1991

Summation 1991

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Susan Brkich

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Well, we finally made it. As we look back over these photos and reminisce about "the good old days" at law school, let us not forget that ours was the class that graduated in the 150th anniversary of this proud university. It seemed that every other day there was some kind of function marking Fordham's Sesquicentennial in the Platt Atrium or the McNally Amphitheater. What a special opportunity it was to hear and meet with distinguished Fordham alumni such as Hon. Geraldine Ferraro L'60, Archibald Murray L'60, James Gill L'56, Thomas Moore L'72, Ronald Kuehn, Jr. L'62, Hon Cesar Perales L'65, Hon John Keenan L'56, and Andrew Maloney, L'61.

Over the last several years we have made new friends, formed lasting bonds and developed enduring ties. To be sure, law school has been an experience that has made a mark on our minds and our lives. For many of us it is the final step in a long and winding educational journey. But now, prepared with the tools to "think like a lawyer," we embark upon our careers. Fordham has done its job; now it's time for us to do ours.
Schmoozin’
(Boatride)
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Professor MALLOY and his theory on MICKEY MOUSE.

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Property, Domestic Relations

Flying through DOM REL like a BATTS out of hell.

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Professors PERILLO and PEARCE discuss the ethics of drinking and teaching.

WALSH at work.

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Civil Procedure, Civil Rights

YUNG FRANK CHIANG
Professor
Comparative Law

Students realize that the Professor is SHARPE, as a “tax” that is.
Professor SIMS and Evynne Grover surround their hero, SWIFTY LAZAR, winner of the "Biggest Eyeglasses on One's Face" award.

ANDREW B. SIMS
Associate Professor
Constitutional Law, Mass Media
Professor CAPRA teaches his son how to speak fast, even when obstacles are placed in his mouth.

Rand and Ed say, “The daily crossword puzzle is required classwork for a third year.”
Professor FOGELMAN always eager to stop class to have his picture taken for Summation.

Professor COOPER speaks to LOUIS STEIN L26 and tries to see his words go in one ear and out the other.

Switchboard Operators: Marianna Allen, Lorraine Fortunato (Standing). Not Pictured: Jo Fallon
Prof. CHIKOFSKY (Law & Psych), “How many fingers am I holding up? Bark like a dog. Walk like a chicken.”

JANET R. TRACY
Professor of Research
and Library Services

LUKE CAROLAN
and PERCY HAYNES
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DEAN REILLY, “Welcome to Fordham Law School . . . the friendliest law school in the land.”

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES

O, sing the praise of Fordham Law:  
A song so loud and clear,  
For the students who will graduate  
In this Sesquicentennial Year!  
Here are America’s very best!  
I contemplate in awe —  
The “par excellence” of legal brains  
Today, at Fordham Law.

A century and one-half has passed  
Since Eighteen Forty-one;  
When as the College of St. John,  
Fordham was begun.  
America owes a vote of thanks  
To those religious men  
Who inspired higher learning  
And paved — the way — back then.

“Faith in the Future Keeping”  
Prudent — and — sincere,  
So lucky — you — to graduate —  
In this most inspiring year.  
Never — once — may you forget

Your teachers and good friends.  
“Maroon” and “Rams” — the passwords —  
You — in ecstasy — suspends!

God bless your Alma Mater  
Where “Wisdom and Knowledge” grew:  
Wisdom on how to reason —  
Knowledge of how and what to do.  
As you don your caps and gowns  
On this twenty-sixth of May,  
Our prayers and thoughts go with you  
On this, your Graduation Day!

As you greet the dawning century,  
And Year Two-Thousand-One,  
Remember Fordham Law School —  
Perhaps — from Washington? —  
The Congress? — The White House? —  
Or somewhere in between?  
Remember Fordham Law School  
And its awe-inspiring Dean!

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JAMES F. GILL, President of Fordham Alumni Association and Dean JOHN D. FEERICK.

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Dean FEERICK and LOUIS STEIN at Mr. Stein's portrait unveiling.

Judge IRVING R. KAUFMAN sitting near his portrait.
GERALDINE FERRARO,
Former Congresswoman.

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(Latecomers)

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GRADUATES NOT PICTURED

LL.M. GRADUATES NOT PICTURED
A RETROSPECTIVE by David Sternlicht & Michael Manley

A beginning to an ending. Perhaps we are looking at this passage a few days before our graduation, or maybe years after graduation, remembering the time we spent at Fordham. We begin to see the familiar faces and invariably we recall the good and not-so-good times. We see who we were when we started. Have we changed along the way?

First Year, for many, was a rude awakening. Most of us did not really know what to expect; most could not predict what has happened to us since. Who would make a Journal and who would join the Follies? Fresh faces, excitement. The professors — Abramovsky, Byrne, Magnetti, Marcus, Perillo... Was she a good one? Was he a bad one? Would he give his grades in on time? Legal Process. The ultimate question of the first month: would we pass Legal Process? And though upperclass students told us no one ever failed Legal Process, none of us wanted to be the first. So most studied; those of us who did not, turned out to be “the smarter.”

We thought we knew what was going on, yet we got increasingly lost. We hit several hurdles—mid-terms, then finals. Law School, we learned, was a unique learning experience. It taught us how to think in a different mode—what had worked previously did not necessarily work anymore. Plenty fought that way of thinking. Others seemed to embrace it automatically. Perhaps the more we seemed to know, the less we actually knew. Often, greater questions were left unanswered because we had to focus on the black letter. As we look upon the SUMMATION now, have those questions been answered? Are they ever answered? Do they even matter?

With First Year behind us, most entered the unified writing competition or engaged in the Moot Court competition. We realized First Year lingered on as finals gave way to these two events that were time consuming, competitive, and stressful. But with the coming of our grades, so ended our First Year—the gauntlet—a rite of passage. But perhaps now was truly the beginning—Job Search.

Career Planning and Placement—another unique experience. Job binders, NALP forms, Firm cocktail parties; fake smiles, good food, free booze. It was the first time we saw our friends in suits. Classmates looked on the wall to see which firms granted them interviews. Lots of us looked to see how many times we had not received interviews. The events that had always seemed to be going on in the Atrium finally included us. We were no longer spectators, but participants.

Second, Third, (and for some) Fourth Year. Corporations, Evidence, Remedies, Professional Responsibility. Our first taste of electives—the opportunity to choose anything from Space Law to Law of the Sea. We gained a new perspective and finally emerged from the library to experience a new part of Law School—the Journals, Moot Court, Mediation Clinic and the Clinical Program, and non-academic activities such as the Fordham Democrats, the Legal Fiction, and Pro Bono. Some people worked part time, others did research for professors, still others had judicial clerkships and got a chance to see the courts in action.

Back from our summer jobs, Law School seemed less a hurdle, more an obstacle. For the first time people spoke openly of a recession and it affected all professions, industries, and walks of life. For Fordham Law it was uniquely difficult because what we heard going into Law School was no longer true. First Year we were together as a group. Second, Third and Fourth Year we began to drift apart. But in these somewhat difficult times, we recaptured our sense of “class.”

With the Boatride, Tuesday Nights at the Quarter Moon and McAleer’s, TANGs, the Fordham Follies, the Spring Cotillion at Tower Suite, and ultimately with our Graduation on May 26, 1991, Fordham’s Sesquicentennial class is together once again. And though we may take different paths—the public sector, legal aid, government service, or large and small law firms—we know that the Class of 1991 will always share a bond, specially tailored for Fordham’s 150th class.
SUMMATION 1991
THE SESQUICENTENNIAL

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David Sternlicht