

**Alumnus Edmondson Named Federal Judge**

Georgia law alumnus and former adjunct faculty member James Larry Edmondson is the newest member of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. The thirty-nine year old Gwinnett County attorney was appointed to the twelve-member 11th Circuit which covers Georgia, Alabama and Florida last May.

A native of Jasper, Edmondson graduated from Emory University in 1968. He received his J.D. degree from The University of Georgia in 1971 and went on to serve as law clerk to then-U.S. District Judge Sidney O. Smith, Jr. for two years.

He practiced law in Gwinnett County, becoming a partner in the Lawrenceville firm of Tennant, Anderson, Davidson and Edmondson and specializing in litigation, public financing and zoning law. Edmondson served as attorney for the Gwinnett County School Board and as city attorney for Snellville. He represented other small incorporated towns as well.

For almost a decade (from 1975-1984) he taught trial practice at The University of Georgia as an adjunct instructor. In 1984 he headed Gwinnett County's Reagan-Bush campaign. Edmondson served as a member of the board of governors of the State Bar of Georgia from 1984-86, and he is a former president of the Gwinnett County Bar.

In recalling his teaching experience at Georgia Judge Edmondson says, "Dealing with Georgia students was fun. I learned a lot by having to review the basics of trial practice. And of course I met friends then who became colleagues in the courtroom through the years."

The caliber of Georgia students continues to impress the judge who chose 1986 law graduate Deborah Ausburn as one of his first clerks. Ausburn was part of the School of Law team that last spring was co-winner of the ABA Mock Trial Competition for the southeast region. Edmondson feels that

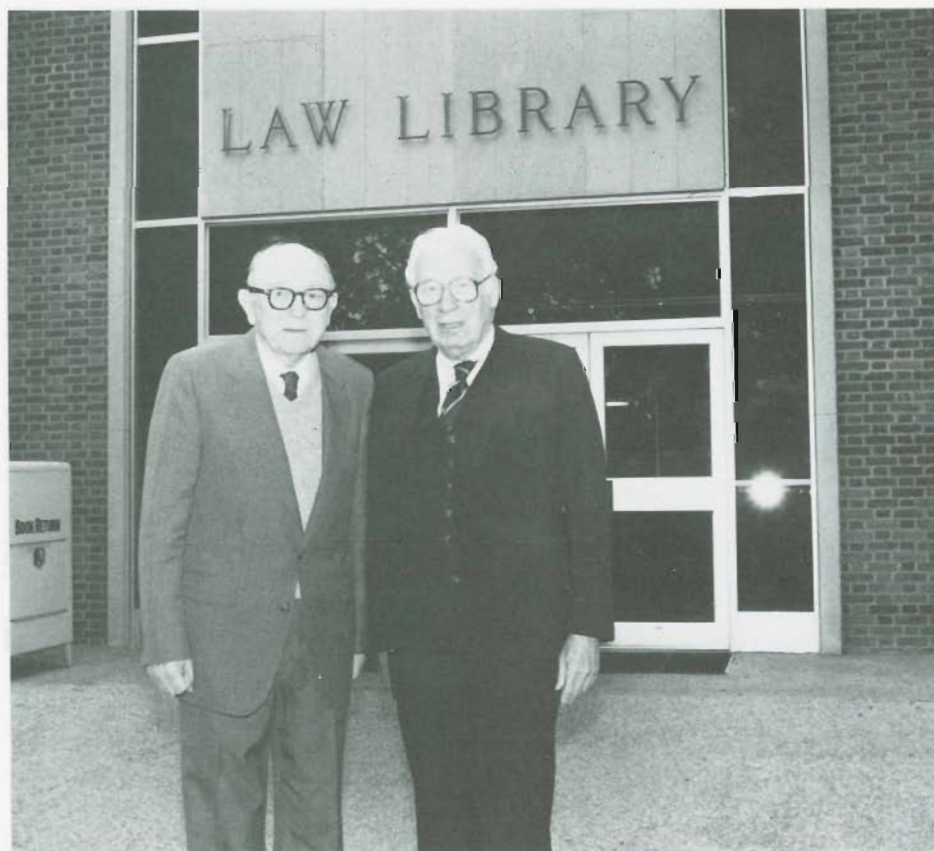
he is "genuinely fortunate in recruiting good law clerks this first year."

Edmondson acknowledges that the rapidly growing suburban county of Gwinnett proved to be a good place to practice law. "Younger lawyers gained extensive and varied experience at an earlier age than sometimes happens. It was extremely challenging intellectually."

His colleagues give Edmondson high marks for integrity, intelligence and thoroughness. ICLE director Rich Reaves deems him an "articulate, independent thinker," and Barney Brannen, director of ICLE, recalls Edmondson's scholarly approach to continuing legal education. "Larry Edmondson served as a most faithful

member of our board of trustees for four years. He was a speaker at many of our seminars and the author of the chapter on the appeals process in the *Georgia Lawyers Basic Handbook* published in 1983. He contributed very significant suggestions, comments and ideas for our program."

As a practicing attorney, Edmondson led seminars in evidence for ICLE programs for State Superior Court Judges in Savannah and Athens in July and October, 1985. He comments, "It seems a little ironic in retrospect. At the time it was not foreseeable for me that I would become a judge myself." Judge Edmondson was sworn in on June 9, 1986.



George W. Ball (right), pictured with Dean Rusk, visited the School of Law on October 22 as a Rusk Center lecturer. The former U.S. undersecretary of state and former ambassador to the United Nations spoke on "Foreign Policy Perspectives in the 1980's." Also sponsoring the lecture were the UGA Arms Control Forum and the Georgia Society of International and Comparative Law.