Salutations Class of 85

Diane Falcone — 3rd year, Chester County DA's Office. Working in the DA's office you meet some real characters. I've got some great stories but unfortunately they aren't suitable for press. One interesting thing happened however; that is true talking. One day last May, before I began working, I was cleaning my house, with the radio on a talk station. There was a program on featuring a "psychic" who would let you know what would happen next. The "psychic" said that I would meet a young woman who was upset, with a problem about her daughter. I was so happy that I went straight to work. For the better part of 3 weeks I worked on a case involving the proper placement of drainage ditches. The lawyer clerks in our firm were almost envious of the "psychic" because he had done something I couldn't do.

Janet McAleese — "I'm probably the only in the Philadelphia area who didn't do extensive research in products liability law. The only project I did was a comprehensive analysis of the law clerks in our firm who were arrested but the woman wanted to work there. I was so happy that I went straight to work. For the better part of 3 weeks I worked on a case involving the proper placement of drainage ditches. The lawyer clerks in our firm were almost envious of the "psychic" because he had done something I couldn't do.

Lisa Passante — "It seemed like a good idea to risk having them on the softball team."

Teresa Nazario — "I'm probably the most popular as a result of the husband who had assaulted his wife. He will meet the entire first-year class on August 31st."

ALL QUIET ON THE POTOMAC — Rm 30 takes on a deceptively peaceful air while awaiting the arrival of the class of 1985.

Seasonal Labour

By Walter Champion, Reference Librarian

What do we, as a nation, care about books? How much do you think we spend altogether on our libraries, public or private, as compared with what we spend on our horses?

There are many things in the Library to greet the new or returning student. Alan Holcho, formerly Director of the Law Library, has begun his duties as the new Director of the Villanova Law Library. He will meet the entire first-year class on September 8th, 1982.

The librarians and staff of the Pulling Library are looking forward to the return of students and the resumption of classes. This current class will mark the fourth year in a row that the Library has been open.

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The Library also proudly announces the hiring of a library secretary, Jane Falls, a former long-time employee of the much-praised Philadelphia Bulletin.

On the down side, R.M.A. in History and one in Political Science. The largest of an MSS/MLSP from Bryn Mawr, and the only foreign degree in an M.S. in Economics from the London School of Eco-

Twenty (20) of you have Masters' level advanced degrees. These degrees vary from English/literature, one M.A. in Theology, one M.S. in Taxa-

Here's to the good people of the Board of Law Exa-

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Despite the horror stories passed from one class of law students to the next concerning the Herculean rites of passage that law school involves, there is little doubt that most of you will be able to complete the three years successfully. One’s questioning of this or her ability to get through is a natural and perhaps necessary part of his law school education. However, the more important questions that one should address deals not with the process itself, but with the end result of that process, that of being a lawyer.

Most of us have been weaned on a view of the legal profession quite divergent from reality. While Villanova does produce occasionally the future Felix Frankfurters or John Jenkins, the vast majority of its graduates become rather undistinguished lawyers, practicing rather undistinguished law, commanding undistinguished salaries. This result, not peculiar to Villanova, is further exacerbated by the rising number of lawyers pouring into the market. According to one report, over half of the lawyers in Pennsylvania are under the age of thirty-five. Sightings of VLS graduates working in A&P’s or Gullifty’s dirtiest bits of school, much the same as periodic tales of Japanese soldiers still fighting the Second World War in the Philippines. On a more substantial level, numerous graduates are working at salaries little over ten thousand a year.

It is imperative therefore, that those entering law school come in with their eyes open. Unless one goes to law school with a genuine interest in the results of their three years will most likely be disappointing. It is important that this fundamental question of whether one wants to be a practicing lawyer be answered and answered truthfully because one’s all important that this fundamental question of whether one wants to be a practicing lawyer be answered and answered truthfully because one’s all

BALSAS NEWS

BALSAS successfully sponsored the 2nd summer orientation program for the 1982 incoming minority students. The program was conducted on campus and brought together 10 students who are from the minority group. The program was designed to introduce the students to the legal profession and to familiarize them with the law school environment.

BALSAS’ College program is continuingly helping first year members make the transition into law school as smooth as possible by offering one-to-one communication and all contributions and leave at the Docket office. All contributions will be signed although anonymity will be given upon request.

THE DOCKET

The Docket welcomes all letters and comments. Please double line all text. Your contributions will be signed although anonymity will be given upon request.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

By Fr. Somatic

A criminalist in New York state has suggested replacing physical punishment as a deterrent to crime and as a substitute for prison overcrowding; and this article is to ask if the Christians shouldn’t come in on his side of the debate on what to do about a frightful situation which hinders the development of the Christian in his task of being a believer.

So, before proceeding further, the writer should say he is a sadder but not a wiser Christian; he would not like to inflict physical pain and even less suffer it; and hard work is no longer a law either as scientific or for defendant. What’s said here is hopefully, Biblical and, perhaps, realistic and in fact more compassionate.

Physical punishment from being stood up to on one’s knees as a child, to the stocks and pillory as an adult, to whipping or beating, to the most severe corporal flogging, this is the subject. As of the middle of the 19th century in the Western world, it is the criminal method, the almost forgotten method of deterrence or retribution or whatever we want to do about wrongdoing.

The history of the elimination of what is now proposed goes back to 1789 when the Quakers in Philadelphia influenced the substitution for corporal punishment in case of certain crimes, “continuous hard labor, publicly and disgracefully imposed.” This Quaker letter shows that neither hard labor, publicity and disgrace are not part of the punishment.

On any view, of course, we take up a painful and tragic subject. As Christians, we are all familiar, whether for prisoners and captives, and our thesis suggested here is for the prisoners of Christ. That this is that swift, painful, and physical, yet, heal-able punishment will be better for social hygiene, or as the criminal than long periods of prison.

Let me say physically is not Biblical. For Moses to St. Paul, the exponents of traditional faith both accepted and experienced these terrible’reward’ and were glad punishment was not worse. The reforms of prisoners and methods of punishment since the Enlightenment have had a variety of other approaches, often with idealistic views of our human nature and impracticality, whether of the ‘Classical’ school of crime as a delinquent act or the ‘Positive’ school were society is seen as more culpable. Biblical doctrine is ambiguous on why criminals come to be as any thinking person is ambiguous, but the point here is that we must judge their corporal punishment with Biblical horror. Biblical understanding of corporal punishment is unhesitating.

The issue now is critical for Church and state, for the reasoning of crime and the cost of prison punishment. The cost of prison is frightful, not just to the taxpayer, but to the one in prison. The hopes of the innovators like Osborne who made Sing Sing a model in the early years of our century have been dashed by overcrowding and criminality within the prisons.

There seems to be no solution. Build more jails, raise more taxes? That sounds terrible. Release offenders earlier on parole? We read alarming stories of that alternative. So what do to? Introducing the death penalty is but a solution, to total population of prisoners, but mostly are not offenses of yet (yet) capital offenses. The death penalty is, in fact, another subject entirely.

Our subject is something that nobody wants to have happened. It hurts a lot. Especially does it hurt if the body is tender from previous administrations either because of the severity of the crime or repetition. And yet, the body revives itself a lot faster than the mind after trauma.

That’s the Christian basis for recommending physical punishment. The ‘preventative hygiene’ that prisons in ideal form and were supposedly to effect was hardly expected by anybody now, least of all in those walls where all, if we hope to help people, any reasonable alternative should be considered.

We are unreasonable about flogging, or a more scientific, cool method of bodily torture, I’d take back the toughest word to describe physical punishment to describe our repugnance. ‘Flogging’ sounds terrible, but sodomy is apparently what we condemn a young person to now if we send him to prison; and if his crime is serious, it’s years of brutalization by other prisoners we’re talking about, not an hour’s worth of miserable work. Which is better?

If crime could be slowed by anything which took an hour instead of years, which would leave scars on the body rather than scars on the psyche; if the alternative to flogging could heal, and thus it could be administered quickly (or even in cases, summarily) without everlasting consequences there were a mistake if this approach could be tried and it would be unthinkable?

We are repulsed by the death penalty or of unparsable sentences should consider this alternative. As the blue and cry for more draconian treatment rises with the vicious crime rate, the bodily manner of harsh, feared-efficient punishment has passed. Ordinary Churchgoers and citizens fed up with paying vast ‘hotel bills’ for people for whom society has no sympathy, the execution of the ‘criminal of the century’ is not so expensive to the society they’ve been rejected by, not so traumatic for us bystanders by this ‘clean’, swift, economy of means.

A final word may be said from the pen of this writer. I would hate to participate in or in which violence of the legal, controlled sort—advocate — or of, illegal, uncontrollable sorts either. There are people who do enjoy this. Let them be. And the idea that this would lead to a ghastly enrollment of saf­ das is absurd and beside the point. The sanitizer is no point. We’re trying to stop them. The administration of the corporal act if they’d like. But the idea that this would lead to a ghastly enrollment of saf­ das is absurd and beside the point. The sanitizer is no point. We’re trying to stop them. The administration of the corporal act if they’d like. But the idea that this would lead to a ghastly enrollment of saf­ das is absurd and beside the point. The sanitizer is no point. We’re trying to stop them. The administration of the corporal act if they’d like. But the idea that this would lead to a ghastly enrollment of saf­ das is absurd and beside the point. The sanitizer is no point. We’re trying to stop them. The administration of the corporal act if they’d like. But the idea that this would lead to a ghastly enrollment of saf­ das is absurd and beside the point. The sanitizer is no point. We’re trying to stop them.
Conducted pre-election surveys of local civil elections for county supervisors. One of my federal observers during the elections. We clerkship fit your life plan? In retrospect, how did your extra year or two of law school very well the voting process. The cases involved re-
als with complaints, oversaw the elec­
ing Rights Act of 1966. Professor Lillie re­
ject a wonderful experience because I was
tricks. A balance must be struck between
it? It's a different era, the time of the
demand for such services. You have to understand that C.L.S. was
ity legal service programs?
entry legal service programs?

The course will deal with both constitu­
and community in civil rights. It's a
ducchini. Legal services has
to continue as part of my teaching iob.

I am very happy to be here.

to continue their education and improve

to classroom discussions. I hope to

similar moves have been made in other
cities. There are many differences be­
to the classroom. When I was a law student

Area. Legal services has more
power of the black citizens. We lost
in Mississippi, as well. A black female attor­
ney had been elected Justice of the Peace primarily by white voters... that's devas­
what elements need to be shown to state a
successful cause of action. These are politi­
cal issues. I can imagine that the discussion
will get a little excited. That will help me to
learn to express myself clearly. As a Professor, what will your approach be to teaching your seminar on civil rights fall?

This will be a civil rights statutory seminar and we will have to learn all about
the nineteenth century. The Supreme Court has moved to
civil rights. The Supreme Court has
the law, to teach people basic information for
the issue is that the private bar will take up the

to establish clinics in such areas as divorce

the very new. There are

while the impact of crucial go­

dependent on your lawyer; and now we're
government benefits remaining . . .
and that's the period when you could be
time in which the people faced with the
cornering of political activism in the country.

there is a valid government interest in
should carry with them the early


to do. They can no longer depend on the
government but they... .

The dependency on attorneys must be
broken. The grass roots movement has got

very much more sensitive and will

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GREEN ACRES
A Monthly Column by Tony Green

You have to get a few miles away from here to realize what they don’t teach you in law school.

I don’t mean to completely disillusion those virgins who will picking up this paper on their first, fearful day at this place; but they really teach you something here. Really, I know some of my fellow third-year students, so cynical and bored, may argue with me on this point. But you really do get something in law school. And I’m not saying to tell you what that is; finding out what they teach you here is all part of the process. I’ll tell you this, though: you really do get something here.

What is a motion for sanctions? One of my first assignments came in the form of a memo in the hands of a frenzied lawyer. I read the memo which directed me to draft a “motion for sanctions.” “O.K.?” he asked, hoping I wouldn’t have to explain.


But there was a problem. I had no idea what a “motion for sanctions” was. I figured it was something bad, something you wouldn’t want to receive in the mail on a bad day. But that was all I knew.

Further, there are scales of other such procedural things that clerks often have to do which you don’t learn about here. I am sure it is a lot more interesting course, but, still, I wish I had had that course before I had to scurry around the office, fishing about for a sample, carefully not letting on that I had no inkling of what I was doing.

How do you deal with secretaries? They don’t teach you in law school that when you work for an office, the secretaries can be the most important people in your life. You may say you have to go to a memo to a partner, real fast. Now you want to get it to him fast and neat, not looking like a new wave memo or something. Your product reflects upon you. But if the secretaries don’t like you, it’s not going to happen. And you’re up the creek. So you have to suck up to the secretaries, bribe them, compliment them, cajole them, buy them flowers, anything.

How to win at office politics? You’re made to feel that if you don’t butter up the secretaries, you won’t get a job offer. Sorry, but that’s the point. But you really do get something here.

It’s not often that one finds a couple of people from each graduating class that this school has produced sitting together in one room for two hours to discuss the state of the law school without first bribing them with at least dinner and liquid refreshment. So dinner and liquid refreshment was it when the annual Class Representative Meeting was held here in Garey Hall on the evening of June thirtieth.

Director of Development and Alumni Affairs, Chip D’Ambrosio and Joanna Mahler, the Alumni Secretary, coordinated the affair, the agenda of which ranged from Alumni Office reports on the 1981-82 Fund Drive (which netted $106,000.00) and the four class reunions held during the last year (’77, ’78, ’79, ’80), to an explanation of the law school’s plans for new word processing and data retrieval equipment. Current law students should take heart in the fact that these alumni were acutely aware and deeply concerned about the financial aid crunch that is affecting many of them.

A spirited discussion was chaired by Admissions Director, Sandy Mannix, in which many questions and suggestions were posed. Alumni Association President, Jerry Bagus ’82 stressed that careful consideration should be given to the allocation of fund drive proceeds to aid VLS students who have been adversely affected by the financial aid cuts. Initial plans for the 1982 Phalanx in November were presented and the Class Representatives were reminded that they would again be responsible for securing alumni volunteers for this annual fund raising effort.

The meeting’s conclusion saw the Reps leave Garey Hall with a wealth of information to pass on to their former classmates regarding the present state of affairs at VLS. Let’s keep that alumni participation rolling in!

The Alumni Job Placement Bulletin, in a publication under the exclusive control of the VLS Placement Office not the VLS Alumni Association. Any interested alumni seeking a place on the mailing list, or with any questions regarding the Alumni Job Placement Bulletin, should feel free to contact the VLS Placement Office. That number is 645-7010.