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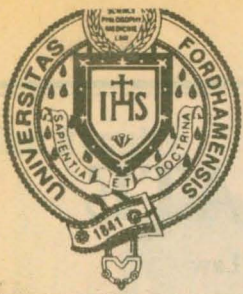
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# THE ADVOCATE

Fordham Law School's Student Newspaper since 1967

Vol. XXVI, No. 2

Fordham University School of Law © The Advocate

September 21, 1993

## Recent Vandalism Condemned by Administration

A recent wave of vandalism directed at an SBA-sponsored student group has brought a strong response from Dean John Feerick and other Law School administrators. Stating that the last such act "runs against our essential values of free speech and association," the Dean has called for a Forum on Respect and Tolerance, to be held sometime in the next few weeks.

The Gay and Lesbian Law Association (GALLA) has been the target of three separate acts of vandalism in the past month. Last week, an invitation to a dinner meeting was ripped from the GALLA bulletin board on the ground floor. At least one GALLA member was unable to find the location of the meeting due to the vandalized board. This latest incident follows two similar occurrences in the past month, both involving the destruction of posters and literature on the GALLA bulletin board.

Assistant Dean Robert Reilly has been asked to conduct an investigation into the GALLA matter, though administrators admit that it will be very difficult to find the person or persons responsible. In the meantime, Dean Feerick has let it be known that such acts will not be tolerated. In a draft of a letter to be distributed to the Fordham Law community next week, the Dean states that "Tolerance of persons who may be different, or who may have different viewpoints, religious beliefs or cultures, is critically important in our increasingly fractious world. We must learn how to bridge our differences."

While Associate Dean Georgene Vairo concedes that the act may not have been specifically intended to disrupt GALLA's communications with its members and potential members, she points out that there is little difference: "Clowning around or trying to disrupt communication . . . either way, this is the suppression of one group's attempt to reach out."

Dean Vairo says that a Forum on Respect and Tolerance will be held "very soon" in McNally Amphitheater. Similar forums, sponsored by other SBA groups, have been well-attended. The purpose of the forum, as stated in Dean Feerick's letter, is to "provide an opportunity for all members of our community to talk about the tensions that differences sometimes create, and how to resolve those tensions without infringing other important values."

When asked if the administration was taking an unnecessarily strong response to what might be

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## A Helping Hand for Battered Women

By Jane Addfeather

More than fifty students will be employing their legal skills in Family Court through the newly founded Fordham Battered Women's Advocacy Project this fall.

The project was established by two second year students, A. Cassidy Sehgal and Sarah Watson, who believe that there is not enough opportunity for Fordham students to help the surrounding community and not enough awareness about violence against women. In addition, Professor Tracy Higgins provided faculty support in helping the students shape the program and in rallying the Fordham administration behind it.

"Given the lack of resources available to organizations like Victim Services, students are able to fulfill a vital role in the litigation process," Watson said.

"Far too often women are unassisted when they go to court and are unaware of the relief that is available to them," said Sehgal. "Studies show that women who are unassisted are often left more vulnerable because they do not get effective orders or do not get protection orders at all," she added.

Through the project, students will be escorting clients from Victim Services who are seeking temporary or permanent orders of protection in Family Court. Under § 841 of the New York Family Court Act, petitioners and respondents are may bring an advocate with them to proceedings and the court may call on such person for testimony.

The court advocates will counsel victims and will advise judges of the clients needs in order to ensure that victims get the full protection of the law, Watson said.

Students will initially undergo four hours of training before they will attend hearings. The training will help prepare them not only the technical aspects of appearing in court, but also on the ethical issues which will arise during a protection order hearing, according to Julie Domonkos, the legal director of the west side office of Victim Services and oversee the project.

Students will appear in court on a rotating basis and depending on

Continued on Page 3

## Stressless Job-Hunting

by Kira P. Watson

Students from thirty law schools in the Northeast descended on Manhattan in search of that ever elusive second-year summer — and in some cases third-year — position on Friday, September 10th.

The Northeast Black Law School Association (BLSA) Job Fair, Inc. held its annual job fair at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. Over 135 employers representing law firms, governmental agencies and public interest organizations were present.

Approximately seventy students of color from Fordham Law attended the job fair. Registration for the fair took place in the spring, and interviewing students received their schedules over the summer.

Overall, students have a favorable reaction to the Job Fair. According to Carl Husbands, 2D, the Job Fair was "more relaxed than the on campus interviews." Debra Maldonado, 2D, feels that the job fair was a "good experience but I hope employers are not just going through the motions." The fact that only one Fordham student received an offer based on last year's job fair led one student to note that she viewed it as practice interview session, not a real opportunity.

The job fair was created in 1985 to present law students of color with a true opportunity to gain employment in the legal profession. In addition to the Job Fair, Northeast BLSA Job Fair, Inc. also works with other organizations interested in increasing diversity in the legal community. These groups include the Association of the Bar of the City of New York as well as Native American, Latino and Asian Law Student associations.

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# From the Editor

I am disgusted and ashamed. Within the halls of our law school someone has decided to express their hate and aggression by vandalizing the Gay and Lesbian Law Association's bulletin board. It seems to be someone other than a visitor to the law school because these attacks have occurred several times over the course of a month. What's next, graffiti? What did this person or persons expect to accomplish? The only reason I can think of is an intent to drive GALLA underground or an unresolved psychological conflict. If the perpetrator is reading this, my advice to you is to grow up and to seek therapy. For our sake as well as your own.

This is an attack not only upon the gay and lesbian community at Fordham, but an attack on the entire Fordham Law community. The students of Fordham cannot afford to sit back and let the Administration handle this alone. If any of us looks the other way when actions like this occur we condone and encourage even more offensive behavior. This time GALLA is under attack. Next time it may be you.

Tracy J. Murphy

## Hearsay

**Fordham Latino Alumni Association** honored Manhattan Family Court Judge **Cira Martinez** last Thursday, while **Clan na' Gael** had a shindig at Kennedy's over on West 57th Street, featuring a visit from **Dean Reilly**.

Back on campus, **BLSA** sponsored a wine-and-cheese reception for new BLSA members Friday, September 10 in the Faculty Reading Room.

Upcoming:

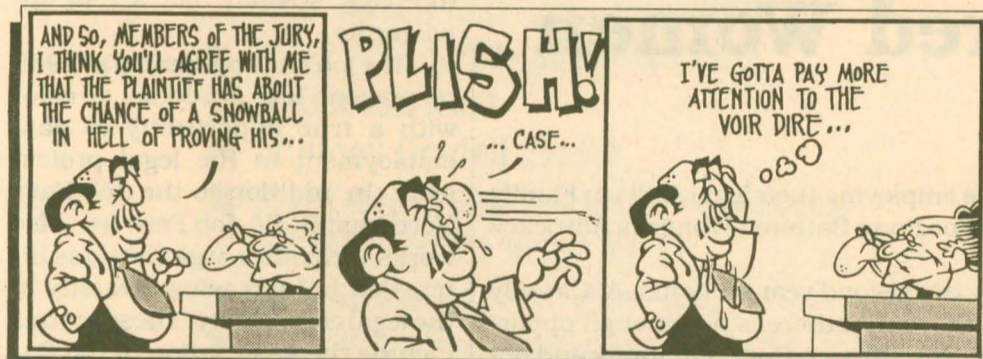
The **I.A.L.S.A.** (Italo-American Law Students Association) will hold their first meeting of the year this Wednesday, September 22 at 6 pm in the Student Lounge.

**Crowley Labor Guild** is working on sponsoring a forum on labor issued, probably sometime this semester.

### CORRECTION

In the Sept. 7 issue, we failed to properly identify Ms. Cira Martinez as a Manhattan Family Court Judge. We apologize for this oversight.

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*The Advocate* is the official newspaper of Fordham Law School, published by the students of this school. The purpose of *The Advocate* is to report the news concerning the Fordham Law School community and developments on the legal profession, and to provide the law school community with a medium for communication. *The Advocate* does not necessarily concur with opinions expressed herein, and is not responsible for the opinions of individual authors or for factual errors in contributions received. Contributions are tax deductible. Address all letters, manuscripts, and blank checks to: The Advocate, 140 W. 62nd St., Fordham University School of Law, New York, NY 10023. Submissions should be made on disk in MacIntosh Microsoft Word 5.0 or WordPerfect 5.1, accompanied by a hard copy. We reserve the right to edit for length.

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## Commentary

# Fordham 2001

by Jeremy Klausner

It would seem that the Law School is in for some big changes over the next few years. For one thing, there will be bathrooms in the library. Well it's about time. Kudos to Carole Zabar (and her bladder) for her donation. I think every one of us at Fordham owes her a thank you. Thanks, Carole. Now if I can only talk you into setting up shop in the Cafeteria. Unfortunately, not all the present and proposed changes are as appropriate as bathrooms in the library. But Dean Feerick tells us that the changes are needed to take the Law School facility into the year 2000. The University is even considering adding another building to the Lincoln Center campus (I hope it's better looking than the new dorm). The question is, why?

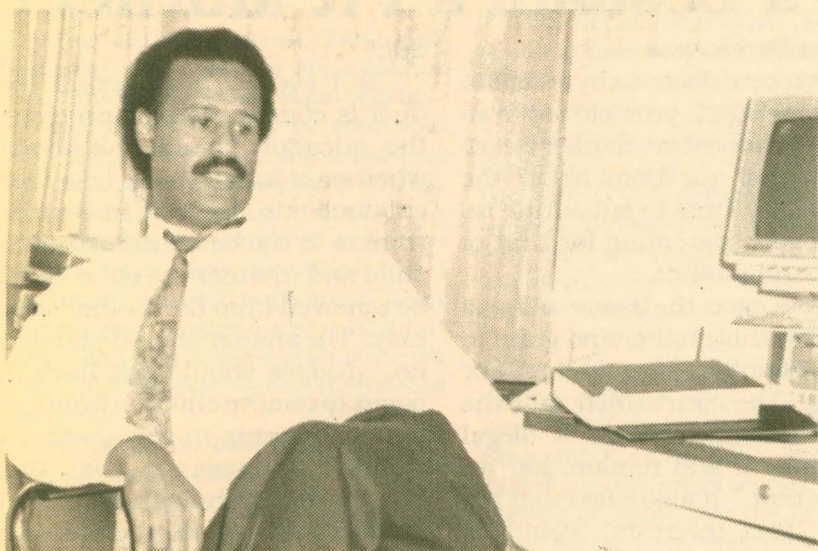
Not tough to answer, even for me. Space. The University and the Law School are expanding and class size is rocketing. According to admissions records, enrollment at the Law School is way up. Up from 246 first years in 1983 (including night students) to a whopping 547 this year. Part of the increase is due to the 1984 McNally expansion. This year's entering class was also unexpectedly large because late matriculations forced the Law School to accept almost 100 unanticipated students. Even so, the target size for this year's incoming class was 464 (355 Day; 120 Evening). That number represents serious growth. We've gone from a total size of close to 950 in 1985 to approximately 1480 (1396 targeted) today. So, we need more space, a lot more. That's

why the student lounge now doubles as a locker room and why Dean Rivera could be seen roaming the halls looking for extra chairs and tables (and hopefully finding a new place for the blood drive).

The question that I ask is whether it's more space we need, or fewer students. As it stands, our resources are strained. Our size has resulted in a crunch for both faculty and classrooms, much to the students' detriment. Scheduling has become a nightmare for both students and Registrar, and what upperclassman would ever have thought that seats would be hard to come by in the cafeteria and library? By the way, sheer volume is also the reason for gridlock on the third floor balcony. Lest I be chastised for criticizing without offering solutions, how about holding some classes on Fridays (we all have to give a little). Zero upperclass courses are presently held on Fridays, and a five day week would alleviate stress on the larger classrooms. In the face of higher tuition, this situation is hardly equitable.

As the legal "profession" comes under fire for being the legal "business" - is Fordham trying to cash in? I certainly hope not, what would Professor Pearce think? Instead of talking "efficiency", we should be planning on downsizing and concentrating on quality. I understand the Long Range Planning Committee (it really exists) has at least discussed a size reduction. The Committee should revisit the issue, and take another look toward 2001. Maybe they should start by watching the movie.

**New Faculty**



Professor Nicholas Johnson

**Professor Hopes to Ease First-Year Fears**

*This is the first of a series of articles about new professors at Fordham Law School.*

*by Jeffrey Blomberg*

Nicholas Johnson values mistakes.

"I think it is easier to learn when one is willing to make mistakes," said Fordham's newest contracts professor. "I would hate to hold anyone back when he or she might contribute something that may help his or her classmates."

And so, rather than putting students on the spot, Professor Johnson encourages volunteers in his class. In a recent conversation with The Advocate, he noted the downside of the "heightened state of anxiety" that stirs within a student prior to being called on in class. "This heightened state is not the best way to produce the best thought process." The Socratic method, which he employs extensively, is ideally a conversation between colleagues, and Johnson encourages discussion by urging his students not to be afraid to make mistakes.

Professor Johnson left a large firm to join the faculty of Franklin and Marshall College in 1988. "It allows me to write on topics I choose, rather than those my clients insisted upon," he noted. "I'm more interested in the macro-concepts of law than the micro-activity of lawyers and clients."

At Franklin and Marshall College, Johnson taught courses in Contracts, Corporations, Partnerships, and Environmental Law. Johnson presently teaches two sections of Contracts, in both the Day and Evening Divisions. He hopes to add a course in Environmental Law to his agenda.

Born in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia in 1959, Johnson was one of the very few from his hometown to attend a four-year university, let alone law school. He graduated from West Virginia University with a B.S. and a B.A. in both Business and Finance, and from Harvard Law School in 1984. At Harvard, he was a research director of the Environmental Law Society.

After graduating, Johnson became a commercial litigator at King and Spalding in Atlanta, leaving in 1985 for Philadelphia and marriage. He joined Morgan, Lewis, and Bockius in Philadelphia to litigate environmental and regulatory affairs.

His published works include an article on state separation-of-powers issues in the Dickinson Law Review, and an analysis of Second and Ninth Amendment concepts in Rutgers Law Review. Presently, he is working on a Tenth Amendment critique of the Emergency Planning Community's Right To Know Act (a part of the Superfund Law).

**Vandalism** (from page 1)

just an isolated incident, Dean Vairo noted that "Three times is not isolated. And the reaction is not too big. We would respond the same if it was directed at the Catholic, the Irish, the Italian or any of the other student groups here. We try to promote civility, tolerance, and communication . . . not vandalism."

GALLA has been applauded by New York gay and lesbian groups for improving the image of Fordham Law, which was long looked upon as an "anti-gay" school. Currently, the group is in the process of organizing a conference of gay and legal issues which will be held at the law school in February. The conference, which will be co-sponsored by the Fordham Urban Law Journal and the Lesbian and Gay Law

Association of Greater New York, is expected to attract nationwide attention. According to GALLA co-chairperson Fred Bimble, the conference will be the first of its kind in the United States.

GALLA was quick to applaud administrators for their efforts involving the vandalism. "The administration has been extremely helpful, not only in this instance but over the past two years," said Bimble.

Bulletin board vandalism is nothing new to the Law School. Both the Black Law Students Association and Fordham Law Women have had their boards targeted in the past. The recent acts against GALLA, however, are not believed to be related.

— Mike Bertrand

*"GALLA condemns all defamation against minority groups. Any attempts to quash the ability of a group to communicate and organize with its members are particularly heinous and Galla seeks the assistance of those in our community who value First Amendment rights to identify and punish the perpetrators."*

— Galla co-chairperson Andy Richards

**Battered Women's Project** (from page 1)

the number of hearings per week. On average up to a dozen students may be in court weekly, Watson said. Three students will be working 12 hours per week in the Victim Services office doing client counseling and interviewing in addition to working as court advocates.

"This program is long overdue at Fordham. Most law schools in the country have similar programs not only for battered women but for a range of criminal and civil issues," Sehgal said.

The project members also hope to raise awareness among students about violence against women and the scope of these problems and the need for the legal community to offer support for victims.

"One out of four women is battered in this country, and it's amazing that our society continues to ignore the issue and so many of us don't realize just how pervasive it really is," Sehgal said.

The Fordham program is modeled after the student-run advocacy project at Harvard Law School. The project's directors hope to expand the program to offer a wider range of services by next spring.

One of the objectives is to expand the amount of client advocacy provided by students so that students are handling more than protection order hearings. In addition, project members hope to have a hotline established at Fordham, so that students will take cases from the start to finish. This would potentially include divorce cases which Victim Services has pro bono attorneys handle.

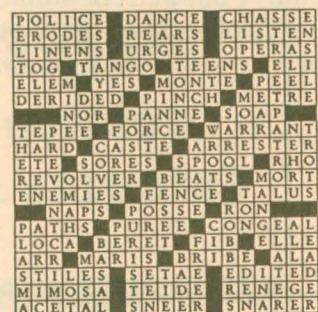
Project members are currently

looking for a faculty advisor so that students doing court advocacy can meet on a regular basis to discuss the different issues they encounter in court and also to learn to deal with the emotional aspect of domestic violence.

Watson and Sehgal have also discussed the possibility of creating a trial and advocacy class which would be devoted to battered women's issues with professor Jim Cohen, who heads the Fordham clinical program.

There are currently no men involved in the project, however, the project directors did not intend for it to be gender exclusive. "Men may choose to get involved, but they must keep in mind that the victims will be given the opportunity to reject their help," Watson said. "Given the fact that 95 percent of battered victims are women, they may not want men representing them especially since the process of extricating yourself from a violent situation is so emotional," Sehgal said.

"There are three times as many animal shelters as there are for battered women in this country, we can't continue to ignore these issues," Watson said.



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Faces at Fordham

# Should a convicted felon be admitted to law school?\*

Compiled and photographed by Kira P. Watson



GARY KLINE, 2L-DAY

Unless there is any law prohibiting him from attending he should be able to attend. Personally, I might feel a little uncomfortable with a convicted murderer in law school but I don't see any way — unless there is a law prohibiting him from attending — that the law school can say that he can't attend.

KEVIN DOWNEY, Director of Admissions

I am very ambivalent about it. Obviously it raises broad issues about what the purpose of the criminal justice system is. Can people be rehabilitated? Can character change? In final analysis I come down against his enrollment. Principally because I view murder as such a heinous crime that I think even if you are rehabilitated you should pay a price for the rest of your natural life and part of that price is exclusion from a profession such as law.



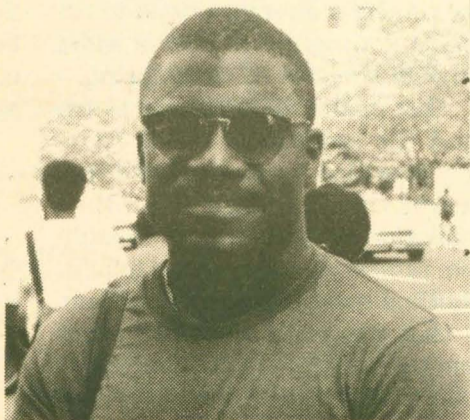
PROF. DEBORAH DENNO, Criminal Law Professor

It seems that under any theory of punishment, James Hamm should be allowed to practice law. He has satisfied our desire for retribution because he served 18 years in prison. He appears to be rehabilitated.... His behavior does not appear dangerous so he no longer needs to be incapacitated and there is no utilitarian benefit in frustrating his efforts to achieve a legal career. Vengeance would justify keeping James Hamm from practicing law but we could then ask, would society benefit more from this? I think not. Let him practice law and pay us back in a socially useful way for the pain and misery he has caused others. Indeed, some may argue that law school is one of the best means of torture.



LESTER LAYNE, 2L-DAY

Once the convicted felon has paid his debt to society he definitely should be allowed to be admitted to law school and be able to sit for the bar.



\*A convicted murderer on lifetime parole has been admitted to an Arizona law school. Forty-four states allow ex-convicts to attend law school, and to be admitted to the bar.

## Is a Lesbian a Fit Mother?

By Alan Dershowitz

The recent decision by a Virginia court removing a 2-year-old boy from custody of his lesbian mother raises fundamental questions about the power of the state to substitute its view of good parenting for that of the natural mother.

In that case, the 2-year-old was taken from his mother and given to his grandmother - her mother - for rearing. The court ruled that the mother's lesbian conduct is "illegal and immoral and renders her an unfit parent." It also ruled that the child's "best interests" would be served by removing him from a parental setting which would have inflicted an "intolerable burden" on him for the rest of his life. Finally, the court contrasted the mother, whom it found to be somewhat immature and undisciplined, with the grandmother, whom it concluded was a strict disciplinarian.

In thus playing God, the court presumed to predict the future and to know which kind of household would be best for the baby. There were no findings of child abuse, neglect or other disqualifying acts of parental misfeasance or nonfeasance, beyond the mother's acknowledgement that she sometimes kissed and petted with her female companion in front of her son and that her son called the companion "Dada."

It is doubtful that if the allegedly "illegal and immoral" conduct at issue here were anything other than homosexuality, a court would dream of taking a child away from his natural mother. Imagine a court removing a child from a home in which tax evasion, insider trading or Medicare fraud were openly practiced. Or consider parents who are openly racist, anti-Semitic or sexist, even to the extent of breaking the law. And what about anti-abortion zealots, who are frequently arrested for blocking abortion clinics. None of these parents would have their parental rights taken from them because their conduct was "illegal and immoral."

Moreover, it is highly doubtful that criminalizing lesbian conduct is constitutional. Although the Supreme Court, in a 5-to-4 decision back in 1986, refused to strike down a Georgia sodomy law, even former Justice Powell - who cast the deciding vote - now acknowledges he was wrong. And recent changes in high court personnel make it likely that the next time this issue comes before the justices, they will declare unconstitutional all remaining state laws punishing consensual homosexual con-

duct.

But even if homosexual conduct is constitutionally protected, the question would still remain whether a judge could take such conduct into account in deciding what is in the best interests of the child and whether the child should be removed from the mother's custody. The answer should plainly be no. Judges should not have the power to remove children from their natural parents in the absence of compelling evidence that their physical or psychological welfare is at high risk. It should never be enough to surmise - as the judge did in this case - that the child would be better off with his more conventional grandmother than with his lesbian mother.

Consider the implications of a rule allowing judges to decide that the child would be better off with someone other than its natural parents. A religious judge might decide that religious grandparents would provide a better home than atheistic parents. An intellectual judge might prefer intellectuals to TV watchers. A racist judge would prefer adoptive white parents for a light-skinned-African-American child. A wealthy judge might choose wealthy adoptive parents over struggling working class or welfare parents. Each of these "benevolent" judges might be able to rationalize their decisions by references to the best interests of the child. But our Constitution does not permit children to be taken from their natural parents and "upgraded" to the best available adoptive parents.

In a dispute between divorced and natural parents, the court may be able to select the better one, but when the dispute is between a natural parent and the state or a surrogate, the claims of the natural parent must prevail unless the parent is disqualified. Even if the grandmother in this case would provide a better home, that should not be enough to deny the lesbian mother her constitutional rights as a natural mother. Many who agree with the above, would still argue that in the Jessica DeBoer case, the adoptive parents should have prevailed against the biological parents visitation rights, despite evidence that her adoptive parents may have deliberately switched their sickly child for her in the hospital.

Those are both close and different cases, but favoring the adoptive parents over the biological ones may lead us down the slippery slope to the Virginia decision denying a natural mother the right to raise her son, just because she is gay.



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**BOTTLE AND GLASS**

By James C. Maroulis

How about a nice glass of Zinfandel? Such a question is likely to provoke at least three responses. People unfamiliar with this wine may be confused. People who know something about wine but don't know me personally will assume that I have no business writing a wine column. Finally, those who know me and know wine may think that I have finally gone off the deep end. Over the past year, I tasted a score of California red Zinfandels. Several of my friends thought I had lost it—until they tasted the stuff.

Although no one is exactly sure where Zinfandel came from, it is generally believed that it is an indigenous American grape. As far as I know, America is the only country that makes Zinfandel—California makes the vast majority of this. In California, a wine made from at least 75% of this grape can be called a "Zinfandel." As you may know, Zinfandel has a terrible reputation. America's most respected wine critic referred to it as "the perennial whipping boy of the wine press." Yet, this reputation is only half deserved. Although Zinfandel is a single grape variety, two types of wine are made from it: white and red. White Zinfandel is a pink, slightly fizzy wine. It usually has a simple, slightly sweet flavor. Normally, it is an insipid wine that is only slightly better than the dread wine cooler. Although my sister, who has a very refined palate, assures me that there are a few good white Zinfandels, I've never found one.

Red Zinfandel, on the other hand, can be a tasty California wine. It can be rich and strong or light and fruity. I prefer the strong-flavored Zinfandels. On the palate, red Zinfandel can taste of redcurrants, blackcurrants, raspberries, or cherries. Further, red

Zinfandel usually has a very distinctive, spicy flavor. When you taste it, you will immediately know you are not drinking Cabernet Sauvignon.

Red Zinfandels are a bargain for several reasons. First, because red Zinfandel's reputation has been dragged through the mud by its white sibling, there is very little demand for this wine. Second, although the stuff doesn't sell very well, the vintner's can't pull the Zinfandel vines out of the ground and replant with the more profitable Cabernet. It takes more than ten years before a Cabernet vine begins to produce quality grapes. Thus vintners have to continue growing Zinfandel even though it is not a big money-maker. Third, vintners who have invested money to buy the best equipment to grow and harvest their Cabernet use this equipment to make Zinfandel. Thus you can get the care, skill, and attention of some of California's finest makers at a discount price. Many vineyards that produce \$30 Cabernet Sauvignons make very nice \$10 Zinfandels. Finally, Zinfandel is a good buy because it is easy to grow. Unlike tricky grapes, such as the Pinot Noir, the Zinfandel is a hearty plant that thrives in California. Commonly, Zinfandels have very high alcohol levels—sometimes over 14%. This indicates that the grapes reached peak ripeness.

Here is a list of some of the wines I tasted over the past year. I attempted to include all of the relevant information from my tasting notes. I hope you enjoy them. All are from California.

**Burgess Zinfandel**  
1988 (Napa)  
\$7.99 at Gotham Wine (94th and Bway)

Deep red color. Full, rich, smokey, fruity aroma (not hot). Very full, strong, rich, smokey, spicy, fruity with a strong

tannic pull. Will be great in a few years and is surprisingly young-tasting considering its age. A fantastic bargain.

**Burgess Zinfandel**  
1989 (Napa)  
\$7.99 at Gotham Wine (94th and Bway)

Deep red color, purple edge. Fruity, cherry, redcurrant nose with moderately noticeable alcohol. This is a tannic wine with solid grip on the palate and on the middle of the tongue. It has strong, heavy, fruity, spicy, leathery flavors with slight chalkiness. There is a little vanilla oak. The balance is very nice and, because there are a variety of tastes, this wine has some complexity. Although it will be better in a few years, it is very tasty right now and a remarkable buy.

**Louis M. Martini Zinfandel**  
1986 (Sonoma)  
Medium red, just starting to show hints of amber. Very fragrant bouquet of raspberries and lilacs. Medium body, a lighter Zinfandel. Almost no tannin. Decent balance, medium length.

**Ravenswood Zinfandel**  
Vintner's Blend  
1991 (North Coast)  
\$8.00 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus).

I've had great luck recently by purchasing Zinfandels made by fancy California makers. In this context, the Ravenswood is a disappointment. It has a lightish red color and less body than would normally be expected from this grape. In strength, it is closer to a Pinot Noir than a Cabernet. It has a fruity, cinnamon aroma that has some alcohol. It has a nice flavor of fruit with a hint of cinnamon. But there simply isn't enough here. Where is the strong, brooding Zinfandel style? Then I read the bottle more closely and discovered that this is a negotiant wine. That means that many of the grapes used to

make it were bought from other vineyards. That explains it. I hate the negotiant system. It is used by the world's most unscrupulous winemakers: Burgundians.

**Cline Zinfandel**  
1990 (Contra Coast County)  
\$8.00 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus)

This is a decent, unsophisticated, medium-bodied Zin. It had nice flavors of raspberry fruit, decent acidity and is a little hot. It isn't great, but it is a nice wine for the price.

**Storybrook Mountain Vineyard Zinfandel**  
Estate Reserve  
1984 (Napa)  
\$8.00 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus).

Brownish edge. It has a strong pepper nose, but the fruit seems to be fading. On the palate, this is a smooth, spicy, juicy wine but the fruit is gone. It must have been very nice in its day; however, its day has passed. Most Zinfandels are at their best four or five years after they are made. This one is no exception.

**Caymus Vineyards Zinfandel**  
1989 (Napa)  
\$11 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus).

Full, spicy, peppery aroma. Strong, full, brawny, leathery, spicy wine with a nice tinge of oak. Moderate amount of fruit, soft tannins. Deep red color. Good balance. Can stand up to spicy food. Every wine I have tasted from Caymus has been a winner—this one is no exception.

**Clos Du Val Zinfandel**  
1988 (Napa, Stag's Leap District)  
\$12 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus).

Deep red color, red edge. Strong, rich, sweet, tarry, raspberry nose. Big.

*Continued on page 6*

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# Tunes to Study By

by Lisa H. Greene

So...you're a first-year. You're stressed to the max and worried you'll never again see the truly important things in life like family, friends, *Seinfeld*, *The Sunday New York Times*, or a Giants game. Forget a novel - Property is your bedtime reading and besides, if you're not already legally blind, you will be by second semester. Why rush the inevitable? Forget the movies, that's two hours in the dark with no sleep involved (or is that Perillo's Contracts class)? Either way, that's two hours you probably don't have.

Forget a concert or a Broadway show, we're law students and we're poor. If we had an extra sixty or seventy bucks sitting around, let's hope we'd spend it on each other at the Black Bass.

So how does the Fordham law stud keep hip and happening if almost everything fun is out of the question? Try some new tunes to keep up with the times. Torts seems to read a lot faster with some good music on the stereo.

For those of us still learning the ropes, there are some great new albums out there perfect to study by.

If you're ready to take a little of the edge off while you plow through your reading, try turning on the Pat Metheny Group's latest album, *The Road to You* (Geffen Records). It was recorded live during PMG's recent European Tour as the Group dazzled French and Italian fans doing staple songs performed with a renewed mellow energy.

The opening track, "Have you Heard," is Metheny at his best. The Group comes together with a symphony of sounds complimented by PMG's unique use of the human voice as musical instrument. The music sounds like it's being played with joy and the fans confirm with cheers for more.

The Metheny classic, "Letter From Home," is performed with a tenderness and harmony absent from the original album a few years ago. The revision is a welcome enhancement leaving the listener longing for more. "First Circle" is another fabulous cut and the kind of song that rushes down your spine when you turn the volume up too much. "The

Continued on Page 7

# Guaranteed Sight Unseen

by Robert Cinque

I discovered a while back that I had an uncanny ability to predict whether a movie would be good or bad simply by looking at the advertisements. It came to me when I saw the first subway poster for "Harley Davidson and the Marlboro Man." Immediately, I decided that it would be a horrible movie, and to this day, no one has told me otherwise. In that spirit, I offer valuable insights to the following films, none of which I have seen:

**The Age of Innocence** - It took Martin Scorsese twenty years to answer Francis Ford Coppola's "Godfather," but if Michelle Pfeiffer's costume is any indication, he's right there with an answer to "Dracula." But what kind of title is "The Age of Innocence?" As it turns out, it's another Edith Wharton novel (she of *Ethan Frome* fame). Maybe this "age of innocence" thing had some novelty to it back when she wrote the book, but after hearing the Fifties (when there were Commies in every closet), the Forties (when WWII - "the big one" - was going on), the Thirties (when the Depression was so bad, they had to repeal Prohibition so people could deal with it) and even the Sixties (when cities and campuses alike were ablaze) referred to as "age[s] of innocence", I'm not interested. In the commercials I've seen, it looks like a very pretty movie, with every frame a visual delight - but the same could be said for "Godfather III." Sounds to me like Scorsese went soft in the head. By the way, in a recent *Daily News* article, Scorsese says he went to NYU because he couldn't get into Fordham. Hmmm...

**True Romance** - Too many "names" who haven't done anything lately is a sure sign of a disaster in the making (ask John Candy, Richard Lewis and Giancarlo Giannini). Val Kilmer, Brad Pitt, Dennis Hopper, Christopher Walken - they were all in the commercial, but have been subtly slipped below the title in the newspaper ads. Strangely enough, the only actor associated with this film who's even close to "hot" is Gary Oldman ("Dracula"), and he's buried below the title while Christian Slater and Patricia Arquette get above-title billing. I don't know Patricia Arquette (not to be confused with Rosanna, who's ditzy beyond belief), but I recently saw Christian Slater in some movie with Marisa Tomei, and leading-man material he ain't. Watching him, I wanted to reach into the screen and shake him, yell in his ear, pour some coffee down his throat - anything to wake him up! Bottom line here? Don't rush to see this one - it'll be in the video stores by Christmas.

**Sleepless in Seattle** - This has been around all summer, and I still haven't seen it. Why should I? Everyone tells me it's another "When Harry Met Sally," and I already saw that. I liked it, I liked Meg Ryan, and subbing Tom Hanks for Billy Crystal has to help, but what if Harry Connick Jr. slips into the soundtrack? If anything can truly be said to repulse me in life, it's that little Bud Bundy lookalike trying to cop the Sinatra mystique. It didn't bother me in "Harry" because I didn't know who he was then, but

Continued on Page 7

## Wine (from page 5)

strong, heavy, rich, briary flavor. Tannins have faded. The flavor is a little hot, reflecting its stupendous alcohol level. A nice job.

Topolos Zinfandel  
 1990 (Sonoma, Russian River Vineyards)  
 \$12 at Nancy's Wines for Food (Amsterdam and 75th)

Medium red, purple edge. Not much nose: alcohol, some spice, a little vegetal. A smooth, moderately dry, medium body Zinfandel with decent fruit and smokey, leathery flavors and some nice oak. There is a slightly vegetal taste. The wine has decent balance, and a medium finish, but there is a hint of bitterness at the very end. Surprising little tannin. Overall, this is a nice bottle of wine, but \$12 is a couple of dollars too high. The Caymus is cheaper and much better.

Frog's Leap Zinfandel  
 1990 (Napa)  
 \$14 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus)

Very dark red color, purple edge. Sweet, juicy, fruity, caramel nose. Medium-full body, very soft and lush. Not much tannin, not hot. Good balance. Only a hint of spice. A very good job.

Ridge Zinfandel  
 Howell Mountain  
 1990 (Napa)  
 \$15 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus)

Deep red color with a purple edge. Strong, fruity, spicy nose. On the palate this is a smooth, strong, earthy Zinfandel. There is a touch of tannin and a hint of oak. The wine has a good finish and nice balance. A very good bottle.

Ravenswood Zinfandel  
 1990 (Sonoma)  
 1990  
 \$16.99 at 67 Wines (68th and Columbus).

Deep red color. A great nose of fruit, spice, and oak. Excellent fruity

body with classic balance. More like a Bordeaux in style than a California Zin. Excellent balance and good oak with a solid finish. The best Zinfandel I've ever tasted. Make sure you get Ravenswood's regular Zinfandel, not the mediocre Vintner's Blend.

Sky Zinfandel  
 Mt. Veeder  
 1989 (Napa)  
 Available at Crossroads (14th Street between 5th and 6th).

Purple, red color. Nice, fruity, sweet nose. A smooth, very peppery-flavored Zinfandel. Fruity and mellow, medium body with faded tannins. This is very nice.

I tried several other Zinfandels but did not take notes. This is what I recall. The Grgich Zinfandel is a strong, well-balanced, excellent wine. I would love to try it next to the Ravenswood. The regular Ridge Zinfandel sells for about \$10 and is an excellent buy. It was a strong, redcurrant flavor. It was not as earthy as the Ridge's Howell Mountain Zinfandel. The Lalonis Zinfandel sells for about \$12 and is strong, rich, and spicy. The Kendall-Jackson Zinfandel was a surprising disappointment. I have had great luck with the wines from this vineyard, but I found their Zin to be a hot, acidic, one-dimensional wine.

## Pretentious Tasting of the Month

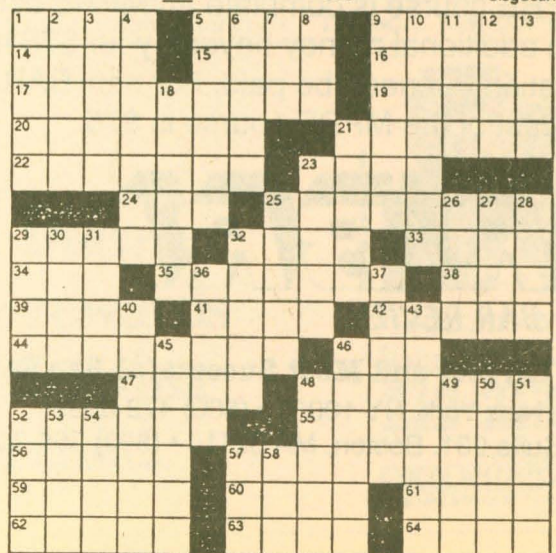
Every Labor Day, several friends and I roast a pig over a large outdoor fire. As the spitted beast slowly turns, we sit in lawn chairs and sip a variety of specially selected red wines. One of my two favorites from this year's pig-roastery was a 1989 Chateau La Dominique (Grand Cru Classe) from St. Emillion in Bordeaux, France. This wine has a purple edge, and a surprisingly weak nose. Yet, on the palate, it has explosive flavors of rich blackcurrants. Further, the wine has excellent balance, nice acidity, mellow tannins, and a finish that lasts and lasts. This is a real blockbuster, and is very highly recommended for special occasions.

## CROSSWORD RD® Crossword

Edited by Stan Chess

Puzzle Created by Fred Piscop

- |  |   |                              |                                    |
|--|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS                                     | 41 Beyond a doubt                         | 3 Anacin alternative         | 30 Outer: Prefix                   |
| 1 Collars                                  | 42 High as                                | 4 Like most mules            | 31 Sentence essential              |
| 5 Just one of those things                 | 44 Rd. named for a West Virginia senator? | 5 "The Rose of"              | 32 Movie-theater litter            |
| 9 Sing softly                              | 46 Peter Arnett's employer                | 6 Full Nelson and others     | 36 Cosmetics name                  |
| 14 Med. sch. subj.                         | 47 Rd. named for an actress?              | 7 wet (mistaken)             | 37 In a sensible way               |
| 15 Romeo or Juliet                         | 48 Believers in the Almighty              | 8 Crumpets complement        | 40 Exposes to the atmosphere       |
| 16 Cliff protrusion                        | 52 Mexicali munchie                       | 9 Bordeaux wine              | 43 Deli delectables                |
| 17 Rd. named for an actress?               | 55 Fashion designer of note               | 10 Addressed abrasively      | 45 Saddam Hussein and King Hussein |
| 19 Fend off                                | 56 Perform on the soapbox                 | 11 Poems of devotion         | 46 Ski lodge                       |
| 20 Deep green                              | 57 Rd. named for a stooge?                | 12 Cruel dude                | 48 Field-goal value                |
| 21 Nixon's Six                             | 59 <i>Unsafe at Any Speed</i> author      | 13 Lets touch them           | 49 Franklin (heating device)       |
| 22 Mocks                                   | 60 Pulitzer Prize winner of 1958          | 18 Nag                       | 50 It's sometimes thrown in        |
| 23 Writer Silverstein                      | 61 "Did you ___?"                         | 21 Tierra del Fuego co-owner | 51 Traffic tie-up                  |
| 24 Not sm.                                 | 62 Actress Sharon                         | 23 "___, Rattle and Roll"    | 52 Chinese secret society          |
| 25 Rd. named for a ballplayer?             | 63 Excite                                 | 25 Pooped                    | 53 Sea east of the Caspian         |
| 29 River embankment                        | 64 Hawk                                   | 26 Sherpa sighting, perhaps  | 54 Assured of success              |
| 32 Assurance from <i>Good Housekeeping</i> | DOWN                                      | 27 Agonize                   | 57 Cornfield cry                   |
| 33 Blue Velvet star                        | 1 Sporting one's birthday suit            | 28 As soon as                | 58 "That's disgusting!"            |
| 34 Rapper Vanilla                          | 2 "What's in ___?"                        | 29 Pinocchio, for one        |                                    |



## The Sporting Life

# Beer, Bagels . . . and Softball, Too

by Scott Montell

It seems that the SBA sponsored Beer and Bagel Softball Tournament was a great success last weekend. Details of the event have been hard to uncover since everyone apparently hit the beers harder than they hit the ball. However, as near as we can tell, eight teams in all entered the tournament, and a good time was had by all.

Law Review, led by captain Tom McGrath, ruled the day finishing with three easy defeats of their opponents. Before the game Law Review member Mike Keeley was overhead mumbling in the dugout, "we'll show them all we're not geeks . . . we'll crush them like insects!" On the field, Law Review was led by the fast and furious pitching of McGrath and the power hitting of Sal Rappa who slammed in a two-run homer.

An impressive contingent of first-years made their mark by finishing in second place. Since no one actually seemed to know their individual names (what do you expect? they're first-years), we'll just congratulate them all on their athleticism.

Bringing up the rear was the Intellectual Property Journal finishing 7th, and SBA with a dismal last place showing. Since we don't want to embarrass any one individual on the Intellectual Property team (Jamie Bernard 0-4 at the plate), we'll just say we hope they have better luck next year. SBA team members blamed their own lackluster performance on the absence of star player, Kathy Doody, who was injured in an earlier softball incident over the summer.

We hear that the tournament, which was originally scheduled to end

at 2:00 pm., stretched late into the night as everyone stayed to swap exaggerated stories of their performances. Although memories of the event seem fuzzy, it was obviously a lot of fun, so thanks should go to Kathy Doody, who

put the tournament together. For those who are interested, T-shirts of the event are still available for only five dollars (you can pick them up in the SBA office).

In related baseball news,

Fordham's very own John Weincek recently had his old baseball jersey retired by New York University, in honor of his outstanding three years as a baseball all-American for that school. Congratulations John!

### Music to Study By (from page 6)

Road to You" is a quiet but interesting tune that showcases Metheny's raw musical talent and the Group's delicate interpretations.

Metheny is great for studying, not only because there are no words to startle the student, but because his music can be enjoyed on so many levels. You don't need to focus on the melodies, just feel the energy and let

its' intensity help you to focus.

For those who prefer the classics when you sit down to study, Yo-Yo Ma has just released a new recording of several pieces by twentieth-century American composers entitled *Yo-Yo Ma, Made in America* (Sony Music Entertainment). This album includes pieces composed by Leonard Bernstein, Leon Kirchner, George Gershwin, and

### Sight Unseen (from page 6)

everything I've seen and heard from him since reminds me of those dweebs in the high-school jazz band who acted like they *loved* the stuff just to kiss up to the music teachers. If I had to put up my last dollar, I'd bet this guy never even played "Good Lovin'" or "Louie Louie" once in his miserable little life.

Oh, you want to know whether you should see "Sleepless in Seattle"? Sure, go ahead. It'll live up to its billing. And besides, it's been long enough since "Harry" that it may even seem fresh.

**The Firm** - Another summer film I haven't seen, in large part because I saw "A Few Good Men." I don't want to pat myself on the back, but I had that

one pegged last spring, eh? (See the April-May issue of *The Advocate*, page 18.) Demi Moore's character should have been shot for putting up with the Cruise character's bull. Tom Cruise was unbelievable as a Harvard Law graduate in "A Few Good Men," so why would I plunk down another fifteen bucks to take the wife to see him play another Harvard Law guy in an even more unbelievable situation? I mean, a mob firm in Tennessee (or Kentucky or wherever the hell it is)? What do they do, run the illegal bluegrass trade? If I were on the Harvard faculty, I'd think about getting an injunction against Tom Cruise.

**Next Advocate deadline:  
5pm, Wednesday, 29 September**

Charles Ives, all of whom played a significant role in the development of the young cellist. In fact, Kirchner composed "Triptych for Violin and Cello" and "Music for Cello and Orchestra" expressly for Yo-Yo Ma and Ma plays it with a passion that makes it his own.

As a tribute to Leonard Bernstein, the man who introduced the seven-year-old cellist to the American public, Yo-Yo Ma plays Bernstein's "Clarinet Sonata" (transcribed for cello and Piano by Ma) with a grace and eloquence fit for a tribute to New York's favorite classical icon. It's interesting to note that around the time of his death, Bernstein was composing a piano trio for Isaac Stern, Emanuel Ax, and Yo-Yo Ma.

If you like a Gershwin tune, Ma and pianist Jeffery Kahane have adapted the composer's *Three Preludes* for cello and piano. They perform a lively and enjoyable adaptation of the piece. Upon its debut in 1926, the *Three Preludes* was praised by early critics as "brief and glowing vignettes of New York life," so listen for the energy of the city in the music. It may even inspire you to jump ahead in your reading.

**Next Issue: Music to Party By**

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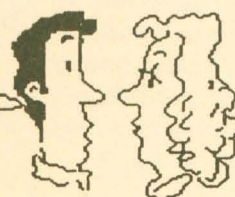


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