

Summer 2001

# Valpo Lawyer: Summer 2001

Valparaiso University School of Law

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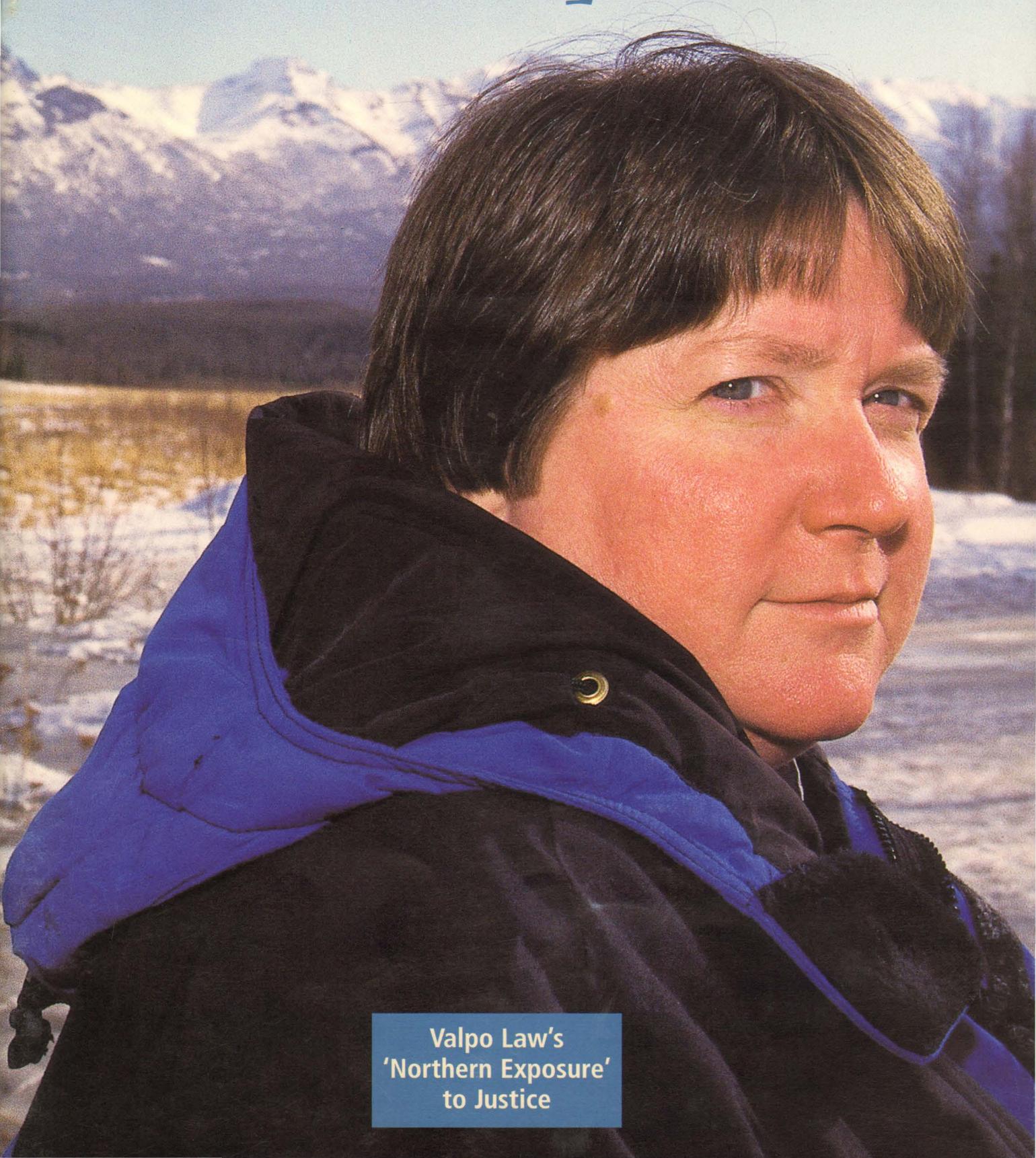
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# VALPO Lawyer

NEWS FROM VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF LAW



Valpo Law's  
'Northern Exposure'  
to Justice

## **OPENING statement**

**"Make sure the law  
is something that you enjoy,  
because if you don't,  
you're in the wrong business.  
And make sure you have something  
besides the law to enjoy,  
whatever it is.  
You have to strike a balance."**

— Margaret Murphy '87 ('78 VU)

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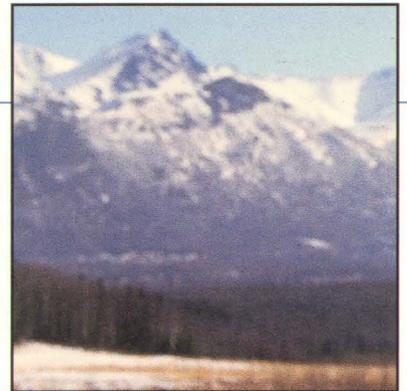
Law students recognize Hilbert Bradley '50 for his leadership in the civil rights movement.



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## Adventurous Spirit in Balance With Career and Mother Nature

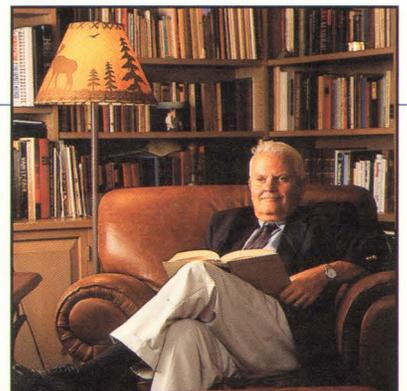
Margaret Murphy '87 ('78 VU) enjoys an adventurous legal career amid the breathtaking scenery of the Alaskan wild.



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## Swygert Creates Endowment to Benefit Students

The annual Judge Luther M. Swygert Memorial Moot Court Competition was established through an endowment set up by his son, Mike Swygert '67 ('65 VU).





Aran Kessler

## Oklahoma City Bombing Lawyer Recounts Tragic Day

Certain events leave a lasting impression, so much so that we can remember what we were doing at the time the event occurred.

Some of these events may include the day President Kennedy was shot, or Neil Armstrong first walked on the moon. April 19, 1995, also may be etched in the minds of many. At 9:02 a.m. that day, 168 people died when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was bombed.

At the School of Law, in January, Larry A. Mackey, chief trial deputy in the case of bombing defendant Timothy McVeigh and lead prosecutor in the trial of bombing defendant Terry Nichols, presented "Remembering the Oklahoma City Bombing: A Look From Inside the Trial Team."

Mackey, who now is with the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg in Indianapolis, began his presentation by taking the audience on a visual tour of downtown



Oklahoma City on the day the bombing occurred. He played a tape recording of the actual blast that was captured from a routine meeting held across the street from the Murrah Federal Building. Emotions resurfaced as the audience relived the grim images of a firefighter carrying the bloody body of one-year-old Baylee Almon; people buried under the building; and stunned survivors and grieving families.

Mackey also discussed the investigation leading to the arrests of McVeigh and Nichols, motivation for the bombing, the victims' stories and the Oklahoma City National Memorial. He read the mission statement inscribed over one of the memorial gates: "We come here to remember those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever. May all who leave here know the impact of violence, and may this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope and serenity."

Dean Jay Conison, who lived in Oklahoma City in 1995, reflected on his whereabouts the day of the bombing. "I was outside about a mile from the Murrah Federal Building when I heard what sounded like a huge object hit the library," he said. "Nobody knew exactly what happened, but later it became clear that it was a bomb. Everybody knew somebody who knew somebody that was affected. Even now as I talk about it, it's very difficult to fight back tears. It was an experience that devastated the city. A day that I'll never forget."

Mackey's wife, Ann, an attorney with Sommer & Bernard in Indianapolis, discussed the impact of the assignment on her family. "After the cases were over, we all came home with a new perspective and a bigger picture of life," she said. "We saw and knew the courage of those who suffered beyond imagination, the spontaneous kindness of people to strangers—and the preciousness of life."

The Mackey's lecture was sponsored by the Women Law Students Association, Phi Alpha Delta Professional Fraternity and the Office of the Dean. The couple waived their fee and requested the University donate the money to the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

**Pictured: Prosecutor Larry A. Mackey describes the trials of Oklahoma City bombing defendants Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols at the School of Law.**



## Students Honor Alumnus Hilbert Bradley as the 'Bridge Builder'

Many of us have been inspired by a mentor in our lives. For Trent McCain (2L), president of the Valpo Black Law Student Association, that special person is Hilbert Bradley '50, a pioneer who has dedicated his entire career to improving life for others.

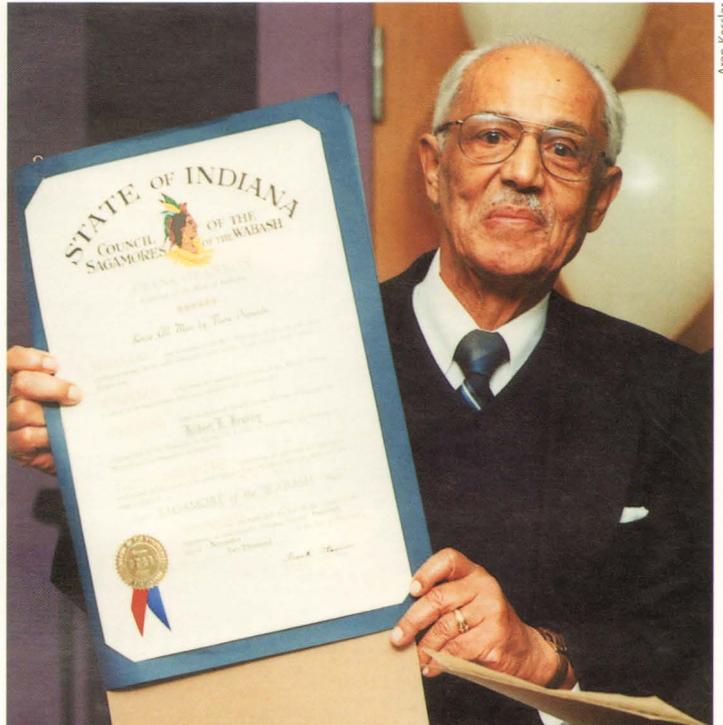
McCain first met Bradley at a career day presentation at his middle school in Gary, Ind. Later, while doing research for a speech, McCain ran across a poem titled "The Bridge Builder" by Will Allen Dromgoole. The poem describes an old man who successfully completes a journey that's filled with obstacles. Yet, instead of continuing on, he stops to build a bridge for youth to cross over.

"I was deeply moved by the poem," McCain says. "It seems to describe how I feel about Attorney Bradley to a tee."

Bradley has accomplished great feats for more than half a century. A successful solo legal practice; the formation of the Fair Share Committee that fought for integrated work forces; and the creation of the Indiana Coalition for Black Judicial Officials, an organization designed to repeal Indiana's merit system for appointing judges on the basis that the system was unfairly keeping women and minorities off the bench, are only a few of Bradley's achievements. He's marched with Martin Luther King Jr., and participated in the Poor People's March on Washington, D.C., in 1968.

Yet, when asked to serve the court in a judicial capacity, Bradley humbly declined. "Attorney Bradley did not want his work to be interpreted as self-serving," McCain says. "He taught me that one's greatness is often measured by their humility and personal sacrifice."

Last November, the Valpo Black Law Student Association and the Hispanic Law Student Association honored Bradley for his leadership in the civil rights movement at the second annual first-year law students celebration dinner at St. Timothy Church in Gary, Ind.

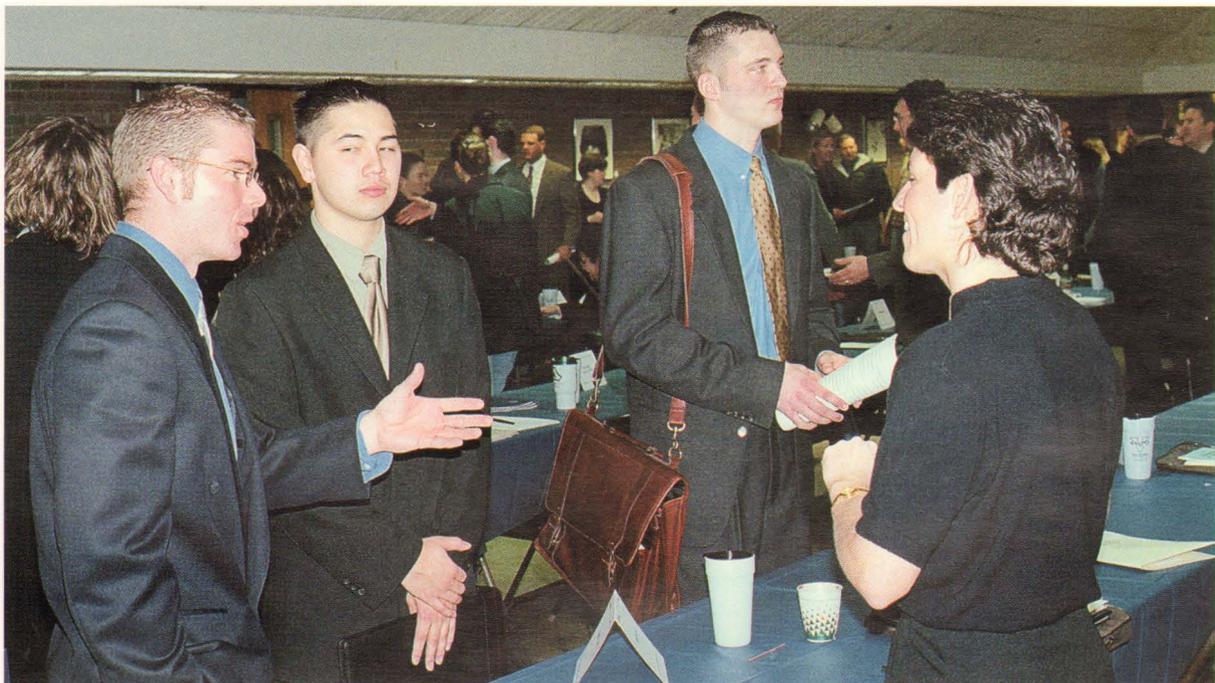


Aran Kessler

**Hilbert Bradley '50 displays his Sagamore of the Wabash award, the highest civilian award granted by the Governor of Indiana.**

The theme of the dinner was "Hilbert Bradley: Bridge Builder," which McCain says reflects the fact that he has dedicated his entire career to the selfless pursuit of justice for others. Nearly 100 guests attended the event with acknowledgements from Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Gary Mayor Scott King. Bradley also was presented with the Governor's prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash award for his efforts to preserve civil rights, racial equality and cultural awareness in Indiana.

"I was surprised and humbled by it all," Bradley says. "The fact that I was the first Afro-American to graduate from Valpo Law brought back memories of University President O.P. Kretzmann and Law School Dean John Morland who were instrumental in my success. In fact, when it came time to prepare for exams, the dean and his wife invited me to stay at their house for a week, so he could tutor me. It should be noted that they also had a vision toward diversity."



Rodger Hoke

## Professional Development Day Draws Enthusiastic Response

In February, nearly 50 Valparaiso University School of Law alumni traveled from as far away as New York and Washington, D.C., to share their knowledge with eager law students during Professional Development Day.

With its theme "How To Find Your Dream Job," the event provided law students an opportunity to learn firsthand from alumni about a wide range of law practice, from commercial law to estate planning, environmental law to sports law. Informational networking tables were set up and opportunities abounded as students packed the hallways to question alumni about the various disciplines of interest.

"I'm very grateful to the Valparaiso University School of Law for my fine education," said Mark Bremer '75, partner with the St. Louis law firm of Kohn, Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis & Giljum, LLP. "Valpo law professors are a special breed. Some of the teachers [I had] are still here today. I think it's important to participate [in Professional Development Day]. We can give the students perspective and real life pointers which, in my case, is in the private practice of commercial law."

Adam Collins '00, Gilberg & Kiernan, found his current job as a result of last year's Professional Development Day. "You always have to remember the people who helped you," he said. "Last year the person who worked this table passed my resume on. I started

my new job in insurance law at Gilberg & Kiernan the day after I graduated."

More informational networking was encouraged during lunch. Afterwards, panel discussions were conducted. The "How I Found My Dream Job" panel discussion was aimed toward students, while the "Bush Presidency and Tort Damages" panel discussion, chaired by Professor Bruce Berner '67, was geared toward alumni. Mock interviews were conducted throughout the day.

"Being a first-year law student, I had a lot of questions," Mike Bell said. "These people will help me make decisions. The chance to talk face-to-face about real life experiences is just what I was looking for."

Law student Clay McDonald, a chiropractor and former dean of clinics at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, came to the event to talk with people about consulting and health care law. "The networking was affirmation that I have something to offer and somewhere to go."

*To find out how you can participate in Professional Development Day, contact Career Services at 877.VALPOLAW.*

**Above photo: Law students chat with alumni about the many areas of law practice, during Professional Development Day at Valpo Law.**



## Pirates of Penzance Musical Raises Funds for Law Clinic

Theatre and camaraderie brought nearly 150 people from around the Midwest to the School of Law in March for the school's sixth annual Law Clinic benefit.

Two performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan musical "Pirates of Penzance" were staged in the Stride Courtroom at Wesemann Hall. Benefit-goers were warmly greeted by Law Clinic Director Marcia Gienapp '76. From there, a chorus of faculty, students and staff put on a delightful and humorous performance.

Some of the better-known performers included Bruce Berner '67, Louis and Anna Seegers professor of law, who played the role of General Stanley. Laura Dooley, professor of law, played the role of Mable. Hugo Martz, a Valparaiso attorney, and John Obermann '94 VU, network administrator for the School of Law, also were among the cast. Fred Telschow, professor emeritus of music, was the musical director.

A champagne reception followed the first show, and guests were entertained by Emily Williams, an 11-year-old harpist whose brother, Jordan, is a third-year Valpo Law student. Soon after, Dean Jay Conison, master of ceremonies, welcomed Valpo Law Clinic supporters. A sense of camaraderie was further fostered by the candle-lit round tables where old friends reminisced while dining on savory langostino tails and roasted pork loin. After dinner remarks were made by Porter Superior Court Judge Robert Kennedy.

"The evening was a success," Gienapp said. "The cast had a lot of fun. And if the cast has fun, the audience will too."

Professor Ruth Vance '82, who visited at Notre Dame Law School this past academic year, was among those in the audience. "As a former cast member, it's fun to watch the different interpretations," she said. "It's amazing to see how much musical and acting talent there is within the School of Law."



Photos: Aran Kessler



**Top: From left, Jamie Huelet (2L), Professor Laura Dooley and Robin Leig (2L) perform in the "Pirates of Penzance" musical to benefit the VU Law Clinic.**

**Bottom: Professor Bruce Berner '67 in the role of General Stanley.**

Law Clinic Director Barb Schmidt '73, professor of law, noted that income generated by the benefit is an important part of the clinic's resources. "But it's also more than that," she said. "It's a chance for everybody to have a wonderful time."

Since 1969, the Law Clinic has provided free legal assistance to financially disadvantaged families in Northwest Indiana. While helping families that can not afford legal representation, the Law Clinic also provides practical hands-on experience for Valpo Law students. Last year, clinic staff served nearly 700 clients.



Aran Kessler

## Canned Immunity Project Promotes Community Service

In 1985, Professor Linda Whitton '86 and her fellow Phi Delta Phi members began a community service project at the School of Law called Canned Immunity. Since its inception, the program's popularity has grown to include the participation of nearly every law student and faculty member on campus as well as law schools throughout the nation.

Canned Immunity collects canned food during class to benefit less fortunate families in the Valparaiso community. Students bring canned goods with them to each class. Each time the professor asks a student a question to which he or she does not know the answer, the student can provide a canned good to keep from answering the question. The professor then has an opportunity to produce a canned good to match the student's to cancel his immunity. The process can go back and forth until one side gives up or runs out of cans.

Last fall, the students and faculty collected nearly 1,000 non-perishable items that were donated to the Hilltop Village Pantry for the underserved. Of that amount, nearly 400 cans were raised in Professor Adam Myers' class. "I believe students should be encouraged to participate in charitable giving and

service, and should understand that not all social problems will be solved by government, Myers says. "I wanted to do what I could to further this worthy endeavor."

The Canned Immunity project also is very entertaining, says Robert Groszek (2L). "In one of my classes, a person in my row bid for immunity with one can and the professor bid two cans against her one. The rest of the row donated their cans to the student so that she didn't have to answer the question. This was all fine and dandy until the professor called on the students that gave away their cans. Subsequently, the whole class got involved. As more people get involved, the more we at Valpo Law can make a difference in helping those who need it most."

According to Mailee Harris (1L), this year's project co-chair, the Canned Immunity will again take place the week before Thanksgiving break. Canned goods will be sold during chapel break and the money raised will be donated along with the food.

**Above photo: Professor Adam Myers is a strong supporter of the community service project Canned Immunity.**



## Valpo Law Pulls Rank for Technological Services

Valparaiso University School of Law recently received an impressive ranking for its technological efforts in going wireless. That's according to research conducted by the National Jurist, a magazine for law students. In the March issue, Valpo Law ranked No. 44 out of the more than 100 law schools across the nation that responded to the survey.

The National Jurist expanded the criteria used to compare law schools from the last survey in 1998. Three credits were assigned for network access and three credits to use of information technology in courses and classrooms. Three credits also were assigned to student access and to hardware resources. Two credits were assigned to career placement resources, and an extra credit was given for other resources that schools offer beyond the established categories.

The rankings were based on a 4.0 GPA scale. Valpo Law received a 2.42 GPA, a ranking higher than other law schools such as Notre Dame and University of California-Berkeley.

John Obermann '94 VU, network administrator for the Valpo School of Law, plays a key role in offering technological services to students.

"Our goal is for students to be able to sit down with their laptop anywhere in the law school and, with a PC card, have access to the Internet at their



Alan Kessler

**John Obermann '94 VU, Valpo School of Law network administrator**

fingertips," he says. "Going online through high speed Ethernet also makes downloading information much faster. It's been a big selling point during tours for potential law students."

Second-year accelerated law student Doug McMillan says, "In the past, students would run into problems with case books that only print one or two paragraphs about a case. And sometimes professors would cite examples from a case of which we weren't aware. Now we can access Web sites such as Find Law or Cornell University and read the entire case in complete form. It's fun to check up on the professors to see if they have their facts straight."

According to Obermann, the next step is to increase the school's power supply to meet the increased demands of laptop users.

## Continuing Legal Education Program

### Video Series

July 18 Basics of Trust

July 25 DWI

Aug. 1 Business Litigation

Aug. 8 Section 1031 Real Estate Exchange

Aug. 15 Drafting Injunctions: A Desk Reference

Aug. 22 Technology Issues

Aug. 29 Basic Bankruptcy 7 and 13

Sept. 5 Collections

Sept. 12 HIRE FIRE MIRE

Sept. 19 Planning and Zoning

Sept. 26 Trucking Litigation

Oct. 3 Title Insurance

Oct. 17 Liens in Real Property

Oct. 24 ADA: 10 Years Later

Oct. 31 An Introduction Course to Midwest Estate Tax and Business Planning

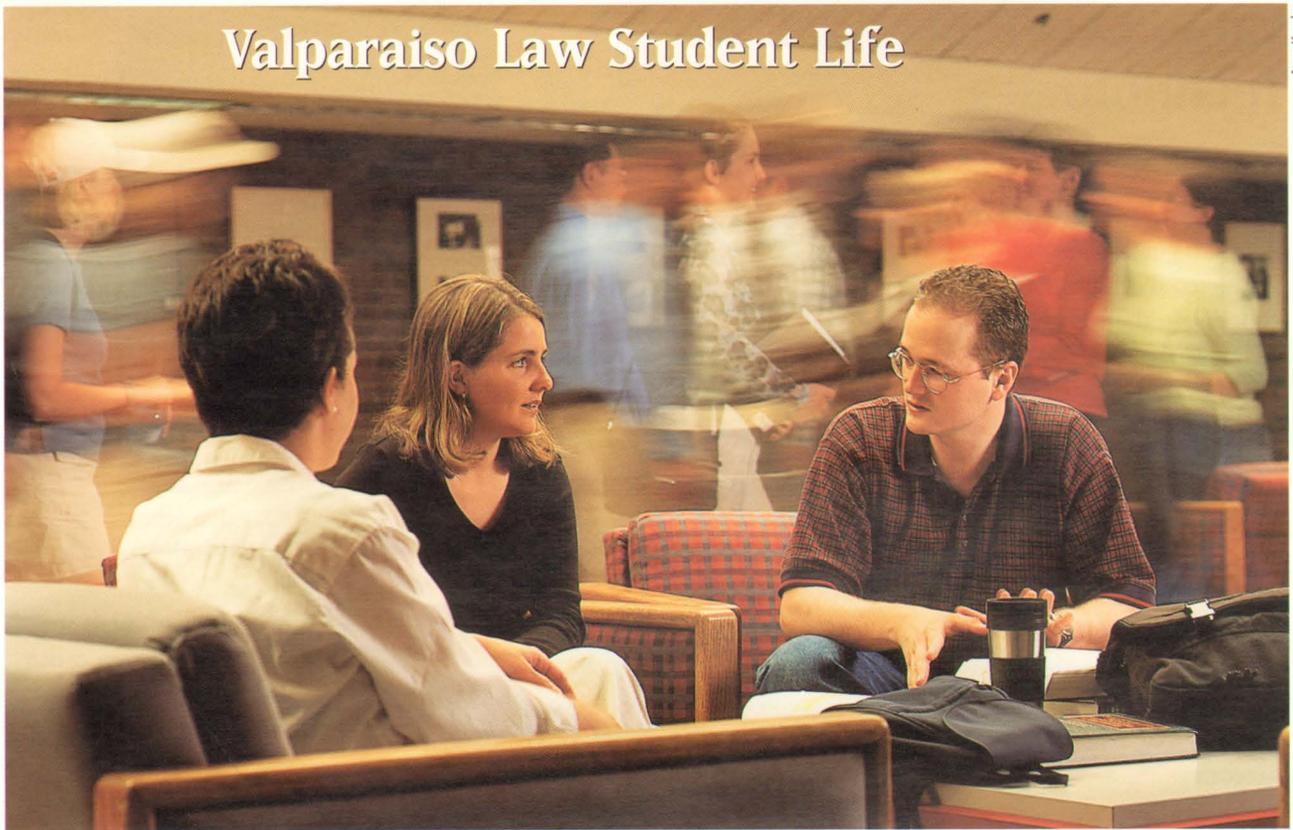
Nov. 7 Torts

### Registration

Video Series are held in the Stride Courtroom, Wesemann Hall at 9 a.m., unless otherwise noted. To register, call Jan Zoladz at 219.465.7810.



## Valparaiso Law Student Life



Aran Kessler

### What Valpo Law Students do on Their Summer Vacations

**Robert Hudson (2L)**—Hudson spent the first summer of his law school career working as a legal assistant for Sen. Noel Kinsella in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. The Senator required Hudson to research United States and Canadian law dealing with international trade and treaties. All the Senate staff were invited to Prime Minister Jean Chretien's annual garden party.

**Justin Martell (3L)**—During the summer of 2000, Martell was a student judge advocate for the Marine Corps and was stationed in Camp Pendleton, Calif. This summer, after passing the Wisconsin Bar Exam, Martell plans to learn more about the Marine Corps by attending the Basic School in Quantico, Va. Next, it's on to Naval Justice School in Newport, R.I. "I haven't decided whether I intend to make a career out of the military, but right now, I couldn't be more excited about the next four years of my life," Martell says.

**Trent McCain (2L)**—For the first half of summer 2000, McCain externed for Judge Nan R. Nolan. Judge Nolan sits in the United States District Court

for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago. During the second half of the summer, he traveled to Cape Town, South Africa, to study at the University of the Western Cape. McCain recently accepted a summer associate position at the law firm of Cochran, Cherry, Givens, Smith & Montgomery in Chicago. "As a second-year law student, I was overwhelmed by the opportunity to work with famed Attorney Johnnie L. Cochran," McCain says.

**Roy Sturgeon (3L)**—Sturgeon worked last summer at the Capital Defender's Office in New York City. The office provides high quality legal representation to indigent clients accused and convicted of crimes punishable by death in New York state. The Capital Defender's Office is located in Manhattan. After sitting for the New York Bar Exam in July, he hopes to land a public interest law job and move back to New York City. Sturgeon's comment titled "City of Chicago vs. Morales: Street Gangs, Public Spaces, the Limits of Police Discretion" will be published in Volume 6 of the Texas Hispanic Journal of Law and Policy.

**Sherry Tenorio (3L)**—Tenorio spent the summer 2000 working for Carlsmith Ball, LLP in Honolulu. She did research and wrote legal memoranda dealing



with corporate, labor and employment issues. Tenorio plans to move to Hawaii to study and sit for the bar. In August, she will begin her career working at the U.S. District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands in Saipan.

**Scott Ward (3L)**—Ward accepted a summer 2000 position working for Honor Our Neighbor's Origins and Rights organization in Washington, D.C. "While working for HONOR, I have gained a much deeper knowledge of Indian culture and the intricacies of Indian law and federal Indian policy," Ward says. "I now better understand the needs of Indian culture and the involvement of the federal government in addressing those needs."

## Students Win Regional Client Counseling Competition

Two students recently took first place honors in a regional client counseling competition, gaining the opportunity to compete at the national level.

Students Christina Gindrett (3L) and Melissa Wray (2L) participated in the regional competition last February at Loyola School of Law in Chicago. Competing schools included Notre Dame, John Marshall, Loyola School of Law, and the University of Illinois at Carbondale.

The competition is structured so that two team members interview a prospective client. The goal is to gather as much relevant information as possible, gain the client's trust, and advise the client of any conflicts, options, or consequences to legal and non-legal action. Teams are scored on various items of the interview process, with the lowest score being the best. The lowest score attainable is 9. Gindrett and Wray scored an 11. The next highest score was 13.

"Neither Melissa nor I expected to win the first three rounds," Gindrett said. "We knew we had done well, but really didn't want to get our hopes up. So, when the winner for the first three rounds was announced, we had already talked ourselves out of being the winners for this competition. I think Melissa and I both initially looked around to see who the winner was before we realized we had won."

The national competition was held at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, Calif. Competing schools included the University of Hawaii, Georgetown and George Washington. Results are pending.

"This competition was much more difficult," Gindrett said. "The types of clients we were presented with had more complex problems. But we did our best."

## Seventh Circuit Appeals Court Judge Speaks at Valpo Law Commencement

**Ilana Diamond Rovner of Chicago, judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, spoke at the School of Law commencement ceremony May 20 in the Chapel of the Resurrection.**

**Rovner was appointed to the Court of Appeals by President George H.W. Bush in 1992 after serving as a judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois since 1982. Previously, she was a**

**deputy governor of Illinois under Gov. James R. Thompson.**

**A native of Riga, Latvia, she became a naturalized citizen of the United States in June 1954. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1960, and studied law at London University's King's College and Georgetown University, and received her J.D. degree at IIT Chicago Kent College of Law.**



## Law Library Receives Grant for Document Delivery System

The VU School of Law Library, together with the law libraries of the University of Notre Dame, Indiana University-Bloomington and Indiana University-Indianapolis, has been awarded a \$22,500 grant by the Indiana State Library for the implementation of a high-speed document delivery system.

The grant, part of the Library Services and Technology Act grant monies, is to be used to implement the Ariel and Prospero document delivery systems.

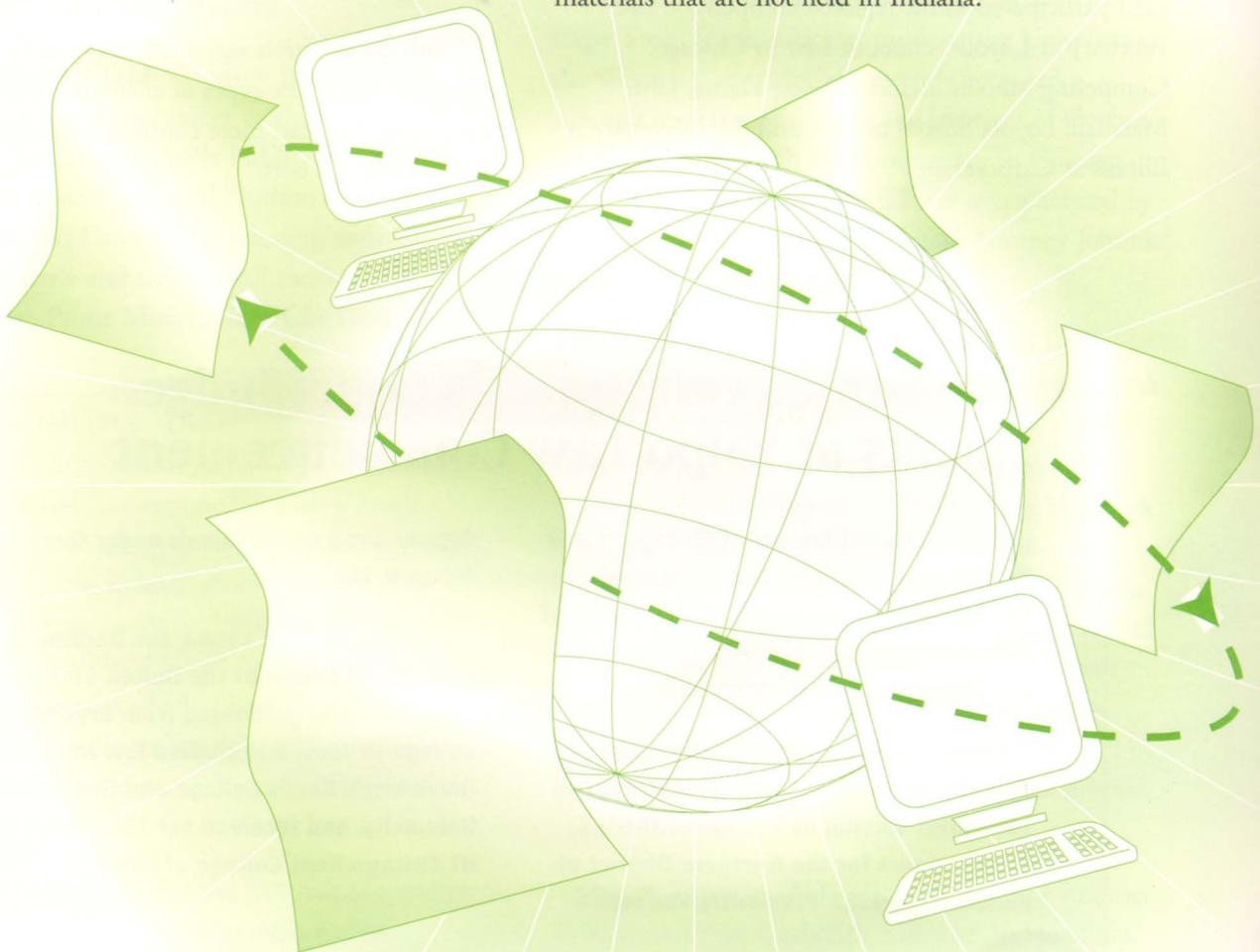
Ariel, developed by the Research Libraries Group, allows libraries to use the Internet for high speed, high quality, low cost document delivery by scanning and transmitting documents directly to one another, avoiding telefax charges and slow mail service. Faster and clearer than a fax, Ariel can handle difficult text and detailed images, from Asian scripts to mathematical equations, from Elizabethan woodcuts to NASA photos.

Prospero, developed by the John A. Prior Health Sciences Library at The Ohio State University, permits Ariel documents to be delivered electronically to the desktop of requesting patrons.

The goal of the project is to improve the delivery of information to the students, faculty and staff of the four Indiana law schools. A secondary goal is to improve the delivery of legal information to all patrons of Ariel libraries throughout the world.

The four Indiana law school libraries have a long tradition of inter-library loan and resource sharing. The system envisioned by the grant will provide the infrastructure needed to improve upon this strong tradition.

In addition, the nine Illinois academic law libraries have recently implemented an Ariel/Prospero system through an LSTA grant from the Illinois State Library. The four Indiana law schools may easily tap into the resources held by these Illinois law libraries for materials that are not held in Indiana.

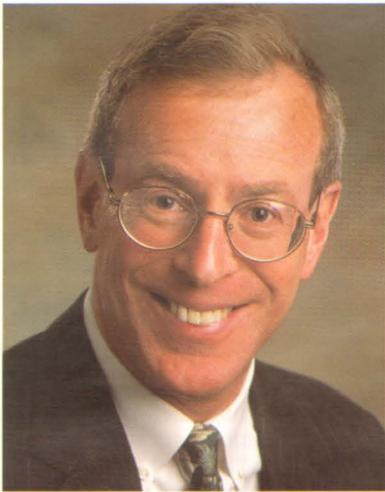




## Introducing Valpo Law's Newest Staff

The School of Law welcomes two of its newest staff members: Art Bousel, assistant dean for career services, and Marilyn Olson, assistant dean for admissions and student services.

**Art Bousel** has a background in both law and business. His experience includes practicing business transactions law with the firms of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and Shearman & Sterling in New York City,



Aran Kessler

**Art Bousel, assistant dean for career services**

and practicing intellectual property law in Chicago. He is an honors graduate of Columbia Law School, a member of the bar in three states, and pro bono counsel to a leading environmental organization.

Bousel's business experience has focused on applying innovative marketing techniques to the food industry. He founded Della Palma Foods, an Italian dessert company in New York City, and Food Makes Me Happy Inc., the developer of food lines, brands, and marketing strategies for well-known supermarket chains. In addition, he has been a senior executive of a company that markets information to grocery stores and food manufacturers, as well as board director of a Chicago supermarket.



Aran Kessler

**Marilyn Olson, assistant dean for admissions and student services**

He earned an M.B.A. from Columbia University and a B.S. in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He always has enjoyed counseling students and people in the work force about career paths and strategies to follow, an interest which led him to his present position.

He may be contacted at 877.VALPOLAW, or 219.465.7898, or by e-mail, [arthur.bousel@valpo.edu](mailto:arthur.bousel@valpo.edu).

**Marilyn Olson** comes to Valpo Law from the Center for Parish Development in Chicago, where she was administrative coordinator.

She also previously was the director of admissions and financial aid for the graduate program at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. She has an extensive background of community involvement and multicultural experiences.

She holds the following degrees: M.Div. Lutheran School of Theology; A.M. University of Chicago, Social Services Administration; M.A. University of Iowa; B.A. University of Iowa.

Olson may be contacted at 888.VALPOLAW, or 219.465.7891, or by e-mail, [marilyn.olson@valpo.edu](mailto:marilyn.olson@valpo.edu).



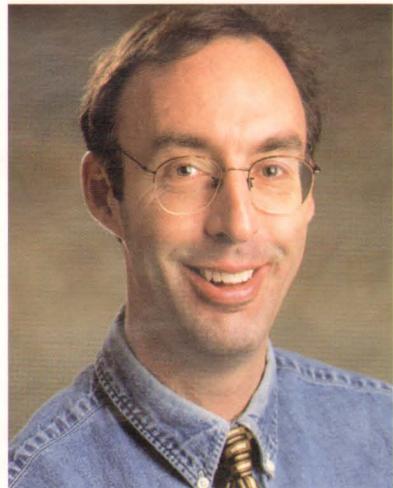
# FACULTY briefs

**Mark Adams**, professor of law, will have his article, "Campaign Finance Reform, Union Dues, and the First Amendment: The Collision of Politics and Rights," published in Volume 60 of the Maryland Law Review.

**Ivan Bodensteiner**, professor of law, is the co-author of an article with **Rosalie Levinson '73**, "Litigating Age and Disability Claims Against State and Local Government Employers in the New Federalism Era." The article was published in the Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law in January.

**Paul Brietzke**, professor of law, presented "Administrative Reforms in Indonesia?" at the Good Governance in East Asia conference, in Melbourne, Australia, Oct. 27-28. Publication is forthcoming. On Oct. 26, he commented on two papers at a mini-conference on Indonesian land tenure reforms, in Melbourne. With **Susan Adams**, he attended the Inaugural Conference of the Globalism Institute at Washington University, St. Louis, on Nov. 17-18, The U.N. and Human Rights.

**Laura Dooley**, professor of law, is the co-author (with Ian Ayres of Yale Law School and Robert Gaston of the University of Alabama Medical School) of a chapter on racial equity in kidney transplantation, which will appear in a book being published by the University of Chicago Press, called "Pervasive Racism." The book is a compilation of work done by Ayres. Dooley in February gave a presentation for VU's Books and Coffee series on the new novel by Philip Roth, "The Human Stain."



Aran Kessler

**Mark Adams, professor of law**

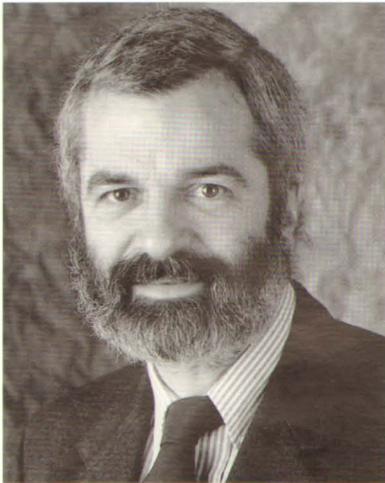
**Alex Geisinger**, associate professor of law, will have his article "Uncovering the Myth of a Jobs/Nature Trade-off," published by the Syracuse University Law Review.

**Rosalie Levinson '73**, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of law, had her article, "State and Federal Constitutional Law Developments," published in 33 Ind. Law Rev. 1143 (2000).

**Richard Stith**, professor of law, has been awarded a Fulbright Grant for the fifth time since 1973 and is using it to teach and research in Mexico.

He used his grant during the 2000-'01 academic year to teach comparative law at Pan American University in Guadalajara, Mexico, and to conduct research that includes examination of the new treaty between Mexico and the European Union.

Stith is one of approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who received a Fulbright Grant from among several thousand applicants. His previous



Robert Wehmeier

**Richard Stith, professor of law**

Fulbright Grants were for his lectures and research in India (1980), Chile (1988), China (1992) and Ukraine (1996). Most of these projects have involved comparative law, although some have focused on the philosophy of law.

**Mike Straubel**, associate professor of law, gave a presentation at the Vermont Law School on Dec. 5. The presentation was titled "Testing International Sports Law for Performance Enhancing Changes."

**Geri Yonover**, professor of law, was quoted in the Oct. 3 edition of the Times of Northwest Indiana concerning the Napster copyright infringement case. She participated in a panel discussion of the case at the law school.

Yonover also was quoted in the Aug. 30-Sept. 12, 2000, Page 14, issue of the Indiana Lawyer with regard to the Eli Lilly vs. Barr Laboratories case wherein Barr was successful in the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in invalidating Lilly's patent on Prozac. Lilly seeks a rehearing en banc of the unfavorable decision.

Yonover's article, "Anti-Semitism and Holocaust Denial in the Academy: A Tort Remedy," 101 Dickinson 71 (1996) is reprinted in the book, "The Holocaust's Ghost: Writings on Art, Politics, Law and Education," F.C. DeCoste (Editor), Bernard Schwartz (Editor), hardcover, University of Alberta Press, May 2000.



Robert Wehmeier

**Geri Yonover, professor of law**

**Clare (Kraegel) Nuechterlein '79**, adjunct professor, teaches pretrial skills at VU School of Law. She also was hired as the editor of a national legal publication, The Federal Forfeiture Guide, published by James Publishing Inc.



# Valpo Law Faculty Profile



Robert Wehmer

**Mary Persyn,**  
associate professor  
of law and law  
librarian

**Name:**

Mary Persyn

**Title:**

Associate Professor of Law, Law Librarian

**Children (grandchildren, too):**

None

**Pet(s):**

Cornelius the dachshund

**Birthplace:**

Elizabeth, N.J.

**Education:**

A.B., Creighton University, 1967;  
M.L.S., University of Oregon, 1969;  
J.D., University of Notre Dame, 1982

**Most marked characteristic:**

Grin

**Favorite memory:**

Sneaking away from my grandmother to play with my older cousins in the South Bend, Ind., city dump (a fascinating place!)

**Favorite film:**

"Star Wars"

**Last book read:**

"Lavender Lies" by Susan Wittig Albert (I read mysteries)

**Favorite dish:**

Roast pork

**Greatest fear:**

Getting hit from behind in an auto accident (It happened once, it can happen again.)

**Greatest extravagance:**

Purchasing fabric for quilting

**Idea of perfect happiness:**

Enough time to read and quilt

**Historical figure you identify with most:**

James Madison

**Biggest coup:**

Passing the bar

**What do you consider the most overrated virtue:**

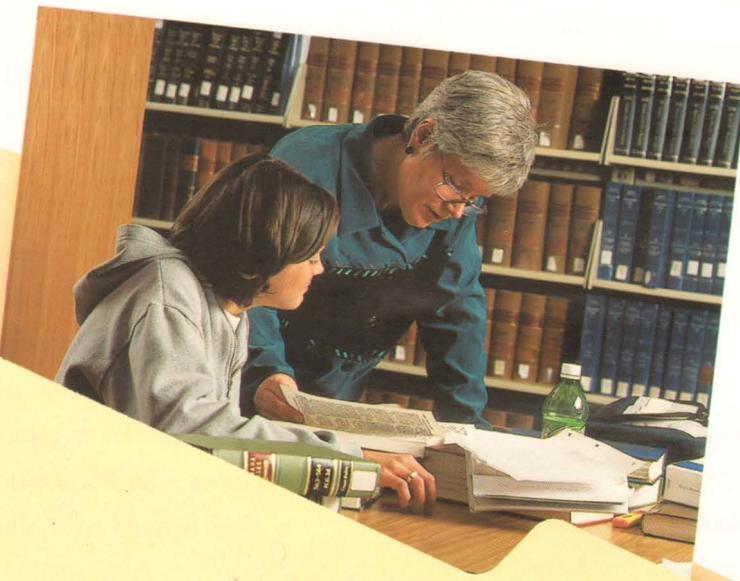
Gravitas

**Comment on VU School of Law:**

A place where students obtain an excellent education

**Why you teach:**

I love the thrill of finding answers and want to pass on my research skills (and the thrill of the hunt) to future lawyers.



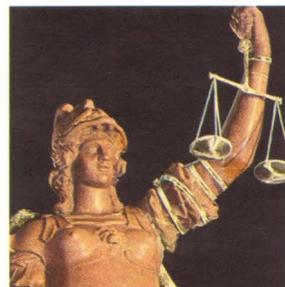
Aran Kessler



Robert J. Hallinen



Robert J. Hallinen



# Adventurous Spirit in Balance With Career and Mother Nature

Picture this. You wake up for work, and it's 50 degrees below zero. You don your blue jeans and sweater, snow pants, parka and boots. Next, you run outside in the tundra and start your snow machine or pickup truck. Or, if you have to travel outside of the city, you board a six-passenger plane, sometimes catching a glimpse of a bear scurrying across the runway. Occasionally, you make the quarter of a mile trek to the office, being careful not to run across arctic foxes that might be searching for food. Along the way, you greet a few natives who woke up early. Sound like a scene from the sitcom "Northern Exposure?" You're close. It's a typical commute to work in Alaska for Margaret Murphy '87 ('78 VU).

Spend an hour talking with the adventurous Murphy and find yourself thoroughly entertained. Her commentary is full of vivid and often humorous descriptions of environment, community, relationships and ethics. Her experiences in Alaska encompass the sublime with the stark reality of the wilderness in which she lives. How can you not be completely absorbed?

Says Murphy, "Aniak [Alaska] is right on the Aniak and Kuskokwim Rivers, with hills right across the river, and snow-topped mountains not far off in the distance. The courthouse where I worked is a two-story log cabin. Last January, two attorneys flew in from Bethel [Alaska] to do a trial, and I had a van pick them up at the airport and bring them to the courthouse. The one attorney got out of the van and gasped 'I feel like I'm in a picture postcard.' You have to visit. You can't accurately describe the beauty."

continued on Page 16

**continued from Page 15**

Born in Oakland, Calif., Murphy's father was released from the Navy and moved his family to Ohio when she was only six-months old. It's no wonder that Murphy likes to travel because she grew up constantly learning to adapt to new surroundings. The second oldest of four children, the family moved every four years throughout the Midwest before settling in Pennsylvania.

Murphy learned about Valparaiso University through her family history. Her great grandfather was Frederick William Kroencke, dean of liberal arts and acting president at VU from 1927 to 1936. Her great aunt and uncle also graduated from VU. And her mother Gene (Russell) Murphy graduated from the University in 1953. After high school graduation, Murphy chose to attend undergraduate school at VU. She majored in German, taking some time to travel abroad and advance her knowledge of the culture.

After receiving her undergraduate degree in 1978, she enlisted in the U.S. Army. "I needed a job so that I could go back to school," she says candidly. "I knew that if I joined the military, I could return to Germany and finance my education."

*"The courthouse  
where I worked is a  
two-story log cabin."*

*— Margaret Murphy '87 ('78 VU)*

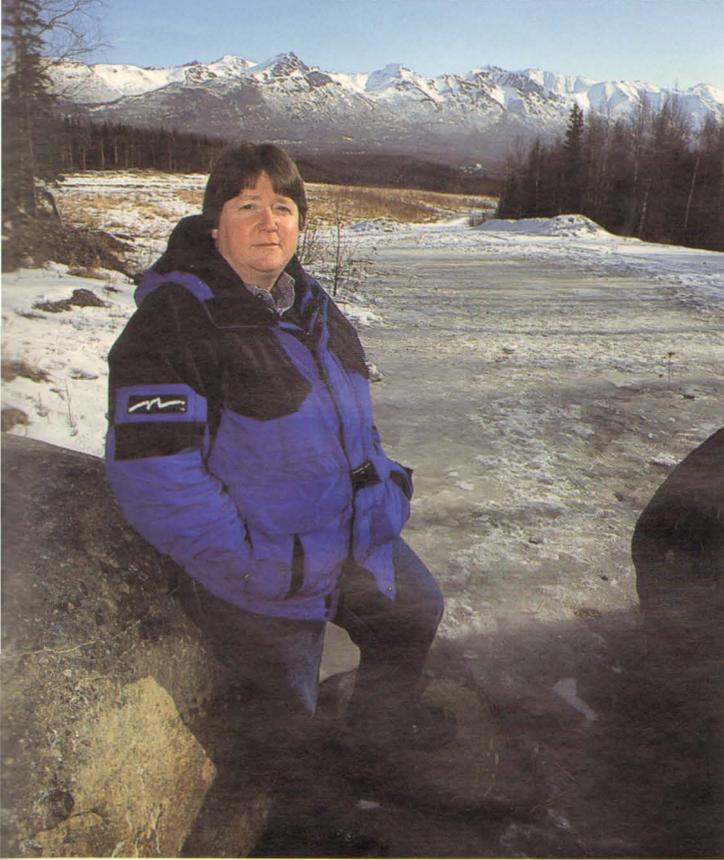
Murphy completed her term of active duty and returned to Valpo in 1984 when she was accepted into the School of Law. "I honestly can't say that I knew any more about the profession other than what I saw on TV or read in books. It sounded interesting, and I considered it an intellectual challenge."

Murphy says her experiences at Valpo Law with Professor Barb Schmidt and the Legal Services Clinic have been extremely helpful throughout her career. "Barb was there as a resource for us but basically let us handle the cases on our own. It gave us real-world experience in learning how to present cases in court as well as interacting with clients."

After completing her J.D. in 1987, Murphy returned to the Army. She set her sights on becoming a career officer and headed to the University of Virginia in Charlottesville to train for the Judge Advocate General Corps. She became a JAG officer and was stationed in Germany for the next five years where she was a legal assistance attorney, prosecutor, and later an administrative law attorney. She completed her term of active duty after serving a seven-month stint in Korea as a prosecutor. Unfortunately, the military was in a heavy draw down, and she wasn't accepted into the next level for a career status position.

Though feeling somewhat disappointed, Murphy had other career options in the works. In 1994, she accepted a legal assistance attorney position at Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska. Her efforts were concentrated on helping soldiers and their families as well as retirees with their individual legal problems.

During the next four years, the military continued the draw down, and the pressures involved with practicing family law with



Robert J. Hallinen

**Margaret Murphy '87 ('78 VU) thoroughly enjoys the relaxed, slower paced lifestyle in Alaska.**

less help began to take their toll. Murphy became frustrated and wanted to move in an entirely different direction.

"I had always thought that I would like to be a judge some day," she recalls. "And I had a friend who would bring home job postings. So I checked into a posting for a magistrate in Aniak, Alaska."

Not quite sure of the responsibilities, she learned that it was a judicial officer position with limited jurisdiction. "Although it was somewhat limited, I thought it was a step in the right direction and would get me on the bench."

In 1998, she applied and was offered the position as magistrate in Aniak. With a population of 600, Aniak is not on the road system. "That means you don't get there by the road," Murphy explains with a chuckle. "You either fly or boat in depending on the weather."

Moving to Alaska did take some adjusting. "The one thing I've noticed throughout the state and especially in the bush is that there's not a lot of choices," Murphy explains. "If I want to buy salad dressing, there may only be two brands to choose from."

It's also expensive. A 12-pack of Diet Coke might cost \$8.49. Lettuce could run as much as \$3 for a small head. "It's the case of you can get what you want, but you have to pay for it," Murphy says.

Conveniences that an average person would take for granted also are limited. For instance, water is trucked in twice a week. So if you run out, expect to pay extra.

Clothing is purchased by mail. And you either pay \$67 a month for cable TV, or you only get one station.

During the two years that Murphy was living in Aniak, a district court judge position was created in Bethel, population 5,000. "Bethel has one of the highest caseloads in the state. They wanted a person to help with the caseload, so I decided I had to try for it and was accepted as an acting district court judge for one year."

Murphy says the most challenging part of her career in Alaska has been "trying to help people understand that their actions have consequences.

"Providing incentives to motivate people to change their behavior is an even bigger challenge. If all I'm doing is handing out a sentence, I'm not helping anybody. I'm here to prevent the revolving door situation."

So what does Murphy do to relax from the stress of practicing law? She volunteers for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Since 1996, with the exception of 1999, Murphy has traveled to Nome, Alaska, to work sales and security at the finish.

"I've been right there under the arch when the winner comes in," she says excitedly. "Not only do I get to meet the mushers and the people who work for the Iditarod Trail Committee but all the volunteers from across the country and world. It's just fascinating."

Another one of her adventures is fishing during the summer at Cook Inlet. When family members come to visit, she charts a boat and takes them deep-sea fishing for halibut and salmon.

The relaxed, slower paced lifestyle is what Murphy enjoys most about living in Alaska. "There's not a lot of emphasis on material things," she says. "And there's not the desire or competition over who has the biggest house or the most cars."

It's obvious that Murphy thoroughly enjoys living in Alaska, but her goals are quite clear—first to become a district court judge and ultimately a superior court judge, wherever that may take her. She also has some advice for law students.

"Make sure the law is something that you enjoy, because if you don't, you're in the wrong business. And make sure you have something besides the law to enjoy, whatever it is. You have to strike a balance." ♦

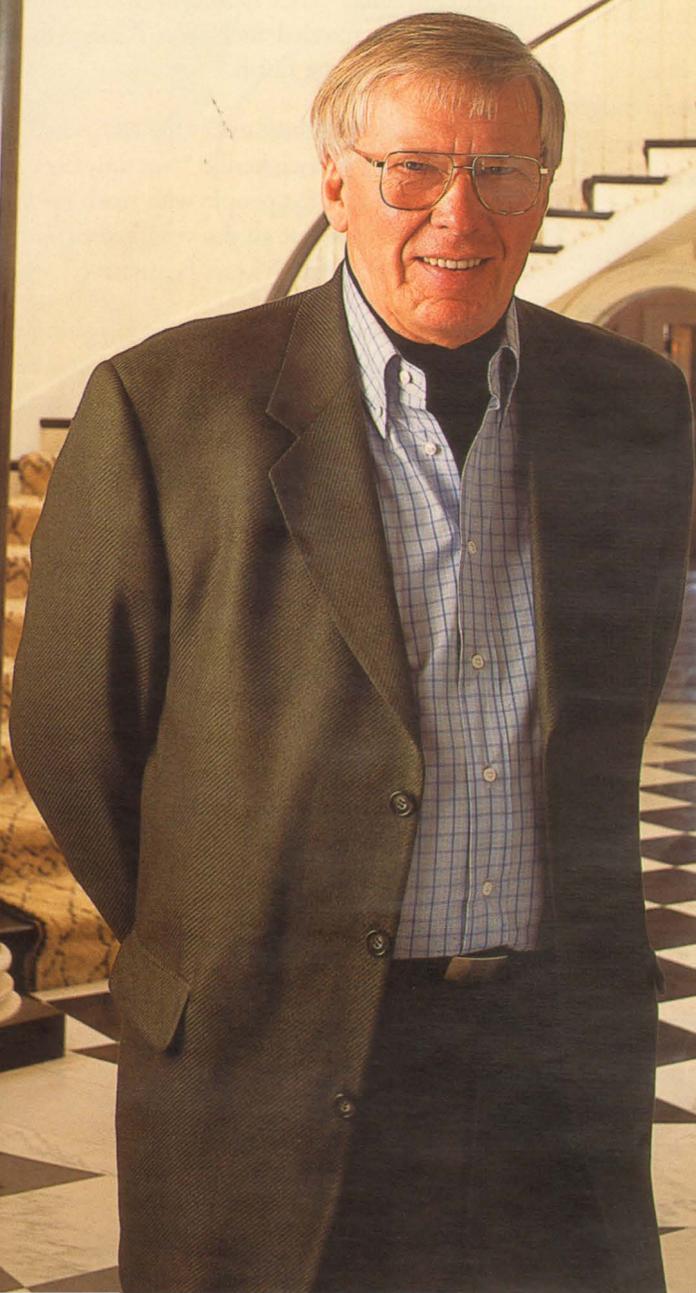


VALPO LAWYER

feature

STRIDE'S DETERMINATION EARNS HIM REPUTATION OF

# Winning the Impossible





When Herb Stride '57 was a young man during the early 1950s and growing up in Chicago, he always knew that he would attend either law or medical school. But the times were not easy, and medical school was very expensive, so he dedicated himself to earning a law degree.

The son of Swedish and German immigrants, Stride knew the importance of hard work. All through high school and college he worked to help pay for school.

"In those days, there wasn't the funding available to finance an education," he says candidly, sitting in his home library, with pictures of his family and their exotic travels peppered throughout the room. "During law school, I worked the night shift for Paul Brandt, a manufacturer from Texas and Valparaiso University Board member, who opened a factory in Valparaiso for the specific purpose of providing employment for students.

"At that time, the School of Law admitted approximately 25 to 30 students each year. I enjoyed the small college atmosphere and never had a course where there wasn't a one-on-one relationship with the instructor. I was extremely fond of a number of professors. In particular, Jim Savage, Lou Bartelt and Jack Hiller stand out in my mind. They were friends as well as teachers."

A member of the VU Board of Directors since 1983, Stride now handles issues that affect the University. Nearly 20 members of Stride's family also have attended the University including wife Dolores (Malz '55 VU), and children Deborah '81 VU, Herbert '85 ('82 VU), Stephanie '85 VU and Christopher '91 ('86 VU).

Soon after graduating from the VU School of Law and passing the bar in 1957, Uncle Sam called Stride to join the U.S. Army. After his discharge in 1958, he returned home to practice law.

"When I graduated from law school, there were no Valpo lawyers practicing in Chicago. Now, Valpo law grads are in every major law firm in this city," Stride says with pride. "VU School of Law is a small and distinct school that has become highly recognized and well regarded throughout the nation."

Despite his obvious success, Stride downplays his accomplishments. With modest hesitation, he describes how he began his career working for State Farm's Legal Department, practicing in one of the more difficult areas of tort law.

"I gave myself one year to learn the business," he says with determination in his eyes. "I went there and handled files that I wouldn't have touched in a law firm for four or five years. We covered a wide span of tort cases including automobile, homeowner, fire and commercial losses."

One year and one day later, Stride met his goal and went into private practice as a trial lawyer with Sennett, Levin and Craine. His theory had paid off. "I had gained so much knowledge that within one week I was in the courtroom, and within six months, I was trying cases." During the next few years, Stride gained extensive experience in product, federal statutory and medical negligence cases.

In 1963, he set out to start his own firm. As the law evolved, the firm primarily focused on major medical, aviation and railroad cases. Stride soon earned the reputation of winning the impossible.

Indeed his successful law career also has sharpened his keen ability to recognize business potential. He's participated in ventures that include insurance, real estate, manufacturing and hotel interests. One successful venture that he recently sold is the Deerpath Inn in Lake Forest, Ill. "I bought it in 1972 and remodeled it extensively, including the addition of 12 luxury condominiums. Then I had it registered as a historical site. It was a labor of love."

Though he loves what he does, there are challenges to remaining at the top of his field. "Information management and keeping up with the changes in law has become a monumental task," he says. "You have all of your services, but I still spend hours each week reading articles and opinions. I also continue to put in a 50- to 60-hour work week."

Retiring is definitely not on his agenda. "It might be OK for those other guys. But I can't see myself doing it. After 45 years in the business, what would I do?"

However, it isn't all work and no play for Stride. He travels extensively with his wife, four children, their spouses and 13 grandchildren.

When asked "What part of your career has been the most rewarding?" he quickly replies, "successfully representing your client. I don't look for a thank you. If we win, and we usually do, then everybody is happy." ♦



# Swygert Moot Court Attracts High Profile Justices

It's 82 degrees and sunny on an April afternoon in St. Petersburg, Fla., where Professor Mike Swygert '67 ('65 VU) speaks from his office at Stetson University College of Law. The beautiful campus is on the site of the former luxurious Rolyat Resort Hotel, built in 1926. The Spanish architecture with red tile roofs, picturesque towers, fountains and lush landscaping provide a relaxing backdrop to the environment.

But for Swygert, there's also rewarding work to experience. "I enjoy working with students," he says. "And I like getting to know students who really are interested in learning. I find that I can learn as much from my students as I hope they can learn from me."

Judging from his educational background, there's no doubt that when it comes to teaching, he's one of the best. After receiving a bachelor's degree magna cum laude with honors from Valparaiso University and a J.D. summa cum laude from Valpo Law, Swygert earned a master's degree in law from Yale Law School. He then joined the Chicago law firm of Hopkins, Sutter, Owen, Mulroy, Wentz & Davis, where he specialized in antitrust litigation.

From 1969 to 1972, he was a member of the Valpo Law faculty as assistant dean and professor. He then taught seven years at DePaul University College of Law in Chicago before joining the Stetson law faculty in 1979.

"As a young boy, I had no desire to be a lawyer," he says. "In fact, my earliest ambition was to become a railroad engineer. Ultimately,

the person who inspired me the most during my undergraduate years was Albert Wehling, chairman of the political science department at VU. He made the academic qualities of law attractive to me."

While a law student, Swygert often gathered with his fellow classmates and professors at a popular hangout called the Old Style Inn in downtown Valparaiso. "The professors and the students would socialize and participate in wonderful engaging discussions," he recalls fondly. "Some of these discussions would result in disagreement. But it was all in fun."

Swygert also has special memories of his parents and the home in which he grew up, located in Dune Acres, Ind., a small community in Porter County nestled on the shore of Lake Michigan. Built in 1926 by Henry Studebaker, the home was made of Oregon logs that were hauled to Indiana. "I often think about the times we spent walking on the beach," Swygert says. "We also had a family tradition where we would sit around the table and have long discussions about world events, especially on weekends."

Tragically in 1945, when Swygert was five years old, his brother Robert's appendix burst, and he died at the age of 13. Swygert's mother passed away in 1967. One year later, Swygert's father married his second wife Gertrude "Gari" Swygert.

Swygert's father, Luther M. Swygert, also dedicated his life to the law. A 1927 graduate of Notre Dame Law School, he developed a



distinguished career in law that spanned 63 years. For 47 of those years, he was a federal judge and later served the Seventh Circuit as well as other courts of appeals until his death in 1987.

“The one thing that I think my father and I had most in common is a special interest in working with law students,” Swygert says. “Dad would spend as much time as he could participating in moot court programs throughout the country, sitting as judge for competitions at Valparaiso, Syracuse, Notre Dame, Indiana University, New York University, Wisconsin, Illinois, DePaul, Northwestern, Chicago and Yale law schools.

“Both Gari and I wanted to do something in my father’s memory that we felt would be of assistance to future law students,” Swygert explains. “So I went to my old friend and dean [of Valpo Law] at the time, Ivan Bodensteiner, to set up an endowment to underwrite the cost for an annual moot court competition.”

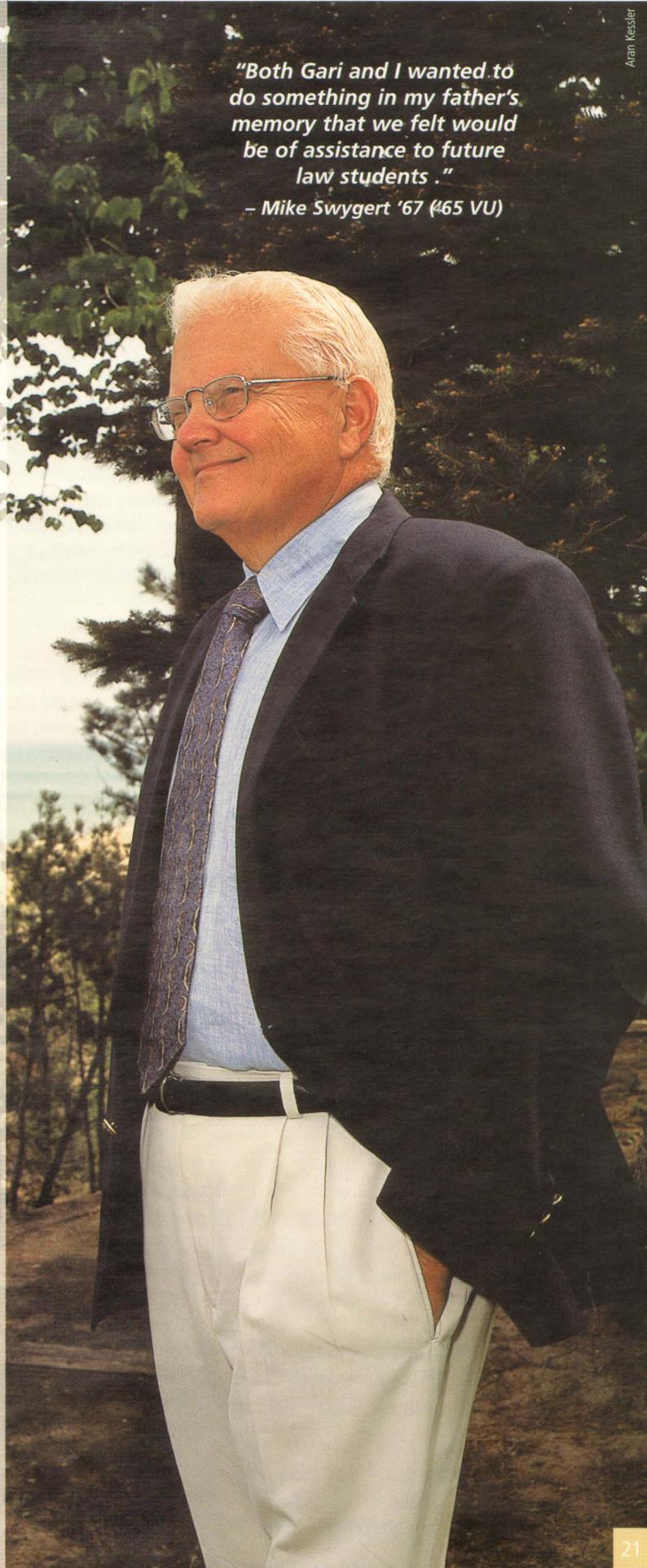
The first Judge Luther M. Swygert Memorial Moot Court Competition was held in the spring of 1990. The competition is designed to include at least one judge from the Seventh Circuit as a final-round judge, and it offers a cash award to the team of advocates judged to exhibit the best skills in the annual competition.

Since its inception, the competition has been successful in attracting high ranking officials including Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas. Thomas plans to return to VU again this fall to preside over the panel.

Swygert and his wife, Dianne, plan to return to Dune Acres this summer to continue building memories in the house he grew up in. ♦

*“Both Gari and I wanted to do something in my father’s memory that we felt would be of assistance to future law students.”*

*– Mike Swygert ’67 (65 VU)*





## CLASS actions

### 1949

**Harold B. "Jerry" Hanna** of E. Wenatchee, Wash., was honored for 50 years of bar membership at the annual Washington State Bar Association convention in Spokane, Wash. He is retired from practice and also retired from 20 years of judicial service as a district court judge.

### 1967

**Donald Martin** of Lansing, Mich., has been elected a shareholder in Foster, Swift, Collins and Smith PC. He joined Foster Swift in 1997 after serving as Ingham County Prosecuting Attorney. He heads the domestic relations/family law and the white collar crime practice groups. He is an active member of the Ingham County Bar Association and is a former member of its board of directors. He also sponsors a Boy Scouts of America Law Explorer Post, and serves on the board of directors for the Oak Park YMCA, as well as the Miciigan partnership to Prevent Gun Violence.

### 1969

**Richard Eynon** of Columbus, Ind., is chair-elect of the Indiana State Bar Association House of Delegates. He is a senior partner of the Columbus law firm Eynon Harmon Rocker & Glover. He also is a former president of the Bartholomew County Bar Association and is a Patron Fellow of the Indiana Bar Foundation.

### 1970

**Stephen Platt** was re-elected judge for Elkhart Superior Court. He has been on the bench since 1979.

### 1971

**David Butterfield**, mayor of Valparaiso, was appointed by Indiana Gov. Frank O'Bannon to serve a two-year term on the Interagency Ground Water Task Force.

### 1972

**Brian W. Smith** resides in Lewis, Ind. He no longer practices law. He is a sales manager for Continental Research Corp.

### 1973

**Paul Wenske** of Overland Park, Kan., writes for the *Kansas City Star*. His column is called "Survival Skills," in the Consumer News Section of the paper. He also is part of the StarWatch consumer news team. Paul can be reached by e-mail at [pwenske@kcstar.com](mailto:pwenske@kcstar.com).

### 1975

**John Pera** of Hebron, Ind., has worked in the Lake County judicial system for 25 years. Gov. Frank O'Bannon appointed him to a judgeship in Lake County Superior Court, Civil Division. He served as the Lake County Bar Association president in 1997 and is chair of the board of directors of St. Francis Academy, a church-related organization that serves the behavioral health care needs of children and their families throughout six states. He also is on the board of the St. Christopher Center, an organization dedicated to at-risk children in the Indianapolis area.

### 1976

**David Avery** of Fort Wayne, Ind., is a partner at Avery & Van Gilder. He has been named an Allen Superior Court judge by Gov. Frank O'Bannon. He served as secretary of the Allen County Bar Association and as the chair of its alternative dispute resolution section. He also was a lawyer for the Allen County Mental Health Association's Volunteer Guardianship Program and Adult Protective Services.

**Melvin McWilliams** joined the law firm of Howard & Howard P.C. He concentrates his practice in civil and administrative law, municipal law, real

estate law and related litigation at the firm's Lansing, Mich., office. He was managing shareholder of his private practice, Melvin S. McWilliams and Associates P.C., from 1996 to 2000. He also served as chief assistant city attorney for the city of Lansing and has held the positions of supervising attorney with the UAW-GM Legal Service Plan group and assistant city attorney with the city of Jackson (Mich.).

### 1982

**Eugene Parker** of Fort Wayne, Ind., was named to the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. He was twice Allen County's player of the year at Fort Wayne Concordia, started 100 games at guard for the Purdue Boilermakers, scoring 1,430 points and handed out 424 assists. He was a fifth-round NBA draft pick by the San Antonio Spurs in 1978 but, instead, played for Athletes in Action for one season before enrolling in law school. Now a sports agent, Parker's clients include Deion Sanders, Rod Woodson, Emmitt Smith, Curtis Martin and Charlie Ward.

**Diane Kavadias Schneider** of Munster, Ind., was appointed to a judgeship in the Lake County Superior Court, Civil Division, by Gov. Frank O'Bannon. Kavadias Schneider began her work in the Lake County judicial system in the mid-1980s. She has served as court executive and part-time referee for the juvenile division of the Lake Superior Court, secretary of the Lake County Bar Association, and currently is chair of the state bar's Committee on Women in the Law. Since 1993 she has served as magistrate of the Lake Superior Court, County Division.

### 1983

**Frank Lattal** is senior vice president, claims and claims counsel for ACE Bermuda Insurance Co. Ltd. He manages the entire claims operation



## Governor's Highest Honor: A Legacy for Barb Young's Family

What does Barb Young '76 have in common with some astronauts, U.S. presidents, ambassadors, artists, musicians, educators, political and business leaders, family members, and ordinary citizens who contributed to the Hoosier heritage? The answer is a Sagamore of the Wabash award.

State Sen. William Alexa surprised Young last fall with the Governor of Indiana's highest award at the Greater Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce annual Salute to Leadership dinner. "Barb's record speaks for itself," Alexa said. "She has worked hard for this community and is most deserving of the Sagamore."

The term Sagamore was used by the Native American tribes of the Northeastern United States to describe a great one among the tribe to whom the chief would look for wisdom and advice. The Sagamore of the Wabash award was created during the term of Gov. Ralph Gates, who served from 1945 to '49.

A graduate of Plymouth (Ind.) High School, Young remained close to home when she chose to attend Valparaiso University School of Law. Upon graduation in 1976, she took her first position with Hoepfner, Wagner & Evans, a local practice that has grown into Valparaiso's largest firm. Young stayed with that firm for 17 years and excelled in business, corporate, and real estate law and became the firm's first woman partner.

"I was fortunate that I had good mentors like Valpo Law grads Del Hoepfner '54 and Al Morrison '62 who took me under their wing," Young says. "The firm itself demonstrates high professional and ethical standards. And I think it's a firm that's very committed to our community."

In 1993, Young seized the opportunity to use her law expertise and accept a new business challenge as a partner and president of Benchmark Ltd., the developer of a subdivision known as Aberdeen on the outskirts of Valparaiso.

Self-pursuit, however, is not what governs Young's ethics. Rather, it is a solid allegiance to her neighbors and a devotion to the community that distinguishes her career. She has served as chair of the Greater Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce, board director of the Boys & Girls Club of Porter County, the Northwest Indiana Forum, and the Quality of Life



**Barb Young '76, and her parents William and Mary Young, all have received the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash award.**

Council, president of the Rotary Club, both chair and president of the Popcorn Festival, both president and campaign chair of the Porter County United Way, and was honored by the United Way in 1987 as the Dorothy M. Porter Volunteer of the Year.

Young also has served her alma mater as chair of the VU Community Campaign, president of the School of Law Alumni Association, and as a member of the University President's Advisory Council.

The old saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" rings true to Young's lineage. Her parents also are recipients of the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash award. Mary Young was honored in 1980 by Gov. Otis Bowen, and William Young received the award in 1975 from Gov. Otis Bowen and again in 1982 from Gov. Robert Orr.

In 1998, Young took her loyalty to the community a step further when she accepted the responsibility of president and executive director of the Porter County Community Foundation. Among other services, the foundation educates the community about the benefits of charitable giving to non-profit organizations and estate planning through a program called Leave A Legacy.

With her array of legal experience—business, corporate, real estate and estate—what does Young name as the most important thing for modern lawyers to know? "It's the people that you associate with and learn from that will lead to success. And, there's a lot outside of the traditional legal environment that can make work very rewarding."

Aran Kessler



and all legal functions of the claims department, including coverage analysis, litigation and arbitrations. Prior to this position he was a partner in the New Jersey law firm of Connell, Foley & Geiser, where he practiced insurance law for 14 years. He resides in Pembroke, Bermuda.

## 1985

**Sean O'Brien** was certified by an American Bar Association-accredited board as a specialist in bankruptcy law. He is a partner in the Phoenix office of Gust Rosenfeld. He has practiced bankruptcy, creditors' rights and appellate law in Phoenix since 1986. He is chair-elect of the State Bar of Arizona's Bankruptcy Law Section and a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, Arizona Bankruptcy Coalition, Arizona Trial Lawyers Association and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

## 1987

**Kevin Schmidt** is with the law firm of Emery, Clement & Schmidt in Merrillville, Ind.

## 1988

**Cynthia Amber** resides in Fort Wayne, Ind. She works in the judicial offices in Allen County (Fort Wayne, Ind.).

**John Hallacy** was elected as Calhoun County prosecuting attorney. He joined the Calhoun County Prosecutor's Office in 1988 and was appointed chief assistant prosecuting attorney in 1991. He left the prosecutor's office in 1996 when he was appointed as a member of the Michigan Parole Board. John defeated the incumbent prosecutor to bring about his return to the office. He lives in Battle Creek, Mich., with his wife, Ellen, and his two sons, Frederick and Grant. Friends may call him at 616.969.6976, or contact him by e-mail at [jhallacy@calhoun-mi.com](mailto:jhallacy@calhoun-mi.com).

## 1989

**Matt Cooper** of Paw Paw, Mich., was appointed to the Michigan State Bar Representative Assembly for

Kalamazoo County. He is a partner in the law firm of Schuitmaker & Cooper, PC, with offices in Kalamazoo and Paw Paw. Matt and his wife, Laurie, have three children, Anella, Drew and Bennett. While maintaining an active personal injury practice, he recently became a co-partner in CASE Development, which specializes in the ownership and management of federal and state government buildings.

## 1990

**Rodney Nordstrom** is active in the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association. He had plans to speak to the association in March at the 13th Annual Lifetime Achievement seminar and, again, at a nursing home litigation seminar.

## 1991

**Mark Gland** has opened a law office in Merrillville, Ind.

**Craig Van Ess** of Grand Rapids, Mich., is vice president and senior relationship manager in the Private Client Group, Old Kent Bank. He joined Old Kent from Arthur Andersen, where he served as tax manager responsible for developing and maintaining the family wealth planning practice in the Grand Rapids office. He also has served as an attorney at Schenk, Boncher & Prasher, with a concentration in business law, commercial litigation, estate planning and tax law.

**J. Heydt Philbeck** has joined the law firm Allen and Pinnix PA in Raleigh, N.C., as a partner. He continues to focus his practice in civil litigation. He and wife Caroline (Beattie '92 VU) have four children—two boys, two girls. Caroline stays at home with the children.

## 1992

**Sammie Maletta** is the pastor at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Merrillville, Ind.

**John Papageorge** and his wife, Sandra, announce the arrival of the newest addition to their family, Mia Caroline. Mia was born on Oct. 9, 1999, in ChangDe, Hunan, People's Republic of China. The adoption was finalized by the end of October. Mia

was welcomed home by her brother, Nicholas, and sister, Ashley.

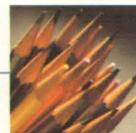
**Robert Toczycki** of Chicago has joined ICTV as director of intellectual property. He is an attorney registered before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and has extensive legal and technical experience in a wide range of complex high-technology issues, with an emphasis on helping corporations develop intellectual property strategies and patent portfolios. Before joining ICTV, he served as a senior intellectual property attorney with Carr & Ferrell LLP in Palo Alto, Calif., where he represented clients such as Apple Computer, LSI Logic Corp., Fujitsu Ltd., Clarent Corp., SurfMonkey.com, 2Wire Inc. and CrossLogix.

## 1993

**Kevin Anderson** is in private practice in St. Joseph, Mich. His practice focuses upon plaintiffs' litigation involving personal injury, workers' compensation and Social Security claims, as well as a variety of general practitioner services.

**Janine Sutton Hooley** served three years as a deputy prosecuting attorney in Madison County. She was asked to join Max Howard in June 2000 in the formation of Howard, DeLey & Hooley, a personal injury firm. She also joined the part-time faculty of Anderson University, teaching constitutional law and American national government. She and husband Jerry recently celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary. They have three children: Christine, 14, John, 8, and Catherine, 6. They reside in Anderson, Ind.

**Douglas Rooks** of Holland, Mich., has joined the firm of Scholten and Fant, PC, as an associate in the family law area. He has practiced law in Holland since 1994 and has served as an Ottawa County family court referee for the past two years. He can be reached by e-mail at [drooks@scholtenfant.com](mailto:drooks@scholtenfant.com).



## Benko's Daughter Becomes World Champion Swimmer

When Roger Benko's '72 oldest daughter was a little girl, he never dreamed that she would win a gold medal.

But dreams do come true. And on Sept. 20, 2000, in Sydney, Australia, Benko and millions of Americans watched with pride as 23-year-old Lindsay Benko and her teammates captured the gold medal in the 4 x 200 freestyle swim relay. The team set an Olympic record with their time of 7:57.80.

"Lindsay literally first became interested in swimming by accident," Benko says. "She fell out of a tree and injured her knee when she was six years old. Then a neighbor girl asked her if she wanted to go swimming at a local pool. Lindsay's doctor thought it would be therapeutic."

One year later, Lindsay began swimming competitively at the local YMCA. "This whole thing has been somewhat of a process," Benko explains. "As a little girl, we tried to keep Lindsay's training as low-key as possible. She swam once a day after school, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m."

Lindsay's love for the sport continued through high school where she won a total of 11 state titles, four in the 100 meter freestyle, four in the 200 meter freestyle, and three in the 400 meter freestyle relay. After graduation, she took her competitive spirit to the University of California where she won a total of five NCAA individual titles.

"She just barely missed making the Olympic team in '96," Benko says. "So during the next four years, it was a goal of hers to make the 2000 Olympic team."

During that time, she kept up a grueling training schedule. A typical day included rising early to swim for two hours then walking on the treadmill for 30 minutes. She would return in the afternoon to stretch and swim from 2 to 4 p.m. And right after the workout, she would lift weights or participate in dry land training for about another hour.

Her efforts paid off when she made the team at the U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials in Indianapolis on Aug. 12, 2000. "I don't think the importance of making the team really hit us until then," Benko says.



Photo Provided

**Lindsay Benko displays the gold medal she won for the 4 x 200 freestyle swim relay at the 2000 summer Olympic games.**

Growing up, athletics also played a big part in Benko's life. He played baseball at South Bend (Ind.) Clay High School and as an undergraduate student at Northwestern University in Chicago. He went on to play professional baseball from 1967 through 1970 at the class A level for the Chicago White Sox.

Lindsay's younger sister Lesley also swam in high school and during her first year at Arizona State University where she now is a senior majoring in communications.

The Benko family hails from Elkhart, Ind., a small town near South Bend, where Benko has practiced labor and employment law for Barnes & Thornburg since graduating from Valpo. Throughout the years, Benko has kept in touch with the School of Law by teaching the labor law class in the spring 2000 semester and as past president of the VU School of Law Alumni Association.

Benko, his wife, Dianne, and daughter, Lesley, were able to spend four weeks in Sydney during the 2000 summer Olympic games. The day Lindsay won the gold, Benko recalls with emotion, "I was able to get down on deck during the presentation of the medals. And when they played the national anthem, that was about it. I just broke down. It was the ultimate highlight to see her standing there with a gold medal, and the flag go up."

Lindsay became the first Hoosier to win a medal at the 2000 summer Olympic games. She now is a professional swimmer competing throughout the world.



## Portland Alumni Reminisce, Look Ahead

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 2001, the Valparaiso University School of Law and Tom Nelson '73 hosted a luncheon at Nelson's law firm in Portland, Ore. Alumni shared their memories, discussed their current positions and listened to Dean Jay Conison describe the law school's ongoing activities.

Pictured from left: Tom Nelson '73; Edgar Trott '96; Judith Kobbervig '69 ('64 VU); Dean Jay Conison, and Ted Roe '98.

## 1995

**Robert King** of Kalamazoo, Mich., is employed as an attorney-magistrate and has worked in this capacity for three years at Berrien County Juvenile Court in St. Joseph, Mich., concentrating in the areas of abuse and neglect of minor children and juvenile delinquency.

**Anne Morgan** received her LL.M. in taxation from Washington University in May 2000. She is a senior associate with McCarter & Greenley in St. Louis, specializing in tax planning and intellectual property.

**Robert Null** of Granger, Ind., practices patent law and intellectual property law with Baker & Daniels in South Bend, Ind. He has been heavily involved in the education of both patent lawyers and non-lawyers as a member of the patent bar. He recently presented a seminar to members of the Indiana School Boards Association on the many implications of copyright law issues in elementary and high schools.

**Ashley Rozek** and Robert Howell, both of Fishers, Ind., were married in May 2000. She is an attorney for Rocap Witchger and Threlkeld.

**Veronica Van Nest** joined Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel LLP in their Buffalo, N.Y. firm. She concentrates her practice in the area of estate, trust and elder law.

## 1996

**Heidi (Meyer '93 VU) Abegg** recently argued and won a case in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit involving a First Amendment challenge to a North Carolina election law statute. She is an attorney at Webster, Chamberlin and Bean in Washington, D.C., and concentrates on election and campaign finance law. She also represents non-profit organizations and trade associations in all areas of the law. She was married in 2000 to John Abegg.

**J. Thomas Vetne** of Valparaiso has joined Jones Obenchain LLP as an associate attorney. Prior to this position he was an attorney with Steven A.

Johnson & Associates of Merrillville, Ind.

## 1997

**Bart Arnold** is a criminal defense lawyer. He and wife Karen reside in Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Ruth (Barber) Timm** of North Branch, Minn., has joined the law firm of Leonard, Street and Deinard. She is an associate practicing in the corporate department in the areas of securities, mergers and acquisitions and general corporate law representing both public and private corporations. Prior to joining the firm, she practiced at Maun & Simon PLC and served as a judicial law clerk to Chief Judge Paul A. Magnuson, U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota.

**Randall Vogelzang** of Southlake, Texas, is vice president general council of Verizon Communications. He is in charge of the company's legal transactions. He has plans to move to Indianapolis to be close to Verizon's corporate headquarters.

## 1998

**Rachel Anderson** of Eau Claire, Wis., was elected for district attorney of Chippewa County.

**Amy (Fields) Bolen** resides in Valparaiso. She had her first child, Ashley, in August 2000.

**Christine Gordon** left her position as a judicial clerk with the Lake Circuit Court in Crown Point, Ind. She currently works as a legal analyst in the consumer protection division at the attorney general's office in Indianapolis, where she also resides.

**Adrienne Hoehner** has joined the real estate department of Southwest Florida's Kirk Pinkerton law firm. She will focus on commercial and residential real estate, banking and financial institutions, construction law and bankruptcy. She is based at the firm's Sarasota office, where she also resides.

**Andrea Kurek** of Mishawaka, Ind., has joined the South Bend, Ind., firm Hahn, Walz & Knepp as an associate.



**Philip Pulliam** resides in Alexandria, Va., and is a judicial law clerk for Judge Thomas G. Fisher of the Indiana Tax Court. He also is active in the Indiana State Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section Council for which he currently serves as the District 11 representative.

**Tracey Wetzstein** had her verdict in a jury trial published in the Association of Trial Lawyers of America Law Reporter, Vol. 43, No. 8. She is an associate with the Hammond, Ind., law firm of Ruman, Clements, Tobin & Holub, PC.

**Rachel (Mathison) Wolf** announces the birth of her first child, Kylie, born Feb. 23, 2000.

## 1999

**Michael Knight** has joined the South Bend office of Barnes & Thornburg.

**Robert Plantz** has joined the Merrillville, Ind., firm of Herbert Lasser & Associates.

**Katie Reagan** of Indianapolis has joined the Indianapolis firm Kightlinger & Gray as an associate.

## 2000

**Lia Elliott** is an associate with the law firm of Goodin Kraege Abernathy & Miller in Indianapolis.

**Jeffrey Lund**, a native of Bay City, Mich., currently resides in Indianapolis where he is an associate with the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg. He practices in the area of labor and employment law.

## In Memoriam

### 1929

Robert Blaese, Dec. 25, 1998, Minneapolis, Minn.

### 1936

George Krampien, Oct. 5, 2000, Sun City, Ariz.

### 1942

John McGinnis, Sept. 24, 2000, West Lafayette, Ind.

### 1949

Charles T. Clifford, Dec. 3, 2000, Valparaiso.

### 1956

Richard Mertz, Oct. 2, 2000, Jensen Beach, Fla.

### 1957

Joseph Sherman, May 2, 2000, Gulf Shores, Ala.

### 1970

Gary Pearch, Sept. 3, 1999, Akron, Ohio.

### 1973

Glenn Richard Potter, Feb. 5, 2000, Greenwood, Ind.

### 1976

Daniel Neuwelt, Sept. 8, 2000, Chicago.

### 1989

Charles Kenneth Wilber Jr., Aug. 15, 2000, South Bend, Ind.

### 1992

Gregory Copp, Sept. 9, 1999, Columbia City, Ind.

## The Valpo Law Generation

Have a new addition in the family? We've got a limited supply of free Valpo Law T-shirts made just for children of alumni. All we ask in return is a photo, like the one of Mia.

All shirts are size two, and come in navy blue with gold lettering (just like the one Mia is wearing). For your free shirt, contact Marilyn Otis, director of alumni relations, at [marilyn.otis@valpo.edu](mailto:marilyn.otis@valpo.edu) or 1.888.VALPOLAW.

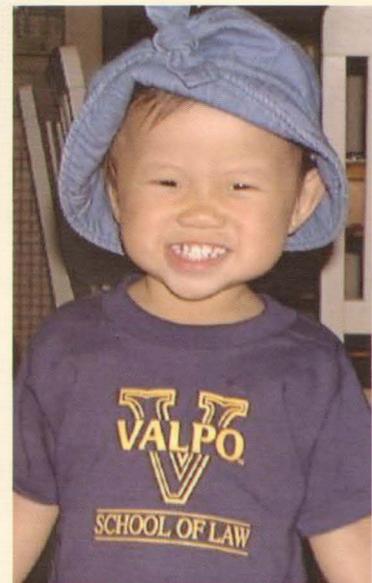


Photo Provided

**Mia Papageorge, daughter of John '92 and Sandra, proudly models her Valpo Law shirt.**

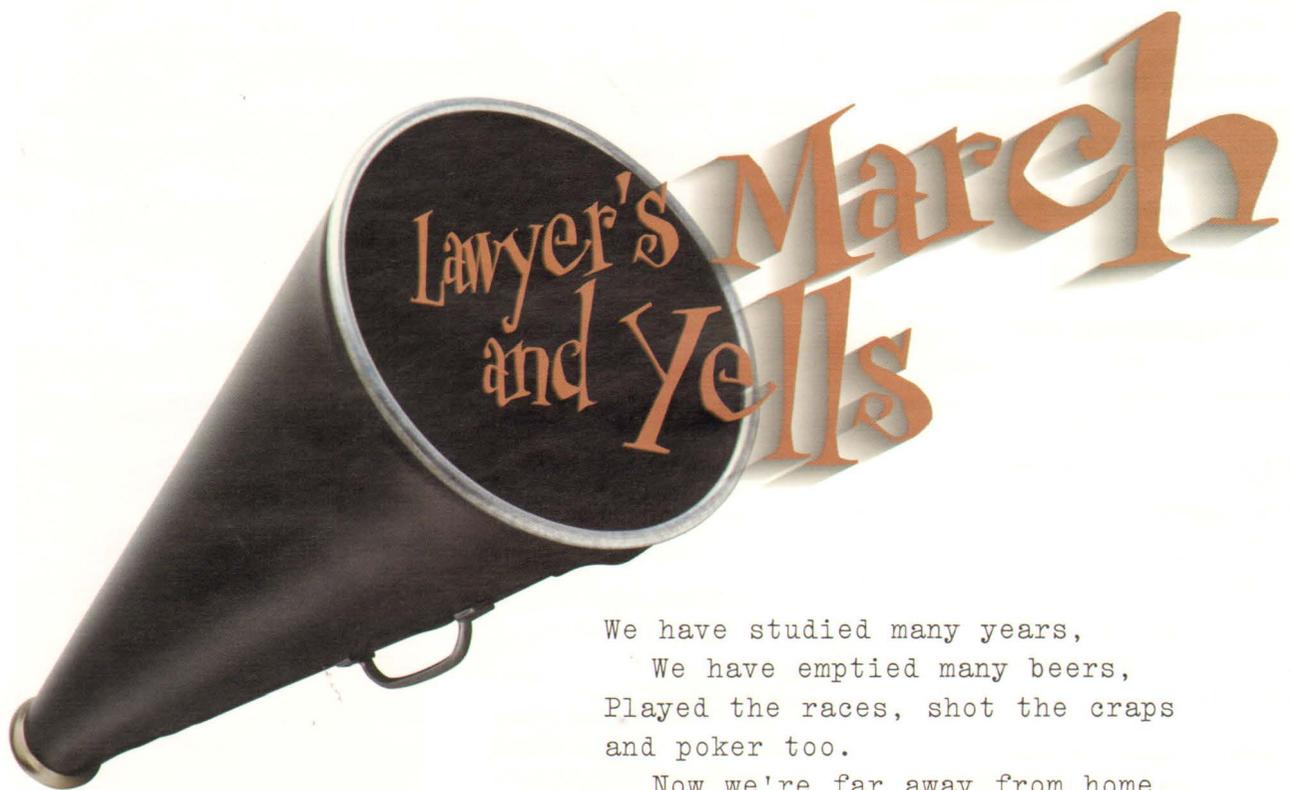
## Alumni—Keep In Touch

We are eager to hear from you and share your news and accomplishments with your fellow alumni and friends. Keeping us informed maintains an important link you have to the School of Law. Please send news to:

**Marilyn Otis**  
 Director of Alumni Relations  
 Valparaiso University School of Law  
 Valparaiso, Ind. 46383  
 E-mail address: [marilyn.otis@valpo.edu](mailto:marilyn.otis@valpo.edu)  
 Fax to 219.465.7808.



## CLOSING argument



**From the archives of Lou Bartelt, former professor and dean, comes a booklet of "Lawyer's March and Yells." The book is stamped "B.L. Garman, 1915-1916, Hulett, Wyo." Garman was a 1916 law graduate. The booklet has several entries, of which this is the first.**

We have studied many years,  
We have emptied many beers,  
Played the races, shot the craps  
and poker too.

Now we're far away from home,  
Settled down and ceased to roam,  
Sowed our oats and study law  
at old VU.

### CHORUS:

Hip, Hip, Hip, Hurray for Bo(w)mans;  
Best old Profs. you ever saw;  
Give another round of cheers,  
Draw another round of beers,  
Don't you wish you were the boys who  
read the law?

Blackstone is our daily bread,  
Cramming law into our head,  
There is Martin, Clark and Coke  
and Bishop too.

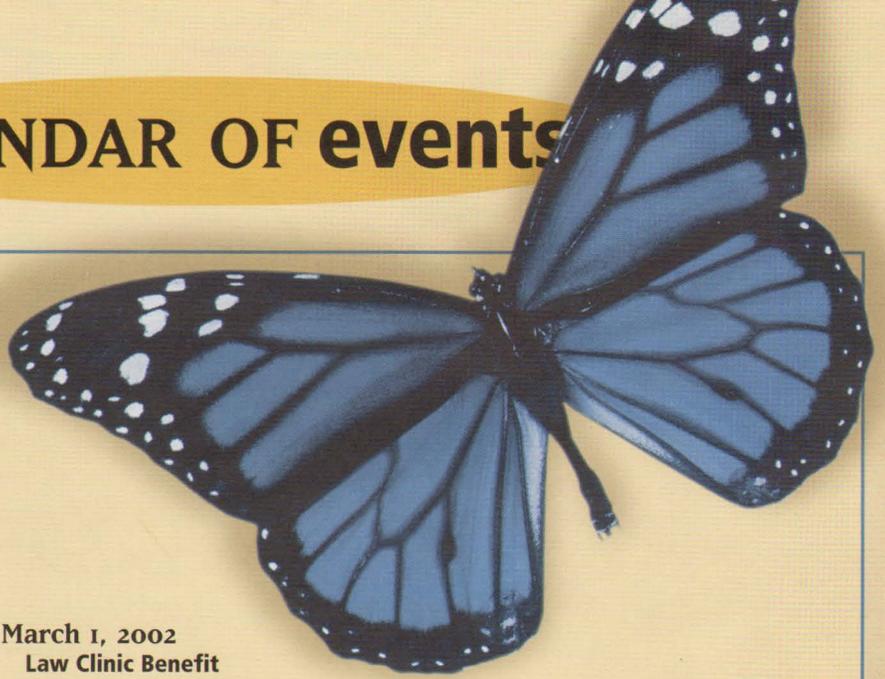
For the Medics ring the bell,  
Engineers can go to h--l,  
Lawyers are the livest bunch  
at old VU.



SCHOOL OF LAW

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# CALENDAR OF events



**Sept. 20**

**4-5 p.m.**

**Indiana Supreme Court Lecture  
Douglas M. Branson  
University of Pittsburgh  
Tabor Lecture Room**

**Oct. 11**

**4-5 p.m.**

**Seegers Lecture  
Laura Nader  
Professor of Anthropology  
University of California,  
Berkeley  
Tabor Lecture Room**

**Nov. 12 and 13**

**Institute on Law and  
Pastoral Ministry  
Stride Courtroom (both days)**

**Week of Nov. 12**

**Luther M. Swygert Memorial  
Moot Court Competition  
United States Supreme  
Court Justice Clarence Thomas  
Valparaiso University Center  
for the Arts (VUCA)**

**March 1, 2002**

**Law Clinic Benefit  
Valparaiso University  
Center for the Arts (VUCA)**

**April 3, 2002**

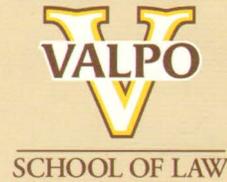
**4-5 p.m.**

**Monsanto Lecture  
Jonathan Turley  
George Washington University  
Tabor Room**

**April, 2002**

**Tabor Lecture**

Some dates are subject to change. All events are on campus, unless noted otherwise. Please call 888.VALPOLAW for more information.



**Visit VU School of Law Web site at [www.valpo.edu/law](http://www.valpo.edu/law).**



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