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Libel Show Wows Crowd With Wild Wit And Whimsy

by George Doumar

Phone the kids! Wake the neighbors! The 1984 Libel Show, entitled "The Wrong Stuff," played to cheering, foot-stomping, near-capacity crowds last Friday and Saturday in Old Cabell Hall. The well-rehearsed cast satirized faculty members, Law students, administrators, American institutions and any other moving and available targets in a variety of comedy skits and songs.

The show began with "A Fistful of Namecards," a series of skits detailing the rigors of registration as well as various classroom antics. Some of the highlights of this section of the show included the first of several appearances by Steve Raber as Emerson Spies, punctuating the air with his index finger as well as repeating "queries," to which he answered "could be" or "maybe" before fading into the crowd. Ralph Yielding began his continuing role as Calvin "It's In My Outline" Woodward, and Stan Weston brought down the house as Perry Barclay sweeping an unfortunate victim of the deadly library security system.

And if that's not enough for you, though gosh darn it outta be, you could have found solace in Greg Nojeim's sensitive portrayal of Mr. Kenketheridge, a mild-mannered Law student burdened by a "Kinky" name card and hounded by the CIA owing to his affinity for "Bonds, municipal bonds." For all those who did feel like trashing name cards on day one, Chris Toll rode bravely into his class on "Children in the U.C.C." and challenged the establishment as the mysterious Man With No Name Card.

After the first act rode off into the sunset, the show followed with, strangely enough, Act II, "Muddle in the Oriental Expresso's." "Muddle" involved a sordid tale of mayhem and murder implicating our very own masters of *mens rea,* the Criminal Law faculty. By suggesting that the Criminal Law faculty apply their wealth of knowledge to the world outside of the Law School, David Ehinger as Graham Strong sung his way into the audience's hearts. But he also set himself up as the target of murder at the hands of a faculty member who vehemently disagrees with his proposal. A clasic whodunit emerged, with John Youkilis playing detective Steve Saltzberg. Displaying Columbo-like bumbling, but possessing the deductive powers of Mr. Magoo, Saltzberg pointed an accusatory finger at nearly everyone before Strong revived. Among the ranks of the accused were Rob Duston as Dr. Parke Dietz (I know, he's not THAT kind of doctor), Charles Elson as a defensive, sharp, yet spastic Lane Kneedler, Kris Nanda as the patiently pacing and ever incomprehensible Gary Peller and Jeff Trinklein as the pizza-loving Peter Low.

Intermission held a pleasant surprise, namely the Barbers of C'ville and Tutelaries, who kept the audience entertained with their harmonious melodies while the cast regrouped backstage. The legendary Libel Show Band, rumoured to be replacing Doc Severinson's on the Tonight Show, also took a well-earned break before its scheduled second-half, show-stopping performance. Solid sax, trombone and keyboard playing highlighted a good effort by the band all evening.

Intermission ended with Barry Cushman and Deborah Bleich performing a clever take-off of Michael Jackson's "Thriller," entitled "Dillard." The audience then entered the Twilight Zone with five new faculty members, whose adven-

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Kennedy photo

Emerson Spies, that master of the courts, is played by Steve Raber in the Libel Show. In the chorus are Laurie Strollo as Angelina LeBlanc, Rosemary Daszkiewicz as Katharine Pitt, Julie Brooke as a student, and Steve Kennedy as Richard Merrill.

Dillards To Have Different Duties

by Liz Espin

The Legal Writing Program for next year is in the planning stage. Nevertheless, Dillard tryouts are well on their way. A meeting last week revealed about forty applicants excited about next year's still hazy program.

The word is "so far, so good" on the Dillard selection process, according to Phil Merkel, one of the Legal Writing professors. The response has been good; many of this year's Dillards will receive three academic credits for the year instead of four, all will be paid. For first time Dillards, the stipend might be anywhere from 500 to 800 dollars; for returning Dillards, the sum will be greater than that and also greater than what this year's returnees earned, said Merkel.

Merkel said twenty-four spots will be open for next year. Of those, he anticipates at least six returnees. All applicants will be chosen on the basis of a formal tryout: an exercise where they have to correct a memo, along the lines of the work Dillards actually do. Academic performance, particularly in legal writing, will also be taken into account.

The legal writing program may not be fully planned by the time final selections are made. "We're really putting the program together, now, especially the second semester," Merkel said. Second semester next year will be much shorter, but the program administrators have not "firmed up" the number of weeks or the substance of that part of the course.

"We'll probably have no open-ended federal research project to end up in a brief," Merkel said. Instead, students will base their second semester writing project, probably a trial memorandum, on the research they did in the first semester.

The first semester will run much as it did this year. Students will do research exercises, controlled memos, and one long memorandum from their own research. In the second semester, research exercises will include federal sources, so students will familiarize themselves with federal level research in spite of doing an appellate brief.

Major changes will include making the program pass-fail rather than graded and having twelve legal writing sections rather than nine. The sections will match up to each first year small section. "Over the summer, we'll be contacting small section professors and getting input for the memo topics from them," Merkel said. Students will then benefit from their legal writing research in their small section class, and vice versa.

Whether or not students will have oral arguments remains in question. Merkel said the legal writing teachers and the Dillards might provide optional oral arguments next year for interested first years. However, no regular faculty members will preside over the arguments.

"In a sense, next year is going to be experimental in that it's a brand new program," Merkel said.

Faculty Votes To Keep Present Exam Schedule

by Marcia Pope

The faculty on Monday adopted with little dissent a calendar for 1984-1985 that is very similar to this year's. The calendar provides for a 14-week semester with classes starting on August 23; its adoption, however, was accompanied by a resolution to form a committee, appointed by Dean Merrill, to study the calendar question further next fall.

Two other proposals were considered during Monday's meeting. The first, a 13-week semester with 60-minute classes and exams before and after Christmas, was defeated soundly according to Professor Thomas R. White, III. The second proposal was similar to the first, but provided for pre-Christmas exams and a longer reading period. This proposal was narrowly defeated by a vote which White approximated was almost 50-50, and it is this proposal which is scheduled to receive careful scrutiny by the committee Dean Merrill is expected to form.

For next year, Professor White explained that whatever calendar the law school adopts is ultimately constrained by the University-set graduation date, because the law school must be able to certify graduation of its students based on their final exams. White also noted that there was "considerable hostility" within the faculty to any proposal that would end summer earlier, and predicted that "in concrete terms" the faculty is unlikely to change to post-Christmas exams.

DICTA: Civil Rights For Handicapped Infants Clarified

United States Representative John N. Erlenborn (R-Ill) is co-sponsor of H.R. 1904, the Child Abuse Amendments Act of 1983. Congressman Erlenborn received his J.D. from Loyola University School of Law.

Traditionally, child abuse prevention and treatment legislation has enjoyed broad bipartisan support in both Houses of the Congress. Bills of this nature have many co-sponsors from both sides of the political aisle. Floor debate is usually short. Few real issues are debated. Members concur in decrying the sad phenomenon that is child abuse and neglect.

On February 2, 1984, the House of Representatives passed, by an overwhelming 396-4, H.R. 1904, the Child Abuse Amendments of 1983. A companion measure still awaits final Senate action.

H.R. 1904, however, was unlike many of the child protection bills that have been considered by Congress over the years. And, so was the mood of the House as it prepared to consider what had become a very controversial bill. Since the Congress had last considered child abuse legislation, the nation had witnessed the tragic death of the Bloomington, Indiana infant — an infant born with Down's Syndrome and a malfunctioning esophagus. Few among us had forgotten the Bloomington case and what is perceived as the taking of an innocent and helpless life through the withholding by the child's parents and doctor of medically-indicated treatment, nutrition, and even water.

While H.R. 1904 was making its way through the legislative process, the case of Baby Jane Doe in New York surfaced — underscoring the fact that some very difficult but fundamental public policy issues required definitive Congressional action.

Let me touch briefly upon the major provisions incorporated in the bill. H.R. 1904 would:

— reauthorize through September 30, 1987, all of the major expiring statutory child abuse and neglect and adoption opportunity authorities;

— require the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide technical assistance and training to help the States in developing and implementing new — or improving existing — procedures to be followed by child protective service agencies, health care facilities, health and allied medical professionals, social service providers, and courts of competent jurisdiction to better insure that nutrition, medically indicated treatment, general care and appropriate social services are provided to newborns at risk with life-threatening handicapping conditions; require the States to have, if not already available, procedures designed to more fully meet the very special needs of such infants. That provision of current law which requires States wishing to receive State grant moneys to "provide for the reporting of known and suspected instances of child abuse and neglect" is extended to include the reporting of instances involving the denial of nutrition, medically indicated treatment, and general care to Baby Doe infants;

— provide those States, what do not now meet all of the criteria necessary to receive State grant funds, a two-year waiver, with the exception of those criteria relevant to Infant Doe situations, if the Secretary of HHS determines that such States are making a good-faith compliance effort;

— state unequivocally that "no provision in this Act may be so construed as to limit or lessen any right or protection under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;" and

— clarify and strengthen that language in the Adoption Opportunities title of current law to insure that the elimination of barriers to the adoption of children into special needs extends now to severely handicapped infants at risk.

From my perspective as an original co-sponsor of this legislation, the Amendments of 1983 are designed to build carefully the existing child abuse and neglect and adoption opportunities legislative framework in order to establish an appropriate and stonger Federal-State, public and private sector partnership by way of better insuring that the very special needs of handicapped infants at risk with life-threatening conditions are more fully met. All we are trying to do is assure that handicapped babies are given the same care and treatment as babies without handicaps.

It was those provisions of H.R. 1904 that addressed the Baby Doe dimension of child abuse and neglect that ignited a heated and protracted public policy debate — a debate, I might add, that continues and is likely to continue for some years to come.

In my judgment, it was unfortunate that a number of red herring arguments were introduced and served only to unnecessarily heighten public fears. For example, some seriously suggested that any Federal legislation would inevitably result in the Federal bureaucracy "dictating," in the worst case scenario, or "second-guessing," at best, what specific medical care must be provided to at-risk newborns with handicaps. One can find neither in the legislative history of H.R. 1904, nor in the bill itself, any justification to support this extreme point of view. Rather, the Federal role is a limited one of encouraging and assisting, through the issuance of guidelines, those health care providers desiring to establish local health care review mechanisms for review of the care afforded to at-risk, handicapped newborns. Additionally, in a bipartisan block of amendments offered during House floor debate, the HHS is required to create up-to-date and comprehensive regional directories of physicians who have expertise in the care and treatment of infants, and provide a toll-free number for physicians, hospitals and child protective service agencies to use in tapping medical expertise in this specialty field. In short, the appropriate Federal role is that of providing additional expertise and resources to the parents and the attending physician.

Others chose to argue that this legislation would force doctors and other health professionals to employ extreme or intrusive or heroic measures to sustain a life even in those instances in which bona fide medical judgment has concluded that such treatment would be futile and that the case is

See DICTA, page 3

Editorial

An Open Forum

Three times in the last three weeks, the faculty has met to discuss issues of critical importance to students. They discussed various proposals to change the Law School calendar, including one that would shift some first-year examinations to January. In another meeting, they discussed the possibility of including a minority student on the subcommittee that considers minority applications for admission. Student interest in both these issues has been intense, but when the time for faculty discussion and decision came students could not listen because of the faculty's practice of closing its meetings. The merits of that practice have apparently not been considered for 14 years, and it is time for a reassessment.

Law faculty meetings, unlike those of the University's undergraduate faculty, have been closed as long as anyone can remember. Only once, it appears, have the merits of the practice been evaluated. In March 1970, a committee chaired by A.E. Dick Howard considered the practice in the context of a report on student participation in Law School decison-making. The committee felt that there should be channels for student influence on decision, saying that "notions of fairness suggest that, since decisions at the Law School affect the lives and careers of students, some arrangement ought to be made to bring student views to bear upon the process," including a provision for student participation in faculty meetings.

The committee's response was to recommend the present system of student-faculty committees on continuing concerns like placement, curriculum, and the calendar. It declined, however, to recommend that faculty meetings be opened to all students. The committee concluded that Law School faculty meetings covered a broad range of subjects, including promotion, tenure, and the qualifications of prospective faculty members, that required "candid and confidential discussion."

Almost fifteen years later, this recommendation is ripe for reassessment by the faculty. Clearly, the Howard committee's concern about the confidentiality of promotion and employment decisions is well-founded. It is not, however, an insurmountable barrier to student attendance at faculty meetings. By adopting a procedure for going into closed session for such discussions, the faculty could preserve the requisite confidentiality while opening faculty meetings on other issues of more general interest.

The present system of student participation in faculty system has several flaws. Student committee members are allowed to participate, without voting, in discussions of specific proposals from their committees. This assumes, however, that student committee members can represent all students' views. As the recent calendar controversy demonstrated, student committee members may be out of sync with most other students on a given issue. It also puts the burden of informing students about committee proposals and faculty decisions on those committee members. They cannot and should not be expected to perform this task, just as the Law School dean should not be expected to act as a spokesman when the *Law Weekly* and other newspapers on Grounds cover issues discussed at faculty meetings. The best way to inform interested students, and the campus press, is to let them sit in on meetings themselves.

Most importantly, open faculty meetings would afford students an opportunity to hear all the arguments on a given issue, and to learn which faculty members share their interest and concern. The present practice of closing meetings isolates students from the critical juncture in the decision-making process. It fosters the bitterness and suspicion that marked the recent calendar controversy and continues to strain the student-faculty relations. By opening its meetings to the entire Law School community, the faculty could relieve these tensions and assure students that it is not reluctant to be held accountable for its decisions.

Public Interest: An Alternative To Yuppiedom

by David G. Burwell

"The world is at a crossroads. One road leads to utter hopelessness and despair. The other road leads to extinction."

Woody Allen had not yet made this philosophical observation in the spring of 1973 as I anticipated my imminent departure from the plains of Charlottesville, but that is how I felt. Behind: The Sixties, Bobby, the Peace Corps, the search for individual purpose. Ahead: time sheets, deadlines, super-aggresive senior partners, and the climb to yuppiedom. As I contemplated my future, gazing out toward the Blue Ridge Mountains from the porch of my cottage on Hydraulic Road, the thought that raced over and over through my head was "so what?"

Now I know better. Now I know that the search for purpose (we call it "relevance") does not necessarily end with a law diploma. Now I know that the person counts far more than the place of employment. Now I know that even in the halls of Arnold and Porter lurk attorneys (even partners) as concerned with the quality of all life as the quantity of billable hours.

That's my first peice of advice: Don't think that being a public interest lawyer necessarily means working for Ralph Nader at $12,000 per year. As lawyers, we are all officers of the court. We all have the specific responsibility to promote justice as well as the interests of our clients. Take this responsibility seriously, not just in your *pro bono* activities, but in every aspect of your professional conduct.

This leads to my second piece of advice: Study conflict management — of which negotiation is only a very narrow subset. People want things settled. Lawyers *tend* to want things litigated. Sure, the Code of Professional Responsibility requires you to represent your client "zealously within the bounds of the law," but this requires lawyers to be sensitive to the distinction between a client's short-term legal position and the same client's long-term interests. In the long term, public and private interests converge.

Life is like a marriage: there are no permanent victories. We have to learn to get along with each other. This means a much greater focus on settling issues — in a manner that keeps them settled — than we are taught in law school. Learning how to settle things without surrender places a lawyer high on the list of public servants.

Still, you say, you want to be a *real* public interst lawyer. It's not easy. And you should approach the task with great humility. But here are some tips:

Pick a field — a value that you care about: women's rights, civil rights, the environment, union democracy, arms control, privacy, integrity in government, corporate responsibility, the rights of the poor, Third World development, etc. — they're all there.

Read, read, read — Focus on your interest, but know the context. Behavioral psychology, economics, current events. Everything *is* related to something else, but you don't have time to learn everything. Soon, patterns will emerge.

Postition yourself — You don't have to land "the" job right away. I wanted to practice environmental law, but I had neither the legal credentials nor the contacts to land a job with one of the few national environmental law firms. So I took a part-time assignment editing a legal handbook on environmental law for the non-lawyer. The edit became a re-write, the re-write a job offer as counsel. The moral: do *anything* to work with the people in your chosen field, then move laterally.

Volunteer — There is much wisdom in the observation that there are essentially two types of people in the world: those willing to work and those willing to let them. Once you know enough about your chosen field to contribute more than you require in supervision, you will be given the opportunity to do so. Take it and run with it.

Leadership — As you warm to your subject, gaps will emerge in coverage. That's when you start forcing the issue, setting the agenda, and taking aim at the jugular. Now the organization realizes it can't afford to drop you. Scope out a five-point plan to accomplish your public interest objective, highlight the crucial nature of your now-extensive system of contacts, and go see the boss. She might say "find a grant" but don't worry, you're in.

Finally, realize it won't last forever. In the words of some anonymous philosopher: "The institutions that men create for their own salvation (this was before ERA) inevitably end up enslaving them." That goes for crusades as well as countries — ask Mr. Jefferson. But, when it's over, you can retire to your porch under the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains and again ask yourself "so what?" Except this time, you'll have the answer.

David G. Burwell is a lawyer with the National Wildlife Federation in Washington, D.C.

Letters

S·H·E·E·P

To the Editor:

The failure of the law school catalogue to disclaim discrimination on the basis of "species preference" is an affront to animal lovers everywhere.

How can the University of Virginia ever hope to improve its laggard civil rights image when, 30 years after *Brown v. Board of Education*, the law school doors are still barred to miniature schnauzers, not to mention other furry friends?

To combat pervasive discrimination against those whose sexual preferences are heterospecial, we urge all enlightened and sensitive Law students to support the efforts of a newly-organized civil rights organization, S.H.E.E.P. (Students Having Extra-human Erotic Preferences). Our campaign to end centuries of ignorance, intolerance and "species-centrism" will begin next week with the first annual observance of "Beastiality Awareness Week."

Sad to say, the task with which we are confronted is a difficult one. History is replete with examples of prominent, talented individuals whose species preference cost them their reputations, careers and in some cases their lives. Who can doubt, for example, that were it not for her relationship with her horse, Catherine the Great would have remained as Czarina of Russia?

Today, the media perpetuate the myths and negative stereotypes surrounding beastiality. Even Woody Allen, a victim of ethnic prejudice himself, desplayed callous insensitivity to heterospecial relationships in his depiction in the film, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex," of Gene Wilder's love affair with "Daisy," a sheep.

Such civil rights violations will never end until those whose sexual preferences are heterospecial come out of the pasture and demand official recognition and approval from the Law School administration. Those Law students who are truly confident of their homospecial sexual orientation should not feel threatened by the prospect of members of different species dancing together at the next Barristers' Ball.

No doubt some right-wing extremists will charge that the members of S.H.E.E.P. risk trivializing the concept of civil rights and undermining the moral authority which efforts to end race and gender-based discrimination have long commanded. But we know from our success in pulling the wool over law school administrators' eyes at Harvard that we can dress up any wolf in the sheep's clothing of "civil rights."

Michael Lockerby
Law III

Charles McPhillips
Law II

This letter was signed by 58 other Law students

Kudos

To the Editor:

The Student Bar Association has been very active this year both in carrying out traditional roles and in introducing new events. As acting "voice of the students," the SBA has addressed and is continuing to address issues currently facing law students such as post-Christmas exams, the honor system, minority and women faculty recruitment and legal writing.

Although the voice of the students role of the SBA is important (the press certainly thinks so), the SBA, in my mind, is most effective and important in the variois activities and services it promotes to maintain and improve the fine atmosphere at the Law School.

When I began as SBA President almost a year ago, I had two basic goals. The first was to increase student-faculty interaction beyond the classroom. A Tuesday morning coffee break was established to do this. Also, there will be a student-faculty Happy Hour this semester. The second goal was to increase the interaction of law students with other graduate students. A monthly Law Student-Graduate Student Mixer was instituted to accomplish this. Another idea whose time had come again, I believed, was the Law School formal, the Barristers' Ball.

In order that the services of the typing room would continue to be available to the students indefinitely, a contract was signed between Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity as managers and SBA as owners. Lastly, in order to ensure that law students will continue to have a yearbook (interest has dwindled over the hears) the SBA has assumed control of this student service.

I wish to thank the representatives on the SBA, committee chairmen and the students who assisted them for a very proactive year.

Thomas E. Byrne
President
Student Bar Association.

HOSED

To the editor:

Congratulations to the SBA on its innovative inversion of election results. Because of its tentative decision, Jon Sandler will not represent us in the Student Council despite an undisputed 37 vote victory. Although Sandler did not actively seek the position, the Law School chose him as our representative. We cannot believe that the SBA would be so callous as to ignore the wished of law school students without, at least, a satisfactory explanation.

Help Our Sandlers Election Delegation (HOSED)

John W. Quarterman
Law I

Bill Eigner
Law I

Michael D. Twomey
Law I

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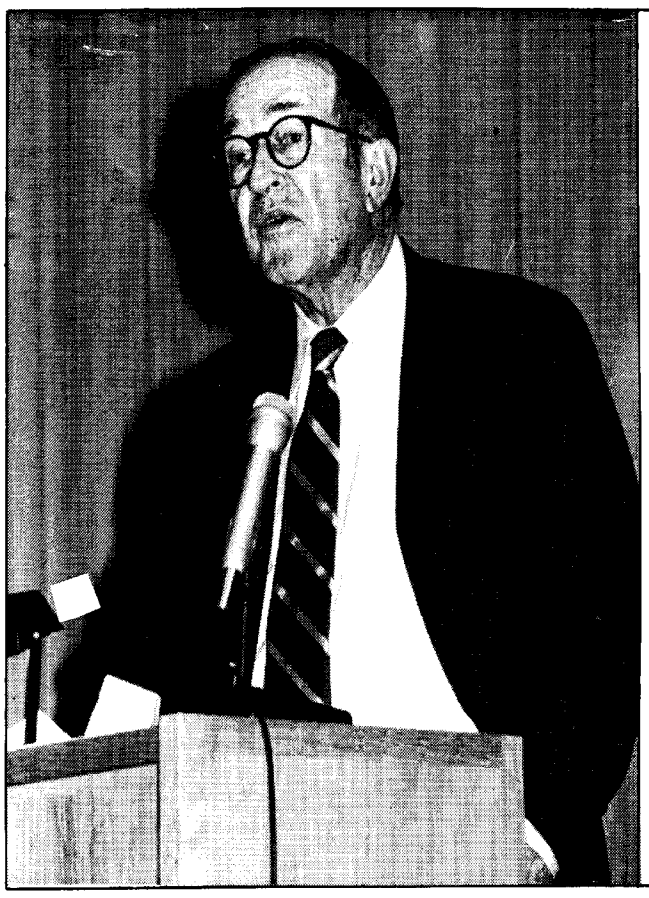


Former Attorney General Griffin Bell speaks in Caplin Auditorium during his visit to the Law School last week. Bell suggested that Thomas Jefferson would be disappointed to find the American judicial system "suffering from the virus of populism to the extent that we strive to make all cases alike for resolution purposes."

Platt photo

VLW Holds Spring Officer Elections; Considers Proposed Constitution

by Linda Ebaugh

Springtime means election time for many University organizations. But for the Virginia Law Women, this spring brings not only the election of new officers, but a vote on a new constitution for the organization.

Under VLW's outgoing constitution, membership is divided into two categories: the first category includes all women enrolled in the Law School, and the second category includes only those "dues-paying" members. In order for VLW to pass a resolution, its constitution requires a two-thirds majority by all VLW members. In practical terms, this means that two-thirds of all female students at the Law School must approve each resolution. In the early years of VLW, when few women attended the Law School, the two-thirds vote requirement posed few problems. But with the number of women law students at UVA reaching over 400, the majority vote provision has proven to be a barrier to effective action by VLW.

A group of first- and second-year VLW members, headed by Rosemary Daszkiewicz, developed a proposal for a new constitution that was submitted for ratification on this week's ballot for new officers. The new constitution contemplates several important changes for the organizations. First, membership in VLW is defined to include only "dues-paying" members. Since voting will be limited to active membership, according to one member, VLW will be able to act with greater confidence in supporting University activities, without the fear that its support is not representative of VLW membership as a whole.

A second important change is a restructuring of the organization's leadership and committee chair positions. Officers in VLW are limited to president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Standing committees are limited for four: Internal Affairs, Community Affairs, Projects, and Speakers. The new committee structure is a consolidation of the approximately twenty committees currently within VLW, created in an effort to streamline operations and clarify responsibilities.

In addition, under the existing constitution, each class designates a representative to act as an access person and liaison. The new constitution provides for only a first-year representative, since the membership felt that the second- and third-year classes already are represented adequately represented by VLW officers and committee chairs.

A third difference in the new constitution is that the election of VLW leadership will become a two-step process. Election of the four officers will precede that of standing committee chairs, permitting those individuals unsuccessful in the first election to be included on the ballot for the committee positions. By moving to split elections, persons sincerely interested in taking an active role in VLW will not be precluded simply by their loss in the earlier section.

Voting for officers under this new procedure began Mon., Apr. 16. A referendum for final ratification of the proposed constitution was included on this ballot. Elections for committee chairs will be conducted during the week of April 23, provided that the new constitution is ratified.

While there was some disagreement between VLW members as to several provisions in the proposed constitution, the new document does provide procedures for amendment, a noted weakness of the existing constitution. Given the increased flexibility of the new constitution, ratification appears likely. According to member Cathy Lucrezi, a second-year VLW member, the development of a new constitution for VLW represents another bit of evidence that VLW is moving in the direction of even stronger advocacy of women's issues at UVA.

P-CAP Drop-Add

Hearings Project Eliminated

by Brenda Karickoff

One of the Post-Conviction Assistance Project's programs has been terminated by a new state rule barring counsel at in-prison hearings, but a new project to help juvenile offenders is underway.

The Hearings Project suffered a fatal setback when the Department of Corrections abolished an inmate's right to be represented by an attorney at intraprison adjustment hearings, effective Feb. 1. Despite protests by P-CAP, the rule remains in place and has been construed to forbid the presence of Hearings Project members. With the project effectively ended, a new Juvenile Project is being planned in its stead.

The Hearings Project had represented Virginia prison inmates before the prisons' adjustment committees. The hearings govern offenses inmates can commit within in the prison and can result in sanctions ranging from loss of recreational or commisary privileges to imposition of solitary confinement for up to 15 days. Project members handled all phases of hearing, from preliminary counseling sessions to conducting cross-examination to appeal.

P-CAP was the only organization providing this service. According to former project director and current P-CAP Co-Director Tom Reeve, the project "assured minimum due process for the inmates." Reeve noted that "more often than not, the inmate should not have been charged with the disciplinary infraction. Often, the corrections officer was wrong, the inmate was not guilty."

The Hearings Project had acheived a consistent level of success over the last year. Reeve and Co-Director Bill O'Shaughnessy view the new rule as a reaction, in part, to P-CAP's success and the Department's desire to eliminate P-CAP from the prisons.

"The change in guidelines is an effort to ensure prisons would have a closed shop and would not have to worry about technicalities of procedure or unfairness if a given [adjustment hearing] panel," said Reeve. "Their goal of internalizing shuts prisons off from all eyes," O'Shaughnessy added.

Under new guidelines, inmates appear before a panel composed of prison officials. The inmate has the option of being represented by either a prison staff adviser or an inmate adviser. A prison adviser is a staff member who volunteers to represent inmates in addition to performing his regular duties. Because a staff adviser is not specially trained to represent inmates and may have no legal background, Reeve foresees three problems with the new system: the staff adviser may not know the guidelines of a hearing, he may be ineffective at cross-examination, and he may not be a strong enough advocate for the inmate. In addition, Reeve sees an inherent conflict of interest in having a Department of Corrections officer represent inmates before a panel of fellow officers.

An inmate adviser, commonly a "jailhouse lawyer," while a stronger advocate, also presents problems. In theory, the inmate adviser is also a volunteer. Under the prison's system of rules for inmate, however, the adviser's services must be purchased. Therfore only prisoners with and exhangeable commodity can obtain an inmate adviser.

Hearings Project members pursued numerous avenues to avoid application of the rule, but to no avail. P-CAP presented A.T. Robinson, assistant director of corrections, with a contract proposal to allow P-CAP to continue to represent inmate. The proposal was rejected, however, and individual wardens were unreceptive to the idea.

The National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Virginia Bar Committee on Prison Corrections told P-CAP that the Department of Corrections had acted within its authority in establishing the new rule. The political arena remains P-CAP's only recourse. While not optimistic, Reeve and O'Shaughnessy plan to remain in contact with prison wardens and to solicit letters supporting P-CAP's program.

While the Hearing Project is apparently over, the Juvenile Project is in its developmental stage following authorization by the P-CAP board. Project Tri-Directors Chris Hart, Cathy Potter and Rodney Ruffin are designing the project along lines suggested in student survey last fall.

From the favorable responses to the survey, the three directors anticipate a large student turnout. "It is easier to be enthusiastic about the project and the young people because of their ability for rehabilitation," Hart said.

Project activities will cover both proceedings prior to a juvenile's conviction and sentencing and post-detention services. Although the scope and exact details of the project are still uncertain, the directors envision students working as "special investigators" and attorney's assistants and with the state Probation Department as legal and personal counselors for incarcerated juveniles.

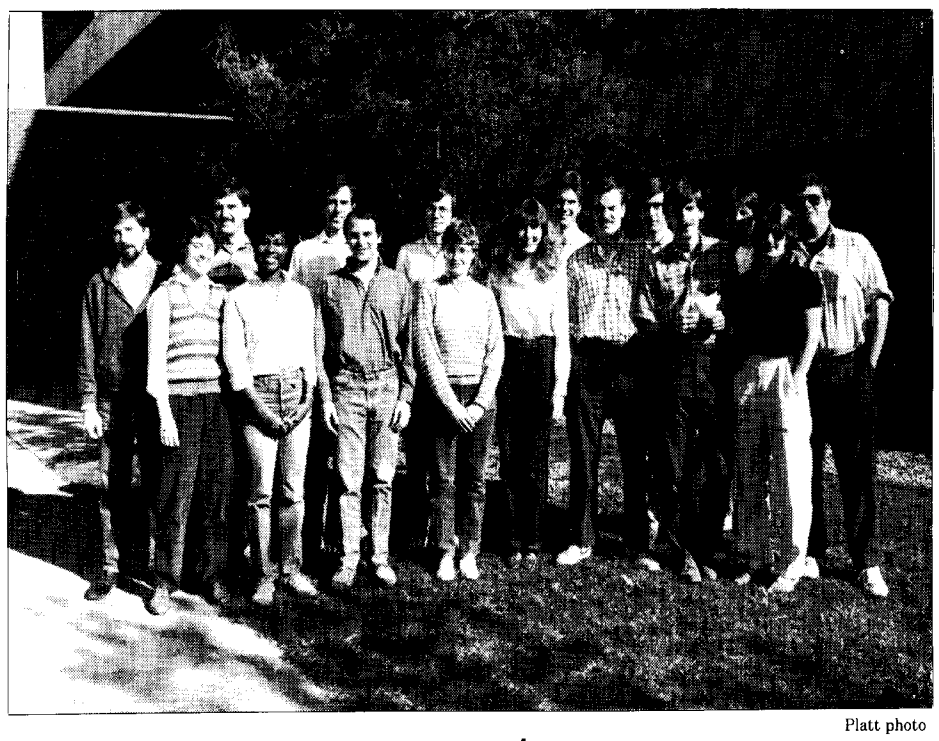
As a special investigator, a project member would gather facts for pre-sentence reports and recommentd particular dispositions. The students would basically act as a "helper of the court," Potter said, in investigating the juvenile's home situation.

Students will also work with local attorneys representing juveniles in court. While student involvement at court preceedings will be limited to third-year by state regulations, all students can participate in preparing for the proceedings. The directors emphasize that this will project will provide actual experience in litigation and will benefit the community at the same time.

The post-detention part of the project will focus on Beaumont Learning Center in Powhaten. Officials there have expressed a need for involvement aimed at rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. The directors intend to have P-CAP members provide educational services for the residents — supplying information and acting as "role models." The project members would be available regularly to answer residents' legal questions and to present information on criminal procedure, with the goal of reducing future conflicts with the law.

For the role-model aspect, project directors envision providing contact with successful outsiders near the residents' ages who will take an interest in the juveniles as persons. "We want to be individualized in dealing with the juveniles, but there's a high turnover rate," Ruffin said. He hope the project members can dispel two views widely held by the juveniles — that blacks cannot succeed within the system and that women are soley sex objects — to reduce their cynicism and sexism and thus help them succeed.

Although the directors had hoped to begin visiting Beaumont this spring, Ruffin is not optimistic about establishing a strong program so late in the year. Instead, he envisions working with Beaumont administrators and local agencies to design a viable program, and organizing a core group of project members, to start activities next fall.



Platt photo

Law & Politics

New members of the editorial board of the Journal of Law & Politics are: front row (l-r), Marion Vobach, Colette Wallace, Jonathan Constine, Elizabeth Ferguson, Diane Borkowski, Gage Johnson, Brad Kutrow, Lisa Westfall; back row Patrick Gardner, David Fitch, Chris Cherry, Jeff Koeze, Brad Marrs, Tom Glascock, John Rego, Michael Twomey.

DICTA

Continued from page 1

hopeless. Yet, nothing in this legislation would pre-empt that judgment or require that extraordinary and heroic measures be employed to prolong or sustain a life that is destined to be a short one. As a civilized and compassionate society, however, we do have the right and the responsibility to demand that such a child be afforded the very best care available to ameliorate its suffering until nature takes it course.

Perhaps the most troublesome line of argument for me to understand was the suggestion that, in cases involving life and death decisons for handicapped newborns, parents and doctors enjoy a private and exclusive decison-making authority which they do not now enjoy when older children are involved, be they handicapped or non-handicapped. What we are confronted with is an unspoken assumption that somehow or other the newborn is not quite fully human and, if that newborn is at risk with life-threatening handicaps, we can treat him or her differently than if the individual were 2 years old, 5 years old, or 55 years of age.

An illustration of my point is in order. If a robust 10-year old youngster became a victim of a serious automobile accident and sustained a series of injuries that were both life-threatening and likely to result in severe and permanent handicaps, there would be no question in anyone's mind that this 10-year old should receive immediately the best medically indicated treatment, nutrition, and appropriate general care and social services. Why, therefore, should a day old infant who, at birth, is at risk with life-threatening congenital impairments to be denied the right to equal treatment and care?

Somehow, through a convoluted logic that I cannot accept, some will argue that such behavior can and should be tolerated in the case of infants or newborns. I do not understand — nor can I accept — a line of argument that life and death decisions involving newborns should be made differently from similar decisions involving older children or adults.

The bill is meant to do nothing more than clarify the civil rights of a handicapped newborn. Perhaps the best way to understand it is to substitute the word "woman" or "Black" or "Hispanic" for the word "newborn."

H.R. 1904 embodies a necessary and timely reaffirmation — to all parties, especially those within our judicial system who claim that there is a void of clear legislative direction and guidance — of a national policy of full and equal civil rights for handicapped newborns who are born with life-threatening conditions.

Law School Briefs

Race

Don't forget the Race Ipsa Loquitur at 3:00 p.m. Free beer. Sponsored by Phi Delta Phi Fraternity.

Evaluation Forms

The Academics Committee of the Student Bar Association will be distributing student couse evaluation forms to professors this week. Please place completed forms in boxes located in the Blue Parrot Lounge and near the Legal Writing board. Course evaluation summaries will be made available to students in the fall.

Elections

Barring an appeal, Hal Hicks will represent the Law School on Student Council next year although he lost last week's election by 34 votes.

Hicks' total of 114 trailed write-in candidate Jon Sandler's 141, but the University Elections Committee ruled that Sandler had not met requirements for candidacy.

SBA president Stan Weston said Sandler had been entered in the race by friends. When Sandler realized during voting that he was on the ballot, Weston said, he indicated that he did not want to serve as Student Council representative. Weston said he informed the Elections Committee about the situation and it ruled that Sandler had not met the technical requirements for candidacy.

Sandler's backers initially considered appealing the committee's decision, but they have decided to let Hicks' election stand.

SLF Officers

The 1984-85 officers of the Student Legal Forum are: Shefield Hale — President; Chuck McPhillips — Vice-President for Publicity; Michelle Preston Vice-President for Programs; Steve Kennedy — Treasurer; Rolin Bissell — Secretary.

LIBEL SHOW

Continued from page 1

tures tied together the group of skits that composed Act III, "Serling's Swansong." Our heroes, the new faculty members, found that the goings on at the Law School could, in the immortal words of Guenter Treitel, as played by Bill Hopkins, "make Sodom and Gomorrah look like a Sunday school picnic."

A brief look at faculty members as The Three Stooges, a not-so-ordinary lunch at Cafe North and various faculty debates and student protests all confronted the new faculty members over the course of their journey. Gary Kruse, as Ed Kitch, won the Libel Show award for best tie and snazziest clothes, with Steve Meis a distant second in the tie category as G.E. White. Rafe Madan contributed an energetic performance as Bill Eskridge, while Mr. Eskridge himself good-naturedly cowered in his front-row seat. The new faculty members pledged their allegiance and souls to good ol' UVA by the end of their voyage, and the Libel Show moved into its rousing finale.

"Dr. Faustus Goes to Atlantic City," the rousing final act, represented the liveliest part of the show. The long and rambling routine concerned a contest to find essentially the person with the "Wrongest Stuff" in the world, and various faculty members, representing the seven deadly sins, constituted the finalists in the competition. Some of the highlights included an impressive name-dropping contest between Jeffrey "No Fault" O'Connell, played by Rolin Bissell, and A.E. Dick Howard, played by Chris McIsaac. O'Connell, ever the language master, baited the amazed audience with his close personal friendships with celebrities and finally out-named Howard into submission. The grand prize, however, went to Peter Mahoney as Bob "The Boomer" Scott. Mahoney's enthusiasm, combined with snappy material, a peppy song-and-dance routine and a well-paced slide presentation by "The Boomer" produced a rousing finale.

The entire cast grouped on the stage after the show and earned a standing ovation at Friday's show. The smiles and laughter among the cast showed that the players, singers and dancers had had a rip-roaring good time as part of the Libel Show, and the people in the audience last weekend in Old Cabell Hall all shared in that good time.

Pitching, Partying, Playoff Picks and Parting Potshots

by Eddie Nicholson

There will almost certainly be a new champion in the co-rec league this year, as the defending champion Family Model has lapsed into indifference, tie-games in replays of tie-games, and defeat. Simply put, the big boppers on the Model have lost the fire in their bellies. Male stars such as the Chef and Amando are concentrating instead on the macho playoffs, while Ed "Bottom Feeder" Flanagan finishes his thesis on Beechwood Aging. Female stars M.B. "Opposite Field" Steele, Lisa "The Other Alex Johnson" Eldridge and Sue "Cyndi Lauper" DeWalt are preoccupied with the regular league games of Girls Just Wanna Have Fun.

Who will replace the jaded, complacent, Voci-led and soon-to-be ex-champs? Last season, this writer was impressed by Seffert's Foot, who ran up Nebraska-like scores in the regular season, only to match the Big Red's post season el foldo. Never one to be a bandwagon fan, I will pick them again.

The Foot closed out an undefeated season by squeaking past Darden's Delinquents, 16-15. After several lead changes due to errors too numerous and hideous to describe, the Delinquents took a 15-11 advantage into the top of the fourth (and last), with a runner aboard and one away. Responding to incessant calls from the crowd for a relief pitcher, Chris "I Am the Walrus" Simpson yanked starter Keith "None of Them Were Earned" Langley in favor of ace reliever Tom "Arson Squad" Power. Power ended the inning with one pitch as Clay "Gold Glove" Warner snagged a line drive and tagged the runner for an unassisted double play.

In the bottom of the fourth, Father Guido, Brian "I Put the Short in Shortstop" Kennedy, and Neil Guidon all got aboard. Langely then flashed Kruse-like speed as he stretched a homer into a triple. However, a bad relay throw then allowed him to score and tie the game at 15. After yet another hit the B-Schoolers then inexplicably walked the misnamed Power to face Gina "I Love The Pressure" Gambino, who promptly singled home the winning run. Some thought the Delinquents were batting too many men in the order, but it was hard to tell because one pocket calculator looks like another.

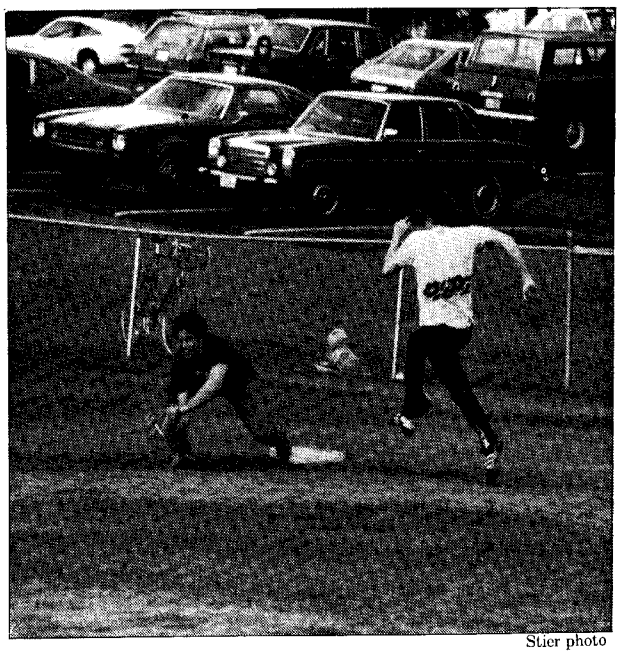
Other threats to win it all in the co-rec league include Some Assembly Required, the Screamers and Moaners (a personal favorite), and the Killer B's (Raber's favorite).

MACHO

This year's surprise macho team, Zombie Wood, locked up a playoff spot by beating Lawyers in Lust in five innings, 20-4. "That's an average of four runs an inning," said scorekeeper Steve Raber. Thanks, Steve. The Zombies also creamed Soiled Briefs. Kim Selmore said that nothing interesting happened in that one, and I believe her.

The Warthogs snuck into the playoffs by beating the Darden Imperialists, 6-2. Spaeth called it a typical 'Hog performance in which every run was unearned. Glen Stuart turned in several good plays in the field (as well as going for 4-for-4) but Bob "Lumpy" Lucas showed the effects of the Libel Show cast party, letting a couple right through the wickets. Or was that the Beav? Only Eskridge knows for sure. The most exciting play of the game was a foul line drive by Imperialist Neil "Frank" Howard that hit *five* windshields, an NGSL record.

The regular season champion Baby Stompers took the week off, accepting a forfeit from Where's the Beef? and then attending the annual softball banquet. When approached by banquet ticket sellers, Brad "Geek" Saxton asked: "How long is it going to last?" and then wondered aloud what excuse he could make to his Welfare State Study Group.



Stier photo

Only at the University of Virginia do we park our Mercedes within foul-ball range of home plate. NGSL playoff action begins this week.

REGULAR

The Greatest of the E's were on their best behavior as they downed the Bovine Buccaneers, 9-4. Consecutive "round trippers" by Steve "Krazy Legs" Kravitz, Jefri Wood, and Fred "Reggie" Leiner enabled the E's to pull away in the final inning. Kris "No Such Thing As A Routine Fly Ball" Nanda's two-out RBI single capped the rally. After the game, Bovine hurler Barry "Mr. Manners" Faber earned the Raber Whiner Award for baiting umpire Graham Burnette, who had called the game on account of darkness.

The Sermon on the Mound beat Girls Just Wanna Have Fun 10-0 last week, in a game with broad implications. Reverend Dan Sutherland claimed that it was no mere softball game, but was rather a philosophical battle between God-fearing and the narcissist, wanton "Me generation." Playing a sound, *fundamental* game, the Sermoners were led by the Stuart twins, Father Bob and Brother Glen.

If Sutherland's characterization was correct, then frightening conlusions could be drawn from the Mound's next game, which it lost to Dave "King of Pain" Masterman's Three Alarm Chili. Masterman claims an ERA of 2.48, which, according to the Beav, becomes his batting average if you move the decimal point over one spot.

Chris Seaver's slimy Bigga Dicta will make the playoffs with a 4-1 record that includes three forfeit victories. Other teams with a shot at the championship include B-Mean (one of the Dicta's forfeit victims), the Greatest of the E's, Newark and certain other parts of Ohio, and the Silver Carps (led by John "Adrain Dantley" Paris).

Never let it be said that this paper is a Pravda-like organ of the party. Another scandal in the Commissioner's Office has been uncovered. An unnamed, red-headed, George Rennick-like Head Commissioner who calls June and Ward mom and dad, bragged about the hose job administered to Section I this season. He said that they were purposely singled out for a division containing only JAG School and Business School teams and were forced to play three Sundays in a row at 10 a.m. Members of Left Study Group and The Vosburgs will be pleased to know that Father Bob Stewart, a nice guy, will be next year's Head Commissioner.

THEY SAID IT

Dave Masterman: "Why is it that a guy with a 2.48 ERA can't score in this league?"

Jon Spaeth on Bill "Fat Head" Bumpers : "He can do it all . . . and has."

Bob "Lumpy" Lucas, umpiring a game moments after waking up after his all-star performance at the Libel Show party: "Time out! Excuse me while I go throw up."

My farewell parting shot at the Commissioners: "Never have so few done so little for so many and so much for themselves."