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By Michael McGrath

Dean John Murray arrived at Villanova Law School in June, and the changes after two months are remarkable. While some innovations were planned before his arrival, others were pushed through by Murray, such as the new word processing center. "Some apparently believe that I have a proclivity for settling things," remarked Murray while explaining how he became so involved in administration when he has always enjoyed writing and teaching law so much. "I try not to be too impulsive, but I think that after the discussion is over, things must be put into motion."

In discussing the events that led him to VLS, Dean Murray explained that his primary interest remains teaching and writing about the law. "I taught torts, antitrusts and conflicts at Villanova in 1964-65. Then I returned to Duquesne before eventually moving on to Pittsburgh."

Before being named dean at Pittsburgh, Dean Murray already had extensive experience in other administrative positions. "I was the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Pittsburgh for five years, and my responsibilities ran somewhat beyond the usual confines of the job. I handled all student-faculty relations." After a five-year interlude, the dean had expected to move on to either Virginia or Minnesota. Then he was chosen for the dean's post at Pittsburgh. "Because of my various responsibilities earlier, my seven years as dean ran much like the previous five years," noted Dean Murray.

Turning to the factors that he felt he had accomplished at Pittsburgh, Dean Murray referred to intangible changes. "There was a total quality, an ambiance about the place, that I wanted to see so badly. We achieved that." His other concerns included enhancing scholarship among the students and faculty, communicating with the student body, and promoting an open door policy.

Dean Murray's decision to leave Pittsburgh had less to do with Pittsburgh and more with Villanova. Still, he said he had accomplished much of what he sought for Pittsburgh. "The atmosphere I was striving for had been established," said Dean Murray.

Concerning the possibility of a new dean to is just to take tasks one at a time and to make sure that they fit into the general purpose of the school. We want to make what we already have in scholarship and teaching even better."

Concerning the possibility of a second legal journal, Dean Murray said, "We might be interested in an additional publication. I think that instead of actively seeking a second law review, we should consider different sorts of writing in some specific areas of the law. We should also strive to improve the law review we have here at VLS. The student work is the essence of any law review. Publishing one great article by a professor every month only makes you a good solicitor."

Another major concern of the new dean is to increase what he called "quality traffic" in the building. Dean Murray has arranged for the first Pennsylvania Appeals Judges' Educational Conference to be held at VLS. This will be a 16-day program. "This is important for our students," said the dean. "We not only want them to see what the leaders of the legal community are doing, but we want those leaders to see the quality of the students that are here."

On the subject of placement, Dean Murray mentioned that other activities not directly related to placement could help a great deal. "We'd like to bring in lawyers from smaller firms to discuss their practices. Lawyers like to talk about what they do, and this gives the students a dual benefit. I think there are opportunities here in the educational development devices that this is that we can use."

Focusing on the placement office, Dean Murray praised the fact that 75% of the class of 1984 has already found jobs. He said he strives to make the office more effective. Changes for this fall include moving the office across the hall into more spacious quarters. A word processor has been purchased for the office. Regarding further staff increases, Dean Murray said, "If more people will help, we'll get them, but we aren't hiring more personnel just for the sake of it."

Dean Murray explained the factors that caused placement offices to include jobs in other markets. Dean Murray heartily recommended the suggestion that the Placement Office send a letter to every firm hiring a VLS graduate encouraging that firm to continue to consider Villanova. "The reputation of the law school rides on the record of our graduates, which has been excellent. I'd like to see us make more contacts in cities outside of this region."

Another subject discussed by Dean Murray was the problem of encouraging minority enrollment. Dean Murray believes that the primary barrier to increasing minority enrollment is financial. "I think that the problem here is one of societal balance, and I think we must do a better job at starting to address that problem at VLS. Before I arrived this summer, the law school had committed itself to providing full tuition scholarships based on financial need. I pushed for some more and there are ten now. These can be split up to help more than ten students."

Dean Murray also expressed an interest in hearing suggestions from minority students at VLS. Another major change at Villanova Law School this fall will be the clinical program.

(C)TEN OF PAGE 2
In a classic scene from *Inherit The Wind*, the moral test is on the slopes more than just good enough. It seems as though there is just too much going on, too much change, too many areas. At times, we feel that we can no longer trust the media and the facts have not been clearly put out. It seems as though we will never understand what is going on. It is...
Demos Enjoy San Francisco Granola

By Dan Weissman

As I sat down at my typewriter, the Demo­
crats had just finished their conven­
tion. With Mondale's victory already in the bag long before everyone went out to San Francisco, the convention promised to be full of pomp, circumstance, pseudos­
dignity, and boredom, just like the typical Republican convention . . . but 1000000!!! They wouldn't be Demo­
crats if they didn't have something enter­
taining to do at their convention.

To start off, they held the convention in San Francisco, capital of Letalot, USA. No matter how slow things were going in­
side, the city was guaranteed to put on a show outside that could rival even the wild­
est Rocky Horror Picture Show au­
dience. For example, in most places the police carefully watched demonstrators to prevent violence. In Letalot, the police were explaining to the demonstrators how they could be more effective (proper camera angles, how, a hill, street, etc.). After that, as usual, they reverted to typical crowd con­
trol functions. Apparently, it went well. As one local observer remarked, "San Francisco is like granola. If you're not a fruit or a nut, you're a flake."

Once the Democrats settled in, they got down to the important business at hand. After all, a political convention serves many purposes: (1) choose the party's Pre­
idential and Vice Presidential nominees (2) agree on a platform for the campaign (3) make sure their political deals work every­
body and (4) mucho bigtime partying, not necessarily in that order.

Starting with the most important (why do you think they call them political par­
ties instead of political consumption af­
airs), most impressive of all was the con­
cfence during convention week. This doesn't count unofficial spur of the mo­
ment affairs. Most impressive of all was the bash thrown by Willie Brown, Speaker of California's State House, on opening night. Brown planned this for nine months. He rented out Fisherman's Wharf with cor­
porate underwriters putting up the cash, put up miniature replicas of sights around the USA, put on an agenda that included intimate friends to share the experience. Debra Win­
er and Warren Beatty were the celebrity parade. For those 12 Democrats (that many) not invited to Brown's gala, all was not lost. There were plenty of other parties to attend: Lobbyists, reporters, aging hip­
pies, and even just plain folks all scoured the opening night festivities probably go a long way towards explaining why the next morning's caucuses and meetings were so ill attended.

Once the delegates sobered up from the initial euphoria of free parties (and other consuming substances) they quickly got down to business. Everyone realized that the final votes on the Mondale choice were anti-climactic. No one else was going to win or even make the vote go beyond one ballot. Instead, the key to the matter had to be uniting the party and pre­
paring a coherent alternative to Reagan.

In the view of this analyst, they suc­
cceeded admirably. Although they still have an uphill battle to win in the fall, anyone who sees Reagan as inevitable is nuts. The Democrats have high morale and are ready to campaign hard in every state. More im­
portant, this year, all of us have a choice, not an echo.

Mario Cuomo, Governor of New York, opened the convention with one of the best polit­
cical speeches ever, contrasting the splendid looks that America projects with the slums and blight in the city's shadow. Jesse Jackson continued in the same vein of hope for the country's future (going from the "dummy side" to the "sunny side") after apologizing for some of his campaign rhetoric that others rightly perceived as anti-semitic. The apology seemed to come from the heart and should be taken at face value. Had he spoken this way throughout the campaign, he would be the nominee. Finally, Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro gave acceptance speeches which confirmed to the audience that they had made the right choice.

In substance, the Democrats intend to campaign on many issues with one unifying theme: defense of the little person from current policies which favor the rich and power. Hence, in foreign policy, they op­
pose the MX missile and the war in Nicara­
gua while pushing for human rights everywhere from Poland to Chile, Nigeria to South Africa. Domestically, they call for tax programs aimed more directly at lower and moderate income families and less at com­
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body. Mondale openly announced that raising taxes would be necessary to lower the de­
ficit (the highest in US history) while chal­
lenging Reagan to specify what he would do if re-elected. On with the campaign!

LEST YOU FORGET LAST MAY

By Jackie Shulman

Oh, the Pain of It All!

Thrift of thrills, Year end exams are upon us. No matter how slow things were going in­
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It is a pleasure to welcome all members of the Villanova University Law School Community to the Law School for the new academic year. I am delighted to report that my initial impression of the Law School as one of the fine Law Schools in the United States has been borne out. welcome back to the Seminary. We have a splendid staff, an excellent Law Library and a desirable physical facility in a beautiful setting. Through these elements, we are blessed with excellent students and faculty that is second to none in American legal education. We have made significant efforts during the summer to enhance the Law School.

Among the physical changes which have occurred during the summer is the completion of our new Placement Center which will further facilitate our placement efforts under the direction of Virginia Shuman. I am pleased to announce the elevation of Marie Helmig to the position of Assistant to the Director of Placement. I am also pleased to inform you that VLS has the highest placement rate in the country as of the date of graduation) for its last graduation class in the history of the Law School. This is simply another manifestation of the high regard in which Villanova Law School graduates are held by law firms, corporate legal departments, government agencies, judges and others.

The new office which houses our Legal Writing Instructors will assist our entering class in the proper use and use of grammar in written and oral communication. We have refurbished the Arthur Clement Pulling Law Library which continues to excel under the direction of Dean Gerald Abraham and assembled by Professors John O'Grady and Josephine Quinones.

We have made significant efforts to inform you that VLS had the highest number of graduates who were employed in full-time positions for their first year since the school’s inception.

Congratulations to our graduates and friends of the School. Since VLS graduates practice in more than forty states, it is not uncommon to renew our acquaintance with our graduates in virtually any part of the country.

I should also inform you that our Graduatate Program under the direction of Professor Don Llewellyn continues to thrive and I am pleased to announce the elevation of Stephanie Haase to the position of Assistant to the Director of the Graduate Tax Program. We have also captured the imagination of many members of surrounding County bar associations through our Continuing Legal Education program under the direction of Professor Arnold Cohen. Programs dealing with the most recent developments in Tax Law and Bankruptcy Law will be offered this fall.

Our new Law School Bulletin which will be ably edited by our Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, Sandy Mannix, will be available soon. It is a splendid publication and I take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Mauz for her efforts.

The significant number of changes which have occurred this summer could not have been accomplished without the indefatigable efforts of Associate Dean Robert Garbarino who has performed in a superlative fashion. Similarly, we would not have been able to effectuate these new developments absent the able and industrious efforts of Associate Dean Gerald Abraham. Finally, I must mention two often unheralded members of the staff who continue to make great sacrifices for the School without fanfare. Here, I speak of Mary O’Donnell and Betty Murphy who were of indispensable assistance in our summer efforts.

As the Law School continues to progress and the Villanova Law School spirit and tradition which has made this one of the fine Law Schools in the United States continues to grow in national prominence.

John E. Murray, Jr.

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Editors Note: Sean Abdul O'Grady, whose "sports column" normally appears on this page, is still sleeping off the effects of his post-exam celebration, which sources report lasted from May 9 until the early hours of June 22; therefore, his column will return to this page next month.