

## 1974 ADMISSIONS

Can you believe it? During the fifties and the beginning of the sixties, the Law School enrollment dropped steadily, from 759 in 1950 to 462 in 1960. An *ad hoc* committee of the Faculty was formed to develop recommendations for ways of increasing the enrollment. The shortage of lawyers was acute. "We need not belabor the question of whether there is a sufficient number of law students today; the number is on the level of 1926, although there has been a population increase of 60 per cent," the Committee stated. Recruitment teams of Faculty members visited college campuses both within Wisconsin and outside.

The efforts to enlarge the student body probably did not produce the sudden change, for there seems to be a relentless, mysterious and complex tidal movement, with influence far beyond that of a law school committee, which for the time being, at least, is tipping a large mass of young people toward training in the law.

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For the last three years, the Wisconsin Law School has made a careful effort to reduce the enrollment in the Law School to a size more compatible with the budget, the size of the Faculty and the limitations of the physical plant. The effort has resulted in a reduction of the total enrollment by approximately 100 students in 1972, 1973 and 1974, and in fact 857 have been enrolled.

The number of applications (1805), completed and considered, rose only slightly in 1974 over 1973. Resident applicants numbered 876; non-residents 929. Of the 269 new students who arrived in late August, 220 are residents of Wisconsin, while 49 are non-residents. Median grade point averages also remained about the same (between 3.4 and 3.5), and the median score on the Law School Admission Test is down slightly.

Seventeen students in the first year class are participants in the Legal Education Opportunities Program, 14 of them residents of Wisconsin, 3 non-residents.

Ninety-six members of the first year class are females, bringing the total now enrolled to 239, more than 27% of the full-time enrollment.

Only one student was admitted without a bachelor's degree, representing a marked decrease since 1970, when 26 members of the first year class were admitted without bachelors' degrees.

Nineteen transfer students were admitted, many of them late in the summer, when it became clear that a number of the applicants offered early acceptances chose, at the last minute, to go elsewhere.

The transfers come from 13 different law schools in many parts of the country.

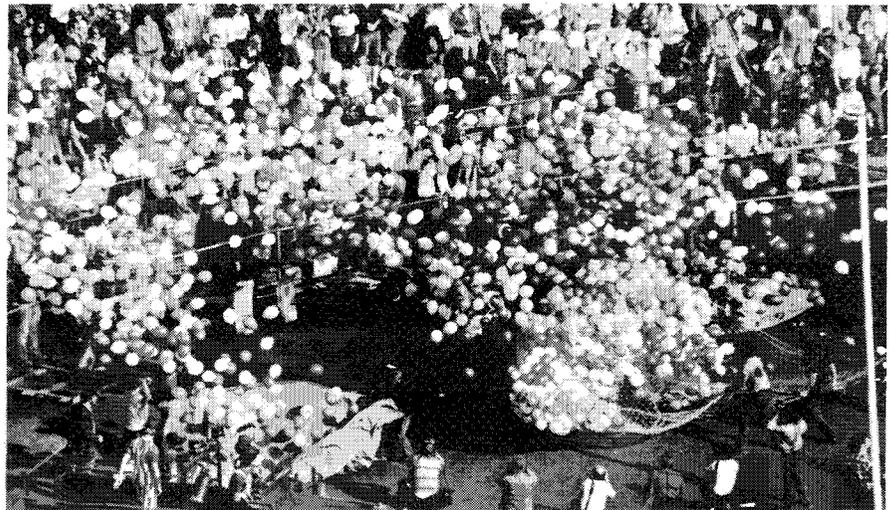
One hundred seven of the members of the Class of '77 have bachelors' degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and forty-four are graduates of the other campuses of the merged University. Of these, 14 are from the U.W.-Milwaukee.

Private liberal arts colleges and universities in Wisconsin contributed 19 graduates to this year's entering class, the largest groups from Marquette (5) and St. Norbert's (7).

The remainder of the group came from about 75 different colleges and universities, located all over the country. The small group of non-residents claim twenty-three states and two foreign countries as home.

The entering class includes students of many backgrounds, ages and sizes. Individually, they have many interests, as well as diverse purposes for studying law. There is a student who until recently was an investment banker, and the recently retired mayor of Ripon (aged 22) is a member of the first year class.

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Homecoming Balloons