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The Ford Pinto Case
1978-1980
"This may be hard to believe, but being nervous about Ford's lawyers did not enter my mind...
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— Dee Burgman '79, commenting on her participation in the Ford Pinto case.
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## Reflections on the Ford Pinto Trial

When Bruce Berner got a phone call from Elkhart County Prosecutor Mike Cosentino's office in the fall of 1978, he had little idea what it would ultimately lead to.

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## Conison Sketch

So what makes Conison tick — and how did he end up as 11th Dean of the Valparaiso University School of Law?

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## Winning At All Costs: Today's Addiction—A Conference on Sports Law and Ethics

Our recent success with the 125th Anniversary Gala, and our extensive experience with academic conferences and symposia at the law school, gave us the confidence to organize an ambitious public program in Chicago dealing with sports law and ethics.
VALPO LAW’S ROLE IN LEGAL HISTORY

Silver Anniversary Reflections on the Ford Pinto Trial

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, VALPO LAW PROFESSOR BRUCE BERNER AND A HANDBOOK OF STUDENTS SPENT 10 WEEKS IN THE WINamac COUNTY, INDIANA, COURTHOUSE MAKING LEGAL HISTORY. THEY WERE PART OF A PROSECUTION TEAM WORKING TO CONVICT THE NATION’S THEN SECOND LARGEST AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURER – THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY – OF RECKLESS HOMICIDE.
The trial generated national headlines for more than three months as Berner and his handpicked Valpo Law students—Diedre Burgman ('79), Dan Lane ('79), Michael Meyer ('79), Mark Raymer ('79), Kathryn Schmidt ('80), Eugene Schoon ('80), Donald Seberger ('80), and Donn Wray ('80)—joined a pro bono cadre of experts and legal professionals assisting the Elkhart County prosecutor in his criminal case against Ford. Now, 25 years after the celebrated trial, Berner and the Valpo Law alumni involved in the proceedings share their thoughts about the trial, the personalities involved with the case, and the long-term ramifications of both the verdict and their personal involvement.

The case: When Bruce Berner got a phone call from Elkhart County Prosecutor Mike Cosentino's office in the fall of 1978, he had little idea what it would ultimately lead to. Cosentino invited Berner, along with DePaul law professor Terrence Kiely, to consider assisting the prosecutor with what promised to be a highly controversial case.

Berner, just back from Yale where he had completed his LL.M., was familiar with the slew of civil cases that had been brought during the past several years against Ford Motor Company and its Pinto automobile. The cases, many of which resulted in significant cash settlements for the plaintiffs, alleged that the Pinto suffered serious design flaws that caused the automobile to burst into flames—often also trapping the occupants inside the car—when struck in the rear. The civil cases were also alleging that Ford executives and designers knew about the design malfunctions early on, but did nothing to either remedy the flaws or recall the vehicles.

One such fiery crash had recently occurred in Elkhart County (about 65 miles from Valpo). In August 1978, three teenaged girls were on their way to a church volleyball game when their 1973 Ford Pinto was rear-ended by a van. The collision caused the Pinto to burst into flames. Sisters Judy and Lynn Ulrich and their cousin, Donna, were trapped inside the car. Lynn and Donna died immediately and Judy, the driver, died six hours later.

The Indiana State trooper investigating the accident, Neal Graves, didn't like what he saw at the crash site. His years of investigatory experience led him to believe the van was not traveling at an excessive speed when it hit the Pinto and, therefore, the car should not have burst into flames, killing all three of its occupants. Ultimately, Cosentino decided he had a case against Ford—a case that could make legal history.

In 1977 the Indiana Penal Code had been revised,
allowing a corporation to be treated as a person for the purpose of bringing criminal charges. Cosentino proposed charging Ford with reckless homicide in the deaths of the three girls.

In Indiana, as in many other states at that time, the manufacturer of any product—including an automobile—could be held accountable for risks that could have been reasonably foreseen in the use of that product. In the case of a car, for example, a company could be held liable for an injury that resulted from a structural defect. Because a crash is a foreseeable event, the defect would not even have to cause the crash.

It was Cosentino's contention that Ford sold Pintos even though it knew the cars were defective, and it failed to recall the cars immediately or to warn the public. And therefore under Indiana law, Ford—as an entity—could be held responsible for the deaths of the Ulrich girls.

**Valpo Law Comes Aboard:**
Though Cosentino believed he had a strong case, he also knew he would need additional resources to successfully confront Ford. At the time, a Valpo Law student was interning in the Prosecuting Attorney's office. Mark Raymer, Valpo Law '79, became Cosentino's connection to Berner.

Berner says he recalls getting a phone call from Terry Shewmaker, Elkhart County's Assistant Prosecutor. "Terry asks me if I think they're crazy to try prosecuting the case criminally. Under Indiana law I thought they were within their rights so I said 'no'. Terry said, 'Great, will you help us?'." Berner says with a grin. Berner says he was skeptical before he initially met with Cosentino and his team to discuss the case. "But after an hour I was ready to go. Kiely felt the same way so we were both on board." Both professors brought their expertise—Berner in Criminal Law and Terrence Kiely, from DePaul University College of Law, in Product Liability Law—and valuable pro bono student manpower.

From the start, Berner thought the case would be an outstanding opportunity for Valpo Law students to get "real life" legal experience. During the next year a small group of Valpo students would spend hundreds of hours researching and writing for the prosecution, and true to Berner's hopes, gaining once-in-a-lifetime experience along the way.

"I certainly couldn't have predicted how it would go or what the outcome would be, but taking on Ford in this manner was pretty extraordinary."

**The Legal Stars:** As Cosentino and his team of professors, students, and expert witnesses prepared for court, Ford spared no expense lining up its own legal team. Newspaper reports said Ford shelled out $1 million, hiring James F. Neal to head its group. Neal had made his reputation serving as the government’s chief trial lawyer in the Watergate cases and successfully prosecuting former Teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa on a jury-tampering charge in 1964. Along with Neal came a team of heavy hitters from his Nashville firm and the New York firm of Hughes, Hubbard & Reed.

In comparison to Ford's $1 million legal fund, Cosentino had secured $20,000 from the County to supplement his regular budget. He was assisted by Chief Investigator Billy Campbell, Deputy Prosecutor Shewmaker, Goshen attorney John Ulmer (who donated his services), and Berner and Kiely with their student groups.

**Valpo Law Team One: the Motion to Dismiss:** Cosentino had begun the legal battle with Ford by convening a grand jury that returned an indictment against the automobile manufacturer. Cosentino then filed criminal charges: three counts of reckless homicide. Ford countered by filing a motion to dismiss the case under the contention that the indictment offended the constitutions of both Indiana and the United States and that if permitted to proceed, Indiana's attempt to use the criminal law to impose varying standards for the design and manufacture of automobiles would be unconstitutional because it would unreasonably burden the free flow of interstate commerce.

Berner assembled his first team of students. He tapped 3Ls, Burgman, Lane, and Meyer to address the viability of the indictment under Indiana law. All were good friends and also worked together on law review. All three students were top-notch writers and researchers—traits Berner was depending on.

What was it like to be a part of that first team? Lane says, "It really was an honor to participate. When Berner and Mark asked me to help I didn't give it a second thought. Even then most of us had the sense that the case was really something out of the ordinary."
I certainly couldn't have predicted how it would go or what the outcome would be, but taking on Ford in this manner was pretty extraordinary.

Meyer seconds Lane's sentiments. "It felt it was an honor to be involved with the project though I was philosophically opposed to what the prosecution was trying to accomplish. Ford couldn't be put in jail nor could it be fined in any meaningful way. Bruce was thinking ahead to the prospect of putting Ford on probation subject to conditions. I wasn't sure I wanted county courts regulating national car safety standards. But not withstanding my philosophical opposition it was a great case to work on."

Burgman recalls, "I think Berner stopped me in the hall and asked whether I wanted to work on the case, with only a few details, and I said, 'sure.' I had done a lot of Commerce Clause research a year earlier for the National Moot Court Competition, and I had some idea of what the issues would be. People certainly recognized that it was a cutting edge case."

Not only was the case cutting edge, but it demanded careful research at a time when there was no Lexis/Nexis service, no word processing or laptops, no cell phones or internet. "We had to do everything with books, including Shepardizing," says Burgman. "Doing it that way takes much longer. We had to do drafts that got it right the first time because we couldn't go back and make little changes. I know I did all my writing on a Royal portable typewriter!"

Burgman says she remembers standing with Lane in front of Berner's office during a chapel break, waiting for a review of her work on the motion. "Michael was in the office with Berner and Dan and I were both waiting our turns," she says. "So that means we all got, what? Like ten minutes each with him that day to go over our research and writing? But that's how it worked. There was a lot of time pressure to complete the work."

This initial legal phase was critical: the case would come to an abrupt halt if Ford's motion to dismiss was granted. Burgman, Lane, and Meyer knew the stakes and knew that their work would ultimately go head-to-head with that of Ford's top legal professionals.

Were they concerned about matching their skills with those of the Ford professionals? Lane says he believed the team Berner had assembled could successfully compete. "I felt good about what I expected our team to produce and what we did produce." After he read some of Ford's initial arguments, Lane says he felt even better about the student group's work. "Seeing their documents gave me the sense that we weren't going to be overwhelmed every time we turned around in the case. Our team could deal with the quality of Ford's work."

Meyer concurs. "I was interested in seeing what Ford would do. We were expecting to be dazzled by very highly compensated lawyers - but we weren't dazzled," he says. "I also think we were young and cocky and thought we would do a great job - which I believe we did."

"This may be hard to believe, but being nervous about Ford's lawyers did not enter my mind," Burgman says. "We had great admiration for and confidence in Berner. And to his credit, he never said anything like, 'Don't worry about those high paid, heavy-hitting lawyers.' Ultimately the judge denied Ford's motion to dismiss. Cosentino and his group of professors and students had won a tremendous victory. Wray agrees, saying, "The real win was when the motion to dismiss was denied because that forced Ford through a very damaging trial. Now, even 25 years later, people still talk about Pintos exploding."

Neither Lane nor Burgman can recall where they were when they heard the news of the win, but both said they felt gratified. "You know," Lane says, "we were all supposed to be full-time law students. Dee and Mike and I also had law review responsibilities. But we were still, in spite of those commitments, spending huge quantities of time on the case. I don't know how we did it. But it was a truly unique opportunity for a student and a real privilege for me."

**Team Two: the Trial:** With Ford's motion to dismiss the case denied, Cosentino and company began preparing for a trial. Though it had lost that round, Ford had won its motion for a change of venue. Ultimately, Winamac, a town of 2,500 in Pulaski County, was selected as the place for the trial. The date was set for the winter of 1980, and Berner had to assemble a second team to assist with research and writing since the first team had graduated.

This time he selected four other students: Schmidt, Schoon, Seberger and Wray. All were 3Ls, and all already tremendously over-committed in terms of their class work, law review duties, and other projects (Schmidt, Seberger and Schoon were married, Seberger, Schoon and Wray were editors of the Law Review, and Schmidt was prepping to take the bar in February). Nevertheless, they all jumped at the chance to work on the trial phase.
Schoon recalls getting involved via his friendship with Dee. "I was thrilled to have been asked to work on the case -- anybody would have been. It was a real privilege to be invited to be a part of the team." Seberger was pals with Schoon -- they were referred to as Frick and Frack -- and recalls being very interested in joining the group. "I considered the invitation an honor and still do. It was absolutely great to work with Berner. And it was unbelievable from the standpoint that we had spent two years in law school doing "mock this" and "mock that" then our third year we had an incredible opportunity to work on a real case."

As soon as they were on board, the students dove in, sifting through thousands of pages of documents, and starting a new research phase. Berner recalls getting additional information daily from other lawyers who had battled Ford in civil cases. It was, he says, "like Christmas. Each day we would get a new box or envelope stuffed full of memos and papers. Everyone was sharing information with us -- it was incredible."

Berner says the writing and research the foursome did during the trial was top-notch. "These folks were just the best. This was very avant garde stuff at the time. Judge Stafford always wanted us to cite precedents but there weren't any!"

The Valpo group got their marching orders from Cosentino and divided tasks. Schmidt says, "I remember sitting with Don Seberger and Gene and cataloging pictures from the crash scene. I said, 'you know what guys? I don't think this is my forte because the images were just horrific. We had hundreds of pictures of the photos with remains.' Wray agreed to take on the task of cataloging the crash site and medical photos and working with the medical experts.

Wray, a self-described "car nut," says his experience working on the case was exceptional. "My job was going over the autopsies, organizing the photos, organizing and outlining the testimony from expert medical witnesses and putting together those elements of the case. It was a pleasure working with the doctors who testified for the State. They were great guys."

Ultimately Schmidt and Wray became the "stay-at-home" team while Seberger and Schoon spent every day at the 10-week trial in the courtroom. The foursome worked out a system something like this: Schoon and Seberger would drive to Winamac each morning and sit through the day's proceedings. When something new needed to be researched, one of them would rush to the payphone (an entire trailer of pay phones had been set up outside the courtroom to accommodate the crush of reporters covering the trial) and call the law school where Schmidt or Wray would be tracked down. Schmidt and Wray would begin work on the newest puzzle and await the arrival of Schoon and Seberger later that evening. The two would drive back to Valpo and spend the better part of the night in the law library finalizing research and writing. Then back to Winamac the next morning.

Gene Schoon recalls that there were a few tricks the team developed along the way. "One thing nobody ever knew was that Seberger and I developed a pretty good friendship with a local court reporter. He was doing daily transcripts of the trial for which Ford was paying him. He wasn't supposed to give us access to the documents but we worked out a deal with him. Every Sunday we would go to his office in South Bend and he would let us read them."

Besides the students, Berner had his own peculiar schedule. He would travel to Winamac Sunday evening and stay through Thursday's courtroom proceedings (with only one model -- the Indian Head -- in Winamac booked by Ford, he stayed with the other prosecution team members at a cottage on Bass Lake, about 10 miles north of Winamac), then drive home to Valpo to teach classes Friday and Saturday.

What was the courtroom atmosphere like? For 3L students to be so involved in a trial was amazing," Seberger says. "It was unbelievable to sit back and watch these guys joust against each other. The talent on the floor was just incredible. Kiely and Berner, Cosentino against Neal, Aubrey Harwell, one of Neal's partners, and Malcolm Wheeler from Hughes Hubbard & Reed -- it was really impressive stuff."

He chuckles recalling that Berner called him 'happy feet' because he was always tapping his feet due to nervous energy. "We had to reign Seberger in!" Berner says. He got very invested in the case and would really react when the jurors were screening crash test film. There's Seberger in the front row grimacing and saying, "ooh" and "aah" as the cars were smashed. It was something.

Almost from the start of the trial, Berner recalls, it was apparent that the prosecution would have an uphill battle. Judge Harold Stafford, the Winamac County Judge hearing the case, seemed nervous about the scope and complexity of the trial and ruled a great deal of the
prosecution’s key evidence inadmissible, and some of their expert witnesses had to severely curtail their testimony. Additionally, the jury never viewed many of the internal Ford documents that Cosentino had procured.

With the amount of evidence that never got admitted, did Berner’s team lose heart along the way? Schoon says while Staffeld’s rulings against the State were frustrating he and the other team members never gave up hope for a ‘guilty’ verdict. “I think part of what we do as lawyers is learning to deal with the situation you have and doing the very best job you can. We certainly couldn’t walk away from the case.”

Berner also recalls that while information was being withheld from the jury, thanks to the media the general public saw and read a great deal of information about Ford and its design and marketing processes. “There really were two trials: one in the courtroom and one in the press. Ultimately we won the media battle and I think that had an impact not only on Ford and the way it did business but also on other corporations.”

When the jury was finally dismissed for deliberations, Cosentino and company settled in for what turned out to be a long wait. Schoon recalls, “That jury was not ready to make up its mind when it went out after the closing arguments. I was in Winamac late that night and I could see the lights still on in the jury room. We knew enough evidence had been presented that – even though it was a remote chance – there was still a chance for a guilty verdict.

“But even if the decision was ‘not guilty’, it was not a horrible defeat for the State because this was about more than just this one case. This was about making Ford responsible for its actions and having to answer in court. I think that message came through.”

Schmidt adds, “It was sort of a David-and-Goliath situation. But we had to have some sort of confidence in the jury – that it could see things, too, in spite of the overpowering money that Ford had devoted to the trial.”

The jury of seven men and five women ultimately handed the State a defeat, acquitting Ford of the charges. For the Valpo Law group the decision was not easy to do in things not nearly as much fun.”

After a semester of unbelievable work, energy and excitement (two such years for Berner), the students abruptly returned to their “normal” lives, trying to make sense of the verdict, the roles they had played, and the final weeks of school. “Gene and I missed an awful lot of class,” Seberger says. “I remember walking into one class after the trial was over and the professor stopped and looked at me and said, ‘Class, let me introduce you to Mr. Seberger.’ Between publishing volumes of the law review and the trial – well, that was pretty much a full time job.

“Fortunately everybody knew about the case and knew we were spending long hours on it. I think the professors really did understand that we were kind of on a mission from God. They were very understanding and I think rightly so. This case was a lot more important than just going to class. That said, I still have nightmares that it’s my third year, two days before graduation and I have to take finals for classes that I never attended!”

Schoon adds, “I think we all knew when we were working on the case that it was the chance of a lifetime. Even if we had known everything that was ahead of us we likely still would have said ‘yes’. It would have been a much more costly sacrifice were we all in professional practice, but we were young and we didn’t have to step out of a career to take the case.”

**The Legacy...25 Years Later:** Interestingly, though Berner and Kiely had plans to write about the case at its conclusion, they never penned a single word. “We were both just too exhausted, too drained,” Berner says. “We had invested so much and we just never revisited the case through the years. It had become an emotional matter for us – not an intellectual one.”

But everyone involved with the case says that it both taught them lessons about ‘real life’ lawyering and left an indelible impression in one way or another.

“As a student it demonstrated to me that Valpo Law students could hold their own against anybody anywhere,” Schoon says. “In hindsight, I believe the briefs we prepared as students were equal to, and sometimes better than, what was being done by the top legal talent in the country. That gave me an invaluable sense of confidence going out into the legal world.

“I also learned the value of case preparation and the need to pay attention to details. Those were things that you learned in a more specific way on the Pinto case than you ever could working on an ordinary case.”

Schmidt agrees, saying, “I took away a real understanding of the hard work and the attention to all the details that a good lawyer needs to give a case – especially if you are the one trying the case. I also realized that cases have lives of their own and that as an attorney you have to be prepared for anything. You really have to be prepared to follow them no matter where they go.”

Burgman says she was never certain about the merits of opposing the motion to dismiss. “I had my doubts as to whether we should win, but I kept those thoughts to myself, and they did not
prevent me from doing the very best work I was capable of doing. I realized that the process is the important thing – you must have two sides pushing competently and zealously to achieve a judicial result with any legitimacy.

"At the same time, it seemed to be better suited to be handled federally rather than by states. Should the law be different in another state when what’s involved is a mode of transportation designed to cross state lines? The law should not change too radically, especially on the judicial track. I think being part of the Pinto team made me think that through more carefully and at an earlier stage. By its nature, the study of law leads a student to believe that he can and should press for change or unique results. In reality, the law evolves slowly, and for good reasons."

Like Burgman, Seberger says after more than two decades to reflect on the outcome, he’s not sure the jury didn’t return the proper verdict. "From a purely legal standpoint, I still have doubts as to whether it’s appropriate to put a corporation on trial. I’m not sure the best way to punish a corporation isn’t via civil remedies – huge money awards. But having said that, I believe there is certain conduct – and I think the Pinto case fits within that conduct – for which a corporation and its officers ought to be held criminally liable."

He continues, "There were clearly lessons I learned from the trial. For example, this case was the first time it became clear to me that there is not any direct correlation between the truth and a trial outcome. Lawyers can say all they want about the truth coming out at a trial but you shouldn’t believe that. There are so many versions and variations of the truth and we clearly saw that during the Pinto trial. So much of what a jury decides comes down to what version or portion of the truth a judge is willing to allow to be heard by the jury."

Wray says the experience was "apprenticeship training" for him. "I learned witness preparation and how to utilize expert witnesses from my experience with the case. I realized that if you establish a strong relationship with your witnesses it can be a thing to behold in court. I remember evenings at Bass Lake going over and over witness testimony and how we would frame questions and respond to cross-examination. I also learned that organizing the evidence is one of the most important tasks. I picked up some tricks during the case that I still use!"

"It was a very, very important case and I was honored to be involved in it. I think we all were," Wray continues. "As soon as the motion to dismiss was denied everyone understood that what we were doing was of extreme importance – of national or international significance. And, in fact, I think everybody realized that no matter how the trial turned out we had already won simply because the case was going to trial. I believe the whole thing – the jury trial and all the media attention – was really damaging to Ford."

Schoon says, "Interestingly, I do product liability defense work professionally now. I think I have a better understanding of how decisions are made about products and what the right thing to do is because of my experience on the Pinto case. Seeing the victims’ families in court every day, and seeing all the crash site and autopsy pictures – it never really leaves you. That case is part of me – it’s who I am."

Adds Seberger, "The level of adrenaline was incredibly high. I know we all felt the same way – that we were doing something real and important. We believed we were right and Ford was wrong, and that we were in the process of making law. How often at the age of twenty-five do you get to participate in the process of making law? And if that wasn’t enough we had Berner, Kiely and Cosentino, all of whom were smart, witty, funny – just a thrill to work with.

“We should all be lucky enough to be able to do something like that for a couple of days in our lives. To have been able to have done it for eight or nine months is almost more than anyone deserves! I’ve been that busy again in my professional career, but not with the same level of intensity or same level of enthusiasm and real joy. It was a great time and a grand adventure.”

Professor Paul Brietzke delivered a paper on "Globalization and Human Rights" at the inaugural South-North Exchange on Theory, Culture and Law in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He spent part of May and June in Europe. He presented his Globalization paper to a Faculty Colloquium at the University of Munich, and conferred with Heinz Scholler over a second edition of their book on Ethiopia. Brietzke taught several law schools, the government, court and bar libraries in the greater Chicago area. Through its president, Board, and seventeen committees, CALL provides continuing services, won first prize in the "Share Your Successes" Contest sponsored by Lexis/Nexis Librarian Relations Group. He wrote a description of the final project for students in the first-year legal research class.

Dean Jay Conison has been appointed to the Accreditation Committee of the ABAs Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, for a two-year term commencing in August. The Accreditation Committee has responsibility for enforcing the ABA Standards, reviewing applications for accreditation, and assessing compliance with the Standards on the part of member school and their programs. An article by Tony Credit, Executive Director of Admissions, entitled *Who Can Stop Rising Tuition Costs?* has been published in *NAPLA Notes*, a newsletter of the Northeast Association of Pre-Law Advisors.

Professor Alex Geisinger has been appointed to the new position of Associate Dean for Faculty Development. Alex will have responsibility to help facilitate the scholarly and related work of our faculty, including managing teaching workshops, helping to make resources available, and meeting with faculty members to discuss their scholarly agendas. Naomi Goodman, Technical Services Librarian, became President of the Chicago Association of Law Libraries (CALL), at the association’s annual meeting on May 26, 2005. Since her election in March 2004, she has been serving as VP of this active organization of over 300 librarians. CALL members work for law firms, law schools, the government, court and bar libraries in the greater Chicago area. Through its president, Board, and seventeen committees, CALL provides continuing services.
education opportunities for members by organizing seminars and business meeting with speakers, sometimes held jointly with other library organizations. CALL also provides grants that allow members to attend professional meetings and conferences. Members of CALL take part in public service events and provide outreach to library and law school students.

The Law Library Staff is proud to announce that Sally Holterhoff, Government Information/Reference Librarian, has been elected Vice-President/President-Elect of the American Association of Law Libraries. Her term of office will begin next July and will continue for three years: One year as Vice-President, one year as President, and one year as Past-President. AALL is the professional association for law librarians and has about 5,000 members. (For those of you who aren’t familiar with the organizational structure in law librarianship, this is the equivalent of being elected president of the American Bar Association.)

Professor Rebecca Huss presented on a panel discussing noneconomic damages for the injury or death of animals at The Future of Animal Law conference held at Yale Law School. Also, Professor Huss has been named to the Peer Review Committee of the Journal of Animal Law. In addition, Professor Huss was quoted extensively about pet custody issues in divorce proceedings for an article in the April issue of Cat Fancy, a leading publication for cat owners.

Because of the increasing complexity of the law school as an organization, we have created a new position of Director of Financial Planning to better manage our financial resources. Tammi Jackson will work closely with Dean Consion on financial management and planning, as well as on human resources matters. Tammi has a J.D. from the University of Maryland Law School and an M.B.A. from the University of Connecticut. Before joining Valpo Law, Tammi was the Director of the Administrative Services Budget for the Meteorology Department of the University of Maryland. Other experiences at the University of Maryland include budgeting and forecasting revenue and expenditures for the graduate campus as the Manager of Financial Analysis and having responsibility for the procurement of all pharmaceuticals for UM hospital and clinics as the Business Manager. Prior to her work at UM, Tammi worked at W.R. Grace Division where she performed cost and inventory accounting as well as established standard costs for the chemical plant. Her most notable achievement was her initiative on cost savings for their infrastructure pricing. Earlier in her career, Tammi was employed at Sikorsky where she was a member of the Financial Control department working on the financials for the company’s largest product line, the Blackhawk aircrafts.

Professor David Myers participated in two invitation-only forums in Europe this June: one, at Leeds, England, for prominent free speech scholars and casebook authors; another, in Mainz, Germany, on defamation law, for European and American lawyers and professors.

Professor Sy Moskowitz’s most recent law review article, Malignant Indifference: The Wages of Contemporary Child Labor in the U.S., has just appeared at 57 OK. L. REV. 457-527 (2004).

Professor Clare Kraegel Nuechterlein has been appointed by The Honorable Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor of Indiana, as a commissioner of the Indiana State Ethics Commission. She is Governor Daniels’ first appointment to the five-member bi-partisan Commission. The State Ethics Commission has jurisdiction over all state executive agency employees, including everyone from the Governor to the file clerk in the BMV office in each county. The Commission works with the newly created office of the State Inspector General. The Commission reviews and makes recommendations on allegations of ethical violations and conflicts of interest in its executive sessions, and renders advisory opinions to general issues presented before the Commission in its public sessions. Issues may include, for example, allegations of violations of the state anti-nepotism statute, as well as allegations of misuses of state resources and misexpenditures of state revenues. The Commission is supported by a full-time Executive Director, investigator, and executive assistant. The five Commissioners meet one day per month in Indianapolis. See www.ethics.in.gov for further information.

Donna Patterson joined the law school as Associate Administrator for Technology. For the past four years, Donna has been with the University’s Electronic Information Services Department, where she has worked primarily in software training and online course development. Donna will have responsibility for
assisting John Obermann in providing network and software services in the law school, and will also bring to us her skills in software training and online course development.

Steven Probst, Law Librarian Professional Specialist, won West's Fifth Annual Excellence in Law Librarianship Scholarship, recognizing his commitment to and potential for excellence and leadership in law librarianship.

Professor Richard Stith was in Brussels as an invited participant at a world gathering of Jean Monnet professors (that is, professors whose teaching has been recognized by the European Commission as excellent in the field of European Union studies). While there, he visited the European Parliament, where he was photographed wearing the orange scarf, a symbol used by the Ukrainian opposition to call for free elections. In mid-July, at the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Stith served with four law professors from Spain on a panel that judged a Ph.D. dissertation in European Union Legal Theory.

Professor Susan Stuart's article, Lex-Praxis of Education: Information Privacy for Public Schoolchildren has been accepted for publication in the Nebraska Law Review. Stuart recently presented a three-hour seminar for the 25th Anniversary conference of the Indiana Paralegal Association. Her presentation was "Advanced Legal and Professional Writing." Also, the article Fun with Dick and Jane and Lawrence: A Primer on Education Privacy as Constitutional Liberty was published recently at 88 MARQUETTE L.R. 563 (2004-05).

Lisa Todd assumed the new position of Senior Executive Administrator – Office of the Dean. In her new position, Lisa will focus on assisting the deans in the administrative operation of the Law School and its varied services, including building management, lecture series, conferences and other special events, public relations, crisis management, and management of key documents and information, as well as ensuring the smooth operation of the Dean’s Office and special projects as assigned by the Dean critical to the management of the Law School.

Jim Vondracek, Executive Director of Advancement, is responsible for leading the advancement staff and building the school’s fundraising, alumni relations and donor relations programs. Jim began his career at the University of Chicago, working in donor relations and annual giving, before serving as a major gifts campaign officer for the McCormick School of Engineering at Northwestern University. At Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, he led the development effort to build a new theater on Chicago’s Navy Pier. Before coming to Valpo Law, Jim served as the vice president for advancement at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

FORMER VALPO LAW PROFESSOR IS DEAN OF UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF LAW

University of Memphis law professor James R. Smoot has been appointed dean of the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis, effective January 15, 2005.

Smoot taught at the U of M law school from 1990 to 1993. In 1993 he joined the Valpo Law faculty teaching contracts, secured transactions, banking law, corporate finance and international finance until his departure in 1998, when he returned to the U of M School of Law to become Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. His areas of specialty include corporate finance, banking law, corporations and contracts.

A graduate of the Yale Law School, Smoot was executive editor of that school’s law journal. He later clerked for the Honorable Henry J. Friendly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He practiced with Cravath, Swaine & Moore in its New York and Paris offices, and he served as deputy general counsel to The Readers Digest Association.

Smoot holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Southern California, where he graduated summa cum laude and was tapped for Phi Beta Kappa.
Valpo Law Faculty Profile

Name: Bruce Berner

Your current and past teaching subjects
Current: Criminal Law, Evidence, Torts
Past: Criminal Procedure, Contracts, Debtor & Creditor; Legal Profession, Municipal Corporation, UCC, Conflicting Laws, Corporations

Favorite memory: Playing games with my kids
Favorite films: In-Laws (Peter Falk version); To Kill A Mockingbird
Last book read: Flow
Favorite meal: Crab Imperial
Greatest fear: Heights
Greatest extravagance: Golf clubs
Idea of perfect happiness: White Sox win the World Series and I'm there with my wife and kids

Historical figure you identify with most: Jimmy Madison
Biggest coup: 1967 Chevy Impala (and coupe has an 'e' in it)

Comment on Valparaiso University School of Law: I love this place
Why you teach: I don't want to have to go to work

Spouse Name: Linda
Her occupation: Kindergarten teacher
Children: Wendy, Eric, Karl
Pets: 3 cats, all mentally ill
Birthplace: Brooklyn, NY
Education: VU, B.A. 1965; Valpo Law LLB 1967; LL.M. Yale Law School 1978

Honoring Our Heritage

As much as we change, we still honor our heritage.

The school's celebration of its history is continuing with the commissioning of portraits of former deans. The portraits of Dean Louis Bartelt and Dean Al Meyer have been completed and all who have seen them have been very happy with the presentations of the Deans. The portrait of Dean Charles Ehren is currently being painted. All portraits will hang in the Duesenberg Commons.

Continuing Legal Education Program

ICLEF Video Seminar Presentation

AUGUST 2005
3 Labor and Employment Law (6 CLE)
17 Basic Bankruptcy for the General Practitioner (6 CLE)
24 Tort Case Law Update (3 CLE)
31 Eminent Domain (6 CLE)

SEPTEMBER 2005
7 Untrustworthy Non-probate Transfers (6 CLE)
14 DWI (6 CLE/.5 Ethics)
21 Insurance Coverage (6 CLE)
28 Legislative Update (3 CLE)

To register, call ICLEF directly in Indianapolis at 317-637-9102. For all other information, contact Jan Zoladz at Valpo Law at 219-465-7810.
THE VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW WILL HONOR GRADUATES & FRIENDS WHO HAVE MADE NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIETY AND TO THE LAW SCHOOL.

NOMINATION FORM FOR VALPO LAW AWARDS

Perhaps the greatest assets of the Law School are its alumni and friends, who simultaneously represent and support the high quality of a Valparaiso University School of Law education. We wish to recognize those people who have distinguished themselves with their commitment to ethical leadership and service.

Nomination deadline is September 15, 2005. All Valpo Law alumni are eligible to nominate candidates for these awards.

Nominations require:
• A brief statement indicating why the nominee should be selected for this award
• A copy of each nominee’s current resume or curriculum vitae, as well as any other pertinent biographical information

VALPO LAW ALUMNI AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award is the highest distinction the Law School can bestow. This award honors alumni who have enhanced the prestige of the law school by virtue of their character, integrity and nationally recognized personal accomplishments or outstanding career achievement. Service to the law school is not a prerequisite for this award; however, it may be helpful to the selection committee if the details of any service are included.

Nominee Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Employer Name: ____________________________
Employer Address: ____________________________

Alumni Achievement Award honors alumni who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their chosen career or area of professional life. Service to the law school is not a prerequisite for this award; however, it may be helpful to the selection committee if the details of any service are included.

Nominee Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Employer Name: ____________________________
Employer Address: ____________________________

Outstanding Young Alumnus/Alumna Award honors alumni, under the age of 40, who have enhanced the prestige of the law school by virtue of their character, integrity, and personal accomplishments. Service to the law school is not a prerequisite for this award; however, it may be helpful to the selection committee if the details of any service are included.

Nominee Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Employer Name: ____________________________
Employer Address: ____________________________

Alumni Service Award is designed to honor alumni who have rendered outstanding service to the School of Law. (University employees are not eligible for this award.)

Nominee Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Employer Name: ____________________________
Employer Address: ____________________________

Honorary Alumni Membership is granted to persons who are not alumni, but who exemplify the ideals of achievement and service in their association with the law school.

Nominee Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Employer Name: ____________________________
Employer Address: ____________________________

Nominator Name: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

TIMELINE:
September 15 – Nomination responses due from alumni • December – Awards announced in Valpo Lawyer magazine

Return this form and accompanying documents by September 15, 2005 to:
Marilyn Otis Director of Advancement for Alumni Relations & Annual Fund
Phone: 219.465.7916 • Toll-free: 888.825.7652 • Fax: 219.465.7808
E-mail: marilyn.otis@valpo.edu
Wesemann Hall • 656 S. Greenwich Street • Valparaiso, IN 46383
Read Jay Conison's resume and you will find a variety of fascinating twists and turns—and likely come away with more questions than answers. Why, for instance, did Conison leave one of Chicago's most prestigious law firms for a career in legal education? Why the leap from the classroom to an interim dean's position at Oklahoma City University School of Law? What about the MA he picked up at the University of Minnesota prior to entering law school there? And how does the dean of a law school have time to serve on community and national boards? Sort of leaves you wondering "who is this guy?!"

So what makes Conison tick—and how did he end up as 11th Dean of the Valparaiso University School of Law? Conversations with Conison, his wife, Nancy, and law school colleagues reveal a complex, energetic, focused person who says he could not be happier at this time in his life and career doing precisely what he is doing at Valpo Law.

"Two great aspects of being a law school dean," Conison says, "are the opportunity to make things better at an institution and the many different types of challenges one encounters. I enjoy both aspects of this job immensely."

In fact, effecting positive change and tackling challenges are the common threads woven throughout Conison's professional resume and his life.

Conison's path to the legal academy reflects his varied interests and talents. After graduating from Yale with a B.A. in Mathematics & Philosophy, Conison made his way to the University of Minnesota focused on a PhD in the Philosophy of Physics. He finished his Masters in the subject and all of the required coursework for a doctorate. But as he began work on his dissertation, Conison realized the job opportunities were limited.

Rather than finish the dissertation, he switched his focus to law school. Conison stayed at the University of Minnesota—a decision that turned fortuitous, when he met his wife-to-be during their first year.

The two began dating though Nancy told him "not to get serious" since she had no intention of getting married in law school. But, in a move that both effected positive change and tackled that challenge, Jay and Nancy were married the summer prior to their 3L year.

Did Jay enjoy law school? He admits it was a tremendous change from his complex mathematical and scientific studies. Considering his passion for intellectual pursuits, it may come as a surprise that Conison didn't turn to the legal academy immediately after graduation. Instead, he focused on practicing litigation at Chicago's prestigious Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal. There he spent nine years in corporate litigation, while at the same time, better at an institution and the many different types of challenges he encountered.

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"Two great aspects of being a law student dean, are the opportunity to make things better at an institution and the many different types of challenges one encounters."

"Two great aspects of being a law student dean, are the opportunity to make things better at an institution and the many different types of challenges one encounters."

with Nancy. Their two sons, Alex and David, were born during the couple's time in Chicago.

Though Conison says he found practicing at a large firm satisfying (he and Nancy loved living in a large, metropolitan area), after nearly a decade he was ready for something new. He considered moving to a smaller, boutique firm or to a corporation as in-house counsel. But finally the call of academia returned and Conison began looking for teaching opportunities at law schools.
He and Nancy (who began practicing law after graduation but quickly returned to academics) were both offered positions at Oklahoma City University School of Law and in 1990 headed southwest. Conison found he enjoyed his return to the classroom immensely and quickly settled back into scholarship. After several years, however, he was tapped to serve as an Associate Dean in addition to his teaching responsibilities. Then in 1997 when the School’s Dean left, Conison was asked to step into the position of Interim Dean.

Conison says he accepted the invitation not because he was eager for a taste of life in the Dean’s office, but because he considered it his duty to the law school — sort of “taking one for the team.” But, to his surprise, Conison found he enjoyed the challenges of managing an institution and doing fundraising. Ultimately he focused his sights on attaining a deanship at another school.

Thus the trek to Valpo Law in 1998. Now, after seven academic years and a successful $10 million capital campaign, how does Conison feel about serving as dean at Valpo Law? He says he is continually invigorated by the challenges of leading a law school, which he views essentially as the task of leading and working with people. “The challenge of helping people work together is enormously difficult but immensely rewarding,” Conison reflects. “It’s not something for which there are easy answers — it’s something that is learned by doing. I find this challenge — that of finding ways to positively lead and manage the institution — to be hugely satisfying.”

Jay’s leadership has not gone unnoticed by his colleagues. Alex Geisinger, Valpo Law professor, calls him “the hardest working person in legal academia. Jay has worked to put in place an administrative structure that recognizes that law schools, like other academic institutions and business in general, must act strategically to thrive. He clearly has become an important person in organizations outside of the law school such as the Bar Association’s Section on Legal Education and has earned the respect of his decanal colleagues from around the country.”

Long-time Valpo Law faculty member Rosalie Levinson agrees with Geisinger, adding, “Jay has worked very hard at setting goals and then finding the funds to carry them out. He is pretty tireless when it comes to promoting the school and its accomplishments — he’s constantly traveling to meet alumni and to spread the good word about the faculty and students.”

Nancy says his work ethic is part and parcel of one of Conison’s most enduring traits: his intense focus. “Jay is very intense, about everything. He’s not always serious about everything but he is intense about everything he undertakes.” Nancy says the intensity follows him out of Wesemann Hall into the “off duty” portion of his life.

So what does a dean do for relaxation — or for fun? Conison has a surprising array of hobbies and “loves” that he pursues during his precious free hours, from spending time with his sons to driving to Chicago for performances at the Lyric Opera.

Opera, in fact, is a recent addition to his list of “outside interests,” but one he has taken up with his keynote intensity. He and Nancy share season tickets to Chicago’s Lyric, though Nancy says the split is, “one ticket for Jay and the other ticket shared between the boys and myself.” Ask Conison about this unusual passion and he waxes rhapsodic about the complexity of the art form. Hint: if you want to distract Conison from a train of thought, query him about opera.

“There are a lot of people who love Valpo Law and an immensely rewarding part of my job is helping those people leave a mark on the school.”

But Jay isn’t strictly an “indoor guy”. He also loves gardening (for which he bemoans his current lack of time), hiking, and birding. And he is a faithful exerciser, working out daily whether at home or on the road. Nancy says his passion for exercise was triggered by a doctor’s order to get healthy. He focused his customary intensity on the command, making exercise a daily mantra.

What became of Conison’s love of numbers and science? After all, this was the guy who used to read, according to Nancy, monographs on quantum mechanics for fun. “I think Jay’s doctoral research and papers are still in boxes somewhere in the house,” she says. “We can’t quite bear to get rid of them.” Conison still reads voraciously though he says the heady tomes on cutting edge mathematical discoveries have gone by the wayside. Now he focuses on legal issues or business and management — and an occasional novel. The last good piece of fiction he read? A baseball title (another interest of his) by David Carkeet, “The Greatest Slump of All Time”.

Nancy says there are two more things you should know about her husband, the Dean. “Jay is a really great...
father. He has always had demanding jobs but our family always knew it came first for him. Illustrating the point, she says Conison took their sons out for special one-on-one breakfasts every week. Conison says, however, that both he and the family would not be where or what it is without Nancy. "She is my partner in every sense of the word and is tremendously supportive of me and what I've chosen to do," Conison says.

The second thing Nancy thinks you should know about her husband? "Jay is a really nice guy with a kind heart," she says with a smile. Proving the adage that nice guys do finish first? Nancy would take the word "finish" out of the sentence. "Jay really loves his work. In fact, I don't think he'll ever retire. We both feel life is too short to do something you don't find satisfying."

Conison says he finds his work - and his play - deeply satisfying at this point. "The joy of 'deaning' is that you have the opportunity to make things better and to take on challenges," he says. "Some tasks render instant gratification but many more require time to come to fruition. As a dean you have to learn to be patient and take the long view - and you have to help others learn to take that long view, too. I've also learned that part of moving an institution ahead involves taking calculated risks," Conison says. "I firmly believe that you need to become comfortable with taking thoughtful risks if you want to improve an institution."

Conison also sees himself as a facilitator where alumni and friends of Valpo Law are concerned. "As dean I get to meet all kinds of people from all walks of life. I think I'm a good listener, so I enjoy that part of the job immensely. People are just intrinsically interesting," he says. "There are a lot of people who love Valpo Law and an immensely rewarding part of my job is helping those people leave a mark on the school. Since being here I have seen men and women make some remarkable contributions to this place - that is very exciting."

Says Conison, "I've reached a stage in life where there are a lot of things I really enjoy doing - reading, learning, spending time with people. And I've found all of those things are wrapped into the job of being a dean."

Upon closer inspection, Conison's resume reveals a person come full circle - back to his roots in academia, stimulated by challenge and leadership, and happily satisfied with his life outside and inside the office and classroom.
Winning At All Costs: Today's Addiction—A Conference on Sports Law and Ethics

Our recent success with the 125th Anniversary Gala, and our extensive experience with academic conferences and symposia at the law school, gave us the confidence to organize an ambitious public program in Chicago dealing with sports law and ethics. Winning At All Costs: Today’s Addiction—A Conference on Sports Law and Ethics was a two and a half day conference in February at the Palmer House, which brought together about twenty five leading sports lawyers, agents, businesspersons, journalists and regulators, to discuss the current state of ethics in sports (with emphasis on doping and recruiting issues), the root causes and possible solutions. The keynote speaker was Bob Costas, the well-respected sports journalist and author. The other speakers and panelists included Professor and author Murray Sperber, USOC Ombudsman John Ruger, USA Today sportswriter Dick Patrick, Professor and Chair of the NCAA Competitive Safeguards Committee Matt Mitten, sports agent Mark Bartlestein, and attorney for Marion Jones Rich Nichols. (For a full listing or speakers and panelists, and a list of subjects covered, see www.valpo.edu/law/sponsconf)

The conference attracted a great deal of attention from national and regional media, both print and broadcast. Dean Jay Conison was frequently asked “Why is the Valparaiso University School of Law holding this conference?” Dean Conison explained the School of Law has a significant academic commitment to sports law—heavily subscribed courses in the field, externships (including the Oakland Raiders and the Arena Football League) and a joint J.D./Masters in Sports Management program. “But even more significant,” said Dean Conison, “the law school has a deep and abiding commitment to ethical issues. This commitment extends not only to legal ethics, but also to the intersection of law, ethics and fundamental aspects of our culture, economy and polity. Hence, when we decided to host a conference on sports law, it was quite natural that it should be a conference on sports law and ethics.”

The conference has already led to some important developments for the law school and its academic programs. One is the creation of what, to our knowledge, is the first true sports law clinic in the country (this becomes our sixth legal clinic). In this clinic, our students will represent athletes who are involved in legal disputes relating to their athletic performance and athletic careers. In addition, students in the clinic will create and maintain an online database, available to the public through our web site, containing arbitration decisions (both U.S. and international) from antidoping tribunals. The clinic will be taught by Professors Michael Straubel and David Vandercoy.
Phil Hersh from the Chicago Tribune, said

"The BALCO case blew the cover off the guys who were blowing the cover off the ball."

Bill Welter, Chuck Welter '95H, Bob Costas, Charlie Vaughan '85

Travis Tygart, Director of Legal Affairs, USADA General Counsel, said

"We have to give the clean athlete the opportunity to play on a level playing field."

John Tagge '57, Bob Costas, Mark Rutherford '86, Gene Schoon '80

Bob Costas, Nancy Christopher, Scott Christopher '73

Glenn Tabor '58, Bob Costas, Larry Evans '52

Curt Cichowski '81, Bob Costas, Kathy Wehling '83

Beth Henning '89, Heike Spahn '95, Bob Costas, Phil Spahn '95, Homer Drew

Patrick Wieser, Bob Costas, Jim Wieser '72

Rocco deGrasse '84, Bob Costas, Kathleen deGrasse

Becca Meyer '08, Marilyn Otis '76U, Bob Costas, Paul Gray '85U, Jim Vondracek

Bob Costas photos courtesy of Aram Kessler

A collection of memories were received from alumni in these six classes. A common theme through the memories focused on the faculty — people remember the close relationships they developed with their professors. Here are a few of the memories.

**Favorite memory of professors ...**

**Charlie Gromley** — “Sitting in class learning about Rule Against Perpetuities when Professor Gromley looked at us and said ‘I’m choppin’ but the chips aren’t flyin’’.

**Sy Moskowitz** — “I clearly remember his fervor & zeal for a cause.”

**Bruce Berner** — “He made me think like a lawyer in a practical and common sense way. I will never forget his sense of humor and natural teaching ability.”

**Rosalie Levinson and Ivan Bodenstein** — “I admire their intellect, their involvement in legal issues beyond the classroom, and their willingness to take time to talk to students and offer advice on career opportunities.”

**Al Meyer** — “He was firm, compassionate and inspiring.”

**David Vandercoy** — “He showed me valuable litigation skills.”

**JoEllen Lind** — “Every 1L woman wanted to be her.”

**Laura Dooley** — “I was impressed with her life balance of work and family.”

**Most Vivid Memory of Law School**

“Being the first person called by Prof. Meyer at 8 a.m. on the 1st day of school,”

“Meeting the Supreme Court Justices Rehnquist & O’Connor.”
Seated: Andrew David, Marjorie Lawyer-Smith, Mandy Popovich Riggs, Marian Frazzini Drenth, Richard Ditomaso, Meg Edmonds Loitz - 1995
Standing: Phil Spahn, Heike Cockerill Spahn, Debra Williams Bolino, Cathy Muller, Chris Gackenheimer Sprecher, Kevin Sprecher, Jack - 1995

John Longwell '85, Fritz Schellgell '85, Charlie Vaughan '85

Bruce Huntington '00, Bonnie Hillegas, Dean Jay Conison

Jim Brendemuhl '75, Eric Guttenberg '75, James McGonnagle '75

Bruce Huntington '00, Shelice Robinson '00, Michael Tolbert '00

Scott Behnke '80 and David Clark '80

Reunion photos courtesy of Aran Kessler.

What I Value Most About My Valpo Law Education
"The spirit of togetherness of the students; the tight knit community; open atmosphere; accessibility of faculty; My excellent legal writing skills that were the result of the excellent legal writing classes & program."

Living Arrangements
"Worst living arrangement — living in a trailer house with mice in it."

Best Memories
"Justice Scalia teaching constitutional law at one of our classes in the Cambridge Summer Program. "Thursday night at Jackson's Barr good times and friends at Jackson's, the Court and Northside."

Miss Least
"Exams!"

Miss Most
"Afternoon naps and extended Christmas and Spring Breaks."

Members of the returning classes provided the highlight of the evening by introducing themselves, sharing law school memories, and describing their professional lives since leaving law school. Our alumni enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with classmates and professors.

Professors attending the reunion include
Bruce Berner, Ivan Bodensteiner, Paul Brietzke, Ronalde Levinson, JoEllen Lind, Sy Moskowitz, Dave Myers and Dean Jay Conison.
CLASS ACTIONS

1966
Bill Satterlee and Professor JoEllen Lind were married in a civil ceremony at the Sarasota County Courthouse on March 2, 2005. They have been dating for almost 14 years. Between the two of them they have a blended family with four girls, ranging in ages from 41 to 26, and nine grandchildren. Gail Peshel, Valpo Law’s former Assistant Dean of Career Services, introduced them thinking they would have a lot in common!

1974
David Hollenbeck has been recognized as one of Indiana’s top lawyers in 2005 by a panel of his fellow attorneys. The Super Lawyers list comprises the top 5 per cent of the total number of lawyers in Indiana, White said. Hollenbeck, a partner in Blachly, Tabor, Bozik and Hartman in Valparaiso, was recognized for his leadership in representing injured workers through the state’s Worker’s Compensation system and as counsel to government entities. Hollenbeck and his wife, Anita, have two children who live in Indianapolis. Daughter, Laura, a pediatrician at Riley Children’s Hospital just returned from Kenya where she treated AIDS and typhoid patients. Son, Andy, is an attorney with the Ice Miller law firm.

1975
Derrick Carter, professor at Valpo Law, was quoted in the article “Lack of a Body Won’t Stop Trial” which appeared in the December 6, 2004 edition of the Indianapolis Star. Derrick spoke at a criminal defense attorney conference in Tucson on Sentencing Entrapment and the recent cases by the Supreme Court on the sentencing guidelines.

1976
Gilbert King has been appointed to serve a five-year term on the Indiana Board of Law Examiners. The Board of Law Examiners is comprised of 10 members who are responsible for writing and grading the bar examination for Indiana bar applicants. Gilbert maintains a private law practice in Gary, which concentrates in government defense and labor law.

1979
Tom Macke has become president of the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association (ITLA). Tom is a partner at Blachly, Tabor, Bozik and Hartman in Valparaiso. Recently admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, Macke previously served the ITLA as managing editor of publications, chairman of the management committee and as member of its executive committee. Following in the footsteps of one of his firm’s founding partners, Glenn Tabor ’58, who headed the ITLA in 1989-90, Macke says, “I got a taste for the good things that can be accomplished when Glenn was president.” Among Macke’s goals as ITLA president is to encourage more attorneys to become involved in protecting Indiana’s civil justice system by opposing Indiana laws which can produce unjust, harsh or oppressive decisions. As plaintiffs’ advocates, Macke says trial lawyers stand between injured individuals and corporate entities. “We’re the only lobbying organization in Indiana arguing against the insurance industry and wealthy corporations,” he says of the ITLA.

Shelli Wright Johnson’s second book (her first full-length adventure novel) was released in January 2005. The book is entitled: FALCON IN THE NEST—A Story of Bes Adventure. (Bes was the impish, protruding-tongued god of ancient Egyptian legend who had a wide range of deity duties, including Protector of Women, Guardian and Entertainer of Children, Patron of Warriors, and God of Joy. Laughter, Music, Dancing and General Merry-making.) As a result of the popularity of her previous book (an Egyptian-themed novelette entitled: “The Story of Bes”) and in anticipation of the new one, Shelli was invited by Cairo-based Quest Travel to co-host an Egyptian tour in March, aptly called “A Magical Mystery Tour of Egypt.” Quest Travel hosted a successful book-signing on the Nile Cruise; Shelli sold all available copies in less than an hour. This was Shelli’s fifth trip to Egypt; it was the first for fellow VU Law graduate, Mark Roscoe ’83, who joined her on this 21-day adventure through Egypt, and on to the rose-red city of Petra in Jordan. Mark’s
designer ties were a big hit and he was able to make several valuable connections which may assist in expanding to an international market.

1982
Marta Camafreyta Bukata and her husband Pedro Bukata announce the arrival of their third grandchild, Catalina Susana Vallejo, born on December 14, 2004 at 6 lbs, 7 oz, 19 1/4 inches long. Catalina Susana joins cousins, Michael Alejandro Bukata and Timothy Eduardo Bukata. Marta’s daughter, Laura SB Vallejo ’97, is Catalina’s mother. Marta and Laura both work at Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc.

Paul Leonard and Mary Squyres have each been voted a “Super Lawyer,” Mary in Illinois and Paul in Indiana. Paul is with the Merrillville, IN firm of Burke, Constanza & Cuppy, and Mary is with Brinks, Hofer, Gilson & Lione in Chicago.

1983
The Rev. Robert Land has been appointed pastor of Centerville United Methodist Church effective July 1. Land has been pastor of the Milroy United Methodist Church and the Whistlene United Methodist Church and associate pastor of Mount Comfort United Methodist Church. He practiced law for 13 years, including nine with the Army J.A.G. Corps. He served a student appointment with Christ’s United Methodist Church in Indianapolis while attending Christian Theological Seminary and graduated with a Master of Divinity in 1999. Land and his wife, Amy, have two children.

Mark Roscoe joined Shelli Wright Johnson ’79 on a 21-day adventure through Egypt, and on to the rose-red city of Petra in Jordan. Mark’s designer ties were a big hit and he was able to make several valuable connections which may assist in expanding to an international market. (See Shelli Wright Johnson’s news in the 1979 section of Class Actions.)

1984
Steven Buyer, Congressman of Indiana, was recently appointed Chairman of the Veteran’s Affairs Committee. In 1991 Steve ran for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives and was elected to Congress. Buyer continues to represent White County as part of Indiana’s Congressional District 4.

Rocco deGrasse and wife Kathleen welcomed daughter Mia on May 11th. Mia weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19.5 inches long.

Fran (Gaseor) Jagla has accepted a position as Senior Attorney, Trademarks at Microsoft Corporation in Redmond, Washington. Fran will be heading up the trademark practice for the company. She and her husband, Leon, will relocate from the Gurnee, IL area where she spent the last 15 years as the head of the trademark practice for Abbott Laboratories.

Patricia Primmer has been re-elected managing partner of the South Bend, IN firm of May Oberfell Lorber. Patricia provides counseling on business and corporate law, banking transactions, loan workouts, bankruptcy law and creditors rights for clients. Patricia also serves as Indiana counsel for lenders and a borrower involved in multi-state loan transactions, and is an attorney for the Securities Investor Protection Corp. in Washington, D.C.

1985
Cornell Boggs is on the cover of the March 17, 2005 issue of Corporate Counsel magazine. Cornell is the lead profile in the ”The Shortlist”. Each year since 2002 Corporate Counsel has identified 10 in-house lawyers that the magazine figures are poised to become general counsel of Fortune 500 companies. Cornell is the Vice President and General Counsel of Tyco Plastics & Adhesives located in Princeton, NJ.

C. Grant Vander Veer was elected a shareholder of the firm of Butzel Long in Holland, MI. Prior to joining Butzel Long, Grant practiced in the area of defending product manufacturers in mass tort litigations, defending corporate employees against age and sex discrimination, and representing corporate defendants in products liability actions in the capacity of national coordinating counsel and trial counsel. The firm of Butzel Long was established in 1854, and is one of Michigan’s oldest and largest law firms, with more than 200 attorneys. The firm is headquartered in Detroit and represents clients from diverse industries on a regional, national and multi-national level.

Brent Weil has been named a Diplomat of the Indiana Defense Trial Counsel for 2004 by the directors of the Indiana Defense Lawyers Association, Inc. This honor is awarded to attorneys of the Indiana Bar who distinguish themselves throughout their careers as outstanding representation of clients in the defense of litigation matters. Brent is currently with the Evansville, IN law firm of Kightlinger & Gray. He has served as the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit Court since 1991. His areas of practice include general liability and toxic exposure litigation, professional malpractice cases, construction accident litigation and police liability cases. Brent has been honored twice by his peers in the legal profession by being named an "Indiana Super Lawyer."

1986
Anne Blatchford was recently sworn in as District Court Judge of Kalamazoo County in Michigan. Anne previously worked as deputy city attorney in Kalamazoo before becoming a District Court Magistrate in 1995.

Charles Johnson of Magna & Johnson in Gurnee, IL was named an associate judge in the 19th Judicial Circuit in Lake County where he will preside over traffic matters. Charles has been in private practice for four years; he joined Lake County state’s attorney’s office as an assistant, working his way up to the felony division. Following his tenure there, Johnson pursued a career as a municipal attorney, working for Vernon Township, Gurnee and Wauconda.

Vernon Kowal has joined the firm of Much Shelist as a Partner in the Corporate Practice. Vernon has experience in corporate, nonprofit, educational and governmental law. He regularly represents corporations in matters of finance, corporate organization and reorganization; he also handles employment and construction matters. Prior to joining the firm, Vernon was Special Counsel with Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold LLP in Chicago. Mr. Kowal received an LL.M. in Taxation from DePaul University School of Law, an M.A. in Urban Studies/Urban Planning from Loyola University, and his B.A. in Political Science, Business and History from Illinois Benedictine University. He is a Certificant of Georgetown University’s Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems.

Mark Rutherford was recently selected as a member of the Lawyers Council of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union. Mark is with the Indianapolis, IN firm
of Laudig George Rutherford & Sipes. Mark has also been named to the 2005 Indiana Super Lawyers List published by Law & Politics and Indianapolis Monthly.

1987
Margaret Murphy has been appointed by Gov. Frank H. Murkowski, R-Alaska, to the Homer District Court. Margaret has served as magistrate for the Aniak and McGrath District Courts, Acting Magistrate/Special Master for the Bethel District Court and Acting District Court Judge for the Bethel District Court. Prior to her state service, she spent ten years as an attorney with the Department of the Army.

Robert Sykes was recently elected as Ionia County Probate Judge in Ionia, MI. Robert also serves as the presiding judge of the Ionia County Circuit Court Family Division.

1988
John Hallacy was re-elected in November 2004, to a second term as Prosecuting Attorney for Calhoun County, MI. John lives in Battle Creek with his wife Ellen and their three children: Frederick, Grant and Madeline. John can be contacted at Jhallacy@calhouncountymi.gov.

1989
Tim Balko has been named Executive Director of the Center for Community Justice. He currently practices as a local attorney and civil mediator in the Elkhart, IN area. Tim has been program coordinator of the civil mediation program at CCI since September 2002.

1990
Dave McGuire is an attorney with Rosen Divorce in Raleigh. Rosen Divorce is North Carolina's largest divorce firm.

1991
Barbara Petrunaro of New Lenox has become an associate judge in the 12th Judicial Circuit at the Will County Courthouse in Joliet, IL. Barbara will be assigned to the Family Division. Most recently she worked in the Will County State's Attorney's office, where she handled civil cases for more than three years. At the time of her departure in November 2004, she was chief of the consumer fraud and family unit and deputy chief of the Civil Division. Before joining the state's attorney's office, Petrunaro worked for the Joliet law firm of Spesia, Ayers & Ardaugh, where she handled municipal law and insurance matters. Petrunaro began her legal career in Chicago at Swanson, Martin & Bell following a two-year clerkship with a U.S. magistrate judge in Hammond, IN.

1992
John Papageorge was recently elected to serve as an officer for the Indiana State and Indianapolis Bar Associations for the 2004-2005 term. John was one of six attorneys elected, and he will serve as Chair for the Indiana State Bar Association's Litigation Section.

1993
Monica Conrad has been named partner at the Indianapolis based law firm of Bose McKinney & Evans. Monica is in the Education Law Group, representing Northwest Indiana's schools in special education hearings, student discipline matters, sexual harassment claims and labor arbitrations. Monica also holds a license in Indiana as a special education director and special education teacher.

Bryan Perrero accepted a position as Assistant University Counsel in the Office of University Counsel at the University of Illinois. Bryan left his position at Jones Day in Cleveland in 2003. He returned to Champaign, IL with his wife and two daughters where he worked in civil litigation. He now specializes in labor law and employment law, providing counsel to University personnel primarily on the Urbana-Champaign campus. He is also responsible for negotiating the collective bargaining agreements with the 17 different unions represented on campus.

Carl Brizzi appeared on the syndicated talk show “Montel” on December 22, 2004 with Hannah Ar buckle, an Indianapolis woman who chased a man who was stalking her. The theme of the show was “I Helped Catch a Criminal.” Ar buckle and Brizzi talked with host Montel Williams about Ar buckle’s ordeal involving convicted voyeur Robert Braun, and chief efforts to change Indiana law to increase the penalties for repeat offenders. “Hannah and I want to make the best out of what was a terrible situation,” said Brizzi. "With this legislation, other states could look to Indiana as a model on what to do with those who continue to violate others' privacy.” Under the proposed legislation, a person convicted of voyeurism a second time (and all the times after that) would face an A misdemeanor instead of the current B misdemeanor. That increases the maximum penalty from six months to one year. Brizzi and Ar buckle also taped segments for ABC’s Prime Time Live and the syndicated Maury Povich Show while in New York.

1994
Lynda Bennett has been selected by the New Jersey Law Journal as one of New Jersey’s “Top 40 Under 40,” a distinctive list of young attorneys deemed to be tomorrow’s leaders of the New Jersey Bar. Lynda was selected for distinguishing herself early in her career as an expert in insurance coverage law with an impressive record of success. Lynda currently is with the New Jersey firm of Lowenstein Sandler.

Lauren Henzel has been named managing director for The Private Bank and Trust Company in Chicago, IL. Lauren joined The Private Bank’s office in 1996, and is a senior trust officer. The Private Bank was organized in 1989 to provide highly personalized financial services primarily to affluent individuals, professionals, owners of closely held businesses and commercial real estate investors.

Suzi Schrader and Adam Stern welcomed daughter Eloise Sylvia Stern, born on May 18th.

1995
Christie Collier Bandle was a chapter author for the recently published fourth edition of Wisconsin Methods of Practice, by Jay E. Grenig and Nathan A. Fishbach,. This edition is a four volume overview of substantive Wisconsin law. Christie joined Levy and Levy (Cedarburg, WI) in 2001. Her practice is primarily in family law, including divorce, paternity, adoption and child custody. She has been appointed Guardian ad Litem for minor children and disabled adults. She also represents clients in a variety of litigation matters such as contract disputes and debt collection.

Galen Bradley has been elected as new shareholder at Querrey & Harrow’s Indiana office. Galen’s previous experience as a senior claim representative contributes to his practice in insurance litigation and personal injury litigation. Mr. Bradley is
licensed to practice in both Indiana and Illinois. Quenery & Harrow is a 100-attorney law firm with offices in Chicago, Merrillville, IN, New York City and London, England.

Julie Downey and her husband, Bryan welcomed a son, Bryce Trevor in February 2004.

Elizabeth Flynn has become a partner in the Michigan City, IN firm of Braje & Nelson, LLP.

Scott A. Loitz has become a partner with the firm of Jones Obenchain, LLP. Scott, who joined the firm as an associate in April 2002, was admitted to the bar in 1995 in Indiana and United States District Court for the Northern and Southern District of Indiana after graduating that year from the law school. Prior to joining Jones Obenchain, Scott was an associate attorney with Hinshaw & Culbertson from 2001 to 2002 and an associate attorney with Beckman, Kelly & Smith from 1999 to 2001.

Manda Riggs and her husband, Jack welcomed a daughter Anne, in the summer of 2004.

David Westland and his wife, Leigh Ann welcomed a daughter Meg around August 2004.

1996

Charles Douglas is a Partner at Riley, Bennett & Egloff in Indianapolis.

Gary Furst was recently named partner in the Litigation and Intellectual Property Department with the firm of Barnes & Thornburg. Gary works out of the Fort Wayne, IN office specializing in commercial, products liability, personal injury and intellectual property disputes. He regularly represents clients in matters before the Indiana Court of Appeals. Barnes & Thornburg is the largest law firm in Indiana and was ranked as the 98th largest law firm in the United States, according to the National Law Journal 2004 survey.

Renee (George) Johnston was named by The Saginaw Community Foundation as its next president and chief executive officer. Previously Renee was a human resources manager at Delphi Thermal I Interior in Troy, MI.

Anne Lavelle was named Director of the labor and employment group in the Pittsburgh, PA firm of Cohen & Grigsby.

Jason Massaro has joined the law firm of Newby, Lewis, Kaminski & Jones, LLP in LaPorte, Indiana. Massaro’s practice includes civil litigation. He has represented numerous corporations, individuals, and insurance companies in a variety of mediations, arbitrations, trials and appeals. His experience includes cases involving wrongful death, products liability, civil rights, premises liability, eminent domain, and insurance coverage issues.

Melissa Vallone was recently named partner in the Chicago, IL office of Barnes & Thornburg in the department of Intellectual Property. She counsels manufacturing, publishing, high tech and service industry clients in the areas of trademark, copyright and unfair competition. Barnes & Thornburg is the largest law firm in Indiana and was ranked as the 98th largest law firm in the United States according to the National Law Journal 2004 survey.

1997

Laura SB Vallejo (nee Bukata) and her husband Humberto Vallejo, Jr. announce the arrival of their daughter Catalina Susana on December 19, 2004, at 6 lbs, 7ounces, 19 inches long. Laura is with the Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc.

Andrew Massmann has been named a partner in the Real Estate group of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP. He represents institutional lenders and investors in connection with securitized mortgage loans, portfolio mortgage loans, franchise loans, mezzanine loans and loan servicing matters. He also represents corporate, institutional and not-for-profit clients in connection with the acquisition, disposition, leasing and development of real estate.

1998

Maci Doden is law clerk to the Honorable Theresa L. Springman, Judge for the U. S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana, in Fort Wayne, IN.

Adrianne (Hoehner) Rans was recently married to Zach Rans, a ’96 IU law grad. They currently reside in Sarasota, FL and are expecting their first child in May 2005.

Tracey Betterman Wetzstein and husband Jim (Valparaiso University Associate Pastor) welcomed first child Gabriel on May 11 in Valparaiso.

Timothy Withers has joined the Indianapolis, IN law firm of Cremer Burroughs & Cremer as member. Tim will focus his practice in the areas of real estate, estate planning and administrative law.

1999

Camille (Anderson) Licklider relocated from Chicago, IL to Tallahassee, FL. Camille is the Senior Director of Planned Giving for Florida State University Foundation, Inc.

2000

Anthony Alfano and his wife, Alicia, welcomed a daughter, Tessa Rose in October 2004.

JoAnn Csapos is an attorney for the Michigan Court of Appeals and is taking her first run for public office, the Hamilton Community Schools’ Board of Education. JoAnn and her husband, Vincent, have a 16-month-old son. She moved to the Hamilton/Holland area 10 years ago. JoAnn also is church organist for St. Pete’s Church in Douglas.

Heidi Frostedstad Kuehl was quoted in the April 2005 issue of the AALL Spectrum. (The AALL Spectrum is the publication for the American Association of Law Libraries.) Heidi has joined the Pritzker Legal Research Center at Northwestern University School of Law as a Research and Instructional Services Librarian. Previously Heidi was an adjunct professor of law and reference/instructional services librarian at Marquette Law Library.

Heidi (Murtonen) Schultz was married on August 27, 2004 to Martin Schultz at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Duluth, MN. Heidi is the assistant county attorney for Douglas County in Alexandria, MN.

2001

Amanda (Lamerato) Kelly has worked for the past four years as an attorney and guardian ad litem for the Public Guardian’s Office in Chicago, IL. Amanda and her husband, Greg, just welcomed their first child, Grace Vyollette Kelly in September 2004.

Matthew Macaluso has been appointed to the Delta Sigma Phi Foundation’s board of trustees. The Delta Sigma
CLASS actions

Phi Foundation is a charitable and educational tax-exempt organization, separate and independent from the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity. By attracting philanthropic support from alumni, parents, and friends of Delta Sigma Phi, the Foundation is able to provide financial assistance to the Fraternity, its local chapters and deserving individual members. Macaluso is a member of Bose McKinney & Evans’ Business Services Group, through which he advises banks, emerging growth companies and other businesses regarding regulatory and transactional matters. Macaluso is an active civic leader who currently chairs emerging growth companies and other transactions. Macaluso is an active civic leader who currently chairs.

Scott Ward and Elina Mie Oishi were married on Nov. 6, 2004, at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town, Alexandria, Va. Scott is employed with the Republican National Committee, Washington, D.C.

Clint Zalas recently married Jill Richter in the Arches National Park in Moab, UT. Clint is an attorney at the firm of Lee & Groves in South Bend, IN.

2002
Jessica O’Connor Crone and her husband, Cody, welcomed Jack Axén Crone (Axén is a Swedish family name) on February 2, 2005. Jessica is with Davis Wright Tremaine in Portland, Oregon.

Matt Tarkington has relocated from the Indianapolis area and the firm of Lewis & Kappas to the firm of Wood Crapo, LLC in Salt Lake City, UT. Matt and wife, Margaret, welcomed son, Joseph, in April.

2004
Michelle Dougherty has joined Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, in Wheeling WV as an associate. Michelle will practice in the area of general litigation. Steptoe & Johnson is a multi-practice firm with more than 160 lawyers and a support staff of more than 200 and maintains offices throughout West Virginia.

Aubrey Kuchar has been named an Associate Attorney at the law firm of Kightlinger & Gray, LLP in Indianapolis. Aubrey has been a judicial law clerk for the Indiana Court of Appeals and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, as well as an intern for two United States Congressmen. Her practice areas involve all phases of civil rights litigation before the State and Federal Courts. Aubrey is a member of the Indianapolis and Indiana State Bar Associations, the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana, and the Defense Research Institute.


Get in on the Action! (Class Action)
Please submit your latest professional and personal news for inclusion in the Class Action section of the next Valpo Lawyer magazine. News and photographs may be submitted by mail or e-mail to:

Marilyn Otis
Valpo Law
656 S. Greenwich Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383
or marilyn.otis@valpo.edu

In Memoriam
The dean, faculty, staff, students and alumni of Valparaiso University School of Law honor the following alumni and friends who have passed away. We are grateful for their participation in the development of the Law School, and we extend our condolences to their family members and friends.

1939
Melvin Waldschmidt, Newport News, VA, Date Unknown

1948
Thomas Faulconer, Indianapolis, IN, January 2005

1952
Fred Taylor, Ft. Wayne, IN, February 2005

1953
Donald Werner, Canoga Park, CA, September 2004

1961
Charles Adamson, Bella Vista, AR, January 2005

1964
David Beran, Oak Lawn, IL, October 2003

1973
James Jansen, Antigo, WI, January 2005

1992
K. Dock Anderson, Nashville, IN, August 2004

Christine Drager Kurth ‘95
is the Deputy Staff Director of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee in Washington, D.C. where she coordinates the legislative work for the committee and focuses on telecommunications policy.

After law school graduation, Kurth served as a law clerk for a federal judge in her home state of Alaska and then went to Washington, D.C. in 1997 to work as a trial attorney for the National Labor Relations Board. In 2000, then-Senate Appropriations Chairman Stevens (R-AK) invited Kurth to become a professional staff member for the Interior Subcommittee. Later, she was hired as counsel on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to work on the Energy Bill. In 2003, she was asked by Stevens to come back to the Appropriations Committee as deputy general counsel for the full committee where she worked on various appropriations matters and telecom policy. In January, Stevens was elected as chair of the Senate Commerce Committee and brought Kurth with him to the committee. She is married to Tim Kurth who is a former aide to House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-IL) and currently works in D.C. as a consultant.

Ray Nimmer ’68 is the Co-Director for the Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law at University of Houston Center of Law. Ray is one of the leading authorities on computer law in the world. He has served as the official reporter for the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and as the principal architect of the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act. His treatise, THE LAW OF COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY, was named the best new law book of 1985 by the Association of American Publishers. Continually revised and updated, the book is the leading text in the field. Ray joined the University of Houston law faculty in 1975 and was acting dean of the UH Law Center from 1993 to 1995.

"Intellectual property and information law are the most economically and socially significant areas of the law today. They are redefining societies and their economies, as value increasingly shifts from tangibles to intangibles and as digital systems increasingly provide our primary means of interchange and entertainment."
Koreen Payton Ryan '93 has been appointed General Counsel and Secretary for Enesco Group, Inc. (NYSE:ENC), a leader in the giftware, collectible and home and garden decor industry. Most recently, Ryan was Senior Counsel for the South Asia/APMEA (Asia, Pacific, Middle East, Africa) Group of McDonald’s Corporation (NYSE: MCD), a leading global foodservice retailer with more than 30,000 local restaurants in 119 countries. As Senior Counsel, Ryan provided guidance and counsel on all corporate, business and general legal matters both from a corporate and local market perspective in such countries as Brunei, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Prior to being named Senior Counsel in November 2003, Ryan also was Corporate Legal Counsel for the Oak Brook, Illinois-based company. In this capacity, Ryan provided counsel regarding securities aspects of executive compensation and broad-based benefits and compensation, and advised management on SEC regulations.

Her prior experience includes Incapital Holdings, LLC, in Chicago, Ill., where she was General Counsel, and with Arnstein & Lehr, also in Chicago, working in the Corporate Securities Transaction arena. Ryan began her legal career with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, Division of Enforcement at the Midwest Regional Office in Chicago, Ill.

"We are very pleased to name Koreen Ryan as Enesco’s new General Counsel and Secretary. Her experience with regulatory compliance, securities transactions, banking, and international legal matters will be a valuable asset to the Company," said Cynthia Passmore-McLaughlin, president and CEO of Enesco. "We welcome her to Enesco and look forward to her guidance as we lay the foundation for growth as a publicly traded company."

### Valpo Law Grad Eugene Parker 82' Named One of The 50 Most Powerful Blacks in Sports

The 50 Most Powerful Blacks in Sports - BLACK ENTERPRISE Announces Its List of the Top Administrators, Decision Makers in Collegiate, Professional Sports and Related Industries

Eugene E. Parker, President Maximum Sports Management

A dealmaker extraordinaire with more than $2 billion in professional sports contracts under his belt, Parker has signed some of the greatest starters in NFL history.

Among his active players are New York Jets running back Curtis Martin, Tampa Bay Buccaneers linebacker Derrick Brooks, Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Hines Ward, and Arizona Cardinals running back Emmitt Smith. For each of these deals Parker’s Indiana-based firm has received up to 3% of the total contract value.

Last year, this 1982 graduate of Valparaiso University School of Law helped wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald become the richest rookie in NFL history with a $60 million, six-year deal with the Arizona Cardinals.

Then there’s the infamous Deion Sanders contract. When Sanders signed his $35 million contract with the Dallas Cowboys in 1995, the flashy cornerback made contract history. Sanders’ contract included a $13 million signing bonus and prompted the NFL to institute the “Deion rule.” This prevents rookies from receiving a huge, up-front signing bonus and deferring more salary than bonus beyond the next three seasons in order to fit under the salary cap.

“The largest signing bonus at that time was Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman, which was $7 million, and Deion got $13 million so that was almost 100% more, so that took the signing bonuses to an all new level,” recalls Parker.

### Alumni Receptions

Alumni joined Valpo Law for receptions in Washington DC and Fort Wayne. On May 18 a reception hosted by Xiao-Hua Zhao '92 was held at the DC office of Holland & Knight. On May 25 a reception hosted by Jack Lawson '61 was held at Beckman Lawson in Fort Wayne. On both occasions Dean Conison updated alumni on recent activities and upcoming programs at the law school.

#### Fort Wayne Reception

- Seated: Wendy Davis '91, Melissa Garland Hawk '01
- Standing: Bob Nieter, Mick Story '02, Jill Story '02, Dan Nieter '83

#### Washington DC Reception

Blair O'Connor '95, Christi Megna '86, Jonathon Potter '85, Samantha Ahuja '04

#### Washington DC Receptions

- Johnson Myall '95, Dean Jay Conison, Nolan Rappaport '72
- Marcia Sowles '75, Allan Rexinger '73, Professor Bruce Berner '67, Rich Foelber '77
- Shawn Bartley '90, Richard Rothchild '71, Heidi Abegg '96
- Xiao Hua Zhao '92, Jayme Walker Holcomb '89, Bill Ciesar '88

#### Notes

- Koreen Payton Ryan '93 has been appointed General Counsel and Secretary for Enesco Group, Inc. (NYSE:ENC)
- Eugene E. Parker, President Maximum Sports Management
- Alumni joined Valpo Law for receptions in Washington DC and Fort Wayne
--on May 18 a reception hosted by Xiao-Hua Zhao '92 was held at the DC office of Holland & Knight
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**Valpo Lawyer**

**News**
"It is not out of duty we are here tonight. We are here to see you... to talk with you... to share in the success and joy in your careers and personal lives."

Professor Dave Myers,
speaking on behalf of the faculty members at the Class Reunion on April 16, 2005.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 22
First Day of Classes

September 1
Career Planning Center's Chicago Interview Program

September 15
Indiana Supreme Court Lecture

September 17
National Council Meeting

October 6 & 7
Professional Development Days

October 7
Valpo Law Alumni Board & Faculty Dinner

October 8
Valpo Law Alumni Board Meeting

October 8
VU Homecoming Day Picnic & Golden Gavel Society Annual Dinner

October 20
Monsanto Lecture

October 20
ISBA Meeting & Alumni Reception in Indy

October 25
Jewish Law Student Association
Speaker – Joshua Greene

November 2
Swygert Moot Court Competition

November 17
Professor Mark Adam's Inaugural Lecture

November 20-27
Thanksgiving Break From Classes

December 7-16
Final Examinations

December 11
December Commencement, 2:30 p.m., Chapel

January 16, 2006
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

March 3, 2006
Law Clinic Benefit

March 16 & 17, 2006
Law Review Symposium

For information on these and other programs, please check our website at:
http://www.valpo.edu/law/

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