



**Dade Legal Aid
Put Something Back**

Patently Impossible Raises \$20,000.00

On November 7, The Intellectual Property Committee hosted The Fourth Annual Patently Impossible Project. "This Patently Impossible Project gets bigger and better every year!" said Jaime Vining, Esq., Chair of the IP Committee. "The outpouring of support from the entire community for Legal Aid is so inspiring and that's why I love putting this event together." Thank you to Jaime and the IP Committee for making it happen," said Sharon Langer.



Team St. Thomas (2nd Place), Judge Paul Huck, Ken Oh, Jaime Vining, Ethan Wall, YLS President, John Eagan (1st Place) and Team UM (3rd Place)



Robert Weaver and Javier Sobrado (Feldman Gale team)



Jody Schulman and Sharon Langer



FIU law students perfecting their patent.



Judge Paul Huck, Jaime Vining and David Friedland



Leslie Smith, DCBA President and Jim Stepan representing Team DCBA



US Legal Support enjoying the vibe at the patently impossible project.



Competition spectators wait in anticipation to see who will be this year's winner.



Ethan Wall, YLS President does an outstanding job emceeing the event as guests get ready to cheer on their choice to win... "On your mark, get set, go!"



Bill Brown and Ted Traynor and Ryan Brown trying to get the engine on Team Akerman's car to fire up, which it eventually did for only a split second. The only other team who successfully fired up the engine turned out to be the over-all winner.



"On your mark, get set, go..." with competitors Edmar Amaya and Jim Stepan



Judge Paul Huck "referees" the event with other local dignitaries



Bill Brown and Ryan Brown from Team Akerman depicting their status as the first team to have assembled their car and moved over to the racing surface.



Edmar Amaya and David Salmon and Javier Sobrado and other participants await the competition to begin.

title agents say closings will be slow to resume.

Because many deals have been on hold since the government-sponsored companies suspended

Buyers also have to update their employment information and other data required by lenders since loan documents are good for only 30 days. **SEE STORY, PAGE A7**



Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae lifted their ban on sales of foreclosed homes Nov. 24.

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CHARITY 'Patently Impossible Project'



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Third runner-up Paul Allen, left, laughs over his broken catapult with contest judge Geoffrey Adam Lottenberg and Carly Hammond. Greg Popovich, center, struggles to get his contraption to work as John Del Rossi, runner-up Ury Fischer and emcee Jody Vining look on.

Attorneys build a better catapult

by **Deborah España, DBR**. Intellectual property attorneys who wanted to raise money for the Dade County Legal Aid Society didn't think their pro bono expertise was in high demand.

Attorneys and mechanical devices are not necessarily the best match. But a Dade County Bar Association group hit on the idea for the Patently Impossible Project — a race to the penny-pitching finish by law-oriented

contestants, who had to build a catapult from a few spare parts and an (expired) patent description (no worries about infringement in this group).

About \$8,000 was raised at the event — held, appropriately, at the Miami Museum of Science — by spectators betting on their favorite contestants, the raffle of an Apple iPad and a silent auction.

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EMPLOYMENT

Burger King to shed 261 jobs in S. Florida

by **Eric Kalis, DBR**. Miami-based Burger King is eliminating 261 positions in South Florida. The fast-food chain said the cut, which affects 8.84 percent of the company's South Florida work force, is part of a 413-job reduction in Burger King's operations in North America and Latin America.



The company said its corporate headquarters will remain in Miami "and BKC will continue to be an active participant in the South Florida community."

Burger King was taken private in October when it was purchased by 3G Capital, a firm backed by Brazilian investors led by billionaire Jorge Paulo Lemann. **SEE STORY, PAGE A9**



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DEAL OF THE DAY

Owner of S. Miami buildings received \$7.8 million loan

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CHARITY Dade County Bar Association raises money, awareness

PATENT ATTORNEYS TRY TO BUILD A BETTER CATAPULT

by **Deborah C. España**
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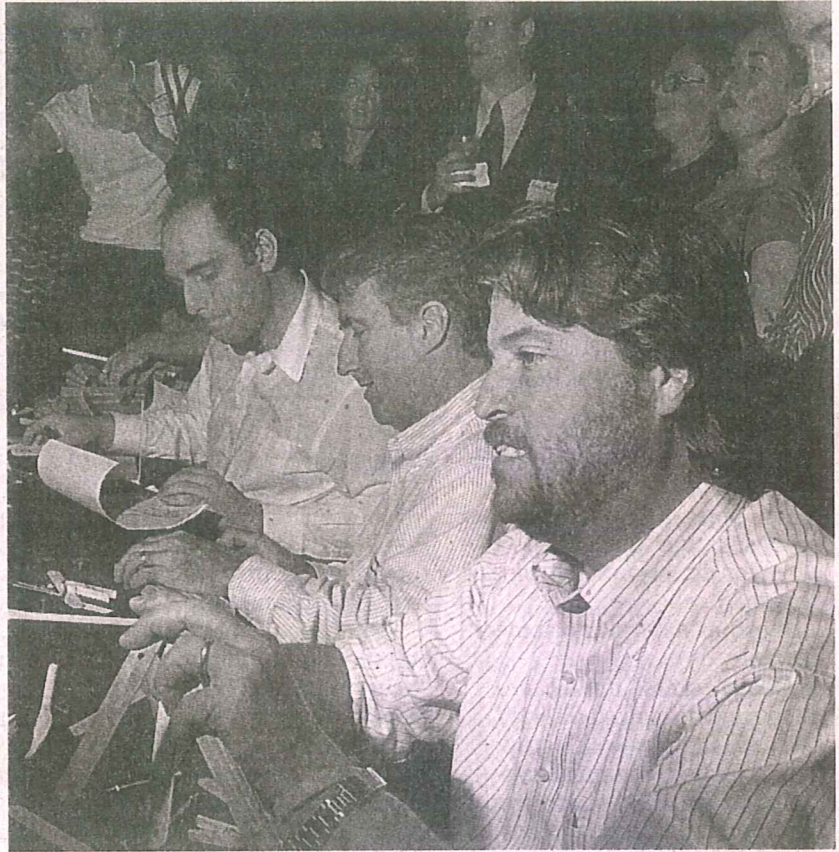
Intellectual property attorneys, paralegals, engineers and a client account manager got a chance to apply their mechanical knowledge to a good cause as they raced to build the best and most efficient toy catapult to raise money for the Dade County Legal Aid Society through the "Patently Impossible Project."

"The way this came up was because Jaime Rich Vining, intellectual property committee chair for the Dade County Bar, said, 'We really can't take cases because not many indigent individuals in Miami-Dade County have intellectual property matters. Why don't we do a fun event to raise awareness and funds to help you with your mission?'" said Karen Ladis, senior attorney with the Legal Aid Pro Bono "Put Something Back" Project.

"The event brought together a whole lot of people that we don't normally work with. That's why this was a unique event," she said. "Maybe from all the people that attended, one will end up taking a case down the road."

The event was held Friday at the Miami Museum of Science and Planetarium, surrounded by innovations that served as a backdrop for the race.

Vining, chair of the intellectual property committee of the Dade County Bar Association and an associate with Lott & Friedland, and vice chair Michael Tschupp of



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Attorneys Michael Longo of Lydecker Diaz, seated, left, Gary Winer of Fleit Gibbons Gutman Bongini & Bianco and Ury Fischer of Lott & Friedland build their catapults.

Espinosa Trueba found a patented invention — a toy catapult — that could be assembled by the contestants and gathered 12 participants to vie for uniquely designed trophies.

"Attorneys are very competitive, including intellectual property at-

torneys, and it was so fun to be on the sidelines and see them get into the project using all the parts and tools, trying to match their catapult to the patent drawings," Vining said.

The parts they had to use in-

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PROJECT: 'We thought trademark attorneys could help in a different way'

cluded tongue depressors, rubber bands, wooden spoons and clothespins. Then the inventions had to slings pennies into plastic containers to qualify for one of the top prizes — a glass trophy and an Albert Einstein plaque.

BUILDING A PATENT

"We thought it could be interesting to see how a patent attorney would do building a patent instead of writing one," Tschupp said.

"There are a lot of different attorneys that can help the intelligent," he said, "and we thought that intellectual property and trademark attorneys could help in a different way."

Avoiding any infringement issues, an expired patent for the catapult was chosen by Tschupp and William Trueba, a co-founder of Espinosa Trueba.

"We tried to come up with an idea that was easy to build and didn't require a lot of study," Trueba said. "I did the research and found a patent that expired in February 2010."

"I was a little thrown off at the beginning because it's a design patent [with] no written ex-



Second-place finisher Ury Fischer and committee chair Jaime Rich Vining, both with Lott & Friedland; committee vice chair Michael Eric Tschupp of Espinosa Trueba; "Patently Impossible" winner Octavio Robles, solo practitioner; and third-place finisher Paul Allen, client account manager at Marksmen.

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planation," said Lott & Friedland shareholder Ury Fischer.

"I think my engineering background helped identify the problem and figure out the solution. What I realized was that it wasn't a beauty contest."

To raise money for Legal Aid, spectators placed \$10 raffle bets on their favorite participants. The raffle winner received an Apple iPad.

Victor Ramirez, a parts manager for Kendall Toyota and

Ramirez went for the underdog. "I put it in there with the one ticket because it had the least amount of tickets," he said. Of the iPad, Ramirez said, "I always wanted one, and now I have one."

Fischer placed second, and Marksmen account manager Paul Allen took third.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Twenty items were donated for a silent auction, including autographed memorabilia from the Miami Dolphins and the Florida Marlins, tickets for the Adrienne Arsht Center, Jungle Island and pre-game Florida Marlins batting practice with field access.

The event netted about \$8,000, and proceeds will benefit the organization to continue providing services to foster kids, the elderly, fraud victims and people facing bankruptcy.

Vining hopes to make the project an annual event. "We got such great support from the community and participation, we're hoping next year it will be bigger and better," she said.

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LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

