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Points and Viewpoints

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The method of choosing the members of the Law Journal Staff has recently been changed and the Editors want to relay the information to our readers.

Candidates for membership on the Journal are chosen after the first and second Law School semesters. At the end of the first semester, those students who rank in the top fifteen percent of the first year class are automatically chosen Journal candidates. At the end of the second Law School semester, all second year students who rank in the top twenty percent of the second year class are automatically chosen Journal candidates, provided they were not a candidate the previous semester. No other candidates are chosen in later semesters.

Transfer students may apply to the Editorial Board for association with the Journal. Decisions are made on an individual basis, considering such factors as grades and rank in class at the previous school, recommendations from other law reviews, and academic performance at this law school.

The Candidacy Program is supervised by the Comments and Candidacy Program Editor with the assistance of a Candidacy Board of second year staff members. In order to complete the Candidacy Program, the candidate must satisfactorily (1) complete a citation examination, (2) write a legal memorandum, (3) write a case comment. The quality of his work determines whether the candidate becomes a member of the Journal staff. This evaluation is made by the Board of Editors.

In order to allow more creativity by staff writers, and to provide a more expanded format for discussion of brief legal issues, the Editors have this year accepted comments written on a "topical" basis instead of the usual case orientation. While the traditional case comment is geared towards the extensive discussion of a particular case, the topical comment allows a broader discussion of the issues in general in a format chosen by the author.
This issue of the *Journal* contains three comments that show varying approaches of the topical format—these include the comments of James Hodge and Greg Haynes, Taft McKinstry, and Scott Wendelsdorf. All three expand on legal issues suggested by particular recent decisions but do not follow the traditional case comment format. This allows the author more freedom in choosing the method of expression that best suits the issues and his own writing style, and also an opportunity for a more extensive discussion of the issues raised perhaps only tangentially by the case.

C.M.B.