INTERVIEW WITH
DEAN FEERICK

by Earl A. Wilson

This is the first in a two-part series of interviews with the Dean of Fordham Law School. The Dean answers questions on various topics, including the state of the school, diversity, and the challenges facing law students at Fordham.

The Advocate: How are plans working out for the cafeteria?

The cafeteria is now open full time... The decor is attractive. The first phase is complete - to get it open and get different foods to students. More foods are coming, including soups and hopefully less expensive desserts.

The Advocate: Will it be completed this year? How about future development plans?

We are looking to improve the cafeteria lighting and appearance, like we have done with the hallways. We'll see a lot of improvements in the cafeteria in the next few months — as well as in the summer and the next part of the school year. There will be a totally different approach to the cafeteria.

The Advocate: When will students have a lounge? How will it compare to the prior one?

We are looking to build lounge space in the cafeteria — to make it layered. In terms of having a new lounge like the old one [The former student lounge is located where the Law Review office is now] there is no space in the school. I have started conversations with the university for additional space for the school beyond this building. Father O'Hare has set up a committee recently to look at the pressing needs at Lincoln Center, including our needs such as a lounge, clinical areas, a larger placement office. There is need for space everywhere administratively, and a need for more faculty offices and more library space...

The Advocate: What are Fordham's plans in increasing the diversity of its staff and its professors?

This is a very high priority of the school. I am pleased with the successes this year. In terms of Dean Nitza Escalera, she was chosen from 400 candidates. Professor Ruth Jones has joined us in the Clinical area. Increasing diversity has been a long term goal of mine. We've enjoyed good successes in that area with students, less successes with faculty and administration so that the subject of diversity remains at the top of the agenda of things we are trying to do here.

The Advocate: You have been Dean of Fordham for many years now, I'm sure there are many other areas you could move into, exactly what keeps you here and makes your job so interesting that you wish to stay?

This is my 13th year as Dean. I guess 13 is a number that can be interpreted different ways, but it has been 13 rewarding and wonderful years. When the University continued on p. 8

PIRC LOSES ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

by Kathi Denise Lang-Thors

Jennifer Berge, the former Assistant Director of the Public Interest Resource Center, has left the Fordham Law School family to become the Executive Director of the Westchester Interfaith Housing Corporation, located in Westchester County. The loss of Jen's smile and presence will be felt all around Fordham.

Jen began as the Assistant Coordinator of the Public Interest Resource Center when it was founded back in March of 1992. At that time, Jen was the first full-time staff person in the PIRC, and shared one small room for office space with three student organizations; now the Center has grown into the suite of rooms on the Garden Level of the school, and acts as the hub of activity for seven public interest student organizations, including the Fordham Student Sponsored Fellowship, the Fordham Law Community Service Project, the Stein Scholars Program, the Battered Women's Advocacy Project, the Unemployment Action Center, the New York City Housing Authority Advocacy Project, and the Family Court Mediation Diversion Project.

Jen worked with all the student public interest organizations, and she aided many students in securing public interest internships and volunteer positions in the community through the Pro Bono Students America database. She worked most closely with two organizations, the Stein Scholars and the Battered Women's Advocacy Project. She acted as the administrative coordinator for the Stein Scholars program, assisting Professors Bruce Green and Russell Pearce by coordinating activities and expediting correspondence to the Scholars. The Battered Women's Advocacy Project was formed this year under her guidance, and she organized the "Living With the Enemy" exhibit of photographs depicting domestic violence, seen in the law library and covered by the Advocate last semester. (See Vol. XXVII, No. 5, November 8, 1994.)

Jen's new employer, the Westchester Interfaith Housing Corporation, is a coalition of religious and spiritual organizations in Westchester County that advocates affordable housing for low income residents of Westchester County.

From l-r, Jennifer Berge, former Associate Director of PIRC, talking with Robyn Watts, Stein Scholar.

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Oops!! We're Sorry for the mistake

In the last issue, due to a bizarre series of circumstances too convoluted to detail here, we printed the wrong picture in the profile of Professor Ruth Jones of the Battered Women’s Clinic. Here is the correct picture of Professor Jones. The lady who we mistakenly pictured happens to be Elaine Jones, Director-Counsel NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Incidentally, she will be speaking at Fordham on February 7, 1995 at 6:00 PM in McNally as a part of the Robert L. Levine Distinguished Lecture Series. Her topic will be: 'Perspectives on the Law: Civil and Voting Rights Aspects of the Legal Defense and Educational Fund.'

REMARS OF JOHN D. FEERICK OF FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL
INDUCTION OF JAIME A. RIOS TO NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT
DECEMBER 5, 1994

It is a great privilege and pleasure to join in the celebration of Justice Jaime Rios’ induction to the New York State Supreme Court. As the Dean of the law school from which he graduated, it is particularly gratifying to share this moment with him and his family. Today’s milestone is the culmination of almost 25 years of service by Judge Rios to the people of New York. It represents as well the realization of the American ideal of a person of humble background achieving a high public trust with the sacred responsibility of dispensing justice among people.

Justice Rios brings to this public trust an exceptional background. He will be, as a member of this distinguished Court, a judge concerned about people, and committed to resolving their problems in a compassionate, fair and just manner. What greater recognition for a lawyer than becoming a judge of this Court of general jurisdiction.

Prior to enrolling at Fordham Law School in 1974, Justice Rios served as an educator and administrator in the New York City Schools. After graduating from City College in 1969, he became a teacher and then assistant principal at Public School 25 in the Bronx, overseeing the school’s inventory and funding and serving as its delegate to the Parents Association and the United Federation of Teachers.

During his years at our Law School, he served as an administrator of Spanish Language for the New York State High School Equivalency Diploma Testing Program and then as administrator of a project to evaluate bilingual and bicultural educational materials developed for the public schools.

After graduation from Law School in 1977, he served for three years as an assistant district attorney in Kings County. In 1984, he was named Deputy Commissioner to the New York City Police Department, a position in which he advised the Police Commissioner on issues relating to labor law, civil service law, and the Administrative Code of the City of New York. It also involved serving as Chief Administrative Law Judge in the resolution of disciplinary proceedings. He lectured as well at the Police Academy and in management training programs.

After a brief period in private practice, Justice Rios returned to public service in 1985 as a Judge of the Civil Court of New York City, presiding over trials in its Housing Part. He served with distinction in that position, earning the reputation as a jurist that led to today’s ceremony.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that, throughout his career, Justice Rios has been a dedicated alumnus of Fordham Law School. He has served as a valued member of our adjunct faculty and as a mentor and role model for many who aspire to be lawyers, especially members of our minority community. He has generously supported our recruitment programs by attending open house gatherings and conferences intended to increase minority representation in the legal profession. Thanks to his leadership, our School today ranks among the most ethnically diverse law schools in the nation.

On behalf of Fordham Law School, I express to Justice Rios the joy our entire law school community feels on the occasion of his induction as a justice of the New York State Supreme Court. I congratulate and wish him a long, happy, and enormously successful tenure in this highest of positions.

Editor’s Note:
Justice Rios is the first Latino Supreme Court Justice in the history of Queens County.
EARLY START PROGRAM
(For LLM’s, MCJ’s and anyone else who would like to begin the
BAR/BRI New York Bar Review course early in Manhattan only.)

INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM:

- Lectures begin in early March consisting of videotapes of the following multistate subjects:
  - CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
  - CRIMINAL LAW
  - EVIDENCE
  - TORTS
  - CONTRACTS (including SALES)
  - CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
  - REAL PROPERTY (including FUTURE INTERESTS)

- 2 Graded Essays
- 50 Question Multistate Diagnostic Exam
- Attorney-advisor (not a tutor) to counsel on study techniques. (If a tutor is desired, BAR/BRI will provide the names of qualified attorneys who will work with BAR/BRI students at a discounted rate.)

- PLEASE NOTE: This program is in addition to the services & programs provided in the regular BAR/BRI New York Bar Review course and is available in Manhattan only.

- Students who participate in this program must be enrolled in the BAR/BRI New York Bar Review course and have paid at least $850 towards their bar review tuition by the first day of the EarlyStart Program. This payment is fully credited to the student’s bar review tuition and is non-refundable.

LOCATION: This course is offered only at the BAR/BRI Lecture Hall, 1500 Broadway (at 43rd Street).

CLASSES BEGIN ON
SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH
FOR MORE INFORMATION, STOP BY THE BAR/BRI TABLE

THE BAR REVIEW COURSE THAT CARES ABOUT YOU™
(800) 472-8899

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Out of This World

Science Fiction Case Competition

The Science Fiction Law Society of Loyola Law School (Los Angeles) is conducting its first nationwide competition. Copies of the following fictional case have been shipped to all ABA law schools in the U.S. — for publication in those school’s newspapers and journals.

If you are interested in competing:
1) Read through the case.
2) Research and compile a complete holding; replete with case and statute law (sources and references can be factual, fictional or both).
3) Submit to either LLS mail box #420 (John Rogers) or mail in to the address at the end of this instruction.

The deadline for receipt of entries is March 30, 1995.
The top ten entries will be printed in a limited-edition anthology and distributed to all participating schools.
The competition will be judged by: two law school professors, one professional law editor and the SFLS board. Winners will be notified by April 15th, 1995.

Good luck!
For more information or to submit off-campus, please contact:

John Rogers
SF Law Society
LLS-Los Angeles
c/o Daily Journal
915 East First St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 229-3531

Case #001

Centauri Orbital Station, Inc.
v.
Trans Andromeda Space Lines, Ltd.

Seventh Extra-Solar Circuit Court of Appeals, 23411, 497 F.4th 1 102.

Plaintiff, Centauri Orbital Station, Inc., (COS), owner and operator of Centauri Epsilon space station (UNesT reg. 2204), CommSec.dataplug, ll. 1 .0121(Aeol-D), brought suit against defendant Trans-Andromeda Space Lines, Ltd. (Trans) on several causes of action. Notably here, negligent exposure of a controlled viral species to a known biosphere, hazardous and unlawful cargo practices, statutory violation of maritime freight provisions (StellaMar Reg. 9301 et seq.), negligence leading to the explosive decompression of a populated loading zone, [11-1] wrongful death (417 counts human, 214 counts non-human), economic loss, wrongful death (subsidiary and collateral), resultant commercial damages.

Trial court, at the request of the Omega planetary assembly, waived decision (executing a judicum elevatum under Amendment forty six of the re-Unified Space Code²), opting to hear preliminary factual arguments only.

We choose to accept this elevation and try the case on the facts as they have been presented.

Criminal procedures too numerous to cite have been initiated here and in five other non-human jurisdictions,

- J. Hassanata-Kayama
- M. Jhal-Chan-ar-aa (Omega)

Factual summary: At 11:47 am station time (ST) on Tuesday, October 28, 2339, the heavy-load, deep space freighter Amigo Samm, dropped out of hyperspace and entered the Omega system. Unmanned monitors tracked its course into the planet grid without incident. At 2:23 pm ST, the Amigo Samm requested permission to dock at the industrial wharf of the Centauri Orbital Station, a 5,942,000 ton rotating artificial satellite.

Attachment clearance was granted by the station’s space traffic control. Three guide tugs brought the Amigo Samm into its airlock slot at 3:49 pm ST.

At this point, accounts differ. Plaintiff alleges that the crew of the Amigo Samm began immediately to off-load dozens of yellow-striped, hermetically sealed biohazard canisters. Defendant Captain Himin De La Cruz claims to have obtained an inspection by station customs before beginning cargo removal.

Though that factor will figure into our evaluation, it is not crucial to understanding the events as they played out.

At 6:17 pm ST, a seventy-meter hull crane which was in the process of swaying a flat of canisters from the cargo hold onto the pier, buckled unexpectedly. Within seconds it collapsed, killing three Amigo Samm dockhands and smashing open four biohazard canisters on the docking platform.

The containers released thousands of Massero-Chuy viral larvae bodies into the station.

Massero-Chuy, 3, to those not familiar with their history, are a quasi-insectoid viral life form; intensely survival-oriented, carnivorous, semi-sensitive. Though small in their infant or larval stage, given time and food sources, they will attain sizes approaching those of large dogs. They are hive (nest/matriarchal) species. Physically, they resemble terrestrial termites.

According to the Amigo Samm’s manifest, the canisters were scheduled for transfer to the Hyperspace Freight Cannon (a computer-assisted robot launch delivery system operated by Consolidated Shipping Affiliates). COS’s customs & agricultural logs contain.

The final decision, as far as investigators can determine, was to be the PanSolar BioToxic Research Laboratory on Vinihu6.

In less than 24 hours, the Massero-Chuy had contaminated the forward sections of the Delta wharf, a sixty-slot cargo docking wing of the station. Attempts to eradicate the viral insects using pesticides proved ineffective.

A quarantine was ordered and martial law was declared.

Several fatalities were reported during the chaotic period ensuing.

By 6:35 pm ST of the following day, military vessels had moved into orbit around the station. Traffic was lowered in or out.

A twelve-man Extermination Team, commanded by Col. Jeb Miller, Spec. Fros/Alpha Det. 6th US Marines, specially trained and outfitted for alien combat, was introduced, their mission, to locate the queen and terminate her.

This mission failed, resulting in the deaths of ten members of the squad.

4 At 11:42 pm ST, the military’s mobile command unit, fearing a station-wide catastrophe, instructed the station master to blow the main air gates, opening the entire industrial wharf zone to zero-atmosphere vacuum.

Since evacuation had been only partially effected, this caused the deaths of at least 600 dock workers awaiting de-contam and/or still crowded near the central hub pass-ways. These helpless victims were drawn, along with tons of steel gitter framework, freight materials, loading vehicles and the viral life forms, into space.

The Massero-Chuy infestation had been stopped but the accompanying price tag had been enormous.

Seeking recovery for crushing damages paid to the families of the deceased and for the staggering cost of repairing a decompressed dockyard, COS now sues TransAndromeda, the freightcarrier who allegedly without proper governmental authorization and inspection, brought the viral infection into the station.

We hold...

A unique appellate court developed by the UN and the Omegars. The 7th Circuit was and is comprised of 4 human justices and 4 Omegan (alien/non-human) magistrates. Only the UN’s Supreme Judicial Tribunal and the Omegar High Magistracy have stare decisis rank over it.

A seldom used trial alternative: the lower court will “hear” the case but will defer judgment to the ranking body.

For further information regarding the Massero-Chuy virus and its biology, see “Massero-Chuy and Related Alien Viral Life-Forms.” by Dr. Heintz Deatterman, Ph.D. (Univ. of Cornell Press, 2308) 2

See “Epsilon Station Hit: A Study in Disaster,” by Admiral Jeb Miller, USMC Ret.

DRUNK DRIVING DOESN’T JUST KILL DRUNK DRIVERS.

Alano Drake, killed 3/17/91 at 10:53pm on Robbins Rd., Hervest, AL. Next time your friend insists on driving drunk, do whatever it takes to stop him.

Because if he kills innocent people, how will you live with yourself?

FRIENDS DON’T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

US Department of Transportation
From the Editors

Welcome Back !!

We extend a warm welcome to everyone to this the first issue of this second semester of the 1994-95 school year. For some of us staff members this is the last semester we will have the privilege of working on a school-based newspaper. For others, this is just the beginning of what we hope will be a rewarding future for both the Advocate and the Fordham Law School Community.

New Feature

We’ve begun a new feature: an Alumnus Profile. Each will issue will feature a prominent Fordham alumnus. Our inaugural profilee is none other than Maureen Bateman, General Counsel to the U.S. Trust Company and recent appointee to the Board of Trustees of this University — one of only two women to hold that position. The profiler is Kathi Denise Lang-Thorbs, a second year student who we also welcome as our Features Editor.

Science Fiction

Law Competition

Be sure to check out the submission from California’s Loyola Law School. It’s a nationwide competition in future law/science fiction. The case is entertaining and you might just want to give it a shot. You never know, the winner could be from Fordham Law!

Had Enough of OJ yet?

I don’t know too much about anyone else but I am fascinated by the OJ Simpson case. I can’t wait for all the strategy to develop on both sides now that the trial has begun. This case is being covered by every news and cable service on the planet. But I’ll more than likely check it out on Court TV, where the “real” legal analyses take place. And who knows, maybe I’ll get to see Professor Ruth Jones as an Expert Commentator again!

NEXT DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE ADVOCATE is WEDNESDAY, February 1. Submissions may be left in our folder in the Student Activities area on the Garden Level. Remember, submit a disk in MS Word or WordPerfect format!
**Commentary**

**Why spousal abuse doesn’t predict murder**

By Alan Dershowitz

What is the relationship between spousal “abuse” and spousal murder? That is one of the issues raised by the O.J. Simpson case, in which the prosecution is seeking to have the jury hear evidence of alleged abuse going back 17 years and ranging from shouting matches to a New Year’s Eve physical assault. But this important issue transcends any particular trial and raises questions about the threshold of scientific reliability required by the courts before evidence can be heard by a jury.

First, some numbers — in order to put the relationship between abuse and murder in perspective. Over the past decade, we have learned a great deal about the perversiveness of spousal abuse. Although precise figures are difficult to come by, estimates of spousal violence in America range from a low of about 2 million spousal assaults each year to a high of more than 4 million. According to Murray Straus, a well-known family violence researcher, there is a spousal assault every 18 seconds in this country.

The number of spousal murders is far easier to calculate, since the vast majority of murders are reported and solved. According to the Justice Department, which recently completed a long-term study on violence in the family, there are approximately 1,430 murders of women each year by their present or former mates. This means that more than 99.9 percent of men who assault their wives or girlfriends do not go on to kill them. Less than one tenth of one percent do.

It is, of course, true that among the small number of men who do kill their present or former mates, a considerable number did first assault them. Some, however, killed with no prior history of assault — for financial reasons, in order to marry someone else, or out of a variety of other motives.

Because so few “batterers” end up killing, all reputable social scientists agree that spousal murder cannot be predicted from a history of spousal abuse. Put another way, no expert can reliably tell which 1,500 batters out of the large pool of over 2 million will eventually become murderers. Even if they were to single out these relatively few batters who used weapons — such as guns or knives — against their mates, they could not determine which ones will go on to kill, without both “over predicting” and “under predicting.” “Over predicting” means falsely identifying as potential murderers batters who would not kill, and “under predicting” means failing to identify as potential murderers batters who will kill. The social sciences are simply not capable of making these kinds of difficult predictive decisions when the relationship is as low as it is — less than 1 in 1,000 — between batters and murderers.

There is an analogy to the relationship between marijuana and heroin use: Most heroin users started with marijuana, but only a tiny fraction of marijuana users go on to heroin. It is as impossible, therefore, to predict which marijuana users will turn to heroin as it is to predict which batters will turn to murder. Only “junk science” and “advocacy science” — of the kind rejected by the Supreme Court and the appellate courts in recent months — claim that spousal murderers can be predicted from spousal abuse, and they provide no hard data in support of these partisan claims. Instead they point to anecdotes about murdered women who were first abused. But no one disputes the fact that some murdered women were first abused. The issue is whether a history of abuse is necessarily a prelude to murder. The evidence on that is clear: It is not. Indeed, it is so unlikely as to be statistically insignificant.

This is one of the reasons why our legal system has traditionally balked at allowing the prior history of an accused to be admitted into evidence against him. Jurors are likely to believe that there is a closer relationship than there actually is between a defendant’s prior history and the act for which he is standing trial. Thus, no court would ever allow a prosecutor to present evidence at a heroin possession trial that the defendant had previously tried marijuana. Similarly, the courts generally do not allow evidence at a murder trial that the defendant may have hit his wife in the past.

There are exceptions to this general rule, and prosecutors frequently seek to smuggle past acts into evidence under one of the exceptions. These exceptions include “signature crimes” — crimes which are virtually identical in modus operandi to the crime at issue — as well as evidence of motive. But a motive to hit is not a motive to kill, and so courts have been reluctant to allow prior acts to come in under this rubric.

One of the most frequent grounds for appellate reversal of convictions is the improper admission of evidence of prior crimes. Accordingly, trial courts are understandably cautious about admitting such evidence.

Alan Dershowitz is a consultant to the O.J. Simpson defense team. Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His latest book is "The Advocate's Devil" (Warner Books) and "The Abuse Excuse" (Little, Brown & Company).

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Editor's Note:

Judge Lance Ito has ruled that some evidence of Simpson’s acts of spousal abuse will be admitted in this case. It remains to be seen, of course, whether any of this evidence will be overturned via an "appellate reversal."
Below is a letter and response sent to 60 Minutes’ Andrew Rooney on an editorial Rooney did

Point/Counterpoint

Dear Mr. Rooney,

I am writing you this letter on behalf of my first year class at Fordham University School of Law regarding your editorial aired on September 25th on the credibility of lawyers as the law profession as a whole. Unfortunately, your stance on this subject seems to reflect the sentiments of the bulk of the people today. While there are some lawyers who do fit this stereotype, the majority of them do not. People always seem to focus on the negative work done by the few and ignore the tremendous amount of good that is accomplished by the preponderance of lawyers today. Your segment, like most, chose to slander the profession. You are not alone Mr. Rooney. Shortly following your piece on lawyers, the New York Times ran an article entitled, “Why Lawyers Lie (10/8/94).”

My class has chosen, as have thousands of other first year law students around the country, to dedicate three years and countless sums of tuition dollars to the study of law in hopes of someday becoming members of this ‘slandered’ profession. Naturally, it is bothersome to bear witness to the constant barrage against what we all hope will be our future means of employment. We feel it is unjustified to apply this stereotype which is demonstrated by the few, to the profession as a whole.

If what you said was true, that over 200,000 lawyers is, “enough to make you sick!” then we would like to take you up on that point and try and change your views. (We realize, Mr. Rooney, that this is no easy task.) On behalf on Fordham University’s School of Law, Class of 1997, I would like to invite you to come and speak with us in a non-confrontational manner, in a give and take discussion on the reasons why the public holds so much contempt for lawyers, and how we, as next generation, may change this unwarranted stereotype. This is a matter of great concern not only for ourselves, but for those who have served the profession so faithfully in years past. A response would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Timothy B. Donahue and The Class of 1997

Dear Mr. Donohue,

Please excuse me for not answering your good letter sooner. I’ve been finishing a book of WW II reminiscences called MY WAR for March publication and I’ve ignored a lot of correspondence.

The idea of sitting down and talking through the lawyer problem with Fordham students is attractive but I simply don’t have time. I have on hand here hundreds of letters from angry lawyers, many of them good, and I’ve got to get at answering some of those.

The media is always accused by the President of presenting a false picture of him to the public. Every President thinks he’s maligned. A lot of inaccurate, unnecessarily negative things are written about every President but I’m convinced that, after a President has been in office for two years, the American public has a better, more accurate idea of what he’s really like than he has of himself. The same idea obtains with the image the public has of lawyers. It understands lawyers better than lawyers understand themselves. You simply cannot get away from the fact that lawyers are so often reviled because they deserve it.

My complaint is that the good lawyers - by which I mean the majority though not "vast" - have ignored the bad ones in their midst. The lack of any organization that actively enforces ethical standards in the legal profession is a disgrace. We don’t know. It is lawyers who know best what the sleazy members of their profession are doing to the public and to our legal system and it is up to those good lawyers to do what the public does not know how to do.

You may have heard my comments a few weeks ago about the relationship between the trial lawyers association and a do-good organization in Washington whose representative appears on television every year to warn the public about dangerous toys. It is the trial lawyers who provide most of the support for this organization. It amounts to little more than an advertisement promoting the idea that there’s money to be made suing toy manufacturers. The Good Guys ought to get together, throw the rascals out, and take back the good name of their profession. You sound like one of the Good Guys.

Sincerely,

Andrew A. Rooney

The Advocate is looking for any who has working knowledge of Macintosh Desktop publishing (Micorsoft Word and Aldus PageMaker) to assist in the layout of the paper. Contact Earl Wilson at ext. 6964.
motivation for taking this job and what would cause you to finally say, it's been great but...?

Every year now, I think about that issue. I talk to the President of the University, my family, and my colleagues. Up to now, I had seen goals for the school that I think I can contribute toward. I'll be 60 years old a year from now. Age is relative but there is a reality to age that one cannot avoid. I don't have the stamina I had at 45. Some people may say I'm an old timer. I have a sufficient amount of pride that I would not want that fact to be a part of my life or the life of the institution in terms of saying good-bye. It's listening to my inner self and making a judgment.

The Advocate: What would you list as the top three challenges we face at Fordham today?

[Number one:] Keeping the community strong as a community. There's tremendous diversity here. Every part of the school has grown, no matter what [anyone] considers to be diversity. So, our challenge is in finding as much common ground as we can, building bridges over troubled waters. I have viewed that as the top three challenges we face as the top three challenges we list as the top three challenges we face.

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It's listening to my inner self and motivation for taking this job and what would cause you to finally say, it's been great but...?
From the Dorms

The ResHall NightLife

by Angélique Conté

It's ten o'clock, do you know where your residents are? It's a safe bet that they're downstairs in the first floor lounge participating in one of the many activities provided by ResLife. The Residence Hall Association ("R.H.A."), recognizes that something must be done to break the tension of studying and feelings of being so far from home. It has produced a full itinerary of events to keep residents busy and entertained at the same time. Last semester’s activities included a costume party/dance for Halloween complete with gift certificates to Tower Records for the three best costumes, barbecues in the rock garden and during finals week there was a tension-breaker party. There, residents could finger-paint or draw, watch cartoons and eat as much ice cream and cookies as they wanted. The tension-breaker had a large and varied crowd as graduate students and freshmen mingled and painted together.

ResLife's events are very popular with the residents. Most of the activities have very good turn-outs and earn rave reviews from those who attended. Jessica Jankowski, '98, says that the activities "are good tension breakers and allow you to interact with everyone in the building." At these functions, residents meet other people with whom they live but do not usually talk to because of differences in ages or academic interests.

More in Store This Semester

In the Spring of 1995, R.H.A. has much more to offer. In the spirit of Valentine's Day, we have several romance related activities coming up. On Feb. 10, there will be a dating game in the first floor lounge. It will be run just like the show — a woman will have the chance to pick from three men and a man from three women. A Valentine's Day party is also planned. The R.H.A., in conjunction with Russell Torres, an R.A. who attends the Law School, will be offering candy and flower grans. Red flowers will be for love, pink for secret admirer and yellow for friendship.

Next week a Community Service information dinner is planned. It will be a spaghetti dinner and Kathleen Admirand, Community Service Chairperson on the R.H.A., will discuss what we can do as a dorm to help the homeless of the area. Ms. Admirand and Father Nelson will be recruiting students to help them hand out excess gifts from the toy drive to one of the pediatric hospitals. A Super Bowl party will be given by Sameer, one of the R.A.s. Later on this semester, there will be a tea party organized by the aunt of one of our R.A.s, Joe Scully. She will be bringing her good china and offering residents finger sandwiches and pastries. The tea party will be at her house, not Res Hall. Let's hope nothing breaks! The Sunday night movie will also be returning this semester.

The R.H.A. is under-praised because not too many people get to hear about all the fun things it plans for us residents. The people there go out of their way to make sure that we have a good time and they certainly do turn out great events.

Conclusion Feerick Interview

continued from p. 8

most productive year since I’ve been here. There are so many faculty committees with active agendas.

Needs [currently exist] clinical education; financial aid areas; space area; fundraising; our active technology program; our curriculum efforts and beyond.

The Advocate: Given the nature of the job market the last few years, how has younger alumni support been? How does it affect, or not effect the current student at Fordham?

Never have graduates been more burdened with debt but never has there been greater giving. Giving is up 64%. Younger alumni support has been at an all time high. In the next several weeks, there will be nighttime after night of phone-a-thons [taking place] to reach out to our younger alumni. 75% of every dollar we receive goes to financial aid.

The Advocate: There has been a lot written lately on the effectiveness of today's legal education to students once they reach the marketplace. For instance, that we don't know nearly enough to survive as attorneys until we learn a new set of rules. What is your opinion of Fordham's curriculum in reference to this? How does it compare with other schools in New York? Columbia, NYU, Cardozo, Brooklyn, etc.?

A: Being a lawyer is a lifelong endeavor. The law keeps changing. One's education when one leaves law school or a basic foundation of knowledge, skills, development of ethical and service values and all of it can go nowhere if one doesn't continue to go at it by participating in the changes that take place — for instance CLE or pro bono work. You can't rely on your law school education to carry you throughout a long career in the law. I have a house I haven't worked on in a long time and it's now in such a condition that I need to renovate it, or else it won't be worth very much.

[Students] coming out of Fordham are excellently prepared. Employers tell me of the good judgment and skills of our graduates. The Bar passage rate is in the 90th percentile. The curriculum, which is evolving and changing, is geared for attorneys [practicing today].

I don't have enough specifics on the law schools mentioned. They are fine schools. I don't disagree with any claim they make. I feel we have an outstanding student body and faculty. We need more clinical opportunities, legal writing, jurisprudence studies and international legal studies. That is what we are trying to address. Each one of us, wherever we're at, views where we are as incomplete. We are constantly trying to prepare our students for a wonderful life in the law. This is a great profession, but we have to work at it.

An attorney can't represent a client [while having] any credibility problems ... [An attorney] must represent them professionally, participate through pro bono work, help create reforms that get rid of archaic rules, or create accessibility for others to the legal and justice systems. If any graduate is willing to make that commitment they can contribute to the profession greatly. I will predict that one will have an enjoyable career in the law. There always will be someone who speaks better and writes better but to be a responsible citizen is the key to success as a lawyer.

You will forget a lot of principles you learned in law school but you will learn new ones and relearn the old. You have the skills and the knowledge and as you apply the skills and have the opportunity to learn from others, you will grow and blossom in the law.

Next time, the Dean addresses the concept of the "Fordham Law Community," the reasons for the change in the curve, the problems of maintenance and much more!

Off the Record: If you could be a

On Monday, January 23, 1995, the Fordham Law School Community was treated to a moment in history when former Chief Justice Warren Burger spoke in McNally Amphitheater. The Chief Justice spoke on the state of the legal profession, decrying the greed which currently exists in the profession.
Uptown Girls
By Miles Marshall Lewis

Madonna and Mary J. Blige may, at first, seem to have little in common - but don't try telling that to Madonna. On her latest, *Bedtime Stories*, she utilizes all black producers, samples, and rap (in one song) in ways that Mary J. Blige did on her debut album three years ago. Blige, meanwhile, updates her formula on *My Life* to remain at the forefront of the hip-hop soul game she helped pioneer.

There was once a time, at the beginning of her career, that promotion dollars were being spent on Madonna's music; but not now. Madonna is strictly pop music on radio. Alongside Shannon's *Holiday*, tracks like "You Needed Me," "Forbidden Love," and "Secret" all saunter in a mid-tempo range. "You punished me for telling you my fantasies" from "Human Nature" marks a departure from the album's romantic tenor to deal a response to her many critics, as she also does the same in "Survival." The album's standout by far, however, is "Sanctuary." With lyrics that would sound apropos from Kurt Cobain or the Cure's Robert Smith ("Who needs the sun? When the rain's so full of life," "Who needs a smile/When a tear's so full of love"). Madonna mines quite melancholy waters. The Mary J. Blige set is very close to classic. There are 13 songs in all, most of which deal with unrequited love, Billie Holiday style. The ballads are packed with "jams" (aka dance tunes), avoiding a tired R&B trend of placing slow songs on one side, dance tracks on the other. The bouncy "You Bring Me Joy," "I Love You," and "Be Happy" are the best of the head-nodders. A cover of "I'm Goin' Down" (by Rose Royce, featured in the hit film from the early 80's *Car Wash*) and the title track catch Mary J. in a more somber mood ("If you looked into my life/You will see I'm so blue").

Nearly all of *My Life* is produced by hip-hop mogul Puff Daddy, credited with mastering the image of Mary J. and her Uptown Records labelmates Jodeci. This image consists of coming real, erasing the line between entertainers and their audience. Such has its roots in hip-hop culture; Run-DMC wore the same Adidas as their fans, while no one in real life dressed like Aerosmith or Prince. Puffy, though, was not the first to inject this reality into R&B; Bell Biv DeVoe had a penchant for looking like the folks seated at their concerts five years ago. Nevertheless, Mary J. Blige's debut, *What's the 411?*, was a watershed in hip-hop soul, and *My Life* is a powerful followup.

**Bedtime Stories and My Life** both sample heavily - Madonna from the Isley Brothers, Herbie Hancock, and Aaliyah; Mary J. from Barry White, Rick James, and Curtis Mayfield. Madonna's guest rapper is Miss'NellyceOcello, Mary J.'s is the more street credible Keith Murray. In her video for "Be Happy," Mary J. stalks her stand-up microphone like a boxer, while Madonna gives us an idea of where she thinks she's coming from in her clip for "Secret," frolicking through the streets of Harlem. Yet only one of these artists can legitimately lay claim to the cultural traditions being bandied about; the other is just visiting.

Miles Marshall Lewis is a second year student who does freelance writing for publications such as Noir, and Freedom Rag Magazines.
Light Takes

O.J. Trial in perspective

Just the Facts, Ma’am

Finally! All the pretrial motions have been ruled on, and now the O.J. trial begins (unless the defense team decided to burn another few grand on a last-minute motion since we went to press).

You have to hand it to those defense lawyers, though. They’ve managed to generate quite a bit of sympathy for O.J. Even those who are convinced he’s guilty feel bad for the guy as they watch his lawyers, purportedly the best in the land, back up the Brink’s truck to his mansion. And you thought there wasn’t any money in criminal defense!

Perhaps you’ve seen a couple. They generally start off with a teaser: “Shocking new revelation about O.J./Nicole Simpson from a family insider!” Then the story:

Anchor: The Simpson prosecution/defense team was rocked today by accusations that O.J. attended cockfights/Nicole dropped acid with Warren Beatty/O.J. and Nicole regularly invited transsexuals to their bed! We go to the source, Billy Blabber, a photo-imaging clerk at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

And finally, every friend, acquaintance, valet, caddy, masseuse, and party pal who ever laid eyes on either O.J. or Nicole is getting paid handsomely to tell their stories to the tabloids.

Actually, there’s a lesson in this. No matter how many motions you make, no matter how fervently you argue, no matter how much you kiss up to the judge, you can’t change the facts. If O.J. walks, it’ll probably be because of holes in the prosecution’s case that you or I could find, and not the extended-motion-practice-bordering-on-panic-not-to-mention-generating-lots-of-billable-hours of his lawyers.

To be fair, a lot of what Cochran, Shapiro and the crew were doing was aimed at the potential jury pool, planting doubts about the strength of the Government’s case in the minds of the public from which the jurors would be chosen. Of course, the prosecution was doing the same thing, and on a public servant’s salary. And finally, every friend, acquaintance, valet, caddy, masseuse, and party pal who ever laid eyes on either O.J. or Nicole is getting paid handsomely to tell their stories to the tabloids.

Billy: Well, when O.J./Nicole/O.J. and Nicole came in to have his/her/their license picture taken, he/she/they had this glassy look in his/her/their eyes, like something wasn’t right. And just the day before, three people came in with that same look, and they were all coming straight from cockfights/dropping acid/fooling with transsexuals! I couldn’t believe it, because I always sort of idolized him/her/them! But there it was, plain as day. Do I get my hundred grand now?

Now Professor Abramovsky, my mentor on Sixth Amendment issues, would argue that O.J.’s right to a fair trial has been trashed beyond repair. But I think O.J.’s situation is truly exceptional — there has been such a flood of leaks, counterleaks, bombshells and counterbombshells that everybody stopped believing them long ago. Miracle of miracles, the public is actually waiting for the trial to hear the facts.

Catherine Manion

Clariﬁcation

In the last issue, Vol. XXVII, No. 6, December 5, 1994, we printed a series of humorous quotes on page 11. According to Professor Donald Magnetti, the quotes were from a book entitled: Disorderly Conduct - Verbatim Excerpts by Actual Court Cases, Selected by Rodney Jones, Charles Savilla, Gerald F. Ullman (Norton & Co., 1989). Thanks Professor!

Selections
by Catherine Manion

Moments in Time

Futile Laments

The walls bow in upon the spirit, They sag beneath the weight of life. Tired eyes gaze slowly upward Discouraged Soul bemoans his plight.

“Woe is me!” This spirit cries. The weary walls in reply: “The burden is not yours alone, But no one else can heed your cry.”

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February 1, 1995 • The Advocate
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