Law School to Hold Separate Ceremony

By Tom Wilkinson

The Law School commencement has been scheduled for Friday, May 16 at 11 a.m. in the Villanova University Fieldhouse. VLS students will again enjoy separate graduation from other university colleges, recognizing each graduating student.

Dean O'Brien has received no assurances that future graduations will be conducted in the same fashion.

Dean O'Brien says the question is fundamental to a matter of philosophy. The President takes the position that the law school is a part of the University and should graduate with the University. He also has no particular desire to go to four different commencement ceremonies.

The Class of 1980 has already begun the 100 day countdown to commencement on Friday, May 16. Although some of the details are yet to be worked out, here's how the day in shaping up:

There will again be a wine and cheese reception at the law school following the commencement ceremony. Parents, spouses and friends are invited. Last year the popular event drew nearly 1600 people, according to Dean O'Brien, who terms the now traditional gathering "an extraordinary suc-

"The parents love it," Dean O'Brien says. "The reception is often the first time the law school and school and have the opportunity to meet the graduate's classmates, faculty members and friends.

There should be more than enough room in the fieldhouse to accommodate all those who wish to attend the ceremony. Each graduate will be issued five invitations by the Administration Offices, and extra tickets should be readily available, the Dean says.

At least 15 student awards for scholarly and extracurricular achievements will be presented at commencement, ranging from recognition for skill in Trial Practice and Moot Court, to outstanding research in the field of human rights.

The annual honorary Doctor of Laws degree recipient, presentation program speaker has not yet been chosen. The Dean is awaiting a final decision from the Brewers, who are expected to select a recipient from a list of candidates submitted for approval by Dean O'Brien last Fall. Last year the honorary degree was conferred upon Thomas Ehrlich, the first President of the Legal Services Corporation.

The Annual Villanova Law Day at City Hall

Several potential problems were cited. Although the resolution passed unani-

"The state of Pennsylvania has a better chance of getting funded than by blue book. Faculty members were

"The SBA members disagreed with the plan. Proponents of this system say it forces an organization to quickly develop a content-oriented program which could be better if they were allowed to set their own budget within a set amount.

But some students felt that the system left the potential for abuse, for example, where the SBA members disagreed with the content of a program proposed by a student group, they could refuse to allocate the fund.

The plan was taken to change the method of funding allocation. Although the SBA members disagreed with the content of a program presented by a student group, they could refuse to allocate the funding. But some students felt that the system left the potential for abuse, for example, where the SBA members disagreed with the content of a program proposed by a student group, they could refuse to allocate the funding.
Recollections

Campus Ministry is sponsoring an evening of recollection for each college of the University during the Lenten season. The evening of recollection for the Law School has been scheduled for Thursday, February 21, from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Rev. Frank X. McGourty, OSA, chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees will be the speaker. Father McGourty will speak on the topic “The Lawyer — A Spiritual Pilgrim.”

A small reception will follow. All are invited. Further details will be posted.

Do We Really Need It?

WASHINGTON, D.C. (ABA) — The American Bar Association’s Criminal Justice Section today announced sponsorship of the 1979-80 Alan Y. Cole Student Essay Contest.

The subject area for this year’s contest is “The Exclusionary Rule: Do We Really Need It?” The winner, to be announced in July, will receive a $500 cash award. Essays will be judged by a three-member panel of section volunteers.

The contest is open to all students enrolled in ABA accredited law schools except candidates for advanced law degrees and ABA Law Student Division members.

Entries may consist of a discussion of case law, litigation techniques, or any legal discourse which might further advance this subject area. Copies of the techniques must include their name, permanent and temporary addresses and telephone number, name of their law school and their year in school.

Essays should be mailed to: Coordinator, Law Student Essay Contest, ABA Criminal Justice Section, 1800 M Street, N.W., 2nd Floor South, Washington, D.C. 20036.

For further information, please contact Marcia Christensen, ABA, Criminal Justice Section, 1800 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 331-2260.

Kudos

And now, for a bit of good news: better than 96 percent of the members of the Class of 1979 at Villanova Law School who sat for the July 1979 Pennsylvania Bar Examination passed. This compares favorably with a 70.36 percent pass rate for all of the 2,010 young lawyers who took the Pennsylvania Bar Exam.

One Hundred forty-nine Villanovans from the Class of 1979 beheld a sigh of relief when the envelope containing their exam results arrived. One December 1978 graduate of VLS was also among the successful.

Congratulations!

So That’s Why My Grades Are Bad

Macho men and feminine women have more difficulty with the rigors of law school, according to University of Minnesota sociologists E.R. Robert and M. F. Winter in their article in the Journal of Legal Education. The two professors also offer the following conclusions:

- Women who see themselves as more masculine are more successful in law school than women with more feminine traits.
- Masculine men don’t do as well in law school as males with moderately masculine traits.
- Men who expect high salaries tend to achieve higher grades, but the same does not true for women.
- Women are more likely to dislike law school than men.

Liaison, Anyone?

Are you interested in working with senior members of the bar in specialized areas of the law? Would you like to direct one of the national programs of the Law Student Divisions? If so, read on. All 45 liaison positions between the Law Student Division and the American Bar Association, as well as five national student director positions, for the coming 1980-81 school year have been officially declared open to law student applicants attending ABA approved law schools.

Requirements are that you be a member of the ABA/Law Student Division, in good academic standing with at least one full year of law school behind you (as of September 1980) remaining, and — if you are applying for the position of liaison to a section — that you be a student member of that section.

If you meet these qualifications, send a recent proper letter, recommendations, and proof of Law Student Division membership (in the form of a photocopy of your membership card or card membership does check) to: Anne C. Campbell, Staff Director, Law Student Division, American Bar Association, 1155 East 66th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637, postmarked no later than March 1, 1980. Students currently serving as liaisons and who wish to be reappointed must reapply.

1980-81 Financial Aid: Let Me Count The Forms

This year a significant change in student financial assistance form requirements means that Law School students seeking all types of aid possible must complete seven separate forms. Two forms are required for Law School aid, one for state guaranteed loans, and four or more for University-di-
Building A Clientele

by Kate Harper

"Hang out in bars." Hang out in bars? What kind of advice is that for a lawyer to give a law student? It's good advice if you're trying to break into entertainment law, according to Al Murphy, a Philadelphia area entertainment lawyer. Murphy spoke at the law school recently as a member of a panel discussion on "Sports and Entertainment Law," sponsored by the VLS Placement office.

Kevin Lennon, along with Goldman and Melvin Lavine also spoke to students about their sports and entertainment law practices.

Murphy, who practices in Philadelphia and New York, admits, "I never got to know about adverse possession") and property law ("your clients may ask you about the tax aspects of what you're doing"), antitrust law ("in negotiating contracts you always have to consider the tax aspects of what you're doing"), labor law ("your clients may ask you about workers' compensation"), and antitrust law.

Murphy said that in addition to knowing your contract law well, students considering sports law careers should also pay strict attention to administrative law ("of sports cases are tied up in arbitration"), taxation ("in negotiating contracts you always have to consider the tax aspects of what you're doing"), and antitrust law.

"You've just got to know it all — that's what you need." Glenn Goldman, who's practicing entertainment law these days, in a 1979 Villanova Law School graduate. Right now, he's the assistant executive secretary for both the Philadelphia local of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) and for the Philadelphia branch of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG).

Goldstein is being trained for the top spot in those organizations. He had some recent job-hunting advice for his fellow Villanovans.

"Your non-lawyer activities add up to a good long while, since he is himself a musician of sorts, but he makes it a point to keep himself in the limelight and if you screw up everybody's going to know about it."

"I encourage everyone to go out and do what they want to do, because people are bound to be in law school, hearing a lot about big firms!"

Looking At Litigation

by Kathy Yesenko

On January 15, the Placement Office sponsored a program entitled "Careers in Litigation," featuring members of the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association. Over thirty litigation-minded students turned out for the event, which was held in the student lounge.

Theodore Schwartz, from the law offices of Mark Mendel, led off the program stating that "any correlation between the study of law and the practice of law is purely coincidental." Keeping this in mind, Marlene Lachman, from the law firm of Massov, Gelman, Jaffee, Cramer and Jamieson, says that a "law firm is like a family," and you are marrying that law firm. When interviewing with various law firms, she suggests that each law student judge whether his or her bar to make it big.

On getting clients, Murphy says, "the big one is the first one, the new one. You could be brilliant but if people ask you who you represent and you say, '"Joe Smith, Trio,' well, it's going to be 'oh . . . See you later.'"

"You've just got to know it all — whatever it takes to pass the bar exam."

"I agree that a lawyer should not try to be all things to all clients. A lot of lawyers don't like to transfer work because of the financial implications, but sometimes it has to be done." He suggests that law students should ask themselves two important questions: "What do you want to do? What area of law do you want to specialize in?" He says that one tough area for litigators is the criminal law area.

"There is no way to get the business because your only referral is from clients."
Wouldn’t You Want to Know?

“What if I flunked Administrative Law last semester? It’s too late to add a course and I won’t graduate on time. I guess I’ll have to go to summer school. Will I be able to study for the bar if I wish I knew right now whether I passed or not?”

Better yet, that third year student should have known several weeks ago — before the end of the drop/add period — whether they would get any grades until some time next week, the second week of February, well into the semester and well beyond the drop/add period. Why not? Because the faculty was not required to turn grades in to the Registrar until the first week in February.

The Student Faculty Committee has an idea that will change that and save a great many students needless hours of worry, while making it possible for students who fail a course in their fifth semester to graduate on time by taking an extra course in the Spring of their third year.

The Committee voted unanimously to recommend the faculty agree that “third year students shall be notified of potential failing grades for fifth semester courses prior to the end of the sixth semester’s drop/add period.”

To insure that students have time to pick up the extra course they need, the resolution continues, the drop/add period “shall be extended for any affected student for three academic days for the purpose of satisfying the minimum requirements for timely graduation.”

Another suggestion made at the meeting was simply to extend the drop/add period for as long as it takes the faculty to notify failing students of their grades.

The faculty will meet February 12 and the measure is expected to face stiff opposition. Some professors do not feel that a grading period that ran from December 22, 1979 until February 4, 1980 (when grades are turned in) is long enough to get all those pesky little blue books out of the way.

Some professors would not favor any plan that forces them to take at least a quick “once over” of the exams to determine if any of the blue books presents a serious possibility of failure.

One can sympathize with the faculty and their distance for grading stacks of blue books, but it’s an occupational hazard. It comes with the territory. More importantly, the equities are with the students this time. The stakes are much higher for them.

Should students gamble that their napping doubts about the Administrative Law exam are misplaced and sign up for the five courses or he or she wants to take? If the student is wrong, he or she might be sitting for the bar to take the needed course in the summer. Well, then, why not sign up for six courses and play it safe? Because if the fears were misplaced, the student spends his or her last semester juggling an unconscionably heavy course load. In a school where oversubscribed courses are the norm, this would be sheer folly.

The answer is simple. The faculty should notify any third year student who’s in danger of failing a course while there’s still time for the student to replace those credits.

It’s been argued that few second or third year students actually fail courses. One professor pegs the number at five students over the last five years. This is not many, true, and perhaps not enough at first glance to burden the faculty with a hastened marking process. But the relief suggested would help not only the students who actually fail the courses but also the conscientious students who fear that they may be in that category.

We urge the faculty to adopt the resolution of the Student-Faculty Committee: when the faculty has completed the grading, their burden is discharged and their misery is finished, but for some students who finally receive their grades when the “new” semester is no longer young, the problems may have just begun.

Multiple Choice Property Exam

Fall Semester: Professor Gorb

Instructions — choose the one best answer from all the probably correct ones.

*1. What do you call a prostitute who inherits a large parcel of land?
   A) Well endowed
   B) A retail Fee tail female
   C) A retail female Fee tail
   D) One of the above
   E) Two of the above
   F) Boom-Boom Baby Bucks

*2. A CONVEYS Blackacre to B.
   B fails to tender payment.
   A should:
   A) Establish an equitable lien.
   B) Buy a shotgun and blow B’s head off.
   C) Hire a couple of goons to work B over.

One From Column A
Two From Column B

by Bruce Allan Briner

To get into a good law school, the school, a student must get a good score on a very demanding test, the LSAT. Once out of school, the student must pass an even more demanding test, the Bar Exam, in order to be admitted into the profession. The LSAT consists almost entirely of multiple choice questions; the critical portion of the Bar Exam, the multi-state exam, is also multiple choice.

So what kind of man does the student see during his three years at Villanova?

Why, almost exclusively essay tests, of course. Gerald Abrahms, assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, emphasized that there is no school policy on the matter. Official permission is required in order for a professor to waive a formal exam entirely; for instance, a professor cannot substitute a paper for an exam without prior approval. However, each professor has total freedom to choose the format of his own exams.

Dean Abrahms attributes the prevalence of essay exams largely to tradition, dating back to the old Bar Exam. The essay exam is the only one that measures a student’s ability to write, and it has been around for centuries.

Who Speaks For the Child?

When lawyers become involved in child custody cases, must they maintain the role of absolute adversary for their clients, or should they assume a more objective stance with a view toward what is best for the child? What is the psychological impact of divorce on the parties and how must this consideration affect a lawyer’s approach to the proceedings? What effect will the Equal Rights Amendment have on the entire area of family law? On Saturday, February 23, the Villanova Law Review will sponsor a symposium on Current Problems Relating to Children of Divorce in Pennsylvania. On Sunday, February 24, the Villanova Law Review will sponsor a symposium on Current Problems Relating to Children of Divorce in Pennsylvania. The symposium will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in room 29 of the Law School and is offered free of charge to students, members of the bar, and other professionals in the area of family relations.

Members of the bar specializing in family law will discuss topics including handling child custody cases, no-fault divorce and the potential effects of its implementation in Pennsylvania, the lawyer’s role in custody proceedings, and family law and the ERA. "We’re offering much more than simply a how-to presentation of the mechanics of family law," explained the seminar coordinator. "These professionals will be sharing not only their knowledge of the law, but also their experiences and analyses concerning the crucial issues in this area. We promise to be a valuable learning experience — the kind that can’t be gotten from a textbook."

The program for the day are:

FAMILY LAW AND THE ERA — Albert Morjim, Abrahams & Lowenstein, Philadelphia, PA.


CUSTODY LITIGATION, PENNSYLVANIA STYLE — Emanuel A. Berzin, Pechner Dorfman, Wolfe, Rounick & Cabot, Philadelphia, PA.


DIVORCE FROM A PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE — Dr. Florence Kaslow, Hahnemann Medical College & Hospital, Philadelphia, PA.

CURRENT PROBLEMS RELATING TO CHILDREN OF DIVORCE IN PENNSYLVANIA — Norman Pechner, Pechner, Dorfman, Wolfe, Rounick & Cabot, Philadelphia, PA.

THE END OF PARENTAL KIDNAPPING IN PENNSYLVANIA — Frederick N. Frank, Baskin and Sears, Pittsburgh, PA.

The Docket is published monthly by the students of Villanova Law School, Villanova University, Villanova, Pa. 19085. Letters and articles are welcomed from students and the general public. Paid advertising is also accepted, please contact the Docket office for details.
Where Have All The Grads Gone?

The Director of Placement, John Beck, revealed a preliminary report to the Faculty that employment of the Class of 1978 had reached over 90.5 percent of those whose employment status was reported to the Office by January 15, 1979. There were 197 VLS graduates in the class; 178 of them reported seeking employment.

The type of employment stated by the Law School's most recent graduating class compares favorably with that of recent classes. Law firms claimed 53 percent of those employed compared to 50 percent in 1975 and 46 percent in 1974. The next largest group went to major law firms in Chicago, New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Six graduates were employed by law firms of fewer than 50 lawyers in 12 different states, and 16 percent in 1979; 15 percent in 1977. Connecticut as well as Pennsylvania and New Hampshire.

Reflecting college majors continues its growth in popularity: 16 percent in 1979; 15 percent in 1978; and 14 percent in 1977. The elite selection by judges of Villanova Law clerks continues.

The elite selection by judges of Villanova Law clerks continues. Twenty-eight Class of '79 graduates were employed in law firms, said the federal courts system in Pa. and N.J., one in an appellate state system; and twenty-two in private practice in Connecticut as well as Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The percentage of those employed by the federal courts system in Pa. and N.J. continued to grow to 1977 after a fall to 15 percent in 1975.

Employment by government dropped in 1979. It was 9 percent, compared to 12 percent in 1978, and 15 percent in 1977. However, of the 14 graduates in this category, 6, or nearly half, were employed by the federal government at GS-5, or below, at salaries ranging from $8,180 — salaries at such selective agencies as the NLRB, the FBI and the EPA.

Graduates pursuing advanced degrees are seeking LL.M. degrees in tax. Interestingly, graduates in the "other" employment category in 1979 include only one in the NLRB, one in the FBI and in labor journal editor. Graduates employed in academic, "other", and legal services declared an exit for 6 percent of those employed in 1979 compared to 8 percent in 1978 and 14 percent in 1977.

Final salary and employment statistics for the Class of 1979 will be completed for the National Association for Law Placement Report at the end of February, giving details of such factors as career, after the following graduation to seek employment. "The legal job search for the twenty years," he says, "is a long and persistent process. Villanova Law graduates and alumni deserve kudos for their ability to stay and work creatively, to persist, to gain satisfying positions," Ms. Beck said.

Third year students, under the direction of Prof. Leonard Packel, learn the ins and outs of courtroom techniques in the Trial Practice course.

Law School

Survey data place VLS near top

Two national surveys... place Villanova Law School in the highest quartile of American law schools.

A Goals, in a planning sense, are ideals we have set... and always has been. We strive for excellence knowing that no matter how we are, or may think we are, there is always room for improvement. Qualities, such as excellence, cannot be measured in quantitative terms, can be partial indicators, and are a function of the ability of each individual to perceive his or her school's activities and the allocation of the limited resources available.

There is proof that we have made a great deal of progress. Two national surveys, one in 1975 and the other in 1979, place the Villanova Law School in the highest quartile of American law schools. For purposes of comparing such factors as student-faculty ratios and library holdings, the schools were classified both by range of student enrollment and by quartiles which were developed on the basis of three factors: (1) median faculty salaries; (2) total number of library volumes; and (3) median LSAT scores. (The authors of the Report acknowledged that these factors alone do not indicate the overall quality of a school and cautioned that the quartile system "should not be construed as a ranking of the law schools.")

Villanova placed within the First Quartile, which reflects well on the school since it is the best possible place for any law school to be. Our law school's position in the First Quartile at the time of the ABA Review of Legal Education. No survey pretends to rank accurately schools on the highest quartile of American law schools.

The 1965 survey used six factors to construct the index: number of students, number of full-time faculty, student-faculty ratio, volumes in the library, volumes of library holdings, and faculty-student ratio. Villanova Law School placed 26th (in Group 2A) on a list of 138 schools. An unfavorable student-faculty ratio from being ranked in Group 1A by Yale, Pennsylvania, Harvard, Virginia and others.

There is a very important point to be made in this connection. Ten weeks ago, at the month of September, I was writing to you to urge that we secure University approval increasing our authorized full-time teaching positions to twenty-five. With a normal law school population of 620, our student-faculty ratio will become better than 25:1. If we had had that ratio at the time of the study, Villanova would have been ranked in Group 1A. The student-faculty ratio which I became Dean in 1972 was 35:1.

The second survey came in a Report to the Consultant on Legal Education to the American Bar Association in 1976. Compared for the purpose of this survey provided in the annual ABA Questionnaires and accredited to the law school, which is evidence of its commitment to excellence and evidence of its progress toward excellence.

There are other developments, just as clear, but difficult to quantify. Our graduates have done extraordinarily well in practice. The legal community within our area of influence is marvelously receptive to our graduates because of the success of our graduates. Philadelphia lawyers speak very well of the Villanova Law School. Their praise is the product of the competence of our graduates. That is one measure of our progress toward excellence. The beneficiaries of that progress are the students in our Law School today.

Could you elaborate upon the reception of our graduates in the Philadelphia community? A I could, but I am certain that Mrs. Beck would enjoy elaborating on that subject. I will leave it for her.

Our graduates have done extraordinarily well in practice... That is one measure of our progress toward excellence.

Our graduates have done extraordinarily well in practice... That is one measure of our progress toward excellence.

The Dean's Column: the 1980's

Q Law School... placed in some detail the University's present financial situation and its prospects for the future. Now, we come to the goals and the objectives that would like to know about the future of the Law School. What does the future hold? In order to properly the new decade will have on the Law School, it is important to look at the important aspects of the school. We must know what we are, and what we wish to become, before we can calculate how the new decade will have on the school. We must evaluate the plans of action needed to achieve the goals we have set. There are partial references to our goals in our most recent catalogue and in our first catalogue. The goal of the law school has always been to prepare for the practice of law anywhere in the country and in the world.

In the early 1960's, the President and Board of Trustees of Villanova University became acutely aware of a demand in the Philadelphia area for a Roman Catholic university in the United States... Our Law School places a great value on excellence. That is one measure of our progress toward excellence.

A large law firm does not expect you to be a business producer," he says, "but a small firm does — sometimes expecting $100,000 worth a year."

He also notes that "a large law firm wants to make money off me, but in a small law firm, I make money off me.

Mr. Richman also commented on the aspect of personality in a law firm. "Brains are a dime a dozen, but the object is to get clients and keep them."

All four litigators agreed that if you want to be good in civil litigation, you won't be going home early. Not only do litigators face long hours, but they must have strong egos. "You must think that you are the best. You are selling yourself as well as your client. If you are afraid of being on your feet, forget it," says Mr. Marino.

Q You have made several references to securing University approval for such things as increased faculty, more secretarial support and research assistants. What is the financial relationship between the Law School and the University? Are we in the same dangerous posture as the University?

A Let me stop you there. We will deal with those questions next time. You might keep this in mind, though. The Law School was built through the sacrifice of others in the University community. When we started in 1965, our costs were paid from income derived from tuition payments made by undergraduate students. I believe that we have, up to now, not paid back, even taking into account inflation, the dollars contributed by the undergraduate students to the school. The principle that sometimes one component of the University may properly be asked to lend support to another, is a firmly entrenched University policy without which we would not exist.
The Docket • February 8, 1980

Reimel's Rolling Along

The Twentieth Annual Reimel Moot Court competition is moving into its final rounds. The quarterfinal rounds were scheduled to be argued on February 5.

Court competition is moving into its final rounds. The quarterfinal rounds were

The semi-final rounds are scheduled for

March 10, and the final round is scheduled

for April 12. Following the final round will

be the annual dinner and cocktail party held for the Moot Court Board, the faculty, and

the judges and participants from the final round.

The judges for the quarter-final arguments consisted of three judges from each of the courts of common pleas of Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties. The judges for the semi-final arguments include one judge of the Pennsylvania Superior Court, three United States District Court Judges from the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, one United States District court Judge from the District of Delaware, and another judge who is still to be named.

A prestigious panel will hear the final arguments. Judge John J. Gibbons of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit will be joined by Professor Hyson, the faculty coordinator; Mary M. Schreiber of the Supreme Court of New Jersey and Judge John M. Ferren of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

One unexpected difficulty with this year's problem is the tendency of the teams arguing for the petitioner to advance. There was a near-split after the first round, but in the second round nine petitioner teams were victorious as compared to four respondents teams.

The effect is that all of the teams who competed in the quarter-final round were originally arguing for the petitioner, and only one team had ever argued for the respondents in reverse.

Geoff Steiert, the co-chairman of the Moot Court Board for Moot Court II and the Reimel Competition, says that although the sympathy of the judges would be with the petitioner (the case is a privacy action), all of the recent problems for the Reimel Competition have had such an emotional bias for the petitioner.

Professor Hyson, the faculty coordinator of the Moot Court program, says that the judges are given clear instructions that their decision is to be made on the quality of the briefs and the oral arguments, and not on the merits.

Graduation

(Continued from page 1)

years past and again combine the law school commencement with those of other University colleges, and schedule it at a time which did not conflict with the other graduations they wanted held during the day.

Dean O'Brien emphasizes the fact that "This is the first time the law school will have a separate graduation, even though the rest of the University will graduate at about the same time."

As for next year, the Dean is making no promises, but hopes to uphold the precedent he's created.

"The separate graduation, I believe, is a fine tradition which should continue," he says. "I cannot guarantee it, but I think we may have a reasonable expectation of separate graduations in the future."

Continuing Legal Education Opportunity

A Symposium On

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN FAMILY LAW

No Fault Divorce  Child Custody
Family Law & the E.R.A.  Psycholegal
Perspective of Divorce  Parental
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1980
1:00 P.M.
VILLANOVA LAW SCHOOL, ROOM 29
No Admission Charge

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THE VILLANOVA LAW REVIEW

Back to the reform of the law school education in the late Nineteenth century at Harvard, Dean Reimel himself uses the word "defunct" to describe the examinations in his courses. He feels they provide a better test of the skills required of a lawyer: the ability to recognize issues and to create and organize a response to those issues.

Dean Reimel feels that the possible danger of subjective grading can be overcome by assigning points for arguments, recognition and development, and then carefully scoring and totaling the student's points. He also feels the chance of a student successfully "bullshitting" (the current, if somewhat, invidious term) his or her decent grade on his essay exam is quite small. Such imprecise writing is likely to turn him off, he says.

In addition, Dean Reimel feels that if students face nothing but multiple choice exams for three years, they will be unprepared and unready for the demands they will face as practicing lawyers. But if a student can cope with essay exams, the Dean believes, he should be able to handle multiple choice tests.

As for preparing for the bar exam, Dean Reimel's reply was, "Willaena is a law school not a bar exam school."

Professor Leonard Levin had until recently been a member of the traditional faculty. In the last few years, though, he has been moving in the direction of using multiple choice questions. Professor Levin feels that teaching is itself a process of continual learning. He now believes he can prepare with more of a mix of essay and multiple choice questions than he could with all essays.

Professor Levin worries that essay questions may indeed favor the "bullshitter" — the use of the right lingo in the right spot tends to create a certain presumption, even where such understanding may be quite lacking.

Although realizing that multiple choice questions can't. Measure a student's creativity with the law, he feels they provide a better measure of comprehension. Professor Levin has been associated with the preparation of multi-state questions. He feels that students should have some experience in dealing with such questions while they are in law school.

Professor Levin's strongest proponent of multiple choice exams here at VLS is Professor Howard Lurie. He feels that the advantages of multiple choice questions far outweigh those of the traditional essay exams. At the most basic level, he points out that multiple choice tests eliminate the simple mechanical task of writing, which occupies as much of a student's time during an essay test. The Professor, in other words, assumes part of the task in place of the student, in Lurie's view. In the Professor's experience, each multiple choice question took to him much less time as an essay question. He feels that a good essay exam could be put together over a weekend; sixty good multiple choice questions take many months of preparation time.

Of course, the Professor gets a return for such a substantial investment of preparation time; the computer can score the form in a millisecond while the other professors are slaving over a seemingly endless heap of blue books. It's the old "pay me now or pay me later" choice.

Another advantage of multiple choice exams, Professor Lurie continued, is that one can refine the questions from year to year by getting ideas from statistical breakdowns from the computer.

By analyzing the percentage of correct responses by high-ranking, middle-ranking and low-ranking students, Professor Lurie can measure the value of each question on his test. Poor questions can be improved or eliminated, making each year's test better and better.

Exam questions can be given to the students in one form or another, and then evaluated. To keep their fingers crossed in any case. (The Docket invites comments and opinions in response to this column. Please sign your name and leave your response in the office or in the Docket's mailbox in the administration office.)

Valentine's Day Feb. 14th
FLOWERS DO IT!
OUR FLOWERS DO IT LONGER!

Buy Roses from Student Union
One way to combat inflation

NAFI

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by Tom Bovenzi
Anyone who has had a course with Leonard Levin knows of his uncanny ability to analyze complicated legal theories and how his niche in life is that of teaching a complex problem has sparked many a student's interest in the study of the law. But whatever accolades Professor Levin may merit for his well-prepared classroom presentations his forte remains his out of class rapport with his students.
Professor Levin can often be seen sitting in the cafeteria with students discussing anything from one of his intriguing class hypothesis, which the young audience fortunate quite baffled, to current world politics.
His natural ability to keep things in perspective and sincere empathy for many of the traditional law school manias have proved comforting to many students, especially around exam time.
In working with Professor Levin, it should be pointed out that one of his favorite topics did not appear to be himself. As our conversation continued to drift off into the philosophical aspects of legal education it became apparent that this was a man who has thought much about what he does and one who enjoys teaching the various aspects of law. However, it was only after a month at least a cursory view of Leonard Levin's impressive legal background.
Leonard Levin graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1950 after enjoying a tremendously successful academic career. Upon graduation he joined his father, Robert Levin, and his brother, Russell, in his father's general law practice. While Russell handled much of the commercial law of the firm, Leonard specialized in probate law. Although a specialist in the probate area of law, he also gained much exposure to litigation both at the trial and appellate court level.
Shortly after joining his father's firm, Professor Levin began teaching part-time.
His father, as founder of the Robert Levin School of Pennsylvania Law, one of the first major bar review courses developed in Pennsylvania, hired his son to teach some of the various classes offered at the school to students preparing for the Pennsylvania Bar Exam.
In commenting on this early teaching experience, Professor Levin pauses over a morning cup of coffee to consider a student query.

There's No Show Like This One
by Kate Harper
There's no business like Law School show business, and the Sixth Annual Law School Show is already in the planning stages.
The theme of the annual evening of meritocracy is a secret, but the date is not. Mark it on your calendar now: Friday, March 28. There will be two shows. As co-producer, Karen Crumlish put it, “The seven o'clock show is for your parents. The nine-thirty show will be for fun.”
For the uninitiated, the law school show, “a parody of law school life,” in Crumlish’s words, is an extraordinary mixture of music, dance and skits and bad jokes. It’s written, directed, produced and performed by Villanova Law School students — and it’s often very funny and very irreverent.
Returning to the stage this year from last year’s cast are such notables as Spurgeon Nakajima, Mary McGrath and Tom Hall. Davis and Crumlish are hoping for a big turnout at rehearsals which are scheduled to begin Monday, March 10, right after Break. They are looking for actors, actresses, musicians, dancers, writers, stage crew and “we even need some people to stand on stage and do nothing.”
“Whether you’re talented or not, whether you’ve done anything like this before,” says Davis, “we need people.”
Crumlish finishes.

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HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY FROM THE DOCKET

by Chris Barbieri
The most talked about film of the year — and movie crush is an old-fashioned tearjerker set to modern mores. Ever since Jackie Coogan in the silent era, movie­ makers have understood the audience appeal of a cute kid buffeted by misfortune. Now the gypsies and dogcatchers have been replaced by divorce and custody battles. And, unlike the moppets of days gone by, Jackie Henry is not all frolics, sweetness and light. He is a very real and believable little boy, whose performance is every bit as equal to his “parents”, Dustin Hoffman and Meryl Streep.
Hoffman, coming from several widely varied efforts ("Agatha", "Straight Time") shows that he has lost none of his exceptional range. The scene in which he vigorously tries to convince his boss that he is still equal to his highly demanding job description adds responsibility as a member of the family as well as father to his child is a master­ piece. In fact, every scene in which Hoffman appears is brilliantly realized.
Streep’s performance, because of its ab­

Kramer vs. Kramer

Kramer v. Kramer is truly a movie of performances. As a result the storyline seems to have been neglected to some ex­

tent. Several of the plot elements are(decidedly put, as when Streep brings out the (by now) ragged circumstances of not being able to be what her husband wanted (i.e. solely a wife and mother) as her reason for leaving. Also, the ending is so, we know all too well from observation, strictly the stuff of fairy tales. Nevertheless, "Kramer" is truly a film worth seeing and recommended to one and all with the caution that you will undoubtedly feel at least a little bit like crying in one or two scenes, an art the Holly­ and filmmakers originated in the silent era and still employ to perfection.