In response to growing national concern over the competence of trial lawyers, Chief Justice David N. Edelstein of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York recently announced a Special Training Program designed to give senior law school students actual litigation experience.

The program, first of its kind in the country, has received the approval and support of Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, long an outspoken critic of the quality of advocacy in U.S. Courts.

In a letter to Edelstein the Chief Justice wrote, "This is directly the kind of program I have been advocating. I hope it will lead other courts to study the program and to consider programs of their own."

"Law schools today are producing brilliant thinkers and splendid researchers," Edelstein said. "The only way for these students to acquire real trial skills, however, is to work with experienced practitioners in actual courtroom situations. This training program will offer students the invaluable experience of assisting many of the best practitioners in the country."

The program, drawn up by Edelstein and a committee of the leaders of the bar, has the approval and cooperation of the Deans of all law schools in the Southern District—including Fordham Dean Joseph McLaughlin—as well as other federal judges and law firms active in litigation.

The Special Training Program will provide students in their senior year the opportunity to work with experienced litigators in the preparation and trial of cases. Participating law firms agreed to employ student interns for 15 hours a week, tailoring their assignments to emphasize actual trial work.

This training will give junior federal judges in the District the opportunity to utilize senior law clerks.

The program also proposes adoption of a local rule allowing students participating in the program to appear before the Southern District Court under the direction of a qualified lawyer prior to their admission to the bar.

Students participating in the program will be drawn from Fordham as well as the other five law schools in the Southern District—Cardozo, Columbia, New York Law, New York University, and Pace.

The program will be administered by the Committee on the Criminal Justice Act, whose membership includes Professor Sheila Birnbbaum, and by a committee of judges chaired by Edelstein, and including Judges Marvin E. Frankel, Morris E. Lasker, Lawrence W. Pierce, Kevin Thomas Duffy, Richard Owen, Henry F. Werker, and Pierre N. Leval, all of the Southern District.

Further information about the program will be available from Dean McLaughlin sometime in the near future.

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**Adjunct Prof Investigated After Newspaper's Allegations**

**By William Ruane**

Federal Bankruptcy Judge Robert Beggs has investigated an article in the Daily News last month, that he failed to investigate charges of mismanagement and fraud on the part of the receiver he appointed to run the bankrupt D.H. Overmyer Co. warehouse chain.

Beggs refused to comment on the charges last week, saying only that he "didn't think you should worry about the integrity of your professorial staff."

The committee investigation Beggs was formed by Chief Judge David Edelstein of the Southern District of New York after Edelstein had learned that the FBI was conducting its own investigation into the case, according to a later report in the News.

In a recent development, the News reported this week that a grand jury has also been conformed to look into the matter. Edelstein could not be reached for comment this week but has been quoted as saying that after the allegations against Beggs have been studied he may "personally ask Judge Beggs to remove himself from the proceedings. It would be up to the judges of the District Court to revoke his tenure."

Beggs has said he will not disqualify himself and that he feels he "can do justice without regard" to the allegations.

According to the News, Beggs drew the Overmyer case in late 1973 and later, in an unusual move, appointed lawyer Robert Herzog as receiver for the chain instead of putting the company into liquidation. The paper described Her­zog as a personal friend of Beggs and alleged that Her­zog approved payments to contractors and non-existent companies for work that was never done, all with Beggs's approval.

Herzog also hired the accounting firm of Weber Lipt­shieh and Co. to audit the books of the Overmyer company. Beggs's younger brother Ivan works for Weber Liptshieh and performed some work on the Overmyer account.

The News article, displayed prominently on the paper's front page, attempted to draw a connection between Beggs and the actions of Herzog and others which it termed "question­able."

The only substantial­allegation against Beggs, however, is the failure to in­vestigate the charges of fraud and mismanagement put before his court. This is the allegation which the District Court judges are currently in­vestigating.

Beggs did say that he would issue a statement to The Advocate when the judicial com­mittee releases its findings.

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**Spring Party Tonight**

**by Marshall Salter**

Food, drink and music will usher out the spring and send out the school year at the Spring Party Friday night in the Reading Room.

Sponsored by Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity and the Student Bar Association, the celebration will begin at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are $2.00 in advance and $3.00 at the door.

The evening's menu will include clams on the half shell, antipasto and an assortment of cold cuts. Beer, wine and li­quor will be available to soothe pre-exam nerves. Music will be provided by the rock and Marbles, veterans of CGBB's and Great Guilder­sees.

A Lawyer's Basket of Cheer containing an assortment of spirits valued at over $60, will be raffled at the par­ty. Tickets are available from PAD members at $50 each.

Previous SBA parties were held at the Faculty Lounge at Lowenstein Center. This year, however, the unavailability of the Louner forced the SBA to reschedule the event for the Reading Room. The Lounge was available only on Friday, April 24, which is the first day of Passover.

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**Dean's Day Draws 175 FLS Alumni**

Over 175 alumni returned to the Law School last Saturday for the fourth annual Dean's Day.

Dean's Day is part of Ford­ham's continuing education program, offering seminars and workshops for practicing attorneys.

This year's activities in­cluded a trial advocacy workshop featuring the mock trial of Professor Henry Putzel for charges involving fraudulent stock transfers. In the scenario, created to il­lustrate techniques of cross-examination, the jury found Putzel innocent. Dean Joseph McLaughlin ascended the bench to preside over the trial.

Other activities included a Business Regulation workshop led by Professor Sheila Birn­baum, and a seminar on Close Corporations with Professor Donald Sharpe.

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**Birnbaum, Harper Will Debate ERA**

The Phi Alpha Delta Facul­ty Lecture Series will end its schedule for this academic year with a debate over the Equal Rights Amendment.

Professor Sheila Birnbaum will speak in favor of the ERA. She will be opposed by Professor Eugene Harper.

The debate will be held in the Moot Court Room at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, April 18. Refreshments will be served, and all students are invited.

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**Judge Wilfred Feinberg of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals presents the first-place trophy in the annual Kauffman Moot Court competition to Richard Fooshee of New York Law School. Fooshee and teammate Jane Kaplan defeated Diane McMahon and Kathleen Kaczmarek of SUNY at Buffalo in the final round last week. Fordham teams in the competition included Suzanne Marquard, Ed Burke, Orin McCluskey, Mark Goodman, Isaac Nutoric and Frank Gulino.**
Job Search May Be Unfrustrating, But the Jobs Really Are Out There!

Keep the faith, there are jobs out there! Employment possibilities are limited only by the energy and resourcefulness of the students involved in the job search. Students investing time wisely and proportionately in career development, especially in comparison to the amount of money, time and energy invested into their higher education—will eventually get that job.

The National Association for Law Placement Employment Survey gives a clear picture of the demand for legal services as reflected in the jobs accepted by the nation's law graduates.

The most recent survey covering 123 Law schools with almost 25,000 graduates, reports the employment status of 19,524. Of these, 16,939 of 92% of those qualified and seeking employment are, in fact, employed in law-related positions six to eight months after graduation. Over 52% are in private practice, 17.5% work for federal, state and local governments, 10% joined corporations or other business enterprises, 9% accepted clerks, 5% went to public interest law and legal services, 3.4% stayed in the academic community to study or teach, 2% joined the military, and the rest were in miscellaneous fields including prepaid legal services.

There are several findings that do not appear at first glance.

(1) Different schools may differ considerably as to the employment picture for graduates depending upon the employers they serve; e.g., Fordham has a higher percentage to go to work for law firms than most schools. Of the responding schools, 12% of responding schools do not differ substantially from the non-responding schools.

(2) Minority graduates fared slightly better overall with both the job and the all graduates, but had a significantly smaller percentage, 27%, enter private practice.

(3) Women were slightly lower than the overall group with 11% employed and 41% in private practice.

(4) Of the 6% of all known graduates who did not enter the job market, there was a higher percent of the minorities who failed the bar, and a higher percent of women who were not seeking employment.

Because of the December 15th guideline for students to accept or reject offers from firms recruiting on-campus and the continual newspaper and legal newspaper scare articles every December, many students are afraid that if they have not found a job by then, they never will. Students who have been unsuccessful in their early job interviews are made to feel that they will never be successful. What one should realize is that the articles are generally simplistic in their analysis and misstate both the nature and extent of the problem.

Nationally, large law firms—those who recruit on campus—account for only 6% of employers of recent law graduates. Of the 35 (or 6 times greater for Fordham), the rest of the market is not available by a specific date on the calendar. The job market is not static, and the employer needs will be at. This time, there are some employers who are seeking candidates who have taken and passed the bar examination. If there are legally educated people who have not found work, it is not because there are not opportunities. It is the problem of distribution. There are too many applicants in areas already over-supplied, such as the Northeast, 74.5% from the Southeast, 24% in the Great Lakes and Plains states, and 27% in the West and Southwest. Almost 50% located in the seven states of the Central Region of the United States. 43% settled in other cities.

In addition, the survey determined that 66% of the graduates went to work in law firms larger than five lawyers. Only 3.5% accepted positions with 1-4 lawyers. Of these, 70% are clerks. In fact, the 52.4% in private practice is just more than the national average.

Each graduate must assess his or her marketability in light of the demand factors for his or her qualifications. There are many people with the skills and background possessed, as well as assess overall trends in the employment market. The demand factors influence these trends and affect to some degree the demand for the student.

Employers the student must recognize that he or she is entering a profession in which that student will earn a living. Earning a living is always directly related to the impact of a broad range of economic factors. The student who is seeking employment must seriously consider these factors and trends. He or she must spend time in honest self-evaluation as to which market offers the best opportunity and address a significant amount of time to this matter now, not when time, which take money, and net little.

The entire process is very discouraging and frustrating, but you will learn the process and how to cope with a variety of career paths and how to choose the right one for you while you are in school.

PlACEMENT
by Elizabeth Walters
Placement Director

Hang Together, or Just Hang
by Michael Brofman

As this is probably the last official act I will perform for the Advocate, I must state for the record that for all the criticism, sarcasm and flamboyant verbiage I have thrown at this paper during my tenure here, Fordham Law School has provided me with an experience which I will be valued for the rest of my life.

Barring the occasional bad taste, the job search received here is as good as if not better than what most other law schools offer. Those who know me well also know that I am not one to praise easily, and that I am quick to be critical. In this case, my criticism will be purely constructive.

Fordham Law School has the chance to become one of the best law schools in the country. For Fordham, our faculty is excellent and our students intelligent and dedicated. We are being held back from that greatness by a university administration which in a case of selective blindness, which is bent on retaining complete financial control over this institution regardless of the consequences which that might involve.

I am troubled by the fact that, during my tenure here, there was no joint voice of deans, faculty and students has been raised to combat and change university policy. Since I am not privy to the covert actions of the Fordham Law School Board of Trustees, I am not privy to the covert actions of the Fordham Law School Board of Trustees.
AKING SPORTS
by Bruce Birn

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