

Editor's Note

30 October 1988: Last night the temperature in Madison dipped into the teens. A week ago, we had our first official snow, although it did not accumulate to cat-tracking depth. All this, it seems, only weeks after one of the hottest summers ever. My theory is that the extremes in the weather are tied to the increased use of duplicated materials in law classes. It probably has something to do with the chemicals in the ink!

Yesterday was also homecoming and the football team remains as cold as the weather. After losing to Purdue, the Badgers are now 0-8. Long ago law students were eligible for intercollegiate play. In the 1890's, one of the stars of the football team was law student Pat O'Day. He was a kicking specialist who still holds several records including a punt of 102 yards. Perhaps Coach Morton should stop over at the Law School and see if he can find anyone who begins his conversations with "G'day."

Our series of Appreciation Dinners continues. In August we joined a group of lawyers in Baraboo; September's dinner was here in Madison, with the largest number of honorees of any event; and in November we will be in Kohler and Milwaukee. At each dinner we honor teachers from the General Practice course, lawyers who have taught regular courses as visitors, and other practitioners who have done special services for the Law School. While the presentations are nice, the opportunity to exchange views with members of the bar is important for the School.

Another opportunity for exchange also just occurred. The Board of Visitors has conducted its annual inspection of the School. This year's format was somewhat different because we are in the midst of a self-study. Seeking the formal input of our alumni, the Board of Visitors heard presentations from a number of faculty on curriculum, research and resources. Perhaps the highlight of the event, however, came at the end of the two day session when Chancellor Donna Shalala came to meet the Visitors. You will be reading more about the Visit as they finish their report for presentation to the faculty.

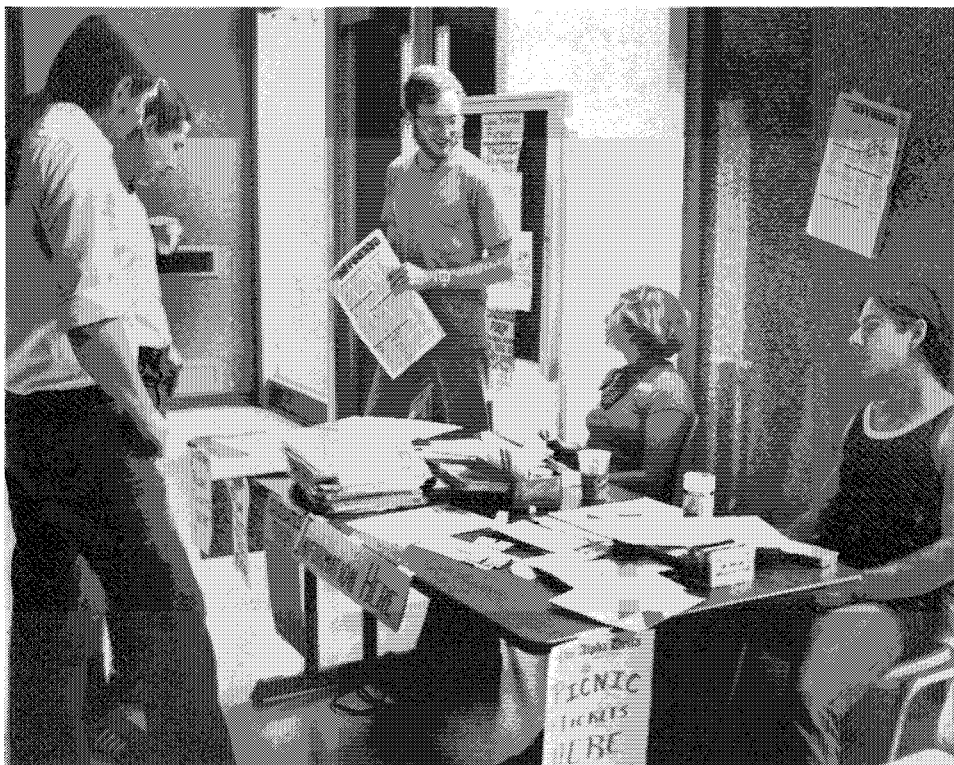
Another event worth noting is the entry of the new class of first year stu-

dents. Ordinarily this might not be considered notable, but this year is an exception. Our target for the size of the class is 285 students. In a "bad" year, we might be a couple of students under the target or four or five over. A month before this class was to enter, it looked like we might have 340 students! Law schools across the country, last year, reported amazing numbers of applicants. Law schools across the country applied its normal admission procedures to this large pool of applicants. Law schools across the country were surprised when greater numbers of students accepted offers of admission and did not reject to go to other schools which were already over-full as well. Well, by the first day of classes we still had 317 new first year

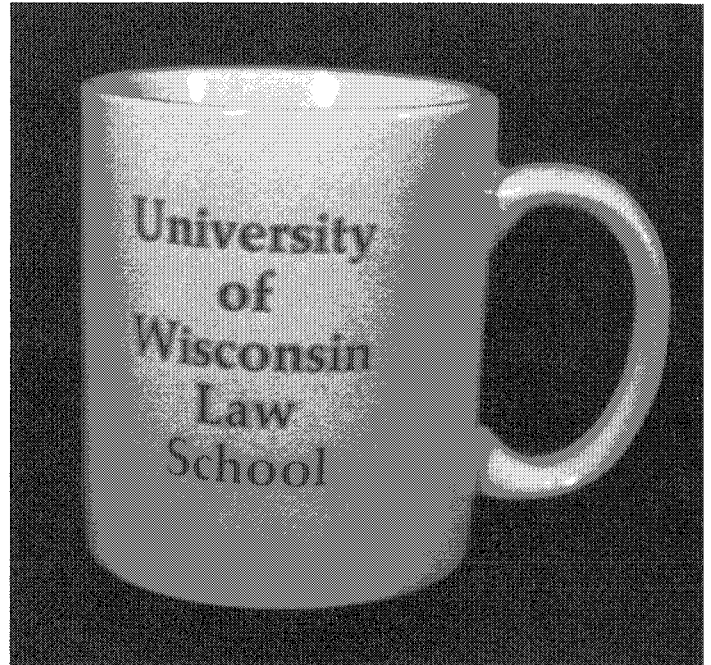
students, 11% above our target but not as bad as some schools where there are as many as 50% more.

Law schools continue to search for the cause of this surge of interest. The pool of persons in the "normal" age pool has not increased so some pundits are referring to this phenomena as the "LA Law" factor. Could one television show have influenced so many career plans?

Since I have been talking about the entering class, it is only fair that the mystery picture shows registration activity in the main lobby of the Law building. Incidentally, one of the persons pictured is also mentioned in the Alumni Notes section of this issue, but let's see if others will be able to identify the characters. One more hint: the time is the late 1970's.



Mystery Picture



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