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TRADE SCHOOL NEWS

"Little man whip a big man every time if the little man's
in the right and keeps a' comin'."

(Motto of the Texas Rangers)

THE NEW NIGHT SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

A T. S. News Survey

by

Clarence Bolden

The faculty and Dean of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law have agreed to phase-out the evening law school program as soon as this can be covertly accomplished. That, at least, is the response which 21 night students out of 34 polled (63 + %) gave when asked in the recent T. S. News survey whether they agreed with the rumor that plans to eliminate the evening school had been drawn. Of ten students asked, or 30 + %, declared that rumor to be nonsense, while 6 + % simply did not know whether there was any truth to the statement.

One thing is certain, however, the new schedule implemented last quarter finds no favor with the majority of the student body affected and represented in our poll. While we cannot say that the results to our questions are conclusive, they do indicate that the shortening of class periods and combining of several subjects into a single evening session may be injurious to the night students academic performance and morale. The additional questions asked and the tabulated responses to them follow:

Are you generally in favor or opposed to the new night school schedule?
Favor - 9 students or 26 + %. Disfavor - 25 students or 73 + %.

How many nights per week are you in class?
One night - 1 student or 2%; Two nights - 3 students or 8%;
Three nights - 7 students or 24%; Four nights - 17 students
or 50%; Five nights - 6 students or 16%.

On most nights, do you have one or several classes?
One class - 14 or 42 + %; Several classes 19 or 57 + %.

Does it improve or worsen your study situation?
Improve - 6 students or 17 + %; Worsen - 28 students or 82 + %.

Does it give you greater contact with non-classroom activities at the school?
Yes - one student or 4% ; No - 32 students or 96 + %.

Do you use library or office facilities more?
Yes - 4 students or 12 + %; No - 28 students or 77 + %.

Has the new nights schedule worked a hardship on your family life?
Yes - 25 Students or 73 + %; No - 9 students or 26 + %.

On balance, the indication is that very little of benefit may expect to come to students because of the shift from the old to the new night school structure. While it is true that fatigue was a familiar companion to students and faculty under the previous schedule which basically saw both in one class from 6 - 9 p.m. three nights per week, it makes little sense to tire either with different classes, from 6 - 10 p.m., on as many nights per week and to call this progress. The previous schedule at least assured students and faculty that there would be one or two free nights during which they could study, and review, tend to family matters, or simply get some needed rest. Now we have at least some evidence that all of these things are being jeopardized, and that the quality of education at Cleveland-Marshall will suffer accordingly.

It would be helpful if some member of the administration could enlighten the students whom it is suppose to serve as to those things which are meritorious about the current schedule. At present, it would seem that the advantage that was gained, whatever it was, meant a loss to the night student.

AN EDITORIAL- THE WATERGATE ATMOSPHERE COMES TO C. S. U.

Two weeks ago Dean Christensen held an open forum with students in the lounge. The parallels to a Nixon news conference were astonishing - the same wordy, off-the-point answers to simple straight-forward questions, the same calculated candor and nervous verbal sparing with his questioners. The students showed a corresponding skepticism, occasionally barely concealing hostility worthy of veteran White House reporters. Over a third of the questions dealt with the Dean's policies and intentions regarding the future of the evening law school. By answering these questions evasively with the same hackneyed phrases such as "pedagogically superior" without any supportive facts, the Dean has merely widened the credibility gap with students. If Dean C. wishes to stem the growing disbelief of students (and faculty) in the truth of what he says on this matter, he will have to come up with more facts and fewer blind assertions. If the Dean meant what he said about law school being a participatory democracy, the practice of making policy decisions in scheduling and other matters affecting students without prior consultation or concurrence of the student body should also come to an end.

DOCTOR JURIS

The Student's Shop Steward

Dear D. J.;

Most of my teachers are on a very high ego trip. Some seem to enjoy getting off by humiliating students in class. Is this type of sadism necessary to legal education? What should I do?

/s/ Humiliated More Than Once

Dear Humiliated,

It has been said by a learned scholar, "Lawyers are the pimps of society". As a future lawyer some professors believe you must first get screwed yourself so that you can later "do onto others". There are other reasons often given such as - "it stimulates the atmosphere of the courtroom" where lawyers act as supplicants before a judge and it gets you pissed off at/or scared of your professor so you work harder.

As to your second question, the best way to deal with this sort of thing is prepare your stuff and do what you're here for - study law. If the professor puts you down in a personal way return fire in kind, but don't get emotional, rude, or offer to apologize. And never but never leave the classroom, you paid your tuition to take the course, let the professor leave if he's really tied one on. Some professors humiliate certain students in order to intimidate the whole class. If you acquiesce to accept humiliation of fellow students, this will only contribute to dictatorial control by the instructor of the classroom situation. As a future professional advocate, this is hardly the way to travel.

Dear D. J.,

I entered law school because I wanted to save humanity from its own stupidity by working inside the established legal system. Now that I'm ready to graduate, it seems there is no where to go. All the big law firms are dedicated to helping the rich and preserving the status quo; the little firms are busy scratching for crumbs; and the government requires strict conformity to its present line. Where can an idealistic graduate turn?

/s/ Almost Disillusioned

Dear Almost,

For a start, turn to reality. For every Ralph Nader or William Kunstler there are thousands of legal Walter Mittys and closet idealists; you cannot expect the world to pay you for advocating social change. If you are willing to starve for a while and you are pretty talented you can set up a private practice of your own. Most of your work will hardly involve social change or the great issues of the day, but you may make enough bread to take the kind of cases you want pro bono on the side.

On the other hand you can always join the "establishment", be discreet, with the idea of doing what you can now (usually very little) and really change the system when you get to the "top". Usually, however, it's the individual that changes, not the system.

STU'S SIDE BAR

Dear Stu,

I'm losing communication with my law student husband. He spends four nights a week at your law school, and I slightly resent it. Between his studying and working, and having the children on my back all day, I need professional advice. What can I do to bring us together?

/s/ Losing Out

Dear Losing Out,

Your problem is not uncommon in the ever changing world of the wife. The professional advice you require can best be made available on a personal basis. To fully grasp the significance of your problems, I will need a few more facts. I need to know your height, weight, color of hair and eyes, your measurements, and if possible a picture. Further I need to know when your husband has class and how late he is at school. Your problem seems to be your inability to relate, which I can help you with. When I receive this information, we can then begin an extensive program of interaction.

Dear Stu,

Before entering law school, I knew I would have less time for sex, however, not only do I have less time but I feel completely drained and deflated after a week of studying and attending classes. Stu, can studying law make you impotent?

/s/ Worried

Dear Worried,

There are several theories on this subject which are contained in my first book entitled, Law and the Sexually Frustrated. If you buy the book bring it to me and I will autograph it. There are some excerpts from this book that might help you. The story written by Baron Bilgwater should help to cleanse your mind and think clearly and the story written by the 2 Million Dollar Professor will help you learn to screw the system. With these two stories behind you concentrate on the fact that as the Latin's say, Con penis erecto non conscientium est. If none of this works it might be necessary for you to take the problem in hand and play with it till something comes out.

x x x

Stu is a clinically trained male, fully qualified to advise law students on their socio-sexual problems. Address your questions to Stu, c/o Trade School News, College of Law, Cleveland State University.

by
 Jerry Emoff
 (last of the two part series)

The following article is the result of an in-depth and candid interview with Dean Craig Christensen given exclusively to Trade School News. The T. S. News last interviewed the Dean on May 25, 1971, shortly before he was named Dean of C. S. U. College of Law. Where relevant, excerpts from that interview originally published July 16, 1971, are printed along with Dean Christensen's present views.

PLACEMENT OFFICE:

1971 - "It is an integral part of the overall scheme of the school. It is vital that an aggressive placement program be embarked upon. This school can be marketed (and not by mad-ave.gimmickry). Rather, one can sell its good points. This school should have a dramatic uplifting of its image within the next three years."

1973 - "The placement office has been unfairly maligned. It isn't even controlled by the law school. The placement officer isn't employed by the law school but rather by the Vice-President of the University for Student Life.

"The reputation of this law school (rather than the placement office) is the most important thing in terms of obtaining jobs for graduates". The Dean says the school's reputation is better in the Cleveland legal community than it has been in the past. There is a greater interest by major firms in interviewing at CSU than there was 2 years ago. "The practice of law in Cleveland is really among the best in the country but it's also very very snobbish." Major firms in town recruit heavily out of town and it takes a long time to break down old stereotypes.

"Any law school should have control of its own placement office." When the Cleveland State University and the Cleveland-Marshall Law School were merged, the agreement was not adequate. The placement office, the library, the admissions office and alumni affairs were not placed under the control of the law school. It took two years to get control of the library and Dean Christensen is presently working on the placement office.

"It's a long slow business of making inroads in the reputation of a school."

ON MEETING WITH STUDENTS:

Dean Christensen is interested this year in meeting with students as he has been in the past, although, the initiative must be made by students either through the Student Bar Association or by "any expression of student sentiment." He is amenable to any method of meeting with students. In the past there have been open forums, parties and meetings with selected student committees.

STUDENT LOUNGE:

The Dean thinks the student lounge is "excellent", however, there is problems with garbage. The student lounge is not the best in the world but after all "this is only a temporary 3 year building."

THE LIBRARY:

The library is "going to be crowded for 3 years." While the space is greater than we've had before, we also have more students. As to OBAR, we spend \$20,000 a year now on it and perhaps it would be more appropriate to have another faculty member.

The collection in the library is growing too slowly, however, there will be a major increase in the collection in the next 2 years due to a special one million dollar legislative subsidy appropriated for the University. Of the first \$500,000, the law school will receive \$60,000, and this entire amount will go to the library. We have now an outstanding librarian who will actively represent library interests.

EVENING / DAY SCHOOL:

"Most of the faculty are enthusiastic about the splitting of class hours. It is clear that it's pedagogically inferior to teach in units of 3 or 4 hours. If the night law school is to survive, it must be as good as the day school. There cannot be a dual track system."

COURSE OFFERINGS:

In the matter of course availability, "Course offerings are always inadequate if you don't have what you want to take." But there are more courses being offered now than ever before and electives have been distributed throughout the entire year. Dean Christensen will compare our course offerings with "practically any law school."

The winter and spring schedules are "pretty close to final."

There is no special administrative policy as to what is done when a course is cancelled mid-term. Anyone who really needs International Law, this fall, was permitted to take it as an independent research project. Everyone in Professor Emerson's class has been handled on an individual basis. Most of the people in that class didn't really need International Law and the Dean suspects that some of them only took it for some easy credit. Consequently, these people are disgruntled since no other easy credit was available.

CLASS SIZE:

Dean Christensen said that the classes are small at CSU by comparison to the standards of American legal education. This is the price we pay for having as many courses as we do have. The Dean is referring to over-crowded classes. It is more expensive to offer specialized courses and so there must be some larger, more crowded courses to offset this cost. The Dean thinks this is a "price worth paying."

FACULTY RECRUITMENT:

"We do need to do more recruiting of experienced teachers." There will be such an effort this year and there has been for the past 2 years. "We've even been close on a few." There will not be such a great emphasis on recruiting people just out of law school.

There is no quota for recruiting blacks or women, but "there is an affirmative effort to attempt to seek out more blacks and more women." "We have been more successful on the women side than on the black side. We've got to try harder with the blacks this year."

ON BEING A YOUNG DEAN:

1971 - "I expect resentment because of my age (32), but it is not a problem for me anymore. As a matter of fact, for some purposes, my age is an advantage. This is, after all a young school. It wouldn't be exciting to be Dean unless one brought to the job a youthful perspective."

1973 - "Since I'm younger and have worn my hair longer, expectations of students tend to be higher that I'll be more responsive."

If he is not immediately sympathetic to student views about the pace of change, he is considered a "cop-out." Also, personnel problems have been much more serious than he expected. "I suspect I probably wouldn't have come if I had known what personnel problems were going to be like. That's been the big disappointment." What the Dean is referring to is the degree of "personal animosity" he has encountered from some faculty members

in response to some of his proposals. "It got personal and it was very unpleasant." Dean Christensen, though, intends to "stick it out here" He thinks we have entered the mainstream of American legal education in the last 2 years and that we are just at the threshold of doing anything dramatically innovative.

LAW SCHOOL AUTONOMY:

A major but "low - visibility" problem for the law school is that it does not have enough independence from the University administration. "The University isn't used to having a professional school." The persons in charge of running the University simply are not familiar with the traditions of autonomy for a law school. The university does not understand the law school's need for a separate building, a separate library, parking privileges, lounges, etc. much less control over tenure policies. President Waetzen is sympathetic, however, the law school law is not a high priority with so many other University problems pressing him.

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Coming Up in Next Issue

1. "Coup d'etat a la Watergate"
2. "Professors' Report Card II"
(faculty evaluations)
3. "The Placement Office"
(feature report)
4. More advice columns &
Classified & Humor

Trade School News is a publication of-by-for the law students of Cleveland State University.

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Additional Staffers, especially incoming first year students are more than welcome, they're needed.

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Errata: Application for Admission to the Ohio Bar. Question 12a. should read: "Please indicate the number of times abominable and/or detestable acts against nature attempted. Question 12b.: Indicate time, place and name(s) of other party (if human) for each and every act. Include appropriate photos."

Thought for the Day

Concerning the White House tapes:
Does a bailment exist between Nixon and Rosemary Woods?

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