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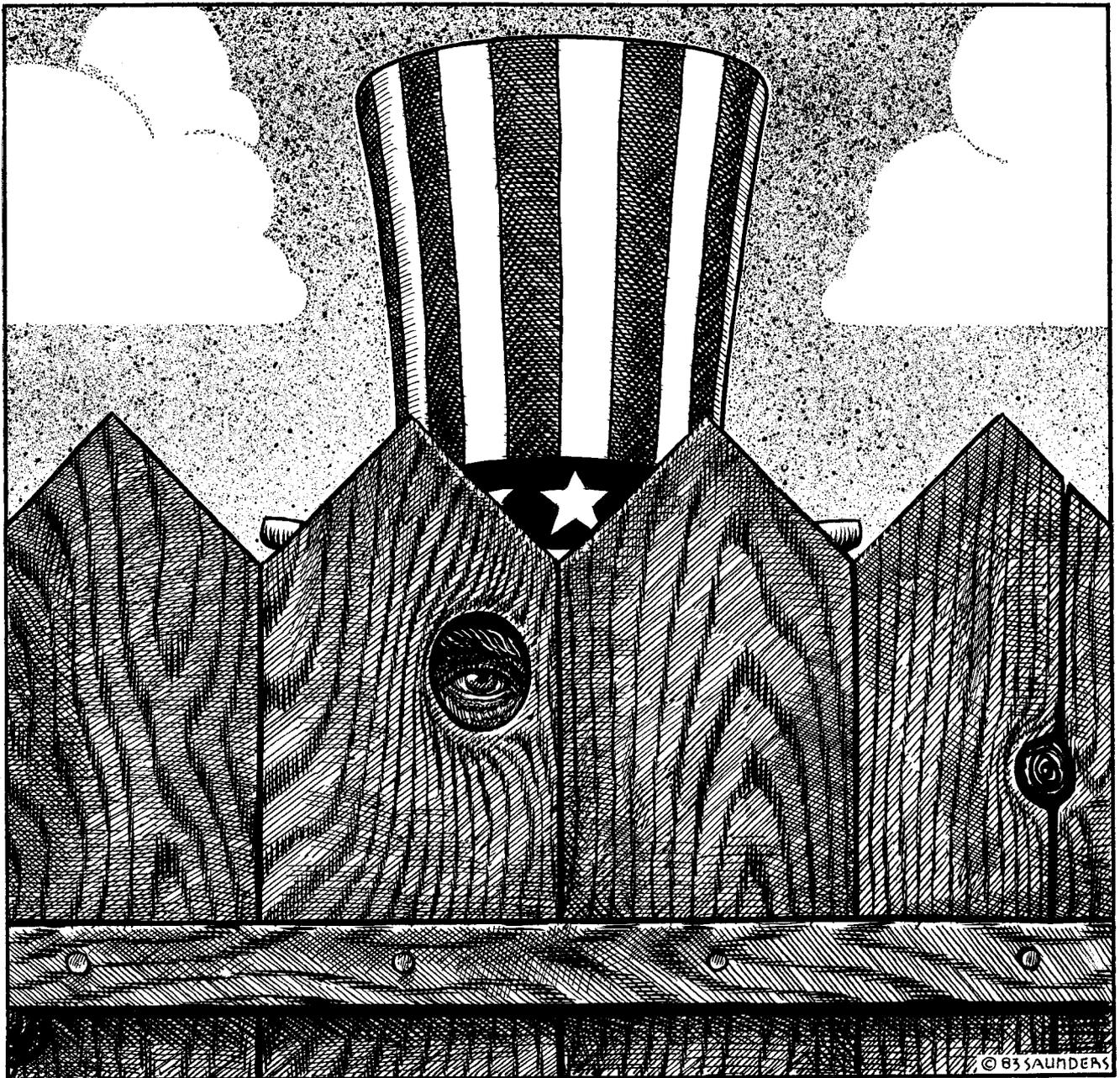
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Spring, 1984

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THE LAW FORUM

Spring, 1984
The University of Baltimore School of Law

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The Jail Crisis in America Today

What value do jails have? Who should be sent to them and for how long?

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COVER ILLUSTRATION and illustration on page 18 by Ron Saunders of Boston, Massachusetts. This work originally appeared in a recent issue of *COMPUTERWORLD*. Mr. Saunders' work has received special mention in the *Boston Globe* and has appeared in numerous publications, including *The Boston Phoenix*, *The Boston Observer*, *The Seattle Times*, *NEW AGE* magazine, *NEW ENGLAND BUSINESS* and *TECHNOLOGY REVIEW*. PHOTOGRAPH on page 8 by Leonard L. Greif, Jr. CARTOON on page 11 is reprinted with permission of the *New Yorker Magazine, Inc.* ILLUSTRATION on page 14, entitled "Justice," by Robert

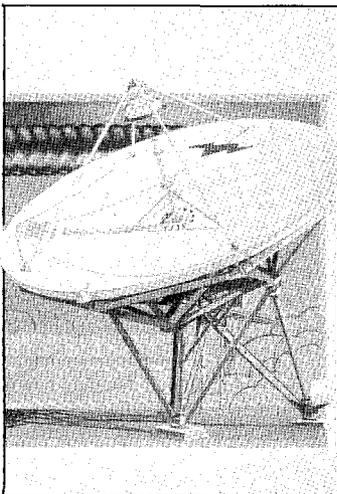
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FROM THE BOARD

One of the greatest challenges facing lawmakers today is preventing new technologies from eroding protected rights. Privacy is one protected right that is especially vulnerable. A recent Harris poll has revealed that more than one-half of all Americans regard computers as a threat to personal privacy, and that two-thirds favor sharp restrictions on computer use to preserve privacy in the future. In our cover story, *Lost Privacy in the Computer Age*, Miriam Azrael focuses on privacy abuse in computer matching programs and urges Congress to strengthen the Privacy Act of 1974 to properly regulate the practice.

Another area of new technology that threatens protected rights is broadcasting. In *Common Carrier Liability Under the Copyright Act of 1976*, Howard Simcox examines the cable television industry. He emphasizes the need for Congress to protect copyright owners whose protected works are broadcast via cable without permission or compensation.

As an update to our Fall, 1983 issue on Professional Responsibility, we are pleased to present in this issue M. Peter Moser's commentary on the A.B.A. Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Mr. Moser's informed analysis provides a valuable guide to the decisions Maryland lawyers will face in determining whether to substitute the Model Rules for the Maryland Code of Professional Conduct.

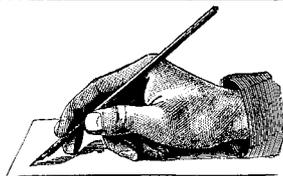
We also present the views of the Honorable Stanley B. Frosh, Judge of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, on the subject of jail reform. In *The Jail Crisis in America Today*, Judge Frosh suggests creative sentencing alternatives and novel solutions to pressing problems in the area of criminal justice.

As always, **The Law Forum** invites the opportunity to identify issues and present answers, as it is our goal is to inform the legal community.

—The Editorial Board

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:



It is indeed amazing that "almost" everyone with a J.D., whether they practice law, teach or work in the business world, can be referred to as "Dr." However, as soon as a J.D. recipient begins to practice law in Maryland, according to Judge Gilbert, use of the title "Dr." is questionable.

I always thought of the law as being questionably "just" and at the very least "logical." However, in view of the Judge's comments relative to Maryland attorneys, where does it say that a Maryland attorney cannot use the title?

Dr. James R. Bell
"licensed in various states other than Maryland"

[The writer is the author of *My Son, The Lawyer Doctor*, which appeared in the Spring, 1983 issue of *The Law Forum*. This letter is in reply to the letter published in the Fall, 1983 issue from Chief Judge Richard P. Gilbert, of the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, who noted that the use of the title "Doctor" by Maryland lawyers is "questionable."—Ed.]

THE LAW FORUM

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FROM THE LAW SCHOOL

Almost two thousand applications were received for this year's entering class. This is the largest in the Law School's history, and it has produced a highly qualified and diverse group of students. The median grade point average is 3.2 and the median LSAT is 34. In addition, these students bring with them a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. We take great pride in the strength of our student body and are working toward maintaining this quality.

This year the faculty made a thorough review of the curriculum. While there is general satisfaction with the current curriculum as presenting a reasonable balance of required and elective courses and theoretical and skills-training courses, a variety of plans for improvement were presented. One goal of a number of members of the faculty was to limit the number of required course credit hours in order to provide additional opportunities for specialization. As can be imagined, the discussion was lively. In the end, we reduced the required property course from six to four credits and added separate electives in real property leasing, land use and problems in real property.

Assistant Professor Wendy Shaller joined the faculty this year. Her specialty is tax law and she comes to us with considerable experience in that field, including much writing.

Assistant Professor Anne Pecora was granted tenure by the University. Assistant Professor Mark Sargent was also granted tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor. Associate Professor Kenneth Lasson was promoted to Professor.

Our alumni and other members of the bar have been most generous this past year. As you know, we look to private assistance to provide the extras so necessary to a quality program. The alumni have been responding to the annual phon-a-thon campaign in increasing numbers and with growing contributions. John Shoup, class of '75, has endowed the Shoup/Highfield Moot Court Fund, and endowed scholarship funds have been established in memory of Harry Milton Feldman and Walter A. Feldman, and J. Francis Ford. In addition, the Coventaros Foundation has endowed the International Law collection of the library.

A special note of thanks should go to four law firms which have made substan-

tial firm gifts to the Law School this year. They include Venable, Baetjer & Howard; Frank, Bernstein, Conaway and Goldman; Piper & Marbury; and Semmes, Bowen and Semmes. The support of these and other law firms promises to add real strength to our future fund-raising efforts.

—Dean Lawrence M. Katz

Dear New SBA President:

Many University of Baltimore law students will never learn your name, but, unwittingly, they will benefit by your presence. As leader of the Student Bar Association, you can expect polite demands, broken promises and, at times, *unrelenting criticism*. But do not despair. Volunteering your valuable time does provide students with a more bearable learning environment; and when your term is over, you can justifiably assume that everyone wanted to say "thank you."

Some of the lessons that I have learned which need to be passed on are:

- (1) SBA's biggest "spoonful of sugar" has been the annual Libel and Slander Show. This year, over 600 students appeared to recharge their batteries at the Martin's West formal, so they could surge on to cross the May finish line.
- (2) Lecture series do not fair as well as the Libel and Slander Show with law students. Given the fact that no ideal time slot exists for evening students to attend, their consistent absence is excusable. But the day students? Don't ever accept the excuse that they cannot find the time. The one-hour investment is all that is necessary to hear a lecturer who may never speak at the school again. I have no suggestions on how to convince students that failing to support lecture series will cause the events to be discontinued. This task I leave to you.
- (3) You must keep the Buddy System alive. This pilot program has gotten completely off the ground following two years of preparation. Thanks to Scott Nevin (SBA President 1982-83) and his initial efforts, we were able to pair twenty-five students with practicing attorneys and

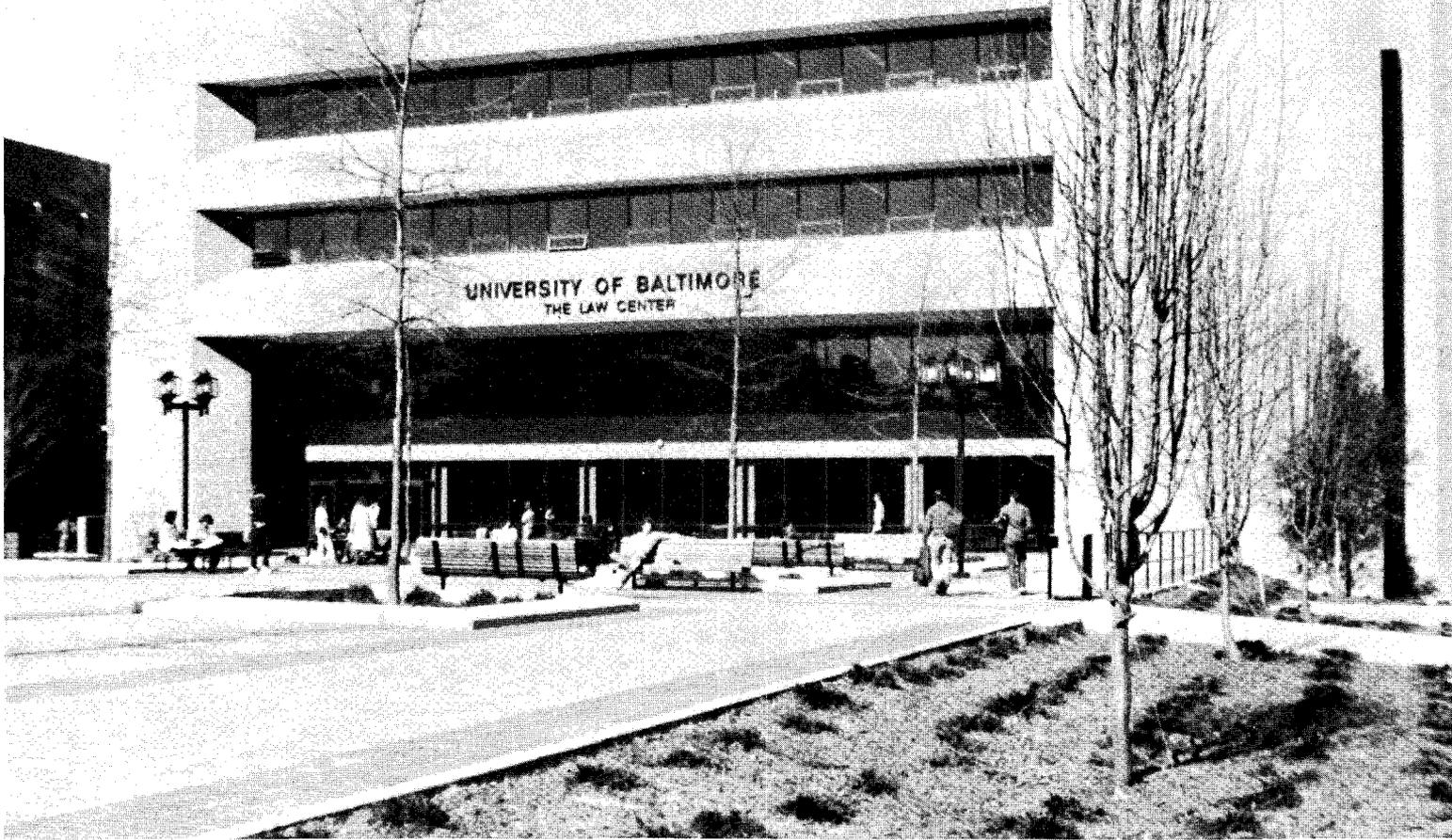
judges who graduated from UB and now volunteer time to counsel and assist their student buddies. Next year's participants will find this mentor service a real plus in making their transition from law school to the "real world."

- (4) To avoid assassination, keep the coffee bar intact!
- (5) By keeping the Bulletin Board in front of your office current with such things as the law book co-op, Oriole Opening Day sign-up sheets and Buddy System information, students will flock to see what opportunities are most currently available. This was the first year for the SBA's Law Book Co-op and nearly one hundred students participated each semester.
- (6) Be careful with your presidential appointments. Over 30 students are needed to fill vacancies in the Honor Court and faculty committees. The vast majority of student appointees diligently performed their duties, but it is still the SBA's responsibility to disseminate information from these clandestine meetings to the student body. Many students are still unaware that the 84-credit requirement was increased by six, meaning that 1984-85 admittees need 90 credits to graduate. Any break-down in communication lines between the SBA and the student body can be a disservice to the student.

With a little luck, other law students will read this letter and put forth the initiative to contribute and make your task less burdensome. Undoubtedly, they have areas of expertise which remain untapped, and it is this untapped resource which will improve UB. If you can motivate your members to make a commitment to doing a job well-done, what at first appears to be an insurmountable obstacle soon becomes a workable problem. In essence, that is what SBA is here to do—to assist in solving the problems of the students.

I wish you luck!

Sincerely,
Kevin F. Bress
SBA President



Photograph by A. David Copperthite

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