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New York Law School

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The New York Law School REPORTER

Vol. VII Issue VI

You Won't Have Us To Kick Around Much Longer . . .

May 1990



Bernard Mendik, Dean Simon, and the Board

Coalition for Diversity Seeks Change at NYLS Cancels Demonstration at Ribbon-Cutting

by Daniel R. Simonette

On Wednesday, March 14, 1990, members of the New York Law School Diversity Coalition met with Dean Simon, Associate Dean Matthew Wilkes, Executive Assistant to Dean Simon Joan Fishman and Director of Student Affairs, Helena Prigal. This meeting was held to brief the Administration of the Conference to Diversify Law Schools held at Queens College from February 16-18 and to inform them of the Coalition's plans to honor a National Strike for Diversity scheduled for April 5, 1990.

Shortly after the meeting, the Coalition submitted a list of demands to the administrators. These demands called for student representation on the admissions and tenure committees, student representation at recruiting conferences and a sincere commitment by the law school to actively recruit minority, women, and homosexual professors. Dean Simon responded to the list of demands by referring the coalition to Associate Dean Wilkes.

Prior to Dean Simon's response, however, the Coalition had begun to organize its City-Wide strike for diversity. Coincidentally, the date set for the strike (April 5th) was also the date scheduled for the ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the opening of the new Mendik Library.

During the week of March 26th, the administrators contacted the Coalition and reported that they had agreed to meet most of the demands. In response to the administrators' reply, the Coalition decided to modify its observance of the National Strike for Diversity. Plans for a demonstration were cancelled and instead the members of the Coalition attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony dressed in black and wearing multi-colored armbands—the symbol of the National Diversity Coalition.

Many members of the Coalition reported that they were satisfied with the feedback, both positive and negative, that they received from dignitaries and professors who attended the ceremony.

Congratulations to the Class of 1990:

Always Remember:

- 1) There are no small settlements only indignant clients.
- 2) Avoid the appearance of impropriety.
- 3) Read rule 11 of the FRCP
- 4) Be kind to your alma mater.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Don't expect too much from a bunch of burnt out, riverboat gambling, academic probationists who stay up late into the night arguing over petty semantics just to motivate this purgatory with a bit of information and entertainment.

MENDIK Library OFFICIALLY Open For Business

by Daren R. Domina

It's official. With the cutting of the red ribbon stretched across the 240 Church Street entrance doors by Victor Kovner, Mayor David Dinkins' official representative at the event, the Mendik Library officially opened on April 5, 1990.

The April 5 festivities began with a commemorative address to a packed Froessel room crowd. School trustees, faculty, alumni, students and former Mayors Edward Koch and Robert Wagner, Jr., Attorney General Robert Abrams, and Second Circuit Judge and alum Roger Miner were among those in attendance. Mayor Dinkins was scheduled to officially open the library but an emergency budget meeting required his immediate attention. In his place he sent Victor Kovner, the City's Corporation Counsel, to act as his official representative and to deliver the Mayor's speech.

Dean Simon spoke first and emphasized to those in attendance the important achievement the Mendik Library represented to New York Law School and the hard work, dedication and guidance which Mr. Mendik exhibited to make the dream of a new library a reality. Dean Simon stated that with the addition of a modern

library facility, New York Law School reaffirms its commitment to becoming the preeminent urban law school in New York and the country. Mr. Mendik, the "quintessential New Yorker," thanked the alumni and the New York Law School community for generously providing the funds necessary to provide the school with a modern facility for legal study. Mr. Kovner, delivering Mayor Dinkins' speech in an easy manner, spoke of the important role that Mr. Mendik, New York Law School, and legal education in general played in New York City. Former Mayor Koch was asked to speak briefly. Mayor Koch stated his two reasons for attending: to acknowledge the achievements of Bernie Mendik and because he liked this part of town. The event was broadcast simultaneously in the student lounge. In sum, accolades were given to all, including the library staff and students.

The procession then moved to the Library entrance where Mr. Kovner cut the ribbon, officially opening the library. Bernie Mendik then unveiled the dedication plaque in the library foyer. The festive activities concluded with a tour of the library and a reception on the fourth floor.

Sex, Lies, and Elevators

by Jodi Gottesfeld

As I am sitting here stuck in the elevator, again, staring at the temporary inspection certificate which expired in December, I am inspired to write this article.

The pathetic part is that I spent so long to get in here. First, I joined most of my schoolmates on a line extending out the door and down Worth Street, constantly being knocked down by the students forced to exit through the same door. Each time I neared the front of the line, students would swarm from the other side of the elevator, and I was suddenly fighting for my life to get a space inside.

When I finally entered the elevator along with the dozen other competitors, a beep . . . beep . . . beep sounded. A sigh was heard throughout the crowd. It was that too familiar song of the overcrowded elevator. One by one we left our long awaited destiny, but the dreadful sound was still heard. It was only when the elevator was totally empty that it was willing to move. The few of us who were able to reenter without sounding the dreaded beep did so, and finally we were off our classes which were already in progress. Each person exited at the appropriate floor leaving me alone on my way to class. I

waited for the doors to open when I arrived at the floor my class was on. After a good five minutes of staring at the inside of the doors, I realized they were not going to open. Sweat began to pour down my face and frantically I hit every button displayed in the elevator. I searched for the emergency phones but realized that along with the operators, the phones were a thing of the past. After a useless attempt at prying the doors open, I sat helpless on the floor, hostage of the new elevator system.

I guess I could have taken the freight elevator complete with an elevator shaft type air conditioner and a loop de loop rollercoaster effect. If the elevator was not sitting at a standstill on the first floor, with no operator to be found (the usual position) I probably would have arrived at class.

It would have been impossible to take the "private" elevator considering it is only about to go halfway up the building. I suppose I should have taken my third-year friend's advice. He had nothing to say about which teacher or class subject was best but only those infamous words, "Never take a class above the third floor."

There is no way I could have taken the

The Gripes of Worth . . . It Ain't Just Sour Grapes

This is addressed to the individual who during the week of April 20, 1990 had the literary urge to scrawl "kill the niggers" on the inside elevator door of the Mendik Library.

It amazes me to think that it is possible that someone at the graduate level of education could be such a spineless coward with his or her ideas. Hidden behind a white sheet of anonymity, this person (and all those who think like him) has managed to show how deeply unhappy he is with his own miserable existence.

One would like to think that there might be something to being part of the law school "elite," since many of us have worked hard to get here. Apurtenant to the privileges that a law school education bestows, are the responsibilities of justice and fairness which are a prerequisite to being a lawyer who contributes to society in a positive way.

In many cases you (i.e. members of the law school community) will find yourselves in positions of considerable power, with control over the lives of other people. It angers me that there could be someone like this in our school and that he could be given the tools of power.

I sincerely hope that at some point prior

to this person graduating, while walking down an unfamiliar street, he hears from behind him or her the words "kill the white boy" or "kill the (whatever it is you are)". For just a split second I would like that person to begin to experience the horrible fear of being singled out and hated just for being different.

Remember that being a minority is relative and that every day that passes, today's minority could be tomorrow's majority. When in court lawyers are supposed to extend professional courtesy to each other so that the judicial system proceeds more smoothly. To this person I ask that he identify himself if he wishes to make his views public, or as a courtesy to us to, keep his racist, bigot mouth shut and confine his hate of himself to himself.

Finally, I'm not only angered that this person could possibly be sitting next to me in class but that he or she was even admitted to this school. I suggest, in the future, a more careful screening of the incoming class. It isn't just that the school gets a bad reputation in general but because that bad reputation will follow me, and us, throughout our careers.

Thanks for listening.

Helder A. Coelho

REPORTER Editors under fire—more accusations of incompetence, irresponsibility and insensitivity

by Yolanda Castro-Arce

It appears that despite the apparent negative response to Noame De Plume's ignorant article there is still a desire on the behalf of the school newspaper to continue printing articles by the anonymous author. The question is: Why?

When I first read the article I was outraged and insulted. However, having written for my community newspaper and knowing what a newspaper looks for in an article when it considers printing it, I realized that the anonymous author was not the only individual insulting African-Americans and Hispanics. When I was recently informed that he/she might have another article printed in what might be the school year's last newspaper, I again considered what this might be accomplishing. The newspaper's editor claims that he is not a proponent of the ideas expressed in Noame De Plume's article but is it possible that he is pleased with the secondary gains the damaging article has brought about? At my own place of employment the article has brought about so much controversy that people with whom I am not even acquainted, want to read the issue with the racist article and then the issue with the responses. It is obvious that Noame De Plume, who we are told is not a member of the newspaper staff, has increased readership for the paper both within and outside of the school.

It is all good and well to say that one of the reasons that the First Amendment was added to the Constitution was to protect the press from interference and to allow it to publish freely. However, the First Amendment does not render the press free from liability for the consequences of publication. As a lay-person I know little about the law but, I do know that civil law suits have been commenced by individuals who as a result of a publication have been made into figures of ridicule and have lost the community's respect and perhaps even suffered a loss of business. Would the school newspaper have been so eager to print the racist article if it had

been directed toward one individual? Would it have been so eager to protect the author of the article if that individual were seeking redress? Perhaps the idea that the article could gain more for the newspaper and risk little outweighed the idea that it would further contribute to the racism that the African-American and Hispanic students struggle with. Why must the students who were affected by Noame De Plume's article have to defend themselves against the publications of their own school newspaper? Perhaps the decision to print or not to print, if there ever was a doubt, was decided over a few drinks the same way the issues involving the Christian Legal Society were decided. The important question is: Where is the school newspaper's sense of responsible reporting and publishing?

No matter how small a newspaper might be, there is real power in the hands of the person who makes the decision to publish an article. A published article can conform or change opinion in some, perhaps a few, cases. With an article such as the one written by Noame De Plume, even a few confirmations of the thoughts printed would be a few too many. Had the article not been read and responded to by the students that did so, it is conceivable that some might have taken the lack of response as silent agreement. The newspaper never approached the organizations addressing the racism displayed in the article about rebutting the article. It merely printed the article as if it consisted of facts that needed no further addressing. The newspaper made no attempt to alert the groups attacked in the article, as if there were nothing wrong with what Noame De Plume had written. Luckily, two students who read the article informed others of its content and there were responses correcting some of the ignorant statements.

The school newspaper should consider setting a few standards for its contributing writers. If the only standards it sets are that articles be truthful and factual, the newspaper will have improved its stan-

City Council Throws a "Gay" Bash

by Jerold Levine

There is camaraderie in hatred. Hatred always feels comforted knowing that it is being enjoyed by as large a cross section of society as is available. Perhaps that is why when the New York City Council held hearings on housing discrimination due to sexual orientation, it was an unusual opportunity for White, Black, Catholic, Jewish, Fundamentalist Christian and every other manner of organized human-kind, to stand firmly united in their sworn opposition to anti-discrimination laws where sexual orientation is concerned. Spokesmen and followers that would never tolerate such discrimination if it were inflicted upon them, or upon any other organized and heretofore "legitimized" entity, are perfectly willing not only to impose it upon homosexuals, but to proclaim its heavenly justification as well. Borrowing a phrase from a movie made about fifteen years ago, "We'll take the Niggers and Chinks, but we don't want the Irish!"

All that haranguing took place in 1987, and the City's housing discrimination law was finally enacted by the Council, albeit not the law that homosexuals would like to see. The Council's bill exempts four-family and smaller houses from the anti-discrimination requirement. (Homophobic citizens still convinced enough officials in government that while they cannot stop homosexuals from living everywhere, they can at least try to keep their children from even knowing that such people exist by keeping homosexuals out of small housing units.)

So why is all this of any importance now? The reason is because the same intolerant self-righteousness that permitted the

Shootout at the Council Corral has again resurfaced, in a national forum, in Cincinnati. When the now famous Mapelthorpe photographic exhibit opened in Cincinnati recently, members of Cincinnati's Grand Jury attended, and indicted the gallery curator for "obscenity" in the display of seven of the photos presented. The photographs depict male homosexual scenes which the Grand Jury found too revealing for the patrician taste. The incident has, of course, stirred great First Amendment interest, and so it should. But the purpose of this article is not to debate the Constitution. It is, rather, a brief discussion of the energy source behind what drives the Cincinnati Grand Jury, and the various religious and ethnic leaders of New York City, to attack homosexual interests.

Imagine the following: Little Johnny leaps off to another day at grade school in Heartland, U.S.A. Mommy stays home, as she always does, to tend her household duties. And Big Daddy goes out into the world for another day of hard work. These are religious people (insert your own brand here).

Well, Little Johnny comes home after school. Shortly thereafter, Daddy arrives back from work too. And at that evening's dinner table, Daddy and Mommy hear the following from Johnny, "You know, Dad, I don't think what you said about those fags is true. I've got one for a teacher, and he's a great guy!"

Without dealing here with the public crucifixion of the teacher that is going to ensue, consider what has happened to Daddy and Mommy. They have been told what very few parents are sophisticated

Cont. on page

THE REPORTER CIRCUS

Ringmaster	B. Shaw
Tightrope Walker	Diane Wolfson
Trapeze Artist	Shirley Casper-Wong
Lion Tamer	Dilip Massand
Knife Thrower	Evan Augoustiniatos
Human Cannon Ball	Daren Domina
Bearded Lady	Dan Muallem
Fire Eater	Barry Block
Prestidigitator	Philip Spyropoulos

Clowns who emerge from a tiny car:

Daniel Simonette, Jodi Gottesfeld, Jeryl Brunner, Cynthia Hanrahan, Fran Chan, Aimee Kaas, Jerold Levine, Tom Mallon, and Mike D'angelo.

The Flying Pendejos:

Elizabeth Nochlin, Donna Santiago, A.J. Wollerman, Susan McCarty, Chris D.G., Larry Siry and Jack Valinotch

"Have the greatest summer on earth"

Media law clinic dropped from fall lineup despite high ratings

Exclusive to the
NYLS Reporter
By Michael D'Angelo
Media Law Project Member

New York City—The Media Law Clinic won't exist after May 1990. The clinic which has been around for 11 years was a program that provided students with valuable experience representing actual clients. The clinic's most well known case was an antitrust suit against Time Inc. four years ago. The clinic will be replaced with the Media Law Workshop. Students in the Workshop will no longer have the actual client experience of the clinic, but the workshop will still have a clinic-like feel since students will prepare comments and amicus briefs. This format has already been implemented to some extent during the past few semesters. Though there has been some work for actual clients, most of the work has involved research for papers due at the end of the semester.

According to Professor Michael Botein, Director of the Communications Media Center at NYLS, the new program admittedly does not provide the practical experiences gained through dealing with actual clients. Professor Botein feels that this experience can be obtained by participating in either of the remaining clinics. Enrollment in these clinics, one criminal and one civil, will probably become more competitive since there will only be two left to choose from. Professor Botein feels that the other clinics offered can be a roundabout way to get experience in the field of media law. Why should a student who wants media law experience have to deal with clients who have nothing to do with media law? The answer is money.

This may seem shocking but the main reason that the clinics, in general and the

media law clinic, in particular are being revamped is the cost involved. It takes one and a half professors to run a clinic whereas it doesn't even take one full time professor to run a workshop. This decision will impact students and the school in ways that cannot be measured in dollars.

First since the quality of students' education will suffer since losing actual client experience in the field of media law produces less experienced and educated law students. Second this will have a direct impact on the NYLS reputation as a first rate media law school. Since the NYLS name will not be as visible as it has been in the past. For example, when the clinic brought an antitrust suit against communications giant Time Inc. Four years ago, the media attention that the case received helped to bring NYLS into the forefront of media law circles. Even U.S. Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum of Ohio, who recently spoke at NYLS, praised the clients' efforts for challenging Time, Inc. This notoriety will be lost with the Workshop and will affect NYLS' media law reputation and the quality of the media law student.

Loss of the media law clinic will also impact communications community as a whole because the Clinic provided a valuable service to clients who would not normally consider taking legal action. For example, this semester the clinic is attempting to help the blind, visually impaired, and illiterate people by convincing the F.C.C. that there is a need to broadcast a radio reading service on the newly expanded A.M. dial. This service would not only improve the quality of life for these people but could aid the nation as a whole by better educating people who have difficulty in obtaining important information. Rallying causes like this one helps to improve the legal profession's reputation.

And we all know that it needs it!

Another downfall which will result from changing the Clinic to the Workshop will be that the Workshop must be scheduled to start until the fall of 1991. This is very upsetting to many students who came to this school to study media law because they will graduate without taking either the Media Law Clinic or the Media Law Workshop. Although there will be a communications/telecommunications law seminar offered in the spring of 1991, this two credit course will hardly be as intensive as the Workshop.

Unfortunately, Professor Botein will be leaving NYLS around April 15, 1991 to teach in France. He will be back for the fall of 1991 but will then go on sabbatical in December of 1991, to return again in July or August of 1992. Since technically he will only miss one semester there are no plans as of yet to replace him. Professor Botein explained it will be difficult to find someone to replace him for only one semester but his absence should not really affect course offerings.

Yet another disappointment is that the media law library at 66 Leonard Street is now being dissolved and integrated into the new Mendik library, since mentioning a media law library would have cost \$250,000. Thus, important media law information which was in one easily accessible room is now strewn about the huge library, making research much more difficult.

If any of this information upsets you, let the administration know. You could also get involved in the Media Law Project which is a student organization in room C102 dedicated to the proliferation of media law and other related fields both at the law school and in the community.

In the meantime, may all your airwaves be free from interference.

State of the School Address

by Cynthia Hanrahan,
SBA President

After two campaigns, four SBA parties, a lot of missed classes, and several administrative changes, my tenure and that of the SBA Executive Board has come to an end.

The past year has been very memorable, at times there were tense moments but more often than not, this year has been a pleasure. When the 1989-90 SBA Executive Board was so eloquently inducted last April, we had high hopes for the coming year and we strove to accomplish the goals we had set for ourselves.

Throughout the past year, the SBA was able to effectuate several changes and improvements. The major advancement made by the SBA Budget Committee was to streamline the budget process, thus eliminating a lot of unnecessary expenditures as well as making the SBA expenditures equitably distributed. An ad hoc committee was formed by the SBA to help distribute the financial responsibility for panels between student organizations, Student Affairs and Placement.

The SBA also formed an ad hoc committee to discuss solutions to the spring semester class scheduling fiasco. Thanks to the diligent work of the members of that committee, with the dedicated cooperation of Steve Goot and Dean Zeigler, several class changes were made for the better. Academic Affairs has made efforts to insure similar problems will not arise in the future by distributing sample class schedules to the SBA senate who will in turn try to make schedules to determine if there are any serious class conflicts and/or problems.

With the dedication of, and continued input from, the evening student representatives, evening student concerns are finally being given the attention they deserve. We can only hope that the evening students will continue their great work in the year to come.

In the past year, the SBA has not addressed the exclusionary clauses of student organizations and the problems the clauses raise. However, the Student Organization Policy Committee was formed last spring to deal with the issues. Through the hard work of my co-members of the SOP Committee, Prof. Strossen, Prof. Chen, Prof. Estreicher, Helena Prigal, Monica Coen, Randolph Iannoccone and Darryl Wesby, these issues have been addressed and a solution is forthcoming.

As a result of the efforts of both Mark Rothenberg (ABA/LSA Rep.) and Student Affairs, a public interest scholarship fund is being implemented. The scholarship will be for a student who works in a public interest field during the summer and is funded through donations made by fellow students.

Since the fall semester of 1988, the SBA has been mired in the process of amending its constitution. We acknowledge the super human efforts and patience of Ed Iturralde in drafting the changes to the constitution. Hopefully your affirmative vote on the upcoming referendum will make Ed's dream of becoming NYLS's Thomas Jefferson come true.

Throughout this past year, many people have made a special impact on the NYLS community and the SBA would like to congratulate and thank them for their efforts as most of our progress would not have been made but for them.

We thank Simon Arrata for all his help in setting up and arranging the first two parties of the 1989-90 year. Ariadne Krasas for her wonderful decorating abilities that shown through during the Valentine's Day Party, and Jeff Dickey, Rich Weiner and Elizabeth Barna for dispensing the beer at the parties.

We want to thank those students who brought to our attention that the SBA's money could be spent on better things than cheese. We thank Dan Simonette, Oscar McDonald and Mark Gloade for their brilliant idea of purchasing the video "Eyes on the Prize I & II" for black history month, and which is to be put on reserve at the library. We also thank Alix Simonetti and Jack Frohlich who thought students should receive case materials to help them better understand ELLSA's panel discussions. Last but not least, we thank *The Reporter* staff and all its contributors (the Mole) for their everlasting humor and providing an effective forum for the NYLS community, all without the benefit of caffeine.

We want to thank the administration and faculty for all their help in the past year. In particular, our thanks go to Helena Prigal for devoting time from her roller coaster life to lend an ear to SBA's concerns; we're glad to see that spring in her step and that smile on her face once again, even though we know that she's just an "egghead." We also thank Monica Coen: although she came to us as a mere "babe in the woods," it's all we could do to keep her name off the ballot for SBA president. A special thanks to facilities management and security for all their help and understanding with the SBA parties. Finally, we welcome Matthew Wilkes to NYLS and

LLSS NEWS

Effective May 1, 1990, the new officers of the Latino Law Students' Society will be:

Chairperson: Les Purificacion
Vice-Chairperson: Clair Del Risco
Secretary/Treasurer: Elisa Velasquez
Attorney General: Amanda Marrero
We also wish the best of luck to Graduates Jose Ortiz, Celestina Ortiz-Jefferson, and Ed Iturralde, and best wishes to Donna Santiago, who will be finishing her legal education at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

URBAN BARD (Translated from the English)

by Phillip D. Spyropoulos

The Birds of Autumn

Their red and pink wings glide them slowly to their final rest
With a light sorrow in their little hearts of the passage of spring and summer
Of a happy life that will soon end
As the coming cold rains and frost surround the forest with a peaceful sleep.
One after another, their mothers gently release them to their final flight
Into a sea of delicate beauty, filled with an endless pageant of colors
Their spirits soaring one last time, before they kiss the chilly ground
and resign themselves to tranquil decay.

The March of Time

Those who are closest to her are best prepared
The old man with three legs
Or the child-soldier who waits for torn flesh
Yet we too are close, and we are not prepared.

wish him continued success with what we know to be a very unique and fantastic staff.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my fellow officers on the SBA Executive Board, Michael Issacs, Day V.P., was an asset this past year and had a lot of impact on SBA issues. Glenn Miller, Eve, V.P., has been in the forefront of bringing out evening student concerns and seeing to it that they have been addressed. No one is quite sure what Kirt "non-feasance" Callender, Atty. Gen., has had to do this past year, but we are sure that he has given the SBA more support with his warm handshake and ever present smile than any other attorney general. (except Ed). Joan Whelan, Sec., engineered the complete eradication of the previous administrations campaign to ban smoking in the SBA office; she also lended and air of calm and objectivity to the SBA's agenda. Mark Rothberg has single handedly increased the ABA membership of the NYLS student body significantly and was awarded honors by the ABA for this achievement. Finally, I would like to give my sincere thanks and gratitude to my second hand man, Michael Capparisi. As Treasurer he performed his job brilliantly thus taking a lot of pressure off of me. He also graciously chaired several meetings in my absence.

This has been a very rewarding year for me and I hope much success comes to next years SBA Executive Board. However, the "greatness" achieved by the 1989-90 Executive Board and Senate will be hard to surpass. But then again, *The Reporter* might finally get their coffee machine.

The ABA/Law Student Division: Tomorrow's Lawyers Make Up Today's L.S.D. (Law Student Division)

Written by Paul Cohen, Division Delegate, adapted by F. Chan

The energetic and involved lawyers of tomorrow can be found among the membership of the American Bar Association's Law Student Division. With close to 40,000 law students, the Law Student Division is the largest student professional organization in the U.S. and one of the largest dues-paying entities within the ABA.

The Law Student Division was created 27 years ago in 1967 to enable law students to participate in the activities of the ABA. Through direct membership in sections, committees and forums, students are introduced to the work of the ABA and are given the opportunity to attend meetings and to contribute to the ABA. Over 80% of the Law Student Division members remain active in the ABA after graduation.

In addition to acting as a recruiting ground for increased ABA membership, the Law Student Division conducts several programs and addresses a wide variety of law student concerns. The governing structure of the Division is analogous to the ABA, with national officers and 15 Circuit Governors, which comprises the Board of Governors. The Assembly is composed of two voting delegates from each ABA ap-

proved law school.

The Assembly meets in conjunction with the ABA Annual Meeting. ANNOUNCEMENT: This year's Annual Meeting will be held in Chicago, August 2-5, 1990. Students are encouraged to attend. Registration is \$35.00 and you must fund your own way there (and back.) Circuit meetings are held every Summer, Fall and Spring.

Two Division Delegates to the ABA give law students a voice in the ABA House of Delegates. The Law Student Division created its Commission on Minorities and Women in the Profession in 1987 to promote the ABA's 9th Goal: to promote the full and equal participation of women and minorities in the profession.

Concerns currently being addressed include discrimination against the handicapped, the infringements on a woman's right to make choices about reproduction and the need for uniform anti-discrimination statutes. Students are also concerned about improved standards in legal education and the expansion of the curriculum. Some examples of recently passed resolutions involve the establishment of Loan Assistance Repayment Programs, the repatriation and return of Viet Nam Veterans Missing in Action, and the need to define "Dignitary Torts" in the next Restatement of

Torts.

The *Student Lawyer* magazine features current topics and provides useful information on legal opportunities for law students. It announces all upcoming events and students are encouraged to submit articles for publication.

The Division Liaison program consists of student liaisons to some 40 of the ABA's sections and committees. Liaisons keep the Association entities apprised of law student concerns. Liaisons gain in-depth knowledge of the activities of the sections and committees. Many student liaisons have voting rights in the governing Council.

The Division also administers three regional and national competitions: the Client Counseling Competition, the Negotiation Competition and the National Appellate Advocacy Competition.

In 1987 Chapter Projects began to promote community service activities. Events include projects for the Homeless and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.

For academic year 1990-91, Glenn Miller is the ABA/LSD Representative to the Student Bar Association. Frances Chan is Chair of the Commission on Minorities and Women in the Profession. Please contact either Glenn or Fran c/o the SBA Office if you have any questions.

FORTY WORTH
AND ALL THAT JAZZ

MON: OPEN JAZZ JAM / 9:00 P.M.
TUES: BLUES/OPEN MIKE COMEDY / 9:00 P.M.
WED: ALTERNATIVE ENTERTAINMENT / 9:00 P.M.
THURS: SALSA / 10:00 P.M.
SAT: LIVE JAZZ 8-12 / "HOUSE" DANCE PARTY 12 UNTIL

THURSDAY & FRIDAY
JAZZ HAPPY HOUR
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.
FREE BUFFET

161 W. BROADWAY
West Broadway & Worth St.
Reservations: **212-571-7272** * FREE ADMISSION MON./TUES.
AND DRINK SPECIALS TO NYLS / POOL TABLE

Two on the Aisle . . .

The Grapes of Wrath As timely as it was 50 years ago.

by Jeryl Brunner

I have often felt that the best theater succeeds when the play permits the audience to truly experience the characters—to feel their emotions, passions, joys and sorrow. *The Grapes of Wrath*, now playing at Broadway's Cort Theatre on 48th Street, victoriously does that in every capacity. Adapter/Director Frank Galati has expertly retained John Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize winning poetry in adapting this masterpiece to the stage. Holding true to the famous novel while never for a moment being overblown, the play follows one family's struggle to outlive the sullen days of the Great Depression. Fleeing from drought ravaged Oklahoma to California to start a new life, the members of the Joad family suffer prejudice and violence at every turn, but they make it through with their basic dignity and integrity intact.

Matriarch Ma Joad keeps her family together by being determined to survive with whatever life throws her way. Lois Smith brilliantly brings simple honesty to the role that makes one forget Darwell's film rendering. Gary Sinise's Tom Joad is a radiant depiction of a man who becomes the self-declared champion of the suppressed and deprived, speaking the classic "I'll be there" speech with an inner strength that leaves Henry Fonda's dramatic reciting in the dust. Ex-preacher Jim Casy, in a strong performance by Terry Kinney, silently becomes Tom's mentor in proclaiming the necessity of change in order to break out of the ugly grip of poverty.

Equally magnificent is the rest of the Joad family—Robert Breuler as humble Pa Joad, Sally Murphy as expectant mother Rose of Sharon, Mark Deakins as her husband Connie, Jim True as girl-crazy Al, Jeff Perry as soft headed Noah and Nathan Davis and Lucina Paquet as Grampa and Granma—as well as the 25 member ensemble, most of them from

Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company. Founded by Messrs Sinise, Kinney and Perry, this company has brought intelligent theatre to despairing New York before with such productions as Sam Shepard's *True West* and Lanford Wilson's *Balm in Gilead*. Once more we see sharply focused ensemble playing of the highest caliber.

Mr. Galati opts for a simple adaptation of the novel which permits the powerful language to breathe on a sparse yet clever set that thoughtfully represents the dusty earth of the west. A tiny old jalopy carries the entire Joad family and their belongings rumbling 2,000 miles along Route 66 with a heightened sense of reality that is often missing from the stage of other plays. The lighting that creates a sunset filled with dazzling hues of red and blue and a twilight scene which contains luminous stars and shades of midnight is also striking. Scenic and lighting designer Kevin Rigdon's intelligence for letting the stage breathe with open space is refreshing.

Acclamation also goes to Erin Quigley's accurate costumes and Rob Milburn's unobtrusive sound design (incidentally, none of the actors are microphoned and you can hear every word crisply and clearly—what a blessed relief from canned sound!). Michael Smith's music, played by himself and a three piece band that includes such instruments as a saw and jaw's harp, is also appropriate and wonderful.

In an era plagued by selfishness and destitution, *The Grapes of Wrath* is as timely as it was fifty years ago when it was proclaimed "The Great American Novel" and forced a nation to reflect towards the plight of the migrants. Indeed, from the tender sound of the saw that opens the play to Rose of Sharon giving a dying man her milk after her baby dies at the end, Frank Galati and the entire cast furnish the audience with a lifetime of indelible images that are a triumph in taste, simplicity and brilliant stagecraft.

Elevators from page one

"b" or "c" elevator considering the convenient architecture of our school which makes it impossible to get from the "a" building to any other building without first going outside and taking a different elevator. It is probably for the best anyway knowing the quality of those elevators. The "c" elevator gives you the effect of rockclimbing as it opens midfloor presenting a cement wall or a ten foot drop from your desired floor. It also gives the added feature of landing in a closetlike room in the basement and the security of knowing the doors will not close unless you push at least two buttons. I suppose this has nothing to do with why they choose to display the inspection certificate in the office instead of in the elevator. The "b" elevator is quite similar to the "c" elevator in that they both allow a maximum of three at a time. The "b" elevator also has a waiting area for about the same amount.

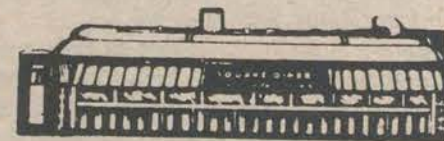
I am starting to believe that our law school only accepts defective elevators. Our brand new library has elevators which

make the others look effective. Most of the time, the elevator is simply not running. However, if you are lucky enough to get the elevator to bring you up to a certain floor, you will probably end up waking down. The second floor displays a sign which indicates that you should not call the elevator from that floor, and the panel with the calling buttons on the fourth floor hangs by wire from the wall.

If I ever get out of here and you ever read this article, maybe those in charge of the elevators will realize that with all the money we pay for tuition riding the elevators should not have to be such a downer.

(The Reporter has it on good information that the administration, trying to respond quickly to the distressing condition of the elevators, has contacted none other than Willy-Wonka—inventor of the "wonkavader" for advice on creative alternatives. Mr. Wonka could not be reached personally for comment but his spokesperson told that the recluse chocolate magnate and inventor believes this is nothing but simple case of breach of warranty. Eds.

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Non-Debate on Cyprus — Turks Chicken Out

by Thomas L. Mallon

The Turkish/Greek debate on Cyprus, which promised to be a heated debate of a current international problem seldom recognized by the rest of the world, turned out to be a one-sided affair due to a no show by the Representative of the Turkish Cypriot community. Mr. Ilias Iliadis, Counselor of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations, who did speak, laid down the history of the island of Cyprus, gave us his views on the conflict and attempted to present a few points that the other side would have given.

Cyprus is an island in the Mediterranean Sea near Turkey. The population is comprised of about 80 percent Greek Cypriots and 20 percent Turkish Cypriots. Cyprus was under British administration until 1960 when it formed its own constitution that attempted to balance the interests of both the Greek and Turkish Cypriots. To accomplish this the constitution empowered a Turkish Cypriot Vice-President with veto power over a Greek Cypriot President. The two sides were unable to work together under the constitution and eventually fighting broke out between the two communities in 1963.

Allegations were made that Turkey was trying to interfere in Cyprus's internal affairs which they denied. The United Nations set up a peace keeping force in Cyprus to try and restore law and order and to keep the peace. Talks have been held but led nowhere.

In 1974 the National Guard led by Greek

officers seized power in Cyprus. Turkey, through the use of military force, then occupied 37 percent of the island. A ceasefire was called by the UN Security Council in mid-August of 1974. Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced with the Turkish Cypriots occupying the north of the island and the Greek Cypriots the south. In 1983, the Turkish Cypriot authorities proclaimed a "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," which is not recognized by the UN.

Talks still continue, most recently in February and March. The leaders of both sides claim that they are now committed to finding a solution to the problem through intercommunal talks, but it seems that the Turkish leader, Rauf Denktash, is preventing progress by insisting on the Turkish Cypriot's desire for self-determination, even if the two sides are united by a federal bi-communal constitution.

Witness to the tearing apart of Cyprus is the fact that Mr. Iliadis and the missing Turkish Cypriot representative were both from the same town on the island before the split and now are on opposing sides of the conflict. Mr. Iliadis's presentation was informative in giving a general scope of the Cypriot problem but any support for the Turkish Cypriot side was lacking. It's time that the people of the world realize it is not the ethnic background of our neighbors that makes them worth fighting for but their thoughts manifested by actions (or lack thereof) and words against others.

Corliss Lamont Speaks On American Civil Liberties Struggle

by Aimee B. Kaas

To celebrate its first year at New York Law School, the ACLU concluded this year's program with a lecture given by Corliss Lamont, Ph.D. on Tuesday, April 17, 1990. Despite the inclement weather and rush for exams, Dr. Lamont drew an impressive audience in the student lounge, which rapidly became standing room only. The lecture itself was both a warning and a message of hope.

Corliss Lamont has been a champion for civil liberties for nearly seventy years and he continues to strongly defend them through paid advertisements in *The New York Times*, and speaking engagements. His work with the American Civil Liberties Union from its beginning has made him a primary source of information and a legend. For twenty years a Director of the ACLU, he is now Chairperson of the National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee.

"Civil liberties are still being threatened vehemently on a daily basis." Those liberties include the right to free speech, due process of law, and equality before the law. They seem quite innocuous on their face but periodically the American government, to advance its policies, has either displaced or subverted its own Bill of Rights.

Dr. Lamont's personal struggles exemplify such governmental intrusion into an individual's life. Beginning in 1924, he drew criticism from the Harvard University administration when they vetoed his choice of speakers, Eugene Debbs, the jailed leader of the American Socialist movement. However, the furor led to liberalizing academic freedom and the right of students to hear speakers whom they wanted and were interested in.

Ten years later in 1934, Lamont was arrested and briefly jailed for picketing on behalf of the Furniture Workers Union in Jersey City. His actions collided with the policy of the city's Mayor, Frank Hague, whose motto was "I am the law." Hague's laws included no trade unions in his town. Lamont's lawsuit among other actions eventually won the right to organize workers in Jersey City and also resulted in the New Jersey high court cracking down hard on the renegade Mayor.

In 1946, Lamont was subpoenaed by the Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives, "the greatest possible menace to American civil liberties." He was subsequently cited by the Committee for contempt of Congress when he refused to produce correspondence and financial records of his organization, the National Committee of American-Soviet Friendship. However, the U.S. Attorney General dropped the case because it lacked merit.

Corliss Lamont can boast of taking on the notorious Senator Joseph McCarthy, chairman of the Senate Sub-Committee on Government Operations, for a one-on-one at the U.S. Courthouse (New York City) in 1953. Sen. McCarthy believed American security to be in peril by Lamont's book which studied ethnic groups within the U.S.S.R. Lamont was compelled to listen to McCarthy's standard Inquisition: did any Communists help him write the book and the like. However, Lamont refused to answer any questions on the ground of violation of freedom of the press and freedom of scholarship. Again, another citation of contempt of Congress with a possible jail term and a high fine. Two years later, the indictment was dismissed on the ground that the McCarthy Committee had no right to conduct such an investigation. A federal court of Appeals unanimously upheld the decision in 1956 and the Government did not appeal.

The continuous battles for civil liberties have resulted in harassment and surveillance by both the F.B.I. (aka Federal Bureau of Idiots, as characterized by Lamont) and the C.I.A. Apparently, governmental agencies equate the exercise of freedoms guaranteed under the Bill of Rights with subversive behavior and have acted so forth. Dr. Lamont has had to sue the government in order to receive overseas mail, receive "intact" envelopes, and to renew his passport to travel abroad. The government has donated a notable amount of time and tax dollars for more than half a century on this one citizen.

The lecture concluded with a summary of today's attacks on civil liberties. An art museum in Cincinnati is being prosecuted for a photography exhibit deemed as "indecent" by a statute and "community standards." The U.S. Supreme Court has declined to hear a case challenging a small town's statute which forbids social dancing (a direct strike at the Separation of Church and State clause) in Missouri. Nationwide book-banning threatens public education curriculums and school libraries. Daily, the newspapers are full of such abuses.

The difference lies with American citizens. The 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights is upon the horizon. The People can reaffirm those rights by speaking out whenever they are threatened or they will risk losing them through complacency, apathy, or a hope that "someone else" will continue to fight.

Dr. Lamont received an enthusiastic response from the audience after the lecture. He was further honored by a gift presented by Dean James F. Simon, on behalf of New York Law School. With his visit, for some students, Constitutional Law came to life and for others, a rededication to a perpetual and necessary cause.

The Rose, The Cape, The Sword and The Swan

by Phillip D. Spyropoulos

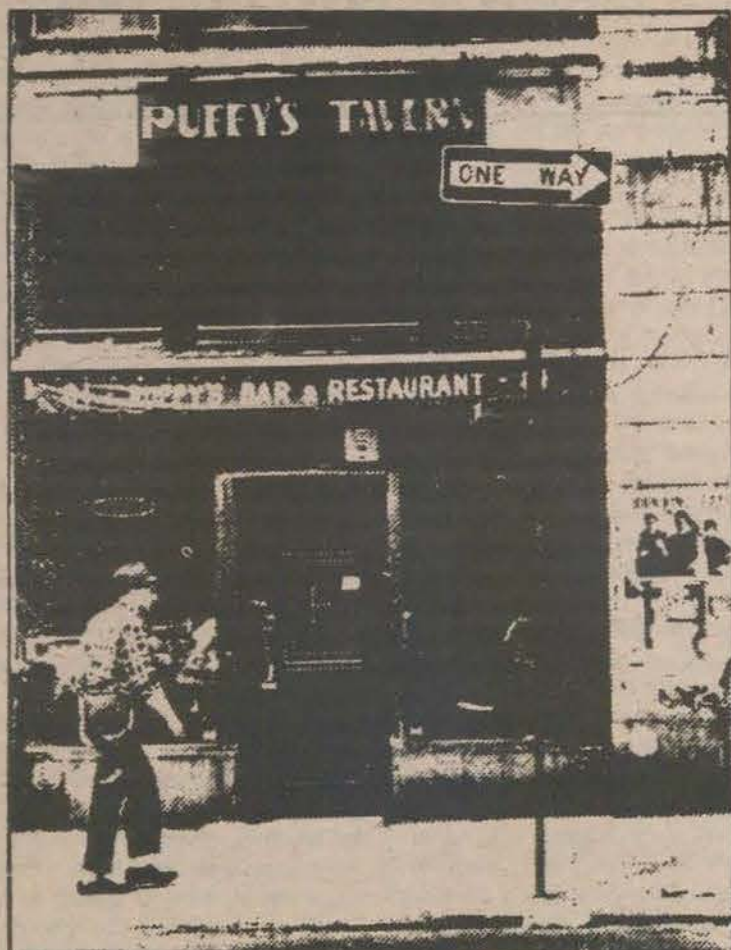
Where have those days of gallantry gone?
Of the rose, the cape, the sword and the
swan?

When virtue and beauty spoke through the
pen?
And God lived within the bold hearts of
men?

When a young warrior was slain with a
conviction in his noble soul
That his destiny was complete, that he had
served his heroic role

When a maiden was a flower of a silken
soft petal
Whose soft-petal hands launched epics of
clashing metal

Now urine and semen in darkened bus
stations
Are the symbol of our times and the pur-
pose behind our Creation.



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All Quiet On The Evening Front

by Barry H. Block

"All Law Students Are Equal, But some Law Students are MORE Equal." If you think that this is an article about a frustrated night student disenchanted with his term at NYLS, think again. Contrary to current opinion, evening students, despite their "minority" status, do quite well. In addition to sharing parking spaces on an equal basis with day students, we also have our own respite. Tokenism aside, the point of this piece is to bring out some of the positive experiences of late night classes and to suggest some ways that day and night students can interact in a mutually beneficial way.

Identity is critical to any interaction. This problem became obvious to me the other day. While running for evening student-vice president, I asked the staff of *The Reporter* if they knew any evening students. The half-joking response was "We thought you were the only one." Thus comes Evening Student suggestion #1. If you can, alter your schedule to take one Day class. While this is not possible for everyone, doing it has many benefits including: lessening the number of days a week you have to attend 2 or 3 days, taking courses from profs. who teach only in the day, meeting day students.

The converse of suggestion #1 applies

to day students. Some of the best courses at this school are taught at night by adjunct profs., who work during the day. These profs. (particularly in advocacy courses) often bring a sense of realism to their classes, not found in textbook offerings.

Suggestion #2 - Come Early or Stay Late. Try 5-6 p.m. in the student lounge. If you're lucky, there may be a conference or event going on. Even if not, drop in and say hello. Evening students will find that day students are not the immature bookworms that they are often made out to be. Day students will discover that evening students are teachers, policemen, doctors, airline pilots and a myriad of other interesting professionals during the daytime.

Suggestion #3 - Get Involved. If you only identify this school with studying and tests, it's obvious that psychologically, you'll want to stay away as much as possible. Unfortunately, you'll also be denying yourself much of the flavor of the once-in-a-lifetime experience of law school. On the other hand, if you join a student group, fraternity, or student government, you'll find yourself making new friends and enjoying your limited free time.

All is not quiet on the evening front. It is only quiet for those who choose so.



con't from page 2

enough to handle . . . Johnny has told them that he does not agree with them. What is ultimately distressing to the parents is that all those fears and hatreds that they came to regard as sacred are not being given their sacred due by their offspring. And this is really powerful stuff, because it means that the parental view of the world as existing just "thus and so" has been altered. This is the energy behind homophobia. It is the energy behind all irrational, unfounded judgments about various peoples, and about their quality and value as beings. This is, in part, the stuff of which extremists are made, and it is what in a political context would be called "ideology."

The great heterosexual fear of homosexuals is not that they are going to turn the children of the world into homosexuals, nor is it that they will command the government or its institutions. The fear is more

basic . . . it is the fear that those who are regarded as inferior will be found to be just as good, if not superior, to their heterosexual neighbors. And it is, even more, the fear that if homosexuality is not better or worse a condition than heterosexuality, then heterosexuality loses its superior social distinction. In brief, if Mr. Hetero can no longer feel himself superior to Mr. Homo, Mr. Hetero is no longer special, he is no longer better, he is no longer socially right . . . he just is. Why do you think heterosexuality is referred to as "straight?" It is because everything other than heterosexuality is a deviation from "straight," a deviation from "the correct." Now, I am not suggesting that this choice of words was a conspiracy, only that the choice of words is indicative of the feelings of the society that uses them.

When legislation, such as anti-discrimination bills, threaten the socially correct view, all Hell breaks loose. For in a society where nothing stands still, and where the hand of Heaven is not bearing down upon every shoulder on every Sunday, the only refuge for those seeking a vindication of their own philosophies as being correct is government. It is as important for us to be told by our leaders that we are the "right" kind of people in the same way that we needed to be told by our parents that we were "good" kids. The effect of such official proclamation of that which makes some people feel "correct" and "good" is very comforting to its beneficiaries. It is also politically pleasing to its administrators, if the beneficiaries are a voting majority.

So while the homosexuals cannot be denied all that some would like to deny them, they can be denied the same official protection of government that all others are entitled to. They can be forced to remain, at least "officially," illegitimate. This is precisely why Senator Jesse Helms was quick to note recently that for the first time in history, in a piece of social legislation that came before Congress, homosexuals were being noted as a protected class of individuals for the purpose of that legislation. That recognition spells, for Jesse Helms, an official recognition of homosexual as being something that some people are. And it is the fear of allowing such a recognition that prompted the Cincinnati Grand Jury to indict the gallery curator. Obviously, photographs hanging on the wall of a gallery are not a destructive influence on the community, especially when the community has already been alerted to what is hanging on the walls. It is the recognition of a lifestyle that some refuse, and actually cannot, recognize that drives homophobic hatred. Recognition means that heterosexuality is no longer the only right way to go.

An end to most of this needless hatred will come someday. The fear, which leads to anger, which leads to violence, all this will be quelled substantially. But it will happen only as more homosexuals speak up for their legitimate interests and make their reputable characters known. Heterosexual fear will yield, but like all other societal fears, it will yield very, very slowly.

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