by Bill Rubert

The Villanova University School of Law has a new Dean. Nearly a year of uncertainty ended this month with the announcement that the University had reached an agreement with a well-known legal educator and scholar, Dean John E. Murray, Jr. Dean Murray will begin his official duties next Fall. An interim acting Dean, Dr. Robert Reuchlein, has been in place since 1977, where he was acting Dean for one year. He has been teaching as Dean there since 1977.

Dean Murray is presently Dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, having held that position since 1977. He will stay in Pittsburgh as Dean for the full 1983-84 school year in order to honor his employment agreement with Pitt and to allow time for a replacement to be selected.

Dean Murray is one of the foremost experts on contract law in the country. At VLS he is best known to those students who used his Cases and Materials on Contracts, Business Merrill (1970). Another popular book is his hornbook, Murray on Contracts.

Nationally, Dean Murray is known also for his other works on contract law and commercial transactions. He has published seven books on the subject, all widely used, and is working on two more plus revisions for his other works on contract law and VLS. He is best known to those students of the same type of help to 220 other people suffered a frightening years of legal education, but in every school that comprises Villanova. Dean Murray is one of the foremost experts on contract law in the country.

VLS New Dean, John E. Murray, Jr., addresses a University of Pittsburgh audience.

The new Dean is a native Philadelphian; he received his B.A. (1958) and his J.D. in 1961. He is a member of the American Law Institute since 1971, and is a fellow of the Journal of Legal Education for five years.

FROM THE ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR

By Sandy Mannix, Director of Admissions

WELL OVER 1000 applications for law school were submitted to the University of Pittsburgh School of Law during the 1983-84 academic year. Although May of 1986 seems a long way away, graduation will come before you can find the bottom of the silo of your legal library. You are beginning three challenging, exciting, stimulating and sometimes frightening years of legal education, but you are not alone. Your classmates, the members of the classes of '84 and '85, the faculty, and the administration staff all want to be of help to you. Take advantage of the support and assistance offered to you.

Next year you will be able to provide the same type of help to 220 other people suffering the same excitement, anxiety and terror you now feel!

Have confidence! You are a bright, talented group of people. Your numerical qualifications are at least as impressive as those of any previous class. As of August 9, the following cold statistics described a warm and personal class — the class of 1986.

The class is almost equally divided by sex — ninety-six (96) men, ninety-four (94) women. You come from twenty-one (21) different states, one-hundred-twenty (120) of you from Pennsylvania. Twenty-one (21) give New Jersey as your state of permanent residence, fourteen (14) list New York. There are also four (4) each from Connecticut, the District of Columbia and Massachusetts, three (3) from California, Vermont and Wisconsin, two (2) each from Delaware and Rhode Island, and one (1) each from Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia. Six (6) of you identify yourselves as Black Americans, two (2) as Hispanic Americans, two (2) as Asian Americans, and one (1) as a member of the joint J.D./Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology (in conjunction with Hahnemann University).

The youngest of you was born in 1963, the oldest in 1940. Dividing you by five (5) year birth intervals, one-hundred-eighty (108) of you were born from 1960 on, fifty-four (54) between 1955-1959, fifteen (15) between 1945-1949, nine (9) between 1940-1944.

You come with bacchuslike degrees in forty (40) different major areas. Forty (40) of you list political science/government as your major, eighteen (18) accounting, seventeen (17) English, sixteen (16) economics, fifteen (15) psychology, and thirteen (13) history. All of the majors are represented by smaller groups of individuals. Some of the more unusual other major fields of study are: three (3) in anthropology, one (1) in food marketing, one (1) in intercultural studies, two (2) in nursing, one (1) in pre-med, one (1) in electrical engineering, one (1) in journalism, and one (1) in public administration. There are no chemists, math majors or physicists among you.

Twenty-five (25) of you list double majors, the most popular being English/political science with four (4). There were two (2) in each political science/communications, government and law, and philosophy and psychology. There were also double majors in the rather unlikely areas of finance, German, English/history and business administration.

(Continued on page 2)

DEAN SELECTION PROCESS EXHAUSTIVE

(Rubert was a member of the Dean Selection Committee which recommended two finalists to the University President. — Ed.)

Last Fall, Dean O'Brien announced that he would resign as dean to found the Institute of Law and Morality. By the beginning of Winter, the faculty had formed a committee to organize the school's search for a new dean. This committee included Professors Packel, Perritt, Poulin and Tajgart, and was chaired by Professor Dowd. Letters were sent to every law school in the country and advertisements were taken out in major legal publications. The faculty committee also interviewed candidates at the American Association of Law Schools convention last December.

Through a preliminary screening, the list of serious candidates was narrowed to about 12. After more careful evaluation (and some voluntary withdrawals), six male finalists were invited to take part in the faculty interviewing process.

According to several faculty members, the quality of these six men was such that any one of them could have stepped into the dean's office and done a good job.

The University President, Father Driscoll, has the last word on dean candidates in every school that comprises Villanova. Both the ABA and the AALS, however, require that an accredited school give its faculty veto power over a potential dean. The faculty took some time designing a structure within which this control could assert itself. As part of that structure, a separate committee was formed in April. This "University Committee" was designed to report on the dean candidates to Father Driscoll.

The new committee included Professor Dowd; John McConnell, counsel to the University, former partner at Morgan, Lewis, and Bockius; and a trial practice instructor this Fall; Tom Devine of Blank, Rome, Comiskey and McCauley; Judge Glancy, an early graduate of Villanova Law School and President Judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court; Dean Al Clay of the School of Commerce and Finance; Chairman Rev. Patrick Rice, Vice President of Administration at Villanova; and Bill Rubert '84, elected to the committee by a student vote.

When the University Committee met for the first time in April, it asked that a short list of five candidates be submitted for a face to face interview. Later, one of these candidates withdrew from the race. From the remaining six went through the entire interview series.

The candidate was interviewed for two days. He spent an hour with each faculty member, either individual or group, and an hour with each administrator of the school. On Monday evenings, the University Committee would meet to discuss their candi-
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Greetings from Juan Valdez,

Your coffee program was converted from automation to tender loving care during the 1964 academic year and it was operated by the Student Bar Association. Contrary to popular opinion I didn’t use a mule, but a suit of armor, because if Dean Reischel hadn’t completely backed the SBA we would not have lost our patience. The vending machine people were quite emotive about the program.

The original program was initiated to be a supplemental source of funds for the SBA, but if you remember correctly it earned about $3,000.00 per year. Yes, we did have coffee with a chicory blend. a supplemental source of funds for the school. Despite this, we used a milder blend to not use Colombian Coffee, we used a milder blend to make a coffee that was suggested by the students who wanted a coffee that was less intense. We also provided a variety of coffee blends to cater to different preferences.

As to the mule, he eats too much, so we decided not to use one. I’m sorry to disappoint you, but we did not use Colombian Coffee, we used a milder blend to make the coffee more suitable for our students.

As to your marketing plans, Prof Dowd was suggesting espresso even then, and we were expressing a price of 65<t per cup (the current price is 20<t per cup). We were expressing this price mainly because we wanted to compete with the other coffee vendors on campus. We also wanted to make the coffee program more accessible to our students.

VLS CLASS OF 86

VLS has many talented students who graduated within the last few years. They have contributed to the school in various ways, from participating in student organizations to working in their legal careers.

Many of the student organizations were invited to meet with the candidates. A preliminary vote was then taken, which eliminated three of the candidates. A summary of student and alumni reactions was then given to the candidates, which lasted almost eight hours. Each candidate had been researched. A tie vote was then taken, which eliminated one of the candidates. The old scores were converted, and the new scores were used to determine the relative strength of the candidates. All of the candidates had been researched, and the new scores were used to determine the relative strength of the candidates. All of the candidates had been researched, and the new scores were used to determine the relative strength of the candidates.

Some of the candidates felt that VLS is at a crossroads; it may choose to emphasize its Catholic background or concentrate on developing a reputation that is not based on any specific religious affiliation. Many participants felt that VLS is at a crossroads, and the faculty is considering several options, including a more aggressive marketing strategy to attract a wider range of students.

The results of these votes were given to the University Committee, which then recommended two final candidates to the Deans, who selected two final candidates to the President, who then selected the final candidate.

The question of enhancing Villanova’s reputation was another hot topic. Dean Murray had some concrete ideas, pointing to programs he had developed at other law schools. He suggested that the school could focus more on developing a reputation for excellence in a particular area, such as tax law or environmental law. He also suggested that the school could expand its facilities and attract more students from other law schools.

New Deal Confront

The Docket is published monthly by the students of Villanova Law School, Villanova University, Villanova, Pa. 19085. Letters and articles are welcome from students, faculty, alumni and the community. Paid advertisements are also accepted. Please contact the Docket office for details.

VLS living legend, Professor J.E. Collins, has been known to lament over days gone by, the earlier years of this still young school. After all, what could be of more benefit to society as a whole, and to the legal profession in particular, than VLS's tradition of turning "brighter" than the one which preceded it. In this edition of the Docket, our new Dean implies that VLS is at a crossroads; it can stay as it is, a well-respected school within the East, or it can become even better and go on to "national prominence." Apparently, all favor the latter road. And as this path is followed, the admissions standards will continue to rise and over the years VLS will become increasingly elite, supposedly a better school by virtue of its distinguished entering class. After all, what could be of more benefit to society as a whole, and to the legal profession in particular, than VLS's tradition of turning "brighter" than the one which preceded it.

Congratulations to the new Dean, who has been chosen for his ability to succeed and will bring a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to the Villanova Law Community. He looks forward to getting to know all of you.

Thus, there are two classes of students who have been invited to meet with the candidates. A preliminary vote was then taken, which eliminated three of the candidates. A summary of student and alumni reactions was then given to the candidates, which lasted almost eight hours. Each candidate had been researched. A tie vote was then taken, which eliminated one of the candidates. The old scores were converted, and the new scores were used to determine the relative strength of the candidates. All of the candidates had been researched, and the new scores were used to determine the relative strength of the candidates.

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By Alice Solomon

On May 31, Robert "Chip" D'Ambrosio, VLS Class of '72, resigned his post as Direc­tor of Development and Alumni Affairs to accept the position of Executive Director and Chief Academic at the Main Line Paralegal Institute in Wayne, Pa. The following questions and answers were part of an int­erview conducted with Mr. D'Ambrosio in mid-May.

Q: How does that description compare with the Alumni Office today?
A: We now have reunions to include five year anniversaries; social programs which include receptions for alumni in a variety of locations each year, based on either geo­graphy or, like the Verrazano Bridge and virtually ceased to wound up with 13% of the alumni donating just finishing before I came to this position around 1970 it took a left-hand turn off the institution of the phonathon. We reach ap­proximately 1600, about 1200 pledged. Of that 1600, about 1200 pledged. It took us several years or so after I arrived here to breathe some life back into the assoc­iation. I worked with the help of a steering counselor and the Alumni Association in going about their task.

Q: What is the next step for this office?
A: Most of the money we receive is in the form of restricted gifts, very specific, for­mally or otherwise.

Q: What will be your responsibilities at the Main Line Paralegal Institute?
A: The primary factor is the willingness of the alumni to financially support this law school. Secondly, was the creation of an organized and consistent calendar for fundraising. And within this calendar, the institution of the phonathon. We reach ap­proximately half of our constituency, that is, 1600 of the 3200 alumni, through the phonathon. If that 1600, is a 1600 pledge. In effect, 76% of the alumni we contact are willing to financially support the school.

Q: What is the phonathon's Conducted.
A: It consists mostly of alumni doing the soliciting, calling, contacting members of their own graduating class. Students assist dur­ing the phonathon as callers, they help with the administration of the entire event, and play a vital part in this program. Another thing that new events have been instituted in recent years?
A: We have created what I hope will be a come a tradition, what I call the Third Year Brunch. In March, the third year class is invited to a champagne brunch, sponsored by the Alumni Office. The morning of the brunch, we invite them into the ranks of the alumni constituency. At this event is the presentation of the Alumni Award to the student who made the biggest scholarship improvement in his second year.

Q: Have we covered all the new pro­grams?
A: This year we developed the Villanova Law Leadership Group, a group of alumni who have been solicited to upgrade signific­antly their financial donations to the school, and asked in the same breath, to pledge for a variety of years, be it from 2 to 5, depending on how much money they wish to pledge. So far we have approxi­mately 20 alumni in that group.

Q: Where does the money that is raised through this office go?
A: Most of the money we receive is in unrestricted form. There have been some specific projects that we have come up with from time to time. For example, the funds from this year's Law Leadership Group went towards the installation of word pro­cessing equipment at the law school. One other specific project is the Faculty Devel­opment Program. We give a summer sti­pend of more than $3000 to a faculty member, with an average member of fac­ulty members taking no more than this, year. This brings us into specific projects which are approved by the Dean, including the payment of research assistants, or seed money for the law school goes for law school projects, not to the faculty.

Q: Does the law school have any en­dowed money?
A: Yes, the law school has no endowed money, professors, or chairs. When the law school was started there we wanted to do was to create a viable, conscious effort through our alumni for financial support.

Q: What is the biggest challenge for you in this position? And are there any challenges that your predecessor face?
A: My biggest challenge was taking this office from scratch, without true expe­rience in that field, and building it into something that worked. When I started, we wanted to do was to create a viable, conscious effort through our alumni for financial support.

D'Ambrosio Resigns to HEAD PARALEGAL INSTITUTE

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Docket: Thank you, Mr. D'Ambrosio. We all wish you continued success.
New 1Vs after their first day of classes ends at VLS.

Credit has to be given where it is due for all you sports fans who are scoring along at home. Who would ever expect innovation from the said Gene Little? But there he was last week at the Pigskin Palace shipping the BASSACKWARD putter. We hope we can print what happened because with out the culprit we have no idea of how the putter is doing.

The poster is basically normal except that the head faces toward the golfer instead of away from him. This is supposed to make your swing more natural and less jerky. When asked about the putter, he can only think of the exclamation of Professor Levin concerning Abdul’s answer to the future estates question on the final.

When TFED, a new lawyer for Ronaldo Nehemiah, the world’s greatest hurdler who bypassed the Olympics for the San Francisco 49ers and professional football, found a new track for his client. We are glad you asked that question. Many years ago, on a newspaper far, far away Abdul began his legal career with the finest and most righteous of hearts. A veritable crusader against injustice, infidelity and indecency. As a cub reporter Abdul was immediately assigned to work on Jack Anderson’s San Francisco Examiner. He did not like the all the fun stuff: trashbag biographies, glorifying shredded documents back together and intriguing figures seen coming out of congressional offices late at night. It was here that Abdul learned the journalist integrity which helps him to shine as the north star among the planets of his peers.

Working for Jack the Ingratiating brought Abdul to the realization that the front pages were not for him. After all, the front page is only a litany of man’s failures and disasters while the sports page is a celebration of his wife and varied accomplishments. (How’s that for first class rationalization?)

The sports staff would like to take this space (precious as it may be) to announce the First Annual Abdul Invitational Softball Tournament. The tournament this year will be dedicated to the memory of boxing careers of Tony Ayala and Eddie Mustafa Muhammad. Tony Ayala (ex-#1 contender) is spending the next fifteen years in jail for raping a woman at knife point. The next Year’s day, while he was mad on the day of the fight refused to bother taking off the extra two and a half pounds so that he could fight Michael Spinks. The only thing they be discussing will be doing is to explain their respective scores.

The Invitationals will be held on both Saturday and Sunday successively with winning teams receiving a trophy on the first weekend.

The winner of course will receive fabulous and valuable prizes, picture in the Docket (if they can assemble in one place at one time. Abdul all DEEFER from the party assembled to honor Willie Gault as he called the player in to cut him and when the day he was struck the referee gave him the first place in the Turck Award, a best seller book and the century note floated out. In most camps the man assigned to tell play by play is in the stands and not in the referee seat. That is perhaps the entrance address of VLS. Another recent survey has concluded that only 94% of major league baseball players have their college shoeprints, Arizona State, though, has had more than its share of chances to educate the top ballplayers in the game. Among players who actually played in college, the best were, Jackie Robinson, Gaylord Perry, Fred Lynn, Stanley Floyd, Mel Latany and one is being persecuted now. Abdul cannot help but remind as player after player is cut to trim the rosters to 45 men. Abe Gibron of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers was arrested last month for playing football. Was he playing football? The pump was not paying enough attention to his playbook, so he put a hundred dollar bill between the pages. Several days later he called the player in to cut him and when he was cut he walked off. The last book and the century note floated out. In most camps the man assigned to tell play by play is in the stands and not in the referee seat. That is perhaps the entrance address of VLS. Another recent survey has concluded that only 94% of major league baseball players have their college shoeprints, Arizona State, though, has had more than its share of chances to educate the top ballplayers in the game. Among players who actually played in college, the best were, Jackie Robinson, Gaylord Perry, Fred Lynn, Stanley Floyd, Mel Latany and

Keynotes: Alberto Juantereno, after Ahmed Rashad told him he was big enough to play the game, "Let he who is without frisbee cast the first stone.

Another VLS sports fan anxiously awaits the Fall season.

Off the bottle: A Sports Column?