

ANNOUNCING

THE JUDGE ROBERT VAN PELT HISTORY PRIZE

The Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit is a non-profit corporation which encourages the study of the history of the federal courts of the Eighth Circuit. In furtherance of that mission, the Nebraska Branch of the Society conditionally offers a \$500 prize in the name of the Honorable Robert Van Pelt, a distinguished United States District Judge. The Prize is available to an undergraduate, graduate or law student attending a college or university in Nebraska who submits a worthy and original paper dealing with a historical topic.

On or before December 23, 2002, an eligible student seeking the Prize should submit:

1. An original manuscript, together with a computer disk containing the document. The manuscript shall consist of no more than 25 typewritten pages (including endnotes or footnotes), with the text spaced at 1.25 lines or greater, double spaced between paragraphs, using one inch margins and a font no smaller than 12. The author should select a historical topic which will interest Nebraska federal judges and lawyers. Submissions which examine a substantial base of primary sources are preferred.
2. A one page curriculum vitae.
3. A cover letter signed by the author (a) acknowledging that the submission will not be returned to the author; (b) certifying that the submission is original and not subject to a copyright or other intellectual property claim by anyone other than the author and stating that the author holds the Nebraska Branch harmless from any such claim; (c) certifying that the author is the sole author; (d) certifying that at the time of the submission the author was an undergraduate, graduate or law student attending a college or university in Nebraska; (e) granting the Nebraska Branch non-exclusive permission to publish the author's submission without charge even if the Prize is not awarded to the author; and (f) identifying the author's postal address, e-mail address, and phone number.

The Nebraska Branch shall be sole the judge of whether to award the Prize and to whom. In its sole discretion, the Nebraska Branch reserves the right not to award the Prize. On the other hand, if the Prize is awarded, the winner will be notified on or about March 1, 2003.

The decision of the Nebraska Branch shall be final and not subject to review. However, when judging the submissions, the Nebraska Branch intends, but is not required, to seek the counsel of James W. Hewitt, a distinguished lawyer and history professor, or other distinguished historians.

Submissions must arrive in the chambers of the Honorable Richard G. Kopf, Chief United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska, no later than the close of business on December 23, 2002. Chief Judge Kopf's mailing address is Room 586, Robert V. Denney Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68508. Questions may be directed to Judge Kopf's chambers at phone number 402-437-5252, fax number 402-437-5681 or by e-mail <Kristin_Leininger@ned.uscourts.gov>.