factual investigations under circumstances inconducive to productive inquiry. Whatever a couple’s motivations for divorce, is it appropriate to expose them to IRS scrutiny?

Honorary Degree Caps Presidency Of Allan Smith

In a complete surprise, the University of Michigan Regents conferred an honorary degree on Interim President Allan F. Smith at the University’s winter commencement exercises in December.

Smith, a U-M law professor, returned to teaching at the Law School on Jan. 1, 1980, when Harold T. Shapiro, a U-M economics professor, assumed the presidency.

The Regents, in awarding the honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Smith, said that “rarely has a single person had such a telling impact on every facet of the University’s mission. His excellent performance of the duties of president provided the Regents and the University community with the time required to conduct an orderly and successful search for the tenth president.”

Smith, who received his law degree and doctor of juridical science degrees from the U-M, has been a faculty member since 1946. He was dean of the Law School from 1960 to 1965 and vice-president for academic affairs during 1965-1974.

Talent Shines In “Law Revue”

For the third straight year, the spotlight shined brightly on law students’ musical, comedic, and dramatic abilities during the Law School talent show. Affectionately dubbed the “Law Revue,” the show once again played to a standing-room-only audience of faculty and students in the Lawyers Club Lounge in March.

Ribald humorists, synchronized a cappella singers, rock ’n’ roll parodyists, jazz musicians, and folk singers highlighted this year’s revue. Interspersed among the acts were “Law School fantasies” brought to life, much to the delight of students in the audience. A few of the routines featured satiric odes to faculty members, received good naturedly by the faculty in attendance.

Brooke Schumm III, class of 1980, encored his performance of saxophone, leading the raucous audience through sing-alongs of old television theme songs. Eric Asmundsson, class of 1980, on piano and George Kirsch, class of 1982, on accordion assisted Schumm in providing musical interludes during set changes.

Revue Producer-Director Tamara Stewart, class of 1980, said after the show that she was pleased with the overwhelmingly favorable audience response. The Law Revue is “something creative, something other than objective,” she remarked. “We get enough ‘be objective, be rational, be factual’ in Law School.”

Stewart credited her veteran crew for much of the show’s success. She shared the emcee chores with returning host Stephen Selbst, class of 1980. Behind the scenes, Steve Stojic, Dave Kantor, and Steve Lockhart, all class of 1980, handled the lighting, while Dan Conway, class of 1980, worked the sound board. Stage crew members included second-year students George Cole, Richard Cauley, and Charles Ryans, Jr.

Preparations for the show began six months before the performance night, with rehearsals scheduled two weeks prior, according to Stewart. The Law School Student Senate social committee again provided funding for the evening’s jocularity.

—Mark Simonian