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Welcome Class Of 1983

By Sandra M. Mannix
Director of Admissions

Welcome, Class of 1983! The Admissions Office has compiled the statistics below to let you know what the rest of your class is like.

As of August 13, the Class of 1983 was composed of 224 new students, 139 men and 85 women (38%). Five of these students are enrolled in the joint J.D./Ph.D. program with Hahnemann Medical College, and there are ten returning students. Twenty-one students identified themselves as members of a minority group.

Mr. Marvin will teach Public International Law and one small section of Torts this fall. In the spring, he will teach Comparative Law and Jurisprudence.

Mr. Marvin, a graduate of the University of Kansas and University of Chicago Law School, also earned a Master of Comparative Law at the University of Chicago and studied at the University of Toulouse in France.

He taught law at the University of Kent in England, and the University of Laval and the University of Manitoba, both in Canada. Mr. Marvin obtained his law degree from Dickinson School of Law and his LL.M in Taxation from New York University School of Law.

His teaching credits include professional duties at Rutgers-Camden, Temple, Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the Colleges of William and Mary, Syracuse and Williamette law schools. He will direct and teach the Graduate Tax program.

Mr. Jaffe, a graduate of Rutgers-Newark School of Law where he was editor-in-chief of the law review, is a professor at the University of Louisville School of Law. While visiting Villanova, he will teach Property, Persons and Decedents & Trusts as well as a seminar.

Ms. Dehne takes over the Placement Director duties this year since Ms. Joan Beck has left Villanova to start her own executive talent search firm in Wayne. Ms. Dehne is formerly director of recruiting for Pepper, Hamilton and Schee in Philadelphia.

The SBA Used Book Sale will be open all day today in rooms one and two.

Nader Spoke

Law Schools Meet

By Paul Dougherty

E. Paul Dougherty, president of the Villanova Law School Student Bar Association, recently attended the national meeting of the National Association of Law Students (NASBA) and the ABA Law Student Division (LSD) Convention, both held in San Francisco. Here is his report:

The meetings opened with an address by Ralph Nader as the keynote speaker at the NASBA Convention held August 4 through August 8 at San Francisco Law School.

The purpose of the NASBA is to act as a forum through which members can address the problems similar to all law students.

The organization is comprised of all the presidents of SBA's in the country.

The meetings opened with an address by Ralph Nader on "Consumerism and Today's Legal Profession." Nader contends that equal justice is effectively denied to a majority of consumers.

As a result of "gross deployment of today's legal talent on "lucrative trivia," he says, "the overriding compelling function of the profession — promoting justice" is ignored.

As an alternative to such a legal life, Nader suggests the Equal Justice Foundation, a group committed to Public Interest Law.

The NASBA Convention also discussed student representation on the faculty committee, SBA Bookstores, financial aid, Bar exams, first year orientation, graduation ceremonies and social functions.

In addition to the substantive material covered in the workshops, the conference gave me a chance to meet representatives from other law schools and compare activities. Villanova's programs exceed the national average. I found some of our SBA sponsored programs, such as our first year orientation program and used book sale, as well as our Honor Code, are to be used as models for other schools.

My own experiences at this convention, I feel, will help Villanova's SBA provide better student services this year to our students at the law school.

In addition to the NASBA conference, I was also able to represent Villanova as a voting delegate to the annual ABA-LSD convention in San Francisco the following weekend. In addition to providing services such as the ABA Journal and The Student Lawyer, health insurance and funding for student activities, the ABA-LSD represents all law schools to the ABA.

VLS SBA

Some of the SBA activities planned for the coming year include attempting to achieve greater representation on faculty committees, including placement and curriculum; expanding the present vending room facilities; publishing a student directory; and, hopefully, also publishing a VLS yearbook.

The SBA Bulletin Board will be used to inform you of all SBA activities: it's located outside the Student Lounge. We welcome your participation and involvement. Please feel free to talk to me or your class SBA rep.

Elections for representatives from the First Year Class, one from each section and one at-large, will be held in several weeks.
It's traditional for the editor of the Docket to offer some advice to the incoming First Year Class — it is traditional, in fact, for everybody to offer advice to the First Year Class, so if you've had enough, why don't you skip the following and check out Legal Briefs? If not, read on: it may not be sage, but it is heartfelt.

You will come into the library early some morning and discover that others are already there before you. You will leave the library late some night, knowing that others, bleary-eyed, are still there, poring over citations from the hornbooks. You'll do as much as you can and worry yourself sick, but it is heartfelt.

The advice is simply this: Don't put your life "on hold" for the next three years.

The study of law is demanding and the atmosphere at the Law School compelling. Most of you will have to study harder than you've had to study before — the material is, at first at least, hard to comprehend. The volume of work is, frankly, heavy.

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LEGAL BRIEFS

Parties To The Action

Speaking of Villanovans (and when aren't we?), Linda Fran Berman, a 1978 VLS graduate, has been named Editor of the Pennsylvania Law Journal.

While here, Ms. Berman was a quarter-finalist in the 1977 Reimel Moot Court Competition. After graduation, she became Assistant Director of Research and Development at the American Law Institute/American Bar Association Committee on Continuing Professional Education.

Ms. Berman has been active in the Philadelphia Bar Association's Lawyers for the Arts Committee and has worked pro bono for the Support Center for Child Abuse, as well as participating in various other professional and charitable organizations.

What's big, green, angry and out to save the world from all the crooks that slip through the Justice System? If you guessed The Hulk, you're close. Would you believe Spiderman is to web-slinging, says Marvel publisher Stan Lee.

Trial Tactics

Trial tactics were the subject of a workshop at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland recently, according to the Wall Street Journal. Young lawyers who attended the sessions were criticized for using "law school talk" in court. That is, one professor at the workshop stopped a cross-examination about the witness' "ascending and descending" a staircase with the comment: "People go up and down. Only lawyers ascend and descend."

Another professor related the story of the lawyer who asked the witness, "What next did you do with respect to the operation and control of the motor vehicle in question?" He wanted to know, "Where did you drive it?"

Life After Law School?

Don't say you weren't warned, all you First Year Students: about 34,000 students graduated from ABA accredited law schools this year, and the U.S. Department of Labor estimates that there are only 26,000 openings.

Someone at the Chicago Tribune, who has obviously never felt the thrill of grabbing a mile in Contracts to announce, "The plaintiff sued the defendant for breach of contract," suggested that budding legal eagles beyond my reach as Jennifer Walters, attorney. And does she ever. PROW! "She is to law what Spiderman is to web-slinging," says Marvel publisher Stan Lee.

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By John Delaney

The new academic year has begun. Students — be they veterans of the Socratic mind game or legal yearlings — have assembled their equipment in preparation: pens in every color of the rainbow, reams of yellow paper, some extremely heavy and thoroughly uninteresting casebooks. The more industrious have already collected those fine legal treatises by Messrs. Gilbert, Sumandsubstance and Emmanuel. But before it’s too late, don’t forget those beat-up, worn-out Chuck Taylor All-Stars because the Student Bar Association has once again lent its efforts to keeping the Student Body involved in some facsimile of an athletic activity. Here’s a list of the offerings.

Fall sports

Along with the annual wilting of the Phillies, autumn features flag football and softball. The slow-pitch softball league is for everybody, as fun (rather than talent) is the key ingredient. Flag football, however, is fairly competitive and the fellas have been known to, uh, “be aggressive,” as they say in sports circles.

Villanova Law School also fields inter­scholastic squads in soccer and rugby. The hooters are a recent addition to the law school, and anyone with experience and/or basketball in the winter.

Basketball

Winter is mainly characterized by that cookies-and-milk period known as finals, and what seems like a one-day Christmas vacation. Once the second semester begins, though, it’s time for roundball. In addition to two interscholastic squads, the law school has two intramural leagues: “competitive” and “recreational.” Those terms are meant to be descriptive. The competitive division has some ex­cellent basketball players; the recreational league has some people who think they are excellent basketball players. Regardless of where you fit into this scheme, there’s a spot for everyone, even Frank “Lord of the Leap” Arleo.

Special events

Along with the team competitions, some one-time events are in the wind. The Mitch Smith Open will be held in April, so named because all of the honorees past and present roommates have agreed to caddy and provide refreshments. Isn’t that right, guys? Kidding aside, an ice skating night at nearby Radnor Rink is a possibility, as is an evening of Kegling (or, for all you Penn grads, bowling). A spring tennis tournament is on the drawing board, too.

Facilities

A word about Villanova facilities; they’re at a premium. Basketball courts are situated in St. Mary’s Hall (across Route 320 from the law school), Alumni Hall (on the Main Campus) and the Fieldhouse (Lancaster and Ithan Avenues). The Fieldhouse also houses a weight room and an Olympic-sized swimming pool. The Uni­versity’s other swimming pool is in St. Mary’s Hall. Tennis courts can be found near St. Mary’s and behind the University Bookstore.

Runners can be found everywhere, as jogging has become the most popular law school sport since Open Writing. You should also know that the Law School is the proud “home track” of two of Greater Philadelphia’s best marathoners; Professor Walter Taggart and Third Year student Dick Hayden.

Watch the bulletin boards outside the Student Lounge for more information on all of these sporting events. And now a word to the wise: Villanova is an integral part of Philadelphia’s famed Main Line. That means if you were actually considering further use of your high white converse sneakers, you’re going to be a lit­tle out of place.

Hustle your muscle over to the nearest sporting goods shop, er, athletic attire em­porium, and pick up some new aero­dynamically perfect fancy foreign all­purpose competition level footwear. Touche! Now you fit right in.

Be A Good Sport At Villanova

The Docket is a monthly newspaper written and published by the students at Villanova Law School. We won’t take much or your time and we’d really love to have you join us. Leave a message for Kate Harper on the Message Board or drop by our office across from Student Services.