead is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School. He has also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. He becomes the 22nd university president.

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Georgia's Board of Regents OK's Morehead as UGA President

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
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Board of Regents OK’s Morehead as UGA president

By PHILLIP LUCAS, Associated Press

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Board members voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School, who also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. He becomes the 22nd president of the university and is set to start on July 1.

Board of Regents Chair William “Dink” H. NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.

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“Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus,” Morehead said in a statement. “While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States.”

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby called Monday’s vote “the right decision for UGA.”

“Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership,” Huckaby said. “Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission.”
University of Georgia hires longtime administrator Jere Morehead as school’s 22nd president

Published February 04, 2013 | Associated Press

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URL:
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By PHILLIP LUCAS — Associated Press

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Morehead says he'll assemble a small team to help him transition into the new role after Michael Adams retires at the end of June, and will focus on nurturing relationships with lawmakers, other school presidents, students and alumni.

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"I'm going to spend a great deal of time thinking about the organizational structure of the University of Georgia," he said. "I think in these economic times, you need to demonstrate a belief in a lean machine that gets the job of the university done with as few bureaucratic layers as possible."

Morehead, 56, says it is too early to elaborate on whether tweaking the university's organizational structure could translate to certain positions or offices being eliminated or consolidated. Following the announcement Monday, Morehead said his short-term goal is to help the school hire qualified deans for several vacant positions and continue attracting top-tier students. Morehead Monday also emphasized the importance of focusing on the school's academic priorities - including the construction of a center for molecular medicine - and fundraising efforts early during his term as president.

"If I'm a successful president, I will have led us through the largest capital campaign in the history of the University of Georgia," he said.

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NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.

"He has tremendous challenges ahead and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs," NeSmith said. When Morehead was named provost in 2009, Adams praised him for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university.

"The learning curve is very, very small," NeSmith said. "He knows the University of Georgia from the athletics, to academics to student life."

Morehead's annual salary has been set at $450,000, and he says he plans to announce an interim provost to take his place after the transition.

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," Morehead said in a statement.
The Union Recorder

February 4, 2013

UGA provost named next president

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Georgia Board of Regents votes unanimously to hire Jere Morehead as UGA's next president.

The board met to discuss picking a president for the University of Georgia via teleconference at 2 p.m. Monday.

Last week, officials announced University of Georgia provost Morehead was named the sole finalist for university president. Morehead is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law.

When Morehead was named provost in 2009, current UGA President Michael Adams praised his integrity, compassion and institutional knowledge of the university. Morehead previously served UGA as vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the honors program and acting director of legal affairs.

Adams is set to retire at the end of June.

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It was somewhat clear when Jere Morehead was named the “sole finalist” for the President of the University to follow Dr. Michael Adams after his retirement at the end of June. Today, the Board of Regents made it official. WXIA 11Alive has the news:

“Becoming president of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus,” Morehead said in a statement. “The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States.”

Morehead earned his J.D. from the UGA School of Law and served as a United States Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice for six years. He has been a member of UGA’s faculty since 1986, first as an assistant professor of legal studies, then later becoming the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business.

I’ll admit when the news first broke of him being the sole finalist that I had not heard of him. Since then I have heard nothing but the highest praise for him from people close to the University whom I trust. I look forward to having Jere Morehead as the President of my alma mater.
ATLANTA — Georgia Board of Regents Spokesman John Millsaps says the board is scheduled to discuss picking a president for the University of Georgia.

Millsaps says officials will conduct a teleconference Monday at 2 p.m. from the Board of Regents offices in Atlanta.

Last week, officials announced University of Georgia provost Jere Morehead was named the sole finalist for university president. Morehead is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law.

When Morehead, 56, was named provost in 2009, current president Michael Adams praised his integrity, compassion and institutional knowledge of the university. Morehead previously served UGA as vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the honors program and acting director of legal affairs.

Adams is set to retire at the end of June.
Morehead named as UGA president

by Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia reports
02.04.13 - 02:15 pm

Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, was named today as the 22nd president of UGA by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Morehead will assume his new post on July 1, 2013, according to Board of Regents Chair “Dink” NeSmith.

“Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia and he has a great passion for the University and its service to students and the State of Georgia,” said NeSmith. “He knows the University and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA’s programs.”

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby said that Morehead’s appointment “is the right decision for UGA. I have known and worked with Jere for many years and am delighted he will have this great opportunity to serve the university he loves so well. Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership. Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission.”

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, “This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field.”

“Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus,” said Morehead. “While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The University is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States.”

Morehead noted, “In preparation for the UGA Presidency, I plan to spend the coming months evaluating our strengths and weaknesses, visiting with other
Morehead named as UGA president

presidents and key constituents, contemplating possible organizational changes, and beginning preparation for a major capital campaign. I am appreciative to the Chancellor, the Chairman, and the Board of Regents for giving me the opportunity to serve the University and the state of Georgia.”

Morehead’s career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA’s vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks of associate professor to full professor. He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, Morehead returned to the Terry College faculty in 1996.

Before joining the UGA faculty, Morehead worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a United States Attorney from 1980-1986.

Morehead has published numerous books and scholarly articles on several legal topics ranging from export controls to jury selection, and he has served as editor-in-chief of the American Business Law Journal.

He is the recipient of several University-wide teaching awards, including the Josiah Meigs Teaching Award, the highest award the University provides for teaching excellence, the Richard B. Russell Undergraduate Teaching Award, the Teacher of the Year in the Terry College of Business, and the Tresp Teaching Award in the Honors Program.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., Morehead moved with his family to Atlanta as a teenager. He earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University. He is a 1980 graduate of the UGA School of Law where he earned his J.D. degree.

Morehead will assume the UGA presidency from Dr. Michael Adams, who will retire on June 30 2013, after serving as president since 1997.

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ATLANTA - The University of Georgia has hired a longtime administrator as its president.

The Georgia Board of Regents on Monday voted unanimously to hire provost Jere Morehead to succeed Michael Adams.

Morehead is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School. He has also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. He becomes the 22nd university president.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December the committee announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

Adams has praised Morehead for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university. Adams is set to retire in June.
Morehead, current provost, named sole presidential finalist

By Tom Jackson
tjackson@uga.edu

Jere W. Morehead, current senior vice president for academic affairs and provost at UGA, has been named the finalist for the presidency of the university.

"I am honored and humbled to have been selected by the chancellor, the chairman and the board of regents as the finalist for president of the University of Georgia," Morehead said. "I look forward to making further statements regarding this wonderful opportunity to continue serving the University of Georgia after the board completes its process in the coming days."

If given final approval by the regents, Morehead will succeed UGA President Michael F. Adams, who steps down June 30.

"This is a great day for the University of Georgia," said Adams. "The board of regents and the search committee could not have found anyone more committed to the future of this place than Jere Morehead."

"He is someone who has given the overwhelming majority of his life to the University of Georgia, and he will be a great and respected leader here for many years to come," he also said. "I wish him well in every endeavor."

Morehead, 56, is a native of Lakeland, Fla. He moved with his family to Atlanta as a teenager, where he completed high school early, and enrolled at Georgia State University at the age of 16. He graduated four years later in 1977. He entered the UGA School of Law, where he graduated at the age of 23 in 1980.


He joined the UGA faculty in 1986, serving as an assistant professor teaching legal studies in the Terry College of Business, rising through the ranks from associate to full professor. He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, Morehead returned to the Terry College faculty in 1996. He joined the UGA administration in 1998, serving as vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the Honors Program and acting executive director of legal affairs. He has been senior vice president for academic affairs and provost since 2010.

His tenured faculty appointment is as Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business.

As provost, the deans of the schools and colleges as well as the vice presidents for instruction, public service and outreach, research, student affairs and information technology report to him.

The regents will take final action on the selection of the next president of UGA at a future meeting.
Jenna Jackson, a second-year student in the School of Law, was crowned Miss University of Georgia 2013 on Jan. 19 at the annual scholarship pageant, a program within the Division of Student Affairs. Jackson will compete in the Miss Georgia Pageant in June; the winner of that pageant goes on to the Miss America Pageant.
Human rights law expert to give lecture

William A. Schabas, an internationally respected expert on human rights law, genocide and the death penalty, will discuss “Human Rights and Culture” at the School of Law on Feb. 7 at 4:30 p.m. Open free to the public, the talk will be held in Classroom J (Room 347) of Hirsch Hall.

Schabas’ lecture, co-sponsored by the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, will address the long-neglected association between human rights, culture and the arts.

A professor of international law at Middlesex University in London, Schabas also is chairman of the Irish Centre for Human Rights. His career includes serving as one of three international members of the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission from 2002-2004. He also worked as a consultant on capital punishment for the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime and drafted the 2010 report of the U.N. secretary-general on the status of the death penalty.
Lawyer to Head Firm Running Football Hall of Fame

Written by Associated Press (90) on Tuesday, February 05, 2013 07:59 AM. Posted in State

ATLANTA (AP) - An Atlanta attorney has been named president and chief operating officer of the firm in charge of building and operating the national College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta.

John Stephenson has been named to head Atlanta Hall Management, Inc., a nonprofit responsible for the project.

Stephenson attended the University of Georgia School of Law and has worked as a corporate attorney since 2007.

In late January construction began on the more than 94,000 square-foot, $66.5 million facility, which is slated to open in 2014.

The College Football Hall of Fame was located in South Bend, Ind., near the campus of Notre Dame, for 17 years. It closed last year. Organizers expect the new site to generate $11.8 million in annual retail and ticket sales.
GEORGIA'S BOARD of Regents didn't go very far to find someone to succeed Michael Adams as the new big man on campus at the state's flagship university in Athens.

In fact, they stuck close to the arches and hired UGA Provost Jere Morehead.

On Monday, the regents who oversee the state's public universities voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School who also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. Other key credentials include vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation trustee and a UGA Real Estate Foundation trustee.

In other words, this Top Dawg is connected.

He becomes the 22nd president of the university and is set to start July 1.

Interestingly, the new president wasn't just the top choice. He emerged late in the game as the only choice.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December, the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

By going with the homegrown favorite, the regents are getting someone who needs no learning curve and can immediately contribute from Day 1. That's important, as public funds for higher education get increasingly tight while the need for an educated workforce continues to grow.

Board of Regents Chair William "Dink" H. NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.

"He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs," NeSmith said.

For his part, Morehead said he plans to spend the next few months evaluating the university's strengths and weaknesses and meeting with key groups, while considering possible organizational changes and beginning preparations for a "major capital campaign." Let's hope he plans to visit this area soon.

Not surprisingly, the new president calls his job "a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus."

He also said that "while the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities, we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby, who'll be Morehead's boss, called Monday's vote "the right decision for UGA." He didn't add "woof, woof, woof," but you couldn't blame him if he did.
ATLANTA (AP) - Just after he was officially hired as the University of Georgia's 22nd president Monday, Jere Morehead announced that a major capital campaign is in the school's future and changes to the university's organizational structure could be on the horizon.

The Georgia Board of Regents quickly voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, who is the current provost and a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. He also as senior vice president for academic affairs. He will start his new job on July 1. Morehead says he will assemble a small team to help him transition into the new role after Michael Adams retires at the end of June, and will focus on nurturing relationships with lawmakers, other school presidents, students and alumni.

"I plan to devote much of the next five months to evaluating our strengths and weaknesses now from a different perspective," Morehead said Monday afternoon, adding that he aims to make the university less bureaucratic and more responsive to students and faculty concerns.

"I'm going to spend a great deal of time thinking about the organizational structure of the University of Georgia," he said. "I think in these economic times, you need to demonstrate a belief in a lean machine that gets the job of the university done with as few bureaucratic layers as possible."

Morehead, 56, says it is too early to elaborate on whether tweaking the university's organizational structure could translate to certain positions or offices being eliminated or consolidated. Following the announcement Monday, Morehead said his short-term goal is to help the school hire qualified deans for several vacant positions and continue attracting top-tier students. Morehead Monday also emphasized the importance of focusing on the school's academic priorities - including the construction of a center for molecular medicine - and fundraising efforts early during his term as president. "If I'm a successful president, I will have led us through the largest capital campaign in the history of the University of Georgia," he said.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position last week. In mid-December the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates-five of whom were college presidents.

"When it came down to it, the goal always was-whether an inside candidate or an outside candidate - we wanted the best person," said University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby. "Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership," he said. "Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."

Aside from his position as provost, Morehead also serves as vice chairman of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chairman of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee. Board of Regents Chairman William "Dink" H. NeSmith Jr. praised Morehead for his dedication and passion to the university and its students.
"He has tremendous challenges ahead and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs," NeSmith said. When Morehead was named provost in 2009, Adams praised him for his integrity and institutional knowledge of the university.

GRAPHIC: AP PHOTO Jere Morehead is announced as the new University of Georgia president Monday.

LOAD-DATE: February 6, 2013

A few weeks ago, many of us took part in traditional activities associated with the arrival of a new year. Some, in keeping with Southern tradition, ate greens of some description with black-eyed peas.

Many tuned in to see the descent of the Times Square Ball in New York City. Others ventured out to see the Peach Drop at Underground Atlanta.

My friend Wesley claims, with his tongue firmly planted in his cheek, that he went north to downtown Jasper to see a can of Copenhagen smokeless tobacco drop.

A tradition among many of us in the legal community is to spend some time in the initial days of the new year getting up to speed on the new laws that went into effect on Jan. 1.

As part of my study this year, I learned about new state income tax provisions affecting married couples, manufacturers and farmers.

I read a news item about a new attempt to collect sales tax on online purchases, and another about changes in the law regarding sentencing of those convicted of driving under the influence.

As I read through articles on the new laws, I was surprised to see that very little had been written about the fact that historic changes to the Georgia laws concerning the rules of evidence went into effect on Jan. 1.

These revisions were almost 30 years in the making and will have far-reaching implications on cases tried in Georgia courts.

Evidence can be defined as the many types of information presented to a judge or jury designed to convince them of the truth or falsity of key facts. Evidence often includes testimony of witnesses, documents, photographs, government records, videos and laboratory reports.

The rules of evidence govern what types of information can be properly considered at trial.
In an article published last year in the Georgia State University Law Review entitled "Georgia's New Evidence Code - An Overview," Law Professor Paul Milich offered a brief history of the Georgia laws of evidence and an excellent analysis of all of the contours of the new rules.

The following is an even shorter version of how the new law came to pass.

Prior to Jan. 1, 2013, Georgia courts operated under evidentiary laws adopted just a few months before Abraham Lincoln was sworn in as the 16th president of the United States.

Some minor additions and changes have been made from time to time, but the bulk of the law has remained unaltered. Not surprisingly, lawyers and judges have struggled through the years to apply 19th-century evidentiary rules to 21st century evidentiary problems.

In 1975, Congress passed the Federal Rules of Evidence, which is a modernized and uniform set of evidentiary rules that is taught in most law schools and is used today in all federal courts.

Thereafter, individual states began updating their evidentiary rules as well, often using the Federal Rules of Evidence as a starting point.

In Georgia, the move to modernize the rules of evidence was started by the State Bar of Georgia in 1985. Since that time, the tireless efforts of proponents of the new code have resulted in something very rare in today's political climate: a near-consensus among lawyers, judges, state legislators of both political parties, and the governor not only that the old evidentiary laws should be changed, but also as to precisely what the new rules of evidence should be.

In his article, Professor Milich notes that the new evidence code makes dozens of significant changes to the rules of evidence. I will not delve into the specifics of the changes in this space, but it is important to note that these changes will impact both civil and criminal cases heard in all classes of court.

If you happen to observe a court proceeding anytime soon, you can expect to see legal professionals doing their best to master the new rules of evidence and put them into practice correctly.

But, as it can be difficult to teach the proverbial old dog new tricks, you may see some who are struggling to make the transition from the old rules of evidence to the new ones.

Despite these initial struggles, I expect that the short-term burden of learning and implementing the new rules of evidence will be dramatically outweighed by the long-term benefit of having an evidence code that is more in tune with modern life.

John Cline serves as Associate Judge of the Probate Court of Cherokee County. A native of Waleska, he resides in Canton with his wife, Millie, and two daughters. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law.

LOAD-DATE: February 6, 2013
February 5, 2013 Tuesday 2:05 AM EST

LENGTH: 644 words

HEADLINE: Did WFP Cousin's "Chicago Friend" at DIA Pull Ads from Paper, As WFP Denies?

BYLINE: InnerCity Press

BODY:


By Matthew Russell Lee UNITED NATIONS, February 4 -- After the spending of the World Food Program's executive director Ertharin Cousin, on housing and a Thanksgiving trip to Chicago were profiled last November[1] by Inner City Press, the agency's spokesman Steve Taravella declined to answer Press follow up questions, for example about the Palm in Dubai[2]. But there was, apparently, follow up. The Italian Insider, the only English language daily in Italy, picked up Inner City Press' story.

Then a funny thing happened. A planned ad campaign for an Italian tour by a band sponsored by the Detroit Institute of Arts was pulled from the Italian Insider. The go-between for the band, called The Flutter and Wow, e-mailed the Italian Insider:

----- Messaggio Inoltrato ----- Da : theflutterandwow.gigs A : Italianinsider.it Oggetto : Re: Payment Processed and Contract Signed Data: Fri, 4 Jan 2013 06:21:47 +0100 we have a HUGE problem. One of the Board members of the DIA read on your website an article about the head of something called the food program and is fuming mad. They are close friends from Chicago. I have been summoned for a meeting tomorrow and I sense there are some very pissed off people at DIA. There was more -- after his meeting with DIA, the go-between asked the Italian Insiders' editor if he was "a right winger" or British. The editor surmises that Ertharin Cousin's "friend from Chicago" on the DIA board viewed even a pick-up for the story about her spending as "right wing." It took two days to get an answer from WFP, but when it came it was absolute denial: WFP spokesman Steve Taravella replied to Inner City Press, "As to the Detroit Institute of Arts, the executive director has had no interactions with this organization, and has not been able to determine whether she has met any member who serves on its board. She has no knowledge of the actions you describe." Why would the band's go-between pull the advertising citing a DIA board member who is a "close friend" of Ertharin Cousin? Why would this go-between as reflected by multiple e-mails push to get the pick-up of Inner City Press' article taken down, or the belated comments of WFP spokesman Taravella played up? Here is a list of the Detroit Institute of Arts (large) board[3]. Inner City Press asked WFP some other questions, not only about Ertharin Cousin's trip tomorrow to the University of Georgia but also about the Central African Republic. Here are those answers: -Central African Republic: In December 2012, three WFP warehouses were looted, with the loss of more than 400 metric tons of food. Some staff were temporarily relocated and operations were briefly suspended. In January UNHAS flights (managed by WFP) resumed, and WFP resumed food distributions. On 22 Jan., WFP distributed 80 metric tons to approximately 5,000 Congolese refugees in the Zemio camp. Deliveries and regular activities are ongoing. -Executive Director Ertharin Cousin has been invited to speak at the University of Georgia Law School while she is in the United States on other business next week. The university is picking up her travel costs from New York, as well as her lodging expense. -South Sudan: Access remains a key issue and WFP supports the UN in advocating and negotiating for access to areas controlled by the SPLM-North in both South Kordofan and Blue Nile. In South Kordofan in 2012, we reached more than 172,000 people with emergency food rations in nine locations. About 73,000
of those came from SPLM-North areas. In Blue Nile in 2012, we provided monthly food vouchers to some 2,700 people in the capital Damazine.


LOAD-DATE: February 05, 2013

2 of 3 DOCUMENTS

Georgia: Morehead named president of the University of Georgia

DATELINE: Atlanta

BODY:

University System of Georgia, The State of Georgia has issued the following news release:

Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, was named today as the 22nd president of UGA by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Morehead will assume his new post on July 1, 2013, according to Board of Regents Chair "Dink" NeSmith.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia and he has a great passion for the University and its service to students and the State of Georgia," said NeSmith. "He knows the University and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead and the Board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby said that Morehead's appointment "is the right decision for UGA. I have known and worked with Jere for many years and am delighted he will have this great opportunity to serve the university he loves so well. Our students will be in excellent hands under his leadership. Jere will bring the vision and energy essential to UGA advancing its land grant mission."

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, "This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field."

"Becoming President of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus," said Morehead. "While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The University is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff, and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

Morehead noted, "In preparation for the UGA Presidency, I plan to spend the
Morehead's career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA's vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation Trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation Trustee.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks of associate professor to full professor. He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, Morehead returned to the Terry College faculty in 1996.

Before joining the UGA faculty, Morehead worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a United States Attorney from 1980-1986.

Morehead has published numerous books and scholarly articles on several legal topics ranging from export controls to jury selection, and he has served as editor-in-chief of the American Business Law Journal.

He is the recipient of several University-wide teaching awards, including the Josiah Meigs Teaching Award, the highest award the University provides for teaching excellence, the Richard B. Russell Undergraduate Teaching Award, the Teacher of the Year in the Terry College of Business, and the Tresp Teaching Award in the Honors Program.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., Morehead moved with his family to Atlanta as a teenager. He earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University. He is a 1980 graduate of the UGA School of Law where he earned his J.D. degree.

Morehead will assume the UGA presidency from Dr. Michael Adams, who will retire on June 30, 2013, after serving as president since 1997.

For further information please visit: http://www.usg.edu/.

LOAD-DATE: February 5, 2013

3 of 3 DOCUMENTS

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The Albany Herald (Georgia)

February 4, 2013 Monday

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 477 words

HEADLINE: Morehead named new UGA head
BYLINE: Staff Reports

BODY:

ATLANTA -- The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia announced Monday that Jere Morehead, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Georgia, has been named as the 22nd president of the university.

"Becoming president of the University of Georgia is a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half his life on this campus," said Morehead.

"While the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

Morehead added, "In preparation for the UGA presidency, I plan to spend the coming months evaluating our strengths and weaknesses, visiting with other presidents and key constituents, contemplating possible organizational changes and beginning preparation for a major capital campaign."

"I am appreciative to the chancellor, the chairman and the Board of Regents for giving me the opportunity to serve the University and the state of Georgia."

Morehead, who is replacing outgoing President Michael Adams, will assume his new post on July 1, according to BOR Chair "Dink" NeSmith.

Adams is a former resident of Albany.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia, and he has a great passion for the university and its service to students and the state of Georgia," said NeSmith.

"He knows the university, and it became clear to all involved in the search that he is the right person to take UGA forward. He has tremendous challenges ahead, and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

Regent Larry Walker, who chaired the search committee, said, "This was a comprehensive and thorough national search that identified strong candidates. But it became clear to the committee that Jere stood head and shoulders above a national field."

Morehead's career covers a wide range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA.

Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA's vice president for Instruction, vice provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Honors Program and acting executive director of Legal Affairs.

Morehead also serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors and vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation.

He was a UGA Foundation trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation trustee.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business, where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks from associate professor to full professor.

He also directed the UGA Law School Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.
Lawyer to head firm running football hall of fame

ATLANTA — An Atlanta attorney has been named president and chief operating officer of the firm in charge of building and operating the national College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta.

John Stephenson has been named to head Atlanta Hall Management, Inc., a nonprofit responsible for the project.

Stephenson attended the University of Georgia School of Law and has worked as a corporate attorney since 2000.

In late January construction began on the more than 94,000 square-foot, $66.5 million facility, which is slated to open in 2014.

The College Football Hall of Fame was located in South Bend, Ind., near the campus of Notre Dame, for 17 years. It closed last year. Organizers expect the new site to generate $11.8 million in annual retail and ticket sales.

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Comments

If you would like to post a comment please Sign in or Register.
A search committee that chose a replacement for retiring University of Georgia President Michael Adams cast their net nationwide. In the end, all they had to do was walk down the hall.

After the committee named him the sole finalist last week, the Board of Regents approved UGA Provost Jere Morehead as the new president on Monday, giving Adams' right-hand man on academics a promotion. The move pleased many who know Morehead—by all accounts a nice guy and a talented and competent administrator—but raised concerns about why the regents didn’t hire a bigger name from outside the UGA community who has more experience in fundraising and other political aspects of the job.

"It surprised me," Athens Area Chamber of Commerce President Doc Eldridge said. "I didn’t know Jere was on the list, but then again, I didn’t know who was on the list."
raised hackles around campus. A headhunting firm and a selection committee made up of regents and faculty, staff and student representatives vetted about 60 candidates, narrowing them down to nine and then one finalist, Morehead. None of the other candidates were made public. A little-noticed (at the time) change to state law last year allows the university system to name sole finalists for university presidencies.

"Unlike other places where they have multiple people come in, this was more cut-and-dried," geography professor John Knox said.

The search committee had said all along that it intended to recommend just one finalist. University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby defended the process, saying that applicants required confidentiality so their current employers don't know they're out looking for new jobs. And the search committee didn't give any weight to whether candidates came from inside or outside the UGA community, he said. "The criteria is the best person possible," Huckaby said. "He impressed everyone."

The lack of information left some to speculate that former Gov. Sonny Perdue, former UGA provost and Ohio State president Karen Holbrook or even former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who was once the provost at Stanford, would get the job.

"I think Jere Morehead is a very smart person who both knows and loves the University of Georgia, and I
exhilarating to do work—something James Corfield, a history professor (and Flagpole contributor). Unfortunately, in real life, academic work is often more important than reality, and I think that's some façade we're filling both of our highest aspirations into the position of president. Above all, from the beginning of our fairly brief span, we might invite the perception of becoming more insular.

However, Morehead could also be considered an internal appointment, since he's been on the UGA faculty for more than 15 years and administration before serving a brief stint as associate provost for academics. Nonetheless, Morehead's appointment has been more praise than criticism. Eldridge said he thinks Morehead will improve relations between the university and the Athens community, where Adams was often criticized. "He knows the community," Eldridge said. "I think it'll strengthen him-bottom-and-gown."

State Sen. Bill Cowsert (R-Athens), the chairman of the Senate Higher Education Committee, said he'll be able to work closely with Morehead because they've known each other for years. "He understands every teaching to various administrative positions, so he's uniquely qualified for the job," Cowsert said.

Morehead's had a somewhat unconventional career path. He graduated from the UGA School of Law in 1980 and spent the following six years as an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice. He joined the UGA faculty in 1986 and still holds the title of Meigs Professor of Legal Studies at the Terry College of Business. He was named director of the UGA Honors Program in 1999 and promoted to vice provost for academic affairs in 2004. In 2009, Adams appointed Morehead—by then the vice president for instruction—to replace Provost Arnett Mace when Mace retired.

Morehead is also vice chairman of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors and the UGA Research Foundation and a trustee at the UGA Foundation and UGA Real Estate Foundation. Serving on the foundations gave him fundraising experience—a big part of the president's job. And his experience in research and athletics—as well as instruction—could help him tackle several issues Adams has identified as critical for his successor, including reigning in the football program, beefing up graduate studies and tackling Georgia's obesity epidemic.
Unlike most provosts and university presidents, Morehead doesn’t have a PhD. But his past experience is encouraging to professors like Knox. “I hope the president will be an advocate for academics, with his background,” Knox said.

Morehead and regents declined to be interviewed prior to Monday’s vote. To read their comments afterword, click here.
The following information was released by the University of Georgia:

Writer:
Dave Marr
Dave Marr
Public Relations Specialist

Recent and archived articles by Dave Marr

Bertis Downs, an Athens entertainment lawyer and longtime adviser to Athens-based band R.E.M., will take part in a talk Feb. 18 at 4 p.m. in the University of Georgia Chapel.

Downs will join UGA's Nicholas Allen, Franklin Professor of English and director of the Jane and Harry Willson Center for Humanities and Arts. The structured conversation on "Bertis Downs in Conversation: Don't Get Me Started On Athens, Music Lessons and, of course, Good Schools for All Kids" is part of the Willson Center's Global Georgia Initiative.

Downs, a 1981 graduate of the UGA School of Law and a retired adjunct professor in the school, represented R.E.M. throughout the group's 30-year career. He continues to serve as an adviser in R.E.M.'s ongoing business interests since the group disbanded in 2011. Downs has been an Athens resident since 1978 and has long been active in the town's civic life.

Downs' career with an internationally successful rock band that remained so closely associated with its hometown has placed him in a unique position to witness Athens' interaction with the world, Allen said. "Few people can offer this kind of perspective, which is of enormous value to what we're trying to achieve with Global Georgia."

Downs also has an intimate perspective on an era of rapid change in the music industry, some of which he plans to share at the talk. For musicians trying to make a living with their art, "what's the playbook now?" he asked. "It's a lot trickier than it used to be."

In recent years, Downs increasingly has turned his energy toward advocating for public education as government funding for schools has steadily decreased.

"Public schools do a lot better than they get credit for, even though they are constantly denigrated, underfunded and barraged with mandates to do more with less," he said. "They continue, by and large, to do a good job. I try to support what anyone would agree needs to happen in every school: innovating and investing to enhance and improve the essential teaching and learning that goes on in every classroom and to make every school successful."
A reception will be held in Demosthenian Hall following the event.

The Global Georgia Initiative is a series of lectures and conversations organized by the Willson Center. Its goal is to present global problems in local context by addressing pressing contemporary questions including the economy, society and the environment with a focus on how the arts and humanities can intervene.

The 2013 initiative will run through March 5. The remaining speakers in the series are Ntone Edjabe, writer, journalist, disc jockey and founding editor of the pan-African literary and political journal Chimurenga, and Valerie Babb, professor of English and African American Studies in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences and director of the Institute for African American Studies at UGA.

For more information on the Global Georgia Initiative, see http://willson.uga.edu/programs/public-programs/global-georgia-initiative/.

Willson Center for Humanities and Arts

The Jane and Harry Willson Center for Humanities and Arts is a unit of the Office of the Vice President for Research at UGA. In the service of its mission to promote research and creativity in the humanities and arts, the Willson Center sponsors and participates in numerous public events on and off the UGA campus throughout the academic year. It supports faculty through research grants, lectures, symposia, publications, visiting scholars, visiting artists, collaborative instruction, public conferences, exhibitions and performances. For more information, see http://willson.uga.edu/.

LOAD-DATE: February 11, 2013

********** Print Completed **********

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The lawyer behind Athens-based band R.E.M., Bertis Downs IV, will speak about the music industry and public education at the University of Georgia on Feb. 18.

Downs, a 1981 UGA School of Law graduate and retired adjunct professor, will share his perspective on an era of rapid change in the music business, according to the university.

Part of Downs' talk will examine how musicians can make a living from their art.

"What's the playbook now?" Downs said, according to a UGA press release. "It's a lot trickier than it used to be."

Downs represented R.E.M. during the band's 30-year run, which ended in 2011. An Athens resident since 1978, Downs continues to advise the band on its ongoing business interests.

In recent years, he has advocated for public education as government funding for schools has decreased.

"Public schools do a lot better than they get credit for, even though they are constantly denigrated, underfunded and barraged with mandates to do more with less," Downs said.

Downs' talk, titled "Don't get me started—On Athens, music lessons and, of course, good schools for all kids,” will be held at the University of Georgia Chapel.

He will be joined by Nicholas Allen, a UGA English professor and director of the Jane and Harry Willson Center for Humanities and Arts.

Contributor: Mark Niesse in Events | subscribe to rss | share

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For more information on the Global Georgia Initiative, see http://willson.uga.edu/programs/public-programs/global-
February 8, 2013 Friday 8:07 AM EST

LENGTH: 423 words

HEADLINE: BLOG: 3D Economics: Here's stuff I read about sales tax policy

BYLINE: Adam Belz

BODY:


Feb. 07--I just filed a general story about Dayton's sales tax proposal. Should be in the paper Friday.

Here are some interesting links I found:
- The Minnesota Department of Revenue put together an informational sheet on which new services will be taxed under the plan, and how much revenue each category will generate. It's here [http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/tax_reform/Documents/Sales%20Tax%20Reform%20Overview%202013.929.2013.pdf].
- Florida's legislature famously extended its state sales tax to professional services in 1987. The tax was repealed six months after it went into effect. Walter Hellerstein, a tax expert at the University of Georgia Law School who helped draft the law, wrote an account of what happened [http://ntj.tax.org/ntjrec.nsf/175d710d405a385256a31007cb40f9749da99c8525686ce068678/$FILE/v41n1001.pdf] for the National Tax Journal. It's clearly written.
- This article on the distributional fairness of sales tax [http://ntj.tax.org/ntjrec.nsf/4F26FA663F2103948525686C00686D4B/$FILE/v44n1041.pdf], which I'm sure you're dying to read, shows that sales tax on services is slightly less regressive** than sales tax on commodities. It includes a nice summary of what happened when Florida gave itself a sales tax on business inputs: "a tax on business inputs has a very substantial direct impact on a small number of politically astute and sophisticated taxpayers."
- Tourists on the islands carry a heavier burden of the sales tax, because of tax pyramiding in Hawaii [http://Tax%20pyramiding%20in%20Hawaii%20http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/handle/10612/16563/RES-102.pdf?sequence=1]. It's got the broadest sales tax on services of any state. The General Excise Tax functions just like a sales tax and it happens to work for Hawaii because the place is isolated and highly dependent on tourism.
- This article from the Florida State University Law Review [http://146.201.5.144/journals/lawreview/downloads/303/stark.pdf] has a good discussion of the cascading effect of a sales tax on business-to-business services.
- **regressive is a technical term for a tax that falls more heavily on the poor in proportion to their income.

LOAD-DATE: February 08, 2013
Mr. and Mrs. Pete and Teresa Vagle of Pensacola Beach, Florida are pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter, Lauren Jill Martin to Patrick Carter Powell, son of Dr. and Mrs. Patrick W. and Mary Powell of Valdosta, Georgia. Jill is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Marcus and Virginia Smith of Hartwell, Georgia and the great-granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Minor O. Smith of Easley. She is a 2004 graduate of Duluth High School and Summa Cum Laude graduate of the University of Georgia with a BBA and BAJ. She is employed with KPMG, LLP in Atlanta as a valuation specialist. Patrick is the grandson of Mrs. Alice Sapp and the late Mr. Rema Sapp of Alma, Georgia and the late Lt. Col. and Mrs. James M. Powell of Valdosta, Georgia. He is a 2004 graduate of Lowndes High School and Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of Georgia and the UGA School of Law. He is an attorney in the firm of Durham & Rizzi, P.C. in Brunswick, Georgia. The wedding is planned for February 23, 2013 on St. Simons Island, Georgia.
NeSmith: Morehead is right choice to lead UGA

published Friday, February 8, 2013

Decisions are like architecture. Choices — especially the critical ones — should stand the test of time. You want to look back after 25 years and say, “We did the right thing for back then and now.” I am confident Georgians will look back and say, “Jere Morehead was the right choice to become president of the state’s flagship of higher education on July 1, 2013.”

The University of Georgia has been stuck like Velcro to my soul since the 1966 ride to Athens in the back seat of my dad’s Buick. Before my freshman year was over, Big Dink wondered if I was learning anything. “You’ve joined everything but the women’s glee club,” he said. “Do you have time to study?”

I got more than a college education. I came away with scores of lifelong friends and a wife. Our three children met their spouses through UGA. So when our family gathers for a meal, there are 16 feet under the table that have stepped forward to receive a total of 10 degrees. All 15 of us, including seven grandsons, are lifetime members of the UGA Alumni Association. Who leads our alma mater is important to us and 10 million other Georgians.

That’s why, as an alumnus and chairman of the University System of Georgia’s Board of Regents, I had one goal in the selection of Michael Adams’ successor: Recruit the best. Like most change-agent leaders, President Adams hasn’t always taken the scenic route. But he got us on the expressway to excellence and national prominence.

The 4-H motto proclaims “To Make the Best Better.” Come July, that’ll be Jere Morehead’s challenge.

I thought you might be interested in the process that chose him to be the 22nd president of the nation’s oldest-chartered public university. When Mike Adams announced his retirement, the board engaged a nationally acclaimed search firm. Seven regents, along with faculty, alumni and the president of the UGA Student Government Association, formed the 20-member committee. Dozens of candidates surfaced. Academic rock stars studded the list.

The committee, led by Regent Larry Walker, did
its homework. The roster was narrowed to six, and
they were invited to Atlanta. Over two days, we
drilled deeper to compare the information
provided and the reference feedback with the
people sitting before us. We analyzed their
leadership styles.

One thing was certain: UGA Provost Jere Morehead was a rock star. His
name, along with those of presidents of two major universities, was
advanced to the 18-member Board of Regents. When decision day was
over, Jere emerged as the sole finalist.

I like what this says about The University of Georgia. After a coast-
to-coast search, the best candidate, an alumnus, was right here in our
midst. Jere Morehead's integrity, loyalty, passion for teaching,
institutional knowledge and his vision moved him to the top.

Those who know him are not surprised. He is among UGA's most
acclaimed faculty members.

Jere reminds me of a UGA legend, the late Dr. J.W. Fanning, who was a
world-class listener. Fanning worked magic — pulling people together
through quiet, collaborative leadership. Jere has those gifts, too. And
Bulldogs will appreciate that he's vice chairman of the athletic board.

Another huge plus is that he knows Georgia's government and its 159
counties, inside and out. Jere's connections — and respect — among
classmates and his former honors students are endless. Just one example
is Rep. David Ralston, Georgia's Speaker of the House. The two were
partners on UGA's law school moot court team.

Just like the architectural tribute on South Lumpkin Street that bears
J.W. Fanning's name, the Morehead decision will stand the test of time. I
predict that Georgians will say now, and 25 years from now, "Jere
Morehead was the right choice for The University of Georgia."

- Dink NeSmith, president of Community Newspapers Inc., chairs the
Board of Regents.
International Law and Scarcity

by Kristen Boon

Scarcity of land, water, food, fish... These are common refrains today, and yet they beg an important question: what is scarcity? This was the starting point of a terrific conference this week organized by the Dean Rusk Center, at the University of Georgia Law School, the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law, and OJ friend Professor Harlan Cohen.

The definition of scarcity can be approached in three ways. Usually, scarcity is determined by supply and demand. When demand outruns supply, it goes, we are in a state of scarcity. Nonetheless, the economic view of scarcity is not the only relevant framework because it doesn't address questions of access. Another way of looking at the issue, therefore, is through the window of rights and justice. In other words we must consider vulnerability, exclusions, and access when we are assessing access. Finally, we might look at the use of exhaustible resources on a trajectory. As resources are used, we move down a slope. The issue then is where are we on that slope with regards to exhaustible resources, and what should we do about it?

On the issue of how to respond to questions of scarcity, members of the panels canvassed opportunities to conserve, redistribute, substitute, innovate, acquire, and even abandon. Some were particularly keen to highlight the problems of waste, as we contemplate scarcity. Nonetheless, the discussion led to the suggestion we can't get a handle on any of the scarcity issues in one area without coming to terms with the fact choices may need to be made about what uses are most important. Normative choices about what to prefer, perhaps based on substitutability, will be part of the solution. (Although, water and air of course are not substitutable.) Moreover, we might need to think hard about governance choices in order to make those institutions stick. Management and regulation are therefore part of the conversation.

But these approaches raise big questions about whether to think about all these issues separately or together, in emergency/crisis terms or in terms of long-range planning, locally or globally. Ultimately, it may depend on what resources we are talking about. For my part, I discussed scarcity and redistribution in the case of Bluefin Tuna, which I have blogged about here.
New top Dawg

Regents unanimously approve Morehead as UGA’s 22nd president

By Matt Chambers
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With a unanimous vote on Feb. 4, the University System of Georgia Board of Regents approved Jere Morehead as the university's next president.

Morehead, current senior vice president for academic affairs and provost at UGA, will assume his new post on July 1.

"Jere has devoted the bulk of his career to the University of Georgia, and he has a great passion for the university and its service to students and the state of Georgia," said Dink NeSmith, regents chairman. "He has tremendous challenges ahead, and the board will support him as he works to strengthen UGA's programs."

Chancellor Hank Huckaby also spoke highly of Morehead at a Feb. 4 news conference in the Miller Learning Center.

"(The board of regents) concluded and I concurred that having searched the country east to west, we found the person that we wanted and needed right here on campus," Huckaby said.

Morehead graduated from the UGA School of Law in 1980 and also currently serves as vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association board of directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation trustee, and a UGA Real Estate Foundation trustee. He said that being named president is a dream come true.

"While the University of Georgia faces many economic challenges, I believe that if we focus on our academic priorities, we can and will reach new heights as an institution," Morehead said. "The university is poised, thanks to our faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in this country. That belief will filter every decision that I make, how I spend my time and how I devote the university's resources in the coming years."

Morehead said he plans to devote the next five months to evaluating the university's strengths and weaknesses. He also plans to visit and talk with alumni, supporters, legislators and other officials prior to taking charge in July.

"I think it will help me develop a fresh perspective regarding the changes that may be good for the University of Georgia going forward," Morehead said. "I'll also be contemplating possible organizational changes and certainly beginning the preparation for a major capital campaign to move us to the next level and provide us with the private resources necessary to remain nationally competitive."

In some ways, Morehead's thought process as president will be a continuation of his current post.

"When I became provost I said that I thought our institution needed to be less bureaucratic, it needed to be very responsive to our faculty, students, alumni and supporters, and that is an issue that I will continue to confront and to address going forward," he said.

The Florida native also said he wants to lead the university through the largest capital campaign in its history.

Morehead said one of the most important things he can do as president is to keep the university focused on being "the strongest academic institution that we can possibly be."

"That requires getting our entire structure behind a major capital campaign to move the university forward," he said, "because we can't assume that, in these economic times, we're going to get our resources from any place other than our own friends and supporters."

Morehead said he believes there exists a "very good relationship" between academics and athletics, and he has great confidence in Greg McGarity, the university's athletic director, and his staff.

"In the end, I want to see our student athletes be successful in the classroom and to earn their degrees," Morehead said. "I also want to see them win a few championships along the way as well, and I don't think that's mutually exclusive. I think we do both very well here."

Morehead will appoint an interim provost in the coming days See PRESIDENT on page 8
C AFFAIRS

mittee appointed to find next for Terry College of Business

Jere Morehead has appointed a committee to begin a national search for the position of dean of the Terry College of Business.

Forbes, dean of the Franklin Arts and Sciences, will chair the committee, which includes:

- Tom Love, chair of the college's departments, staff, student and external relations.
- Michael Heider, a finance major who plans to join Goldman Sachs in New York City after graduation this spring.
- Elena Karahanna, the L. Edmund Rast Professor of Business.
- Charlotte Mason, professor and head of the department of marketing and director of the Coca-Cola Center for Marketing Studies.
- Ted McMullan, who received his MBA from Terry College in 1993. McMullan is president of Covington Investments LLC and immediate past chair of the Terry College Alumni board of directors.
- Myra Moore, director of assessment, rankings and undergraduate programs and senior lecturer of economics.
- Annette Poulsen, the Augustus H. "Billy" Sterne Professor of Banking and Finance.
- Jill Walton, director of undergraduate student services and corporate relations at the Terry College.
- Bill Young Jr., a 1978 alumnus of Terry College. Young is president and partner of General Wholesale Co., chair of the UGA Foundation board of trustees and a member of the Terry College Dean's Advisory Council.

The search firm Korn/Ferry International will assist the committee.

WILLSON CENTER

R.E.M. adviser to take part in talk at Chapel

By Dave Marr
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Bertis Downs, an Athens entertainment lawyer and longtime adviser to the Athens band R.E.M., will take part in a talk on Feb. 18 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel.

Downs will join Nicholas Allen, Franklin Professor of English and director of the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, for a structured conversation as part of the Willson Center's Global Georgia Initiative.

The talk is titled "Bertis Downs in Conversation: Don't Get Me Started—On Athens, Music Lessons and, of Course, Good Schools for All Kids."

Downs, a 1981 graduate of the UGA School of Law and a retired adjunct professor in the law school, represented R.E.M. throughout the band's 30-year career.

He has continued to serve as an adviser in R.E.M.'s ongoing business interests since the group disbanded in 2011. Downs has been an Athens resident since 1978 and has long been active in the town's civic life.
and plans to name a small presidential transition team to advise him on key issues. He also said he will be focused on his current position and job duties.

"I've got four openings to fill for deanships in the Grady College, the School of Public and International Affairs, the College of Engineering and the Terry College of Business. And, soon, Rodney Bennett, vice president for student affairs, will be named president of the University of Southern Mississippi," he said. "So I'll have plenty to do on my schedule over the next five months as provost."

Morehead's career has covered a range of faculty and administrative posts at UGA. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in 2010, he served as UGA's vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, director of the Honors Program and acting executive director of legal affairs.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Morehead is the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business, where he has had a faculty appointment since 1986, first as an assistant professor teaching legal studies, rising through the ranks from associate professor to full professor. He also directed the School of Law's Advocacy Program from 1986-1995.

After serving as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan in 1995, Morehead returned to the Terry College faculty in 1996. Before joining the UGA faculty, Morehead worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a U.S. attorney from 1980-1986.

He is also the recipient of the Richard B. Russell Undergraduate Teaching Award, the Teacher of the Year in the Terry College of Business and the Lothar Tresp Outstanding Honors Professor Award.
“This press is doing all of the right things.”

Part of the press’s strategy, led by Mick Gusinde-Duffy, its new editor-in-chief, is to carve out new areas that reflect shifting trends in scholarship. These areas include security studies and international affairs; interdisciplinary environmental studies; American history since 1970; and new treatments of the American Civil War.

The list expansion, Bayer explained, is driven in part by the expertise of UGA faculty and access to research centers such as the Center for International Trade and Security and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts. All of more than 500 are available electronically. Most new books published are available in both print and e-book formats, though for now hard copies are still by far the most popular. E-books accounted for only about 3 percent of sales in fiscal 2012. Bayer expects that number to exceed 10 percent this year.

As the UGA Press embraces new areas of scholarship and new ways of reading while embracing the strengths of its past, the future is not so uncertain. Another 75 years of scholarly publishing appear to be on the horizon. “We know where we need to be,” Bayer said, “and we’re ready for the next chapter.”

WEEKLYREADER

Prof’s book examines two parts of law

Arbitration has become an increasingly important mechanism for dispute resolution, both in the domestic and international setting. Despite its importance as a form of state-sanctioned dispute resolution, it has largely remained outside the spotlight of constitutional law.

*Arbitration and the Constitution*, written by Peter B. Rutledge, the Herman E. Talmadge Professor in the School of Law, represents one of the first attempts to synthesize the fields of arbitration law and constitutional law.

Drawing on Rutledge’s extensive experience as a scholar in arbitration law—he has lectured and studied around the world—the book offers unique insights into how arbitration law implicates issues such as separation of powers, federalism and individual liberties. The book also discusses the ways that two fields of law influence each other beyond the express application of doctrine.
What Others Say: Morehead is right choice for UGA presidency (Savannah Morning News)

published Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Georgia’s Board of Regents didn’t go very far to find someone to succeed Michael Adams as the new big man on campus at the state’s flagship university in Athens.

In fact, they stuck close to the Arch and hired UGA Provost Jere Morehead.

The regents who oversee the state’s public universities voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law who also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. Other key credentials include vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors, vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation, a UGA Foundation trustee and a UGA Real Estate Foundation trustee.

In other words, this Top Dawg is connected.

He becomes the 22nd president of the university and is set to start July 1.

Interestingly, the new president wasn’t just the top choice. He emerged late in the game as the only choice.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position. In mid-December, the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

By going with the homegrown favorite, the regents are getting someone who needs no learning curve and can immediately contribute from day one. That’s important, as public funds for higher education get increasingly tight while the need for an educated workforce continues to grow ...

For his part, Morehead said he plans to spend the next few months evaluating the university’s strengths and weaknesses and meeting with key groups, while considering possible organizational changes and beginning
preparations for a “major capital campaign.” Let’s hope he plans to visit this area soon.

Not surprisingly, the new president calls his job “a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus.”

He also said that “while the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities, we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States.”

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby, who’ll be Morehead’s boss, called the vote “the right decision for UGA.” He didn’t add “woof, woof, woof,” but you couldn’t blame him if he did.

—Savannah Morning News

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Curls

Of course folks with other campuses in the University system are excited about the new UGA president. Just what they want a Regents toadie to run the flagship school. Now worry about UGA asking for something not on the Regents to do list.

harrumph

Commenting ad nauseam on Jere Morehead’s choice as UGA president is tiresome, whether from provincial newspapers or from Curls, who seems to carry a chip on her shoulder about Morehead.

If JM is such a lousy choice, Curls, why didn’t you apply for the job? You must feel you’d be a better prez. Sounds like sour grapes to me.
John McNeil to leave jail Tuesday

Related

By Rhonda Cook

On one side of a Cobb County courtroom Tuesday there was joy and a sense of victory. On the other there was sadness and disbelief.

John McNeil, who began the day a convicted murderer sentenced to life in prison, left a courtroom, and later the jail, free, having pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in the 2005 death of his contractor, a case that drew national attention as an example of a stand-your-ground law ignored.

New Cobb County District Attorney Vic Reynolds said later Tuesday that justice was done. He felt a conviction of voluntary manslaughter fit the crime better than murder for McNeil for shooting and killing contractor Brian Epp. McNeil’s defense in his trial was built around self defense, but a judge ruled in an appeal that he should have also been able to argue that he was justified to shoot Epp to defend his son, who said he had been threatened with a knife.

Epp’s family was dumbfounded when Cobb County Superior Judge Greg Poole Tuesday gave McNeil credit for the time he has already spent incarcerated and then sentenced him to 13 years more on probation, to be served in North Carolina where McNeil’s two sons live and where his late wife will be buried later in the week.

“We never, ever thought it would happen,” Julie Epp, Brian Epp’s ex-wife, said after the hearing.

Taylor Epp, Brian’s son from his marriage to Julie, spoke sparingly once it was over. As the judge announced he had accepted McNeil’s plea of guilty of voluntary manslaughter, the slight young man’s eyes filled, and then drop-by-drop tears trickled down his cheeks.

“He’s devastated over the whole thing,” Julie Epp said of her 18-year-old son.

McNeil, now 46, was released Tuesday afternoon following an usual move to reopen the case against him even though the government’s appeal of a lower court’s decision that he deserved a new trial was pending before the Georgia Supreme Court.

“The jury convicted Mr. McNeil of felony murder,” Cobb prosecutor Reynolds said. “I think any right-thinking DA would think
John McNeil to leave jail Tuesday

this case arguably would fit within the felony murder statute. I began looking at the case from my perspective. I felt legally and factually the case was voluntary manslaughter. It’s a tragic case on both sides of the aisle. It was something I felt needed to be resolved.”

North Carolina and Georgia NAACP officials, who have pushed media coverage of McNeil’s case, said they will now try to have McNeil’s name cleared and his guilty plea wiped from his record.

“John McNeil’s only crime was defending his family,” said NAACP Georgia State Conference President Edward Dubose.

Shed of the orange jail-issued jumpsuit and waist chains he wore in court five hours earlier, McNeil walked out of the Cobb County Adult Detention center just before 2 p.m. Wearing a dark suit with a white shirt without a tie, he spoke briefly with reporters, telling them the first thing he wanted to do was “breathe freedom.”

Even though he is now free, McNeil said he is “grieving” his wife who died Feb. 2 of breast cancer.

“This has been a sad time for me,” he said.

McNeil’s new sentence is 20 years — seven in prison, already served, and 13 on probation. The murder conviction required him to serve a minimum of 30 years.

University of Georgia law professor Ron Carlson said the direction the McNeil case has taken is “not unheard of but it also isn’t common.”

McNeil and Brian Epp had long-held animosities for each other because of frequent disagreements and disputes over the construction of the McNeil’s $439,000 house in Cobb County. For the most part, the work was done on the house but Epp still had a list of things to do.

On Dec. 6, 2005, McNeil’s son called his father to report a strange man in the yard who he said threatened him with a box cutter. McNeil said he knew it was Epp.

As he pulled into his driveway while on his cell phone with a 911 operator, McNeil told her to send the police quickly because “I’m getting ready to beat his ass,” according to a recording of the exchange.

McNeil fired once into the ground as Epp walked over from the house next door and then he shot Epp in the face with a hollow point bullet.

McNeil said he thought Epp was armed. The contractor had a folded utility knife in his front pants pocket.

McNeil was arrested nine months later, after then-District Attorney Pat Head reviewed the case and indicted McNeil for murder.

McNeil’s trial began on Oct. 30, 2006, and he was convicted nine days later.

Several jurors told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that the recorded exchange between McNeil and the 911 operator persuaded them that McNeil intended to harm Epp — not just defend himself or his family.
Pay phones' future uncertain in digital world

February 13, 2013 by Kelly Yamanouchi, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

They sit, silent and unnoticed, amid crowds of people rushing by. You may never notice them, but payphones still lurk in public areas. And every once in a while, they get called into action.

Ron Szulwach, who flew from Texas to Atlanta last month, discovered upon landing that his cellphone service didn't work at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. "So out of desperation, I'm using a payphone," he said after dropping the receiver back on its hook. The last time he remembers using a pay phone: 2005, in war-torn Iraq, while with the Texas National Guard.

Many are wondering what role pay phones should play in today's wireless world. A decade or two after cellphone technology has passed them by, the number of pay phones is dwindling.

In 1998, there were more than 2 million pay phones in the United States. That has plummeted to 243,000 pay phones nationally, according to the Federal Communications Commission. Industry estimates paint a slightly brighter picture of about 400,000 pay phones nationally, though those figures also represent a drastic decline.

Some still see a need to keep the anachronistic connection available for the elderly, the poor and others without a working phone.

Even people with cellphones may someday find themselves in a need of a pay phone, say industry leaders, who point to disasters like Superstorm Sandy last year when cellphones went dead and people in the Northeast found themselves lining up at pay phones to keep in touch with friends and family.

Yet there is scant demand to keep pay phones profitable. Many major phone companies have left the pay phone business. Verizon last June sold off its last batch of pay phones, which dotted the streets of New York City.

"It just wasn't germane to our business strategy," said Verizon spokesman Bob Elek.

Many of the last holdouts are in places like truck stops, convenience stores and some hotels.

"They are still a pretty critical piece of the infrastructure, especially for the poor in American society," said Randy Nichols, president of the American Public Communications Council. He said the image of pay phones as crime magnets is a "perception issue." Disposable cellphones
are the preferred communications device of drug dealers, Nichols said, because pay phones can be tapped and convenience stores may have security cameras.

"Any self-respecting criminal knows that," he said.

Instead of instruments of ill-doing, Nichols sees pay phones as "a critical part of the communications infrastructure for the country." He said they can work during natural disasters as long as the local telephone company switch is above water.

More than a decade ago, it wasn't uncommon to see banks of pay phones everywhere. But, along with the rise of cellphones, the 1996 Telecommunications Act laid a piece of the groundwork that put a stake through the heart of the pay phone business - the prohibition of "cross-subsidizing" pay phones with revenue from regular phone bills, according to Nichols.

"So the pay phones had to stand on their own to prevent (the Bells) from being able to frustrate competition by subsidizing the business," Nichols said. Pay phone use declined, and the Bells "ultimately made the decision to abandon the pay phone business." That has left pay phones mostly in the hands of small businesses that, in many locations, struggle to cover connection charges of $25 or $30 a month with the paltry quarters and card charges coming in.

Pay phones are still an affordable way to make 50 cent local calls. But rates for long distance vary widely, depending on which long distance provider the caller chooses, and high prices can be an unpleasant surprise for infrequent pay phone users.

"Our industry has gone to hell in a handbasket," said James R. Kelly III, whose Atlanta-based firm KELLEE Communications operates pay phones at Hartsfield-Jackson and several other airports. His company has removed thousands of its pay phones across the country and entirely pulled out of more than 15 airports.

Others are trying ideas to transform the pay phone. New York has launched a program to reinvent pay phones as Wi-Fi hotspots. Denver International Airport in November launched free landline phones to be supported by ads on LCD screens on each phone.

At Hartsfield-Jackson, more than 1,100 pay phones have been pulled out, relegated to warehouses before being junked.

"You cannibalize them for parts and then you toss them. And even after a while, there's more parts than you need," Kelly said.

With pay phone revenue down, the airport and KELLEE Communications were unable to come to an agreement for a new contract.

Some airports have done away with pay phones altogether. But at Hartsfield-Jackson, Miller sees a need for them for customer service and plans for the airport to subsidize the cost of installing phones when striking its next contract. He said that's because pay phone providers
won’t spend money to provide the service when they can’t make much money doing it.

“People are sitting around in the telephone booths and they’re talking on their cellphone,” Miller said. “That’s common at airports across the country.”

In the pay phone business, “The Atlanta airport is one of the last airports to fall,” said Kelly. International flights help, with travelers from abroad seeking to avoid international cellphone charges. Hartsfield-Jackson’s international terminal opened last year has no pay phones, but Miller plans to add that in a new contract.

Some who grew up in the cellphone age, like 21-year-old University of Georgia law student Alex Carteret, have never even used a pay phone.

“Nobody even thinks about pay phones anymore,” he said.

Fellow UGA law student Sven Boesing countered: "Nobody ever thinks about them until you need one. And then you think, ‘Damn, why don’t we have them anymore?’"

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Lucas named partner at Rome law firm

Samuel L. Lucas has been named a partner in the Brinson, Askew, Berry, Siegler, Richardson & Davis law firm.

Lucas joined the firm in 2006. He has practiced law in the appellate arena and does work in business and civil litigation, insurance defense, local government and school law and personal injury.

"We are excited to welcome Samuel as a partner," said King Askew, one of the founding attorneys. "He is an excellent trial attorney who provides outstanding legal service and counsel for his clients."

Lucas is a graduate of the University of Georgia Law School after earning his bachelor's degree in business administration at Emory University.
Most of us know that laughter is the best medicine. So, what could be everyone’s better example of true laughter than the images of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy — comedians par excellence — who laughed their way through the Great Depression? This is not all. Their impressions are still with us, as instant deliverers from our own sense of ennui, not just because they were the awesome two-man ensemble, the first great — and, perhaps, the last — Hollywood motion-picture comedy team, in a genre of their own, but also because they were to slapstick what the ‘falling apple’ was to Isaac Newton. The moment their charming, immortal faces were made by god, generations were assured of deriving enormous mirth by way of their timeless enchantment. Just because of one, unique, element called pure hilarity and side-splitting surrealism. While one made us laugh, with his childlike innocent wails, the other was equally at home with personified conviviality, thanks to his straightforward, smiley-like corpulence, toothbrush moustache and infectious hypnotic grin.

Fat people are without doubt, winners of smile and champions in size. Hardy (1892-1957), was the greatest of them all. He’s one of a kind; his natural ‘foil,’ Laurel (1890-1965), was another. Laurel and Hardy never ever rationed their hilarious template; they never held back anything in the physics and chemistry of sparkling, ‘stand-in’ comedy. They shared every frame — and expanded on their histrionic brilliance — for sheer fun, replete with not just sublime thought, but also uplifting intonation and sizzling action. In addition, they drew upon the ground spring of their own images and ideas that came spontaneously, without forced effort. In so doing, they fashioned their truly holistic, ‘individualised’ character and personality on celluloid — of both slapstick and outright droll. Aside from this, they were awfully creative. As a matter of fact, none of their roles or histrionic leanings had in it any preconceived ‘decree’ — to any given situation. It was improvisation at its best — not just ‘sticking’ to the script, as it were.

Life was nasty, rough and short for most people, and cinema, in particular, bound for travelling fairs and beer halls. ‘Olly’ and his ‘frail’ friend had to reflect this grim reality, besides other forms of human behaviour that could make one laugh and even forget life’s innumerable adversities. Not that life is any different, today... Wait a moment. As the awesome duo achieved its apogee in grand style, impressively, articulately and compellingly, a legion of their admirers, in a host of climes, have incessantly tried, or continued, to imitate them in their own ‘game,’ without ever achieving anything more than unconvincing masquerade. Olly and Stan were inimitable. There was none like them before; there won’t be any in the future, too — even with cloning.

To cull, but just one scenic example from one of their films. The telephone rings. Hardy attends to the call. His acquaintance, who is on the line, invites him and Stan, for a boisterous, fun-filled party. Hardy, enticed by the invite, holds back from committing himself, since he’s promised his wife — and, Laurel his — that they would take them for
Two of A Kind

Olly, therefore, tells the caller, “If a Hardy makes up his mind (to ignore the get-together), it’s as strong as the Rock of Gibraltar.” A moment later, Hardy has second thoughts. The rock crumbles, when the caller tempts him with the alluring names of the spirits they would be entertained with. Hardy confirms his acceptance. The drama unfolds, with a ‘blinding’ headache.

The departure time for the train approaches. Hardy, with a gloomy countenance, asks his wife to get going, along with Ms Laurel, promising that they would join them later. As the ladies leave, bedlam reigns. In his urgency, one of Hardy’s feet gets ‘jammed’ in Laurel’s boot, which he thinks is his. Annoyed with the gaffe, Olly tells his mate, “Another fine mess…” The duo’s theme song. Soon, the ladies return home, because they’ve ‘missed’ the train. The timeless ‘medley’ of confusion worse confounded begins anew. The audience is taken on yet another glorious trip of unadulterated, rip-roaring mirth.

When Hardy first studied law at the University of Georgia, US, he knew, sort of, that a career in legal matters would not be his cup of tea. Not only that. At age 17, Hardy even launched his hometown’s first movie theatre. Destiny was manifest. Lured by the tinsel bug, and his love for acting, Hardy soon joined the Lubin Motion Picture Company in Florida, in 1913. He started not only working with lights and props, but also as a small-time actor, ‘donning’ the villain’s role. He didn’t look dangerous, of course. It was status quo for a few years, albeit the moment he would finish his work at the studio, he’d rush to indulge in his other passion — golf. An avid golfer, Hardy was not in the big league, all right, but he’s good enough to pursue his fancy with as much ease as he’s to portray his enormous talent on celluloid.

Life for Hardy changed when he soon made his major debut in films, with Outwitting Dad. Destiny was, again, manifest, in 1917-1918, when Hardy met his alter ego at Hal Roach’s Studio, where he’s now acting, and Laurel, an Englishman, was writing scripts. Shape of things to come? Yes. As their fantastic rapport seemed to click, right from the word go, The Lucky Dog, their maiden film together, announced their stupendous arrival, juxtaposed by the outstanding success of yet another film, Slipping Wives, followed by Putting Pants on Philip. As their popularity escalated, the two discovered that they had acted in as many as 24 films, in as many months — what with their professional contract with their first producer taking effect to last for the next 12 years. After that? Viola! The laughing pair never lost its magical form till its last act together — Robinson Crusoe and in 1952.

As the awesome-twosome conquered many a sad heart, the amazing success of their finest film, A Chum at Oxford, initiated a new process, a great idea — novel in concept and practical in economics. The duo began to be featured in films consisting of sequences adapted from several movies. As many as eight were made, on the basis — the most popular among them being — When Comedy Was King. One ought to doff one’s hat for a host of Laurel and Hardy’s mirthful rallies, such as Leave ’em Laughing, The Battle of the Century, The Music Box, Way Out West, The Flying Deuces, Sons of the Desert, Block Heads and The March of the Wooden Soldiers, among the 100-odd films they worked together in a grand partnership that lasted for 26 glorious, fun-filled years. It’s an outstanding achievement — no more, no less.

The comedy mould, so to speak, was made for them both, in letter, word and spirit. If Hardy got initiated into films through his movie house, Laurel’s baptism emerged by way of his involvement as a stage comic with Levy & Cardwell’s Pantomime Company, which also had his father working as one of the stage managers. Laurel’s career was all set to move up the ladder of fame, sooner than later, when he arrived in the US, in 1910, with Fred Kano’s Vaudeville Company, which also had another ‘recruit’ who’s to become
Two of A Kind

comedy’s first knight. No prizes for guessing. His name, Charlie Chaplin. A comparison, albeit odious, to use a cliché, would, therefore, be imminent. Chaplin came into films with his talent inherited from his parents, who were vaudevillians — small-time entertainers who could sing popular songs with topical allusions, dance, or perform, humorous skits and spoofs. Having been subject to parental instability and abject poverty, it was this Freudian impression that had the most profound effect on Chaplin. He could mime and dance superbly and with consummate skill — qualities that were so essential for the era of silent films. Hardy and Laurel were different. Theirs was a great, combined team effort. Sound, unlike Chaplin, was their éminence grise, so also their riveting dialogues. What’s more, they made the transition from silent films to sound motion pictures like duck to water.

Laurel and Hardy, two sides of the same coin, were, perforce, never ever complete without the other. Their genius, or art, knows no age, because they beam the lighter side of life, the child and the adult, wrapped within our psyche, naturally. Also, spontaneously. More so, because their spirit will live on, striking a special chord, as it were — while upholding their omnipresent element of happiness in every human heart — for the next hundred years. Or, so long as laughter exists.

(The writer, an ardent Laurel & Hardy fan, is a wellness physician and author)

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Source URL: http://www.mydigitalfc.com/opinion/two-kind-657
Lawmaker wants Georgia to nix federal laws

by Walter C. Jones, Morris News Service
02.15.13 - 12:02 am

ATLANTA -- Georgia would ignore federal laws and presidential orders if a panel of appointees say they're unconstitutional and the General Assembly agrees under legislation introduced Thursday.

Whether states can nullify a federal law without a court striking it down was an issue that sparked the Civil War, and many scholars argue the matter was settled 150 years ago. The courts are the only option for disgruntled states, according to Neil Kinkopf, a constitutional expert at Georgia State University's law school.

"This is the most thoroughly settled question in constitutional law," he said.

University of Georgia law professor Logan Sawyer agrees.

"It was most famously rejected by Andrew Jackson in the 1830s and then during the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s," he said. "No court accepts the doctrine today."

However, Rep. Jason Spencer, R-Woodbine, argues nullification was supported by Thomas Jefferson and other founding fathers and that the Civil War didn't change the powers the Constitution gives to the states.

"It's a doctrine I believe is valid," said Spencer, who is a member of the informal Conscience Caucus of conservative legislators.

He sponsored House Bill 352 which would create a 10-member commission to review every new federal law and recommend ones legislators should vote on nullifying.

"Neither the state nor its citizens shall recognize or be obligated to live under such statute, mandate or executive order," notes the bill.

Georgia has used the courts to try to strike down laws it objects to. For instance, it joined half of the states in asking the U.S. Supreme Court to reject the federal health-reform law known as ObamaCare. That court upheld the bulk of the law, but it agreed with the states about one part that would have withheld Medicaid funds as punishment if states refused to expand that insurance program for the
poor. As a result, Gov. Nathan Deal has decided not to expand it here now that there’s no penalty.

But the federal courts could be wrong and refuse to reject an unconstitutional law passed by Congress and enforced by the executive branch, Spencer notes.

“Who checks the federal government when all three branches assault the states?” he asks.

The second-term legislator doesn’t expect his bill to pass, at least not this year. Instead, he sees it as an opportunity to educate his colleagues during a hearing he expects to get in committee.

In Mississippi where a pair of Tea Party advocates introduced a similar bill, a legislative committee voted it down last week.

“I don’t know why we would want to bring that ridicule on Georgia,” Kinkopf said.

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For some Minn. businesses, sales tax debate is all about fairness

Article by ADAM BELZ
Star Tribune
February 15, 2013 - 6:49 AM

Don't tell Wendy Brown that a business can't charge a sales tax and survive.

She's been collecting the tax every time she gives a Schnauzer or a golden doodle a shampoo and a clip at her shop in south Minneapolis. So to her, Gov. Mark Dayton's proposal to lower the tax rate and spread it to a wider variety of businesses -- such as hair salons for humans -- is about fairness.

"I'm just surprised that hair salons have not been taxed," said Brown, owner since 1976 of Wendy's Doghouse, a pet grooming shop a few blocks west of the Minnehaha Dog Park. "I've been paying sales tax forever."

Dayton's budget overhaul has taken blistering criticism from lawyers, public relations firms, accountants and IT firms that would have to charge sales tax on their fees if the budget is approved. But the governor's plan would lower Brown's state sales tax from 6.875 percent to 5.5 percent and help remedy a patchwork system that favors some businesses over others, often for no apparent reason.

Minnesota sales tax applies to pet grooming but not barber shops, dry cleaners but not coin-operated laundromats, and calls to 1-900 numbers but not dating services. Super Bowl tickets are exempt, but not hockey sticks.

"The lines have been drawn over the years, and they've been relatively arbitrary," said Myron Frans, commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Revenue. "There's some people that say the rationale is simply, it depends on who was in the room when the bill was written."

Under Dayton's proposal, a raft of retail services would lose their exemptions -- things like wedding planning, shoe shines and dance instruction. Also, the state would begin to tax a range of fees that businesses charge each other for services like accounting and IT work. That's the part of the budget that has taken so much criticism.

But even the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, a staunch opponent of the budget as a whole, likes the part that would expand the sales tax to more consumer services.

"We do support broadening the base and lowering the rate on final retail [sales to consumers]," said Beth Kadoun, tax and fiscal policy director for the chamber.

Many economists argue that a consumption tax should be levied against as many consumer purchases as possible to avoid favoring certain goods and services over others.

Walter Hellerstein, a professor at the University of Georgia Law School who specializes in tax law, said states tend to tax more goods than services. For instance, the tax in Minnesota and many other states applies to auto parts. Yet it doesn't apply to the cost of labor for installing the part.

"When I get my muffler repaired, the muffler's no good to me if it's not installed, so when you think about it there's simply no rational basis for not taxing all consumer services," Hellerstein said. "But we have a long history of that."

Rules vary

Minnesota instituted a sales tax in 1967 almost exclusively on goods, at a rate of 3 percent. The state now has the sixth-highest
The sales tax applies to an estimated 66 services in Minnesota, according to a 2007 survey by the Federation of Tax Administrators. That compares with as many as 160 services taxed in Hawaii, and as few as zero in Oregon.

Brian Mickelson, owner of Minnesota Tree Surgeons in Delano, has been collecting sales tax on tree trimming jobs for 10 years. "In my opinion, they should probably do it for everything and make it across the board," he said.

The state needs revenue to balance the budget, he said, and customers don't decide whether to buy a product or a service because of a sales tax. "You don't sit and bitch at Chipotle about paying the sales tax," Mickelson said. "You just do it."

One important distinction is between the tax on sales to consumers and a tax on business-to-business sales that are ultimately passed on through a cascading effect. For example, a restaurateur who had to pay taxes on legal work would likely add at least some of that cost into the prices on the menu.

Complaints from the business community about the tax on business services, which would raise a crucial $2.2 billion in new revenue to fund the governor's plans, should be taken seriously, said Dane Smith, president of Growth and Justice, an economic policy group that supports the governor's proposal.

"But we can't give up on this concept of base-broadening and we must make at least some progress toward greater consistency," Smith said.

Absorbing the cost

The merchants who have been charging sales tax and succeeding in Minnesota for decades tend to agree. They see it as an added cost, but one that firms can adjust to in an economy that never stops changing anyway.

"It's really silly that we've narrowed our sales tax so much," said Wade Vitalis, owner of the Drive-In Restaurant in Taylors Falls (closed for the winter) and Grantsburg, Wis.

Vitalis has been collecting sales tax for 26 years, adding it to the price of each patty melt and butterscotch malt. When businesses argue that they wouldn't be able to handle it and still prosper, he doesn't buy it.

"I don't have a lot of sympathy for that argument," he said. "If you can't figure out how to do it, someone will, because this is America."

Adam Belz • 612-673-4405 Twitter: @adambelz

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Columbus Ledger Enquirer

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1 ticket wins Fantasy 5 jackpot worth $185,589.56

UGA organizing music industry conference

Published: February 16, 2013

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — The University of Georgia is organizing a music industry conference and free legal clinic.

The third annual Protect Athens Music Conference will be held Feb. 27. Issues set for discussion at the conference include: copyright and licensing, touring, how to run a record label, merchandising and a myriad of legal matters surrounding the music industry.

The conference is organized by the University of Georgia School of Law's Sports and Entertainment Law Society and the Terry College of Business' Music Business Program. It is free and open to the public.

The free legal clinic on Feb. 28 will give people a chance to ask an attorney music-related questions.

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1 ticket wins Fantasy 5 jackpot worth $185,589.56
The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society brought Dale Schwartz's grandparents to the United States. Now Schwartz is returning the favor.

Schwartz has been chosen as the nonprofit organization's chairman, a post in which he expects he will draw on his experience as an Atlanta immigration lawyer. A past president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Schwartz will begin his term in June.

"Life has been good to me, and I like to be able to put something back in the system," he said. "This is my way of doing that."

HIAS has resettled and helped persecuted Jews around the world, including victims of the Nazis during World War II. Schwartz has served on the HIAS board since 1981. Since Jewish resettlement is now decreased—though Schwartz said the group keeps watch on Jews in Argentina, Venezuela, Hungary and France—HIAS helps resettle thousands of non-Jewish refugees, many of whom are in the Middle East and Africa. It also provides humanitarian assistance to refugee camps.

"It's the organization that brought most of our grandparents to America from Europe or Russia or wherever they were from," said Schwartz, estimating the group has resettled nearly 6 million people.

Schwartz received the phone call to be chairman while attending a convention for ham radio, one of his hobbies. He joked that everyone else the group called must have said no.

Since then, Schwartz has been shadowing the present chairman, Marc Silberberg, a senior partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges.

"It's quite an honor, but it's also a little scary. ... It's a big organization. It's got a $30- to $40 million-a-year budget, a very sophisticated board. All of these people have incredible credentials—and then there's little old me as chairman," Schwartz said, chuckling. "People's lives depend on how successful we are. That's a lot of responsibility."

As chairman, Schwartz is helping rebrand HIAS' image with new logos and slogans and a public relations campaign. In addition to a large load of traveling and fundraising, he will also meet with high-level government officials and participate in White House strategy sessions on refugees and immigration.

Schwartz said his profession as an immigration lawyer—he's a partner at Dale M. Schwartz & Associates—meshes well with HIAS' work.

"The immigration law background helps with a lot of what we do, especially with congressional things and testimony in Congress and lobbying on bills," he said. Schwartz said the group has worked hard in support of the DREAM Act, the proposal pushed by President Barack Obama to let immigrants brought to the country as children achieve citizenship.
Schwartz said one of the challenges of his chairmanship will be showing people the value of aiding refugees. Atlanta is part of HIAS’ refugee resettlement program, but some American cities have pulled out, he said.

"The whole refugee world is upside down. Countries are not willing to spend as much money as they used to," he said. "People are turning their backs on refugees everywhere, mainly because of the economy."

Refugees need help, he said. Schwartz recalled visiting a refugee camp of 25,000 people in Thailand about seven years ago. He said he could smell the camp's stench a few miles away. People went to the bathroom in trenches behind the camp's huts.

"These refugee camps are the worst," he said. "Every time you make trips like that, you come back and you think how lucky we are to live here." That's what motivates Schwartz to give his time to HIAS. He said he wants to help those in the world who do not have as much.

"All of us on the board kind of believe that it's better to do good than do well," he said. "It's a desire to want to help people, whether they're either less fortunate or persecuted. That's what drives most of us in the HIAS group."

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The following information was released by the University of Georgia:

Writer:
Cindy Rice

The University of Georgia School of Law's 25th Annual Red Clay Conference will be held March 1 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall.

The conference will explore the environmental costs and benefits of sustainable business, government and energy in Georgia. The event is free for all UGA faculty, staff and students. Registration is $10 for the general public. For planning purposes, registration is requested at http://www.law.uga.edu/red-clay-conference before Feb. 27.

"There are benefits to increasing sustainability efforts in the state of Georgia, but there are also a lot of obstacles keeping businesses, governmental entities and individual consumers from being successful," said Jill H. Jenkins, conference co-organizer and third-year law student. "Our goal is to address some of these challenges and to raise awareness about potential solutions through educational presentations and open forum discussions."

Specifically, conference panelists will look at how Southeastern cities are using law to encourage sustainable business and government processes; the environmental, economic and legal costs and benefits of sustainable energy sources; and whether or not corporations have a responsibility to adopt eco-friendly practices.

Dennis H. Treacy, executive vice president and chief sustainability officer of Smithfield Foods, will deliver the keynote address at 12:30 p.m. He will speak on his company's efforts to incorporate sustainability measures into its business.

Sponsored by the law school's Environmental Law Association, the Red Clay Conference is organized by Georgia Law students to increase public awareness of environmental issues of regional, national and international significance. For more information, see www.law.uga.edu/red-clay-conference.
CADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presidential Transition
Advisory Committee named

by Sam Fahmy
fahmy@uga.edu

University of Georgia President-elect Jere Morehead has appointed a 12-member Presidential Transition Advisory Committee to gather information on key issues facing the university and share ideas for a successful presidency.

"I appreciate the willingness of these individuals to serve on this important committee, which will interact with faculty, staff, students, alumni and other supporters to ensure that as many voices as possible are heard during this leadership transition," said Morehead, who takes office on July 1.

During the transition, the committee will consult with the leadership of the University Council and the Staff Council, as well as student leaders from the Student Government Association, Graduate Student Association and other student organizations.

Morehead added the committee will work with the Office of the President and the Office of Public Affairs to facilitate a seamless transition and keep the campus community informed of key developments.

The committee members are:

• J. Scott Angle, dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences;

See TRANSITION on page 8

The New York Times

Bulldog defense

Travis A. Williams, who graduated from the School of Law in 2008, is featured in a New York Times article about his role in the documentary Gideon’s Army, which features the work Williams has done as a public defender in Georgia.

The film was screened at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival and is scheduled to be aired on HBO.

TRANSITION from page 1

• Eric Atkinson, associate dean of students and director of student life;
• Alan Darvill, Regents Professor and director of the Complex Carbohydrate Research Center;
• J. Griffin Doyle, vice president for government relations;
• Jennifer Frum, vice president for public service and outreach;
• Cynthia Hoke, director, UGA News Service;
• William Kisaalita, professor and graduate coordinator, College of Engineering;
• Kathy Pharr, assistant vice president for finance and administration and director of Health Sciences Campus administration;
• Rebecca White, dean of the School of Law and J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law;
• Carla Williams, executive associate athletic director and senior woman administrator;
• David S. Williams, Meigs Professor of Religion, associate provost and director of the Honors Program; and
• Bill Young Jr., chair of the UGA Foundation Board of Trustees.

The committee will be assisted by David Dodson, executive assistant to the provost.
Former R.E.M. legal counselor speaks on education and Athens

Elizabeth Howard

R.E.M. was a rock band that started in Athens and quickly made their way around the globe. In the University of Georgia’s Chapel on Monday, a part of R.E.M. made its way back to its roots.

The Willson Center’s mission is to “promote research and creativity in the humanities and the arts,” according to the program pamphlet.

The event was set up in a conversational-style manner, and Downs was interviewed by Nicholas Allen, the director of the Willson Center.

“Downs is from Athens and he has been all around world.” Allen said. “One of the things we have to do at UGA is connect our global image to the institution, so we are bringing Georgia to the world and the world to Georgia, and he is the man to do it.”

The conversation started out with a brief history of Downs’ career. Downs graduated from UGA’s School of Law and became an entertainment lawyer.

Downs knew R.E.M. band members during his time at UGA, and at that time they were looking for representation. He then went on to represent and travel with them for 30 years.

“Growing up I’ve been exposed to lots of different people and places through travel,” Downs said.

After traveling with the band, Downs now has passion of education in the Athens community.

“I have never felt better about our local school district, but I’ve never been more concerned about the rest,” Downs said. “I do hope people are connecting the dots and the challenging what is going on in the local school and what is going on in the government.”
With the bottom section of the Chapel filled, everyone was all ears to hear Downs' perspective on education.

"I enjoyed hearing the history of how R.E.M. got started. I learned a lot about education and the House Bills. It was very interesting and informative," said Trina Lawrence, a counselor at Athens Technical College. "I think these talks that they are doing at the Willson Center are a very good addition to the community."

Downs said that the most important things the community can do for public education is to pay attention to teachers and help them help kids learn.

"Good schools build good community and UGA is part of a good community," Allen said.

The next talk in the series for the Global Initiative Program is Feb. 26 at 4 p.m. in the UGA Chapel with Ntone Edjabe, a writer, DJ and editor of the Chimurenga political journal.

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Guest Scholar Lecture

Tue, Feb 19, 6:00 pm EST
Georgia Center for Continuing Education Conference Center and Hotel, Masters Hall

Performance: The English Concert

Tue, Feb 19, 8:00 pm EST
Perfoming Arts Center, Hodgson Hall

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- Yes
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- No opinion

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ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 19 -- The University of Georgia issued the following news release:

Gun control, homelessness, affirmative action and alternative courts as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights are among the issues to be addressed at the University of Georgia School of Law's Eighth Annual Working in the Public Interest Law Conference. The daylong event will take place March 2 beginning at 9 a.m. in Harold Hirsch Hall.

The conference is free for all UGA faculty, staff and students. Registration is $10 for the general public. For planning purposes, registration is requested at http://ugawipi.wordpress.com before Feb. 28.

"This conference seeks to highlight dynamic, creative ways to combat social injustice through the vehicle of the law," said Cari E. Hipp, conference co-organizer and a third-year law student. "We hope that by providing a forum to address social injustices, we may get one step closer to resolving major public interest law issues in the Southeast and beyond."

The conference will conclude with an evening keynote address by Aimee Maxwell, executive director of the Georgia Innocence Project, at 6 p.m. at the Melting Point in downtown Athens to be followed by the school's 28th Annual Equal Justice Foundation Auction.

Proceeds from the auction will help support Georgia Law students who choose to take unpaid or low-paying public interest legal positions this summer. Past EJF scholarship recipients have served in organizations such as the Georgia Law Center for the Homeless, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Humane Society and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights.

For more information about the conference, for which attorneys can receive continuing legal education credit, see http://ugawipi.wordpress.com. For more information about the EJF Auction, see www.law.uga.edu/ejf. For any query with respect to this article or any other content requirement, please contact Editor at htsyndication@hindustantimes.com

LOAD-DATE: February 20, 2013
The University of Georgia issued the following news release:

The University of Georgia School of Law's 25th Annual Red Clay Conference will be held March 1 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall.

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"There are benefits to increasing sustainability efforts in the state of Georgia, but there are also a lot of obstacles keeping businesses, governmental entities and individual consumers from being successful," said Jill H. Jenkins, conference co-organizer and third-year law student. "Our goal is to address some of these challenges and to raise awareness about potential solutions through educational presentations and open forum discussions."

Specifically, conference panelists will look at how Southeastern cities are using law to encourage sustainable business and government processes; the environmental, economic and legal costs and benefits of sustainable energy sources; and whether or not corporations have a responsibility to adopt eco-friendly practices.

Dennis H. Treacy, executive vice president and chief sustainability officer of Smithfield Foods, will speak on his company's efforts to incorporate sustainability measures into its business.

Sponsored by the law school's Environmental Law Association, the Red Clay Conference is organized by Georgia Law students to increase public awareness of environmental issues of regional, national and international significance. For more information, see www.law.uga.edu/red-clay-conference.
Pizza delivery man faces felony charge for making up story he was robbed in Athens

By JOE JOHNSON   published Tuesday, February 19, 2013

An Athens man faces a felony charge for faking his own robbery Sunday night while making a pizza delivery at a westside apartment complex.

Athens-Clarke police said Tuesday that William Austin Heider made up the story as a way of explaining to his boss that he somehow lost $22.

An investigator Tuesday morning took out warrants charging Heider with making false statements, a felony, and false report of a crime, a misdemeanor.

Police suspected something wasn't right with Heider's story from the start, according to Capt. Clarence Holeman, commander of the Athens-Clarke police Centralized Criminal Investigations Division.

Heider told police that the phantom robber stole only the money he held in his hand after making a pizza delivery to Rivers Edge apartments on Sycamore Drive. It seemed suspicious that a robber wouldn't take any personal belongings, such as his cellphone and wallet.

When asking for the money, Heider initially told police the supposed robber lifted the front of his shirt to show what appeared to be the butt of a handgun sticking from his pants waistband, according to police.

Heider admitted to fabricating the story when pressed by detectives. He said he somehow lost $22 belonging to his employer, an Oconee County pizza business, and made up the robbery story to cover the loss.

"It doesn't make any sense to me," Holeman said. "Twenty-two dollars isn't worth catching a felony for."

Heider, of The Preserve Drive, had not been

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booked into the Clarke County Jail as of late Tuesday afternoon.

People invent crimes for lots of reasons, like to hide spending from spouses or to keep embarrassing secrets. In recent years, Athens-Clarke police have been more aggressive in ferreting out falsely reported crimes.

Holeman's division investigates so-called person crimes, such as rapes, child abuse, assault, robbery and other violent offenses that take more time and resources to solve than property crimes.

Person crimes impact the entire police department, Holeman said, from patrol officers who take initial reports, secure crime scenes and look for witnesses and suspects, to members of the forensics unit, who find and collect physical evidence.

Investigators can spend days and even months lining up interviews, pursuing leads and analyzing whatever was collected at the crime scene or learned later on.

Detectives get frustrated and even angry when they realize they were chasing shadows.

In the past, police would sometimes let it slide if someone was caught lying about a serious crime, but not anymore.

The tipping point came in the summer of 2009, after a University of Georgia law student reported she was beaten, kicked and robbed on College Station Road as she walked home from her job after midnight.

A detective spent a month on the case before the woman admitted she injured herself and reported she'd been robbed in a bid to win the sympathy of a husband who wanted a divorce.

"I'm getting tired of these falsely reported crimes," Holeman said. "It's causing us a lot more work than people realize and taking away time from actual crimes we need to be investigating."

• Follow criminal justice reporter Joe Johnson at www.facebook.com/JoeJohnsonABH or www.twitter.com/JoeJohnsonABH.
R.E.M. manager Downs reflects on career, looks forward on public e...

By ANDRE GALLANT    updated Tuesday, February 19, 2013 - 10:46pm

Bertis Downs, longtime manager of R.E.M., had an early run-in with rock 'n' roll's upper echelons as a bell hop in Atlanta in the 1970s.

During a summer working at Atlanta's Colony Square hotel, between semesters at law school, Downs encountered "an entourage of old people" who had camped out in the city while on a North American tour. Those old fogies, a gaggle of rockers who somehow made a career of loud music, were the Rolling Stones, whose lead singer, Mick Jagger, was not yet 40 at the time.

Downs couldn't have known that in just more than 10 years, as a 30-something, he would be an integral part of such a troupe touring across the globe and releasing Grammy-winning albums.

Downs spoke at the University of Georgia Chapel on Monday afternoon as part of UGA's Willson Center for Humanities and Arts's Global Georgia Initiative, a series of public talks addressing ongoing global issues and how the arts and humanities can intersect and help.

Downs came to Athens for law school in the 1970s and never left. While in school, he befriended the members of R.E.M., offering them legal advice even in the early days.

Asked by Willson Center director Nicholas Allen how he balanced school and the music scene, Downs said he "was able to stay up later in those days."

Upon graduating from law school, Downs accepted a teaching position at the university and still advised R.E.M. as their credibility grew out of the nascent underground rock movement and into a record deal with Warner Bros.

Downs described R.E.M. as a self-managed, self-directed and self-possessed band. After a decade of touring through the 1980s, he said
the band was able to leverage their popularity to keep them off the road.

In the 1990s, Downs recalled a U.K. record executive saying R.E.M. either better go on tour or put out an amazing record. They released “Automatic for the People,” a record Downs noted began as a potential film score.

Throughout their career, R.E.M., who disbanded in 2011, had a standing interest in playing benefit concerts, Downs explained, and that drive to raise funds and awareness led to one of Downs’ favorite moments as manager. R.E.M.’s 2005 European tour coincided with the global poverty benefit concert Live 8, the 20-year anniversary of the original Live Aid. Downs recalled watching the band cut through a set in Hyde Park in London with his young daughter sitting on his shoulders. The entourage then zipped off on a plane and performed again that night to a crowd in Switzerland.

Downs attended law school hoping to get into poverty law. His interest in social issues never faded, though he did admit he’s given up on politics and elections.

“Politics is disappointing,” he said.

Instead he’s chosen an issue to advocate for: good school for all kids.

Children’s destiny shouldn’t be determined by their ZIP codes, Downs said.

Both of Downs’ children attend Clarke County schools, and he said he “feels good” about what’s going on in Athens education-wise.

What worries him, he said, are political machinations in the state House.

“I wish teachers had more to do with policy,” he said, adding that perhaps politicians should spend more time in schools before writing legislation that affects them.

Downs pointed to the H.T. Edwards complex off West Broad Street, where Classic City High School, the Boys & Girls Club and Whatever It Takes call home, as one of the little known, but successful educational endeavours in Athens.

“It’s an incredible environment, but a lot of people in town aren’t aware it exists,” he said.

• Follow arts and entertainment reporter André Gallant on Twitter @andregallant and at www.facebook.com/GallantABH.

LOCAL NEWS
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Georgia Voices: On new UGA president: Woof, woof!

by The Savannah Morning News
February 19, 2013 01:32 AM | 359 views | 0 T | A | M | U

Georgia's Board of Regents didn't go very far to find someone to succeed Michael Adams as the new big man on campus at the state's flagship university in Athens.

In fact, they stuck close to the arches and hired UGA Provost Jere Morehead.

The regents who oversee the state's public universities voted 18-0 to hire Morehead, a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia Law School who also served as senior vice president for academic affairs. Other key credentials include: vice chair of the Georgia Athletic Association Board of Directors; vice chair of the UGA Research Foundation; a UGA Foundation trustee; and a UGA Real Estate Foundation trustee.

In other words, this Top Dawg is connected.

He becomes the 22nd president of the university and is set to start July 1.

Interestingly, the new president wasn't just the top choice. He emerged late in the game as the only choice.

A presidential search committee named Morehead as the sole finalist for the position. In mid-December, the committee, headed by attorney and former state lawmaker Larry Walker, announced the field had been narrowed to nine candidates — five of whom were college presidents.

By going with the homegrown favorite, the regents are getting someone who needs no learning curve and can immediately contribute from day one. That's important, as public funds for higher education get increasingly tight while the need for an educated workforce continues to grow.

For his part, Morehead said he plans to spend the next few months evaluating the university's strengths and weaknesses and meeting with key groups, while considering possible organizational changes and beginning preparations for a "major capital campaign." Let's hope he plans to visit this area soon.

Not surprisingly, the new president calls his job "a dream come true for a UGA graduate who has spent more than half of his life on this campus."

He also said that "while the University of Georgia faces economic challenges, if we focus on our academic priorities, we will reach new heights. The university is poised, thanks to the quality of the faculty, staff and students, to become one of the greatest public universities in the United States."

University System Chancellor Hank Huckaby, who'll be Morehead's boss, called the vote "the right decision for UGA." He didn't add "woof, woof, woof," but you couldn't blame him if he did.

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Court delivers justice for juvenile peers

Peer Court, an innovation in juvenile justice in Athens, is nearing its first anniversary, and its founder is planning on taking its concept to other communities around the state. The program has even drawn the attention of Georgia first lady Sandra Deal, who recently observed the court in action.

Athens Peer Court is a collaborative effort of UGA's J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development, Street Law at the University of Georgia's School of Law, Athens-Clarke County Juvenile Court and the Department of Juvenile Justice.

The Fanning Institute-in collaboration with UGA law students-trains youth volunteers to serve as judges, bailiffs, advocates and jurors for the court. Since the program began in March 2012, 24 students from three area high schools have completed this youth leadership development program.

The court hears the cases of first-time offenders who accept the charges against them and agree to whatever sentence is decided by the jury. In the last year, 52 first-time offenders have chosen to have their cases decided by Athens Peer Court.

The court was the idea of Emily Boness, a public service assistant in the Fanning Institute. Boness participated in a similar court as a youth in Alaska, which led her to law school at UGA. In 2011, she approached Robin Shearer, judge for the Athens-Clarke County Juvenile Court, about the idea of creating a court and the judge was enthusiastic.

Three cases were heard the evening of Jan. 8 when Deal was in attendance-two shoplifting and one curfew violation. In addition to apologizing to those they had harmed and completing community service, all offenders were required to serve on the jury for the next Peer Court evening.

Once questions were answered, the jurors, advocates and offender filed into the packed courtroom. As the bailiff asked all to rise, Shambrelle Barnes, a 17-year-old Cedar Shoals High School student, entered and took her place at the judge's bench.

"I'm most proud of the kids learning a new way of thinking and the vocabulary to explain their reasoning," Boness said. "They could answer any question that Mrs. Deal and her staff asked."
Deal stayed through all three hearings and congratulated the students on a job well done at the end.

Peer court or teen court programs are common around the country, but this is the first such program in Athens, only the third or fourth in Georgia and the only one listed by the National Association of Youth Courts. The Governor's Office of Children and Families-Deal chairs its advisory board-has provided financial support to establish the Peer Court.

"My favorite Peer Court moment was when a former offender came to serve as a juror," Boness said. "At first she said, 'I can't believe I'm here.' But she ended up wanting to be the jury foreperson and I think she appreciated having input into the process."

"I think it's good to give people a second chance," said Shimobi Ojjuru, a 14-year-old Clarke Central High School student who served as bailiff that evening. "It gives offenders a way to enter society in a positive way."

Boness said she hopes to make mediation services available through Athens Peer Court and take the peer court idea to other communities around the state.

Boness also said that it hasn't been the case that offenders could get off too easily. She said the youth volunteers take their responsibility seriously, respecting the people and the process. Most people recognize the experience as a leadership development opportunity for the volunteers and as a way for first offenders to repair the harm caused by their crime, she said.
Atlanta Banking Attorneys Join Troutman Sanders

February 20, 2013

ATLANTA — February 19, 2013 — A duo of powerhouse banking attorneys has joined the Atlanta office of Troutman Sanders LLP, the law firm announced today.

Partner James W. Stevens and senior counsel Richard R. Cheatham bring more than five decades of experience to Troutman Sanders' Financial Institutions practice. Both were formerly with Kilpatrick Townsend in Atlanta.

"James and Richard have established reputations in Atlanta and the state of Georgia for their knowledge and experience representing clients in the community banking industry," said Thomas O. Powell, a partner and deputy practice leader of the firm's Financial Institutions practice group. "Their addition to our recognized Financial Institutions practice will deepen our bench strength and further enhance our ability to deliver creative solutions to clients operating in an increasingly complex business and regulatory environment."

Both Stevens and Cheatham have been honored frequently by the legal profession, including being named to Best Lawyers in America®. Cheatham also has been ranked as one of the nation's top banking and finance lawyers by Chambers USA, which has noted his "regulatory expertise" and his standing as "one of the leaders in the field."

"We are very pleased to have James and Richard joining our Financial Institutions practice in Atlanta," said Pete Robinson, managing partner of the firm's Atlanta office. "They have deep industry experience and have built a strong practice helping clients to pursue business expansion opportunities and navigate challenges, advising them on diverse regulatory, corporate, securities compliance and capital markets matters."

Stevens, in addition to his work providing general corporate and bank regulatory advice to bank clients, has substantial experience in the representation of public and private companies and financial institutions in mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings and regulatory reporting and compliance.

Stevens was named a 2009 "40 Under 40 Up and Comers" by the Atlanta Business Chronicle and was selected as a Georgia Rising Star by SuperLawyers magazine from 2006-2011. He received his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law.

Cheatham, who has practiced law since 1969, focuses his practice on the representation of financial institutions on bank regulatory matters and corporate and securities law applicable to financial institutions and their holding companies and other affiliates.

A graduate of the Harvard Law School and the University of Virginia, Cheatham has previously been named a Georgia Super Lawyer in the areas of banking, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate law, and was recognized in The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers.

About Troutman Sanders:

Troutman Sanders LLP is an international law firm with more than 600 lawyers and 15 offices located throughout the United States and Asia. Founded in 1897, the firm's lawyers provide counsel and advice in practically every aspect of civil and commercial law related to the firm's core practice areas: Business Law, Energy and Industry Regulation,
Finance, Litigation and Real Estate. Firm clients range from multinational corporations to individual entrepreneurs, federal and state agencies to foreign governments, and non-profit organizations to businesses representing virtually every sector and industry. See troutmansanders.com for more information.

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Frank Beckum, a great Georgian, has died

Submitted by Terry Dickson on February 21, 2013 - 6:47am

View this blog post on the All-Access Members site.

ST. SIMONS ISLAND | Word came Thursday morning that Frank Beckum, a great old friend, has died.

Frank had been a lawyer and banker. It was the law part that got him in trouble. Back in his native Wilkes County - at least I think it was - the all white, all male county commission did something to Frank. I can't remember what it was.

He took his revenge in federal court filing a voting rights suit that ended up in an integrated county commission. And since it was divided into so-called one-man, one-vote districts, some of the sitting county commissioners had to run against each other or sit out the election.

There was naturally a big turnover and the county had its first African-American commissioners since Reconstruction.

"They never forgave me," Frank laughed. "Even my own mama didn't speak to me for the longest time."

He was an old school Democrat, probably from the time he learned to walk, and laughed a lot about the old political shenanigans.

"Not only did the dead vote for Gene Talmadge," Frank told me, "they were considerate enough to do so in alphabetical order."

He loved the University of Georgia and tried mightily to have UGA, that long line of bulldog mascots, enshrined in the Georgia Hall of Fame. It didn't work.

His family says he has donated his body to the University of Georgia medical school. Which is fitting. He had gladly donated his soul to UGA a long time ago.

He had been in failing health a long time, had to undergo dialysis and when his wife Mary couldn't care for him any more, he moved to an assisted living center in north Georgia a couple of years ago.

He was also among the funniest humans who ever breathed. We used to talk at the garden club on St. Simons. Frank sweating buckets with his arms coated in dirt.

We'd always have a little contest to see who could get the first ripe tomato of the spring. Frank cheated. He'd buy a potted patio tomato plant with a green tomato already on it and stick it in the ground.

We'd argue good-naturedly, and I think I went to far one time.

"Sir, you have an advantage over me," Frank said.

"What's that, Frank?" I asked.

"You can kiss my butt," he said. "I cannot."

I must have told that story 100 times. I'll tell it again today.
Gwinnett County issued the following news release:

Chief Magistrate Kristina Hammer Blum announced today that Rodney "Keith" Miles has been selected as a full-time Magistrate Judge. Miles was selected from among 30 candidates for the full-time position left vacant by Blum's appointment as Chief Magistrate. "I was honored that so many well qualified candidates applied," said Blum.

Miles has served as an attorney for 26 years in the Gwinnett Circuit and leaves his current position as Supervising Assistant District Attorney in the Major Drug Unit. He earned his criminal justice degree from the University of Georgia in 1978. Following graduation, he worked six years as a court service worker with the Georgia Department of Human Resources - Division of Youth Services, where he coordinated institutional and community-based treatment services for committed juvenile offenders. He subsequently attended the University of Georgia School of Law and graduated in 1987.

He has served as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Bryant Huff, a Solicitor for the Gwinnett County Juvenile Court and a trial division and supervising attorney with the Gwinnett County District Attorney's Office. Miles estimates that he has tried well over 100 jury trials. He recalls that he prosecuted the very first trial in the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center just after it opened in the summer of 1988.

In addition to his vast courtroom experience, Miles has been an active member of the Gwinnett County Bar Association for over a decade, serving as Secretary, Treasurer, President and Law Day Committee Chair. Most recently, he was selected as the 2012 Assistant District Attorney of the Year by the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia. The son of a 30-year veteran of the Macon Police Department, Miles has been married for 28 years.

Blum said, "Keith Miles brings an exceptional wealth of legal expertise and experience with him to the Magistrate Court."

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LOAD-DATE: February 23, 2013
The attorney for a Glynn County man sentenced to death in the 2007 murder and sexual assault of 6-year-old Christopher Barrios told the justices of the Supreme Court of Georgia that he deserves a new trial.

The justices held oral arguments Wednesday at the University of Georgia Law School before an audience of 120 students and faculty during their annual visit outside Atlanta.

In October 2009, David Edenfield was convicted for helping his adult son, George, abuse and strangle the child who lived nearby in the same Canal Mobile Home Park outside Brunswick. He was convicted of murder, cruelty to children, three counts of child molestation and other charges and has been on Death Row ever since.

The Edenfields had moved from a home they owned in Brunswick to the mobile home park because it was one of the few places the son could live as a convicted child molester. According to prosecutors, the son said voices told him to kill the child, and David Edenfield walked in on his son in the act and participated "to see what it felt like to kill someone."

Christopher's grandmother, Sue Rodriguez, lived just across a narrow road from the Edenfields' mobile home. In walking between his grandmother's home and his father's home nearby, Christopher passed through the Edenfields' yard, his family had said.

Wednesday, Edenfield's attorney, James Yancey Jr., said there was nothing linking David Edenfield to the crime other than statements made to police by the older Edenfield, who has an IQ of 83.

However, his wife, Peggy Edenfield, also testified against him and admitted to helping hide the body.

"Mr. Edenfield told them what they wanted to hear," Yancey said. "What he told them was not correct."

Yancey argued that investigators made promises to a suspect they could tell had little intellect, and his statements should not be used to incriminate him because he was trying to please the officers in hope of being released.

"They focused on him because he was the least low-functioning adult present," said Yancey, noting that Peggy Edenfield, their son and a friend also arrested but later cleared, all had low IQs.

But Assistant District Attorney John B. Johnson told the court that David Edenfield, who had prior experience with the law, never sought a lawyer nor asked to exercise his right to remain silent.

"You have to remember that this gentleman, and I use that term loosely, had a career in the National Guard. He was holding a job and had done so for years. And to qualify him as 'low-functioning' is a misstatement of the facts that are in evidence in this case," said Johnson, the lead prosecutor in the case.
FOCUS ON JURY

Yancey also complained that the jury was biased by news coverage, even though they were drawn from Jeff Davis County about 100 miles away. Of the 80 prospective jurors who weren't excused for having a moral opposition to the death penalty, 20 of them, or 25 percent, were dismissed because they had already made up their minds. He said a 1991 Supreme Court precedent said a change of a trial venue is required if news reports swayed as few as 21 percent of the prospective jurors.

Johnson argued that 156 people were summoned to be in the jury pool, and that the 20 Yancey cited amounted to just 13 percent of the larger number available, not 25 percent.

A third reason for a new trial, according to Yancey, was because the trial judge should have excused one specific juror as being biased because of his answers during jury selection. That would have preserved one of the defense team's limited jury strikes, Yancey said.

Peggy Edenfield pleaded guilty to five counts of child molestation and was sentenced to 60 years in prison. George Edenfield has been found incompetent to stand trial.

Christopher's disappearance captured the attention of the nation. A week of extensive searching, a Georgia Department of Natural Resources ranger driving a road about two miles away spotted a black plastic bag in woods. He checked the bag and found Christopher's nude and decomposing body.

The court gave no hint as to which way it will rule. A decision is expected in three or four months.

Times-Union Georgia Editor Terry Dickson contributed to this report.

Walter Jones: (404) 589-8424

LOAD-DATE: February 22, 2013

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Combination of Greek and Latin majors causes stir at University Council

The University Council approved a variety of curriculum changes at its Thursday meeting, but one in particular caused dispute.

UGA's curriculum committee proposed a change to the undergraduate majors in the Department of Classics, professor in the school of Law, said the committee proposed a combination of the individual majors in Greek and Latin into a Classical Languages major that would allow for specialization in either or both languages.

Department Head Naomi Norman said the change would align the undergraduate program with the graduate program, which she said had been modified in an "identical" way "several years ago." She said the department had unanimously voted in favor of the changes.

Rodney Mauricio, educational affairs committee chair and genetics associate professor, was the only "nay" vote after an outspoken displeasure with the change.

"I think it's a really bad idea, with a college named after Benjamin Franklin, to get rid of a foundational major," he said, "I know there are budgetary implications and things we're worried about, but I'm going to stand for keeping Greek and Latin, despite, I'm sure, overwhelming "yes" votes."

Norman said the change would catch UGA up to the "national norm" and the change did not reflect a budget concern.

"I don't think this is driven by budgets. I think it's driven by the acknowledgement that in the 21st century, most people in a classics department will be equally proficient in both Greek and ancient Latin. And we'd like to foster research that doesn't divide the Mediterranean," she said. "We'd like to have faculty and students who are able to cope with both sides of the language divide and kind of think of antiquity in a more holistic fashion."

"I think it would be naive to assume that there aren't any budgetary implications," she said.

There are approximately eight to 10 Greek majors and 70 to 80 Latin majors, according to the department.

The proposal was approved by the Council.

Other proposals included changing department and center names, creating a new graduate certificate and a new...
Combination of Greek and Latin majors causes stir at University Coun...

The Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology was renamed the Department of Educational Psychology, and the Department of Elementary and Social Studies Education was renamed to the Department of Theory and Practice.

A master’s degree in Soil, Water and Environmental Sciences was created as a largely online degree in collaboration with North Carolina State University, Clemson University, Auburn University, University of Kentucky and Texas Tech University.

A graduate certificate in African American Studies was created. At the undergraduate level, the Institute for African American Studies offers a major, a minor and a certificate in this field. The graduate certificate, according to the program abstract, is “designed to appeal to a broad spectrum of students matriculated in Master of Arts, Master of Education, Doctor of Arts and Doctor of Education programs.”

The Fitness Center was reorganized into the Center for Physical Activity and Health within the Department of Kinesiology.

An interdisciplinary Center for Social Justice, Human and Civil Rights was created under the School of Social Work.

Proposals for amendment to the bylaws and a revision of the membership of the Program Review and Assessment Committee were also approved.

President Adams also updated the council on the status of the proposal approved by the council last semester regarding voluntary benefits and health benefits for domestic partners.

"I signed this recommendation in the Fall and forwarded it with a letter to the Chancellor, inquiring about moving forward on those two matters," he said. "While I thought we would have a response at this point, we are still waiting. The system has indicated they are not yet ready to respond, and I will certainly let the Council know as soon as I have further direction in this matter."

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2/22/2013 1:05 PM
Poetic Justice: Students angered by 'unfair' Kendrick Lamar ticket sales

Some students lined up before 7:30 a.m., some made a phone call and others handed their student ID to a friend. Kendrick Lamar is coming to the University of Georgia, but many have complaints about the ticketing process, which opened at 9 a.m. Thursday.

Around 11 a.m. Wednesday, the University Union announced its spring concert, Kendrick Lamar, on its Facebook page. According to a University Union member, UGA was prohibited from releasing the name of the artist prior to that time due to contractual obligations.

One commenter, Lili Orozco, asked “So we can't buy them online... it has to be at Tate tomorrow?” To which the University Union replied, “The Tate Cashier Window is open every weekday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and we cannot determine when tickets will sell out.”

And so students lined up early.

“We got there at 7:30 and the line was already looped already the hallway and later all the way up the stairs to the grand hall,” said Andrew Plaskowsky, a freshman journalism major and Red & Black staff writer from Suwanee.

In response to questions about ticket limits per person, the University Union did specify “limit of 1 student ticket per UGA ID,” but students said UGA should not have let the mass purchases go so far. Jan Barham, Associate Dean of

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Listen Up!: Kendrick Lamar's "good kid, "DAWGFAZ

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Bulldog Brawl Gives HIV Infected Children a Fighting Chance

BY: Chad Herrmann. On Saturday, Feb. 16, The Georgia Theatre hosted the 3rd annual Bulldog Brawl Giving HIV Infected Children a Fighting Chance.

Classic Center Grand Opening

BY TEMAN WORKU. The Classic Center held a grand opening of their new atrium.

R&B about 42 minutes ago randblack was checking out Our Tale: Selling tickets for Kendrick Lamar was a monumental failure. http://twitter.com/0urTale
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R&B about 2 hours ago randblack was checking out India Night showcased Indian style dances and acts from all over the country Saturday night. http://twitter.com/0urTale
#IndiaNight
Students and Director of the Tate Center, said cashiers were simply following UGA ticketing policy.

"Part of the reason that is in place is for the convenience of the students... most of our events are on a weekly basis and do not sell out this way," Barham said. "We followed our ticketing policy the way we do for all events."

She called today "an anomaly."

"The line barely moved once the window actually opened because it took 15 minutes for the cashiers to make it through 50 cards," said Plaskowsky. "This happened a few times; multiple groups had bundles of IDs."

Because each student ID was run as a separate transaction, students could purchase multiple non-student tickets for each card they brought.

"The thing that irked me most was the fraternities that sent a few members from their house with stacks of 50 student IDs," Plaskowsky said.

Plaskowsky said he could identify the students as fraternity members because they talked about parties at the fraternity house and which "brothers" they were buying tickets for on the long notepad, which included names and how many additional tickets to purchase with that student ID.

A little over an hour after sales opened, students began to call the Tate Center to order non-student tickets, after some were tipped off by friends who had done the same. According to Barham, purchasing tickets by phone is also a part of standard UGA ticketing policy. She said a post reminding students of this option was made by the University Union on its Facebook, but The Red & Black could not find a post on the Facebook page.

Word spread through the line, but then others who were not waiting in Tate began to call as well.

Michael Bragg, a junior political science major from Warner Robins, purchased two tickets via phone at 10:56 a.m.

"It was very easy," Bragg said. "I feel a little guilty, but it was a shortcut. I'm pretty excited."

Other students did not make the cut, including Meredith Head, a 24-year-old law student from Marietta, who called at 11:30 a.m.

"I asked if I could buy a ticket to the Kendrick Lamar show and was told that they were no longer selling them over the phone and I would have to go to the Tate Center and stand in line to get a ticket," Head said.

By 12:30 p.m., tickets were sold out.

"I was in the radio station and someone ran in and said it sold out," Nathan Kerce, a junior advertising major from Athens, said. "I went outside and they had closed the cashier doors and people were booing and milling around upset."

Blake Helman, a senior graphic-design major from Athens, also called to buy tickets only to be turned away, at which point he was told students were buying tickets 30 at a time and not to bother getting in line.

Barham said the "lion share" of purchases made over the phone were by UGA students, but that "we cut that to about 4 hours ago:redanblack was checking out No one has a right to publicly-funded education. Brian Underwood explains need to end public ed in new column, http://lco/osj9glUHIT

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But many more said they were upset.

"I just feel like it wasn't organized at all. I guess they didn't understand how many people would be interested in Kendrick," Buckman said.

Plaskowsky said he blamed UGA.

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- ARTICLE: OUR TAKE: Football ticketing drama
Move to oust DeKalb board poses legal question

By Daarel Burnette II and Ty Tagami
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

An email that DeKalb County school board member Sarah Copelin-Wood sent to a principal in May crystallized for one of her judges what was wrong with the local culture.

Board policy says members can't ask anything of any school staff except the superintendent. Copelin-Wood, writing as the longtime president of a community group and not as a school board member, wanted the principal to let her group present scholarship awards at the school. She said she was merely "doing something good for children: We gave away scholarships."

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"Ms. Wood, you are certainly clarifying for me that you do not understand the separation of your duties," Zechmann said.

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Legal experts explained that if Deal pushes out the board members before the courts tie his hands, it'll be too late to stay his hand.

"It'll be difficult to get that toothpaste back in the tube," said Ronald Carson, an emeritus law professor at the University of Georgia.

DeKalb's school board members are challenging the constitutionality of a 2011 law that authorizes the state to remove school board members in districts on probation. Several lawyers said they have an uphill battle.

The courts presume laws are constitutional, the experts said, placing the burden on plaintiffs to prove otherwise. In this case, the judges must weigh the sanctity of the ballot box against the interests of DeKalb's 99,000 students, said Mel Goldstein, a lawyer with a focus on governmental issues.

"The interest of children being educated... outweighs the interest of any individual board member," Goldstein said. "So, no, I don't think they have a good chance of prevailing."

The DeKalb board believes otherwise.

"The ballot box must be given huge, huge deference in this country," said its attorney, Bob Wilson, a former prosecutor. "If it is not, we are lost." Board members and interim superintendent Michael...
Frank Beckum, a great Georgian, has died

Submitted by Terry Dickson on February 21, 2013 - 6:47am

ST. SIMONS ISLAND | Word came Thursday morning that Frank Beckum, a great old friend, has died.

Frank had been a lawyer and banker. It was the law part that got him in trouble. Back in his native Wilkes County - at least I think it was - the all white, all male county commission did something to Frank. I can't remember what it was.

He took his revenge in federal court filing a voting rights suit that ended up in an integrated county commission. And since it was divided into so-called one-man, one-vote districts, some of the sitting county commissioners had to run against each other or sit out the election.

There was naturally a big turnover and the county had its first African-American commissioners since Reconstruction.

"They never forgave me," Frank laughed. "Even my own mama didn't speak to me for the longest time."

He was an old school Democrat, probably from the time he learned to walk, and laughed a lot about the old political shenanigans,

"Not only did the dead vote for Gene Talmadge," Frank told me, "they were considerate enough to do so in alphabetical order."

He loved the University of Georgia and tried mightily to have UGA, that long line of bulldog mascots, enshrined in the Georgia Hall of Fame. It didn't work.

His family says he has donated his body to the University of Georgia medical school. Which is fitting. He had gladly donated his soul to UGa a long time ago.

He didn't like funerals and the family said he was considerate enough of his friends to not compel them to attend his. He requested that he not have one.

If you want one of those big oatmeal-chocolate chip-pecan cookies at Sweet Mama's, just ask for the Frank Beckum.

He had been in failing health a long time, had to undergo dialysis and when his wife Mary couldn't care for him any more, he moved to an assisted living center in north Georgia a couple of years ago.

He was also one of the funniest humans who ever breathed. We used to talk at the garden club on St. Simons. Frank sweating buckets with his arms coated in dirt.

We'd always have a little contest to see who could get the first ripe tomato of the spring. Frank cheated. He'd buy a potted patio tomato plant with a green tomato already on it and stick it in the ground.

We'd argue good-naturedly, and I think I went to far one time.

"Sir, you have an advantage over me," Frank said.

"What's that, Frank?" I asked.

"You can kiss my butt," he said. "I cannot."

I must have told that story 100 times. I'll tell it again today.
February 21, 2013 Thursday 2:06 AM EST

LENGTH: 337 words

HEADLINE: Miles Appointed to Magistrate Court

BYLINE: Targeted News Service

DATELINE: LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga.

BODY:

Gwinnett County issued the following news release:

Chief Magistrate Kristina Hammer Blum announced today that Rodney "Keith" Miles has been selected as a full-time Magistrate Judge. Miles was selected from among 30 candidates for the full-time position left vacant by Blum’s appointment as Chief Magistrate. "I was honored that so many well qualified candidates applied," said Blum.

Miles has served as an attorney for 26 years in the Gwinnett Circuit and leaves his current position as Supervising Assistant District Attorney in the Major Drug Unit. He earned his criminal justice degree from the University of Georgia in 1978. Following graduation, he worked six years as a court service worker with the Georgia Department of Human Resources - Division of Youth Services, where he coordinated institutional and community-based treatment services for committed juvenile offenders. He subsequently attended the University of Georgia School of Law and graduated in 1987.

He has served as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Bryant Huff, a Solicitor for the Gwinnett County Juvenile Court and a trial division and supervising attorney with the Gwinnett County District Attorney's Office. Miles estimates that he has tried well over 100 jury trials. He recalls that he prosecuted the very first trial in the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center just after it opened in the summer of 1988.

In addition to his vast courtroom experience, Miles has been an active member of the Gwinnett County Bar Association for over a decade, serving as Secretary, Treasurer, President and Law Day Committee Chair. Most recently, he was selected as the 2012 Assistant District Attorney of the Year by the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia. The son of a 30-year veteran of the Macon Police Department, Miles has been married for 28 years.

Blum said, "Keith Miles brings an exceptional wealth of legal expertise and experience with him to the Magistrate Court."

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LOAD-DATE: February 23, 2013

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Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville)

January 17, 2013 Thursday
The attorney for a Glynn County man sentenced to death in the 2007 murder and sexual assault of 6-year-old Christopher Barrios told the justices of the Supreme Court of Georgia that he deserves a new trial.

The justices held oral arguments Wednesday at the University of Georgia Law School before an audience of 120 students and faculty during their annual visit outside Atlanta.

In October 2009, David Edenfield was convicted for helping his adult son, George, abuse and strangle the child who lived nearby in the same Canal Mobile Home Park outside Brunswick. He was convicted of murder, cruelty to children, three counts of child molestation and other charges and has been on Death Row ever since.

The Edenfields had moved from a home they owned in Brunswick to the mobile home park because it was one of the few places the son could live as a convicted child molester. According to prosecutors, the son said voices told him to kill the child, and David Edenfield walked in on his son in the act and participated "to see what it felt like to kill someone."

Christopher's grandmother, Sue Rodriguez, lived just across a narrow road from the Edenfields' mobile home. In walking between his grandmother's home and his father's home nearby, Christopher passed through the Edenfields' yard, his family had said.

Wednesday, Edenfield's attorney, James Yancey Jr., said there was nothing linking David Edenfield to the crime other than statements made to police by the older Edenfield, who has an IQ of 83.

However, his wife, Peggy Edenfield, also testified against him and admitted to helping hide the body.

"Mr. Edenfield told them what they wanted to hear," Yancey said. "What he told them was not correct."

Yancey argued that investigators made promises to a suspect they could tell had little intellect, and his statements should not be used to incriminate him because he was trying to please the officers in hope of being released.

"They focused on him because he was the least low-functioning adult present," said Yancey, noting that Peggy Edenfield, their son and a friend also arrested but later cleared, all had low IQs.

But Assistant District Attorney John B. Johnson told the court that David Edenfield, who had prior experience with the law, never sought a lawyer nor asked to exercise his right to remain silent.

"You have to remember that this gentleman, and I use that term loosely, had a career in the National Guard. He was holding a job and had done so for years. And to qualify him as 'low-functioning' is a misstatement of the facts that are in evidence in this case," said Johnson, the lead prosecutor in the case.
FOCUS ON JURY

Yancey also complained that the jury was biased by news coverage, even though they were drawn from Jeff Davis County about 100 miles away. Of the 80 prospective jurors who weren't excused for having a moral opposition to the death penalty, 20 of them, or 25 percent, were dismissed because they had already made up their minds. He said a 1991 Supreme Court precedent said a change of a trial venue is required if news reports swayed as few as 21 percent of the prospective jurors.

Johnson argued that 156 people were summoned to be in the jury pool, and that the 20 Yancey cited amounted to just 13 percent of the larger number available, not 25 percent.

A third reason for a new trial, according to Yancey, was because the trial judge should have excused one specific juror as being biased because of his answers during jury selection. That would have preserved one of the defense team's limited jury strikes, Yancey said.

Peggy Edenfield pleaded guilty to five counts of child molestation and was sentenced to 60 years in prison. George Edenfield has been found incompetent to stand trial.

Christopher's disappearance captured the attention of the nation. A week of extensive searching, a Georgia Department of Natural Resources ranger driving a road about two miles away spotted a black plastic bag in woods. He checked the bag and found Christopher's nude and decomposing body.

The court gave no hint as to which way it will rule. A decision is expected in three or four months.

Times-Union Georgia Editor Terry Dickson contributed to this report.

Walter Jones: (404) 589-8424

LOAD-DATE: February 22, 2013

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Print Number: 2826:396030207
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Combination of Greek and Latin majors causes stir at University Council

Committee Meeting

With an unanimous vote, the University Council Executive Committee approved the domestic partner benefits proposal. Pictured above is Nelson HUm, chair of the executive committee. Photo by Dana Heyman.

Megan Ernst | 0 comments
 Posted on February 21, 2013

The University Council approved a variety of curriculum changes at its Thursday meeting, but one in particular caused dispute.

Department Head Naomi Norman said the change would align the undergraduate program with the graduate program, which she said had been modified in an "identical" way "several years ago." She said the department had unanimously voted in favor of the changes.

Rodney Mauricio, educational affairs committee chair and genetics associate professor, was the only "nay" vote after an outspoken displeasure with the change.

"I think it's a really bad idea, with a college named after Benjamin Franklin, to get rid of a foundational major," he said. "I know there are budgetary implications and things we're worried about. but I'm going to stand for keeping Greek and Latin, despite. I'm sure, overwhelming 'yes' votes."

Norman said the change would catch UGA up to the "national norm," and the change did not reflect a budget concern.

"I don't think this is driven by budgets. I think it really is driven by the acknowledgement that in the 21st century, most people in a classics department will be equally proficient in both Greek and ancient Latin. And we'd like to foster research that doesn't divide the Mediterranean," she said. "We'd like to have faculty and students who are able to cope with both sides of the language divide and kind of think of antiquity in a more holistic fashion."

"I think it would be naive to assume that there aren't any budgetary implications," she said.

There are approximately eight to 10 Greek majors and 70 to 80 Latin majors, according to the department.

The proposal was approved by the Council.

Other proposals included changing department and center names, creating a new graduate certificate and a new...
Combinations of Greek and Latin majors cause stir at University Coun... http://www.redandblack.com/ugalife/combinations-of-greek-and-latin...

The Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology was renamed the Department of Educational Psychology, and the Department of Elementary and Social Studies Education was renamed to the Department of Theory and Practice.

A master's degree in Soil, Water and Environmental Sciences was created as a largely online degree in collaboration with North Carolina State University, Clemson University, Auburn University, University of Kentucky and Texas Tech University.

A graduate certificate in African American Studies was created. At the undergraduate level, the Institute for African American Studies offers a major, a minor and a certificate in this field. The graduate certificate, according to the program abstract, is "designed to appeal to a broad spectrum of students matriculated in Master of Arts, Master of Education, Doctor of Arts and Doctor of Education programs."

The Fitness Center was reorganized into the Center for Physical Activity and Health within the Department of Kinesiology.

An interdisciplinary Center for Social Justice, Human and Civil Rights was created under the School of Social Work.

Proposals for amendment to the bylaws and a revision of the membership of the Program Review and Assessment Committee were also approved.

President Adams also updated the council on the status of the proposal approved by the council last semester regarding voluntary benefits and health benefits for domestic partners.

"I signed this recommendation in the Fall and I forwarded it with a letter to the Chancellor, inquiring about moving forward on those two matters," he said. "While I thought we would have a response at this point, we are still waiting. The system has indicated they are not yet ready to respond, and I will certainly let the Council know as soon as I have further direction in this matter."

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Posted in UgaLife. Administration on Thursday, February 21, 2013 9:55 pm. Updated 11:44 am. Tags: Uga, University Council, Majors, School, Campus, Decisions, Administration, Curriculum, Names, Changes

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Poetic Justice: Students angered by 'unfair' Kendrick Lamar ticket sales

Some students lined up before 7:30 a.m., some made a phone call and others handed their student ID to a friend. Kendrick Lamar is coming to the University of Georgia, but many have complaints about the ticketing process, which opened at 9 a.m. Thursday.

The post read: "University Union's Entertainment Division and CBCP presents: KENDRICK LAMAR LIVE IN CONCERT on March 7, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in Tate Grand Hall. Tickets will be on sale TOMORROW at the Tate Cashier Window starting at 9 a.m."

One commenter, Lili Orozco, asked: "So we can't buy them online... it has to be at Tate tomorrow?" To which the University Union replied, "The Tate Cashier Window is open every weekday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and we cannot determine when tickets will sell out."

"I feel like it is unfair in that UGA did not clarify how tickets would be sold in regards to multiple IDs," said Harris Waqar, a freshman finance and biochemistry major from Kennesaw.

In response to questions about ticket limits per person, the University Union did specify "limit of 1 student ticket per UGA ID." but students said UGA should not have let the mass purchases go so far. Jan Barham, Associate Dean of UGA Life Football Sports Views
Students and Director of the Tate Center, said cashiers were simply following UGA ticketing policy.

"Part of the reason that is in place is for the convenience of the students ... most of our events are on a weekly basis and do not sell out this way," Barham said. "We followed our ticketing policy the way we do for all events."

She called today "an anomaly."

"The line barely moved once the window actually opened because it took 15 minutes for the cashiers to make it through 50 cards," said Plaskowsky. "This happened a few times; multiple groups had bundles of IDs."

Because each student ID was run as a separate transaction, students could purchase multiple non-student tickets for each card they brought.

"The thing that irked me most was the fraternities that sent a few members from their house with stacks of 50 student IDs," Plaskowsky said.

Plaskowsky said he could identify the students as fraternity members because they talked about parties at the fraternity house and which "brothers" they were buying tickets for on the long notepad, which included names and how many additional tickets to purchase with that student ID. "They were doing it from the get-go," Plaskowsky said.

Word spread through the line, but then others who were not waiting in Tate began to call as well.

Michael Bragg, a junior political science major from Watkinsville, purchased two tickets via phone at 10:56 a.m.

"It was very easy," Bragg said. "I feel a little guilty, but it was a shortcut. I'm pretty excited."

Other students did not make the cut, including Meredith Head, a 24-year-old law student from Marietta, who called at 11:30 a.m.

"I asked if I could buy a ticket to the Kendrick Lamar show and was told that they were no longer selling them online and I would have to go to the Tate Center and stand in line to get a ticket," Head said.

By 12:30 p.m., tickets were sold out.

"I was in the radio station and someone ran in and said it sold out," Nathan Kerce, a junior advertising major from Athens, said. "I want outside and they had closed the cashier doors and people were booing and milling around upset."

Blake Helman, a senior graphic-design major from Athens, also called to buy tickets only to be turned away, at which point he was told students were buying tickets 30 at a time and not to bother getting in line.

Barham said the "lion share" of purchases made over the phone were by UGA students, but that "we cut that to the bone."

Some students said they understood the situation.

"You missed your chance to get a ticket. Worse things have happened ... Shout out to everyone working for Union that were able to put this together," Latressa Jones posted on the concert event on Facebook.

A little over an hour after sales opened, students began to call the Tate Center to order non-student tickets, after some were tipped off by friends who had done the same. According to Barham, purchasing tickets by phone is also a part of standard UGA ticketing policy. She said a post reminding students of this option was made by the University Union on its Facebook, but The Red & Black could not find a post on the Facebook page.

By 12:30 p.m., tickets were sold out.

"Once the window had opened, people who had bought tickets were already trying to scalp people in line who hadn't purchased them yet," Plaskowsky said.

Wear witnessed individual students purchasing upwards of 40 tickets, one of whom told a friend "pure profit right here," after holding up his stack of tickets.

Holly Buckman, a sophomore English major from Marietta, saw one Facebook friend advertising six non-student tickets she purchased by making two separate transactions at the cashier for $60 each. All sold before 6 p.m.

The University Union did not respond to repeated requests for comment, although it did issue a statement on its Facebook page indicating that "due to production costs and the lack of an inclement weather location the concert cannot be moved."

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The Red & Black is not responsible for the content above, which is provided in real-time from Twitter.
But many more said they were upset.

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Lifeguards Wanted. Work a Pool on the UGA campus.
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Thurmond predicted more “divisiveness” and “rancor” if the board members are suspended.

“You have to understand that the individuals who voted for me love me,” said Melvin Johnson, one of three new board members, none of whom was recommended for suspension. He said that voter affection applied to his eight colleagues.

That wasn’t so clear on the streets around Southwest DeKalb High School Friday.

“Get rid of them all,” said Don Johnson, a father of two students and a 25-year resident. “The corruption starts at the top. There’s been no transparency and a total waste of tax dollars.”

Faye Granville, who has a granddaughter at the school, said concerns about accreditation have led her and her daughter to get more involved with the system and to demand more accountability.

“I’m not pleased at all with the school board,” Granville said. “We elected these people to run the schools, and they can’t do that. They’re wasting money and there’s absolutely no accountability.”

Some local school members told the state board that they would step aside rather than fight suspension. Others, such as former board chairman Eugene Walker, reserved their right to fight.

If Deal suspends Walker and the other five with pay, they’ll have to wait 30 days for an administrative appeal.

They can try their luck in court, but it’s unclear whether a new school board handpicked by Deal would continue paying the legal bills.

Thurmond worried that suspension, and the appointment of replacement members, would create political uncertainty.

“He’ll have 15 board members — six appointed, three still serving and six others elected by the people,” he said. “I can manage nine, 15 would be…”

He didn’t finish that thought, but it was clear enough what he meant.

Staff writer Greg Bluestein contributed to this article

The story so far

Monday, Eugene Walker announced he would give up the board chairmanship, and the board voted to hire a law firm at $150,000 to review the school board's “governance” and recommend changes.

Tuesday, the school district filed a suit to prevent Thursday’s hearing by the Georgia Board of Education. A 2011 state law allows the governor to remove boards in school systems on probation, if the state board recommends it. The suit challenges that law.

Wednesday, a judge denied the request to block the state board hearing but scheduled a hearing on DeKalb’s suit challenging the state law. The board selected a new chairman, Melvin Johnson, by a 7-2 vote.

Thursday, after a 14-hour hearing, the state board of education recommended that the governor remove six of nine DeKalb school board members from office.

What’s next?

Monday, Gov. Nathan Deal is expected to announce his decision whether to suspend six of the nine DeKalb school board members.

Tuesday, a hearing will be held at 10 a.m. in front of U.S. District Court Judge Richard Story on the DeKalb school district’s federal lawsuit to block school board members’ removal.

Thursday, a hearing is scheduled in Fulton County Superior Court. The DeKalb district will ask a judge to consider a restraining order against the state to prevent members’ removal.

Nancy T. Jester — District 1 (recommended for suspension)

Board member since 2011. Last elected 2010 with 55 percent of the vote

Job experience: actuarial consultant

Education: bachelor’s degree, economics, The University of Alaska, Fairbanks

District in north DeKalb includes Chamblee and Dunwoody high schools.

Marshall D. Orson — District 2 (Not recommended for suspension)

Board member since 2013. Won with 62 percent of the vote

Job experience: co-founder and partner of consulting firm Melbourne Partners; co-founder and partner, Devonwood Media; Turner Broadcasting, 1989 to 2001; attorney; law clerk.

Education: Law degree and bachelor's degree, Duke University

District in Druid Hills area includes Cross Keys and Druid Hills high schools.

Sarah Copelin-Wood — District 3 (recommended for suspension)

Board member since 1999. Last elected 2010 with 51 percent of the vote

Education: student at Morris Brown College, working on bachelor's degree.

District includes Avondale and Cedar Grove high schools.

James L. “Jim” McMahon — District 4 (Not recommended for suspension)

Board member since 2013. Won with 65 percent of the vote


Education: attended Georgia State University and Wofford College, South Carolina; received high school diploma from, Northside High School, Atlanta Public Schools, 1983.

District includes Lakeside and Tucker high schools.

Jesse Jay Cunningham Jr. — District 5 (recommended for suspension)

Board Member since 2007. Last elected in 2010 with 64 percent of the vote

Job experience: Spent 26 years at various levels of management, including district manager, McDonald’s Corp.

Education: Attended Fort Valley State University, graduate of DeKalb County’s Walker High School (now McNair High)

District includes M.L. King Jr., Lithonia, Miller Grove, Southwest DeKalb high schools.

Melvin Johnson — District 6 (Not recommended for suspension)

Elected to the board in 2013, won with 66 percent of the vote


Education: Bachelor of Science, Fort Valley State; Masters of Education, Educational Specialist, Educational Doctorate, Atlanta University

District in the Stone Mountain area includes Stephenson and Stone Mountain high schools.

Donna G. Edler — District 7 (recommended for suspension)

Board Member since 2011. Last elected 2010 with 72 percent of the vote

Job experience: certified public accountant
Move to oust DeKalb board poses legal question

Education: Master's degree in business, University of Wisconsin; bachelor's degree, accounting and business administration, University of Kansas.

District includes Columbia, Redan and Towers High Schools

Pamela A. Speaks - District 8 (recommended for suspension)
Board member since 2009; Last elected in 2012 with 52 percent of the vote
Job experience: Educator, DeKalb County School System, retired. Previously taught physical education, special education, Brookline and Boston, Mass.
Education: Bachelor's degree, Boston University; Master of Arts, Northeastern; Specialist in Education, Jacksonville State University; Doctorate in Education, Sarasota.
District in north DeKalb includes Stone Mountain and Tucker high schools.

Eugene Walker — District 9 (recommended for suspension)
Member of the board since 2006; Last elected in 2010 with 55 percent of the vote
Job experience: Associate superintendent, administration of affirmative development, community and system services, DeKalb County School System, 1989; executive vice president, DeKalb Technical Institute, 1985-89; vice president, personnel and community relations, DeKalb College, 1981-85; professor of history, assistant football and basketball coach, Clark College, 1969; history and social studies teacher, head football and basketball coach, Drake High School, Thomasville, Ga., 1958-67; state senator, District 43, 1984 to 1992
Education: Ph.D. in history, Duke University, Durham, N.C., 1978; Masters of Art Degree in History, Atlanta University, 1969; Bachelor of Arts degree, Social Science, Clark College, Atlanta, 1958.
District includes Avondale, Cedar Grove, Columbia, Cross Keys, Druid Hills, M.L. King Jr., Miller Grove, Ronald McNair Sr., Southwest DeKalb and Towers high schools

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26 Comment(s)
Comment(s) 1-20 of 26 next

• Posted by Shrek4259 at 9:58 a.m. Feb. 23, 2013
• Report Abuse

why does Thurmond believe it is his job to manage board members? this is the problem!

• Posted by Justineisu at 11:36 a.m. Feb. 23, 2013
• Report Abuse

People have the right to vote for who they want to represent them. If there is misconduct, investigate it and criminally charge whoever is responsible. There is a recall process in Georgia which allow the voters to remove those members they deem unfit. No one should be allowed to remove an elected official unless that person has been charged with criminal activity or deemed mentally incompetent. What has happened here is the Governor has been given the authority to bypass the wishes of the voters of DeKalb County by a his hand picked board. He has then been given the right to appoint the majority of the board.

By the way for a while suspended members and new members will be paid.

If Gov. Deal wishes to be fair, he would appoint observers and allow the new Chairman and Superintendent to operate for the time period originally set by SACS which will end on December 12, 2013.

• Posted by Shrek4259 at 12:14 p.m. Feb. 23, 2013
• Report Abuse

The board has been proofed themselves mentally incompetent after the hearing this week (plus the SACS report).

Yes, we agree that citizens have the right to vote for who they want to represent them. And yes, the voters of GA voted (democratically) to give the governor the power to remove school board members when they have run the system in the ground and put the entire county school system on probation. This is about 100,000 children and the taxpayers of dekalb being screwed. What are you proposing? Waiting until we lose accreditation?

• Posted by tempstsoul at 1:44 p.m. Feb. 23, 2013
• Report Abuse

Sarah Coplin-Wood has been with the school board system since 1999 is still listed as a "student" and still all these years later has still not received a degree, either a bachelor's or even an associates?!?! How many other people running our school system are under qualified?

• Posted by Dave79 at 1:45 p.m. Feb. 23, 2013
• Report Abuse
Ernest Boland: Pillar of the Athens community and alleged child rapist

By NICK COLTRAIN  updated Saturday, February 23, 2013 - 10:38pm

Editor's note: In October 2012, after a lengthy court battle to keep them private, the Oregon Supreme Court ordered the Boy Scouts of America to release files naming nearly 1,200 volunteers accused of child molestation.

Among those listed is Ernest P. Boland, a prominent businessman active in the Athens community for decades. He recently passed away at age 88.

In the following four-month investigation by reporter Nick Coltrain, some of the abused speak publicly for the first time about the failings of a culture and system that protected a predator and others like him.

The story also examines the changing culture of sexual abuse and what safeguards are in place to protect the innocence of children.

Forty years ago, Ernest P. Boland, a successful businessman, on-again-off-again Boy Scout troop leader, and overall pillar of the community, kept a group around called Boland’s Boys.

They were barely teenagers and a shared interest in motorcycles brought them to his white-pillared home, said some of those who belonged to the group. And it was there Boland allegedly raped at least two of them.

But these accusations, as documented in a police report filed Christmas Eve and in interviews with victims and family of victims, would have likely gone no further in the legal process, even if the accused was still alive and even as these alleged victims and others come forward to tell eerily similar stories of boyhood victimization by Boland.

HOW THE LAW WORKS

For offenses involving victims under the age 16 who are raped, abused, sodomized, molested or enticed for indecent purposes:

• Civil suit must be brought within five years of a victim reaching 18;
• Criminal actions that happened between 1992 and July 1, 2012, must be reported with seven years of the victim turning 16;
• Criminal actions that happened after July 1, 2012, have no statute of limitations and may be prosecuted at anytime.

State Rep. Ben Harbin, R-Evans, lead the charge to revise the statute of limitations in the 2012 session of the Georgia Legislature. He said he is open to a temporary window of time for victims of crimes past the statute of limitations to pursue legal action, much like the state of Hawaii allowed.

He didn’t include that proposal in his law to remove the statute of limitations for child sex crimes committed after July 1, 2012, because he didn’t want the entire law jeopardized on a constitutional challenge of retroactive enforcement.

He noted that with his law, passed as part of Gov. Nathan Deal’s justice reform bill, accusations would still need to be proven in court before anyone went to jail. But he hopes it helps make sure child sexual abuse never happens again.

"There's no reason for the law to protect these individuals (who committed) these types of crimes," Harbin said.

WARNING SIGNS OF ABUSE

• Swelling, lacerations or pain in the genital area;
• Vaginal or penile discharge, difficulty with urination or venereal disease;
• Knowing more about sex than they should at a young age;
• Dramatic change in behavior, e.g., doesn't like something they once enjoyed, an outgoing child becoming withdrawn, sudden fear of a particular person or situation, dramatic increase in risk-taking behavior;
• Verbal cues such as “My mother's boyfriend does things to me when she's gone,” “I don’t like to be alone with [a particular person],” or “will you help me go live with my aunt?”

IF ABUSE IS SUSPECTED

• Report it to the Division of Family and Children Services at (706) 227-7000 or after business hours at 1-855-GACHILD.
• The law protects those who make “good faith” reports from civil and criminal court action. While lawsuits may still be brought against the
Boland, who died Feb. 7 at age 88 and was wheelchair bound, started sexually assaulting boys decades ago, according to court-released documents and victims. So much time had passed that the state statute of limitations prevented Boland’s prosecution, even though his alleged acts haunted the victims into adulthood.

“Probable cause may now be established, based on a reported and documented history of similar accusations against Boland from within the (Boy Scouts of America) and within a similar time frame,” an Athens-Clarke officer wrote in the police report filed in December. “However, in light of (the accuser’s) account, the crimes ... are not prosecutable at this time. Said offenses do not fall within even the widest limitation on a time period for which prosecution is allowed.”

Since the Christmas Eve report, another victim, Alan McArthur, filed a police report as well — also without hope of it going further than that. But for him, like the other, having it documented was as much justice as they could hope to get.

**Banned but unreported**

The earliest incident supposedly took place in 1961, when as a scoutmaster Boland forced a Boy Scout to perform oral sex on him. He allegedly continued to rape that victim until 1963, according to an internal Boy Scouts of America investigation written in 1977.

That report was released by order of the Oregon Supreme Court in October as part of a trove of documents, dubbed the Perversion Files, which the BSA kept to track those banned from volunteering with the organization.

Calls to Boland’s home upon release of the documents were not returned, nor was a note requesting comment left on his door when no one answered several knocks.

The Boland family attorney, Ed Tolley, said two days before Boland’s death that the alleged child rapist would not comment on the allegations.

The accusations of rape in the early 1960s came to light a decade after it allegedly happened, with the father saying his son first reported it during psychiatric counseling. Boland, with a different troop then, resigned before a troop committee could ask him to step down, according to the internal Boy Scout investigation. He cited health reasons.

The scout executive at the time hoped the resignation would resolve the situation, though “there was strong evidence that Boland had been involved with several Scouts.”

But when Boland wanted to establish a new troop three years after that
Ernest Boland: Pillar of the Athens community and alleged child rapist...
http://onlineathens.com/local-news/2013-02-23/ernest-boland-pillar-

resignation, all a scouting official wrote he could do was discourage the man. Boland had not been placed on the confidential file — the blacklist for the organization — or otherwise reported for his alleged actions. And it was between the two troops that he had Boland’s Boys. Among them was Mike, the boy who as an adult filed the Christmas Eve police report. According to that police report, he was sexually abused until 1975, when Mike and his family moved away from Athens.

According to the police report, Boland would “often expose (Boland’s Boys) to sex by showing the boys sexually explicit materials and by telling them about Boland’s own sexual activities.” The man started isolating Mike as a boy, calling him handsome and telling him he loved him, according to the police report.

The report lists the potential charges as aggravated child molestation, aggravated sodomy, enticing a child for indecent purposes and sexual battery.

According to the internal Boy Scouts investigation, Boland started lobbying to form the new troop in 1973. The scout executive wrote that he was able to discourage Boland until 1975, which is when Boland reportedly asked point blank, “Is my name on the Confidential List of B.S.A. and can you prevent me from becoming a scoutmaster?” The executive wrote that he continued to discourage him, but “had to admit that I could not prevent his registration.”

The new troop was chartered in 1975. About six months later, the father of the alleged victim from the 1960s reiterated his accusations, according to the Boy Scout files. He had also stated as many as 12 boys were involved, “but in every case, parents had determined not to come forward because of the potential for harm to their sons who were now adults with families.” The father ultimately made the same decision, given his son was 30 years old and a dentist at the time.

The Boy Scout’s investigator wrote “there was still concern that we could place charges that would hold up in a court of law.” It is unclear if it was an option they were seeking to pursue or concerned the parents would pursue such charges. The investigator could not be reached for comment. Public records requests to area law enforcement agencies turned up no records of law enforcement investigation or charges from the matter.

The Boy Scout investigator turned up more allegations, including that Boland had raped a 12-year-old who was a ward of his through the Clarke County Juvenile Court, according to the BSA documents. The investigator wrote that he never accused Boland outright, but the man nonetheless resigned a final time before being added to the blacklist. In a letter to his troop committee, Boland cited problems with his business.

Rev. Dr. James N. Griffith, pastor of Beech Haven Baptist Church, which sponsored Boland’s troop at that time, reportedly told the investigator that Boland had kept an apartment away from his home and without his
family’s knowledge. Boland, an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve, also provided two scouts from broken homes with plane tickets to Maryland to spend the week with him in a motel, Griffith reportedly told the investigator.

In a recent phone interview, Griffith said his memory was shaky.

“It's pretty hard to remember anything from 30 years ago,” but “something was done about (the reports) right away,” he said.

It was handled as a church matter and by church leaders, Griffith said, adding that pastors try to help people, not hurt them.

“They handled it in the correct way, as far as our church was concerned,” he said. “I’m sure they did the right thing for the church.”

When asked if they did the right thing for the victims, he said, “I’m sure they did that, too.”

He couldn’t say why law enforcement wasn’t involved and said the brunt of that responsibility should have fallen on the Boy Scouts commission. But he did think that Boland, after all these years, would want this matter from four decades prior buried.

“I would certainly think Mr. Boland, being a good man, I mean a churchman with a fine family, doesn’t want that noise disclosed,” Griffith said.

He’s not alone in that. A woman who answered the phone number listed for Mrs. Perry Sentell Jr., who was one of the people on the troop committee notified of Boland’s final resignation after he was blacklisted, said it wouldn’t help anyone to drudge up these demons.

“I think if it were just ignored at this point it would help a lot more folks,” the woman said before hanging up.

The other eight people on that list either couldn’t be reached or said they didn’t know anything about the accusations.

In an email shortly after the release of the confidential file in October, a spokesperson with the Boy Scouts of America noted that it mandates reporting suspected abuse to law enforcement. They also wrote that the “BSA believes confidentiality of the files helps to encourage prompt reporting of abuse.”

Slipping through

It does not seem law enforcement was entirely without suspicion of Boland. However, current law regarding accusations of child molestation make it impossible to know through public records requests just how much may have been known or what may have stopped any investigations before they developed into charges.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation apparently looked into Boland about
two decades ago, but wouldn’t confirm or deny it. The Department of Human Services, Division of Family Children Services, through which Boland apparently took in foster children, likewise would supply no records.

Both requests, made through the state open records law, asked for any record referencing Boland. In denying the requests, both agencies cited Georgia law that exempts records from public disclosure if they pertain to child abuse.

GBI’s open records officer initially said a possible file had been found. But the final response to the records request states that it “does not confirm or deny any investigation of Ernest Boland. If an investigation alleging child molestation did exist, it would be exempt from release.”

The written request submitted to the GBI made no mention of child molestation.

Alan A. Cook, director of the University of Georgia’s law school’s prosecutorial clinic and a former district attorney, said he believes the policy reason for the law is to protect children making the accusations from having their names disclosed and also to protect adults who are falsely accused.

“If that is readily available to the public, some people might assume where there’s smoke, there’s fire,” he said. “... It’s hard to unring a bell.”

He noted that the law allows disclosure once charges are filed. Cook, who prosecuted 34 child sexual abuse cases, also drew from personal experience where allegations didn’t seem truthful. He said people should be protected from that, considering how easy it is to make a false claim. But more often, he said, it was the evidence that was lacking.

The law cited by GBI and DHS allows for a “laundry list” of agencies and individuals that would have access to the files even if they weren’t public, he said. It is unclear if GBI’s and DHS’s records would be related to each other. Cook said that when allegations of abuse against an individual do surface, it’s routine to look into that person’s background for similar allegations.

Mandated reporter laws also change the landscape, with it now being a crime for adults, through their job or volunteerism, in routine contact with children, such as coaches and teachers, not to report suspicions of abuse, he said.

“That’s another check and another safeguard,” he said.

But such a law didn’t exist at the time Boland allegedly abused boys in his charge.

It appears Boland had gone before a judge in Franklin County for allegedly showing boys photos of male sex organs while camping at Lake Hartwell, a former probation officer there, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said. However, no records detailing the charges showed up during a thorough search of the courts in Hart County. It is possible the
documents were sealed.

The probation office there confirmed Boland had been on probation, though documents could not be released, a clerk there said. But the case stuck out to the former officer, especially after another probationer said Boland molested him as a boy. The officer also remembers it well because of Boland’s minor punishment.

“Basically nothing,” the officer said. “One year of unsupervised probation.”

Cook, the law professor, said it sounds like Boland possibly struck a deal under the first offender law, which allows defendants who plead guilty and complete probation to not be considered to have a criminal conviction. It would have still required the guilty party to register as a sex offender, though it’s unclear if charges would have been before registration was required or if the charges would have required it.

The law “does insulate the offender,” Cook said, and he would be surprised if it was used in the case described.

“It’s rare that it would be used in an adult public indecency case,” he said.

The probation officer said Boland’s reputation helped him secure it. Boland was a former chairman of the Athens-Clarke County Commission when it attempted unification in the early 1970s, a prominent business owner and was a member of the Advisory Board of the Clarke County Board of Education. The 1977 report blacklisting Boland from the Boy Scouts of America notes “the complicated part of this matter deals with the image the man portrays” to the community.

“He wouldn’t have gotten that deal anywhere else,” the probation officer said.

Boland’s attorney at the time was Nick Chilivis, an Atlanta lawyer whose accolades include successfully defending former federal Office of Management and Budget Director Bertram Lance against federal charges and successfully representing the University of Georgia Athletic Association in a trademark infringement dispute.

When the family of one of Boland’s alleged victims, also described as one of Boland’s Boys, confronted the man in about 2000, Chilivis wrote them a letter saying they should not contact Boland, whom he described as “my good friend whom I have known for 50 years.” They should also “seek advice concerning the Georgia law involving defamation,” Chilivis wrote.

In a brief phone interview, Chilivis said he has no recollection of that exchange.

The alleged victim died later after a life rife with substance abuse issues, which his mother alleges began after Boland used alcohol to seduce him.

According to a letter the mother and her victimized son wrote to Chilivis, the young man dramatically changed after the abuse started. The victim, who is not being named to protect his children and family, went from being “a son any parent would have pointed to with pride” to one who was admitted to a hospital for troubled teens because of his
self-destructive behavior.

“This was the beginning of years of counseling and hospitalization for him, both for depression and alcoholism,” they wrote in the letter to Chilivis. “Because of the embarrassment, he never admitted to any of his counselors what his deep-seated problem was. This did not happen until many years later when he revealed it to us after he had been in a treatment center.”

In contacting Boland and writing the letter, they were following advice from the pastor of their church to “find a way to bring justice and closure to this part of (his) life,” they wrote.

Sally Sheppard, executive director of The Cottage, a sexual assault and children’s advocacy center in Athens, said alcohol and drug abuse is the most common way for survivors of childhood sexual abuse to cope with what had happened to them. It can be easier to be in a chemical haze than confront memories of abuse, she said. Such negative coping mechanisms make her more worried about the child victims she doesn’t see than the ones she does.

Aside from self-destructive behavior, the scars of abuse run deep, Sheppard said. It can induce post-traumatic stress disorder, bouts of depression and anxiety that stress them physically as well as mentally and invade every aspect of a victim’s life.

“It affects every facet of every relationship that they ever have,” she said, adding that she doesn’t only mean romantic or sexual relationships either.

She recommended those trying to push through such childhood tragedies seek out support networks of friends or family and seek counseling. Her organization can set victims up with therapists who specialize in the trauma they are trying to deal with. But that all depends on the victim being able to put words to what had happened to them.

Predators, especially those with years of experience, Sheppard said, can become very good at finding the perfect victim: Quiet and able to be persuaded by special attention. Some estimates have the number of victims in the triple digits, she said. It’s an assumption she makes for Boland, given the time frame in which the accusations began.

“Child molesters, especially ones that get away with so many victims over such a long time, they pick the perfect kid to go after and they do it time and time and time again,” Sheppard said. “I mean, they’ll have hundreds of victims until they get caught.”

In an interview, the mother said she didn’t know for decades about her son’s abuse. They never pursued legal action because of the statute of limitations. A lawyer friend had told them “you could spend every penny you have, you could lose you’re home, and still not win your case.”

So she spent years after her son told them of the abuse, after he died, after her husband followed soon after, praying to see Boland’s name in a headline connecting him to molestation.

“I don’t care if they put him in jail or what they do with him,” she said
prior to Boland’s death. “I just want him revealed.”

- Follow government and business reporter Nick Coltrain at twitter.com/ncoltrain or on Facebook at facebook.com/NickColtrainABH.

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**Commenting for this story has been disabled.**
Marietta Daily Journal (Georgia)

February 24, 2013 Sunday

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 451 words

HEADLINE: Marietta law firm changes name

BYLINE: From staff reports

BODY:

MARIETTA - Brock, Clay, Calhoun & Rogers, LLC has changed their name to Gregory, Doyle, Calhoun & Rogers, LLC.


The firm and its 28 attorneys are also pleased to announce the admission of two new members: Randall C. Farmer and Aric M. Kline.

Man retires after 52 years

MARIETTA - Longtime Marietta resident Paul Hardy is retiring after 52 years with Atlanta-based pest control leader Orkin, a wholly owned subsidiary of Rollins Inc. At the age of 70, after serving in multiple positions, he is leaving his post as senior technical services director.

He has earned several industry awards, including Pest Control Technology's 1995 Leadership Award, PCT's 25 Most Influential People in 2000, PCT's 2001 Professional of the Year, Georgia Pest Control Association's 2003 Pioneer Award, 2005 Pest Control Hall of Fame, Bayer's 2006 Image Maker, Honorary Membership GPCA July 2006, 2007 NPMA Pinnacle Award and CPCO Georgia's 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Saunders elected to Board

KENNESAW - Candice Saunders, FACHE, WellStar Health System executive vice president and president of WellStar Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Hospital Association at the association's annual convention.

Saunders is deeply involved in the community as a member of the American Heart Association, the Women of Washington and the National Association of Female Executives. She was the 2008 chair of the Cobb Heart Walk and was named Woman of the Year by the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association in 2011. She was named a Woman of Excellence by Business to Business in 2012.

Troutman adds new partner

VININGS - James W. Stevens of Vinings has joined the Atlanta office of Troutman Sanders LLP law firm as partner. He was formerly with Kilpatrick Townsend in Atlanta.

He was named a 2009 "40 Under 40 Up and Comer" by the Atlanta Business Chronicle and was selected as a Georgia Rising Star by SuperLawyers magazine from 2006 to 2011. He received his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law.

Franklin to be forum panelist
KENNESAW - Former Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin and Ted's Montana Grill Co-Founder George McKerrow will be two of four panelists sharing insights at Kennesaw State University's Michael J. Coles College of Business 13th Annual "Lessons in Leadership" forum Feb. 28 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Cobb Energy Centre, 2800 Cobb Galleria Parkway. The event is free and open to the public with registration at www.KSUemba.com/LIL.

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Athens Judge Patricia Barron overcame obstacles in path to success

By ALLIE JACKSON  published Sunday, February 24, 2013

EDITORS NOTE: In recognition of Black History Month, this story belongs to a series of profiles on prominent African-Americans who have made an impact on the Athens area.

It was a seventh-grade social studies class in an Atlanta public school that initially drew Athens-Clarke County Chief Magistrate Judge Patricia Barron to the law.

Even though Barron had made up her mind about what she wanted to do at an early age, she still faced a multitude of obstacles to get to there.

For her efforts in overcoming such obstacles, Barron recently was awarded the 2013 ATHENA Award at the 110th annual Athens Area Chamber of Commerce banquet. Up against 14 female nominees, Barron said she was surprised and honored to accept the title.

"I am so honored to be chosen," Barron said. "There are quite a few women chosen in past years that I admire tremendously and to be recognized by the chamber, I can't think of any higher honor."

The ATHENA award is annually presented to a woman who embodies the highest level of professional excellence in her career, devotes time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community, and actively assists women in realizing their leadership potential.

Deciding at a young age that she wanted to pursue law, Barron studied hard, but being a black woman trying to break into the legal profession in the 1970s proved tougher than she expected.

"In that social studies class, we talked about slavery and the rights of people, and how there are some people that couldn't speak for themselves," Barron said. "I made up my mind then (that
Athens Judge Patricia Barron overcame obstacles in path to success

standing up for others is) what I wanted to do."

Gaining acceptance for herself though was
difficult, as Barron learned when she applied for
an internship in 1977.

"I chose to pursue a case in a juvenile court near Macon, and they did not
want any African-American (interns)," she said. "There was nothing that
compelled me to deal with it or combat it, so I found another job. But I'm
glad I ended up where I did."

A few years later, Barron found herself in a similar circumstance, but she
never let it stand in her way.

She joined a practice in Americus in 1979 as the only African American in
its bar association.

"They met at a country club that wouldn't allow black people," Barron
said. "Rather than moving the venue ... since I was the only African-
American in Sumter County ... they just quit meeting.

"I didn't want to challenge it. I had a lot of work to do and focus on. They
did start meeting again after I left (in 1984)."

Barron said she left the practice in September. In December, she was
invited back for a Christmas party at the same country club that
previously denied her access.

"They invited me to come ... and, of course, I went," she said. "And I was
warmly received. I had a great time."

Barron came to Athens in 1989 with a law degree from Georgetown
University Law Center in Washington, D.C., and a bachelor's degree in
political science, summa cum laude, from Mercer University.

She worked as an attorney with Georgia Legal Services for
20 years in
different offices throughout the state.

She also worked for the University of Georgia School of Law for
two years
as managing attorney of the Family Violence Clinic, where she trained law
students to represent domestic violence victims in obtaining protective
orders from the Superior Courts of Athens-Clarke and Oconee counties.

Barron eventually became president of the Western Circuit Bar
Association in Athens-Clarke and Oconee counties in 2004 and served in
that role until 2005.

"Which was a huge milestone for me as you can imagine, to go from not
being able to attend the meetings in one town, to being president here," she said. "The difference was I was welcome here. I was accepted, and I
didn't have as many issues here in the community.

"I believe that's because Athens is a very progressive city. We are very
tolerant of people no matter their race, gender, creed or class."

Barron was sworn in as Associate Magistrate Court Judge in Athens-Clarke
County in February 2001. In August 2002, she was appointed to the position of Chief Magistrate Court judge.

Barron was elected to her first four-year term as chief magistrate in 2004 and to her second four-year term in 2008.

Making decisions is something Barron said is passionate about.

“1 like taking difficult situations where people disagree about facts or outcomes and being the neutral voice,” she said. “And then explaining my reason behind that decision; I don’t shy away from explaining how the law and the facts dictate the decisions that I make, and being fair to both sides.”

Barron said the hardest types of cases she oversees are those in which she has to decide whether to make an arrest if for some reason an arrest wasn’t made at the scene of an incident.

“That impacts peoples lives,” she said. “And I don’t take it lightly.”

Barron also prides herself in the work she has done with Athens Technical College, where she has been on the policy board for several years.

“The work is so critical to Athens with the work they do with students and sending them into the workforce,” said Barron. “I truly love working with them.”

Barron also does work with the Athens Tutorial Program and is a high school Sunday school teacher at Greater Bethel AME Church.

“I enjoy educating, as you might very well tell,” Barron said. “And I find it (teaching Sunday school) very rewarding as a Christian-based education to be able to teach the young people of Athens. I also spend a lot of time training magistrate clerks and judges. I want to give back to the people who work in courts, and I spend a lot of time traveling to help other clerks and judges.”

Barron took her knowledge to pen and paper and published a children’s book in 2007 about a day in the life of the court system and a magistrate judge called “Meet Judge Patricia Barron. She’s Chief Magistrate Court Judge!”

“I wanted to do something that young people could understand ... the court system, what a judge does day-to-day, and it also talks about the obligation to serve the community,” Barron said. “So in that way, it is autobiographical, it’s true about who I am and what I do.”

Follow breaking news reporter Allie Jackson at www.facebook.com/AllieJacksonABH or www.twitter.com/Allie_ABH.
Ranking The Go-To Law Schools

Things are starting to look up in terms of hiring at the nation's largest law firms. Most law schools sent slightly larger percentages of their 2012 classes into first-year associate jobs at these firms than they did in 2011. Among the 50 schools most popular with hiring firms, 25 percent of graduates landed associate jobs, up from 22 percent in 2011. Even so, hiring was not as robust as in 2010, when 27 percent of the graduates from the top 50 schools landed at the largest firms.

This is a special report on ranking the go-to law schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Law School</th>
<th>First-year associates to NLJ 250 firms</th>
<th>J.D.s in 2012</th>
<th>% of grads at NLJ 250 firms</th>
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School of Law, Terry College of Business to host music industry conference

The third annual Protect Athens Music conference will be held Feb. 27 at 3 p.m. at the Melting Point at 295 E. Dougherty St.

It will address issues such as copyright and licensing, touring, how to run a record label, merchandising and myriad legal matters surrounding the music industry. Organized by the School of Law's Sports and Entertainment Law Society and the Terry College of Business' Music Business Program, this event is free and open to the public.

The conference will have sessions focusing on legal matters, business/digital sales and labels, and songwriters/touring musicians.

Conference panelists will include Patterson Hood, the Drive-By Truckers; Dorothy "Dottie" Alexander, Of Montreal; Julian Dorio, The Whigs; Alyssa DeHayes, Team Clermont publicity company; Corey Flegel, This Is American Music record label; Peniece LeGall, SESAC; Shawn Nolan, entertainment lawyer; Tommy Robinson, New West Records; and John P. Strohm, Loeb & Loeb attorneys, among others.

Session moderators will be David Barbe, UGA Music Business Program director; Bertis E. Downs IV, former R.E.M. legal counsel and manager; and David E. Shipley, School of Law Georgia Athletic Association Professor.

On Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nuçi's Space, there will be a free legal clinic where music-related questions can be posed to an attorney.

Conference to explore sustainability

The School of Law's 25th annual Red Clay conference will explore the environmental costs and benefits of sustainable business, government and energy in Georgia.

The event will take place March 1 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall. It is open free to all UGA faculty, staff and students. Members of the general public are welcome to attend, but will need to pay for their lunch. For planning purposes, registration is requested at www.law.uga.edu/red-clay-conference before Feb. 27.

Specifically, conference panelists will look at how Southeastern cities are using the law to encourage sustainable business and government processes; the environmental, economic and legal costs and benefits of sustainable energy sources; and whether corporations have a responsibility to adopt eco-friendly practices.

Sponsored by the school's Environmental Law Association, the Red Clay conference is organized by Georgia Law students to increase public awareness of environmental issues of regional, national and international significance.

SCHOOL OF LAW

Annual conference to focus on major social justice issues

By Cindy Rice

Gun control, homelessness, affirmative action and alternative courts as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights are among the issues to be addressed at the School of Law's eighth annual Working in the Public Interest law conference.

The daylong event, which will start March 2 at 9 a.m. in Harold Hirsch Hall, is free and open to the public. However, to aid with planning, registration is requested at http://ugawipi.wordpress.com before Feb. 28.

"This conference seeks to highlight dynamic, creative ways to combat social injustice through the vehicle of the law," said Cari E. Hipp, conference co-organizer and third-year law student. "We hope that by providing a forum to address social injustices, we may get one step closer to resolving major public interest law issues in the Southeast and beyond."

The conference will conclude with an evening keynote address at the Melting Point at 295 E. Dougherty St., to be followed by the school's 28th annual Equal Justice Foundation auction.

Proceeds from the auction will support Georgia Law students who choose to take unpaid or low-paying public interest legal positions this summer.

ON THE WEB

More information about the conference is online at http://ugawipi.wordpress.com. More information about the EJF auction is online at www.law.uga.edu/ejf.
University of Georgia School of Law wins First Amendment Moot Court competition

First Amendment Center

Monday, February 25, 2013

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The team from University of Georgia School of Law took top honors Friday at the 23rd Annual National First Amendment Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the First Amendment Center and Vanderbilt University School of Law.

Winning team members were Mary Beth Martinez and Katie Croghan. The law school also won the competition in 2006. The runner-up team was from the Charlotte School of Law, Christopher Harden and Abbey Mrkus.

Other competition winners included:

- **Semi-finalist teams**: Michigan State University College of Law, Corrine Miller and Heidi Williams; University of San Diego School of Law, Kyra Monroe and Tripp May;
- **Quarterfinalists**: Boston College Law School, Julia Rindler and Elizabeth Oljen; Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Emily Gurskis and Joshua Williams; Charleston School of Law, Britni McCarson and Mary Abraham; and Georgetown University Law Center, Justin Rowinsky and Annie Johnson
- **Richard S. Arnold Best Oralist Award**: Shoyeb Siddique; New York University School of Law, runner-up: David Pollsinelli, South Texas College of Law
- **Best Brief**: Emily Gurskis and Joshua Williams, Case Western Reserve University School of Law, runner-up: Kyra Monroe and Tripp May, University of San Diego School of Law.

Competing this year in the two-day competition were 37 teams of students from law schools across the United States. More than 200 attorneys, professors, federal and state judges, and legal scholars judged the preliminary rounds and final rounds.

Competition began Thursday in rounds held both at the Vanderbilt School of Law and moved Friday to the John Seigenthaler Center.

Judges in the concluding rounds Friday included: Justice Cornelia A. Clark, Tennessee Supreme Court, Judge Steven M. Colloton, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit; Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey, Judge Bernice B. Donald, Judge Julia Smith Gibbons, Judge Gilbert S. Merritt and Judge Jane Stranch, all of U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; Judge Sidney A. Fitzwater, Chief, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas; Judge William J. Haynes Jr., Chief, and Judge Aleta Trauger, both of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee; Judge Marian F. Harrison, Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Tennessee; Judge James C. Mahan, U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada; and Judge Susan Webber Wright, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

The Best Oralist award was named in 2005 in honor of former federal appeals court Judge Richard S. Arnold, who served on the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Arnold, who died in 2004, participated in the Moot Court competition for many years and was a staunch advocate for more
cooperation between the courts and journalists so that the public would know more about the operations of the judiciary.

The First Amendment Center is a program of the Freedom Forum – the main funder of the operations of the Newseum in Washington, D.C., and of the Diversity Institute – which champions the five freedoms of the First Amendment through education, information and entertainment. The center has offices in the John Seigenthaler Center at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., and at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Tags: Moot Court

THE EXPERTS

The First Amendment Center is an educational organization and cannot provide legal advice.

Ken Paulson is president and chief executive officer of the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University and in Washington, D.C. Previously, Paulson served as the editor and senior vice president/news of USA Today.

Gene Policinski, senior vice president and executive director of the First Amendment Center, is a veteran journalist whose career has included work in newspapers, radio, television and online.

John Seigenthaler founded the First Amendment Center in 1991 with the mission of creating national discussion, dialogue and debate about First Amendment rights and values.

Dr. Charles C. Haynes is director of the Religious Freedom Education Project at the Newseum. He writes and speaks extensively on religious liberty and religion in American public life.
David L. Hudson Jr. is a scholar at the First Amendment Center. Hudson writes for firstamendmentcenter.org and for other publications devoted to First Amendment issues.

Tiffany Villager is director/First Amendment studies at the First Amendment Center, which she joined in 1993. She also served as the center’s research manager and research coordinator, and developed the center’s library.

About The First Amendment Center

- • About the First Amendment
- • First Amendment Center Publications
- • Contact the First Amendment Center
- • Freedom Sings®

We support the First Amendment and build understanding of its core freedoms through education, information and entertainment.

The center serves as a forum for the study and exploration of free-expression issues, including freedom of speech, of the press and of religion, and the rights to assemble and to petition the government.

Founded by John Seigenthaler, the First Amendment Center is an operating program of the Freedom Forum and is associated with the Newseum and the Diversity Institute. The center has offices in the John Seigenthaler Center at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., and at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

The center’s programs, including the Religious Freedom Education Project at the Newseum, provide education and information to the public and groups including First Amendment scholars and experts, educators, government policy makers, legal experts and students. The center is nonpartisan and does not lobby, litigate or provide legal advice. See First Amendment Center Fact Sheet and FAQs. See internships info.

The center’s website, www.firstamendmentcenter.org, is one of the most authoritative sources of news, information and commentary in the nation on First Amendment issues. It features daily updates on news about First Amendment-related developments, as well as detailed reports about U.S. Supreme Court cases involving the First Amendment, and commentary, analysis and special reports on free expression, press freedom and religious-liberty issues. Support the work of the First Amendment Center.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
Legislation to curb Holt demands is flawed

Daily Report
02-25-2013

Regarding "Lawyers hatch deal for bill to limit bad faith cases," Feb. 21: I taught the Insurance Law courses at UGA Law from 2008 to 2011 and since 1999 have had in print for West Publishing a two-volume treatise entitled Excess Liability, which surveys bad faith and excess cases across the country.

Georgia courts pay lip service to the rule of law and then find myriad issues of fact as a means to throw the insurer under the bus. Ordinary folks sitting in a jury box like other ordinary folks. They do not like insurance companies.

So what happens is about 5 percent of the population with clever counsel turn $25,000 policies into millions. Jackpot justice and the excesses of our system result in big recoveries for a few victims and higher insurance rates for the vast majority of people who pay these rates so that a few victims and a few lawyers can reap a million-dollar payday.

O.C.G.A. § 33-4-6 limits the rights of a policyholder to recover on a first party claim against his or her own insurer. If the insurance company messes up, there is a 50 percent penalty and attorney fees. In the wonderful world of "Holt ups," there is no cap on the penalty. A stranger to the insurance policy and a clever lawyer can turn a $25,000 policy into one with no limits.

Our judiciary over and over finds issues of fact in these disputes, and then lets a jury determine punitive damages and attorneys fees. The appellant is almost never the claimant. Georgia is among the handful of worst jurisdictions in the country on bad faith law.

We have a Republican legislature and Republican governor, yet House Bill 336 completely misses the mark, apparently having been drafted by a secret committee including lawyers from the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association. The legislation as drafted is useless without a cap on the penalty.

The cure for Holt miscues is the same cap and penalties allowed under O.C.G.A. § 33-4-6 or one consonant with it.

I urge the General Assembly to re-draft this bill. What you have now will do nothing to curb 20 years of Holt litigation excesses. The courts have done nothing to curb the problem, and this legislation has no teeth.

For the benefit of the 95 percent-plus who pay higher premiums because of Holt economics, I urge you to go back to the drawing board and put into this bill the same penalty provisions found in O.C.G.A. § 33-4-6. Otherwise as the saying goes, you are putting a Band-Aid on a sucking chest wound.

Bob Persons, Atlanta
UGA Law School leads talks on social justice

Attorneys, professors and students will gather at the University of Georgia Law School March 2 for the Eighth Annual Working in the Public Interest Law Conference.

An announcement on the UGA website says the event will address gun control, homelessness, affirmative action and alternative courts.

The daylong event starts at 9 a.m. in the law school's Harold Hirsch Hall. It will highlight "dynamic, creative ways to combat social injustice through the vehicle of the law," says conference organizer and third-year law student Cari Hipp, in a news release.

The conference concludes with a keynote address by Aimee Maxwell, executive director of the Georgia Innocence Project, 6 p.m. at the Melting Point in downtown Athens.

Registration is $10 for the public and free for university faculty, staff and students. CLE credit is available.

Register at http://ugawipi.wordpress.com before Feb. 28.

News release:
http://law.uga.edu/wipi/

Schedule:
http://www.law.uga.edu/news/16358

Contributor: Grayson Daughters in Events, Law schools | subscribe to rss | share

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The great Mississippi novelist William Faulkner once wrote of the South that "the past is never dead. It's not even past." This term, we will find out if the Supreme Court of the United States agrees.

Prior to the Voting Rights Act, voter suppression and intimidation were widespread and institutional. Schemes designed to keep blacks from voting were commonplace and barely disguised --- usually in the form of a poll tax, literacy test or grandfather clause.

In 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act, designed to outlaw discriminatory voting practices that had led to the widespread disenfranchisement of blacks. In 2006, the law was renewed by a vote of 98-0 in the Senate and 390-33 in the House of Representatives and signed by President George W. Bush.

A key provision of the law, Section 5, requires "preclearance" of any attempt to change "any voting qualification or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure with respect to voting" in any "covered jurisdiction." Nine states, including Georgia, and cities or counties in an additional seven states are covered by preclearance requirements based on their history of discrimination and voter disenfranchisement. If a covered jurisdiction wishes to change requirements relating to voting or redraw districts, it must demonstrate that the proposed change does not have the purpose and will not have the effect of discriminating based on race.

Now, this preclearance requirement is being challenged. Opponents say things have changed in the South. Sufficient progress has been made on matters of race that preclearance requirements are no longer necessary.

Is that so?

President Bush and the 2006 Congress didn't think so. In the 25-year extension of the Voting Rights Act passed that year, the preclearance requirements could have been revised or discontinued. They were kept in place.

Race continues to dominate politics in the South. In the past decade, we watched as the removal of the Confederate battle emblem from the state flag realigned Georgia's politics.

In Florida, after early voting yielded record minority turnout in 2008, the legislature cut back on its availability for the 2012 election leading to a meltdown this past November in which voters waited in line for seven hours to vote in some locations. And in Alabama, court testimony outlined a recent municipal election in which white men stood outside polling places and photographed black voters coming and going from the polls. In the same municipality just last year, an elderly black man was able to successfully challenge his removal from the voter rolls only because the improper removal had
not been submitted for preclearance.

It is true that the South has made progress on the issue of race. Someday, Faulkner will be wrong to say that the past is not past.

Sadly, that day is not today.

Rob Teilhet is an adjunct professor at the University of Georgia School of Law.

Send To: MURPHY, HEIDI
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA LAW SCHOOL
HERTY & BOCOCK DRIVE
Greer to be supervising ADA at Dawson office

BY MICHELE HESTER
Times regional staff
February 26, 2013

Northeastern Judicial Circuit District Attorney Lee Darragh announced Monday that longtime prosecutor Conley Greer has been assigned as the new supervising assistant district attorney for the Dawson County office.

"The citizens of Dawson County will be well served with Mr. Greer in his capacity as Supervising ADA," Darragh said Monday afternoon in a release.

Greer, 44, began his role as an assistant district attorney for the circuit in 2007, the same year he graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, who served during the first Gulf War, Greer's tenure prosecuting criminal cases within the circuit has been split between Dawson and Hall counties.

His new role is effective Friday.

Greer is the permanent replacement for former Supervising ADA John Wilbanks, who died in December after serving more than three decades as a career prosecutor in north Georgia.

Wilbanks was found dead within hours of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation confirming they were investigating him at the request of a Superior Court judge in the circuit and with cooperation from Darragh's office.

While the scope of the probe has not been divulged, GBI spokesman John Bankhead said Wilbanks' death, which was ruled a suicide, closed any investigation.

In a Dec. 12 interview, Darragh said Wilbanks was no longer on staff, but he would not elaborate on his departure.

Wilbanks, however, was involved in a fight Nov. 19 at a Dairy Queen in Dawson County, in which William Lee Evans, 45, of Jasper was charged with disorderly conduct, according to the Dawson County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies responded to reports that Wilbanks had been assaulted, and they pursued Evans, who, according to the sheriff's incident report, was a passenger in
a car driven by his son.

Evans was taken into custody and charged the next day. His son, Cody Evans, was arrested on charges of traffic violations.

Darragh's only comment at the time on a possible link between the incident and Wilbanks' departure was that his office would not handle prosecution of the case as it involved a former staff member.
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**FEB. 27**
7th annual Professionalism and Ethics CLE. Panel discussion on professionalism and ethics scenarios in corporate and finance deals. Sponsored by Atlanta Bar Association Business & Finance Section. One CLE hour, including 1 ethics and 1 professionalism. 7:30-10 a.m. at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. Register at www.atlantabar.org or call 404-521-0781.

**FEB. 27**
Teleseminar: "Real Estate Finance: Negotiating and Documenting Commercial Real Estate Loans, Part 2." Sponsored by Atlanta Bar Association Construction Law Section. One CLE hour. 7:30-9 a.m., the Buckhead Club. Register at www.atlantabar.org or call 404-521-0781.

**FEB. 27**
Beer and CLE: "The Life of a Deal: Negotiations and Allocating Risk." Co-sponsored by Atlanta Bar Association Council of Younger Lawyers Section and Atlanta Bar CLE, with 1.5 CLE hours. 6-7:30 p.m. at Manuel's Tavern. Register at www.atlantabar.org or call 404-521-0781.

**FEB. 28**
Seminar: Negotiated Corporate Acquisitions. Co-sponsored by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and the Business Law Section. Six CLE hours including 1 ethics hour. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. For information or to register, go to www.iclega.org.

**FEB. 28**
Seminar: Eminent Domain Law. Co-sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and Eminent Domain Section, State Bar of Georgia. Six CLE hours, including 1 ethics, 3 trial practice and 1 professionalism. 7:45 a.m.-3:45 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

**FEB. 28**

**FEB. 28**
Happy Hour, sponsored by Atlanta Council of Younger Lawyers and Women in the Profession sections. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at a location to be determined. Register at www.atlantabar.org or call 404-521-0781.

**MARCH 1**
Arbitration Training. Seven CLE hours, including 1.5 ethics, 3 trial, 1 professionalism. Approved by the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. Sponsored by Henning Mediation & Arbitration Service. Register at www.henningmediation.com.

**MARCH 1**
Seminar: Georgia Auto Insurance Claims Law. Sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia. Six CLE hours, including 1 ethics and 3 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

**MARCH 1**
25th annual Red Clay Environmental Law Conference. Sponsored by University of Georgia School of Law. CLE hours available. 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall, Athens. Register before Feb. 27 at www.law.uga.edu/red-clay-conference.

**MARCH 6**
Metro City and County Attorneys Seminar. Co-sponsored by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and the Local Government Law Section, State Bar of Georgia. Six CLE hours including 1 ethics and 1 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

**MARCH 7-8**

**MARCH 8**
Statewide Satellite Program: "Professionalism and Ethics Update." Sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia. Two CLE hours including 1 ethics, 1 professionalism. 8:30-11:15 a.m. at Georgia Public Broadcasting, 260 14th St. N.W., Atlanta, and by broadcast at locations statewide. Rebroadcast scheduled for March 14. To find locations or to register, see www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

Be sure to check dailyreportonline.com for the latest legal event listings.
King & Spalding is expanding its environmental litigation practice by bringing in Adam Sowatzka as a partner from Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, where he was a shareholder. Sowatzka was previously counsel at King & Spalding from 2007 until leaving in 2010 for Baker Donelson. He started his career as an associate regional counsel with the Environmental Protection Agency’s southeastern regional office. Sowatzka defends clients in permitting and enforcement matters, especially related to wastewater and storm water, and advises on environmental issues relating to regulatory compliance and transactional matters.

Terrence Davis has joined Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz as a shareholder in the securities and corporate government practice from Thompson Hine. Davis represents investment funds, investment advisers and broker-dealers. He has also served as the Rule 38a-1 chief compliance officer for ING U.S. Financial Services.

Benjamin Lorber has joined Buckhead business litigation firm Raley & Sandifer as an associate. Lorber, who received his law degree from Georgia State University, has completed a two-year clerkship with Henry County State Court Judge Jason Harper. "We have found that trial-level clerkships tend to produce attorneys well-prepared for our type of litigation practice," said firm partner John Sandifer in an email.

Elizabeth Murphy has joined Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs’ health care practice as an associate from Wargo French. Murphy handles commercial and regulatory litigation as well as administrative disputes for clients including hospitals and other health care providers.

Chamberlain Hrdlicka has promoted three Atlanta lawyers to partner: David Dreyer, Karen Kurtz and Robert Waddell. Dreyer is a commercial litigator handling business disputes for multinational corporations as well as start-ups. Kurtz does tax planning for businesses and high net worth individuals. Waddell is a corporate lawyer handling contracts, mergers, business succession planning and wealth preservation for restaurants and other clients.

FordHarrison has promoted two Atlanta lawyers to partner, Geetha Adinata and Raanon Gal. Adinata is a member of the business immigration group and Gal defends employers in employment discrimination, wage and hour, harassment, wrongful termination and other litigation. The firm’s managing partner, Lash Harrison, noted in an announcement that both lawyers have been with the firm their entire careers.

Singapore has awarded Jones Day a qualifying foreign law practice license, allowing the firm to practice Singapore corporate law, as the city-state further opens its legal market. Jones Day was one of four firms to win the license, out of 23 applicants, and is the only one with an Atlanta office. The
other firms chosen were Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, Linklaters and Sidley Austin.

Many foreign firms have offices in the island city-state and advise clients on law from other regimes, but without a QFLP license, they must form a joint venture with a local firm to practice Singapore law.

"We believe that Singapore law will become more prevalent as the governing law for cross-border transactions in the future," said Sushma Jobanputra, the partner-in-charge for Jones Day's Singapore office, in a statement. She cited the growth of Asian economies and an increase in the number and sophistication of transactions negotiated from Singapore.

Jones Day opened its Singapore office in 2001. It now has 30 lawyers advising clients in M&A, private equity, banking, capital markets, fund formation, energy and dispute resolution.

This was the second round of QFLP licenses awarded by the Singapore government, which gave out six licenses in 2008 to Allen & Overy, Clifford Chance, Herbert Smith, Latham & Watkins, Norton Rose and White & Case.

Only one other large firm in Atlanta, King & Spalding, has an office in Singapore, although several have launched outposts in Beijing, Shanghai and other Asian cities. However, the U.S. ambassador to Singapore is Atlanta lawyer David Adelman, formerly a partner at Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan.

King & Spalding opened a Singapore office in 2010 and now has six lawyers, focusing on energy and international arbitration.

Singapore has become a major seat for Asian arbitration. The Singapore International Arbitration Centre handled 99 new cases in 2008, which increased to 235 by 2012, according to the Singapore Ministry of Law. In White & Case's 2010 international arbitration survey, the city tied as the third-most preferred seat for arbitration, along with Paris and Tokyo. London was ranked first and Geneva second.

The Atlanta Bar Association has given this year's Leadership Award, its highest honor, to William Ragland Jr., a partner at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice.

Ragland has been a bar leader for more than 20 years. He served as president of the Atlanta Bar in 2004 and then served a two-year term as president of the Atlanta Bar Foundation, the bar's charitable arm, leading its 25th anniversary fundraising campaign. He is also the co-founder and past co-chairman of the Atlanta Bar's intellectual property section and past chairman of its litigation section. Ragland currently serves on the State Bar of Georgia's Board of Governors and Next Generation Courts Commission. He is also a board member of the Smithsonian Institution and the Atlanta Youth Academy.

S. Wade Malone of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough and Elizabeth Price of Alston & Bird presented Ragland with the award at a luncheon Feb. 20 at the Piedmont Driving Club.

The University of Georgia School of Law is hosting conferences on social justice and sustainability this weekend.

The 25th annual Red Clay Conference will address benefits and obstacles to eco-friendly business practices on March 1 in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. One panel will look at ways Southeastern cities are using law to encourage governments and businesses to act more green and another will look at fracking.

Panelists include Kevin Kirsche from the UGA Office of Sustainability and Mary Asbill from the Southern Environmental Law Center. The chief sustainability officer of Smithfield Foods, Dennis Treacy, will give the keynote speech. Go to http://www.law.uga.edu/red-clay-conference-schedule for more information.

The eighth annual Working in the Public Law Conference, on March 2, will look at ways to use law to combat social injustice. There will be panels on homelessness, prison sentencing options, LGBTQ rights and gun control. The daylong public interest conference starts at 9 a.m. at Harold Hirsch Hall.

Aimee Maxwell, executive director of the Georgia Innocence Project, will give a concluding keynote address at 6 p.m. at the Melting Point in Athens, followed by an auction to raise money for UGA Law students taking unpaid or low-paid public interest positions this summer.

See http://ugawipi.wordpress.com/ for more information.
Both events are free for UGA faculty, staff and students and are $10 for the public. Continuing legal education credits are available for both events.
Protect Athens Music: Musicians and labels work harder then ever to succeed

by ANDRE GALLANT  published Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Making a career in music has always been about luck.

Write some songs, hit the road and hope some record company takes notice.

How difficult it can be to make it in the Internet age surprised no one.

Artists once only had to write songs and perform them, panelists at the Protect Athens Music conference held Wednesday said at the Melting Point. Now they must engage with their audience and market their own product.

“Artists have to be a lot more active on their own,” said Alyssa DeHayes, a publicist with Athens radio promotion company Team Clermont.

Now in its third year, students at the University of Georgia’s School of Law organize Protect Athens Music to build discussion and offer advice to local musicians by gathering music business professionals like DeHayes and entertainment lawyers.

The conference’s first panel was geared toward law students interested in working in entertainment or working with musicians. Moderator David Shipley, a UGA law professor, mostly posed questions of four entertainment lawyers who revealed their paths into their careers.

Questions eventually shifted toward substantive issues like how record labels and artists make money. Lawyer Michael Crain of the Crain Law Group, a firm that represents many deceased musicians like Jerry Garcia and Bing Crosby, described the current music business as “wild west chaos.”

Young people have turned to YouTube, Pandora and other music streaming services instead of buying CDs or mp3s.
"(Music streaming website) Spotify really screws the artist," Crain said.

R.E.M. advisor Bertis Downs led a business-focused discussion that noted how long illegal downloading has pestered musicians and record labels, yet the industry hasn't finished adapting to technological and social shifts in how music is consumed.

"The monetary streams are cut off these days," said Tommy Robinson of Athens' New West Records. "If an artist can get an advertising deal" it can fund everything. A decade ago, he said, a band with a song in a commercial would've been called a sell-out.

"It's all very much in flux," Downs said. "We're all trying to figure it out as we go."

• Follow arts and entertainment reporter André Gallant on Twitter @andregallant and at www.facebook.com/GallantABH.
Rodney "Keith" Miles has been selected as Gwinnett County's newest full-time magistrate judge to fill the position left vacant by Kristina Hammer Blum's appointment as chief magistrate. Miles has served as a prosecutor for 26 years in the Gwinnett Circuit and leaves his current position as supervising assistant district attorney in the major drug unit. A University of Georgia School of Law graduate, Miles has served as a judicial law clerk for Bryant Huff and as a solicitor for the Gwinnett County Juvenile Court in addition to his experience in the district attorney's office. ANDRIA SIMMONS

Casino Night to benefit Snellville garden

The Gwinnett Sunrise Rotary Club and the Community Garden at Snellville Committee will host St. Patrick's Eve Casino Night from 6 to 10 p.m. March 16 at the Summit Chase Country Club, 3197 Classic Drive in Snellville. Sponsors are needed for the event, which aims to raise funds for the construction of a pavilion at the Community Garden at Snellville. To become a sponsor, contact casinonight sponsors@gmail.com

The event is open to the public. Tickets are $50. Reservations: casinonightreservations@gmail.com MEA WATKINS

Pet vaccines this weekend

Planned PEThood, a nonprofit organization that offers low-cost spay and neuter services, will offer vaccines for dogs and cats from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at 2860 Buford Highway, Duluth. No appointment or income qualification is needed. The clinic also offers surgeries during the week. A rabies vaccination is free with surgery.

Information: 678-561-3491.

DAN KLEPAL

Gwinnett Tech professor wins award

Gwinnett Tech adjunct English professor Cynthia Gregory won the Nell Ann Pickett Award for her conference proposal about inspiring vibrant online learning communities. She received a $550 stipend and plaque and will present her proposal at the Two-Year College English Association's Southeast conference Thursday through Saturday in Greenville, S.C. MICHAEL ALPERT FOR THE AJC

New road traverses GGC campus

Georgia Gwinnett College has opened Lonnie Harvel Boulevard, a now primary artery arching from University Center Lane near the Lawrenceville college's main entrance to Collins Industrial Way near Walther Boulevard. The three-quarter
mile road, a portion of which was Tree Creek Boulevard, is named for the school's vice president of educational technology and charter cabinet member who died in 2010. MICHAEL ALPERT FOR THE AJC

N. Berkeley Lake Road reopens until spring

North Berkeley Lake Road has reopened to all traffic. Rain delayed plans to install erosion-control sod on the city's newly repaired dam. The dam will be covered with erosion-control matting until late spring when the weather has enough dry days for the grass installation. Gwinnett DOT will continue completion of sidewalks along the road with single-lane closures as needed.

KAREN HUPPERTZ FOR THE AJC

February 26, 2013 Tuesday

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 175 words

HEADLINE: Claremont library to host novelist

BYLINE: Staff Writer

BODY:

CLAREMONT, N.C. -- Best-selling novelist Robert Whitlow of Charlotte will visit the Claremont Branch Library to discuss his work and sign books at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 14. The event is free and open to the public.

Whitlow's work has been described as "John Grisham meets Francine Rivers."

Among his titles is "The Trial," which was made into a PG-13 movie. Other books include "Water's Edge," "Life Support," "Greater Love" and "The Choice." Pre-orders are being taken for "The Living Room," due out in July.

Whitlow, a practicing attorney, is the author of legal novels set in the South and winner of the prestigious Christy Award for Contemporary Fiction. He is an alumnus of Furman University and received his J.D. degree with honors from the University of Georgia School of Law where he served on the staff of the Georgia Law Review.

For more information about Whitlow's appearance, contact Siobhan Loendorf, librarian for Conover and Claremont branches, at 466-5108. Both Conover and Claremont branches are part of the Catawba County Library System.

LOAD-DATE: February 26, 2013
"Murder, Politics and Scandal: Famous Cases and Characters of the Athens Bar and Beyond" says it all. It’s the title of a seminar at the UGA law school next week that pairs some of our most famous cases and legal personalities with speakers exceptionally well qualified to discuss them. Former Congressman Don Johnson, who has the tape recordings of his father’s closing argument as prosecutor, will discuss the case growing out of the ambush of Col. Lemuel Penn; local defense attorney Ed Tolley will talk about the contract killing of Athens restaurateur T.K. Harty; and Rev. Dickey Hoard will relive the gangland assassination of his father, Jackson County District Attorney Floyd Hoard.

Local attorney Ed Allen gets to remind us of the lawsuit between legendary UGA football coach Wally Butts and Curtis Publishing Co., over the famous Saturday Evening Post article.
Local attorney Ed Allen gets to remind us of the lawsuit between legendary UGA football coach Wally Butts and Curtis Publishing Co., over the famous *Saturday Evening Post* article accusing Butts and Alabama Coach Bear Bryant of fixing the 1962 game between the Dogs and the Tide.

The go-to guy in the political science department, Dr. Chuck Bullock, will talk about the famous controversy arising from Georgia having three different governors at the same time. Emmett Bondurant, a local boy who went off to Atlanta and became an acclaimed attorney, will talk about legal maneuverings growing out of the election of Gov. Lester Maddox; Congressman John Barrow will give us his view of his father, the late Judge James Barrow; Atlanta lawyer’s lawyer Norman Underwood will share an inside look at the late Senator Richard B. Russell, Jr., whom he served as an aide.

Former Athenian, former Georgia Commissioner of Labor, Atlanta attorney Michael Thurmond (and Acting Superintendent of the DeKalb County school system), will speak, if he can get away, on African-American lawyers of Georgia; local attorney John Timmons will give a history of legal-aid efforts here; and law prof emeritus and *Flagpole* contributor Eugene Wilkes will highlight some of the colorful characters in the long history of the local bar, and so will attorney and mediator Denny Galis. Judge Marvin Sorrells will talk about his father’s role in the splitting off of the Alcovy Circuit from the Western Circuit (allegedly because Judge Barrow required attorneys to come in to court on Saturdays); Prof Ron Carlson and prosecutor Michael S. Carlson will analyze the Georgia Code compiled by T.R.R. Cobb; and local aggregator of all things Athenian, Milton Leathers, will talk about the classic home of his ancestor, Gen. Cobb, now restored and maintained for community use by the Watson-Brown Foundation.

Last but not least on the program is a panel discussion on legal ethics that includes, apparently, meditations on the careers of two of the most flamboyant Athens lawyers in modern times: Jim Hudson and Guy Scott. Carrying this load will be David Montgomery, who practiced with Hudson, Dave Burch, John Larkins and former District Attorney Harry Gordon. Stories associated with those two stalwarts could occupy the whole seminar.

Alas, a highlight is not to be. The organizers thought better of including a discussion, by Federal District Court Judge Steve Jones, of the famous case that grew out of the incident in which the eminent dean of the UGA journalism school was shot by his wronged wife—the bullet, deflected by his wallet, doing little bodily harm, but considerable damage to his reputation.

If you are of a certain age, you realize what a treasure trove this promises to be. You’ll have to pay handsomely for it: $100 for the general public. Lawyers pay more and get credit for continuing education. The seminar is put on by the Georgia Legal History Foundation (which has presented similar programs in Savannah and Augusta), and it’s in the Hatton Lovejoy Courtroom in the law school on campus. It starts at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 7 and runs all day Friday, Mar. 8, beginning at 9 a.m. The courtroom doesn’t hold a lot of people, so if you’ve got the time and money to hear all these star
performers talk about these legendary cases, email local attorney Kevin Sweat, kevinsweat@cntblaw.com, or fax him at 706-548-0956, and he’ll get you registered, if there’s still room.

Tune in to “Live With Gwen and Pete” Thursdays at noon on WXAG 1470 AM.
Harold Clarke, former state Supreme Court justice, dies

Harold Clarke, one of the most influential jurists in state history who as chief justice led the Georgia Supreme Court through a dramatic transformation, died Tuesday. He was 85.

Clarke died in his home in his native Forsyth after a prolonged illness, surrounded by his family. He had been under hospice care.

"Justice Clarke was not only a great jurist but a quiet, strong leader of principle and the kindest man I have ever known," Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Carol Hunstein said.

When Clarke was appointed to the state Supreme Court in 1979, he joined a long succession of white men who had controlled the court for its 130-year history. When he stepped down 15 years later as chief justice, he had led a newly diverse court into a new era, reversing decades of judicial restraint and conservatism.

"Justice Clarke was not only a great jurist but a quiet, strong leader of principle and the kindest man I have ever known," Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Carol Hunstein said.

To some, Clarke was a liberal activist. To others, he was refreshingly progressive.

Clarke will be remembered for leaving an enduring mark on Georgia's justice system, perhaps like no other's over the past century. He challenged lawyers to improve their work and better themselves. He called for the elimination of bias and inequality from the courts. And he championed sweeping improvements to Georgia's indigent defense system.

In 1976, Clarke was elected to the state House of Representatives and served there for a decade. In 1979, then-Gov. George Busbee appointed Clarke to the Georgia Supreme Court.

In 1979, Clarke was appointed to the state Supreme Court in 1979, he joined a long succession of white men who had controlled the court for its 130-year history. When he stepped down 15 years later as chief justice, he had led a newly diverse court into a new era, reversing decades of judicial restraint and conservatism.

After the war, he earned his law degree at UGA and married Nora Gordon, of Athens in 1952. He then returned to Forsyth where he started a law practice and became editor and publisher of the Monroe Advertiser, the local newspaper owned by his father.

In 1990, Clarke became chief justice and the court added its first African-American and female justices. The court issued opinions that broadened the rights of free speech and expression, struck down death sentences, cracked down on overly aggressive prosecutors and expanded individual liberties.

"Clarke liked to start the day with his staff over coffee and he'd invariably tell one of his homespun stories. He routinely took his staff on mid-day jogs, often to Oakland Cemetery and back.

"He had so much common sense and he just loved life," said Sue Coalson, Clarke's secretary when he was on the court. "I don't recall ever seeing him lose his temper or say a harsh word about anybody.

"That just wasn't him."

After Clarke became chief justice in 1990, the court added its first African-American and female justices. The court issued opinions that broadened the rights of free speech and expression, struck down death sentences, cracked down on overly aggressive prosecutors and expanded individual liberties.

"As chief justice, Harold Clarke gracefully transitioned the Georgia Supreme Court from one of the most staunchly conservative appellate courts in the country to an extraordinarily diverse and progressive court that made the protection of constitutional rights of Georgia citizens its top priority," said former AJC staff writer Mark Curriden, who covered the court during that time.

Former Justice Willis Hunt called Clarke "the perfect chief.

"He could listen to opposing sides and bring people together," said Hunt, now a senior U.S. District judge in Atlanta. "Having Clarke at the helm was a big deal. He somehow was able to get everyone going in the same direction and to find common ground."

Clarke briefly interrupted his tenure as chief, stepping aside in July 1992 to allow his friend, Justice Charles Weltner, who was battling cancer, to serve the last few months of his life as chief justice. After his swearing-in ceremony, Weltner returned to his office and, courtesy of Clarke, found new stationary bearing his name as chief justice.

After returning as chief justice, Clarke spoke out passionately about improving Georgia's system of defending poor people accused of crimes.

"We set our sights on the embarrassing target of mediocrity," Clarke said in his 1993 State of the Judiciary speech. "I guess that means about halfway. And that raises a question: Are we willing to put up with halfway justice? To my way of thinking, one-half justice must mean one-half injustice and one-half injustice is no justice at all."

Clarke retired from the court in February 1994. He soon joined Troutman Sanders where he chaired the firm's alternative dispute resolution group.

In 1995, Mercer University Press published Clarke's memoir, "Remembering Forward," in which he recounted what it was like to grow up in a small Southern town in the 1930s and 1940s.

Clarke is survived by his wife, Nora Gordon Clarke of Forsyth; a son, Harold G. Clarke Jr., of Forsyth; daughters Lee Ann Clarke Nash of High Falls, Julie Clarke Poole of Marietta and Beth Clarke Maner of Atlanta; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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FORSYTH, Ga. — Former Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke has died. He was 85.

Current Supreme Court Chief Justice Carol Hunstein said in a statement Wednesday that Clarke died peacefully Tuesday evening with his family by his side. He served on the court from 1979 to 1994. He served as chief justice from 1990 to 1994.

Hunstein says Clarke was chief justice when she joined the court in 1992. She says he was a great jurist but also “a quiet, strong leader of principle” and the kindest man she’s known.

On behalf of the court, Hunstein expressed gratitude for Clarke’s legacy and service and extended sympathies to his family.
Former chief justice is remembered for raising the bar

Lawrence Viele Davidson

Daily Report

02-28-2013

Colleagues remembered former state Supreme Court Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke, who died Tuesday at 85, as a generous gentleman who made a point to raise the standards for the legal profession in Georgia.

"It was my honor and privilege to serve with this towering figure of a man," said the current chief justice, Carol Hunstein, in a written statement. "Justice Clarke was not only a great jurist, but he was a quiet, strong leader of principle and the kindest man I have ever known."

Former Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears recalled Clarke creating a smooth transition when in 1992 she became the first female and second African-American justice on the court.

"I was terrified. He ushered me in," said Sears. "He could have made me find my way on my own, but he didn't."

Sears said Clarke wanted the public to know the court was changing its makeup. "He had his car and driver take me to speak at a church. He wanted people to see a black woman justice," she said.

U.S. District Senior Judge Willis Hunt Jr., who served with Clarke on the state high court, echoed Sears' comments about Clarke's handling the court in the midst of change.

"For years it had been occupied by seven middle-aged white men," said Hunt, but within a few years it had two African-Americans [Robert Benham and Sears] and two women [Sears and Hunstein]. "Through Clarke's effortless management these new members were included in everything."

Hunt and another former justice, George Carley, said Clarke might be most remembered in the legal field for laying the foundation for the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

"This has gotten to be a big deal and been adopted by many states," Hunt said.

Clarke didn't think it was enough that lawyers were ethical, Carley said. He thought there should be a high level of professionalism associated with being an attorney.

"He was the professionalism guru," Carley said. "He was one of the finest men I've ever known."

Georgia's commission develops and makes recommendations to law schools, the state bar and judicial continuing education programs, emphasizing civility, integrity, community service and mentoring programs, among other things.

Clarke served on the court from 1979 to 1994, most of the last four years as chief.

Hunt succeeded Clarke as chief justice in 1994. "Those were big shoes to fill," he said. "It was like being the next guy after Bear Bryant."
As to his generosity, Clarke in 1992 temporarily stepped aside as chief justice on behalf of Justice Charles L. Weltner, who was dying of cancer, to give his friend the opportunity to hold the esteemed position. The plan was for Weltner to hold the position until January 1993 and retire. Weltner died in August 1992.

According to a 1994 profile of Clarke in The National Law Journal, prosecutors and lawyers were critical of some of Clarke’s changes in the way the court was leaning in rulings, saying the court was becoming liberal and soft on crime. Clarke waved off the criticism as an overreaction and said it was more of an evolution of the law than changes under his watch.

Former Chief Justice Norman Fletcher said Clarke worked toward making sure there was “equality in criminal law” and was a proponent of beefing up indigent defense resources.

Fletcher said another stamp of Clarke’s time on the court is the alternative dispute resolution model. He and Sears said Clarke laid the groundwork for it and began pushing to set up model programs in different judicial circuits.

"That will be Harold's great legacy," Fletcher said.

Clarke died at home surrounded by his family. Surviving are his wife, Nora, a son, three daughters and grandchildren, according to an obituary provided by his family.

He was born in 1927 in Forsyth. Clarke served in the Army during World War II, assigned to the staff of the Pacific Stars and Stripes newspaper in Japan. The Army awarded him the Army Commendation Ribbon and the Far East Command Certificate of Merit. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1950.

Clarke had a long career in government service. He served a decade in the House of Representatives starting in 1961. He was named to the Supreme Court in 1979 by then-Governor George Busbee.

After his retirement from the Supreme Court, he joined Troutman Sanders as of counsel and chaired the firm's Alternative Dispute Resolution Group.

He won the last case he argued, which was to the Georgia Supreme Court, according to Norman Underwood, senior counsel for the firm. Clarke "illustrated what he meant by collegiality," and was a great resource for new lawyers to observe in action, Underwood said.

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