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The Forum (Volume 6, Number 2)

Valparaiso University School of Law

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Dean Explores Problems of Law School

Recently, FORUM staff writer, Dan Wolcott, had the fol-
loking interview with Dean Alfred Meyer exploring his feel-
ings and positions on a number of topics of
interest to members of the law school community.

The topics discussed included Dean Meyer's decision to remain in
the Decanal position for the current year, law school policy in
regard to mandatory attendance, the desirability of improving
communications within the law school, diversity in the law school,
and policies regarding minority students.

FORUM: Among the biggest "news items" this year is your
re-
decision to remain in a deanal position. What is your
feelings about staying on?

Dean: It was necessary because we had just had the past sum-
mer at which time the office had to be
fitted, and it would have been bad
decision to have dropped out in a hur-
cry. The candidate who said that at the last minute, and more time
was needed to look at the field of candidates again. I was willing to
stay on for another year while the process
continued.

You don't anticipate staying on for another additional year should
the same situation arise?

Dean: I have no special interests other than the idea that it should have
have had experience in legal edu-
cation. There are some exceptions to
that, where schools have appointed
individuals from the practi-
c to
to
ce only because they have been
very successful Deans, but by
large I think it is necessary that
school will have had some
experience in legal educa-
tion, and that individual have
demonstrated an interest in, if not
an actual contribution to, scholar-
ship as well as teaching. That
interest can be manifested in dif-
ferent ways not necessarily as an
author, but as a participant in
meetings where frontiers of legal
scholarship are discussed.

Concerning the autonomy of the law school, the Dean indicated
that the University exercises little influence in the decision of the
Law School in the areas of hiring, firing, curriculum, and general
administration. Law School is completely independent of the University,
and its budget is related to the University in
financial matters.

You mentioned money. What is our
money available for what pur-
poses. The interrelation-
ship between the University and the Law school is?

Dean: The University does not have
Law School was entirely on the
University and has no money or amount of tuition realized from the
Law School enrollment compared
to revenue from outside sources.

In recent years we have
operated with a formula designed
is of course as essential as the
building because additional main-
tenance costs for the addition
are covered in the tuition.

In order to appropriately honor
such a gift, special festivities are
planned for next year. Furthermore, the addition will be
named after Dean Meyer and Spencer Werner Addition.

According to Dean Alfred
Meyer, the Tunnel Addition gift
this hardly solves the school's
financial problems. Since the addi-
tion was built with about $60,000
cash-in-hand, the entire grant
will
be
for
the
debt
for
the
bricks and mortar.

Expressing some concern that
students be treated fairly, the Dean
stated that the school should tend
to meet hours per
semester other than fifteen. The
second feature of the minority
program is the first year profes-
sors hold weekly group sessions
with the special minority stu-
dents, the purpose of these ses-
sions being to review the materials
covered in class during the past
week, and to offer special help to those students who feel
they are not included.

The Placement Committee will
be held to the main lounge area
and employment must rest with the
individual student, it is the
responsibility of the institution to
counsel its students concerning
placement.

The Placement Committee is
working with the administration to
ty to develop a better place-
ment service for next year. Details of this will be announced as they
are worked out.

The Placement Committee supports the proposal put forth by
John Marshall School of Law requiring a full-time placement
director in all ABA approved law schools.

The Placement Committee is
working with the Library to
select the books on the
standards required for gradua-
tion is an academic average of
the same as for everyone else.
At the end of the fourth semester
all students must be at the 70
level. The financial aid policy was
changed some years ago to a
policy based exclusively on need.
This necessarily results in minor-
ity students receiving perhaps a
little or no influence on the Law
School, or could the Law School
in the sense of the
desirability of improving
credibility which needs to be
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FORUM to become Rumor Center

One of the great past-times of law school students here has been rumor mongering. Rumors often fly freely and just as often have little basis in fact. The Forum, in an effort to improve communication among members of our community, offers this periodical for the exchange of rumors. We will track down rumors. If you hear something that your friends think is interesting, creative and would like accurate information on the subject, we will track down the appropriate person, submit the question to him and publish both the rumor and the clarification in our next issue.

Please submit your rumors, signed or unsigned, by leaving them at the Student Bar Association's office, the last call in the old section of the library.

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Dean Notes

Problem Communication

A number of years ago we introduced at this law school an advisory board to the law school government, with the idea that it would be on committees, the voting membership of students at faculty meet­

ings would not only have the very desirable advantage of improving the law school's policy matters, but it would improve the communication of the student body with the University administration. Now, as you mention, we still have the present student representa­

tors who don't communicate with their peers, but I think that's just fine.

Even though it's true?

It may or may not be true, but it is impossible for the two or three hundred students to have effective communication with three hundred other students. I would see the function of the law student newspaper as one which would report the news and publicize what happens at faculty meetings, but I would like to see the law school administration recognize the pros and cons of the issues that confront the community. I have to point out the SBA sees THE FORUM as one which recognizes the student's various functions, but I think it has not exercised the function of getting accurate information on what our law school community is thinking. In that sense, it has not been a very effective paper.

Is there anything that you would like to add, anything that you would like to say to the student body through this medium that we haven't touched upon?

I think that from time to time I have thoughts about the way the year wears on and we see what problems are developing. I think the communication can be implemented through the pages of THE FORUM.

Do you think that perhaps a periodic statement, or letter, or exposure, if you will, from you to us would be a useful instrumentality? I think it would.

I realize that that would be an extra burden, but position, but would you be willing to do that?
### Meet the Prof

by Mark Helmuth

"Open and concerned" are the words that best typify the newest addition to the Valparaiso Law School faculty, Richard Dawson.

Dawson says that his attitude toward students and his philosophy of teaching have been strongly molded by his own experiences in law school. For instance, he cites the use of the Socratic method to embarrass students as one method he will avoid.

Another experience which has left an indelible imprint on Dawson is a six-year hitch in the Air Force. During his first two years, Dawson was assigned as a Judge Advocate, a position in which he had to handle thefts and bankruptcy cases. Indeed, Dawson feels that this period of time gave him more experience in a short space of time than most of his contemporaries.

After two years, the Air Force awarded him a scholarship to attend the university specializing in labor law. In 1973, Dawson received his J.D. degree in labor law from George Washington to his J.D. degree from Indiana University at Bloomington.

### Women's Caucus

by Debra Lazzari

A non-organizational meeting of Women's Caucus took place Thursday, Sept. 13. Approximately 40 women attended the meeting changed by Ruth Hensley.

Speakers included Gail Hamm and Jill Olson. Ms. Hamm addressed the group concerning the faculty's role in organizing the Pig Roast. If you wish to participate in the Pig Roast or contribute your ideas and comments, please contact your representatives.

### SBA Elections Results

by Ray Berger

The annual first year SBA election results are official and the SBA now has three new members whose duty it is to represent first year class interests.

By usual standards, this year's candidate pool was extremely large. In all, 12 students ran for 3 positions. Because of this large number of candidates, relatively few votes were required to elect a candidate.

The first vote left John Mayfield with 36 votes, Leonard Washington with 24, and both Daniel Callahan and John Junkie with 17. An runoff election was subsequently held, which put Callahan the winner with 44 over Junkie with 31. THE FORUM congratulates all three new representatives on their victories and wish them luck in their upcoming term in office.

### The Air Force

The Air Force then assigned him to Tinker Air Force Base near Oklahoma City to help handle labor relations with the base's 18,000 civilian employees. In addition, Dawson decided last year to leave it a full-time occupation because he was considering a new promotion would have made him a supervisor of lawyers and cut him off from the personal contact with legal problems that he is interested in. Dawson thoroughly enjoyed his teaching experiences, he set his sights on teaching position at a Midwest location that was small enough to allow him to use the personal contact he enjoys.

At the present time, Dawson intends to concentrate on teaching. When he becomes more active, he says he will become more involved in research, writing, and perhaps some labor arbitrating. Dawson is married and he and his wife, Lin, have two daughters, Amy, 6, and Hilary, 3.

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Schnack Takes Raquet Title For Second Year

By Dave Meyer

As is so often the case, when great events occur in the world of sports, certain names tend to dominate the headlines. This Third Annual Never to be Repeated National Squads and Squads Open Tennis Tournament must fall in with events of that genre. Two names, Mike Petkovich and Tedd Covey, stand out from this year's gala event, played last Sunday on the new courts behind the Gym Courts. Kent Schnack is the first. Bomed in the annals of the sport of tennis as one figure so thoroughly dominating a tournament. (No wonder he organized it.) Last year's champion, Kent defended his title by breezing past Art Bose, Dean Zakos and Jack Clement by score of 10-0 and then disposed of Mike Broman in straight sets, 6-4 and 6-2. Kent "The Kid" used a variety of weapons ranging from backspin serve to volley which would make Bobby Riggs (M.C.P.) proud, to a power serve which came within a few percentage points of J. Conner's. (Well, kinda close.) Need less to say, Schnacked is odds on favorite to make it a clean sweep this year.

The second name to be aware of in future court events is the pride of the ladies tour (as the only female entry) Han Terbush. The plucky first-year lady best a tough 10-8 match to Lee Allison and drew a bye when Dean Meyer, plugged by a shoulder injury withdrew. This brought J.T. against Bill Modgiewski who got off to a 9-5 lead in the consolation semi. Han was not to be denied, how ever. After scoring a long shot break at 5-3, J.T. pulled herself together to knot the best of three sets with a 6-1 win. But darkness was to deny a final verdict and the match had to be completed later in the week.

Joe Zymanski took over the helm for the winners in the second half and came up with a bad game breaker when in a fourth and long situation, deep in his territory he hit Wiggins for his first down. Joe then hit Butch Leisher for the six and Bolthouse scored on a 12-yard lead. Big Butch made it 2-0 when he barreled in for a second touchdown in the end zone none for a safety.

The third law school squad, Nolo Contenders, had to do a tough young defense to whip 0-0 All-Rookie Squad. In the first year students (who were not studying at half time, thereby neutralizing Bob Stochel's third year types) up by a slim 2-0 margin. By the second half, Johny Kram had the second game rolling and a 12-11 thriller (on score, not form) over Dean Zakos. All in all, it was a good day for tennis.

All you chess and checkers freaks, it's time again for the V.U. School of Law Cerebral Celebrity Chess Tournament. Heading the list of entries is the defending champion, V.U. Grandmaster of the Sport, and Defender of the Hallowed Hall, Bruce Berman. Berman is a well known for his brilliant attacking maneuvers- sometimes with a kick to his opponent's shin, will have to hold off such stalwarts of the chess world as Bob Rucker, Leland Willis, Kent Schnack, Kenny (Boris) Anderson, Goose Cantrell,etc. Openings are still available. Come and see if you can beat Dr. Berman- or any other opponent. A sign-up sheet is posted in the basement lounge - get your feet wet.

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Semi-Finals:

1. Han Terbush 8
2. Zakos by default

Quarter-Finals:

1. Heritier 12
2. Johnson 10

Semi-Finals:

1. Terbush by default
2. Meyer 10

Semi-Finals:

1. Terbush 13
2. Zakos by default

Quarters:

1. Terbush 10
2. Zakos 10

Chess Tournament Opens

With Bemer Defending

Two tournaments that have been held on the University campus this year have met different fates. Many of the students interested in chess and checkers have been unable to find a place to meet and play. The reason for this is that the students did not realize that the tournaments were in progress. The tournaments were held in the basement lounge of the Law School and in a room in the basement of the School of Medicine. Both tournaments were well attended and many students won games. The tournaments were held on a regular basis and were open to all students. The students who won games were awarded prizes, including a trophy for the winner of the chess tournament and a prize for the winner of the checkers tournament.

The Chess Tournament was held in the basement lounge of the Law School and the Checkers Tournament was held in the basement of the School of Medicine. The tournaments were open to all students and were held on a regular basis. The students who won games were awarded prizes, including a trophy for the winner of the chess tournament and a prize for the winner of the checkers tournament.

Law School crowd turned out to observe the JBA president, Tom Hoffman, carve the roast pig.

The sight of the groaning head did not stop the glued ears from consuming smoked aloes.