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## Director hired to improve services

BY NANCY GEORGIU  
Features Editor

The Hastings campus has undergone physical remodeling during the past summer, but those changes are just the tip of the iceberg. Working behind the scenes is the newly appointed director of Student Services, Dr. Patsy Oppenheim. Oppenheim was hired by Dean Bert Prunty last February (see related article), but she has already made big changes in the way services are provided to students.

In her capacity as director of Student Services, Oppenheim oversees nearly every aspect of student life, including Admissions, Financial Aid, Records, Health Services, Career Services, Dining Commons, McAllister Tower housing, Student Information Center, Child Care Center, and the administration of the scholarly publications. Oppenheim is involved with ASH, and also organizes and supervises Freshman Orientation.

Oppenheim, who says she prefers to be called "Patsy," said she views her position as a link between the administration and student body. She emphasized two areas which are her immediate concern: the selection of the graduating class' commencement speaker and modifying the process of Drop/Add.

"The lines are only symptoms of major problems," Oppenheim said of the present Add/Drop system. "You have to look beyond the lines to see the actual causes. When you have three-fourths of a class that wants to change its schedule, something needs to be examined."

Oppenheim said she plans to address the problem of registration by having the three or four

major offices involved in the Drop/Add process discuss detailed alternatives.

"The key is to provide service to students," Oppenheim stressed. "We need to have courteous and efficient service for students."

Oppenheim stated she is currently examining the needs and concerns of both administrators and students to best accomplish this goal.

"It's a two-way street," Oppenheim said, in reference to the students' attitudes. "We can provide service from all the offices, but the students need to cooperate as well."

The director emphasized that people should behave in a logical sequence. "If you're going to complain about a problem, spend two minutes telling me about it. Then spend five minutes discussing realistic alternatives."

Oppenheim stated she is impressed with the student body. She said that those students who she has met have been communicative and willing to discuss alternatives to problems they have faced.

"Even if the answer we have isn't always the one they want to hear," Oppenheim said, "it's important to provide those answers in a courteous fashion."

Since June, Oppenheim has also supervised the redecoration and remodeling of the Records Office and Financial Aid Office. She has hired two new people, Director of Records John Nichols and Financial Aid Counselor Michael Roth. She said that both have already made positive changes in their departments. Oppenheim is presently working on training the administrative staff of each office to provide them with clear, concise instructions on the functions and duties of their respective positions.

(continued on page 2)

Oppenheim one of 400 applicants

## Prunty's first priority

BY BOB YATES  
Editor-in-Chief

After accepting a new five-year contract with the college last year, Dean Bert Prunty set forth a list of eight priorities. At the top of that list was his goal to "improve the quality of relations with and services to our students."

The hiring of Director of Student Services Patsy Oppenheim last spring was the first step towards that goal, Prunty said. The office of Student Services was created to address two major deficiencies, he explained.

"First, there was a need to get a more active representation for the students," the dean said. "Second, services delivered to the students were inadequate, to say the least."

The dean explained that Oppenheim was one of 400 applicants considered for the position. "She is very well qualified," he said.

Oppenheim now oversees nearly every nonacademic department on campus. Prunty said that Oppenheim has already used her administrative skills to improve the services provided by the various departments. He said he hopes the next step will be to get the departments to cooperate with one another.

"We must get them all in a cooperative frame of mind under Patsy," the dean said. "Once we do, there will be a lot more efficiency and less grief from the students."

Prunty said he recognizes that there is much more to be done to improve services to the students. "This was my first priority," he explained. "This is just a beginning."

The long lines at Add/Drop are of particular concern, the dean said. He noted that of the 1000 returning students, 700 went through Add/Drop during the first week of school. "That will never happen again," he promised.

"I will commit myself right now. Next year there will be a lineless registration."

Prunty said that he will ask the faculty to sit down with Oppenheim and look over the registration problem. He explained that one of the solutions may be to make it more difficult for students who choose the MEP option to alter their schedules.

Prunty said he is very pleased with Oppenheim's performance in her short tenure. "Patsy has made great strides," he said, "in making the whole staff understand that this is a service business."



Dr. Patsy Oppenheim

## Student disqualifications double

BY MARK S. COON  
Staff Writer

Few students entering Hastings contemplate the possibility that their academic performance won't measure up to the law school's minimum grade requirements. After all, most members of the student body have excelled as undergraduates, scoring in the top 20 percent on the Law School Admissions Test.

Yet expulsion — "disqualification" in the words of the administration — is a reality here.

During the first week of August this year, more students than ever before were sent disqualification notices informing them that, barring extreme hardship, they would not be allowed to continue at Hastings due to poor grades. In 1984, approximately 39 students were disqualified. That number more than doubled this year. Eighty-three students received notices in 1985, according to Jessie Yanez, student advisor to the Committee on Disqualified Students.

Professor Herbert Hovenkamp, one of five faculty members on the committee, said that he feels an increasing number of students entering law school

are unsure of whether they really want to practice law. To many of these students, Hovenkamp said, law school appears to be the only option for one with a liberal arts degree. Yet many soon realize that they don't have the commitment to keep pace, he said.

For students whose grades fall below the minimum standard — 1.7 for first year students, 1.9 for second years, and 2.0 for third years — disqualification is not an absolute finality. Unique among California law schools, Hastings has an elaborate appeals process through which one can petition for re-admission in one form or another.

Students choosing this route may appear in person before the Committee on Disqualified Students and explain why they should be allowed to continue at Hastings. If they choose, petitioners may obtain the assistance of the two student advisors to the committee, Yanez and Katherine Russell. While Russell and Yanez cannot cast votes on whether or not a student should be re-admitted, they can emphasize to the voting faculty members of the committee those elements which support the petitioner's argument that his or her grades can, given a second chance, be

elevated above the minimum requirements.

Professor Hovenkamp said that in order for a student to be reinstated, he must demonstrate to the committee that a compelling, nonrecurring circumstance was responsible for poor academic performance. More subjectively, Hovenkamp said, the committee must be convinced that the student can overcome his grade deficiency.

Of those who appear before the committee, about half are re-admitted or allowed to "re-examine," Hovenkamp explained.

Those who are admitted are faced with fairly rigorous academic demands. First year students must repeat any course in which they received a grade of "D" or lower, while maintaining an over-all GPA of 2.0.

Second and third year students must also repeat courses in which they did poorly. The grade received in a re-taken class is averaged with the initial score. Thus, a student who first receives an "F" must get an "A" on his second attempt to just keep his grade at the minimum 2.0 standard.

Hovenkamp said that those dis-

qualified during their second or third year "have no realistic chance of graduating."

Some students are reinstated on the condition that they "re-examine." They must retake their first year exams before being allowed to enroll in any other courses.

Hovenkamp said that of the students who re-examine, very few ultimately graduate. He was very critical of the re-examination process.

"It's a farce," he said, "created to give the committee a way of avoiding making a decision."

Hovenkamp noted that, although LEOP students make up about 20 percent of the student body, they account for a disproportionately large number of those who don't meet the minimum grade requirements. Some LEOP students have not acquired the necessary skills to succeed in the highly competitive law school environment, he said.

Hovenkamp stressed, though, that a large number of disqualified students are those who simply enter law school with "less than 100 percent commitment."



## in brief...

### Enrollment only verification

The Records Office can certify enrollment only for the semester(s) students have actually paid fees. Please keep this in mind when filling out dates of attendance on loan deferment forms.

### Confidentiality changes available

Students wishing to make changes in the confidentiality of their address, phone number, schedule, attendance, etc., should come to the Records Office to complete the appropriate form.

### Student Health services

The Health Service Office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 to 1:15. Physicians and counselors are available to see students by appointment from 9:00 to 12:30. Appointments may be arranged in person or by phone by calling 565-4612. Emergencies will be seen along with scheduled appointments. Insurance information and claims forms may be obtained in the office.

### Group II preference sheets due

The deadline for submitting Group II preference sheets is 5 p.m., Friday, September 13. Those students who did not participate in Group I must also submit the interview Schedule Sheet at that time.

### Let it be known

This *in brief...* section is a space reserved specially for student organizations, faculty members, and administrative departments to make announcements of interest to the Hastings community. Space is limited, so please keep announcements brief and to the point (no more than 50 words). Submit announcements at the Hastings Law News box in the Student Information Center. Deadline for the October 1 issue of the News is Friday, September 13.

## Patsy

(from front page)

"There is a need for good policies and procedures with which to work," she said. "I keep stressing the 'service' quality. We want to have a better process that will be better towards the students and improve the negative feelings that students have towards the offices."

"Likewise," she added, "the staff needs to feel better about knowing its exact duties in order to meet student needs more effectively."

Oppenheim said that she has a wonderful support staff, and anticipates meeting more students as the year progresses.

"We want the students' stay to be as comfortable as possible," she said.

She stated she would like to see Hastings students in a more unified atmosphere, where they could develop a more "collegiate" awareness. According to Oppenheim, this unified feeling should extend past the three years of study in law school.

"As alumni, you should be proud of your school," she said, "and develop ties with it, so that you can relate back to the time you spent here."

Oppenheim plans to meet with a variety of students to determine the general concerns of different student organizations. In order to maintain her goal of effective communication, she said she needs to hear what student and administrative concerns are. Oppenheim promotes an "open-door" policy, and said she encourages students to see her to discuss their concerns.

Oppenheim noted that "creating" a position, which is what she basically doing here at Hastings, is nothing new to her. She received her B.A. and M.A. degrees from Montana State University, and devised the residence hall programs there. In addition to teaching school for a brief period, she implemented and acted as the first coordinator of student programming at the Colorado School of Mines, a position she held for five years.

After receiving her Ph.D. in higher education from the University of Northern Colorado, she married and moved to Northern California with her husband, Dan. She served as associate dean of Placement and Alumni Relations at the University of San Francisco School of Law for three years prior to coming to Hastings. While at USF, Oppenheim devised a new system for alumni listings and directed the general public relations for alumni services.

In March, Oppenheim took maternity leave to wait the birth of her first child, a girl. Mackenzie Merritt Oppenheim was born on March 27. Oppenheim said she is discovering the joys of motherhood, although her husband is presently acting as primary caretaker.

Oppenheim said she someday would like to be president of a university. In the meantime, she said she is planning many improvements in student relations, and wants to continue to develop the services available to the Hastings community.

"We will be growing as the year goes on," she promised.



First year ASH representatives, from left to right, Pam Tennison, Jason Z. Jungreis, Cathy Niemiec, Susan Burns, Holli Thier, Marge Garner, Ray Cranfill, Wayne Gross, Sherry Alene Grossman, David Fanning, Joy Warren, and Hope Kalmus.

## First year elections held

The Class of 1988 recently held elections for representatives to ASH, the student governing body. Two students from each first year section were elected to represent their class. In addition to attending weekly ASH meetings, each representative will be required to serve on at least one special committee.

ASH President Donna Cole-Wallen said that

the first year representatives will be encouraged to actively participate in the governing body. The newly-elected students should make an effort to remain visible and accessible to fellow first year students, she stressed.

The ASH representatives for the Class of 1988 are:

### Section One

Cathy Niemiec  
Pam Tennison

### Section Two

Susan Burns  
Jason Z. Jungreis

### Section Three

Holli Thier  
Wayne Gross

### Section Four

Marge Garner  
Ray Cranfill

### Section Five

Sherry Alene Glassman  
David Fanning

### Section Six

Joy Warren  
Hope Kalmus

## classifiedsclassifiedsclassifieds

N.T. Happy one year. G.

ANC Sorry we missed you last week. Hope this makes up for it. Bill and John.

TROJ Where are your clothes???

IGGY Have beer, will travel. Right?

JOHN Show them how it's done.

TOM O. Glad you're back. DD

MY Moot Court brief is due when?

DAN Did the carnival leave town without you? Hope you catch it next time around. Tiger.

ARE YOU sure nobody bought my books? Karen.

I think it's a dumb idea. It'll never work. You know who.

TED Happy 25th. Love, C.

IS anyone following what Shattuck is saying?

TR Thanks for the add/drop switch. Beth.

LUCY Congrats on the job offer. Bob.

TROJ You wanted the names. We gave 'em to you. The Boys.

ACE This guy is for real.

TO MARY: Congratulations. You deserved it. Set for life, right.

SECTION THREE has class.

PATSY Welcome

DEL. Wish I could sit next to you in Con Law. Mystery Man.

ANDY So how was your summer?

BOYCOTT South Africa!

D. I got an "A" in Torts. Did you too? Must have been the outline. G.R.

PROF LATHROPE Thanks for repeating yourself.

CONGRATULATIONS Ann.

TO THE EIGHTH FLOOR: Hold it down up there. Some of study sometimes. Seven.

KIDDO No more long distance classifieds. Glad you're with me forever. Boss.

DAVE I'm tired of this crap. Let's buy a boat and sail away. K.

# buy sell tell

Hastings Law News classifieds are here.  
Get yours in today.  
Only \$1 for 25 words or less.

Submit classifieds at the News office (basement 198 McAllister).  
Deadline for October 1 issue is  
Friday, September 13

Limited space — First come, first serve.



## Admissions overshoots goal

# Largest class ever

BY BOB YATES  
Editor-in-Chief

This year's first year class is the largest in the 107-year history of the law school. The Class of 1988 has a total of 568 students according to Director of Admissions Tom Wadlington. Wadlington said he expects that number to "settle down" to about 550 during the first semester due to attrition.

Wadlington explained that the administration's goal was to have 550 first year students enroll on the first day of school. He said his office attempts to estimate how many applicants will accept offers of admission and how many of those will actually register. This year, 586 students accepted offers, more than anticipated.

"It's always difficult to get precisely the number of students you're looking for," Wadlington explained. "There are a number of factors involved."

The class is almost evenly balanced between men and women. Fifty-three percent of the class is male, 47 percent female. Approximately 20 percent of the first year students are "ethnic minorities," Wadlington said. The median age is 25 years, however ages range from 21 years to 62 years, he said.

The geographic background of the freshman class is diverse. Twenty-one percent of the students are not California residents. Students come from 184 different undergraduate schools. The largest representation comes from UC Berkeley where one out of seven first year students graduated. Thirty-seven percent of the class attended California state universities while six percent graduated from private schools in the state.

More than half of the class attended school at universities outside California. A growing number of students are coming from East Coast schools, Wadlington said. This year that group makes up one-tenth of the freshman class.

The average undergraduate GPA for the first year class is 3.43. The median LSAT score for the class is 37, which is in the 80th percentile nationally, Wadlington explained. He added that one-fifth of the class had a LSAT score of 41 or greater.

The director explained that about one half of the class is composed of students who qualified for "automatic admission." Any applicant with an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.53 and a LSAT score of 39 or greater was automatically offered admission, he said. Those applicants who did not meet the threshold minimum for automatic admission had their applications considered by various admissions committees.

The committees consider various factors in the applicant's background, he explained, including undergraduate school attended and personal experiences. No strict racial or sex quotas are set up Wadlington stressed, however the committees do attempt to create a well-balanced class. The LEOP students which make up 20 percent of this year's class were admitted through the committee process, he said.

Wadlington said he is very pleased with the results of this year's admissions process.

"This is the best all around class that has come into Hastings as far as balance," he said. "There is a very good representation of females, minorities, and older students. It's hard to predict these things, but this year the numbers all fell into place."



## Welcome to the Club

Did you know you are eligible to join the American Bar Association while still in law school? The Law School Division (LSD) of the ABA permits students attending ABA-accredited schools to participate in many activities with full ABA members. LSD members are also entitled to many membership benefits enjoyed by members of the association.

Although Hastings is the third-largest law school in the nation, the number of Hastings students that have joined the LSD is embarrassingly low, said Harriet Hawkins, the school's LSD representative. Hawkins said that only 14 percent of Hastings students are currently members of the LSD. Most schools have much better representation, she explained.

Not only is this poor representation embarrassing, Hawkins said, it makes ASH ineligible for LSD funding. LSD will provide matching funds to a law school's student government if 35 percent of the student body joins LSD, Hawkins explained. Currently, ASH could be eligible for up to \$2000 in matching funds if the 35 percent minimum was reached.

Students joining the LSD may participate in any of the ABA's 23 Section or Forum committees. The committees are devoted to particular areas of substantive law or legal concern. The committees actively seek input from LSD representatives and coordinate programs with the LSD to encourage student involvement.

The annual LSD membership dues of \$10 are very

reasonable, said Hawkins, especially compared to the cost of joining the ABA after becoming an attorney. She said that dues are kept low in order to encourage student involvement. The ABA actually subsidizes the LSD, she explained.

Membership includes subscriptions to the *Student Lawyer* magazine and the *ABA Journal*. In addition, LSD members receive car rental discounts, reduced premiums on health insurance, and a 30 percent discount on the Preliminary Multistate Bar Review course.

The LSD meets annually to discuss problems relevant to law students and to make recommendations to the general ABA governing body. This year the LSD met in Washington, D.C., from August 8 to 11. Hastings was represented by Hawkins and ASH President Donna Cole-Wallen. Hawkins said the LSD approved a resolution calling for more student involvement in administrative decisions and another advocating the implementation of non-discriminatory policies by all law schools in admissions and recruitment policies.



## Tower full

Despite a five percent increase in rent over last year, McAllister Tower is fully occupied, according to Kathi Horton, the building's manager. In fact, the demand for rooms in the Tower was so great this year that there was a waiting list of nearly 100 students in early August, she said.

When the Tower was first opened by the College in 1982, the occupancy rate was only about 50%, Horton said. "People just weren't aware of the Tower in the first two years," she explained.

This year she has stepped up efforts to "market" the building. "Every first year student knew about the Tower before arriving in town," she said.

The Tower offers a variety of accommodation, Horton explained. The smaller rooms, "efficiencies," rent from between \$332 and \$337 per month, depending upon size and location. Studios are priced at between \$400 and \$455 a month. One bedroom apartments are available for between \$478 and \$577. There are a few two bedroom apartments in the Tower, priced at \$820 per month.

New this year is the addition of two penthouse suites, located on the twenty-first floor. For about \$1,200 a month, occupants of the suites enjoy two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a dining room, a washer and dryer, and a panoramic view of the city.

Horton said that the penthouse suites were intended to be rented to faculty members. There were no faculty members interested in the suites this year, however, and both were rented to students.

"Apparently the demand by the faculty wasn't what we expected," Horton said. She explained that the suites will again be offered to faculty members next year, but if there is no faculty interest, she will open the apartments up to students.

Currently approximately 320 to 350 students live in the Tower's 250 units, Horton said. About 99 percent of the tenants are Hastings students with a few apartments rented to students from other schools. Horton said that about 70 percent of the Hastings students living in the building are first year students.

Horton said she is examining the feasibility of renovating the Tower's basement gym. She said the renovation will depend upon whether the College's administration is able to provide her with additional funding.

"Hopefully we can renovate this year," Horton said. "It's up to the administration."

She added that there has been some discussion about renovating the Tower's "Great Hall," the cathedral in the western portion of the building's bottom floors. She said, however, that the discussions have yielded "nothing definite at this point."

# ABA

## Law Student Division



# features

## Second year blues

Fiction  
BY JOHN FAGAN

He had never gotten used to the sound of his alarm clock. It jolted him out of sleep every morning at 6:40. The clock had been a gift from his little brother, a graduation present on the day of his departure from the University of Wisconsin. It was not that the alarm was particularly annoying. The buzzing was actually gentle, reminding him of the soft hum of his mother's electric sewing shears. But the alarm always seemed to go off right when he was most deeply asleep and the contrast between near-coma and consciousness startled him.

He shuffled into the tiny bathroom, showered, shaved, and brushed his teeth, opening his eyes only once to put in his contacts.

He slipped on a pair of jogging shorts and eased himself into the single chair in front of the kitchen table. Staring at the tangle of blankets on the bed at the other end of the studio apartment, he mentally went over the day's schedule.

David Brennan was a second year student at Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. Although it was only the third week of school, he could already feel the anxiety starting to build. He had hoped that the pressure would be off after the first year nightmare was over. Now he was beginning to realize that the second year would be worse.

It was Tuesday and the first day of Moot Court. He had looked over the semester schedule the night before. It was incredible. They expected him to draft a 35-page appellate brief in three weeks. The student teachers would tear his work apart, chastise him for failing to follow proper Blue Book citation form, and question his ability to write coherent English sentences. According to the schedule, he would be expected to re-research, re-write, and re-type the whole brief in four days.

What were they trying to do to him? He was sure no practicing attorney ever had to work under such pressure. Was this just a test of his endurance? He envisioned the law school's dean shaking his hand and giving him his diploma at graduation. The dean would wear a huge smile, almost giggling, and say "Congratulations David. The law is not really as difficult as we've made it seem these past three years. Actually lawyering is one of the most leisurely professions. We just have to make law school hell to keep out the riff raff. Welcome to the club."

*... it was only the third week of school and already he could feel the anxiety starting to build.*

David stood up and opened the aluminum kitchen cupboards. Yesterday, for about the tenth day in a row, he had spaced off going to the grocery store. The food that remained this morning was a tin of sardines in mustard sauce, two cans of diet Pepsi, and a half-empty box of Nabisco bacon flavored crackers.

He opened the sardines, rinsed off a dirty spoon, popped the ring on the Pepsi and sat down to read the cracker box. He used to read the *San Francisco Chronicle* at breakfast. But the paper was so poorly written that he became disgusted and cancelled his subscription. Not able to eat without reading, he took to reading cereal boxes, dog food coupons, and the contest rules to the Publishers' Clearinghouse Sweepstakes. All were more intelligently written than the *Chronicle*.

The prose of the cracker box troubled him. The product was identified on the front of the box as "bacon Flavored Crackers," with the word "bacon" all in lower case letters. However, in the discussion of this product's fine qualities on the side of the package, it was repeatedly referred to as "Bacon Flavored Crackers," with "Bacon" capitalized and underlined. The inconsistency bothered David.

Enjoy the sizzling taste of freshly-cooked bacon in each bite of Bacon Flavored Crackers. The thin cracker that's...baked with all the natural flavor of real bacon!

Great for Snacking!  
Great for entertaining! Bacon Flavored Crackers.

Why the ellipses, David wondered. As it was, the second sentence was not a sentence at all. Was the "... " supposed to cure the defect? Was the reader supposed to pause at the three dots for effect? The exclamation points troubled him too. He was always suspicious of exclamation points. Three in a row meant something's up.

*What were they trying to do to him? He was sure no practicing attorney worked under such pressure.*

David wondered if he had always been so analytical. They said that law school changed you gradually but imperceptibly. Was there no turning back now that he was critiquing cracker box slogans?

He reached in for a handful of the salty wafers. His suspicions about the exclamation points proved correct. The crackers did not have the natural flavor of real bacon, they were not great for snacking, and he seriously doubted they were great for entertaining. At least he would never serve them to sober guests.

Finishing the gourmet meal, David again brushed his teeth. David's father was a dentist back in Milwaukee. The old man had instilled in his six children a keen sense of responsibility to their teeth and gums. Proper oral hygiene could not be maintained, the dentist lectured his children, unless one brushed and flossed twelve times a day. David had slipped to brushing only six times a day and felt guilty about his daily negligence. His friends were certain he had a tooth fetish.

At 8:10 he left the apartment with a heavy blue bookbag over his shoulder and raced down six flights of dirty metal stairs. His apartment was one of 20 in a middle-aged building in San Francisco's Mission District. The building's facade was filthy and the neighborhood was a little rough. But David kept his room clean and the roaches weren't too bad. At \$365 a month it was a bargain.

He waved to Mrs. Sanchez, the landlord's wife, as he unlocked his bike from a pole near the building's trashcans. The bicycle was an ugly yellow three speed with bald tires. After having two expensive ten-speeds stolen in his first month of law school, David vowed never to spend more than \$40 on a bike again. It had been a year and no one had touched his three-speed.

The ride to school was always a challenge; he felt it helped steel his nerves for the Socratic arguments he would face in the classroom. The trip was only a mile and a half and fairly level by San Francisco standards. But San Francisco

## Imagination Lost?

*I don't know, maybe the Dharma is so incohesive in my mind that I just don't see the little Arabian Horses dancing to the African tribal rhythms like I used to. Think about waves and sand, get rain and mud. Feel like casual sex, get emotionally involved. What is this fly doing in my tea. It's drowning. I don't even like tea. It's the English way. Me is a stupid way of perceiving I, don't you think? What do you think? It's all to abstract, right? No, it's perfectly elementary. I don't know why I don't think about orange flying zebras anymore. I am mature now. Responsibility. Maybe, I'll name my first born child — discipline. That's all. No middle name to give the poor kid a choice. Destiny, what is the Dharma anyhow? Have you ever seen a fly do the Australian Crawl? I have. This fly is dead.*

S.E. Fineman

drivers were terrible and this was rush hour. The old Chinese men were the worst. Cruising along in their huge Pontiacs, barely able to peer above the steering wheel, they would cut him off without warning and drive on.

Evidence class began at 8:40. He hated Evidence. It was taught by Professor Earl Hoffmeir. Hoffmeir was a member of Hastings' prestigious 65 Club. The 65 Club was a fine collection of antique law professors retired by the nation's better schools. These old men had been put out to pasture by Harvard, Columbia, Chicago, and Yale. Hastings snatched them up and payed them exorbitant salaries to keep teaching until they dropped dead. The death of a faculty member at Hastings wasn't big news. It happened all the time.

Hoffmeir was old enough to be in the 85 Club. He drooled while taking attendance. His hands never stopped trembling. His persistent coughs racked the frail, ancient body. David was sure the old man would have a stroke any day now. He fervently hoped so. He heard that when a professor died mid-semester, the exam was cancelled and everyone in the class got a "pass" for the course.

Hoffmeir wheezed on about the importance of distinguishing between "irrelevant" and "immaterial" evidence. He would pause occasionally to wipe the drool from his chin. David sat in the back row and drew a sketch of his first ten-speed bike. It had been a fine Italian racing bike costing \$450. He didn't care about evidence. He wasn't going to be a litigator. He hadn't taken a single note in two and a half weeks of class.

At lunch David ate in the school cafeteria with a woman he knew from his first year section. She had sat next to him in Torts and he had always wanted to ask her out. She had never really responded to his overtures, though, and he was reluctant to ask her for a date until he was sure she liked him.

She probably thinks I'm a homosexual, he thought morosely as they discussed Moot Court over chef salads. If you were a single male in San Francisco, you were presumed gay until proven straight. Most women didn't even bother to find out whether their male classmates were homosexual or not. They just dated guys from Stanford Business School instead.

At the end of lunch, David asked his companion if she would go out with him to the symphony Friday night. The woman looked surprised, hesitated, then turned down the invitation. She remembered that her study group was meeting Friday evening and they would probably go out for beers afterwards.

She got up to leave, then stopped. A smile spread across her face as she looked down at David. Could they go out some other time, she asked. She sounded sincere.

David smiled for the first time that day.



# Schwartz sees return to career goals

Once comprising virtually all of the fulltime faculty, the "65 Club" is still an integral part of a Hastings legal education. Presently the age structure of the faculty is more conventional, with about 20 percent being "65ers." Hastings alumni and the California legislature are quite solicitous that this proportion not be reduced. This is the first in a seven-part series examining the thoughts and perceptions of this prestigious part of the faculty.

BY GEOFF WILLIS

In many ways Professor Louis B. Schwartz is typical of a 65 Club member. After teaching at the University of Pennsylvania for more than thirty years, he was forced to yield to that university's mandatory retirement rule at age 70. Schwartz brought a long list of credentials with him to Hastings including work with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice, and consultant to United States departments of State, Justice, and Treasury. He has been a visiting professor at many schools including Harvard, Columbia, Cambridge, and the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies in Austria.

Schwartz was contacted by Hastings several years before he was due to retire. "After I was first contacted, I put the matter off until I had occasion

to be out in San Francisco," he explained. "It was a beautiful day and I was so dazzled by the city's beauty I told the academic dean that I was interested."

"I was also approached by the University of San Diego which has a similar program," Schwartz said. After revisiting San Francisco, however, he chose Hastings.

Schwartz speaks fondly of his years at the University of Pennsylvania commenting that leaving that school was not "without pain or nostalgia."

"Penn has the smell and feel of a campus even though it was in an urban setting," he said. "Because of the size of the school it was also possible to know most if not all of the students in any given graduating class."

Noting the large size of the graduating classes at Hastings, third largest in the country, Schwartz pointed out that individual class sizes at Hastings are the same or smaller than at other schools. "When I was at Harvard I had a class of 260," he stated. "However, I do find to my regret that students here often don't want to do anything about personalizing the experience."

"Many students want an anonymous experience," he added. "They don't want to cooperate with seating charts or other techniques which help the faculty learn students' names."

Schwartz said the lack of a campus

at Hastings adds to the problem.

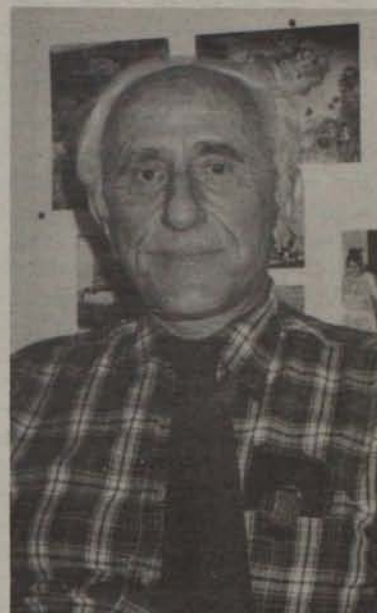
Schwartz said he has been warmly received at Hastings. "My ego has been much supported by the cordiality of the students as well as the young faculty," he said. "The students seem to buy the myth that we are sages or maybe good entertainers."

When asked if he noted any difference between East and West Coast students, Schwartz was cautious. "I'm tempted to say that students on the West Coast are a little more laid back," he said, "but that's a dangerous generalization."

During his years as professor, Schwartz has noted a change in the attitudes and interests of the students. "It goes in cycles," he said. "When I began to teach, students were very career oriented and soberly dedicated. Then there was a period of great questioning of everything including schools and professors. In the last ten years there has generally been a return to career orientation. At no time was there a lack of idealism, it was merely a matter of emphasis."

Schwartz has quickly readapted to life in the Bay Area. He said found a beautiful home of the crest of Russian Hill and his wife "couldn't be dragged across either bridge."

There have been major changes in the 65 Club in the recent years, Schwartz pointed out. He noted that the "65ers" once made up almost the



Professor Louis B. Schwartz

entire faculty of Hastings but now compose only about 20 percent.

"That composition of younger to older faculty is pretty typical of most schools," he explained. "The main difference is that Hastings has no mandatory retirement age. I find the interaction with the younger faculty to be stimulating and exciting."

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# editorial

## Feeling much better

Long lines at Add/Drop, rude staff at Financial Aid, poor student/administration relations. These are the symptoms of a disease that has plagued this school for many years. At times it appeared as though the illness might be fatal.

But recently there have been signs that the patient is recovering, slowly regaining strength. New directors have been installed at Financial Aid and Records and the staffs of those departments seem a bit more courteous. The line at Add/Drop still snakes its way through the halls but there has been a promise that next year will see a lineless registration.

The patient is still very sick and much more needs to be done before there is full recovery. But we're on the right track, thanks to Patsy Oppenheim, the school's new director of Student Services. We applaud Chief of Surgery Bert Prunty for his foresight and perception in bringing Oppenheim to the case.

Patsy, as she insists on being called, is well-qualified to put the school back on its feet again. Chosen from a pool of 400 applicants, she has held several college administrative posts. Her former employer, USF, has agonized over losing her. And her energy is dynamic. Go and talk to her for five minutes; she'll leave you breathless.

Now that the patient is off the critical list, let's give Patsy our comments, suggestions, and most importantly, our support in helping her bring Hastings back to full health.

## Changes all around

As the school year gets underway, there seems to be a feeling of change around the campus. The *Hastings Law News* is changing, too.

First, and perhaps most noticeably, the paper's physical presentation has been changed from a relatively traditional style to what is considered a more modern, open appearance.

Second, the *News* will be published more frequently this year than ever before. Last year the paper was published every other month; in the years before that, only once a semester. This year the *News* will be distributed on the first Tuesday of every month. Eight issues in all including a special commencement edition in May.

Finally, a somewhat different editorial philosophy prevails this year. Not more "conservative" or more "liberal," but more open to the views of the entire Hastings community, including the faculty and administration.

As always, your comments and criticisms are welcome.

NEWS ITEM: ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF REGISTRATION



## lettersletterslettersletters

### Speak your mind

#### Readers:

This being the first issue of the year, there are no letters to the Editor. So let me take this opportunity to invite you to write to us.

Communication is a two-way street. It must be a dialogue, not a monologue, to remain vital and interesting. Your response to the stories that appear in the *News* is as

important as the articles themselves. When you read something you agree or disagree with, write us.

This campus is filled with people from a variety of social and economic backgrounds. The views they hold range across the spectrum of political opinion. Your letter will undoubtedly spark further discussion. The free expression of ideas is always a good thing.

All letters to the Editor must

be typed and no more than 150 words. Name and address are required for verification purposes. Letters should be deposited in the *Hastings Law News* box located in the Student Information Center. The deadline is the second Friday of the month (i.e., September 13 for the next issue). Requests for anonymity will be considered by the editorial board.

The Editor

## What is Op-Ed?

You will notice across the way there on page seven a new section entitled "Op-ed." In past years there was not much of an effort to separate the newspaper's editorials from opinion pieces submitted by readers. Things got a little confusing at times; no one was really sure who was saying what.

This year we've set aside page seven to run opinion pieces submitted by students, faculty, and the administration. If you prefer, you can think of it as a place for very long letters to the editor. We call it Op-ed.

There has been some debate as to the origin of the word "op-ed." Some contend that it's short for "opposite editorial," since in many newspapers, as here, it appears on the page opposite the newspaper's editorial. Others say the

word is a conjunction of "opinion editorial."

Throughout the year our Op-ed editor, Karen Parnell, will be inviting readers to contribute opinion pieces. However, if you have something to say, don't wait to be asked. Unsolicited pieces are always welcome. Topics addressed can be anything from world peace to grading policy. Chances are, if you're interested in something, so are many other people.

If you do decide to write, please honor our space limitations and deadline. Pieces should be at least 500 words in length but no longer than 1000 words. The deadline for the next issue is September 13.

We will make every effort to run pieces covering a variety of issues written by all segments of the Hastings community.

## hastings law news

Robert M. Yates  
Editor-in-Chief

Features Editor ..... Nancy Georgiou  
Op-Ed Editor ..... Karen Parnell  
Cartoonist ..... Mark Segelman  
Faculty Advisor ..... Brian Gray

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Questions and comments should be directed to *Hastings Law News*, Hastings College of the Law, 198 McAllister Street, San Francisco, California 94102.

## Coming Attractions

In the next issue of *Hastings Law News*:

- ★ Progress in choosing a commencement speaker
- ★ Closing of Lake Law Books
- ★ Feature on the life of law student spouses
- ★ And much more...

Coming October 1 to newsstands everywhere



# op-ed

Despite decline in applicant pool

## Hastings maintains standards

BY WAYNE WOODY

Approximately 73,000 college graduates applied for 42,000 seats in 173 American Bar Association law schools as recently as 1982. Over the last three years the national applicant pool has declined between 23 percent and 27 percent. At Hastings, the decline was 21 percent. This was part of a decline in demand for professional graduate education generally. Even the highly publicized interest in yuppieism did not prevent a decline in applications to MBA programs in 1984.

Although the decline is demonstrable, it is much more difficult to assess the reasons for it. Demographic changes do not seem to be the culprit as the number of undergraduates has been relatively constant over the past few years.

*...the credentials of the applicants within the pool were remarkably strong.*

It has been suggested without any supporting evidence that the recent economic recovery created jobs which attracted many undergraduates who might have otherwise have applied to law schools.

It has been suggested that there is a perception that there are too many lawyers with a concomitant scarcity of job opportunities. I say perception because it seems almost impossible to scientifically prove the "fact" of too many lawyers. There are certainly more lawyers per one thousand people than ever before. However, I believe that the system absorbs them due to growing needs. There has been an increasing societal phenomenon by which we are legalizing

problems and taking them into the courts rather than allowing them to build up to the point where they may be taken into the streets. Hence, in the past there may have been fewer lawyers but there was less litigation. Today, there are more lawyers and more litigation. Finally, the most recent (1983) National Association of Law Placement statistics indicates no change with 90 percent of the graduates continuing to obtain law related jobs.

It has been suggested that the substantial shift away from the humanities in undergraduate schools to the more vocationally oriented terminal undergraduate degrees may have caused part of the decline. Undergraduate humanities majors form the principle feeder group into law school applicant pools. The trouble with this hypothesis is that it doesn't deal with the possibility that many students enroll in the humanities because they want a legal education.

Whatever the causes, it is clear that these changing interests will fall unevenly across the geographic spread of the country and through the perceived hierarchy among law schools. For example, this year Hastings received over 3,000 applications for 550 seats in the first year class and the credentials of the applicants within the pool were remarkably strong.

Although it is certain that societal forces are affecting the interest some have in legal education, it seems equally clear that there will continue to be a substantial interest manifested by competitive applications to those schools which are perceived to be high in the pecking order of national law school...like Hastings.

Wayne Woody is the academic dean.

## The Write Stuff McHastings?

Imagine this: You are in charge of admissions policy at a prestigious national law school. Faced with a dramatic drop in both the number of applications to your law school and the average scores of the applicants, you must draft next year's admissions policy. What do you do now?

The answer is obvious: Admit the largest number of students in the history of the law school — despite the fact that such an increase will cause the overall admission scores to continue their recent decline.

Sound crazy? This is exactly what Hastings did this year.

This problem, of course, is not unique to Hastings. The problem of a declining pool of eligible applicants is one affecting colleges and universities throughout the country. With a few notable exceptions, the University of California at Berkeley among them, university admissions officers have been forced to select students from smaller and smaller applicant pools.

For some private liberal arts colleges, this declining pool of applicants has meant reducing faculty size and the number of programs offered.

Law schools face similar problems, as pointed out in a recent *Wall Street Journal* article entitled "Here Come the Mediocre Lawyers." For certain "top ten" schools, the *Journal* noted, the solution has been to reduce class size rather than allow rigorous admissions standards to be weakened.

Hastings, on the other hand, has apparently adopted the "McDonald's" approach. How? By packing still more students into already overcrowded first-year sections, and making worse the already alarmingly high faculty-student ratio.

Where does this stop? 600 students? 1000? Hastings' first-years deserve better. Hastings' rich tradition demands more.

The quality of our legal education and the prestige of our law school requires that we cut class size now!

While we're on the subject of reducing class size, may we propose an intermediate — and for most of us — painless solution: Let's expel those students who brought disgrace to this school last year by lying on their resumes. It's just a thought.

Francis, another Guinness please.

## Conservatives are people too

BY REBECCA MASS

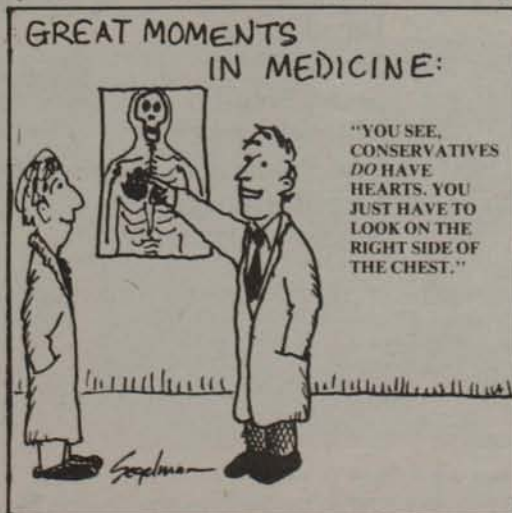
There is a vocal group of the Hastings Student body which classifies our students into two groups: Those that wear the proverbial white cowboy hat (the liberals) and Those that wear the black (the conservatives).

The Liberal (the "good guy") comes from a disadvantaged/minority background or has a sincere empathy for those who are oppressed. She actively supports government social programs and voted for Mondale. She is planning to work for a community organization like Public Advocates (or at least is keenly interested in the Pro Bono activities of any private firm she is considering). In short, she cares about her fellow man/woman.

The Conservative (the "bad guy") on the other hand, comes from a comfortable WASPy-type background and equates those "less fortunate" with those "less deserving." His idea of a government social program is the elimination of the business inventory tax. He proudly voted for President Reagan, and he couldn't care less about any of those "Pro Bozo" activities at the big corporate law firm he plans to be senior partner of some day. In sum, all he's interested in is himself and his bank account.

As with most caricatures, these classifications are neither accurate nor fair. Most people are a hodgepodge of various backgrounds, interests, motives and goals, including conservatives. Some conservatives in Hastings come from extreme poverty and welfare environments. They are supportive of certain types of social programs, are appalled at the South African situation, intend to work for community organizations after law school, and are very interested in creating a poverty-free, crime-free, pollution-free, educated society. Yet they still are politically conservative and even voted for Reagan.

These conservatives are not schizophrenic. The difference between liberals and conservatives is not the goals — an egalitarian society — but rather the methods: the belief that the conservative approach is the best method of resolving society's problems. For instance, a healthy business climate (which Reagan is creating) will hire more people, thus taking



them off the unemployment line/out of the poverty bracket. Educated people will also gain jobs, and so Deukmajian has pushed for higher salaries for teachers in order to attract better educators.

Victims of crime are usually poor and/or from minority neighborhoods. Their rights need to be advocated as strongly as the defendants. Gov. Deukmajian's proposed budget has the largest allocation for

toxic waste cleanup in our state's history. In the vein that individuals, rather than government bureaucracy, is the most productive method of achieving these goals, businesses have donated full-time executives to teach math and science classes in "less-desireable" schools. They've donated materials and specialists to set up certain programs, like computer classes, and have made concerted efforts to hire high school students in the summer. The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce (the voice of Los Angeles business) has numerous councils and committees working for business issues; over half of those councils work on community issues and their resolution. The goal, as expressed by the individual business leaders, is to give back to the community what business has taken from it.

Obviously, not all conservatives are altruistic, but then neither are all liberals. The "white flight" from the Los Angeles Unified School District after blacks were bussed in was not made up solely of conservatives. "Liberal" summer associates this year laughed at sexist jokes when told by the Hiring Partner. Pro Bono work is real easy when you're getting paid \$42,000 a year to dabble in it.

This editorial is not an attempt to recruit for the Republican party. Most Democrats feel that their party has the best methods of achieving a good society and have every right to continue promoting those methods. This editorial is meant, however, to bring to that vocal group's attention the fact that conservatives are also attempting to achieve an equitable society, albeit differently. In other words, liberals have not cornered the market; Republicans, too, have a heart.

Rebecca Mass is a third year student from Los Angeles, California.



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