

## Poetic Justice

Robert Puelo, 32, of St Louis was apparently misbehaving in a supermarket and when an assistant threatened to call police, he grabbed a hot dog, shoved it in his mouth and left the shop, refusing to pay.

Police found him unconscious outside the store, called the paramedics who pronounced him dead. Cause of death? A six inch wiener.

## Lawyer: A Squishy Green Thing Full of Vitamins

Richard Guitt of Clayton Utz on his return from a trip to Europe, reports his amusement whilst dining at a French cafe.

One of the items on the menu was an avocado salad and the establishment's *patron* had kindly translated the listed ingredients into English for non-Francophones.

Nothing particularly funny about tomatoes, onions and lettuce, but he was somewhat alarmed to learn that the main ingredient was rendered into English as "lawyers".

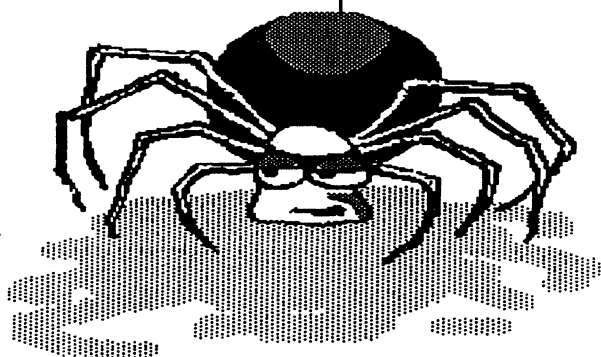
## Ingrate Exposed

A NZ magistrates' court was told by a witness how he had helped a man wearing a bloodstained shirt push a woman's body into the back of a van parked in a picnic area at night.

The witness explained that the body had been covered with a bedspread which was "absolutely covered in blood". He went on to say that he suspected foul play after the man had driven off without thanking him or even offering him a cigarette, which prompted him to call the police

Giles Brandreth - *The Law Is An Ass*

## THE SPIDER'S WEB



## A Bit Testy In Court?

Courtroom lawyers have higher testosterone levels than their colleagues in less confrontational jobs, a new study has found.

In animals, the hormone is linked to aggressive behaviour. A team led by James Dabbs, a psychologist from Georgia State University in Atlanta, measured testosterone in the saliva of 66 male and 31 female barristers and found both sexes had about 30% more testosterone than lawyers who did not plead in court (*Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, vol 28, p 82).

*Retrieved from New Scientist 21 February 1998 and kindly sent in by Alasdair McGregor SM,*

## Tell It Like It Is?

Spotted on the back (and front) of a solicitor was the Cridlands T-shirt for the recent corporate games.

According to the garment, their team name was the *Ill-Eagles* and splashed across the back was their motto – *Dishonour Before Defeat*.

## Gatlings At Forty Paces

*The following courtesy of the Victorian Bar News, Summer 1997.*

NSW Court of Appeal  
Coram: Powell and Beazley JA,  
Waddell AJA

*Blayney Abattoirs PTY & Ors v  
Stae of NSW & Anor*

18 July 1996

RJ Ellicot QC and M Cockburn  
for the appellants

K Mason QC and FL Wright for  
the respondents.

Powell JA, after detailing the large variety of grounds said by the Appellants to support their contention that an insurance was invalid and of no effect said:

*I confess that whenever, whether as a trial Judge or an appellate Judge, I have, in the past, encountered submissions which, as do those which I have set out above, reflect what I might call the "Gatling gun approach", I have, more often than not, succumbed to a mood of black despair – one is not to know whether such submissions are the result of a rush of blood to the head, or of a perfervid imagination on the part of counsel, or whether they merely reflect counsel's lack of confidence in any of his submissions and of his Micawber-like belief that, if all the submissions are advanced, there is a possibility that one might strike home. Be that as it may, it will be necessary, later, to return to these various submissions.*

Eventually the appeal was dismissed.

*Thought of the month thanks to Max Horton:*

If a person is gifted, does he/she have presence?