Electricity filled the air and the crowd came alive at the First Annual Multicultural Festival at New York Law School.

The event was sponsored by the Latino (LaLSA), Hellenic (HLSA), Black (BLSA), Asian (AALSAs), and Indian-American (IALSA) Law Students’ Associations on Friday, March 31, 1995. NYLS’s Stiefel Room and Student Lounge were transformed into a mosaic of culture and entertainment. After tasting culinary delicacies representative of the different organizations, keynote speakers addressed the audience. They included the Hon. Nicholas Toucas ’51, a judge on the U.S. Court of International Trade, the Hon. Faviola Felix-Soto ’78, a New York City Criminal Court Judge and the first Dominican judge in New York State, Councilman Guillermo Linares, the first Dominican Councilman in the City of New York, Charles Guria ’86, Deputy Bureau Chief in the Kings County District Attorney’s Office, and Deborah Howard, Director of Career Services.

The speakers discussed their life experiences and the obstacles they had to overcome. The speakers also provided those in attendance with insights into the career options that are available for today’s students. These alumni serve as an example for those of us who hope to be just as successful in our chosen profession.

The evening concluded with performances of modern Greek dancing, merengue, salsa, and African spiritual dance by youth groups from the Hellenic, Latino, and African communities. Although these young performers have not yet begun fulfilling their personal dreams, all in attendance were equally impressed by their energy and cultural awareness. The young performers displayed their dancing abilities and coordination, which left the audience breathless.

This event was more than just a party; it was a celebration of the achievements that can be made through hard-work and perseverance while continuing to identify with native culture. The group of judges and lawyers who spoke included those whose parents left homelands in search of a better lot in life. At first, becoming an attorney was not a probable destiny for many of these professionals, but they followed their dreams, and seized the opportunities provided to them here at NYLS. While the evening was clearly a celebration of heritage and diversity, it was also a regale of NYLS, as well as of the city and country where it was founded. Unfortunately, only one faculty member and one dean from NYLS were present at the event. This school is a special place, for it is here that people come to learn the...
Are the Cops Out of Control? Some Say Yes, Some Say No

By Heidi Herr '97

Police Corruption. The term conjures up many images, most of them delivered to us from Hollywood. NYLS was the site of the "Police Corruption, Municipal Corruption: Cures at What Cost?" Symposium on March 30th, which offered a far clearer view of the issues involved in police corruption. The Symposium was sponsored by the Center for New York Law and the New York Law School Law Review, and featured many speakers who have been, or are, major players in the City's long-standing discourse on police corruption, law enforcement, and city governance.

Police Commissioner William Bratton made it clear that there has always been corruption - the police's involvement in stealing, drug dealing, and, and they are no worse in New York than in any other large city in the U.S. The difference between New York and other large U.S. cities is that New York has a particularly activist citizenry who are involved in all manner of good government groups who closely follow and voice their concerns about the activities of public service agencies, including the Police Department. Additionally, New York has long been and continues to be a mecca and proving ground for all types of journalists hungry for stories - police corruption makes good copy.

Investigations into police corruption in New York seem to follow a pattern. Approximately every twenty years, a committee of eminent citizens - many of them lawyers - is empowered to investigate police corruption, analyze the police culture that fostered the corruption, and make recommendations for reform. The most recent incarnation of the police corruption investigation committee was the 1992 Mollen Commission, chaired by the Honorable Milton Mollen.

Previous committee investigations found that police corruption tended to be characterized by prostitution, vice racketeering, gambling, and simply being paid to look the other way. However, today's police corruption is characterized by brutality, criminality, and an "us versus them" ("them" meaning the public) mentality. For corrupt cops, brutality is the initiation rite of passage into the bad cop "crew." Present day police corruption follows almost exclusively from the need to foster the bad cop stereotype in the public's mind, in order to help them make money - drugs, guns, and informants are the means to an end. This is the law enforcement world, as we used to think of it. In a proactive response to the problem, Commissioner Bratton has initiated a decentralization plan which will shift decision making authority to the precinct level. Through decentralization and other reforms currently taking place in the Department, including rewards for honest cops reporting on bad cops, the Department's Internal Affairs Bureau will be independent enough, the Commissioner explained, to raise the "Blue Wall of Silence" on its own.

City Council Speaker Peter Vallone disagreed. According to Speaker Vallone, the Mollen Commission recommended the independent review board precisely because it found the Police Department is not capable of conducting its own effective investigations into police corruption and prosecution of corrupt cops. Speaker Vallone said the independent review board should be a tool for citizens, civil servants, and police alike. Its non-partisan character will relieve it of the inevitable partisan policy and practice pressures that would be present if it were constantly beholden to either the Police Department or the executive branch (as in the Mayor's Office). To create an investigative review board with anything less than full independence, the Speaker believes, will have a chilling effect on citizens, while depriving the Police Department, as well as individual honest cops, of a safe place to express their concerns.

Corporation Counsel Paul Crotty opined that when the hazards of corruption arise, the healthy tension between the executive and legislative branches, and the division of power between them, must be reflected in the independent review board's composition. To reflect that apportionment of power accurately, the majority of the board's positions should be appointed by the Mayor. Crotty explained that according to the City Charter, only an amendment to the charter affected by a referendum can diminish the Mayor's executive power. The Speaker's and the City Council's version of the independent review board would amount to a curtailment of the Mayor's authority, and thus would be unconstitutional. If the City Council were to pursue such a referendum, the process would unnecessarily delay any independent review board investigation into police corruption, further demoralize the majority of honest cops in the Department, and continue to corrode public faith in the police.

After the symposium was over, Professor Ross Sandler, Director for the Center for New York City Law, said he felt the symposium reflected the continuing living debate over the separation of powers doctrine that the founding fathers began. He also added that Speaker Vallone is so completely committed to a fully independent police corruption review board that the executive's version of the board is unlikely to come to pass. Three weeks after the Symposium, the Corporation Counsel (the Mayor's lawyers) sued the City Council on behalf of the city on the basis that the City Council's version of the independent review board is unconstitutional. Stay tuned.

Nuremberg Trials Remembered

By Gloria Aguirre '95

A historic gathering at NYLS marked the 50th anniversary of the Nuremberg Trials.

The Fifth Annual Ernst C. Stiefel Symposium, sponsored by the New York Law School Journal of Human Rights, featured an impressive assembly of original Nuremberg participants, international leaders, noted jurists, human rights groups, and academics. The panels explored both past (Nuremberg) and present (the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda) human rights issues and discussed the chilling parallels.

Telford Taylor, lead prosecutor of Nazis at the Nuremberg Trials, was presented with an honorary award by Ernst C. Stiefel at this well-attended event. Other participants were Rwandan Ambassador Manzi Bakuramutsa, Yugoslavian and Rwandan war crimes prosecutor Graham Blewitt, William E. Jackson, Assistant to Justice Robert Jackson (Chief Prosecutor for the U.S. at the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg), and Juan Mendez, General Counsel of Human Rights Watch.

The Symposium was organized by NYLS Professor Ruti Teitel and NYLS Journal of Human Rights Executive Topics Editor Susan Littell. It was held on April 4, 1995, in the Stiefel Reading Room.
Editors’ Notes

As my tenure comes to a close, I reflect back on the past year. I have learned many things about my colleagues with whom I will be practicing law. I saw the changing of the grading curve and the short-lived Mona Lisa scandal, which was followed by the ever-thought provoking Valentine’s issue. Student Services, especially Helena Prigal, provided me with many challenging hurdles this past year which I have thankfully met. I guess she was just trying to build my character.

I have to thank everyone who helped make the Reporter a success this year. Thanks to Rhonda for her dedication and support, to Anjali for sticking it out and doing a superb editing job, to Josh for his invaluable help with layout, to Gloria for editing and always coming through in a bind, to Bill for coming to the rescue with his editing skills and light-hearted humor and, of course, all the rest of the staff and writers without whom the paper couldn’t be published.

Others I would like to thank are Rupi, Mike, and Jim for their ongoing support of the Reporter, Dale for helping out when we needed him, the security guards (especially Paul), Dave without whose support I wouldn’t have made it, and my family and God for supporting me and guiding me.

I’m sure Chris and Kimberly will do a great job and I wish them the best of luck. The Reporter has great potential and I urge everyone to get involved with their student newspaper.

Rekha Brahmbhatt, Outgoing Editor-in-Chief

As one administration comes to an end another one begins and the coming year should prove to be interesting. As I will be assuming the reins of this newspaper I will be asking for help from all of our faithful readers.

We will be building a new staff in the coming year and plan to do many different things but we can’t do this without your help. We will be looking for new writers, editors, and support staff.

At the present time I would like to thank the previous Editorial Board and staff for all of their assistance, wisdom and helpful insights as to what to expect. Also I would like to thank our loyal readership for letting us know how you feel about the stories we cover. I look forward to bringing this paper to you next year as we head towards the twenty-first century.

Christopher Waldron, Editor-in-Chief

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**Features**

**Movie Critic's Corner**

**By Rhonda Bassat '95**

I can't believe that this is my final review (or that I'll be taking that administrative hurdle this summer) - I can recall sitting in class and seeing all the new movies, and tried to warn you away from the real bombs while recommending the great flicks. I hope you found my opinions somewhat helpful in choosing how to spend your loan money!

This month, I went to see the oddly-titled *Kiss of Death*, which marked David Caruso's leap onto the big screen. This movie is suspenseful and interesting, but Caruso's jump may have been a bit premature. *Kiss of Death* is rated R, distributed by 20th Century Fox, and is 1 hour, 41 minutes long.

*Kiss of Death* begins with Jimmy Kilmartin (David Caruso), an ex-con, being persuaded by his cousin to drive a truckload of stolen cars through the streets of New York at night. The plan is immediately foiled by the NYPD, but in the skirmish, a cop (Samuel L. Jackson) is shot and Jimmy takes the fall. While in jail, Jimmy learns of his cousin's involvement in his wife's (Helen Hunt) death and decides to cooperate with the NYPD. In a clever move, Jimmy makes his cousin appear to have been the "rat" - letting the local crime boss Little Junior (Nicholas Cage) dispose of him. Three years later, Jimmy is paroled but coerced by the NYPD and Brooklyn D.A. into becoming a confidential informant bringing down Little Junior. From there, Jimmy gets involved with nearly every law enforcement person imaginable, tries to protect his family, sees dirty politics, and even dirtier Mafia tactics.

David Caruso and his two wives (Helen Hunt, Kathryn Erbe) are a tad too clean-cut to portray an ex-con family. Caruso could have been Det. John Kelly from NYPD Blue; his performance here was very similar - including the mumbling. Don't get me wrong, I like Caruso in *Kiss of Death* because of his charisma and general appeal. However, he needs to expand his repertoire of emotions and mannerisms. Someone who definitely does not have to work on his adaptability is Nicholas Cage. His portrayal of Little Junior was awesome! Whether bench pressing a waitress that works at his club, urging Jimmy to choose an acronym that represents himself (Little Junior's is "B.A.D.-balls, attitude, direction"), or cold-bloodedly killing a perceived threat, Cage is a realistic Mafioso in white - who says all bad guys wear black? Samuel L. Jackson, as the NYPD cop who gets shot then befriends Jimmy, put in another solid, yet understated, performance.

Barbet Schroeder, the director (whose credits include *Single White Female* and *Reversal of Fortune*), turned Richard Price's screenplay into a hard-hitting, realistic snapshot of Queens' underbelly. Unfortunately, as in *Pulp Fiction*, the women are mere theatrical devices. Schroeder's depiction of the ease with which Little Junior and his men make jokes while committing a brutal murder gives a chilling sense of their disregard for human life. Yet, the movie has some extremely funny moments as well. *Kiss of Death* is definitely not for the squeamish but is worth a look. My rating [4 gavels].

**RATING KEY**

[1 gavel] Don't be home when this movie comes on TV
[2 gavels] Be sure to catch it on HBO
[3 gavels] Definitely rent it
[4 gavels] See it at a matinee or discount movie theater
[5 gavels] Shell out the $8.00 for a first-rate movie

**Video Detour: To balance out this column, I rented **Only You**, a light-hearted, romantic comedy mainly set in beautiful Italy. This film delivered as promised - and then some! **Only You** is a 1994 movie, rated PG, is 1 hour, 48 minutes long, and is distributed by Columbia TriStar Home Video.**

**Only You** follows the exploits of a young teacher, Faith (Marisa Tomei), as she finds her destiny. As a child, Faith and her brother use an Ouija board to discover who her future husband will be. At the age of 21, she meets a man named Tom (Robert Downey, Jr.) and Faith is crushed. The movie travels through Italy and rushes to the airport with her sister-in-law, Kate (Bonnie Hunt) in tow. They meet up with the purported Mr. Bradley and Faith immediately falls in love. At a crucial moment, he tells her her real name is Peter Right (Robert Downey, Jr.) and Faith is crushed. The movie travels around Italy, adds an Italian named Giovanni (Joaquim De Almeida) for Kate, and goes through several more Mr. Bradley's and plot twists before the predictable ending.

Marisa Tomei and Robert Downey, Jr., are both talented actors who skated through this movie. They have a very good chemistry and *Only You* shows them in a favorable light. Tomei does not give another *My Cousin Vinny* performance, but it's comfortable and reassuring, if not slightly offbeat. Downey is the perennial good guy who disproves the adage. Norman Jewison, the director, put together an attractive cast, script, and setting and made an enduring film. I give *Only You* [3 gavels].

**Vladimir on Rock**

**By Vladimir Vizner '97**

*Weezer at Roseland*

If you can avoid going to Roseland, do try. This venue cares for its patrons about as much as a тимбер волк для a разведке's sheep. The experience starts with unreasonably long lines which lead to an arrogant security staff. Top to bottom, this place is one that should be avoided if at all possible. True, many of today's top acts play there so it is, in essence, nearly the only game in town. The problem is Roseland knows it. I personally consider it offensive when cans of Budweiser are sold at $4.50. Who does Roseland think it is - Yankee Stadium?

Dwayne's high school buddy calls to wish them well - you guessed it; his name is Damon Bradley. Excitedly, Faith discovers he is on a plane to Italy and rushes to the airport with her sister-in-law, Kate (Bonnie Hunt) in tow. They meet up with the purported Mr. Bradley and Faith immediately falls in love. At a crucial moment, he tells her her real name is Peter Right (Robert Downey, Jr.) and Faith is crushed. The movie travels around Italy, adds an Italian named Giovanni (Joaquim De Almeida) for Kate, and goes through several more Mr. Bradley's and plot twists before the predictable ending.

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BLSA Shines Locally and Nationally

By Valerie Armstrong-Barrows '97

It was a weekend of fun, entertainment, business, and intellectual stimulation. Plenary sessions and elections for the coming year also took place. NYLS was well represented; not only did we hold three seats on the Northeast Regional Executive Board during the 1994-1995 term (Melanie Babb '96 - Metropolitan Sub-Regional Director, Michelle Barnett '96 - Parliamentarian, and myself - Convention Coordinator), but we again won three seats on the Executive Board for the 1995-1996 term (Melanie Babb '96 - Regional Director, Sharon Tousignant '96 - Secretary, and myself - Regional Community Service Director). No other law school has managed this feat. NYLS also won the award for the Best Chapter in the Region.

The regional finals for the Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition took place during the convention. NYLS's Greg Walthall '95 and Stephanie Elmore '96 advanced to the octofinals. The competition centered on the issue of reparations. Since there is very little case law on this topic, the competition was extremely complicated and fiercely argued by the competitors. The winners were from Yale Law School. Amazingly, the best brief was written by two 1L's.

The theme for the convention was "Revitalizing and Strengthening the Black Family through Political and Economic Empowerment."

"Minister Muhammad brought several women to their feet in opposition to his statements that women should be obedient to their husbands."

"Minister Muhammad brought several women to their feet in opposition to his statements that women should be obedient to their husbands."

The Domestic Violence Panel drew large crowds, anxious to hear the lively debate from a cross-section of speakers. Newly elected Judge Cheryl Chambers, former Brooklyn D.A., Detective Lydia Martinez, N.Y.P.D. Special Project on Domestic Violence, and the Honorable Minister Conrad Muhammad, The Nation of Islam, Mosque #7, were the panelists. The discussion often became very heated. For example, Minister Muhammad brought several women to their feet in opposition to his statements that women should be obedient to their husbands. He clarified his remarks by saying, "Of course, that man must be living according to the word of God."

The other panel discussions covered Entertainment Law, Environmental Racism, and Alternative Careers. The Entertainment Law panelists were Mark Persaud, Senior Director of New Business Development for RCA; Tanya Hidelberg, Vice President of Business Affairs for MTV Networks; Octavius T. Reid III, Associate Vice President of Investment with Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc.; and Bernie Jackson '85, solo practitioner representing artists such as Nas and Mary J. Blige. The Environmental Racism panelists were Sara F. Swanson, a Superfund Lawyer and Chief of the Eastern Field Unit of the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation, and Mahiy Stanislaus, Senior Associate at Huber, Lawrence & Abell. Stanislaus left the attendees astounded with examples of government racism, including building playgrounds on top of garbage dumps in minority neighborhoods and the corporate use of cheaper, unhealthy filters in plants located in poor areas. The panel on Alternative Careers included Ronald Davenport, Jr., General Counsel of Sheridan Broadcasting Corporation, and Donna Walker-Collins, Director of Community Affairs for the New York Shakespeare Festival.

The Judicial Luncheon was an enormous success. Judge Wright brought the audience to

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MAY 1995
Multicultural Festival...

Continued from page 1

law, and to attain that to which they aspire with a reverence for the law they uphold, the people they defend, and the wealth of what they themselves have to offer. So many of us, like those distinguished members of the bar who spoke that evening, came here from somewhere else - be it from another place in geography or in life. It is from this place that we will go on, hopefully, to something promising, and to whatever else each of us aspires to accomplish. It is here and now that we have the opportunity to prepare ourselves to be professionals. Hopefully when we sit back for a moment, and ponder on who we have become and what brought us to this point, we will remember the impact this school has had upon us. And also the impact that our own wealth of culture, history, and perspectives have had upon the school.

On behalf of LaLSA, HLSA, BLSA, AALS, and IALS, we thank everyone who supported us in this first ever event, including the Student Bar Association, the Office of Student Services, Bar Brio, and the Puerto Rican Bar Association. In addition, we would like to see this joint effort contribute to the furtherance of diversity among the student body and faculty at NYLS. Finally, we hope that this annual event may bring our alumni closer to their alma mater and encourage more communication outside the classroom and offices among faculty, deans, administrators, and the students of this institution.

MAY 1995
Dear Ombudsman, As the only way we can prevent the Reporter from publishing articles by loud-mouthed megalomaniacs, like you know who?
Signed, Arbitrator of Good Taste

Dear Moral Majority, Since the Reporter can’t be prevented from publishing your stupid question, do you think the editors can stop any article from being printed? The First Amendment is what gives the Reporter the right to print almost anything, including inane comments to me. Why don’t you take this up with Nadine Strossen?
As for the other part of your question, exactly which loud-mouthed megalomaniacs are you referring to? NYLS has so many to choose from. Don’t think you can hide behind big words.

Dear Ombudsman, Where hell is going on around here? A 1L’s laptop was stolen during class and several people’s notebooks have disappeared. Is this The Paper Chase or NYLS?
Signed, Distraught & Upset

Dear Confused, There are certain classes in which not taking notes is not new. Ripping out pages from books at the library, helping yourself to smarter classmate’s notes, and telling others the wrong time for review sessions are tried and true methods for raising your GPA. But I must commend the student who stooped to an all-time low and actually committed a felony in the name of class rank. Perhaps this genius took a criminal cue from the mad Reporter dumper of the February issue. By the way, if you can’t separate reality from fantasy (The Paper Chase was fiction), you’d better return that laptop and check into Bellevue.
Signed, A Devoted Fan

Dear Ombudsman, I hear that last year’s yearbook was just published. Do you know when the ’95 yearbook will come out?
Signed, 3L

Dear Face Book Collector, I did some digging into the rumor mill to find out the answer to your question. No, Law Review was not in charge! It seems Sally Harding ran the show in the usual Office of Student Services style — slow and sophomoric. With her buddy in crime Helena Prigal, they could set the world on fire if they only had a match. Career Services should be proud! Anyway, this year’s yearbook is being directed by Bonnie Erdheim (together with the ubiquitous Harding). Go bug them.
Signed, Dear Face Book Collector

Dear Ombudsman, What’s Dominic Esposito going to do now that he’s no longer an anonal color in a few months, perhaps this genius took a criminal cue from the mad Reporter dumper of the February issue. By the way, if you can’t separate reality from fantasy (The Paper Chase was fiction), you’d better return that laptop and check into Bellevue.
Signed, A Devoted Fan

By Rhonda Bassat ’95
One-hundred students who attended the semi-formal Barrister’s Ball on April 1st were not April fooled.

The evening began with a cocktail hour in the Reading Room and then moved into the cafeteria for a buffet dinner, open bar, and dancing to tunes spun by the DJ. The two rooms were transformed with over 300 balloons, mylar table centerpieces, and white Christmas lights around the columns.

Answers for Crossword Puzzle

MAY 1995
Graduation Speaker

Commentary by Ron Gregorio ’95

It’s graduation time, which means it’s time for another controversy over who will be the student speaker at the graduation ceremony. Last year, there was a fuss-up over the deadline for submission of speech outlines. This year, the administration has decided that a committee appointed by Dean Wellington, rather than the students for whom the graduation ceremony is held, will choose our student speaker. (If last year’s fuss-up was the cause for denying us our choice, that problem certainly could be corrected with a more narrowly-tailored remedy.) Although we’ll soon be members of the bar, with the enormous power of the legal system at our disposal, we’re somehow not responsible enough or worthy enough of choosing the student speaker for our graduation ceremony.

I know from talking to many of you that most of you don’t care who speaks. After all, who listens to those boring speeches anyway? But that’s not the issue. As it is, we have little enough say in what goes on around here. At least the administration could throw us a bone and let us choose the speaker at our ceremony. After all, it is our ceremony. We’re the ones who are graduating. We’re the ones who spent fifty thousand dollars and stayed up late at night studying, working, and sacrificing in anticipation of June 12, 1995. But no, after all our hard work, the administration will not allow us to choose the speaker at our graduation.

Instead, we get a flyer with some cryptic explanation of the criteria that Dean Wellington and his hand-picked committee will use to determine who will speak. The criteria “will include the contents of the proposed speech, and results of a personal interview, if necessary, taking into account the expression of student preference.” From the little bit I’ve learned about sentence construction, using the term “include” means the criteria listed are not inclusive. Gee, could we be trusted to know what the other criteria are? I’d like to know just exactly how the Dean’s committee will decide on our speaker. Ouija board? Voodoo? Divining rod? Cash payment? Well at least they’ll take our preference “into account.” How nice of them to consider us, the graduates, the ones for whom the graduation ceremony is being given.

Then again, any other criterion couldn’t possibly be worse than the “personal interview, if necessary.” If necessary? Exactly what would necessitate a personal interview? I can’t believe Dean Wellington would want to open that can of worms. “I wasn’t selected because I’m too short, too fat, too tall, too thin, too old, too young, unattractive, poorly dressed, female, male, African-American, Asian, Latino, white, unpopular with the administration, complained about a professor, etc.”

Of course, having the students vote runs the risk of the speaker being decided based on popularity. So what’s wrong with that? If we want Joe Schmo to be our speaker because we think he’s cute, or Sue Schmoo because we think she’s nice, so be it. If our choice is based on personality, why not use sentence content, that’s our decision, and our decision concerning our speaker at our graduation should be honored. To me, a popularity contest decided by the graduates is infinitely more legitimate than the administration’s method, which, if I were cynical, I would say appears to be choosing the speaker based on one’s ability to brown-nose Dean Wellington.

This is one decision that should be ours. It’s our graduation. It’s our celebration. It’s our day. The decision rightfully belongs to us.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

From personal assassinations disguised as Cupid-grams to libelous disguised as Cupid-grams to libelous disguised as Cupid-grams to libelous disguised as Cupid-grams... letters to the Editor are recruiting. Dean Wellington, stalwart supporter of faculty censorship of student speeches, has proven to be a total moron. If the administration is sufficiently concerned with the freedom of speech, perhaps they should be more concerned about the freedom of the press. This administration has decided to suppress the freedom of the press. It’s time to tell the administration that it’s time to release the press.

Dear Editor:

Re: the Moot Court Executive Board’s comment on my article in the February issue.

I did not imply that “only Moot Court Members will be or can be successful in moot court competitions or be successful attorneys.” I simply expressed my opinion that The Moot Court Association, through the Froessell Intramural competition, is the best way to determine which students should represent the school at intermural competitions. Obviously, there are many students who are not Moot Court members who would do well in a competition, but how are we to determine who these students are, if not through a fair and open competition such as the Froessell? And it’s just downright silly to think that I or anyone else could possibly believe that only a Moot Court member could be a successful attorney.

But what really bugs me about the E-Board’s response is their view that I should have provided my article in the February issue. I was not aware that the E-Board had submitted it to the Reporter. I am appalled that the E-Board would support such censorship—especially faculty censorship—and I’m certain that the vast majority of NYLS students would also adamantly oppose faculty censorship of their newspaper.

Yours truly,

Ron Gregorio

The NYLS Students for a Better America

MAY 1995
**Moot Court Round-Up**

The NYLS Moot Court Association is proud to report that this year has been one of its most successful years ever.

In addition to winning at Seton Hall, the Association sent teams to compete in eighteen other competitions, the greatest number of competitions in which the Association has competed within a single year. NYLS advanced and/or achieved recognition in a majority of them, enhancing the overall reputation of NYLS within the legal community. The following is the major achievements of the Association this year.

For the first time in two years, NYLS won a national competition. The school sent two teams to compete in Seton Hall's John J. Gibbons National Moot Court Competition. The first team, which consisted of Jason Weisser, Shawn Draper, and Michelle Goldman, was semi-finalists. The team had the second best respondent's brief. They were defeated in the semi-final round by the other NYLS team made up of John B. Belmonte and Laurie Pagano, and coached by Carlie Draper. This team went on to compete in the semi-final round and to win the competition. They also won the best petitioner's brief and Mr. O'Hanlon won the award for best oralist.

The Pace Environmental Law team, consisting of Karen Jean Schrift, Ben Lipshitz, Ron Gregorio, and coached by Thom O'Hanlon, performed with distinction. Ms. Schrift won honors as best oralist and second best oralist in two of her preliminary rounds.

Elif Keles and Kelly Gasink were semi-finalists in Albany Law School's Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition. Ms. Keles won the award for best oralist while Ms. Gasink was the second best oralist.

Alex Jeffrey, Jennifer Lewis, and Cathy Lent, coached by Laurine Mayer, were semi-finalists at Brooklyn Law School's Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition.

Every member of this year’s Moot Court Association should be congratulated for his or her hard work and dedication. Good luck to next year’s Association as it continues the tradition of excellence in appellate advocacy.

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**CROSSW RD® Crossword**

**Edited by Stan Chess**

Puzzle Created by Richard Silvestri

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**1-DAY BAR ESSAY WORKSHOP**

Friday, July 7, 1995

"HOW TO SUCCEED ON THE NEW YORK BAR EXAM ESSAYS"

Mary Campbell Gallagher, J.D. (Harvard), Ph.D.
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MAY 1995
Gone Fishing

Commentary by Chris Waldron '97

Athletes, and the journalists that cover them, retire every year, and not many people notice. The only time people really seem to notice is when a prominent figure says that they have had enough and want to do something different with their lives - like go fishing.

However, the recent exodus of big name athletes from the sports world has had a large impact on society. Advertisers who use famous athletes to endorse their products now have to find new, younger athletes to sell their products if they want to keep the fans of that sport interested. In some situations, things have kept on going without missing a beat. Other times, companies have just used former athletes to endorse their products.

This year’s crop of retired athletes, along with their still practicing counterparts, all endorse products and do commercials. Michael Jordan had several new commercials on the air a week after he announced his comeback to the National Basketball Association. George Foreman has several television commercials (and he needs to retire again).

Recent retirees like Bo Jackson, Martina Navratolova, Rich "Goose" Gossage, and Joe Montana probably will have endorsement deals by the end of the year. Now that they have stepped down, a void has developed in sports and it needs to be filled. Sometimes there is someone who can step right in and take over for them, just like how Shaquille O’Neal took over the spotlight in the NBA after Michael Jordan retired. But more times than not it takes a long time to fill that void.

The ones that suffer from this mostly are the fans. However, this is a natural progression and eventually everyone has to retire and get on with the later part of their lives.

Eventually some of the retirees take on a semi-god status and are treated as wise old sages. Other times they are cast aside. But one thing we can not deny is the affect these athletes, or the people that cover them, have on sports.

The person that left the biggest mark on the world of sports was not an athlete. He was a man who turned in his license to practice law to cover the world of sports. His name was Howard Cosell, and when he had an opinion about the world of sports, everybody heard about it - and either hated him or loved him for it.

Cosell had his own style that sent shockwaves across the air and into every home that watched or listened to the sports he was covering. No matter whether he was thought of a hypocrite, loud mouth, know-it-all, or just a grumpy old man, you can’t deny the impact that he had on the coverage of sports in the twentieth century. His like may never be seen again. With his passing comes the end of an era, one that saw the greatness of Muhammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard, and so many more.

Cosell was a figure in sports that will be missed. His presence will be missed more so because of the stances he took, the inflammatory statements he made, and his pig-headed style.

The rest may just go fishing as their time in the sport ends, but Howard Cosell was never just like the rest. He let himself be heard even in retirement, and he always kept people thinking. That is a legacy anyone would be proud to leave in this world.

BLSA Convention...

Continued from page 5

its feet with an inspiring speech. In addition, the Welcome Dinner was highlighted by the enlightened words of Sutton, who was accompanied by community activist William Kunstler and the renowned Dr. Betty Shabazz, who is a professor at Medgar Evers College and is the widow of slain leader Malcolm X. In addition, Rep. Rangel spoke at the Regional Luncheon. The evening ended in a Barrister’s Ball flavored by the sounds of the Slam Clinic Band from the Village’s Cafe Wha’. It was definitely a funk night jam!

The crowning glory of the convention was the Prayer Breakfast on Sunday morning. The sounds of Gospel, delivered by NYLS’s Lennon Edwards’ ’96 group Simply Mystique and the Peace, Hope and Love Ensemble from Crawford United Methodist Church filtered through the air. They were followed by the inspirational words of Rev. Sharpton, who blessed us, challenged us, and enlightened us. The afternoon was highlighted by the wonderful grace of sacred dance presented by the Imani Dancers of Crawford U.M.C. (My daughter, Shebra Edwards, is one of the talented dancers.)

NYLS BLSA went to the National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, in March where NYLS again came out on top. All of the 250 plus chapters of National BLSA met for several days to take care of business. By the end, they had elected NYLS’s own Michelle Barnett ’96, as National Chairperson of BLSA. She will chair the entire organization of BLSA chapters located in every law school throughout the United States. She will also hold seats on the executive board of several bar and legal associations.

BLSA, a national organization with chapters throughout the United States, is about to celebrate its 29th anniversary. The organization’s goals are to support the Black community, enlighten the legal community, and encourage and assist in the furtherance of education.
Congratulations
To The Class of 1995

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