

At an alumni gathering in Houston in January one of our graduates told me that she always enjoyed reading my note because she could find out what the weather had been like "up north." While, all of you who moved to escape the Wisconsin winters will be disappointed to learn that this has been (so far) the winter that wasn't! We have had more rain than snow and very little of that bone-chilling cold that always seemed to hit during registration week as we trudged back and forth across campus. But then, with the advent of touch-tone registration, there is no trudging. Maybe I've come up with an alternate explanation for the warm weather.

As we press ahead into another presidential campaign, perhaps some of you will remember Sen. Al Gore of Kentucky, one of the Democratic hopefuls of 1988. Sen. Gore was a guest on a Wisconsin Public Radio call-in show recently and mentioned that his mother had once been

a law student "in Wisconsin." With a 50-50 chance that it was at UW, I hot-footed it to the Library and a copy of Who's Who. Learning that Mrs. Gore's maiden name was Pauline LaFon, I went back into the microfiche record cards and, low and behold, there she was: a summer student here for three courses in 1935! Does anyone remember her? Can anyone explain why she traveled up from Vanderbilt almost 60 years ago?

We are about to report our 1991 placement statistics to the National Association for Law Placement. Knowing the level of anxiety among students and recent graduates, and having read all the horror stories about the state of the market, it was with some trepidation that I began assembling the necessary statistics. But, while they are worse than we would like and lower than recent classes, over 93% of the class is placed and in law-related jobs. You can never be satisfied so long as there is one unplaced graduate and the current market

does require some procedural changes. With the Dean's encouragement I soon began traveling out to employers, employers that regularly hire our graduates, employers that we would like to hire our graduates, and employers that students would like to work for. The purpose of these visits will be to promote the school and to explain the processes available to assist employers with their recruiting needs.

Two other developments should be mentioned with respect to placement efforts. The State Bar of Wisconsin, particularly the Mentor Council, should be congratulated for its assistance. The Mentor Council has arranged a series of panel discussions at each of Wisconsin's two law schools where students can learn about various types of career opportunities from practicing lawyers. They also offer students a one-to-one mentoring arrangement with a practicing lawyer and a "tag-along" program so that the student can observe what happens on a typical day.

We have also stepped-up our services for students interested in public interest careers. Using funds generated by our on-campus interview fees, we have hired a one-third time student assistant to provide public interest information. As the private market has become tighter, the number of graduates turning to public interest opportunities has increased and the availability of additional staff time is most welcomed.

As I write, the first of the "new design" Gargoyles is about to be mailed. Consequently I cannot report whether anyone has successfully identified that issue's mystery picture. For this issue I have chosen one that should be easy. I picked it because one of the people in the picture recently sat next to me at a local middle school program that we both had children in. Members of the Class of 1977, who are these young men and women and what was the occasion for the ties and dresses?



Mystery Picture

The Gargoyle invites alumni to send news of interest such as a change of status within a firm, a change of association, or selection to a position of leadership in the community or in a professional organization.

We also ask that you notify us of address changes and that you allow us to help you with your hiring needs.

Please fill out the appropriate cards and return them to:

WLAA
UW Law School
975 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706

Alumni News

Name	Class
Address	
Telephone	
News or Comments	

Change of Address

Name	Class
Position, Firm	
Office Address	
Office Telephone	
Home Address	
Home Telephone	

Placement

Anticipated opening for third-, second-, and/or first- year law students or experienced attorney .

Date position(s) available _____

Employers name and address _____

Person to contact _____ Telephone _____

Please attach a job description if applicable.

- I am willing to serve as a resource or contact person in my area for School of Law students.
- Please list my request for an experienced attorney in the *Alumni Placement Bulletin*.

Submitted by _____ Class _____