The Docket, Issue 6, April 1980

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ETS Fails the Test...

By Matthew Wolfe

All law schools accredited by the American Bar Association including Villanova, require all applicants to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The LSAT and the other admissions tests written and administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) have come under scathing attacks recently. Consumer advocate Ralph Nader has released an investigative report on the ETS entitled The Roar of the ETS, The Corporation That Makes Up Minds. Also, in New York State opponents of the ETS system have managed to have a bill passed which will require the ETS to disclose the questions and answers to the test after it has been graded. All of this has prompted a reexamination of the LSAT and the ETS in particular.

Opponents of the LSAT contend that the test automatically excludes certain kinds of students. For example, students from disadvantaged backgrounds, that it is only a common denominator among the applications. The academic standards and grading systems vary greatly between colleges, and even within an individual college. Sandy Mannix, Villanova Law School's Director of Admissions, says that the LSAT scores are of importance in the admissions process, and that all applicants are ranked according to an ETS developed formula (multiply point average by 115 and add LSAT). Ms. Mannix downplays the significance of this ranking system somewhat however, due to the fact that there is no cutoff point below which an applicant is rejected, and the fact that this ranking system is only a part of the admission process. Every application is read and points are added or subtracted from the ranking based on such things as quality and grades in the applicants' undergraduate school, the activities and accomplishments of the students, and the student's standardized testing history.

Professor Collins, the Chairman of the Admissions Committee, says that no one believes that the LSAT should be a complete determinant in the law school admissions process. He states that "No one has ever been admitted on the basis of the LSAT alone." Since the LSAT is "one shot deal," as opposed to most of the applicants' other academic and extracurricular achievements, he feels that the test cannot be given too much weight. Professor Collins feels that LSAT's are least helpful when dealing with students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Professor Collins does agree, however, that they are the only common denominator among students and are helpful for that reason. Most applicants come to study law, and in the selection process the gross point average may not be completely revealing some of the student's strengths. He states that "the demands and challenges presented by law school will stretch even the best students, and in the selection process, something more than just numbers is needed to select the best students." Also, in New York State opponents of the ETS system have managed to have a bill passed which will require the ETS to disclose the questions and answers to the test after it has been graded. All of this has prompted a reexamination of the LSAT and the ETS in particular.

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Thanks For the Memories

"But at my back! I always hear/Time's Winged Chariot! Hurrying Near."

Andrew Marvell was talking to his coy mistress — and not about law school — but the sentiments are the same. The law student who hasn’t once wished for another month before class, one more week before exams, one more month before the bar — is a rare creature, indeed. As if we needed to be told, the Villanova Law School Bulletin lets us know, on page 24, that “the study of law is a fulltime commitment.” And yet, and yet. There are some students who manage, while juggling classwork and part-time jobs or family responsibilities to squeeze in just a little more. You know who they are.

They go out and get the beer for the T.G.I.F.’s. They write the skits for the Law School Show. They attend national conferences as Villanova’s representatives. They put together lectures open to the public to enrich the law school experience. They join you out on the field on fall Saturdays for a game. They serve on committees for the law school and the university. They make posters to tell you what’s going on. They give of their time and of themselves and we are all a little richer for it.

We at the Docket salute all of you who have managed to find the time to make life at the law school a little fuller for the rest of us. Thanks, we needed that.

On a more personal level, we’d like to recognize the senior members of the Docket staff, who graduate next month, and who will be sorely missed: Editor Emeritus Tish Dugan (whose tenure as Docket editor was recognized recently when theABA-LSD awarded the Docket an Honorable Mention award for a series of features on the police ride-alongs); Features Editor and reviewer of the week Eric Chris Barbieri, who faithfully wrote for and laid out every issue for the past two years; our cartoonist Larry Phelan, who always had more good ideas every issue than we had room for, and Bruce Briner, whose articles were always well-researched, well-written, and handed in on time. We’ll miss you all.

Professional Recognition

Do not hallucinate.

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In the spring a dean's fancy turns to thoughts of — the pursuit of excellence, eh? Mrs. Mary O'Donnell, administrative assistant to the Dean, seldom gets to make announcements like this one: Dean J. Willard O'Brien is engaged to be married to Ms. Peggy Gruner. A June 1980 wedding is planned. Best wishes!

Mary and Jim O'Connor, VLS '80, are celebrating the arrival of their new baby on April Fool's Day. Ryan Scanlon O'Connor was born April 1, at 3:07 p.m. He weighed eight pounds, seven ounces. Congrats!

Cat's In Hot Water

How much do you think a few ounces of hot water is worth? Well, two first year students do not think it's worth 25 cents, but that's what the Villanova Law School cafeteria is charging for it these days. The two first year students hoped to save a little money by bringing their own coffee cups and teabags or hot chocolate to school with them. They both said they'd pay a nickel for the privilege of filling up if they were awake at 1:30 a.m. and weighed in at seven pounds, six and a half ounces. Brian joins a big clan. Professor Mary Joe Frug was also a Boogie Fellow.

Congratulations are in order for Deke Deiter, VLS '81, and his wife, Barbara, who have recently added a third Deiter to the clan. Brian Jacob was born Friday, March 14, at 1:30 a.m. and weighed in at seven pounds, six and a half ounces. Brian joins a big brother, Avi, and a big sister, Ilana.

Tish Dugan, DOCKET Editor: Thank you. Despite the usual law school hurdles, these have been three very good years for which I will always be grateful to Villanova.

Don't Lose VLS Without 'Em

By Joan M. Beck

Director of Placement Joan Beck announced recently that two members of the Class of 1980 have been approved for prestigious Regis Fellowships. The fellowships were awarded to Jeff Armstrong and Tom Motter. Ms. Beck points out that VLS professor Mary Joe Frug was also a Boogie Fellow.

The Placement Office becomes home to third year students who have calmly (or not so calmly) decided to put off seriously seeking a job until after graduation. Employer information is kept current. Job posting newsletters are sent monthly to recent graduates at their homes. Handout lists are available. Helpful alumni advisors can be identified in legal specialties, in employment fields, and in geographic areas. Letters to out-of-state law placement directors can be written. Career counseling and job-search-strategy planning sessions are available at any time by appointment with the director.

A note to the not-so-calm: it may take time to make a good law job "marriage." Many legal employers — because of the economics of small office businesses — will not hire until bar results are known, usually in October. If you do not find a job by July, take a well-earned August vacation or obtain low-pressure part-time jobs. Pick up the search in earnest in September. At that time also look up the Philadelphia Bar Association Placement Director, Beryl Dean. Upon graduation you are an attorney. Your expertise, confidence and poise are key.

SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

Don't leave home without us. LEAVE YOUR SUMMER PHONE NUMBER WITH THE PLACEMENT OFFICE. Many employers will contact the law school for exams. If we can reach you, we will gladly pass along the information. Job posting goes on all summer, too. If you are close to the law school, stop in.

Remember, if you are forced to take a non-legal job or need to "drop out" for a time, you can gain some experience and surprisingly a great deal of confidence by doing one of the following: Interviewing some "real" lawyers; observing trials; volunteering Saturdays or a block of time weekly to a law office, a legal services office or a government office; or working a non-legal paid job for 8 weeks and a voluntary legal job for one or two.

In the legal job market EXPERIENCE COUNTS, and VLS students are equipped to pick it up fast!

New Profs

(Continued from page 1)

A.B. from the University of Kansas in 1964, then studied in France for a year at the University of Toulouse on a Fulbright Scholarship. He earned his J.D. at the University of Chicago Law School in 1968, and a Master of Comparative Law Degree from the same school in 1970, in conjunction with studies at the University of Louvain, Belgium.

Returning to the New World, he has been a lecturer at Carlton University in Ottawa, Canada, and at the University of Ottawa. He was also a member of the Department of Philosophy at St. John's University, Newfoundland, as well as an Assistant Professor at the University of Manitoba. More recently, Professor Marvin served as a consultant for the Canadian Department of Justice. He is presently the Director of the Administrative Law Project of the Law Reform Commission of Canada.

Leonard R. Jaffe will be a visiting professor for one year only. He received his J.D. in 1972 from Rutgers, Newark, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review. He has been on the faculty of Louisville, Cleveland-Marshall, and Rutgers, Camden Law Schools. His principal interest is in the field of property. Since Villanova Law School has been looking for some time for a "property" man, Professor Jaffe should be a valuable addition to the faculty.

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Sagacity is not...
The VLS Championship Soccer Team.

**Soccer Team Triumphs**

By Kevin C. Gleason

Last year the VLS soccer team completed an outstanding season by winning the unofficial Federal School Division of the Professional Schools League with an impressive 4-5 record. The highlight of the season was the team's 7-0 trouncing of their perennial archival the Philadelphia College of Opthalmology. Jeff Coughlin, the team's scoring leader this year had a stellar performance in that contest to elevate the team towards its goals and assisted on another.

It was obvious from the start of the season that "soccer fever" had hit the law school as an estimated 130 students tried out for a spot on the team's 15 man roster. Such enthusiastic team support can greatly be attributed to the team's organizer, Doug Nakajima who also proved his worth on the playing field by scoring the winning goal in a 3-1 victory over the always tenacious PCOM squad.

The team played on Sunday mornings at Franklin Field and usually held weekly practices. The excitement that permeated the air on Sunday mornings when the good 'ol Blue and White eleven of VLS charged from the sidelines must be experienced to be believed. The students who lined up for the game's finer points proved immeasurable as when Howard "Photogenic" Levin drilled home the first goal of the season in the opener. The estimated 17 fans at the game went completely wild as they waved signs left over from last year's finale that read, "Wait till next year."

Standout performances were consistently provided by the versatile halfback line consisting of Phil Torcelli, Joel Biegalski, Paul Tamm, and Charlie Gorrow. The goal-tending services of Dwight Ku proved to be the team's most notable asset. Dwight, a first round draft choice from Cornell had a sparkling season as he registered two shutouts and displayed an uncanny ability to play his finest when the chips were down.

Much of the team's success this past year is attributable to the aggressive defense played by the halfbacks Minella, Gary Fruehlander, Joe Mininni, and Frank Cerra. Lou and Gary should especially be commended for their attempt to acquire two "varsity" letters this year in both soccer and rugby.

The team's first game this past fall was followed by a great deal of hype for the team's Drive-In screening of "The Wild One" (Greatest interchange in cinema history: "What're you rebelling against, Johnny?"--"Where the hell is James Dean in "Rebel Without a Cause," the concept transformed its into some pretty strong dressing). At the time Gil DeBenedictis was the Troy Donohue "do it once and you're pregnant" category typified by Summer Place and "Susan Slade." Then there were the Annette beach party epic and the whole card of "Gidget" insatiables. At the same time great "B" movies filled with Rock 'n' Roll images flooded the Drive-In screens.

All this was followed by a great deal of confusion in the late sixties with "The Trip" and "Easy Rider" exemplifying the kind of sober fare dealing with the "younger generation.

Not surprisingly, after that, nobody wanted to hear anything about anyone under 20 for about 10 years (with the exception of 1972's "American Griffin" which was about sixty-sixteen-timers anyway). Now the genre seems to have come around giving the Troy Donohue an admissible worshipper of the genre in all its manifestations (with the exception of some of the more trying surf 'n' sand moments), the arrival of "Little Darlings" is like a blessed event. Not only is this film replete with all the important cliches about surfer culture (the likes of which are always derived from the campgrounds, peer pressure abounding, etc.), it contains one of the most health-eating daughter of long-haired hippies (the children of "Easy Rider") and a female contest to lose virginity.

The much publicized contest is, of course, between Tatum O'Neal and wavy street creature, Kristy McNichol. Ms. O'Neal is competent at a trifle, but certainly not even Ms. McNichol, well, there's nothing more nauseating than a cross between a girl child and a young woman, but here goes: Kristy McNichol is an extraordinary talented performer. The complete opposite of Tatum. Kristy is there able her whole well within range of Dean's "Rebel." Everything she does in this film rings true. The only problem is that tough girl" vulnerability is the core of the film. Without her the film would be an amusing bit of entertainment. With her, it is elevated to a significant portrayal of the complexity and fullness of her characterization:

"wait till next year."

By Tom Brokaw

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No doubt the fans' favorite player was the fleet Kathy Kane who provided the team with consistent and solid performances. Her great teamplay and knowledge of the game's finer points proved immeasurable as when Howard "Photogenic" Levin drilled home the first goal of the season in the opener. The estimated 17 fans at the game went completely wild as they waved signs left over from last year's finale that read, "Wait till next year."

The major role of the SBA as the sole elec representant of student interests is to create an atmosphere of community in the law school thereby facilitating a more well-rounded experience. An additional function of the organisation is that of liaison between the administration, faculty, and students. Finally, the SBA controls funding for student activities and clubs.

Paul hopes to encourage the recent trend he sees towards student involvement in extra-curricular activities. Of all barriers to the development of the SBA as an effective organization "apathy is the most frustrating," he says. A more interesting student body provides the impetus for a responsible student government which in turn brightens student interest.

As a liaison, the SBA has an unrealized potential. Paul has experienced "a good working relationship" with the administration and faculty but is expected to return next year and give the team a much needed lift by providing the players with water and oranges at halftime."

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