NYLS Hosts Wagner Competition

By Scott Batterman

The fourth annual Robert F. Wagner Labor Law Moot Court Competition was won by a team from Rutgers-Camden University School of Law. Arguing before a bench composed of Hon. Leonard L. Garth, United States Circuit Judge from the Third Circuit; Hon. David N. Edelstein, Chief Judge, Southern District of New York; and Hon. John C. Truesdale, Member, National Labor Relations Board, the Rutgers-Camden team narrowly beat out its competition from St. John's University School of Law.

The competition drew 53 teams, representing 57 law schools across the country. It was organized by the Wagner Moot Court Committee, instead of the Moot Court Executive Board. This was done to avoid any appearance of impropriety because the Executive Board both chose and reached the Twisty's for the competition. One of those teams—John Kuttz, Petro Stawnych, and Vincent O'Hara—advanced to the quarterfinals.

All parties agreed that the Wagner Committee—Gerard L. Grow, Shelley S. Kehl, Marc Z. Kramer, Thomas J. Lynch, Michael, Marilyn, Shaun P. McGeeva, and David S. Pollack—did an outstanding job of running the competition.

Competition Problem

The problem chosen for the competition was a difficult, multifaceted one, involving three major issues: 1. Are intern and residents at a teaching hospital "employees" within the meaning of the National Labor Relations Act, and thus covered by the Act, or are they merely students and therefore exempt? 2. Are the clinical faculty at such a hospital "employees," or are they exempt as supervisors or managers? The Supreme Court, in its recent New York v. Yeshiva University case, decided that they were exempt, which forced the Wagner Committee to send letters to all the competitors stating that, for the purposes of the competition, the Yeshiva decision would be considered a decision by the "Twentieth Circuit Court of Appeals." If these people were not employees, they argued, they were not exempt from picketing for recognition by management as a union, when §8(b)(4)(C) of the Act only recognizes picketing by "employees." The ten finalists overcame Albany Law School and Fordham Law School to reach the finals. Afterward, they and the spectators and judges retired to the Froyesel Library, where a reception was held and honored announcements.

On hand for the awards ceremony was Hon. Robert F. Wagner III, Deputy Mayor of the City of New York and grandson of Senator Wagner, the NYLS graduate who sponsored the National Labor Relations Act.

Winning team from Rutgers-Camden University.

Women's Conference Meets on West Coast

By Soledad Rubert

Six NYLS students attended the Eleventh National Conference on Women and the Law held in San Francisco, February 28th to March 2nd. The gathering, organized this year by Golden Gate University, attracted about 2,500 people including lawyers, legal workers, students, and others from all over the country.

Local participants included Carol Bass, Susan Russell, Lisa Rubel, Dorothy Baratta, Carol Schlein, and this reporter.

Purposes

The purpose of the yearly conference is to provide a forum for discussion of women's legal issues. In addition, participants assess progress made in the field since the First National Conference was held in 1969 at New York University Law School, where about 50 women gathered.

The program began Friday morning with a choice of 25 different panel discussions, led by people known nationally and regionally for their expertise and leadership. Key topics included Negotiations, Drafting and Enforcement of Title VII Settlements, and Representing the Woman Artist.

In the evening, participants had the choice of listening to one of two keynote speakers or simply enjoying the sights of San Francisco. Sara Nelson spoke on the political and legal significance of the Karen Silkwood public education and litigation effort. Karen Silkwood was a woman who was attempting to expose a nuclear plant's alleged safety violations and who died tragically on her way to meet reporters with evidence of such violations. Ms. Nelson was one of the two women who launched the Karen Silkwood Public Campaign in 1975.

The keynote speaker was Eva Paterson, a civil rights attorney in San Francisco, who gave an overview of the human rights movement and addressed the question of how women's movement fits in this greater perspective.

Saturday's program ran from 8:30 am until 6:00 pm. Diverse and numerous topics were tied together by a common theme of women getting together to assert their position in the legal system.

After two panel discussions on Sunday morning, a wrap-up session concluded the activities. The major criticism voiced by the participants was the apparent lack of unity. While the panels were well prepared and informative, there was a lack of interaction among the participants. Many attended the panel discussions, listened, and then left to socialize with their friends.

Plans for next year

Next year the event comes to the East Coast, as five Boston schools join to organize the Twelfth National Conference on Women and the Law. The location of the conference changes yearly so that women from different parts of the country have the opportunity to participate both as panelsists and audience.

Winning team from Rutgers-Camden University.

Indian Issues Explored

By Joyce Meisser

Despite the driving rain and fierce wind that devastated many umbrellas, the Symposium on Indian Law held at New York Law School on Saturday, March 22nd was quite a success. Two hundred people attended the symposium, which was the second conference of its kind, with key note speaker was Eva Paterson, a civil rights attorney in San Francisco, who gave an overview of the human rights movement and addressed the question of how women's movement fits in this greater perspective.

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**Cornell Captures Harlan**

By Linda Crawford

The final round of the 1980 John M. Harlan Moot Court Competition was held March 26th at New York Law School. Henry Cornell (’81) took the award for Best Oralist, while Best Brief honors went to Robert Salvia (MYA ’82).

The Harlan Competition, named for the former Supreme Court Associate Justice who graduated from NYLS in 1924, is an annual event at the school. Thirty-six students entered the competition in early March, and eight were selected for the semi-finals. The final round of arguments pitted Cornell and Salvia against Margaret Enloe (MYA ’82) and Diedrich Heinzwole (’83).

The case, United States v. Makalo, involved issues concerning the nature of knowing and voluntary waiver, the use of casual conversation as an interrogation device, and the applicability of the exclusivity rule to evidence obtained by a private citizen’s group. Hon. Mary Johnson Lowe, Hon. Charles E. Stewart, Jr., and Robert B. Fiske, Jr., Esq., presided.

The verdict was announced at a wine and cheese reception that followed the arguments. The NYLS national team of Cornell, Heinzwole, and Salvia was named at that time, and they will compete in the prestigious National Moot Court Competition next fall.

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**Phi Delta Phi Honors Prof Lang**

By Svetlana V. Petroff

The Dwight Inn chapter of Phi Delta Phi will host its Annual Spring Awards Dinner on Tuesday, May 20th, at Rossoff’s 1980 Restaurant. The Inn membership votes each year to choose the faculty member who will be honored at the dinner as the Ira Stone Professor of the Year. Phi Delta Phi is pleased to announce that Professor Kim Lang is this year’s recipient of the award. Honorary memberships in the fraternity have been extended to Dean William Bruce and Judge Edward Re.

The winner of the Franklin C. Setaro School Spirit and Service Award will also be announced at the dinner. Traditionally, the award is conferred upon a graduating student for notable service to law school community life. Initiation of new members who joined the fraternity this spring and installation of officers for 1980-1981 will cap off the evening.

Rossoff’s is located at 147 W. 49th Street. Tickets to the dinner cost $15 per person; checks should be made payable to Dwight Inn—Phi Delta Phi. Cocktails will begin at 6 pm, with dinner to follow.

Phi Delta Phi also wishes to remind those who ordered fraternity T-shirts that they are now available in the 2nd floor office.

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**Consumer Center of Lower Manhattan**

by Mark Astarita

In order to extend its services to a larger portion of the community, the Center has established an outside speaker program. Staff members will be addressing various public schools, colleges and community organizations on the functions of the Center and the most effective ways to solve consumer complaints. The Center is presently involved in expanding its media relations so that it can receive a greater variety of complaints. At present the Center receives many of its complaints from Channel 7, Eyewitness News. Other TV and radio stations are expected to soon follow.

In pursuit of more effective consumer help, the Center is hoping to enlist the aid of NYLS alumni. This assistance could be in either an advisory capacity, or as a source where consumers can pursue those complaints which go beyond the Center’s capabilities. Any alumna wishing to become involved in these activities is urged to contact Bruce Klein at the Center—Room 308, 47 Worth St. or by phone—966-7540.

The Center also wishes to have more students gain the legal and practical experience which comes with working at the Center. Students who wish to volunteer a few hours of their time are asked to contact the Center as soon as possible, so that training sessions can be arranged.

The Center is always interested in helping any consumer with almost any complaint, and problems should be written or phoned to the Center as they arise.

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Bermuda - A Shining Success

Charles Sturken, Danny Blumenstein, and Anthony Scanlon

By Danny Blumenstein

How to spend $0.00 a day on a Bermuda holiday and love it? First, win an all-expenses-paid trip for two to Bermuda sponsored by the International Law Society and the SBA.

Second, schedule the trip during "college week" in Bermuda. Third, bring a smile and suntan lotion.

To all of those who didn't buy tickets, tough luck. To those of you who bought tickets, I'd like to thank you for supporting the Review. We would not have been able to accept the position without the support of his wife, who is clearly making a sacrifice.

Student Work Sought

Morganteen would like to see materials submitted from the general student body, not just members of the Review. There are a lot of fine legal writers in the general student population, and we would like to take advantage of their talents.

Richard Giles, the new Managing Editor, sees himself as an administrator who has more room to be creative than does the Editor-in-Chief. Giles will be in charge of organizing "cite and substantiate" teams, assigning articles to particular editors, managing the activities of Law Review candidates, and in general seeing to it that the day-to-day functioning of the Review is smooth. Giles also expressed a desire to change the image of the Review by having greater interaction between the Review's editorial staff and the student body in the Review's "college week." He also expressed a desire to work on the Review's "college week," which meant organizing the party. He also expressed a desire to change the image of the Review by having greater interaction between the Review's editorial staff and the student body in the Review's "college week." 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High Schoolers Learn the Truth About Law School

By Mark Conrad

One of the major problems with the American legal system is that young people have a limited exposure to the law — when they are caught violating it. However, NYLS students Toni Brandmull and Chuck Ross, who are participants in the Street Law Clinic, have worked on a project to orient high school students to our legal system.

The hypothetical case, In the Matter of Jesse E., was heard in Family Court to determine whether a juvenile was a person in need of supervision (PINS) and should therefore be placed in an institution. The students were to prepare a mock trial dealing with a family law problem. Each of the young people was involved in some aspect of the trial, which was staged at NYLS on March 25th.

The high school students were part of a special program called "Justice Hughes," which serves as an introduction to law and law enforcement. The students, in addition to working on the mock trial, have taken courses in criminology and psychology. Rita Coren, an Assistant Principal at Charles Evans Hughes High School, remarked that this program is "not only a motivation for the students to go into law, but it gives them a feeling of what is right as against what is wrong." At least these young people were able to learn about the law by a positive experience, rather than a negative one.

Women Students Attend Conference

(continued from page one)

Since the first conference was held in 1969 it has grown in size and in the objectives sought. The goal of the first conference was to establish an informal network for women in law and to encourage women to pursue legal careers. More recently, the conference has become a forum for a comprehensive examination of women's current status within the American legal system.

Prof. Kim M. Lang

as the Ira Stone Professor of the Year

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Dwight Inn of Phi Delta Phi
Henry Cornell and Dierdre Heatwole

By Scott Batterman

The outgoing Moot Court Executive Board has selected the membership of the 1980-81 Executive Board. Joining National Team Members Henry Cornell, Deidre Heatwole and Robert Salvia on the new Board will be EQUITAS Advertising Manager Mark Astaria, Quentin Atherly, Margaret Enloe, Barbara Farr, Sharon Herrnstadt, Louise Horowitz, Gary Lindroth, Edward Penn, Svetlana Petroff, Margaret Sandrock, Petro Stawnychy and Erik Vesi.

Labor Law Competition...

(continued from page one)

The new Board Members will join three returning members, Robert Conroy, Bert Orenz and Shelley Rossoff, all members of the NYLS Class of January 1981, in carrying out the Board's duties: conducting the first year oral argument requirement; running the two intramural competitions; and generally enhancing the role of oral advocacy at NYLS. The Board has made good fortune in carrying out its role.

Would a Heartless World Be Different?

By James Frankie

It struck without notice. It defied all logic. A mysterious object descended from the sky, and the particles it released savagely attacked the human chest cavity and engulfed the heart. Only the heartless remained. The lawyers survived. Some precocious law students survived. Most members of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lawyer's Guild survived. Research and investigation revealed that although these groups were found to possess hearts, their hearts were often in the wrong place and thus were unaffected when the mysterious particles attacked. Those who remained were faced with the task of reconstructing a civilization.

It was soon realized that various jobs needed to be filled. If the world were to continue, not everyone could be a lawyer. Someone had to do something. The law students who became lawyers, now a rather undesirable profession. Doctors were needed, but heart specialists were not. Countless other jobs were quickly filled. There were plumbers, farmers, I.R.S. auditors, frankfurter pushcart men, electricians, firemen, Park Avenue nannies, architects, entertainers, bag people, three card monte dealers, pilots, and public officials. All took up the task before them, yet things did not seem the same. Both blue-collar and white-collar workers went to work in navy pinstripe suits. Everybody, even the bag people, carried their lunches in brown leather attache cases. In the evening, everyone came home and pretended to enjoy watching television on Channel 13. Religious freedom was staunchly defended, yet no religions existed.

Finally the people realized a need to enjoy themselves. The major form of entertainment became pun concerts. Hours of nonstop puns were their trademarks. The profession grew into a most lucrative field. Admission to pun school became almost impossible (unless you came from a family with boring influential uncles). As time passed, other fields grew. As they did, the need for their regulation developed. Lawyers were the obvious choice to assume this supervisory function. They soon rose like yeast to prominence once again. It was not long before they were again equated with whales; no doubt this view was based on the rebuttable presumption that both lie for a living.
Don Quixote Sallies to NYLS

Look out Toto Scanlon, they got your act together and put it on stage at Murray Bergtraum High School on March 29th, 1980.

Billed as the “Impossible Dream,” a takeoff of “The Man of La Mancha,” the Third Second Annual NYLS Revue spoofed our illustrious administration. In the starring roles of Don Quixote and his able assistant Sancho were Clifford Green, as E. Don Shapiro, Dean of the Law School, and Louis Atlas, as Toto Scanlon. Together the pair traveled the highways of NYLS.

The story unfolded as a soon-to-be student received his acceptance and ended at a mock graduation.

The characters, Toto Scanlon and E. Don Shapiro, served as the vehicles for allowing the rest of the cast to do their thing.

Among the notable numbers was Louis Atlas’ rendition of “NYLS” supported by the Village Plaintiffs — Marty Brundon, Bob Cherofsky, and Bob Drake — and backed up by The Band. The group danced their way through the song “YMCA,” sung with certain lyric changes to fit the theme of the show.

A second rousing number was “Law School Vision.” The sketch, written by Cliff Green, was an adaptation of the song “Bandstand.” Once again the lyrics were altered to fit the theme. The number was belted out by Ellen Badler, backed up by the swinging sounds of NYLS’s Band.

The finale brought the whole ensemble onto the stage, led by last year’s beloved Blues Brothers, Jim Flannigan and Cliff Green.

A riotous cast party, organized by Sharon Herrnstadt, was held after the show. Both cast and audience attended. “It was one of the best parties I’ve been to since I started law school,” raved Mark Astaria, EQUITAS Advertising Manager.

The Third Second Annual NYLS Law Revue can be easily classified as the best. The show moved away from its previous state. Hal Hernstadt, was executed satire of this noble institution.

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Debate: Life and Death at NYLS

This being the last column exhibiting their sterling repartee, our two legal legends have chosen to take one more retrospective look at this beloved institution. P. Cornelius Wheezie, remaining consistent to the end, concludes that there is merit to be found in the administration’s methods, while Zip A. Deedohah, as usual, disagrees and finds that it is the students themselves, with the help of an occasionally sympathetic faculty member, who makes the time spent here bearable.

My Dear Zip,

This will be my last attempt to lead you away from the path to intellectual destruction that you so eagerly follow. Let me remind you of a delightful stroll we took through the halls of our alma mater, NYLS. There we met a variety of intriguing students whose stories can only warm the cockles of your heart and put a smile on that otherwise expressionless face. (I fear I ask too much.)

We began by making our way toward the splendor of the Freeses Law Library. There, carefully placing a razor blade back into his billfold, was our first student, Elmo. His story is an education in finance. For when the bank mistakenly bounced his tuition check, the school immediately informed him that he would be asked to depart; it was his problem; and that no aspiring law student should ever commit such a heinous act. At first he grieved (as did I when I related his tale of woe), but then he realized that it was only the immortal leader’s way of teaching him a lesson. Moral?—Pay cash or a personal check to your favorite dean.

Now, as we descended further in the venerable “A” building into our majestic international law library, we met our second student, Herbert. His fellow students call him “Splash.” We found him with arms and legs tethered to the shelves while tiny creatures in pinstripe suits read him Keats’ Law Dictionary, Vol. 2, from cover to cover, 24 hours a day. The reason? Another lesson. It seems Splash was recently seen emptying the contents of his beer can onto the floor. Unfortunately, he forgot to see if anyone was standing there. It was Dean Roll-on. But, with a reserve characteristic of our indomitable leaders, he was only asked to partake of the above-described activity. Surely it will help us all grow together. The moral: if you’re going to empty something, make it a steam shovel.

The last student we spoke to was seated high up on the roof of “A.” Somewhat dazed, he was repeating a long list of names he had etched for his bell curve no matter how you go about it. It was Dean Roll-on. But, with a reserve characteristic of our indomitable leaders, he was only asked to partake of the above-described activity. Surely it will help us all grow together. The moral: if you’re going to empty something, make it a steam shovel.

I was confused. Who could possibly have given their lives at NYLS? Was itSplash? Was it Herbert? Was it Dean Roll-on? Or was it someone else? I had no idea. But I do know that life at NYLS is indeed a puzzling question in and of itself. Never the less, I find that, once again, I must leave you with a few words of advice.

My dear P, you have once again missed every point, including the one that lies between your ears. Survival at NYLS lies not within the walls of the 2nd and 5th floors of good old “A,” but rather in the friendships developed and the bonds created between students (and an occasional faculty member) as they face their common enemy—law school education.

So, my old and somewhat dilapidated friend, until we meet again on the unemployment lines of tomorrow, I bid you a fond farewell.

Yours, 
P.
To the Editor:

In response to the letter to the Editor of EQUITAS, I would like to add a few relevant and overwrought comments.

How dare the students of NYLS attack the man who supports the addition of hundreds of our fellow Americans. Mr. Graifman must surely realize that our great nation — our very system of government — was built upon junk food. To castigate a loyal American for supporting the very foundations of our great society is not only crude, malicious and unethical, but is absolutely un-American. Whereupon would this great nation be without junk and sugar? Our generation, with its insatiable desire for a bit of sweetness, has supported every great corporation from General Mills to Drakes for the last 25 years. Many of us know no other way of life; we grew up on Fruit Loops, moved on to Swiss Rolls and are presently gorging ourselves on those delicious and non-nutritious French Crepes.

We, the loyal members of L.S.S.T. (Law Students with Sweet Teeth) call upon all of our fellow students to bite down on this revolutionary movement: Mr. Graifman is attempting to start, Gil, and all loyal Americans, deserve our full support and backing in these trying times. Sure, Gil has stayed away from the flock in the past, but he is trying to come in line and with our help he will surely succeed. If you really want to try to sell apples, did we buy them? NO! Those sickeningly healthy apples sat and rotted! Last year when Gil had another moment of insanity, and stocked his counters with funny little dried fruits and nuts, we arose again and struck him down. — Gil and his fruits and nuts flat and dried and got drier, but we never, never gave in and bought them. Victory was again ours when he was forced to send them the way of the apples.

And now this weird movement has started again, and we shall overcome it once again. Sure Gil has had his lapses and his failures, the school of John Doe has taking up space, Gil had another moment of insanity, and stocked his counters with funny little dried fruits and nuts, we arose again and struck him down. — Gil and his fruits and nuts flat and dried and got drier, but we never, never gave in and bought them. Victory was again ours when he was forced to send them the way of the apples.

To the Editor:

To everyone who helped make the "Third Annual Law Review" successful it was: New York Law School, the Student Bar Association, Phi Delta Phi, cast, crew, band, audience, and Section A '80.

THANK YOU!

Martin Brandon

To the Editor:

Answers and Counterclaims

Office. You are seated. In front of you, behind a desk is The Examiner, a young man with an affable smile. To your left and slightly out of your view is The Examiner’s assistant. Her purpose is to act as a polygraph. She will observe you throughout the session in order to detect signs of nervousness which imputed diabolism. The questions begin. Cornally they all relate to an acquaintance of yours, John Doe. You are asked if Mr. Doe engaged in any unusual behavior on a certain date and if you observed him disobeying the Law on the date. Your answers are to these and similar questions. You had no idea that John Doe was a criminal, but now you think differently. The session ends and you are ushered out without any explanation of why you were asked these questions. You feel sorry for John Doe, but he apparently brought this on himself or why? They ask these questions.

You realize that you will never find out what really happened; they will perform in secret. You will, however, know that when John Doe does not come to work one morning, the case has been closed, for they operate at night.

If you think the above is a scene from Stanley Rabinoff, you are probably right. If you think the above is not New York Law School, you are definitely wrong. The Examiner is Dean Scanlon, the assistant Mrs. Corrie, and John Doe is a student. The alleged crime is cheating.

Apparently a rumor had circulated that John Doe cheated on a final. There is no evidence of cheating by John Doe other than rumor and bold accusations. Hard evidence cast doubt on whether there was such an investigation. Rather than step up scrutiny during future exams in order to catch cheaters in the set, the Administration has decided to engage in trial by rumor and character assassination of those suspected. This has been accomplished by the wholesale questioning of all the members of John Doe’s class.

Merely by asking each member of the class questions concerning John, the Administration has destroyed John Doe’s reputation with the people with whom he has to interact. This has been done regardless of whether John actually cheated or not. New York Law School has sunk to the level of the Russian ‘Red Scares’. Some students in their zeal to become judges or gate-keepers of the public and professional morals seem to have seized this opportunity to flex their budding talents. I think we shall all be the ones to suffer as victims in this case.

The issue, as seen by myself and other members of the class is whether a student is entitled to any of the protections accorded to any other person. My question may be in fear of a knock on the door. Is it proper for the Administration to engage in character assassination thereby destroying a student’s reputation and emotional stability? We think not. Everyone, even a law student, should be entitled to the freedom from trial by rumor.

It is important to remember that John Doe was not caught cheating. It was only after several of John Doe’s “friends” complained that they had noticed John cheating, that the Administration began the process of interrogation. If mere complaints by a few people can lead to the Administration’s wholesale questioning of an entire class concerning a student’s behavior, we had all better be sure not to rub anyone the wrong way. Regardless of the truth of the complaints, the effect of the investigation.

Buona Fortuna

This is both a happy and sad time for us as the new editors of EQUITAS. Putting out our first issue of the paper is an exhilarating, albeit nerve-wracking, experience. But it also means having to say goodbye to some very special people — the graduating editors of EQUITAS.

While we are genuinely happy for them that their ordeal is at an end and in record time — and for being especially, to the graduating editors, and especially to the entire class of 1980.

We appreciate the valuable contributions of the outgoing members, and we wish them well in their future endeavors. We would also like to express our gratitude to the staff of EQUITAS for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

A Job Well Done?

We extend our thanks and congratulations to the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for the registration packet distributed several weeks ago. The inclusion of the “Spring 1981 Projected Elective Course Offerings” is of enormous help to those of us who must attempt to juggle required courses, desired electives, work plans, and personal life (for those of us who have any of that left).

We hope that the “projected” course offerings will, in fact, come to be as they are currently listed. The benefit of having schedules for both semesters would obviously be curtailed if students plan their Fall and Spring schedules simultaneously, only to find out too late that certain courses have been dropped.

Dorothy Zeman
Editor-in-Chief

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EQUITAS is printed monthly during the school year by and for the students, faculty and alumni of New York Law School. Signed articles represent the views of the authors. Unsigned articles represent the views of the editorial board. Although EQUITAS strives to have a policy of responsible advertising we do not solicit for the accuracy of our advertisers.

Letters and other correspondence should be addressed to: The Editors, EQUITAS, 10013 Worth Street, New York, N.Y. 10013. Telephone: (212) 966-3000, ext. 747 or 468. EQUITAS reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for space requirements.

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Answers and Counterclaims (continued from page eight)

The implications that flow from a charge of cheating demand that there be actual evidence of cheating before any action is taken. In addition, any action taken should not be shrouded in secrecy. In the instant case, the Administration's efforts appear to have afforded the accusers and finger-pointers far more protection than the accused. The baseless character assassination that the Administration has engaged in should not be permitted to occur again.

Will Kirchofer

To the Editor:

I am writing to you to express my anger at the Law School's mailgram "alibi" threatening students with expulsion if they do not pay their tuition by April 1st. It is my opinion that if a student does not receive all of his grades the institution has not met its affirmative responsibilities. Timely notice of grades is often important to evening students who receive tuition rejections from their employers only when the employer has received a full set of grades from the preceding semester.

Instead of spending my tuition money to pay for mailgrams, the school should look for ways to reduce tuition and cut wasteful spending. A regular first class letter could have been sent for a fraction of the cost.

Perhaps NYLS students, drawing from their peers with relevant work experience, could assist the administration by conducting a management-type audit of the school's administrative operations. If a Pest-Marwick-Mitchell type audit is initiated, the school may become more able to effectively utilize scarce resources for the benefit of students and faculty.

Peet-Marwick-Mitchell type audit is initiated, the school may become even more able to effectively utilize scarce resources for the benefit of students and faculty.

Hopefully,
Brian Kanzaki
To the Editor:

The Wagner Moot Court Committee would like to share with the law school community the expressions of congratulations received at the conclusion of this year's Wagner Competition. The students, administration and faculty who gave their time were primarily responsible for the smooth operation of one of the largest moot court competitions in the country, and should be congratulated for a well-run project.

The Committee owes special thanks to the many students who served in the front lines as clerk-timekeepers, and to Phil King, Joanne Reske and Pam Landberg of the NYLS administration. Thanks are also owed to Dean Bill Bruce for his unfailing confidence and support, Financier Arnold Graham for his help and cooperation and to Administrative Assistant Gill Kashiwabara for never giving up on us. Included in our list of supporters are Adjunct Professors Marshall Lippman, Ed Bennett and Phil Ruffo in drafting the fact pattern was also critical to the competition's success.

Thanks again, and congratulations for an outstanding job and a successful competition.

Yours truly,
Thomas Lynch
For the Wagner Committee

Insider's View

Political Organizing

By Edward Lopez and Howard Jordan

Attorney Ramon Jimenez is presently a co-founder of The Coalition in Defense of Puerto Rican and Hispanic Rights. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School, and has taught at Hostos Community College, York College, New York University Law School, and Rutgers Law School. Jimenez has been the object of numerous criticisms by Mayor Koch for his affiliation with the Administration’s “notorious” Moot Court. In 1979, Mayor Koch filed charges with the American Bar Association, alleging that Jimenez has misused legal process by serving him with a “people’s subpoena.” Jimenez and the coalition were more recently involved in a confrontation with the Mayor over the holding of a Town Hall Meeting in the South Bronx. The following excerpts provide some insight into Jimenez’s views on the role of lawyers in “grassroots” community organizing.

Q: Can you explain how a law school education affects one’s ability to organize politically?

J: Many people do not survive the law school experience in a positive fashion. Often people come from the same class and ethnic background as myself, graduate from law school, and become “professional.” A “professional” in legal terms is a person who has a job that pays the bills, has a family, and does not have time to do anything else. The law school experience, escape this kind of life, and the most important thing that lawyers do in political movements is that when one is aware of something that needs to be done, one is expected not to spend time on hypothetical cases, but to move into the real case. When you become a lawyer, you help a community organize. They abandon their politics and activism and become lawyers. Lawyers must combine the skills of a legal technician with an understanding that they must play a greater part in the movement for social change. Lawyers that don’t see the political side of law serve to disorganize people. Laws change in accordance with the level of community organizing. For example, the Civil Rights Acts were concessions made as a result of organized movement by people. The legal community must realize this.

Q: What did you, in your law school experience, escape this kind of life?

J: When I went to Harvard Law School, the class difference between myself and the other students was very clear. Eighty-five percent of the student population were “WASP.” You were clearly excluded from their circles. I also chose to isolate myself from the “Harvard experience” and became involved in student organizing and political study. It was in my first year of law school that I was most expelled for refusing to do Moot Court. I had a friend in prison who had an appeal pending. He wanted me to work on his appeal, so I told my professor that I would rather work on a real case than spend time researching 5 or 6 weeks on a hypothetical case. Law schools, instead of making students spend time on hypothetical cases, should permit students to work on real cases. The professor eventually agreed with me and we formulated an alternative program.

Another reason why I preserved my political awareness is that I had a sense of where I was at politically before entering law school. My mother worked in a garment factory for $120 a week. When Rockefeller buys a bed for $37,000 while my mother in 10 years made about $37,000, it symbolizes to me the inequities of the society. When I went to law school, I was trained to control the society and why. I also recognized that nothing could stop me from organizing to help my people.

Q: After Mayor Koch announced the closing of Hostos Community College - the first bilingual college in the United States - you became involved in a campaign to save the college. What was your involvement in this confrontation with the city Administration?

J: When I was teaching at Hostos, I was involved in student struggles for acquiring quality faculty and increasing financial aid for students. In this area, my legal education helped in bringing my acquired knowledge to bear on certain problems concerning the closing of the college. These problems included, for example, challenging an injunction after we had occupied the college as a form of protest over budget cuts.

In the campaign to save Hostos, we also managed to form a broad coalition involving such political groups as ex-Deputy Mayor Herman Badillo and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. We did this by trying to educate the people as to the importance of political unity in these historic times. Historic unity in certain times is not strange to our people’s history. However, in our communities certain people that should work together fail to do so. Hostos symbolized the importance of political leadership. The city, working in unison around basic rights and issues confronting Puerto Ricans in the United States.

Q: Did this campaign to save Hostos Community College result in court actions?

J: I represented several people arrested in campus actions. I was also one of 20 people who were arrested during one of the “takeovers.” My philosophy from a study of different political movements is that when one is aware of something that needs to be done, one must be sure that the protesters are willing to be arrested. When there are mass arrests, havoc is created in the legal process. The court is not ready to handle 40 defendants who took over a school or blocked traffic for 3 or 4 hours. If every one of them asks for a separate trial with a separate lawyer, it would create total chaos. When the Hofstra campus protesters were arrested, we knew in advance of the court hearing.

We also knew who was going to stay in the buildings. The court had to dismiss the charges against us on the basis of negotiations to avoid clogging up the court calendar. Most people received an ACD - adjournment in contemplation of dismissal.

Q: Upon leaving Hostos, you initiated a campaign to unionize housekeepers in Morsania Community Corporation and the South Bronx Community Corporation. How did your legal experience help in this unionization movement?

J: Through my understanding of the right of the worker to organize, I was able to prevent the Morsania Corporation from violating this right. We also gave classes to the women on how to negotiate a labor contract. These women were highly committed people. To avoid a "J. P. Stevens" being used to avoid unionization, they held the Board of Directors of Morsania hostage in their offices until they won a demand for an...
Insider's View Con't...

(continued from page nine)

election. Unfortunately, after the women had won the right to unionize, the City closed Morisania. But as a result of the publicity and organizing from this movement, 4 - 5,000 housekeepers organized a union in the South Bronx. They were able to stop the women at Morisania, but were not able to stop the movement for unionization.

Q: After the completion of this unionization movement, why did you run for State Senator from the Bronx?

J: I feel that it is important to have progressive, independent voices in electoral offices. Unfortunately, the Bronx political machine is controlled by Stanley Friedman, Chairman of the Democratic Party in the Bronx. Second in this hierarchy is Vice-Chairman Pat Cunningham. Most Puerto Rican politicians are tied to this machine. They may be very good "guys," but they are carbon copies of other politicians. They offer no alternatives and simply trade off their votes. I studied politicians like Vito Marcantonio and Congressman Ronald Dellums of California, and thought it important to create a different style of electoral politics where a politician would be an instrument for people organizing. I wanted to develop concrete alternatives, like taxing bank profits, public takeover of Con Edison, and increasing revenues by terminating the J-51 program, which creates tax abatements for commercial buildings in New York City. Though I lost the election, I would have used all the resources of my office to help develop a wide coalition to deal with the City's fiscal crisis.

Q: How did your involvement begin with the Coalition in Defense of Puerto Rican and Hispanic Rights?

J: We formed the coalition to challenge the fiscal crisis, the closing of hospitals and schools, and the violation of our civil rights. We have six chapters throughout the state, in each chapter organizes around the respective problems of the local community. We felt that the Mayor was alienating the minority population by accusing them of being at heart of the city's problems. He is disrespectful of the city's minority population. Thus, one area that we organize around is police brutality, which we feel is directly tied to the atmosphere created by the Mayor's actions create a situation where the police feel that they can brutalize community residents with impunity.

Our organization has also built a united front with some unions and community organizations to develop alternative budgets for the city. In essence, we are trying to develop a alternative to the taxbacks.

The Mayor of New York has Fall brought charges against you with the American Bar Association. What prompted these charges?

Q: We issued to the Mayor a subpoena to attend a hearing where there would be a fair trial for the charges. The Mayor, instead of attending the meeting, pressed charges against me and another attorney alleging misuse of the legal funds, and I, in turn, had some appearance of a legal subpoena, but the title read "The People's Court of the Bronx." Any reasonable person could have seen that it was not a legal subpoena. During the American Revolution, the people subpoened the Tories in mock trials, which was considered legal. The people also subpoened President Nixon during the Peoples' Impeachment of Nixon. My actions were clearly within the First Amendment. I believe the Mayor's actions to engage in symbolic speech. After the charges were filed, the ACLU, NAACP, and other organizations announced their support for me and demanded a dismissal of the charges. Their support, along with letter campaigns and petitions, led to the dropping of the charges by the ABA. The filing of charges against me was a fascist move by Mayor Koch, who is obviously unaware of the Bill of Rights.

The Mayor's actions in Puerto Rican and Hispanic Rights recently invoked the anger of the Mayor by preventing him from speaking at a Town Hall Meeting in the South Bronx. Why did the coalition take this action?

J: We have attended Mayor Koch's Town Hall Meetings before. Koch's Town Hall Meetings are a misnomer. Before the meeting in question, Koch had announced the closing of 20 schools and a budget cut of $30 million. He was acting like a slave master who, after whipping his slaves, returns a few days later to ask "How're doing?" We did not go to the meeting with the specific intention of stopping him from speaking. When he entered the hall, we started chanting slogans, and about three-quarters of the crowd joined us. At that point we felt that the meeting was a sham. Mayor Koch then decided to go further by taking the 50 - 60 people that were not chanting into a small room where he told them that the cuts were final. Where is the debate? Historically, Community Town Hall Meetings were used during the American Revolutionary period. During this period, a Town Hall Meeting was where the people got together to make decisions and democratically participate in voicing their views. Mayor Koch's Town Hall Meetings are not the same. They are Koch's lectures to the community in which he has already decided. This is not a valid Town Hall Meeting. The coalition's new policy on Koch is that he will not be allowed to speak in any community where we are well organized.

Q: Did this action result in a negative community perception of the coalition?

J: On the contrary, we gained more respect and membership from the community because of our actions. It may have turned off the Mayor, but he had already declared war on us. There is not much on the agenda but destruction. The Mayor has not shown a commitment to anyone but the middle class of New York City.

Q: Do you attribute the problems confronting the minority community to the economic system?

J: Yes I do. The perspective I push is toward our community developing a total view of this economic system. From the oil prices, to a peoples' takeover of Con Edison, to the fiscal crisis, and the way Big Business controls the whole society. We have to develop an economic battleground against the deficiencies of this economic system, like they did in Detroit with the Economic Democracy Campaign. Leadership and education of membership will play an important role in developing this battleground. I do not believe this economic structure can continue a process of co-optation to the levels necessary to stop an ever-increasing mass movement. This mass movement will undoubtedly provide the ingredients for a change in this economic system.

Diary of a Draft Protester

By Erik Strangeways

Saturday, March 22nd, 6:30 am, Union Square - The bleak and cold. Thank goodness we're finally ready to board the buses. Now I'm going to finish my sleep on the way to D.C.

1:30 am, Lafayette Park, Washington - The wind is blowing at least 40 miles an hour, the skies would come out and warm us but, whatever the weather, this march has to go on. The arms makers and military planners are operating every day, all day, in all weather, so these demonstrations are not a luxury, but a necessity.

3:00 pm, the Capitol — the sun is out and it's almost mild. The crowd is quite large, filling most of the area in front of the Capitol. There are people of all ages here, many well beyond draft age. Bella Abzug gave a fiery speech; she said she was supporting Senator Kennedy. Some here don't agree with that, but on the principal issue the solidarity is clear. The chants ring out in unison as the crowd tells Congress how they feel: "One, two, three, four, no draft, no war," and "Hell, no, we won't go!"

Rep. Robert Kastenmeier told us what we must do: keep our representatives and senators and tell them continually that we don't want the draft.

4:00 pm — Michael Harrington, author and political organizer, emphasized that while the draft is not good, an "all-volunteer" army in which poor and minority youth are, in effect, "drafted" into the military because they can't find civilian jobs is no good either. We must work for full employment at home and a reduced need for large standing armies. I was reminded again of the hypocrisy inherent in our exporting versions of "human rights" and "democracy" abroad by military action, while we do little to stop human rights violations here in this country. I'm heading over to Union Station to get warm for awhile before going back to New York.

11:15 pm, New York — just saw Channel 4 and Channel 9. The conservative police estimate of the crowd size was 30,000, even that's a big turnout. The media did not notice of us, though they repeated the usual misconceptions. They treat the anti-draft movement as a revival of the 1960's anti-war drives, while actually the new movements have been formed by the 1960's and 1970's and are more sophisticated. The connections among militarism, poverty, and domestic repression are much more fully understood by the people than they were 15 years ago. Coalition building is going on. People are against the draft because it is an unwarranted infringement on individual liberty, it is linked to class oppression, and it is a corollary of the arms race and a bankrupt foreign policy. Furthermore, this is the wrong time for a draft, and people can work together effectively. It is a broad-based effort, not one composed only of "radicals" (which was one TV reporter's misconception).

We're still at the beginning of the struggle; the threat of the draft is far from over. All we can do is work for one day at a time, and today was as step in the right direction.

LAW President Looks Back

By Carol Schlein

The past three years have seen a lot of change for LAW. As an organization, we have changed both our image and our membership. Encouraging our male peers to join us in working on issues affecting women has brought us a new perspective and energy. During the past year as President, I have tried, hopefully successfully, to educate and inform students about issues vital to women, particularly in the legal profession. By sponsoring events such as the Metropolitan Conference on Women and the Law, and by holding programs on topics such as Women Against Pornography, Affirmative Action, and Interviewing Techniques, LAW has tried to encourage discussion on important and relevant topics. LAW has assisted me in the many projects LAW has changed our membership. LAW has responded to the calls of the community and I have been involved in helping LAW respond.

LAW's April 1980 Newsletter is a comprehensive summary of the events at the Conference, and I would like to encourage you to read it. LAW has also sponsored several events this year, including the Women's Rights Movement and the Women's March on D.C. LAW's March 1980 Newsletter will include a detailed report on the 1980 Women's March.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported LAW this year. We have been involved in working on many issues of importance to women and have received an overwhelming response from LAW members. Thank you for your support.

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Mr. Edward W. Goodwin, A.V.P.
Officer-in-Charge
214 Church Street
New York, N.Y. 10013
By Dennis T. Gagnon

in the art of journalism the symbol "·-30·" represents the conclusion of an article or story. Based on this practice, a "·-30·" column is the last written work of a newspaperman. It is his final chance to criticize, praise, encourage, or just say a simple thank you. The following "·-30·" columns are written by the graduating editors of EQUITAS. To each editor the privilege of writing one of these columns is very special. For some editors a "·-30·" column is the last of many by-lines; for others it is a rare writing opportunity in a medium where the freedom of expression is limited, and where all opinions expressed, and through the paper's general management, will be more than adequately reflected. Andy's columns have been absurd and have been much more rewarding.

As I have learned by experience, and as I was forewarned by my predecessor, Jonah Treibwasser, running a newspaper is a difficult and often unrewarding venture. Add to the job and worries of putting out a publication on time each month the time involved in preparing and studying for five courses, working for fifteen hours a week, and finding a job in a field that seems to have closed doors except to a chosen few, and every little problem and issue gets blown out of proportion. Considering all the factors involved, the burden often seems too heavy to bear. Fortunately, I was surrounded by a staff that was dedicated to putting out a high-quality product. Every member of the EQUITAS staff owns and has carried his own part of the heavy burden.

As I reflect on the various members of this paper's staff, I am amazed to realize the commitment that they have constantly shown. To say the least, we are a very diverse and interesting group. To each and every person on the staff I owe a debt of thanks. And, before I forget, thanks to Jonah, Lenny, Jerry, Linda, Dennis, Peter, and the rest of last year's editors for teaching us the fundamentals and for giving us such a fine example to emulate. One of my few wishes is that I and my fellow editors were able to impart some of their knowledge and style (together with some of our own) to the new editorial board and staff.

It would be difficult to leave this paper without specifically thanking some of the very special people on the staff that I have come to know and respect. To Scott Batterman, that ranting, raving, and crazy maniac, thanks for sharing the paper's editorial opinions, and for your always well-reasoned logic. And to Tony "Hondo" Belkowski, a very special friend, thanks for the bull sessions, the tall stories, the counselling at Galways, and for your advice on everything, whether asked for or not. But most of all, just a simple thanks for the friendship. Finally, to Ace Gelb, Mike Conyes, Bob Drake, Gerry Grow, and Ronny Green, thanks for your editorial opinions, and for every person on the staff I owe a debt of gratitude to the job and worries of absurdities have assuredly been absurd. The problems that I have experienced over these years have ranged from college administrators with little concern for the minor leagues of journalism to the "true" Socratic method, to professors who conducted class as if it was the first grade, in fact a good proportion of the students were the same age as, if not older than, the teachers, a dean whose only point in life seemed to be to be someone who is intimidating students. As students we should not put up with such nonsense. We are the ones who have paid our hard-earned money to receive what we expect to be an excellent education. To sit in overcrowded classrooms and be "taught" by professors with little or no life experience is both a scholastic injustice and an insult to our intelligence. A word to the wise - there is a real world outside of law school, a world with real problems and often very few solutions. This is something these "high-powered" young professors fail to realize, partly because of their lack of such real life experience. Is New York Law School the minor leagues for professors to see if they have what it takes to move up to the big leagues at Harvard or Yale? I know for sure that they certainly should want to try.

Through these muddy waters there are several professors who, in my opinion, are outstanding either because of their insights, their respect for students as grown-ups, their concern for the welfare of the profession, or because of their intriguing and inspirational methods of teaching. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them in public. Their contributions to New York Law School and its students are unmeasurable. Thanks to Professors Richard Barbour, Stephen Neuman, Janet Tracy, Marshall Lippman, Richard Harbus, David Minas, Bostan Zupanic, and Lung-Chu Chen. Unfortunately for the school and students, several of these professors' popularity seems to be due to their downfall or the source of all troubles. But you and I need people like them. Thanks again.

Another aspect of this school that often bothers me is the lack of conviction of many people here. On numerous occasions I have been asked to answer questions as to how I could possibly publish one article or another, how I could possibly express such editorial opinions, or why didn't I print this or that. My response, in addition to giving reasons for my decisions, has always been an invitation to write for the paper - either a column expressing your own opinion or simply a letter to the editor. Needless to say, very few people have taken me up on this offer. There are only two reasons for such non-involvement - the person either does not have the time or is afraid to have his or her opinion in print. Inclement weather, or the "let someone else stick their neck out" attitude. I can immediately reject the first reason, since it is my belief that if you have something important to say you will find the time to say it (nearly 50 people each month on the EQUITAS staff find the time). What's left?

One of the few people who actually accepted my offer has been Andy Franklin. To many people, to all these friends, only a personal thanks will do. But for now - thank you for your time and utmost consideration. In particular, I want to thank Dean Arnold Graham (see Dean - at least I know how to spell your name) Phil King, Joanne Real, those two wild and crazy gals in Placement - Lynn and Kukla, and the guys in the copy center for the terrific work they do. Very special thanks go to Dean William Bruce, whose honesty and openness I strongly admire and respect, and to Gil who has been a never-ending supporter of this paper and practically every other student event in the school, and to three friends who always have a smile on their faces.

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am so bloody happy to be escaping this excuse for a lunatic asylum I could scream! And I just might.

The time has been made a lot easier by the numerous friendships I have made here. I will save those for the very end. As my last service to this school, however, I have a few things to say which have needed saying for a long time:

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE STUDENTS OF NYLS:

You are the heartblood of this school. You are, New York Law School. The students at this place are among the most active and aware in the nation. You are given a great deal of responsibility, which you fulfill very effectively. But more importantly, you take the initiative, with conferences, symposia, and new publications, with effort, time, and sweat, to make this place a worthwhile experience.

But, for God's sake, when you go out after the administration for their mistakes, pick your targets and your forums with care. Too often, when students are upset, they think the remedy is to go out and shout from the highest rooftops: NYLS SUCKS! This may be a great cathartic device, but in the end it is counterproductive. Why would anyone want to hire you, if you say you got your education at a law school which cannot teach? Moreover, most of the criticism is far in excess of the situation.

Yes, there are problems at NYLS that need correction, and ignoring them, or sweeping them under the carpet, as much as some people might like to see things done that way, will not make them go away. But be judicious. Find your natural allies among the faculty, alumni, and surprise of surprises, in the administration. Make effective power plays, while keeping in mind the larger audience. It is not easy, and you may find yourself forced into odd alliances and compromises. That is just the nature of politics, and if you do not reconcile yourself to it, you will end up doing more harm than good.

At the same time, don't give in to them. Refuse to accept mediocrity in the classroom and insensitivity in the administration. I have given you a tall order, one that is almost impossible to carry out. Make liars out of everyone, and carry it out.

A OPEN LETTER TO THE FACULTY:

You people really live in a world of your own. Some of you are thoughtful, kind and care about the school and its students. Others should be out working with wood. (Sorry for the steal, Richard.) This semester, we were treated to the spectacle of a professor arguing with the administration over whether the professor should be paid before she submitted her grades while she held out, claiming she would not turn in grades until she was paid. The only ones who suffered from the tug-of-war were the students, who waited months until the grades were in. I don't care who is right or wrong; the fact is that the students are the ones who get screwed. And at least the professor in this case had half an excuse: what about all the professors who don't get their grades in for months, for no apparent reason?

Other professors think it is cute to knock not just the school, but its students. I have seen it done, I have heard of it from others. This is INEXCUSABLE! The students work their rear ends off, often with no thanks or rewards in sight, and this attitude on the part of some faculty members is extremely insulting.

Of course, I have had professors who not only taught me the law, but showed they cared about the students. Professor McDougal is a very misunderstood man, because he piques his lectures at a level probably above that of first-year law students. However, he has fought for the students, and shown that their concerns are also his. Professor Zupancic, whom this school lost in a fit of empty-headed paroxysmousness, is one of the brightest men I have ever met, and I envy his future students. The professors who spent hours working with Moot Court teams, in the clinics, and privately with students, are to be commended.

The doom-sayers, the denigrators of this school, know who they are: they keep the meetings closed so that students can't learn who is running the show and how their life is being changed; they vote against grade posting, to protect their own untimeliness; they routinely give low grades, regardless of merit, in blind obedience to a "curve," and then vote to remove students who are unable to beat the system. We have had enough of shape or clear out.

AN OPEN LETTER TO ANTHONY SCANLON

Tony, you are much maimed. Has it ever crossed your mind to ask why? For all your technical competence in your position, for all the diligent work you put into recruiting new students and running the Bologna Program, it seems to me that the vast majority of students have any dealings with you walk away with a very bad taste in their mouths. Again, why?

You can be very personable with people when you want to be. I have seen you polite, attentive, and downright cooperative. But this has normally been when dealing with people outside the school, not with our own students.

You have a rough job. It seems most of the dirty tasks are thrown your way. But this is not the complete answer. A large part has to do with your attitude when dealing with students. The people I talk with say they feel they are being treated as if they were in elementary school, that they receive no respect, no warmth, nothing but administrative insensitivity and occasional rudeness.

Tony, you are not that much older than many of the people who come to see you—indeed, many of them are older people who have been holding down a job, taking care of a family, and who very soon will be both professionals, and alumni of this school. You can't talk down to these people, you can't treat them like ten-year-olds, and expect them

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10-30-30-30-30-30-30-30-30-30-30

AN OPEN LETTER TO DEAN SHAPIRO:

Before beginning, it is important to make it clear to everyone that I owe you a great deal. I was unable to gain entrance into any other law school. You have related circumstance to me, which I have no reason to disbelieve, and which indicated that you interceded on my behalf. For that I thank you. I have sat and talked with you at your home, and in your office, and I find myself liking you.

I hope that you, and everyone else, takes what I say as in the best interests of both NYLS and E. Donald Shapiro.

The impression among the students and most faculty I talk with is that you, and not the faculty or the board of trustees, are the effective power in this school. You are a member of the board, the administration, and the faculty. The conventional wisdom is that most of the busy, important men on the board are your colleagues, if not friends, and they will accept what you tell them as the truth.

Perhaps you deny this, and, as you often tell me, perhaps you feel the problem is that people say things about you that are not true, the people have you saying things that you never said. Whose fault would that be? Yours, only yours.

If people don’t know where you stand, it is because you don’t get out in front of them and tell them. If people wonder what you are doing, it is because they don’t see you often enough. Not just during your sabbatical year, but throughout the time I have been at this school, you have had a reputation for being an invisible dean.

If this is to stop, only you can stop it.

You tell me you will be here next year. Well, Don’t think I won’t be here, either! Nor should they be expected to. Damn it, man, if you lose them as students they will have sat and talked with administration, and the faculty. The conventional wisdom is that most of the busy, important people who will feel you are doing the right thing will be yourselves — and most of the time even you won’t be so sure. Well, you knew the job was dangerous when you took it. Good luck.

ASSORTED THANKS TO MY FELLOW MOOSTERS:

May it please the court, thanks for everything. Special thanks to Doctor J, for interesting conversations, good drinking, and great laughs. To Jimmy, the Unknown Student, for three years of good-natured kidding. To Yalmulke Dave, for talking me into getting involved in this mess in the first place. To Cap, for being dependable, capable, and a hell of a Chrissie. And to the rest of you, consider yourself well thanked.

And, of course, my very special appreciation to the other two Pros from Dover, for making this last semester enjoyable. I will always remember the broad grin and the “We did it.”, the confused waitress who probably still doesn’t know what Fappy was talking about, Moonodoggie, the Dayton fire and flood, and all the rest. It was more than worth it.

TO SECTION A:

We were the best — where were the rest? Sullivan couldn’t shut us up, Biskind couldn’t sink us, and Epstein couldn’t tell us what property was. You are the wildest, craziest bunch of all, from Andy Franklin, the defrocked Marine, through Marty Brandson, the beard, and the achiever, to the dearly departed — too much!

TO THE SIXTH FLOOR

Don’t think it hasn’t been fun, ‘cause it hasn’t. There is no joy to come out of that room, there is no pleasure in it. It is a job, for which the rewards are few and the burdens are many — so many, that after three semesters I just about bailed out. My apologies. You people are viliﬁed as “elitists” and “privileged characters” by the rest of the school, and the only satisfaction comes in doing the job right, and knowing you did it right. Steady Eddie.

Way to go, Shelley: you run a good law review but leave moot court to the experts. To Cassie, Ron, Zalier, Didi, and all the rest: you make much better drinking buddies than co-workers, but then, I’d expect that. And my special farewell to the Masked Basque — you’re crazy, but I love ya!

I know I stand a good chance of leaving people out of my thank you’s. If so, please consider yourself thanked. My thanks to Triebwater, George Schwarz, “Three-fingers” Weiss, and the rest of the EQUITAS board my ﬁrst two years, for teaching me real journalism and making this paper worthwhile. I hope you will too.

To my backgammmon man, fellow habituee of Thomas Street, and the Ice Box, Steve, what can I say? This is the beginning of a long and beautiful friendship.

To the Ayatollah Lipman: Thank you for pulling my ass out of the fire. You went out of your way to help me. Would that other administrators followed your example!

To Dennis, Chris, Jerry, Kent, Ace Gelb, and all the rest of the present EQUITAS: thank you for letting me continue to be a pain in the neck and self-appointed authority on whatever was under discussion. This paper means a helluva lot to me, and we went out with a bang. Nobody else is going to say so, so congratulations on a job well done.

To Don, Bob, Ray, Mom, and the other bridge fanatics: Gawd, but I wish I had discovered this greatest way to waste time before this semester. Thanks for helping me keep my sanity this last semester and for putting up with a novice.

Well, I’ve taken up enough of your time, and I think it’s time to throw the cover over the old typewriter for the last time. There are many more targets I could have singled out: placement, class scheduling, general administration nonsense, and the ever-popular final exam humiliation follies. The best advice, however, would be not to pick out the targets, but to remind you of the solution of which you are already aware: organize, contact alumni, faculty, and any other lies you can make. Don’t give in. Don’t give up. YOU are the New York Law School, WE are the New York Law School. And if we let the administration forget that, we are lost.

Goodbye and Goodnight.

By James Gelb

As I prepare to graduate from NYLS, along with the 190 or so other survivors of administrative caprice, it is indeed a pleasure to give vent to a few thoughts on my three years at this school.

My first draft of this column was filled with inventive aimed at the policies and individuals who have unnecessarily filled my system with excessive bile since my association with this potentially “great urban law school” began. However, after stomping and fuming for an excessive amount of pages, I have decided to contain my comments to other matters and to leave the inventive to my esteemed co-editors, who have plenty of bile themselves.

To begin with, working on EQUITAS has been one of the better aspects of school. As classes became increasingly absurd, and as Choz Gill’s grew increasingly crowded and noisy, the EQUITAS office provided a quiet respite. Contrary to what the administration may tell students, the joining of organizations is an important and helpful part of law school. Some of those who tell students to stay away from organizations have never attended law school themselves, and their opinions are therefore unjustly ignored.

Despite the general atmosphere of fear and intimidation of students, any student who has a real interest in a subject can get an excellent education at NYLS. Besides the courses offered, there are
(continued from page thirteen)

student groups and even helpful faculty, as well as a student's own initiative. If you want it, it's there. What is not there is the promise of a job at the end of all this effort, which makes outside activity all the more important.

Most important, it is possible for law students to maintain their feelings of self-worth. While everything is stacked against this basic and fundamental human right, it can be done. Law school does not instantly dissolve relationships, and should not be allowed to do so. Nor is it a requisite for a successful law school career to live on one's knees. A student's behavior during school can set the pace of his/her future professional life, so it is better not to form the habit of kissing ass.

It seems that a little invective has slipped out "gives students the feeling that they are inadequate. ing, he stated that if students were willing to

"-I love you,

By Gerry Grow

By Christine Goban

Three years ago I heard a radio ad for something “with all the impact of a telegram — at a fraction of the cost: a.k.a. a 'Mailgram'." I remem-

ber thinking to myself, "Would anyone really use those things?" Then I came to New York Law School.

But congratulations are in order. If there was anything that this urban law school did well, it was to invest in a stack of Mailgrams. You see, I spoke to the Dean of Mailgrams before someone decided to contain his conversation through Western Union.

I remember thinking, "Have I made a terrible mistake?" After all, how could they let someone of this caliber communicate with people in the outside world?

I started NYLS as the school geared up a massive PR campaign. During my three years, this school has opened up a new building, produced slick-type alumni publications, and given some people the option of using a Mailgram instead of letting them get on the phone. But the PR campaign will fall flat on its face at Lincoln Center this June.

The reason is simple. While the school has been promoting its image to all the world, the student population has been well, not ignored — but dumped upon. I hate to say it, but somehow this place gives students the feeling that they are inadequate. How can this institution believe that its image will be boosted when its graduates feel they must pick up a Masters degree from an institution on Washington Square, so as not to have NYLS the last school on their resume? Oh, it's true, it's not just this place, but the legal community.

But shouldn't the school use a two-prong PR campaign and make themselves part of the popular culture — at least happy enough to admit they graduated from here?

I mean, I'd like to get a Mailgram congratulating me upon my graduation. After all, the Mailgram would come fast enough if I had flunked out.

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For this, I would like to thank the many people who have helped me during law school. The friendliest and most helpful have been the library staff, Joe, Leslie, and Harold, thank you, I also want to thank the other members of EQUITAS, especially Dennis Gagnon, who has done a terrific job this year, despite a cantankerous and unny- staff. I also thank my friends, who have really made it worth it.

Serious, one of the best things about this school is EQUITAS. It is a first-rate newspaper. It has both been a pleasure and a privilege to have worked with these people. Had it not been for my involvement with EQUITAS, law school would have been depressing and boring. I would urge all students to get involved in a school activity or school organization. It would make the law school ordeal an easier one to cope with.

My 3 years here have also been made a lot easier due to the collection of characters and zanies known as Section A, Class of 1980. They are a remarkable bunch of people. I have made friendships that will last a lifetime.

Another good thing about NYLS is Gil Hollander. Besides dispensing delicious (?) coffee, he provides invaluable advice. In addition, if it were not for the fact that I had to be here to work at Chez Gil's, I probably would have stayed at home. But once I was here, I went to class. Gilbert, for this I thank you (?).

And, finally, the most positive thing about my last three years at NYLS is my wife Maryann. When law school was but a dim thought, she provided encouragement. When it became a reality, she provided the support, both financial and emotional, that enabled me to graduate. For 3 years she has lived with a miserable demanding ungrateful person — a law student. She has kept smiling through all my long nights and weekends of studying, through all the recent "Wagner Alerts," through all the assorted nonsense that one puts up with when involved in a law career.

There is really no way to thank anyone for this. I only know that I would not have made it without her. She made my dream come true.

Mare, I love you,
The Tale of the Great Urban Law School and the Lost or Forgotten Student. The dramatic development of NYLS in the past 10 years has emphasized the building of a superior student body that is capable and recognized for its abilities. While others may argue about whether we have achieved, are achieving, or have failed to achieve this goal, I would like to explore the dark caverns of NYLS and some of the brilliant lights we have bottled in our classrooms— at night.

The night student is the most maligned student in the most higher education institutions. They are viewed much like the proverbial foster child—a necessary concession to the surrounding community and to the gnawing appetite of the school budget. To coin a phrase, they are “a revenue-raising device.” Whether this is indeed the opinion of the present administration is a moot point not to be constructively debated. The perception of the night wanderers would probably be more pertinent. Rather, I wish to emphasize the collective assets that these students, and all similarly situated students, possess.

My perspective (for my fellow McDougal fanatics) is not that of a disinterested observer. In September of 1977 I was one of those “night wanderers.” Since then then my schedule has been rearranged to that of “full-time day.” Nevertheless, I not only experienced the struggle but benefited from the experience and superior capabilities of my fellow classmates. I feel that their contributions and potential contributions have not been adequately recognized and need to be strongly stated. I hope that this humble opinion will be received by all those concerned with the collective development of school policy, alumni, friends, administrators, trustees, and faculty in the spirit with which it is given.

Every institution has among its goals a societal commitment and goal of self-perception. Therefore, not only do they seek the enlightened education of their present student body—thereby providing capable, hopefully superior practitioners in the art of law, but, in addition, they seek highly motivated successful graduates who will bring fame and fortune—especially fortune—to themselves and their alma mater. Witness the emphasis placed on the phonathon and the solicitation of contributions toward the building fund.

Attempting to identify people with the drive and motivation that will enable the student to go beyond the relative mediocrity among lawyers— not arguing the fact that they may still be the elite of society—is a virtually impossible task for an admissions officer, who must emphasize both GPA and LSAT in order to maintain perceived selectiveness within the AALS community. Does one find those elusive few who have displayed ability, drive, and motivation?

Consider the prospective night student, the law school candidates who have established themselves professionally, who have successfully entered the corporate job market. Their motivation takes on one of a number of standard descriptions. They may have decided to expand their educational experience in order to promote job development within the structure of their present employment, or they want to incorporate the law of their present background to develop new avenues of expression, or they desire to change fields in a quest for self-actualization. In any case, their life experience, no matter how short, has matured them and given them the incentive so necessary for success in any profession. These qualities are overlooked by the present admissions process unless the student has “acceptable” scores in the more objective tests. A differentiation among candidates is necessary. Until this point in time, the admissions officer can’t consider whether the candidates “found themselves” after undergraduate school or have gone through graduate programs or even tougher “in-house” educational programs.

These professionals, often management level, have high expectations of challenging classroom debate upon entering law school. They have faced the competition throughout their business careers and look forward to a well-prepared, thorough discussion of a topic. All too often, they are treated like foster children; they are subject to second-class instructors unprepared for a mature, inquisitive group, or they are the “first-string” doing double duty and are tired after a full day. It has been rumored that some of the full-time professors leave at 5:00, and that only their bodies remain to go through the motions. An understanding of the needs of these students seems to be lacking in the very people who are supposed to instill the rigor of law school on the populace. There is definitely a communications gap. Although the students hang on, doggedly determined to complete the sentence of 4 years despite the “incompetence” of the professors, they lose respect for both the school and the profession. Those, the fortunate few, who have demonstrated intellectual ability (they were, after all, accepted), incentive (who else would go through 4 years of this when they are holding down a full-time position and often supporting a family), and motivation (they have already demonstrated the drive necessary to make it in their current profession unlike the college candidates who have yet to be proved in the competitive marketplace). (This is in no way trying to belittle the achievements of students entering directly from college, but to emphasize the assets of the “night wanderers.”)

If you have caught my drift, it is time that we questioned not the concept, but the way in which it is implemented. The night student is often accustomed to judging the competence of their staff and associates. Indeed, it is a matter of survival, not just success, in the business world. They cannot turn off their abilities just because they are now students.

The Administration must recognize the abilities of the night students and the asset that a top-notch program could be. They have to take advantage of the “urban” in Urban Law School and help these night wanderers realize their goals, which will handsomely reward all those associated with the task.

As a closing note, law school has been an extremely rewarding experience for me because of the people involved. I have grown to love NYLS, not because of the school, but because of the people that I have shared the experience with. Isn’t that what it is all about? Thank you all for making the experience what it has been and good luck to all.

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