

Editor's Note

Everyone probably remembers some law school exam. For me, it was in Willard Hurst's Legislation class. One hour and twenty minutes after the beginning of the exam, I finished reading the single question, eight pages, single space! About three hours after that I could write no more, nor could I release the pen from my cramped fingers.

I did reasonably well on that exam, and I hope that our current students have been at least that successful in the exams recently concluded. They certainly did not have a promising start.

In the middle of the Evidence exam, test takers began to complain that the room was smoky. Well, some people still need a cigarette, especially during exams, right? Wrong, workers two floors below, repairing some ventilating equipment had started a smoldering fire in insulation, sending clouds of acrid smoke through the vents and into the middle of the Evidence exam. Unwilling to pull the fire alarm with exams underway, the University Safety Department extinguished the smoldering insulation and we in the Law School relocated the exam in a smoke-free room.

Just a few days later, with exams still underway, we awoke to find Madison blanketed with a major blizzard. With six inches on the ground by the start of morning exams, and with five more to fall during the morning, once again we scrambled to give the exam to those who made it and rescheduling it for those who could not. Enough of that snow drifted into unusual places that, as it melted, water began cascading into the B-level hallways the next day.

Fire, blizzard and flood! At least exams were over. But then, during a shorter than usual semester break, another blizzard hit, and a cold spell with -50 wind chills. Just a typical Madison winter.

It isn't often that I can break a story in this column. Considering that this story began more than a decade ago, "break" may not be very descriptive. Since about 1976, the Law School has been proposing various plans to relieve the space shortage encountered first in the early 70's when enrollment went up. In 1978, a modest addition was constructed onto the Library. Initially this space was to be

used for offices and classrooms, but, after the anticipated second phase expansion took place, this space was to be given back to the Library.

Over time, a number of plans were tested and rejected. They included a blocky building stuck onto room 250; a grafted addition to the faculty office tower; and a complicated underground plan that would have put additional space under the Bascom Hill entryway and several other locations.

Two years ago, an inventive plan surfaced: construct the needed space within our courtyard, then cover the space with skylights and replace the greenery creating a year-round atrium. In addition, architects assure us that they can tie the various spaces and levels with a "communication core" of stairs and elevators that will, once and for all, make some sense of circulation in the building.

In December, members of the Law School's Building Committee met with the UW Campus Planning Committee,

the first step toward possible construction. The plan seemed well-received, with no questions raised about whether the space is indeed justified.

If the project ultimately is approved by the State Building Commission, we will add approximately 20 offices, space for Continuing Legal Education, seminar rooms, and a "practice complex" featuring a teaching trial courtroom. Equally important, the plan frees-up space in the 1978 addition which can be returned to the Library easing their serious shortage of stack space.

The mystery picture in Vol. 18, No. 3 remains a mystery as I write this column. Of course none of the issues have been mailed out so expecting you to identify it may be unrealistic.

Since this issue is devoted to commencement activities, the mystery picture has been chosen to conform. It is from 1971, and shows students and family members at a reception in the Student Lounge. Who are all those happy people?



45th Annual Spring Program



**Madison, Wisconsin
Friday & Saturday
April 29–30, 1988**

**Friday Evening
Benchers Society Dinner
(members and guests)**

**Saturday Luncheon
(all alumni and guests)**

**Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin
Law Alumni Association**

**Recognition of reunion classes:
1938, 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958,
1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983**

Details, and reservation forms, will be mailed by 1 April.



The "Old" Law School Ties

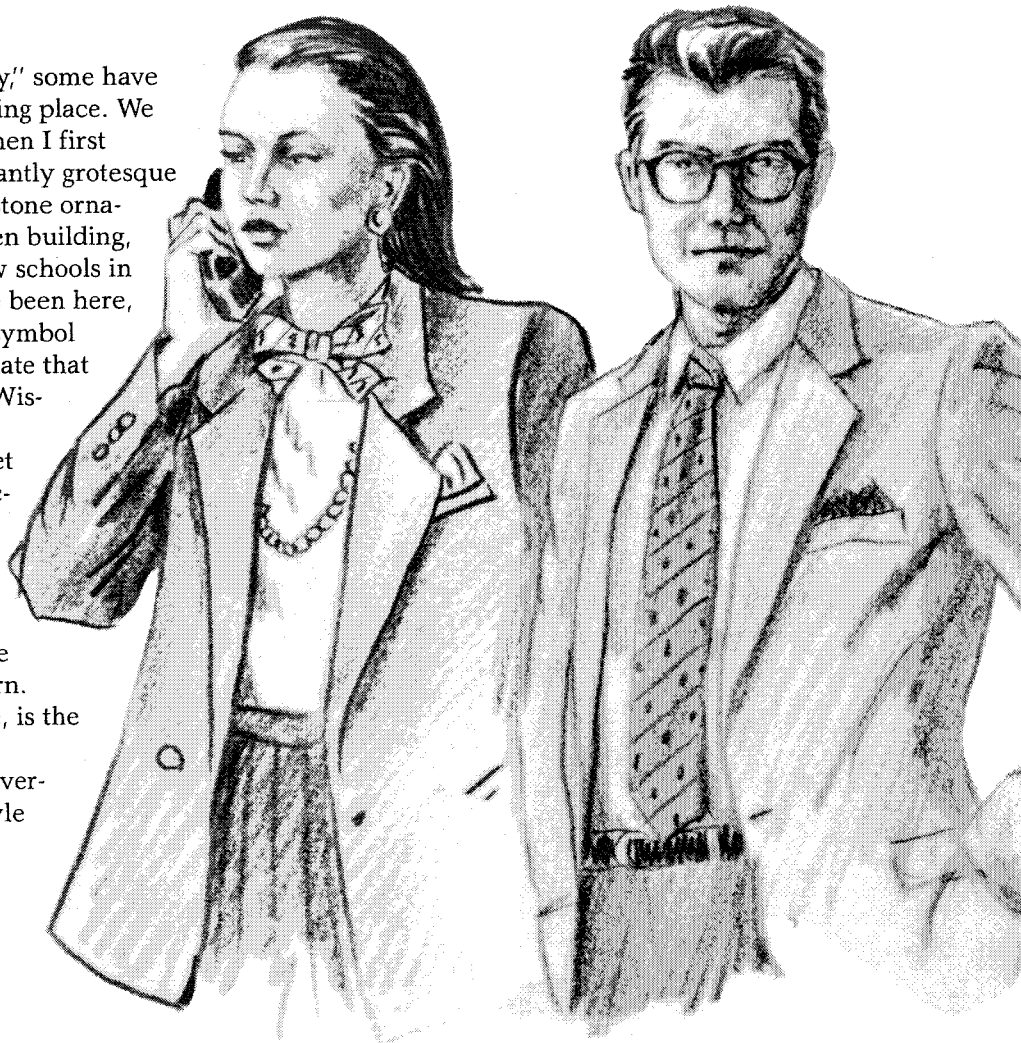
*Hurry!
Only 400 ties remain!*

Dear Alum:

Some schools have their "halls of ivy," some have a school song or a traditional gathering place. We at Wisconsin have the Gargoyle! When I first arrived I wondered about this pleasantly grotesque symbol. What did a weathered old stone ornament, fallen from an almost forgotten building, have to do with one of the finest law schools in the country? In the few years I have been here, I have come to not only accept the symbol but to embrace it. It seems appropriate that the excellence of the University of Wisconsin Law School should be represented by our Gargoyle—ancient, yet timeless; mysterious, but our protective friend.

Well, now we can show the world where we are from and what our symbol is. We have created the "old" school tie, a silk blend necktie embroidered with a Gargoyle pattern. On the shield, held by the Gargoyle, is the founding date of the School, 1868.

As we approach our 120th Anniversary, you, too, can show our Gargoyle to the world.



Cliff F. Thompson
Dean

University of Wisconsin Law School Ties

Silk blend ties, available in Cardinal Red or Dark Blue, in a traditional Men's tie, or a Women's bow tie.

\$25.00, which includes sales tax, postage and handling

Make checks payable to "WLAA" and return to:
Wisconsin Law Alumni Association
University of Wisconsin Law School
Madison, WI 53706

	Number		Total
Men's—Blue	_____	@\$25	_____
Men's—Red	_____	@\$25	_____
Women's—Blue	_____	@\$25	_____
Women's—Red	_____	@\$25	_____
		Total	\$ _____

Send to:
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