

### OF NOTE

#### March 1

Board of Directors Ballots mailed to JYL Members

#### March 10

Leagle Beagle 5k  
See Attached Flyer for Details  
Race Begins 8:15am

#### March 30

JYL Membership Meeting with Gov. William Winter & Dr. Dolphus Weary at the University Club  
12:00 Noon

#### April 24

HCBA People's Law School  
Jackson Medical Mall  
4:00-8:00pm

#### May 18

JYL Membership Meeting & CLE at the University Club  
12:00 Noon

#### May 22

Evening Honoring the Judiciary

### EDITORS AT LARGE

**David McCarty**  
**Lauren Roberts**

Don't forget that past issues of the Newsletter are available at [jacksonyounglawyers.com](http://jacksonyounglawyers.com).

Check out past interviews with Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Jess Dickinson, Hinds County Circuit Judge Swan Yerger, and catch up on past JYL activities as we continue to serve the metro area.

## The Legal Beagle is Here!

Mark your calendars, because JYL's Legal Beagle 5-K is on the horizon! This year's race will take place on March 10th and, as always, will be run on the old Watermelon Classic course. Participation has continued to grow over the years and we hope that this year's race will have the largest field yet.

The Legal Beagle benefits the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project, and last year's race raised over \$5,000. The MVLP provides pro-bono support for Mississippians in need, and every dime helps them provide more access to justice.

The race also presents a great opportunity to spend a Saturday morning with friends and colleagues as the weather starts to warm up. Whether you are interested in running, walking, or pushing a stroller, there's a spot

available for you in the field. This year's race will also feature a team competition with a trophy as prize, so make sure your law firm's/organization's team is signed up. For more information, see the registration form in this newsletter or on [jacksonyounglawyers.com](http://jacksonyounglawyers.com).

While we already have the gracious support of several sponsors, we always welcome more partners. If you know of a firm or company that hasn't yet signed up as a sponsor, consider getting them involved in this worthy cause.

So warm up, lace up, and I'll see you at the Beagle!

For more information, you can contact Alex Purvis at (601) 592-9923.

**BY ALEX PURVIS**

*Mr. Purvis is an associate with Bradley, Arant, Rose & White*

## You the Lawyers Needed for JYL's "We the Jury" Program

JYL's "We the Jury" program offers an introductory course on the legal system to the jurors of tomorrow. From voir dire to verdict, the program offers junior high and high school students a history lesson on the evolution of the jury process from medieval times to today and supplements that

lesson by offering a video presentation of either a criminal or civil trial where the students act as jurors.

"One of the great benefits to this program is that it opens the courtroom doors to students without their having to leave the classroom," said JYL "We the Jury" Committee

Co-chairman Matt Allen. "We the Jury" shows students the process of - and strategy behind - jury selection and then places them in the shoes of a juror who must decide an individual's guilt or innocence or whether a plaintiff is entitled to damages," he continued.

*Continued on Page 7*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Suddenly, you, as a young lawyer, may be slightly more interested in how to earn pro bono hours. Why? Well, as we all now know, the Mississippi Supreme Court, in an effort to increase attorney participation in providing free legal services for the poor, made the reporting of pro bono services mandatory for lawyers licensed in Mississippi.

Providing pro bono services is still voluntary, but the Court suggests at least 20 hours of pro bono service a year to fulfill a lawyer's professional responsibility. The rule change also gave lawyers an option of contributing \$200 a year toward free legal services for the poor in lieu of performing pro bono hours.



**Trey Bourn**  
JYL President

An option ... rrrriiiiiiggghhhht.

Because these changes to Rule 6.1 of the Mississippi Rules of Professional Conduct were adopted by the Supreme Court in March 2005, many young lawyers may have been surprised when they were slapped with a \$200 charge on their renewal of dues this past September for not reporting their pro bono hours (or not having any pro bono hours to report). I know certain lawyers who were more than apprehensive about asking their employers to pay that \$200.

So now what? You are a young lawyer, you want to start earning pro bono hours, but you do not know where to start.

You are not alone. Many young lawyers in the early stages of their practices can find themselves stressed out over impressing that partner in the corner office, not letting a client down, or simply discovering that a "redrope" is neither red nor a rope. Finding out how to earn pro bono hours may be low on their priorities.

In the upcoming weeks, JYL will give you, as a "younger lawyer," one less thing to stress over. If you have not had a chance to check out JYL's new web page ([www.jacksonyounglawyers.com](http://www.jacksonyounglawyers.com)), take the time to go see it. On the page, you will see the upcoming events, as well as the different committees and committee chairs.

*Continued on Page 6*

## JYL OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Trey Bourn, President  
[trey.bourn@butlersnow.com](mailto:trey.bourn@butlersnow.com)

David Pharr, President-Elect  
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Mary Clay Morgan, Director  
[mmorgan@bradleyarant.com](mailto:mmorgan@bradleyarant.com)

If you are 37 or younger, or have practiced law fewer than 3 years, you are eligible for membership in JYL

## MEMBERSHIP & DUES

Membership in Jackson Young Lawyers is open to any duly licensed member of the Mississippi Bar who is a resident of the greater Jackson, Mississippi metropolitan area and is either 37 years of age or younger, or has been a member of the Mississippi Bar for less than three years.

The annual membership dues for JYL are \$100 and are billed once a year to each member. (First year member-

ship dues are waived for federal, state, and local government employees.) The dues cover JYL monthly luncheons, newsletters, and various social functions during the year.

To become a member of JYL, complete the membership application, available on Page 4. Your name will be placed on the membership roster and you will receive notices informing you of upcoming JYL events.

# Sportswriter Rick Cleveland: It's about the Person, not the Play

Sports columnist Rick Cleveland of The Clarion-Ledger spoke at a recent JYL meeting on everything from whether Southern should play Ole Miss or Mississippi State to the educational issues facing college recruiting.

A sportswriter like his father, Cleveland spoke about his start in sports journalism – which commenced at the ripe old age of ten or eleven. Despite his father's warnings against choosing the same career, Cleveland said growing up in a house with a constant parade of athletes and writers made sports journalism seem like a fun way to make a living.

"At least on that part, I was right," Cleveland said later in an interview. "I wouldn't trade it for anything. I can't imagine going to work everyday and dreading it."

While Cleveland's not known for his personal athletic skill, he was no slouch growing up, and has broken 70 on the golf course. Yet his real passion for sports doesn't lay in playing, but in telling the stories of the people involved in the teams. "People identify with the humanity part of it," he said. "People want to read about people, and not necessarily Xs and Os."

Cleveland once worked as the sports editor and managed a staff of 25 in the early nineties, but was bogged down by the administrative duties. He wanted to get back to writing and his goal of humanizing the players and the sports we love. While Cleveland can rattle off statistics with the best of them—he can tell you without blinking that the Pirates won the '60 World Series against the Yankees off a homer by Bill Mazeroski – he doesn't consider himself an encyclopedia of sports and doesn't want to be one. His goal is to craft stories about humanity, not just technical details of interest to insiders and coaches. It's just that all the people in his stories happen to be playing sports.

He offered an example of this at the JYL meeting, remarking that an athlete who makes a game-winning catch is a lot more interesting to him than the catch itself. Echoing Bill Clinton's famous campaign headquarters sign, Cleveland says that "In writing, I think the sign should be, 'it's the people, stupid.' Don't forget you're writing about human beings."

Cleveland said the hardest part of his job is the omnipresent deadline. Just as daunting is knowing that no matter what he writes he's going to upset two-thirds of his readers the next day. He recently spent four hours answering angry e-mail messages from Mississippi State fans. "That just comes with it," he said.

He believes that an increasing problem all Mississippi college sports programs face is recruiting and keeping athletes who are academically eligible. "It's about to get a lot worse, because the NCAA is about to require more high school [education] units," he said. "My understanding is that about half the Mississippi high schools aren't even going to offer enough units."



In other words, eligibility is no longer just about the actual grades students earn – now graduating with a certain number of class credits will be mandatory as well. "It's going to make an already really, really hard job even harder," Cleveland said.

Guest Speaker Holly Matthews with JYL's Matt Grenfell, Trey Bourn, and David Pharr at the January Membership Meeting.

He believes the new rule will result in players having to get educated on what the requirements will be for them. "And they've got to get started in the ninth grade," he said. "The coaches are scared to death of it."

This creates big problems in a state like Mississippi, where a number of socioeconomic factors combine to create an undereducated population. Not to mention the competition is already steep: Mississippi has six Division I schools, three of which play at the Division I-AA level in football.

"We've got too many schools, but that cat's out of the bag," Cleveland said, adding that for his two cents the only good idea the infamous segregationist Governor Theodore Bilbo ever had was to make one big university and stick it in Jackson.

These unfortunate realities blunt the athletic potential of Mississippi, a state historically rich with talent. Cleveland says you can glance through pro football stats and see that the top players in almost every statistical category were from Mississippi or played in Mississippi. Yet half of a recent class of the Clarion-Ledger's "Dandy Dozen," its pick of the top 12 high-school football recruits, didn't make their grades. Cleveland worries this isn't a trend, but a reality: "College sports has nothing to do with education anymore," he said. "They're mutually exclusive, actually." And college football? "It's strictly a business."

BY JOHN P. SCANLON

*Mr. Scanlon is an associate with Baria, Hawkins & Stracener*



## JYL & HCBA Get Together for Holidays

The 2006 joint holiday social co-hosted by the Hinds County Bar Association and JYL was another huge success this year. Held at the Old Capitol Inn on December 7th, the social gave attorneys time to visit with good friends as well as catch up with colleagues from around the Jackson area. The main ballroom was beautifully decorated with lighted trees, garland and poinsettias, offering a perfect atmosphere for getting into the holiday spirit, and as always, the sushi was a big hit.

The party also gave attendees an opportunity to get into the spirit of giving. JYL spent November spearheading efforts to collect presents for Toys for Tots—an effort which resulted in dozens of gifts for those in need. The official



sponsor of Toys for Tots, the U.S. Marine Corps, sent representatives to the social to pick up the toys and express thanks to all those who helped.

We missed those of you who were unable to attend the social this year, but be on the look out for

L-R: Sgt Petro Catchings, Trey Bourn, David Pharr, GySgt. Gerald Pullman, Cpl. Antonio Campbell, David McCarty.

details of the next JYL social event in April.

**BY MISSY ROSE**

*Ms. Rose is associated with Carroll Warren & Parker*

### JYL Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Method of Payment \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Committees or Activities of Interest \_\_\_\_\_

Law School \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Check, made payable to Jackson Young Lawyers

Please bill me for the total amount

Mail Check for \$100 to: Jackson Young Lawyers Association ■ Post Office Box 22842 ■ Jackson, MS 39225-2842

# May It Please the Court

With The Honorable Daniel P. Jordan

**T**he Honorable Daniel P. Jordan serves as a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi; he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in July of 2006, making him the newest federal judge in Mississippi. A graduate of the University of Mississippi and the University of Virginia School of Law, Judge Jordan formerly practiced with the law firm of Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada, and most notably is a past-president of JYL.

**JYL: The federal court is often the most daunting of places for the young lawyer. What are your suggestions for how a young lawyer should conduct herself in your courtroom or chambers?**

Judge Jordan: There is an expected decorum attorneys should observe in all courts. Anyone can learn the mechanics, or ask the court for its preferences, but decorum generally follows basic manners. While exceptions exist, attorneys should treat the court, opposing counsel, and witnesses with respect (even when they do not deserve it). Strive to take the high road, don't interrupt, don't take cheap personal shots, address comments to the court not to opposing counsel, and avoid histrionics. Both in practice and as a judge, I have seen younger lawyers smirk, laugh, or excessively shake their head when they disagree with opposing counsel. I have rarely seen this from more mature lawyers whose non-verbal communications send the message that they are unflappable and in control of the situation. Finally, thorough preparation will significantly reduce your nerves.

**JYL: What should a lawyer never do?**

Judge Jordan: A lawyer should never misrepresent the holding of a case or the facts in dispute. Judges read the cases you cite and the evidentiary materials you submit. Once you lose credibility, it is hard

to regain. Candor with the court is a must.

**JYL: What are some common mistakes young lawyers should avoid?**

Judge Jordan: If you cite a case, be sure you have thoroughly read the opinion and keycited the authority. Some lawyers, young and old, will latch onto an isolated phrase in an opinion and fail to read the entire case. Had they read further, they would have discovered that the case reached the opposite holding due to the facts. This happens more often than you would think.

**JYL: Along with your service with JYL, you've worked extensively in the past with Stewpot and the Metropolitan Crime Commission. Why is it important for young lawyers to be involved with community service?**

Judge Jordan: I cannot improve on Luke 12:48: "To whom much is given, much is required." Attorneys are blessed with numerous skills and abilities, and I think there is an absolute duty to share those gifts for the betterment of others. We must contribute because we are uniquely qualified to contribute. I also believe that active participation in the community, and specifically pro bono legal work, fills a void many attorneys feel. Practicing law can be lucrative, but using your legal skills to help those in need is often more rewarding.

**BY DAVID McCARTY**

*Mr. McCarty is the law clerk to the Honorable Oliver E. Diaz, Jr.*

*May It Please the Court is an opportunity for the members of JYL to learn directly from learned members of the Bench. If you've got a suggestion for a future column, send an e-mail to David McCarty at [davidmccarty@gmail.com](mailto:davidmccarty@gmail.com).*

## HCBA's People's Law School

This spring the Hinds County Bar Association will sponsor a new People's Law School. As the law grows ever more complex, those most in need often have the least access to legal resources. This free event aims to change that, and will inform the public about the legal topics which impact our lives so often—elder law, landlord-tenant issues, employment law, family law, and how consumers can be protected from opportunistic predators. The HCBA will present speakers from the Office of the Attorney General, the EEOC, and the Mississippi Center for Justice. The Hon. Patricia Wise and the Hon. Denise Sweet Owens, both of the Hinds County Chancery Court, will detail family law and there will also be an overview of the judicial system.

The event will be Tuesday, April Tuesday, April 24, 2007; 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., in the Community Meeting Room at the Jackson Medical Mall. If you'd like more information, have a suggestion, or you'd just like to help, contact committee co-chairs Melody McAnally ([mmacnally@bradleyarant.com](mailto:mmacnally@bradleyarant.com)) or David McCarty ([davidmccarty@gmail.com](mailto:davidmccarty@gmail.com)).

## Continued from Page 2: President's Corner

Soon, JYL will add to its web page a "Pro Bono" section. There, JYL, in conjunction with the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project, will list various cases you can sign up for right on the site. The webpage will also have other important information, including contacts, research, FAQ, etc. JYL members Corey Hinshaw and Melody McAnally have put together this great resource, and they deserve our thanks.

Hopefully, this will free your mind slightly, so you can stress just a bit more about how to explain to a federal district judge that the Alaskan procedural rule you cited in your brief actually applies to the case on which you are working.

In addition to our efforts to create more pro bono resources for JYL, our greatest emphasis this year has been to increase the membership of JYL and in the process increase its diversity. As of January this year, JYL is currently at its largest membership ever, and we are about to conduct an unprecedented membership drive, targeting minority lawyers and government lawyers. This drive will culminate with a membership meeting on March 30th, which will be led by Mission Mississippi's Dr. Dolphus Weary and Governor William Winter. Both will speak about the importance of diversity in all aspects of life, including groups like JYL.

I owe many thanks to Malissa Winfield and Jay Kilpatrick, co-chairs of the JYL Diversity Committee, for putting together this drive. Also, thanks to Meade Mitchell for arranging the speakers. Please make plans to attend and bring someone you know who would be a good JYL member.

*Mr. Bourn is with the law firm of  
Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens, and Cannada*

## 2007-2008 JYL Election Candidates

JYL Elections for 2007-2008 are coming up! The ballots will be mailed March 1. There are two candidates per position.

**President-Elect:** Stewart Lee and Alex Purvis

**Secretary:** Corey Hinshaw and David McCarty

**Treasurer:** Megan Conner and Jay Kilpatrick

**Director, Post One:** Julie Skipper and Malissa Wilson Winfield

**Director, Post Two:** Tanya Dearman and Missy Rose

## Continued from Page 1: “We the Jury” Program

“One of the most important aspects of the program is the option for the teachers to have the assistance of an attorney in making presentations and offering practical insight into the process. While the presence of the attorney is not necessary, it certainly enhances the program and can often be a beneficial experience for the attorney,” Allen noted.

“In focusing upon the impact that the presence of an attorney can have on making the program seem more real to the students, we often lose sight of the impact that the program can have on attorneys,”

said Co-Chair Smith Boykin. “Not only is this a great opportunity to practice public speaking,” Boykin continued, “it’s a practice run at jury selection – something that not all young attorneys get to do in their first year or two of practice.”

While the program is not dependent upon the presence of an attorney, both Allen and Boykin are focused upon providing a volunteer for every teacher who requests one and strongly encourage attorneys willing to volunteer for this one day commitment to contact them. Boykin added, “One of the greatest

tools in implementing this program in more and more schools is the ability to tell the teacher that we already have an attorney lined up who would be more than willing to come assist them. That’s where we all, as JYL members, come in.”

For further information, or to volunteer, contact Matt Allen at [MWAllen@brunini.com](mailto:MWAllen@brunini.com) or Smith Boykin at [sboykin@cwplaw.com](mailto:sboykin@cwplaw.com).

**BY R. REID McKEE**

*Mr. McKee is an associate with  
Watkins & Eager*

## ON THE MOVE

**Alan Windham** and **Brad Reeves**, formerly of Smith, Reeves & Yarborough, have now become associated with the Jackson office of Balch & Bingham, LLP.

**Adam Gates** and **Stephen Masley** have become associated with the commercial litigation section of the Jackson office of McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC.



Adam Gates

*Made a change, made partner, or just made good? Tell us, and we can spread the news your fellow JYL members. Visit the JYL website at [jacksonyounglawyers.com](http://jacksonyounglawyers.com) and drop us a line through the “On the Move” link.*

FOR ALL THE LATEST JYL  
NEWS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.  
jackson  
young  
lawyers  
.COM

CALENDAR, EVENTS,  
NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE &  
COMMITTEE INFORMATION



# LEGAL BEAGLE 5K

## Run/Walk

**\*USATF CERTIFIED COURSE (MS02006RH)\***

Sponsored by: *THE JACKSON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION* to benefit *THE MS VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT*

**Saturday, March 10, 2007**

Registration: 7:00 a.m.

Run/Walk Start: 8:15 a.m.

Refreshments by Beagle Bagel! **A MS Track Club GRAND PRIX Event!** Door Prizes by Fleet Feet Sports!

Join Jackson Young Lawyers and other sponsors for this fun filled run/walk on the **OLD PHIDIPIDES WATERMELON CLASSIC 5K (3.1 miles) COURSE**, a **flat and fast** USATF certified course through residential streets of Northeast Jackson. The run will start on Old Canton Road near the LeFleur Station U.S. Post Office and finish alongside the I-55 Kroger on Jacksonian Plaza. Run proceeds will benefit the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Mississippi Bar Association, which places pro bono cases for underprivileged people with volunteer lawyers. There will be awards for M / F runners and walkers for overall, masters, grand masters, and senior masters and top three awards for the standard five-year age groups from under 14 to over 70. There will be a trophy for the firm or business with the most overall participants. The popular Legal Beagle T-shirts are included in the race materials and are also available for sale without race entry. A one mile fun run will be held at 9:15 a.m. In the fun run, there will be awards for overall male and female, and top three awards in the following age groups: 5 & under, 6-7, 8-9, 10-12, & 13-15. **Registration will be held in the parking lot of Regions Bank alongside the I-55 Kroger (between the post office and Krystal).**

This year's race will also feature a corporate team competition (5K run and walk only). Team members must be part or full-time employees or retirees of company. Entries and fees must be submitted in a single envelope. Teams may have 3 to 5 members, but only the top 3 finishers for each team will be scored. Company may enter more than one team. No race day team registration, please. Team registration fee is \$40. Awards to top 2 teams in 5K run and walk.

### REGISTRATION FORM

5K WALK: [ ]

5K RUN:[ ]

1 MILE FUN RUN: [ ] (children 15 and under)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:(home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Address and e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: (as of March 10, 2007) \_\_\_\_\_ Male:[ ] Female:[ ]

T-shirt size: S[ ] M[ ] L[ ] XL[ ] XXL[ ] (\$2.00 extra) **Name of Participant's Firm or Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Corporate Team (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: Pre-registered (5K run, walk, and fun run): \$15

Race Day (5K run and walk): \$20

Race Day (fun run): \$15

T-shirt: \$15

Family (5 maximum): \$45

**Make checks payable to:**

**Jackson Young Lawyers Assoc.**

#### Release and Waiver

I, the undersigned, in consideration of acceptance of the entry and registration as participant in the Legal Beagle 5K, waive any and all claims which I and my heirs or assigns may now or hereafter have against Jackson Young Lawyers Association, its members, the Mississippi Track Club, Inc., Express Printing, Inc., Union Planters Bank, Regions Bank, and all officials, volunteers and sponsors of the Legal Beagle 5K which may indirectly or directly result from my participation in the Legal Beagle 5K. I further warrant and represent that I am in proper physical condition to participate in the Legal Beagle 5K and am not participating in this event against physician's advice nor am I taking medications which would impair my health or ability to participate in the Legal Beagle 5K.

Participant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian: (if participant is under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Registration Forms to:** JYL c/o Alex Purvis, P.O. Box 1789, Jackson, MS 39215-1789