



The Student Newspaper of Georgetown University Law Center in Duffield, VA

"I can't define [news] but I know it when I see it"

VOLUME: A FEW BRICKS SHY

APRIL 1, 2004

NUMBER 202-662-9265

## ExamSoft is back; corporation takes over GULC

by Zack Morris, 2L  
Law Weekly

Hearing about the recent decision by the faculty Academic Standards Committee to forego ExamSoft for future exams, ExamSoft Worldwide, Inc. - makers of the infamous blocking software - made a hostile takeover of Georgetown University Law Center.

"We have no current plans to change the academic or cultural atmosphere of the school, though there will be some layoffs," stated Kenneth Lay, CEO, in a press conference from an undisclosed location. "There have been a number of lies spread recently about our company and we will make a concerted effort to reeducate the student population."

New policies will include: Exams *must* be taken on computers using ExamSoft software; robotic professors

See EXAMSOFT, page xiv

## Supreme Court hears SBA Election Appeal

by Nemo Everett, 1L  
Law Weekly Supreme Court Correspondent

In an unprecedented move this week, the United States Supreme Court chose to take a direct emergency appeal from the SBA Judiciary Committee. The choice to act quickly was necessitated by the SBA Constitution's obligation to swear in the new executive board before the end of the school year so student groups could receive their appropriations.

After a motion from the American Constitution Society, Justice Antonin Scalia reluctantly recused himself from hearing the case for recent a speech he gave to the Federalist Society where he called the SBA election a sham because there was no way to determine whether the founding fathers approved of the election rules that regulated the process.

Oral arguments were held in a special four hour session on last Thursday so as to fit into the Court's pre-established arguments schedule.

Justice Clarence Thomas remained awake for the entire first three minutes of the session.

During the second hour, Justice John Paul Stevens questioned the rule that justices could only recuse them-



Photo courtesy of AP

The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Clark vs. Dartt* on Thursday.

selves for cause and wondered how Justice Scalia was enjoying his vacation, duck hunting in Louisiana with Vice President Cheney.

In one of the fastest decisions in recent memory, the Justices looked at each other, voted "aye" or "nay," and declared a tie. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist proposed creating a dollar coin with Clark on one side and Dartt on the other and flipping for it. After voting down the idea 7-1, the Justices waved the parties out of the Court.

Public reaction to the session was mixed with several Law Center students still unsure of where they stood personally

"I'm confused," said Helena Seau, an LLM from France. "Did we win?"

In an attempt to remove the curse that has fallen over the elections, the owner of Harry Carey Restaurant offered to purchase the ballot box so he can blow it up for all to see.

While the candidates were not

See SBA APPEAL, page mdccclxxxix

## Students to Congress: enlarge molehills

by Daina DeMark, 3L  
Law Weekly

Last night, the new Georgetown chapter of Students Demanding Enlargement (SDE) held its inaugural meeting. SDE is the first chapter of what founder Gunner I. Cantstan, 2L, hopes will become a nationwide network of groups advocating for the legal conversion of "molehills" into "mountains." When asked to explain the organization's mission, Cantstan said SDE would "attempt to remedy lax applications of justice in everyday life."

Canstan's inspiration for SDE, he continued, was an incident in his Constitutional Law class where a fellow student attacked Canstan's stance on the right to abortion, saying "constitutional doesn't equal moral." After a dramatic pause, Canstan explained, "What this fellow student was implying is that I'm not moral. That I have *no* morals. That I deserve involuntary confinement to a mental facility for a period of two years. That since I 'don't get it,' I therefore obviously can't read or write, and probably falsified my appli-



Photo courtesy of Warner Brothers

Gunner I. Cantstan discussing his views with his constituents.

cation to law school. Who knows what damage this blatant character assassination caused me?"

Canstan added that while he is now suing the offending student for intentional infliction of emotional distress, his uphill battle in doing so is "repugnant to justice." Canstan's ultimate aim is to encourage legislation that would make actions like the Con

Law student's comment toward Canstan punishable by stoning of the student. It would also make it a crime to assert that students like Canstan, if in possession of any toys at the time of the incident which offends them, should take such toys and report to their respective residences. Rather, the

See COMPLAINTS, page vii

## Scientists miscalculate: asteroid strike is imminent

by Jessica Simpson, 2E  
Law Weekly Space Correspondent

Scientists at NASA announced this week that they made a grievous error in calculating the trajectory of 1999 AN10. This asteroid was originally thought to travel close to the Earth but miss by 40,000 meters and possibly strike the planet in 17 million years. "Our original calculations were just wrong. We are all in agreement that this object, the size of Toledo, OH, will hit sometime this week," explained NASA spokesman Tara A. Lert. "We are really sorry for the mistake and will

See ASTEROID, page xlii

**ABA puts Law Center on probation**  
Page 17

**Cafe becomes Burger King, McDonald's looks to sue**  
Page 0

**Dean Named Dean**  
Page 21

# BriefsBriefsBriefsBriefs

## BriefsBriefs!BriefsBriefs

### PLSA Holds Inaugural Meeting

The Law Center will soon see another student group gracing the halls of McDonough. Trent Brockton, 2L, plans to form the Preppy Law Students Association or PLSA. "We've been an unrepresented minority for too long at the law center. It's time for the Law Center's preppy community to make its voice heard." Brockton said he expects to attract nearly 500 students to his cause from undergraduate experiences primarily at Duke, Stanford, the University of North Carolina, Vanderbilt, Notre Dame, Georgetown, and Princeton.

When asked about PLSA's potential role in the Law Center community, Brockton said that he already has plans to organize several round table discussions for its members such as "How To Avoid Those Icky Homeless People," "Abercrombie and Fitch vs. Eddie Bauer: What to Wear to Class?" "Smarm," "The Khaki Question," and "Metrosexuality and You: Why It Pays To Appear More Gay." Brockton also plans to have at least one happy hour, a Dave Matthews Band album giveaway and a Fraternity storytelling contest. He also added that they "totally hated Examsoft." However, the group is not without its detractors. An SBA member who asked not to be identified commented that he "didn't see a reason to organize a group when they'd do those things anyway."

Brockton remained undeterred, however: "We're looking to expand both at the Law Center and nationally. We hope to gain the casual interest and limited commitments of a number of incoming preppies next year."

### New words added to the Oxford English Dictionary

This week, the Oxford English Dictionary updated its list of proper English terms. "Platymapus" will be accepted as an alternative spelling and pronunciation for the duck-billed monotreme. "Subliminable" is the capability to confuse the obvious and exaggerate the mundane. Finally, a new definition has been added to the term "Gunner," which will, from this point forward, be associated with often speaking without having anything substantial to say -- cross-referenced with the phrase "Speaking only to hear one's own voice."

### When Drunk Chimps Attack

Ugandan officials report beer contributes to the threat chimpanzees sometimes present in western Uganda. A number of chimps have recently raided illegal brewing operations in forested river valleys and gotten drunk on the country beer.

Once intoxicated, the chimps became hostile and attacked, sometimes even killing human children, Uganda Wildlife Authority officials report. A chimp cannot take on a full-

grown man, but unaccompanied babies are the right size for them to pick on.

Local beer, while a bit bitter, is much more preferred by the chimps to expensive domestic imports. This beer is illegally brewed along the river valleys, which are also the habitat of chimpanzees. "When chimps come across the local brew, they drink it, become drunk, and in that state, any encounter with people or an ex-mate means an attack," says the report.

UWA officials point out that sober chimps do not wear wife-beaters and wish to remind the public that, regardless of its sobriety, an ape is never a good substitute for a 13-year-old babysitter.

### SBA To Sing Kumbaya

In an unprecedented move of peace and solidarity not seen since the late 60's at the law center, the SBA announced last week that they would all get together, hold hands and sing Kumbaya, swaying gently.

James Bond, 3L, a member of Moral Hazard who intends to lead the singalong, said that the show is intended to show the love and respect that the given delegates have for one another. "I think that the world could use a little love right about now. It's time the SBA does its part."

The SBA plans to add other songs to its repertoire, including "Yummy Yummy Yummy (I've Got Love in My Tummy)" by Ohio Express and eventually to display a talent show to compete with the Georgetown Gilbert and Sullivan Society, which until now, has had a virtual monopoly on talent at the law center.

"It's just not fair," said an anonymous source from the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. "To have a group that's competing with you in charge of appropriations for the entire school is a conflict of interest." However, the SBA maintains that it will maintain the sizable Gilbert and Sullivan budget unless they "hone in on our territory." An SBA delegate added that that would "totally not be groovy, man."

### NLG Denies That They Are Filled With Dirty Hippies

"I honestly don't know where this stereotype came from. Just because we're an activist organization devoted to progressive causes and ideology, it doesn't mean that we're packed to the gills with patchouli-stinking hippies," said NLG President Skye Futzmeyer-Goldstein, as she scratched her birkenstock-bound toes and adjusted the hemp necklace around her neck. "I think this is just a plot by the establishment media to distract from the crimes perpetrated by Amerikkka in Iraq and from the unconstitutional ban on marijuana, and to keep us wymyn from asserting our sexuality. That's what they're really afraid of." She theorized before adding: "This was never a problem at Berkeley."

## Picture of the Week



Photo created by Kevin Mittler, 1L

Proposed monument, "A Tribute to Mount Rushmore and the SBA", slated to be placed in front of the new buildings this fall. Students who would like to submit an interesting GULC related picture to the Law Weekly for publication may try to submit them to the Editor in Chief... if you can catch her, but she is often out and may not be taking visitors at the time. Any complaints can be sent to noonecares.lawweekly@law.georgetown.edu.

### SJF To Hold Auction Next Year

The Selective Justice Foundation (SJF) is currently trying to organize a fundraising drive to provide money to people for summer internships next year. So how do they decide who gets money: "Whoever we feel like giving it to," said SJF President Joseph Caudillo "I promise you, it will be completely arbitrary. If what you're doing sounds lame or we just plain don't like your face, you're not getting any money from us. If you crack us up or seem cool, then cheddar shall be dispensed." Caudillo then emphasized that those who win EJF fellowships or are paid in firm jobs will not be precluded from winning additional funding from his organization.

When asked to justify this, Caudillo blamed the EJF for what he called a "popularity contest" to determine funding. "All that does is ensure that the most popular projects are funded. Doesn't make them right. I'm saying I'm just as qualified as anyone else at the Law Center to determine who gets money." Caudillo then added that he got the idea from the infamous "Soup Nazi" episode of Seinfeld: "I can't wait to say 'No funding for you!'"

### New Buildings to Include Gewirz Waterslides

You may have heard that the New Fitness Center will include a pool. Dean Wally Mlyniec has just revealed that as a "special treat" to overworked law students, construction will begin immediately on two waterslides from the 12th floor of Gewirz into the pool. "The Gilbert and Sullivan Society likes to say that it's the only theatre company with a law school attached. Shortly, we will have the most adrenaline-pumping water park with a law school attached." The long glass tubes will be observed by a few lifeguards, who will also prevent anxious law students from running around half-naked on the twelfth floor, and make sure that they keep their voices down around visiting dignitaries.



## CRIME BEET

The following crimes did not occur in and around Georgetown Law Center but we liked them anyways. Anyone in need of Witness Protection, please contact Tony Soprano at (202) 555-9325.

### Off the Crime Beet Wire

#### March 21, 2004 - Kentucky Robbed

The entire state of Kentucky, except those few Louisville fans, were robbed between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Sun. by an unknown group of suspects wearing black pin-striped shirts. The suspects were identified as average looking white and black men in their mid to late 40s. Kentucky State Police believe there may have been a connection to Las Vegas gangsters.

#### March 22, 2004 - IIED

(Beet or Borscht reference here)

#### March 22, 2004 - Theft

A male student awoke from a nap in the library to find that fourteen hours had been stolen. He had been working on a formula for time.

#### March 23, 2004 - Rear Entry Burglary

An SUV parked on 2nd Street, N.W. was burlagized from the rear. Students cheered, one female student adding that "anybody who drives a car big enough to hold the entire shadow government is going to have to worry about news reporters breaking in."

#### March ?, 2004- Property Destruction

It was recently discovered that a student's locker had been broken into. Several books, including materials for classes, were destroyed by whipped cream in an apparent prank. The student does not know exactly when the crime occurred, as she hasn't read for class since the beginning of the semester.

#### March 29, 2004- Public Drunkenness

You know who you are. Yes, you - the one who sang "Why Don't We Do It In the Road" at the top of your lungs and ran through the sprinklers on the Capitol Lawn.

# Georgetown Law Weekly



The Student Newspaper of Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

"Uninhibited, robust, and wide-open"

VOLUME 40

WED., MARCH 31 TO FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2004

NUMBER 22

## Panel discusses detention of enemy combatants

by Amy Messigian, 1L  
*Law Weekly*

This past Thursday, the Student Ambassadors and Dean Areen hosted a panel discussion on military detention of enemy combatants in the Moot Courtroom. The panel, which included Congressman Barney Frank and Former Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle, was moderated by CNN's Wolf Blitzer. The symposium, which is an annual endeavor of the Student Ambassadors, ran in concurrence with an open house for admitted students, giving both current and prospective students exposure to the energetic discourse of Washington heavyweights.

After being introduced, Blitzer made the first of several plugs to attend Georgetown and then opened up the discussion. The central debate surrounded detention of "enemy combatants" in

See ENEMY COMBATANTS, page 3

## Aleinikoff to be new Law Center Dean

Staff Article  
*Law Weekly*

Last Thursday, University President John DeGioia announced the appointment of Professor and Dean of Research Alexander Aleinikoff to the position of Dean of the Law Center. DeGioia praised Aleinikoff as a "distinguished scholar, talented teacher and accomplished public servant," adding that Aleinikoff is "deeply committed to the Law Center's excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service and will work to build further the resources available for strengthening faculty, enhancing financial aid, and fostering curricular innovation." Aleinikoff will replace Dean Judith Areen, who will rejoin the faculty ranks on July 1.

Dean Aleinikoff, a Yale Law School graduate, has been a professor at GULC since 1997, and was previously a member of the faculty at the University of Michigan Law School. He also did a stint of public service at the Immigration and Naturalization Service during the Clinton administration, exercising one of his specialties. His other area of interest is constitutional law, and he has written extensively on both topics. His newest work is currently being finalized, and deals with the relationship



Courtesy of Georgetown University Law Center

From Left to Right: John DeGioia, new Law Center Dean Alexander Aleinikoff, and current Dean Judith Areen.

between international and constitutional law.

One of the leading immigration law scholars in the country, Aleinikoff has published more than 50 books and articles in the fields of immigration law, constitutional law, and statutory interpretation, including *Semblances of Sovereignty: The Constitution, the State and Citizenship*, and was co-editor of the books *Migration and International Legal Norms*, and *Immigration and Citizenship: Process and Policy*. He teaches courses in immigration and

refugee law, citizenship law and constitutional law. Aleinikoff also serves as a senior associate at the Migration Policy Institute.

Speaking about his plans for his tenure as the fourteenth Dean of the Law School, Aleinikoff again emphasized the importance of international aspects of law. "Legal education will grow increasingly transnational in years ahead, and Georgetown is uniquely placed to be one of the leading global law schools in the nation and the world."

See NEW DEAN, page 4

## Student wins DC Improv competition

by Aaron M. Clemens, 3L  
*Law Weekly*

Georgetown University Law Center's own Jean-Louis Cauvin was crowned the champion of the DC Improv's First Annual Funniest College Competition on March 2. With this success, J-L, a 3L, won the opportunity to host a week of shows at the DC Improv. J-L will host for the comedian Gary Owen at the DC Improv, located at 1140 Connecticut Ave., N.W., from Aug. 3 through 8.

Three judges selected J-L as the top comedian among eleven contestants. Each contestant had placed first or second in a preliminary competition. That initial round involved an open mic competition at schools such as American, George Washington, George Mason, University of Maryland, Southeastern, and of course, Georgetown.

J-L was distinguishable as the only graduate student competing, and because he was by far the tallest.



Photo by Nicholas C. Erickson, 1L

The DC Improv, site of the First Annual Funniest College Competition

Second and third places went to Jackie Novack from Georgetown University and David Angelo from George Washington, respectively.

As several competitors demonstrated, winning over a small group was not enough for success that night in a sold-out venue that seats 300. But

J-L said that he couldn't have done it without the support of people who came to see him.

"People spent their money to see me tell jokes. It was up to me to make it worth their money," he said.

J-L's set was the biggest crowd

See COMEDIAN, page 5

## Faculty and Congress compete to help the homeless

by Jenny Cieplak, 2L  
*Law Weekly*

Next Wednesday, Georgetown Law faculty and members of Congress will partake in an event that some on campus have been looking forward to all year: the annual Home Court basketball game. It's an exciting event where members of the faculty, on a team known as the Hoya Lawyas, compete with the Hills' Angels in a good-natured game (well, hopefully good-natured) as well as get a little silly in the best EJJ Auction tradition.

See HOME COURT, page 3

Need a Ride?  
SBA can help  
Page 3

Forgot your internet cord?  
Mind-wandering alternatives  
Page 7

So we got you attention?  
Letters to the Editor  
Page 10

# BriefsBriefsBriefsBriefs

## BriefsBriefs!BriefsBriefs



### Clinic Application Supplements

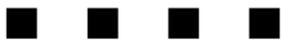
Many clinics require the submission of clinic-specific supplemental applications or materials as part of the clinic application process. If you have submitted a general clinic application online, please remember to submit any required clinic-specific supplemental applications and materials, in hard copy, to the respective clinic offices no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31.



### Protect Act Panel

Last April Congress enacted the PROTECT Act. The sentencing provision of the bill, the so-called Feeney Amendment (named for its author Rep. Tom Feeney (R-FL), requires the federal Sentencing Commission to substantially remove federal judges' discretion to give defendants lesser sentences when mitigating circumstances call for less severity than is suggested by the applicable federal sentencing guidelines. The new law also requires that judges' departures from the guidelines be reported to the Attorney General and Congress -- a measure that could, in the words of Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, threaten judicial independence and "intimidate individual judges." The federal bench, from its highest levels down, is lobbying for the Judges' Act, a measure proposed by Senator Edward Kennedy and Representative John Conyers, Jr. that will repeal the Feeney Amendment.

Is the Feeney Amendment draconian in its removal of sentencing discretion from federal judges or does it just to transfer discretion to prosecutors? Who should determine how to fit a defendant's punishment to the crime? Panelists, including federal prosecutors and defense attorneys, will respond to Representative Feeney's discussion of his amendment and discuss the impact that it has had on federal criminal prosecution on March 31, at 6 p.m. in room 206. This discussion is sponsored by the American Criminal Law Review.



### Innocence Project Lecture

The Innocence Project invites the GULC Community to listen to Scott Christianson speak on Wednesday, March 31, at 4:30 p.m., in McDonough room 588. Mr. Christianson will discuss his new book, *Innocent*, which documents 42 cases where mistakes and abuses in the criminal justice system led to shocking miscarriages of justice. Since Mr. Christianson began writing his book, six of the convictions discussed in *Innocent* have been overturned. Mr. Christianson's book will also be available for sale at the event. If you are interested in issues of innocence or have ever considered joining The Innocence Project, this is the perfect opportunity for you to come learn what we are all about! A reception will follow the speech.



### Jazzercise

Interested in learning basic jazz dance? The fitness center has three new classes for you! Join us on Sundays at 2 or Mondays at 8:45 p.m. The third class gives the males an extra night to practice. The all-male class is held on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.



### Cheer on your classmates!

Good luck to the three coed Georgetown Law softball teams headed for the annual UVA Law Softball Tournament this weekend (April 2, 3, and 4). Go Teams!



### Want to go to London? It's not too late....

At this time, applications are still being taken for the Summer Law Program in London. Please visit [www.law.georgetown.edu/intl/london](http://www.law.georgetown.edu/intl/london) for program information and to download an application. Applicants should indicate both your first and second choices for class time (either 9 or 11 a.m.).



### Learn about the Marcus Dixon Case

David Balsler, a partner in litigation practice at McKenna, Long and Aldridge in Atlanta, will discuss the case of Marcus Dixon on April 1, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in room 342. The plight of Marcus Dixon, a star athlete and honor student has garnered national attention over the last year. After having been acquitted of rape, aggravated assault, false imprisonment and sexual battery, Dixon is still in prison with a ten-year sentence without the possibility of parole. Balsler has recently argued Dixon's case before the Georgia Supreme Court.



### JLSA Presents "Hope and Fear"

The Jewish Law Students Association invites you to attend a special sneak preview of *Hope and Fear: Inside the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*, an in-depth look at what's really driving this feud, by JLSA's own Jeff Helmreich on Wednesday, March 31 at 3:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served and a discussion will follow. The film will air on Primetime Television next month.



### Game On

Register now for the one-on-one basketball tournament, to be held on main campus. Register online at [www.Yates.Georgetown.edu](http://www.Yates.Georgetown.edu). Go to the intramural sports page. Registration ends March 31.

Referrals from L'02s and L'03s

Fixed-price estimates

Box delivery at no charge

Packing and storage available

Precise dates and times for pick-up and delivery

Direct billing to your firm

# big green moving



[www.biggreenmoving.com](http://www.biggreenmoving.com)

703.241.1001

See our weekly haiku ad in the Washington City Paper

# HomeCourt 2004



Watch Georgetown Law Faculty  
Take on Members of Congress in the  
17<sup>th</sup> Annual

## HomeCourt Basketball Game!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>

TIP-OFF @ 7:30 PM

McDonough Gymnasium

Tickets Sales Begin Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

\$5 per Ticket; 10\$ for Ticket & T-Shirt

Join us at 3<sup>rd</sup> Editions after the game!



Benefiting the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless

## Blitzer reports to GULC for Student Ambassadors forum

ENEMY COMBATANTS from page 1

Guantanamo Bay without prosecution or access to counsel. Several attempts were made to distinguish the civil liberties afforded to American citizens with action taken toward foreign adversaries. In this regard, nearly all panel members, including Elisa Massimino, Washington Director of Human Rights First, conceded that a different standard should be imposed on foreigner captives than American detainees.

Frank started the discussion, unequivocally stating, "I don't believe in infallibility," a statement that would become one of key talking points of the night. Frank's opinion was that, though he "voted for the war in Afghanistan," he did not believe that extraordinary measures should be taken without confirming the reliability of accusations that detainees pose a threat to national security.

Next to speak was Joseph diGenova, former U.S. Attorney, District of Columbia, and GULC graduate, who applauded U.S. efforts in capturing illegal combatants on the battlefield. DiGenova cautioned that if the government takes actions to satisfy the world of its behavior, it must accept the consequences of doing so. Comparing the current situation to the World Trade Center disaster, he observes, "People were furious that some government bureaucrats did not connect the dots."

An attorney representing twelve Guantanamo Bay detainees, Tom Wilner aligned with Frank and disputed that the detainees were all "captured on the battlefield" as claimed by diGenova. Wilner

agreed that persons dangerous to the nation should be captured and held, but opposed the notion that this could be done with out probable cause hearings determining as such, stating that many detainees have been turned over for bounties offered by the government.

Though each of the panelists was issued time to speak by Blitzer, the debate often became heated with several panel members erupting in response to remarks of the others. Wilner and Alice Fisher, former Deputy Assistant Attorney General, argued several times over whether a hearing procedure is required in a time of war. To Fisher's emphatic statement, "We did what we thought was best for the country. We are at war," Wilner responded that the question was not whether we were at war but if the detainees are really "enemy combatants."

Another heated exchange came between Massimino and David Rivkin, former Legal Advisor to the Counsel of President Bush. Rivkin, who claimed "the law is absolutely clear," made what Blitzer coined the "humanitarian argument" that rather than killing enemy combatants, they were just being held so they could not take up arms again. To this, Massimino responded, "So Jose Padilla could have been shot in O'Hare Airport?" Massimino later commented, "Under your terms, the battlefield is everywhere."

Perle, expanding on Frank's statement regarding infallibility, asked a question which produced discussion from all members of the panel: "Since we aren't infallible, on which side are we to err?" Perle worried that just as much as



Photo by Nicholas C. Erickson, 1L

Distinguished panelists discuss the treatment and definition of enemy combatants.

a mistake might be made about wrongly detaining an innocent person, a mistake could also be made about who is released. James Zogby, President of the Arab American Institute, spoke about his general concerns with the actions taken by the Bush administration rather than the specific issue of detaining "enemy combatants." Zogby opined that it was hypocritical to be promoting democratic reform in the Middle East and to be operating "under a standard not upholding rule of law" in the U.S. Massimino concurred that the actions of the United States have been short-sighted and that its policy in the Middle East "rings hollow."

While the entire discussion was filled with insightful commentary and entertaining quips, several of the more notable moments came from Frank. To

Rivkin he declared with exasperation, "This is a legal term - crap." Frank also conceded, "I'm not talking about the majority of the world, all I need is the majority of my district" - a district he took over from GULC faculty member Father Robert Drinan. "Georgetown got Father Drinan and I got the Congress," said Frank.

The spirited debate concluded with questions from the audience and closing sentiments by several members of the panel. Fisher was criticized by Feras Gadamsi, 1L, for making several references to "those people," to which Fisher defended that she was not speaking pejoratively. The last to speak was Rivkin, who concluded the symposium with, "It isn't about process, it is about results."

## Home Court to raise money to aid homeless

HOME COURT from page 1

The proceeds of the game go to the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless.

Last year the event raised \$171,930 for the Clinic, which provides free legal services from volunteer lawyers to homeless individuals in the D.C. area, including accessing emergency shelters and assisting them in finding permanent, affordable housing.

The event will be held on Wednesday, March 31 at 7:30 in the McDonough Gymnasium on main campus. But the faculty have already begun getting into the spirit of the game. Last Thursday, faculty hosted a keg on the quad where they poured beer not only into students' cups, but also all over themselves.

"This is more fun than Spring Break!" exclaimed one 1L as he cheered on the professors with shouts of "chug, chug, chug!" Rumor has it that Professor Feldman made up the cost of the entire event when students paid her \$130 to drink from a pitcher. Later, other faculty members ran her shoes up a flagpole.

The game itself promises to be even more exciting. Dean Bellamy, coach of the Lawyas, gave a little taste of the spirited flavor of the action, saying "We plan to play a competitive game and hopefully win for a very worthy cause." Last year

the Hills' Angels eeked out a narrow win over the Lawyas at 54-49, but this year the Lawyas intend to reclaim the title.

The idea for the game was conceived in 1987, one year after the Clinic was founded. The game is organized by Georgetown Law students, working in concert with staff from the Clinic.

Tickets for the event are \$5 for admission, and \$10 for admission and a Home Court T-Shirt. Lisa Gerson, 1L, one of the event's organizers, expressed her excitement at the upcoming game: "There's nothing better than watching your professor and your Dean high-fiving - except maybe watching your professor arguing with a ref!"

James Bond, 3L, described how much he had enjoyed previous games, saying "The game's fun from beginning to end. You have the law students on one side, cheering for the faculty and staff (seeing some of them in shorts is reason enough to buy a ticket), and you have the student interns on the other side cheering for Congress and their staff."

Still, everyone agrees that the best part of the event is the worthy cause for which it is organized. Bond explained how last year he had been seated next to a man who had once been homeless, "and he was glowing at how well the event had turned out. That really brought it home for me."

The Office of the Dean and the SBA  
Present

*Lawyers of Vision:  
A Speakers Series*

**Ken Feinberg**

*A leading expert in mediation and alternative dispute resolution and partner in the Feinberg Group, Mr. Feinberg has served as a Special Settlement Master in numerous high profile cases.*

**"The 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund: Lessons Learned"**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>  
4:30 pm Gewirz 12<sup>th</sup> floor  
Reception to Follow**

## 2004 - 2005 SBA FINAL DELEGATE LIST

PRESIDENT -  
**Alaina Dartt**

DAY VICE-PRESIDENT -  
**Bill Walsh**

EVENING  
VICE PRESIDENT -  
**Sharon Houle**

TREASURER -  
**Luce Remy**

SECRETARY -  
**Leah Schmelzer**

3L DELEGATES  
**Derron Parks**  
**Sherene Ogilvie**  
**Abiyomi Ademola**

**Austin Brown**  
**Matthew Rosenberg**  
**Brendan Donahue**  
**Ryan Christian**  
**Alex Stern**  
**Tara Marshall**  
**Nick Trutanich**  
**James Graffam**

3E DELEGATES  
**Delia Patterson**  
**Tracye Winfrey**

2L DELEGATES  
**Vid Prabhakaran**  
**Deanna Smith**  
**Feras Gadamsi**  
**Paul Deeringer**  
**Rachel Hetland**  
**Paul Lee**  
**Veronica Gray**  
**Chen Fong Goh**  
**Daniel Pollock**  
**Jenny Yoo**  
**Christopher Schenck**  
**Alissa Nann**

2E DELEGATES  
**Xander Meise**  
**Amber MacKenzie**

**David Roth**

4E DELEGATES  
**Scott Mulhauser**  
**Robert Smith**

LLM DELEGATES  
**Bruno Mastretta**  
**Derek E. Anderson**

## Aleinikoff selected Dean

NEW DEAN from page 1

The announcement followed on the heels of months of careful deliberation by a committee chaired by former Dean Robert Pitofsky. Other members of the search committee included: Richard Diamond, Professor of Law; Michael Gottesman, Professor of Law; Bette R. Keltner, Dean, School of Nursing and Health Studies; Patricia A. King, Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law, Medicine, Ethics and Public Policy; Richard Lazarus, Professor of Law; Dennis I. Meyer, (L '60, LLM '62), Senior Counsel, Baker & McKenzie, Chair, Georgetown University Law Center Board of Visitors; Wallace J. Mlyniec, Ricci-Lupo Professor of Clinical Legal Studies; James J. O'Donnell, Provost; Julie O'Sullivan, Professor of Law; Elizabeth Patterson, Associate Professor of Law; and Todd Andrew Walter (L '04). Edward M. Quinn, Secretary of the University, also assisted with the search.

Early on, the committee solicited general comments about issues stu-



Photo courtesy of GULC's "A Community of Scholars"  
Professor T. Alexander Aleinikoff, newly selected Dean of the Law Center

dents felt were central to the continuing success of the Law Center, and were therefore things the committee should keep in mind during the search. Three strong themes that emerged during the meeting were fundraising prowess, law school rankings, and the Law Center's positioning of itself as a dominant force in international law studies.

The search committee was tending toward an internal candidate as it felt that choosing an external candidate would send the signal that there was no qualified candidate already at Georgetown, which was not the case. While both external and internal candidates were considered, in the end it was one of the Law Center's own that was chosen.

The Law Center Dean is the chief academic and administrative officer of Georgetown University's internationally regarded Law Center. The Dean provides leadership and management of the Law Center's academic and research programs and supervises the daily operations of a highly qualified professional staff. The Dean also serves as the University Executive Vice President for Law Center Affairs and reports directly to the President of the University. In that capacity the Dean contributes to the vision and accomplishments of the entire university community.

In a statement posted on the Law Center website, Dean Areen stated, "I look forward to working closely with Alex to ensure a smooth transition. I will leave my post at the end of the academic year to return to the faculty with the knowledge that the Law Center is in strong, capable and caring hands."

Aleinikoff praised the outgoing Dean, saying, "Thanks to the incredible efforts of Dean Areen over the last decade and a half, the Law Center is thriving. Each year we attract more talented students and recruit top-rank faculty. I look forward to keeping that momentum going."

## SBA starts Ride Board at GULC

by Mark Leighton, 3L  
*Law Weekly*

Law Center students who are looking to hitch rides home or to somewhere fun for vacation will now have a place to go and find them.

A "ride board" will be installed on the bulletin board just inside the entrance to the cafeteria. The board will hold notes from students who are either taking trips or looking for them, whether it's going home for Thanksgiving, heading off to New York for the weekend, or going to a game. The students can post their destinations and invite others to come along or ask if there are any extra seats.

The board was suggested by Doug Bend, 1E, and the Student Bar Association passed a resolution by Amber MacKenzie, 1L, endorsing the idea and asking that it be implemented.

Although the board was created by the SBA, it is a person-to-person service; all details about sharing gas or liability are left to the individuals, according to MacKenzie. There is an unofficial, electronic version at [www.hoyaweb.com/ride.aspx](http://www.hoyaweb.com/ride.aspx) as well.

MacKenzie pointed out that besides encouraging environmentally friendly carpooling, sharing rides would help build a sense of community among students. It will provide cheap ways for students to visit other cities. Also, such boards are common features among other schools as well, she said.

The board is not up yet but will be "soon," MacKenzie added.

**ACS AMERICAN  
CONSTITUTION  
SOCIETY**

**ACS WANTS YOU!**

**To  
JOIN THE ACS BOARD!**

- DO YOU SEEK TO USE LAW TO ADVANCE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUAL RIGHTS?
- HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED OR ATTENDED ANY OF ACS' GREAT EVENTS?
- WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP DIRECT ACS AT GULC, THE FLAG SHIP LAW SCHOOL CHAPTER OF ACS?

**IF SO, YOU SHOULD APPLY TO JOIN THE ACS BOARD!!!**

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE INCLUDE: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENTS, SECRETARY, TREASURER, PUBLICITY COORDINATOR, PROGRAM COORDINATORS, OR BOARD MEMBERS**

**DEADLINE: APRIL 5TH**

**APPLICATIONS OUTSIDE THE ACS OFFICE (RM. 163)**

# GULC comedian wins at DC Improv

COMEDIAN from page 1

pleaser. That night, he showcased his comedy skills, including impressions of Owen Wilson talking to God, Robert De Niro as a possibly deaf person, and Arnold Schwarzenegger as a marketing consultant for Giant Supermarkets.

Erin Krejci, 3L, thought that the top three finishers were great, but found that J-L had a polished, professional delivery. "He seemed like a real stand-up comic," she said.

J-L said that he found the level of this competition higher than his previous performance. At an open mic at the D.C. Improv in October, J-L came in second of nine competitors. "I laughed quite a bit at the funny people in this show," he said.

"J-L was the only one who made me feel like I was at an actual comedy show," Krejci said. "The rest seemed like they were at a talent show."

When asked how it felt to win, J-L said that "winning it felt like what I imagine getting an A in law school would feel like: Knowing that you worked hard and was actually rewarded for it."

During his interview with the *Law Weekly*, J-L showcased his talents with superb Howard Dean and Joe Lieberman impressions.

"My next major bit will involve 50 cent as John Kerry's presidential nominee," J-L said, before giving a sample of the bit.

J-L's favorite topics include issues of race, issues of politics, and the broad category that categorizes 99.5 percent of everything: stupid stuff.

J-L now has two demo tapes, one from each of his Improv shows. He just did a show at the Gotham Comedy Club in N.Y. He has toured around D.C., New York, and plans a trip to Boston so he can try out a dif-



Photos courtesy of Aaron Clemens, 3L

GULC student Jean-Louis Cauvin competes at DC Improv's First Annual Funniest College Competition on March 2, 2004. He would later win the competition.

ferent crowd.

"There is no quick fix, it is just a gradual progress to improve," J-L said. "This is my eighth month doing comedy. Who knows, in another eight months or two years where I would be?"

If he could be like anyone, J-L said "I would be like [Chief Justice] William Rehnquist because he is a great lawyer and also a great comedian."

J-L noted that law and comedy compliment each other. "If you take my moot court experience in law school and my comedy experience, I

now have a lot of performances in front of different types of audiences. All of this will make me a better lawyer and a better comedian."

J-L hopes to continue his comedy styling when he moves to New York to work for the Bronx District Attorney. He said that the job, which he just got, was his first choice.

"It will put me in N.Y. where I can spend some evenings still pursuing comedy while locking up marijuana smokers during the day," he said.

To keep his material fresh, J-L said that he has become a much more avid news watcher. "I get some one-liners from the news. I like to throw in a few current events."

J-L said that he can get inspired anywhere, and thus must be prepared. "I try to have a pen and paper at all times so I can later remind myself of the idea," he said.

When asked if he thought that his professors would recognize his comic genius from classroom discussions, J-L said "this semester I don't think my professors would recognize me at all."

He did recall one joke he dropped in Professor David Cole's class. "And then, five days later I won. So clearly, I must attribute all my success to law school."

J-L says that for fun, he procrastinates and plays basketball. J-L enjoys watching *60 Minutes* and *Chappelle's Show*. "I think they are the funniest two shows that are on TV, as well as whatever installment of *Real Sex* is on HBO."

J-L said that he won't miss law school, but he will miss being so close to his brother, who writes for the *Washington Post*, and that he will miss being a student.

"Now I have to be an adult," J-L said. "That is where comedy comes in. I can be a kid for 15 minutes a day."

J-L will next perform at Nanny O'Brien's on April 6 in Cleveland Park. J-L's future activities can be found at [www.dstandup.com/jlcauvin.htm](http://www.dstandup.com/jlcauvin.htm). For tickets to the Improv, call 202-296-7008 or visit [www.dcmprov.com](http://www.dcmprov.com).



CRIMEBEAT

The following crimes occurred in and around Georgetown Law Center within the last three weeks. If anyone has any information that could help in the investigations of these crimes, please contact the Office of Public Safety at (202) 662-9325 or MPD.

## Office of Public Safety

No incidents were reported at the time of printing.

## Metropolitan Police

### March 10, 2004 - Robbery Attempt

Around 10:00 p.m., suspect entered store on unit block of New York Ave., N.E. and asked clerk, "where is the safe?" Thinking he was joking, clerk laughed until suspect displayed a black and silver handgun. "I'm serious," he responded. However he ultimately left without obtaining any money.

### March 12, 2004 - Ingenious Entry

Around 2:30 p.m., complainant reported to police that unknown suspect(s) pried open the wall at 100 block of F Street, N.E. and stole various property within.

### March 15, 2004 - Assault with a Deadly Weapon (Hot Coffee)

Victim had a verbal altercation with suspect at the door to her residence at 1100 block of 1st Street, N.W. around 9:00 a.m. Suspect threw a cup of hot coffee on victim and fled the scene. Police have labeled the crime Assault with a Deadly Weapon - Other.

### March 16, 2004 - Road Rage

While driving near 1000 block of Constitution Ave, N.W. at around 4:00 p.m., victim had a verbal altercation with two suspects in another vehicle. Victim pulled behind suspects' car and got out. As he exited, suspects began shooting. Victim was shot in the right buttock area. Suspects were last seen driving north on 12th Street, N.W.

### March 17, 2004 - Violent Robbery

Victim was approached by two suspects at the 300 block of E Street, N.E. around 9:00 a.m. Suspects grabbed the victim by the collar and began to punch him. Victim complied with the robbery, but suspects continued to punch and kick victim until a bystander stepped in to help in response to the victim's cries for help.

### March 22, 2004 - Suspect caught

Around 6:00 p.m., suspect was scene driving car owned by victim. Police later stopped the car at 600 block of 12th Street, N.W. and found the suspect driving. Suspect arrested for possession of stolen property.

### Numerous Area Car Break-ins (13)

Mar. 9, 2004 - 700 block 11th St., N.W.  
 Mar. 9, 2004 - 1200 block New Jersey Ave., N.W.  
 Mar. 9, 2004 - 1100 block 2nd St., N.W.  
 Mar. 9, 2004 - 1000 block G St., N.W.  
 Mar. 9, 2004 - 600 block L St., N.W.  
 Mar. 10, 2004 - 500 block 10th St., N.W.  
 Mar. 10, 2004 - 400 block K St., N.W.  
 Mar. 10, 2004 - 400 block H St., N.W.  
 Mar. 16, 2004 - 1000 block 2nd St., N.E.  
 Mar. 16, 2004 - 900 block 3rd St., N.W.  
 Mar. 16, 2004 - Unit block K St., N.E.  
 Mar. 17, 2004 - 300 block F St., N.E.  
 Mar. 17, 2004 - 600 block M St., N.E.

## Picture of the Week



Photo by Daniel Pollock, 1L

Cameron Winton, 1L and David Lane, 1L assist a rare, but injured Woodcock that flew into a trash can at the G Street Quad. The students contacted Animal Control, who arrived and took the bird away for treatment of a damaged eye. Students who would like to submit an interesting GULC related picture to the Law Weekly for publication may email it to [lawweekly@bulldog.georgetown.edu](mailto:lawweekly@bulldog.georgetown.edu) or bring it by the office in Room 161.

# Demolition of the unloved: In defense of 'the Vet'

by Adam Briggs, 1L  
Law Weekly

As television sports commentators rolled tape of Philadelphia's Veterans' Stadium being demolished earlier this month, it seemed that they all had to take a few "shots" at the now-former home of the Phillies and Eagles.

It's only fair to admit that sports anchors had plenty of ammunition. Toward the end of its 33-year life span, "the Vet" had become the first stadium to have its own municipal court (for expediting the weekly assault and disorderly conduct cases that happened to coincide with Eagles' games). It had become overridden with vermin and its playing surface came to be known as the most treacherous in existence. Its unwelcoming concrete donut design became the symbol of everything that was wrong with the wave of massive, multi-purpose concrete sports venues that were christened in the 1970s. And for me (as a 12-year-old from Wisconsin on a baseball road trip with my dad and brother), it was the first place I ever saw someone high on crack.

But Philadelphia--and the American sports world--lost something when the Vet came down. First, consider its outward appearance. Yes, the Vet was just another concrete donut. Philadelphia, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Houston, Seattle, Cincinnati, Washington D.C., and St. Louis all built stadiums inspired by the same ashtray at about the same time (the same covered ashtray in the cases of Houston and Seattle).

So why fret over one of these monstrosities reaching its deserved demise? Because now they're all being demolished. Teams everywhere have learned that if you say "we need a new stadium to be competitive in this market," local leaders will do almost anything to fund the construction. As a result, an unprecedented building boom is occurring in professional sports. With very few excep-

tions, every pro sports team either has or is desperately lobbying for a new stadium. While outliers such as Wrigley Field and Fenway Park are approaching the age of 100, Minnesota's Twins and Vikings began asking for new facilities when their Metrodome had not even reached its 16th birthday.

Most big-league cities now have their own "classic" stadium, modeled to varying degrees after Baltimore's Oriole Park at Camden Yards. Thus, these new-old ballparks are no more genuinely unique or historical than your nearest Cracker Barrel "Old Country Store" restaurant (493 locations nationwide!). This rush for new facilities that look old has meant that entire generations of sports facilities--including the concrete donut generation-



Photo by Hunter Martin.  
Demolition of Veteran's Stadium.

-are being erased from history.

But had the Vet been spared, it could have become a hip historical relic in its own right. Consider the ubiquitous presence of Technicolor 'throwback' jerseys from the 1970s and 1980s in contemporary popular culture. Pro athletes now wear these 'throwbacks' all the time on the occasional 'retro night' or when auditioning for rap videos. And shopping malls are stocking up on adjustable mesh hats like never before. The Vet-home to the 1979 Phillies' one-year experimental all-maroon uniform-is inextricably linked to the Astroturf-and-polyester era. Who's to say that the Vet wouldn't have become an icon for the swelling

ranks of the "garish + retro = cool" movement?

More importantly, of all the donuts, the Vet was the donut most deserving of survival because, despite its mass-produced look, it had developed more of an individual identity than its cousins. The reason for this is simple: The Vet had an atmosphere that was infamously inhospitable to visiting opponents. Much like the stadium itself, the Vet's fans were large and unfriendly. They cheered wildly as former Cowboys receiver Michael Irvin was wheeled off the field on a stretcher. They brought batteries to throw at J.D. Drew after he refused to play for the Phillies. They came from nearly all strata of Philadelphia society but came together to pummel Giants and Redskins fans.

In addition, the facilities themselves were equally unwelcoming to visitors. While the playing surface didn't have the rat problem that the locker room did, most players would have preferred the Korean DMZ minefield. Few playing surfaces can boast that they have snapped both of a player's anterior cruciate ligaments simultaneously, but the Vet turf did it more than once.

As a result, opposing teams hated playing in Philadelphia. They felt under siege while being taunted on the sidelines and were less sure-footed on the perilous, career-ending turf. The Eagles, in particular, seemed to have benefited from this hostility by winning many home games, even through numerous talent droughts.

But now, with the more gentrified, corporate-sponsored, family-oriented crowds that these new sports venues invariably draw, will Philadelphia still be a place opponents fear? No. Themed restaurants don't scare anybody. With luxurious locker rooms and first-rate training facilities, will the overpriced, self-absorbed free agent be turned off by Philadelphia as he once was? No. The Eagles now have the ability to attract and waste money on Terrell Owens, and they will be worse for it.

## This week at the MCI Center...

3/30 7 p.m. Washington Capitals vs. Pittsburgh Penguins  
4/03 3 p.m. Washington Capitals vs. New York Rangers

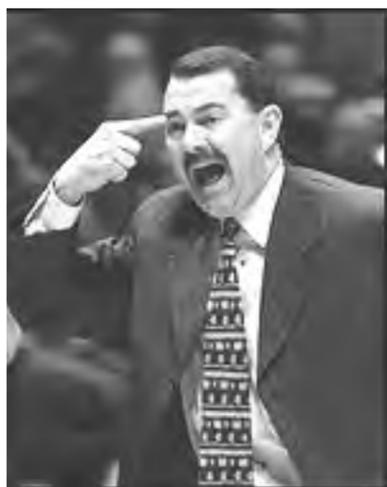
3/31 7 p.m. Washington Wizards vs. New Jersey Nets  
4/04 2 p.m. Washington Wizards vs. Boston Celtics

## Another law grad seeks job: Esherick fired as ball coach

By Feras Gadamsi, 1L  
Law Weekly

It's been a bad year to be a head coach of a men's basketball team at one of the two colleges I've attended. Three weeks ago my alma mater SMU decided to show Mike Dement the door after more than a decade coaching in Dallas. During his time on the Hilltop, the affectionate nickname for SMU, Dement led his team to only one postseason appearance: a first round loss in the NIT in 2001.

Not too long after that firing, Georgetown decided to axe men's basketball head coach Craig Esherick. Esherick, a GULC graduate, followed in the rather big footsteps and the enormous shadow of Hall of Fame coach John Thompson in 1999. Needless to say, Esherick had a tough road ahead of him from the beginning. Sure he had been an assistant for Thompson and had Thompson's backing from the beginning, but that wasn't enough.



Coach Esherick gives advice to his players during a game.

Georgetown's storied history and competition in the Big East won't allow for complacency, and President John J. DeGioia finally recognized what others have been whispering for more than a while. Esherick has produced only one NCAA

Tournament appearance since Thompson retired. That bid came in 2001, but this season's performance was the team's worst in 31 years.

The Hoyas, since moving to the MCI Center, have sold out just once--this year against No. 1 Duke. The men's team did not advance past the quarterfinals of the Big East Tournament for the first time in the tournament's 25 year history.

In fact, Esherick's firing may have come a year late, but an impressive run to the NIT championship game last season left hope open for this season. A 10-0 start this season against, um, less than stellar competition also created a false sense of hope. That hope rang hollow as the Hoyas, in a conference where mediocrity will get you a pre-game meal, a bus ride home and a butt-whoopin' in between, lost their last nine games of the season.

That sealed the fate of Esherick who was already working on time he bought with Monopoly money. Losing to Connecticut and Syracuse is one thing. Losing to Virginia Tech and West Virginia in Big East basketball competition is quite another.

Esherick went to undergrad at Georgetown and played for Thompson. He then earned his law degree at GULC. Make no mistake about it: the man is smart and a pleasure to be around. But Esherick never could get the best out of his players. Even when he did, such as with fifth-year senior forward Courtland Freeman and senior guard Gerald Riley, he never recruited well enough to get a bench to back them up. Slowly but surely, the talent rich DC area was being pilfered of its talent by Big East and ACC rivals. Georgetown had lost some luster when Thompson left. To become an afterthought in its own backyard was going too far. That's why Esherick was fired and why Georgetown University finally said enough is enough.

Complacency will not be tolerated and DC kids



Esherick talks with one of his players.

who play well in DC should stay and ball in DC. That has to be the philosophy. This area - Maryland, Northern Virginia and the District - is too talent-rich not to support its only DC inhabitant and stockpile it with talent. It's not enough to be mediocre as this team has been since Thompson's exit. It's certainly nowhere near being enough to be 13-15 and downright embarrassing in conference play (4-12).

Now the university turns to the future, one year after signing Esherick to a contract extension through 2009 and subsequently canning him. Rumor has it that Duke assistant coach and DC native Johnny Dawkins is being considered as the front-runner. Even former St. John's George Washington coach Mike Jarvis has been thrown around as a possible name.

Whoever it is has a challenge to restore Georgetown basketball to its former glory. The talent is there, the name recognition is there and school commitment will follow.

Now the only thing missing is a captain to guide this ship to the NAAs and beyond.

# Your guide to non-internet, in-class entertainment

By Vidhya Prabhakaran, 1L  
Guest Writer



There comes a time in every class hour when I just stop listening. Chances are that if you are anything like me, from time to time you, too, look for a diversion from what might be an otherwise stimulating lecture. The question, of course, is where to turn? For those who choose not to bring a laptop, this is the time where eyes glaze over, making way for daydreams and drool. But as for the rest of us, we inevitably find ourselves drawn into the warm glow of our computer screens.

Now those of us who either remembered to bring our internet cables or who are lucky enough to find our wireless connections functional generally choose to spend our time surfing the web trying to one-up our classmates by discovering the oddest story of the day, instant messaging friends around the world or in the next seat, or playing silly internet games. My new personal favorite is the Yeti Penguin game that can be found at [www.ebaumsuworld.com](http://www.ebaumsuworld.com). There is something addicting about sending a penguin rocketing across the ice.

But this article is not meant for those who have the luxury of an internet connection. This article is to help those poor souls who find themselves adrift without the information superhighway at their fingertips. We've all seen the games that our classmates play in front of us. I think its time for an evaluation of those computer games.

## Solitaire

The time-honored classic. All of us have played it at one point or another. It is neither the most challenging game nor the most scintillating. Still, it has that nostalgic appeal that no other computer game can ever hope to achieve.

And though other games might reward your victory with fireworks or a cool smiley face with sunglasses on, nothing can quite match up with the fountain display of cards gently bouncing off your screen.

*Addictive Nature: D*

*Note-Taking Compatibility: A*

## 3-D Pinball for Windows

So, first things, first, you've got to be careful with this one. It comes with bells and whistles. There's music and a whole lot of sounds. Luckily they can be turned off permanently, so take care that the first time you load this baby up, you don't entertain your entire class by leaving the sound on your laptop on.

The game has all the touches of the classic pinball at your local arcade. You deploy the ball and control the bumpers while keeping the ball from falling through the bottom. Simple. But beware of "pushing" the table too far or else the table will lock up and the dreaded tilt light will flash and you, my friend, will lose your turn. Each successive game will push you further and further as you climb levels leading to more difficult missions and shot combinations. The only drawback to the game is that it is a little too engrossing. You'll probably miss your cold call.

*Addictive Nature: A+*

*Note-Taking Compatibility: F*

## Spider Solitaire

I would rate this game as a cult favorite. This is the game for the advanced law student. Throughout a typical classroom, you will find the veteran players methodically dragging and eliminating columns of suited cards on their screens. The strategy involved with the game is learned from hundreds upon hundreds of new deals across the screen.

Though not the easiest game to immediately appreciate because of the learning curve involved, you are given the option of starting slow with first one suit, then two, then eventually working your way up to the four deck spread of the expert. Eliminating the cards is a stimulating challenge and sure to get you through the rambling, inane comments of your most annoying classmate.

*Addictive Nature: A-*

*Note-Taking Compatibility: A-*

## Minesweeper

So the first time I loaded this game up I was really hoping for a game that involved boats. I mean, I don't think that was really too much to ask for considering it is marketed as "Minesweeper." However, despite the false advertising of the name itself, this is a game that will provide amusement when it's the professor's lecture that promptly self-destructs into a pointless tangent.

The game itself is simple and elegant; however there is one very unfortunate problem involving the difficulties of using your laptop mouse or touchpad. An external mouse is a key feature for a time truly representative

of your minesweeping skills and not at all a practical in-class accessory. So, unfortunately, it is impossible to realize the full potential of this game while in class.

*Addictive Nature: C*

*Note-Taking Compatibility: C*

## Hearts

Perhaps the world's most popular card game after Solitaire, Hearts graces many screens in the classroom. The beauty of this easily learned game is that you may flip to and from the game without worrying about losing the precious seconds crucial to reaching a new high score in most other games.

Still, the computer is not quite the opponent that you are looking for in a good game of Hearts. The challenge with this game is less in trying to win against your computer opponents, but in attempting to "shoot the moon" four times in a row to win the game. Still, a good game of Hearts is always a sure fire way to mildly distract yourself while remaining attached to the lecture at hand.

*Addictive Nature: B*

*Note-Taking Compatibility: A*

If these don't fill the void left by a boring lecture, there are any number of other addictive games available for download on the internet. (I highly recommend Snood.) Just keep in mind that there are some good options already built-in to that laptop of yours. Good luck flipping back to your notes when the professor walks around. Just remember alt+tab is an important keystroke combination for the expert in-class gamer.

# Graphic novels at their best: welcome to manga world

By Chen Fong Goh, 1L  
Law Weekly

This article will look at some of the best graphic novels ever written. Some were published as long ago as the 1970s and only recently translated from Japanese, but they retain enormous literary value. I feel it is worth introducing my fellow students to the amazing world of Japanese manga.

Manga comes in many forms. Some are comic books published for six-year-olds, but the best manga have literary value comparable to *Maus* by Art Spiegelman. These works qualify for the term 'graphic novel' because they are essentially literary novels where the writer has chosen to draw pictures instead of using text to describe settings.

Americans don't tend to take Japanese manga seriously because of cultural differences. Manga, like printed books, comes in many forms intended for different audiences. Remember that the best manga are no more like Marvel Comics than is a Toni Morrison novel akin to a Harold Robbins work.

All good graphic novels are serious efforts by intelligent people. Some novels are weakened by artist-writers who are better at thinking than drawing. Others look less serious because of their use of caricature, humor, sci-fi and fantasy elements. Worst of all are American translations made without noticing the references. For instance, in *Galaxy Express 999* an important character's name is transcribed as Matel. Actually the Latin 'Mater' was intended.

To best appreciate manga, remem-

ber that the writers are well-informed. Applesseed's use of Greek mythology approaches that taught in college-level classes. *Lone Wolf and Cub* involved research into the culture, environment, politics and intellectual fashions of feudal Japan. *Nausicaa in the Valley of Wind* draws on images of the blue woman (Virgin Mary) bringing about the first steps at salvation. The blond superman *Vash* created a blast that

its decisions, challenges, and difficulties. Every stop this boy makes has considerable significance.

*Battle Angel Alita* is a collection in two parts: the first is a nine-volume collection and the second has three volumes published to date. *Alita* is infused with ideas from Buddhist and existentialist philosophy and it asks very probing questions through its medium of a cyborg fighting to understand herself:



Characters from the graphic novel *Battle Royale*.

destroyed the city 'August' in *Trigun*, a significant symbol because the nuclear attacks on Japan occurred in August. Also remember that bookstores inevitably lump all manga together - putting *Confidential Confessions* where issues like sex and drug abuse are explored in the same section as *Pokemon*.

Let me look at a few examples of manga that deserve recommendation:

*Galaxy Express 999* is an old classic. Underneath the storyline of an epic trip through space, a young man is growing up. The train is a metaphor for life and

What makes us human? At what point do we gain free will? *Alita* explores concepts like consciousness, memory, illusion, self-image, love, idealism, predestination and ambition.

*Pet Shop of Horrors* is a collection of tales about pets. They reflect our desires and weaknesses - murderous hatred, vulnerable self-images, childhood pains, loneliness, and more. A pet can only be purchased by the right owner. The owner may be destroyed by the greed that his pet reflects, or he may be given a last lease on life to complete an aim. Not one episode is without

observations on the human condition. (This graphic novel has nothing to do with the 1960s musical *Little Shop of Horrors*.)

In the six-volume *Battle Royale*, a high school class has been kidnapped on an island. They must kill one another because only the last person can leave. It was originally written as a vehicle of social protest for an aging Japan where adults were feeling threatened by the irreverence of the young and enacting laws against youthful delinquents. It explores difficult questions. *Battle Royale* explores its characters in every detail possible - angst, secret infatuations, growing sexuality, repressed jealousy, etc. It also makes you think: Would you kill your best friend in order to live?

Those who tastes are more historical should enjoy *Lone Wolf and Cub*. Set in Feudal Japan, a rogue samurai on the run takes his son and travels through the Japan of his day. Not only has 17th century Japan been carefully recreated, the novel traces the samurai's choices and his descent into hell as he slaughters his way towards avenging his wife's death. This manga was the influence behind the movie *Road to Perdition* starring Tom Hanks as well as Frank Miller's *Ronin*.

In our fast-paced world, we have less time to read text recreationally. Law school students have enough words to read as it is and pictures give us a refreshing break from study. Readers who like books that make them think, but don't have time to plow through 100,000 words, should consider reading graphic novels for a change.



## Universal Law

### Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Yes, the stars agree that it would be really nice to have a petting zoo at the law school. Giving doggie treats to the children at the day care center is just strange, though.

### Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

Your April fool's joke, telling your professors class was cancelled due to terrorist threats, will get you a lot of laughs - when it comes time for them to figure out your grades.

### Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

Studying isn't that important. As Abernathy says, it's better to destroy your extra brain cells with good wine than to remember all those date limits in the FRCPs.

### Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

The stars know it's annoying when the wireless internet stops working in class. But rolling your eyes and pouting may make the person next to you think you're trying to flirt.

### Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Spring is here, and love is in the air. That explains the funny smell in your apartment.

### Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

The stars are sorry that you couldn't figure out a way to crash the faculty retreat. They suggest you try visiting office hours...

### Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) -

Yes, we all miss the SBA election ruckus. If you are that lonely, just turn on CNN for ruckus with another election.

### Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)

When you don't know the answer in class, saying so in Latin isn't going to look any more intelligent than saying so in English. Well, maybe a little.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The stars know you are very proud of your outlining skillz, but bragging about how they are all going to be 100 pages long doesn't help until you actually start writing them.

### Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

If you continue to talk like the Crocodile Hunter in your seminar, sooner or later even your pacifist professor is going to condone beating you up.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will finally overhear an exciting conversation on the Metro. Unfortunately, it's all about you, and it's all wrong.

### Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Your brief is turned in - time to get back to that swinging social life. Oh, wait - you're a law student.

*Horoscopes by the Stellar Jenny Cieplak.*

### Need love advice?

### Ask Lucy and Logan

laweekly@bulldog.georgetown.edu  
Confidentiality guaranteed!

*Please Note: Advice columns are intended for amusement purposes only. Some question scenarios are fictitious, and written by members of the Law Weekly staff.*

## Zhubin's Top 10 Controversial Moments in the 2004 SBA Elections

10. Alaina Dartt campaign accepts financial contributions from Harvard and Yale Law Schools
9. VP Candidate Paul Deeringer, in effort to prove his dedication to contraceptive coverage, swallows entire bottle of birth control pills
8. Presidential candidate Clark Walton promises brutal pre-emptive military campaign against George Washington Law School to prevent competition during Early Interview Week
7. VP Candidate Bill Walsh, in effort to gather the vote of the disenfranchised, promises all-out war against "the Man"
6. 2L delegate Mark Richards picks up Al Gore endorsement, loses in landslide
5. During questioning by Judiciary Committee regarding accusations of unethical conduct, Dartt angrily informs Committee that, although they may want the truth, they will not be able to handle the truth
4. On Election Night, *Law Weekly* mistakenly projects Walton as having won 1L vote
3. Unopposed Secretary candidate Leah Schmelzer annoys other candidates by constantly saying, "Wow, you're in a real tough race, huh? I mean, look at all these people running against you! Man, it'd be great not to have to worry about any competition, huh?"
2. Treasurer candidate Luce Remy seals victory when she proves herself to be the only law student who still remembers how to count
1. Dartt, in victory speech, disbands SBA entirely

*Top 10 by the Tip-Top Zhubin Parang*

### The Quotable...

"That's an original point of view. Some people would say, 'What have you been smoking?'" **The Quotable Robert Drinan**

"Justice Rehnquist is not known for his sophistication. He just pounds his gavel and that's the result." **The Quotable David Cole**

"You are at that nightclub in NY and P-diddy comes in with a friend...and you become fearful that one of them is packing heat, what do you do?" **The Quotable Peter Rubin**

"I can take this all the way back to Adam and Eve if you want, but there might be a jurisdictional problem." **The Quotable Girardeau Spann**

## Picture of the Week Feldman says: We Aim to Please



Photo by Nicholas C. Erickson, 1L

Students and faculty pooled \$130 (which was donate to EJF) in exchange for Professor Heidi Li Feldman publicly drinking an entire pitcher of beer at EJF's Keg on the Quad fundraiser.

Students who would like to submit an interesting GULC related picture to the Law Weekly for publication may email it to laweekly@bulldog.georgetown.edu or bring it by the office in Room 161.

## Heat on the Hill



*Dear Heat:*

I'd been dating my boyfriend for two years before I came to GULC. Now we've been dating via the phone for seven months. Whenever I bring up something that has been bothering me-it's infrequently, maybe once every two or three months-he turns it around and says that he's 'losing faith in the relationship.' He's never been one to talk much about how he feels about me, so hearing these negative thoughts is especially hard since there's not much to balance it out. We've gone through this five or six times already and I'm not sure what I should do. When we're together, it's so good, but then he makes me doubt. I really don't want to break up with him, but this is killing me and it keeps happening. Any insight or advice?

*Doubtful in Dupont Circle*

*Doubtful::* At first cut, a story like yours brings to mind the immortal lyrics of Stephen Stills: "if you can't be with the one you love, honey, love the one you're with." It's more than a justification to throw caution to the wind--it's a whole philosophy and a gateway to sound peace of mind. You sound like a passionate, healthy, scintillating girl. There should be no reason not to find a surrogate devotee in the absence of the boyfriend so far, far away.

And while I would ordinarily tell you to quit whining and jump at--or more demurely allow yourself to be jumped by--the multitude of opportunities for a good time here in the capitol city, something about your saga tugs at the heartstrings. If there's anything that chafes me more than the woman who doesn't appreciate the virtues of an honest good time between two sincere and sexy people, it's the man who fails to appreciate that woman.

Your boyfriend is an idiot. He is, no doubt, distracted by the fact that his steady supply of gratification lives across state lines. But he sounds patently unable to handle himself for the duration, talking about 'losing faith' instead of either seeing it through or, in the honorable alternative, cutting it off with you and getting on with his life. Keep a good thing going and everyone wins. Break it off and no hard feelings. But this halfway garbage I cannot abide. And neither should you. It took Frank Sinatra to lay down the law: "All or nothing at all. Half of love could never appeal to me."

Don't wait for the next time he starts to doubt his commitments. Tonight, when you get home, call him up and tell it to him straight. Calmly, but directly make it clear that you are too fun and too good looking to hinge your obligations on anyone who loses faith so easily. Either he'll shape up and start expressing his aptitude and appreciation, or that'll be the end of that. The absolute worst case scenario involves his wallowing in self pity and regret while you move on, conscience clear, to a man who recognizes a fine woman when he has one.

*Liberate Your Mind, Logan*

# Uncovering Rachel: from Israel to Washington

Tarek Maassarani

"Oh yeah, I heard about her.. she's that Evergreen girl that was killed by a bulldozer. Yeah but I didn't really know her or anything like that." This was a typical response in the misty nights around small-town Olympia, Washington, even in Batdorfer-Bronson, Rachel's favorite hole-in-the-wall coffee shop where she could be found many a late night. In Israel a more typical opinion -- as published March 2 in a *Jerusalem Post* letter-to-the-editor, and more recently republished in the *Wall Street Journal* -- held her up as a collaborator with terrorists, fanatically anti-American, and at best stupidly naïve. Of course, these people never had the honor of knowing her, or the decency to dig a little deeper.

I spent a part of summer and this winter walking in the tracks of Rachel Corrie, camera in hand to reconstruct a life that had vanished a year ago last week. On assignment for a Palestinian documentary film-maker, I walked the bullet-riddled blocks of Rafah in southern Gaza and the empty halls of Evergreen College in Washington State. I talked with her friends, family, teachers, and even approached her dappled cat.

It turned out to be a profound exercise, attempting to figure out a person whom you will never get to know. I found my mind naturally grasping to reduce her personality

to something manageable, predictable, a typology that is internally consistent, a story that is easy to render on sixty minutes of film. This often led me way off track, asking framed questions that elicited strange frowns or a curious silence. Luckily, I learned to listen and accept the richness and complexity of a person.

And rich and complex she was. Sometimes quiet, sometimes extremely gregarious. Some old snaps show her bespeckled reckless-

young and troubled heart.

Nonetheless, Rachel was an activist: a permanent feature at her campus labor center, working tirelessly on behalf of unions and the working class. She also remained a creative idealist, donned as a dove of peace in Olympia's March of the Species. Before long, the under-represented struggles of several million Palestinian people touched her sympathies and galvanized a determination to go that her parents could only accept and support. She read-

and its family was one amongst hundreds that Israel has claimed, without due process or compensation, in order to secure the territory from alleged arms-smuggling. The Israeli Defense Forces' own official internal investigations dismissed the handful of Palestinian eyewitnesses and cleared the driver and his superiors from any charges of intentional or even negligent conduct.

Shamai Leibowitz, a well-known Israeli civil rights lawyer to whom I talked, could see no stronger civil case with which to address the increasingly repressive measures taken against activists and internationals by the government. In the absence of any such legal advances by her family, groups have rallied around the world in commemoration of Rachel Corrie's death on March 16th. In the US, they are urging support for Rep. Brian Baird's House Resolution 111, calling upon the "United States government to undertake a full, fair, and expeditious investigation into the death of Rachel Corrie."

Uncovering Rachel was a painful and personal endeavor. Not only because of a loss of life in all its complexity and richness, but the death of one filled with such idealism, compassion, energy, hope, and courage. Perhaps it is because of this that I identified myself so deeply with her, for these are qualities that I possess, or wish to possess. The camera has turned inward, images transposed, the eye-piece for the world to see.

*A home-spun idealism weighted down by the awareness of injustice, her soul smarted at the plight of the underprivileged and dispossessed. But the reality of injustice, its pompous legitimacy, its lack of hopeful alternatives offered little refuge for a young and troubled heart.*

ly with paint and an indulgent smile in the kitchen, others dressed as a little ballerina. Many betray a pensive sensitivity, even at her young age. Indeed, Rachel's attention and awareness soon turned beyond her caring family and close-knit community, while drawing support and nourishment from it. A home-spun idealism weighted down by the awareness of injustice, her soul smarted at the plight of the underprivileged and dispossessed. But the reality of injustice, its pompous legitimacy, its lack of hopeful alternatives offered little refuge for a

ied herself for the trip with Arabic lessons and diligent background reading; yet as she headed to the Palestinian Territories last winter, she could never have been prepared for the experience.

Rachel believed and practiced non-violence. She tried to build bridges and understanding where walls and destruction were the institutional response to conflict. In the end, she was driven over by a bulldozer while protecting the house of a Palestinian doctor that was being cleared to make a buffer zone at Gaza's border to Egypt. This house

## Pryor snuck by the Constitution during Senate break

Direct Examination  
Nicholas C. Erickson

George W. Bush must have pulled out his old nursery rhymes to formulate his most recent strategy to defeat his opponents. "When the cat's away the mice will play." Deciding the only way he could push through an unpopular judicial candidate, Bush made a recent recess appointment of Alabama Attorney General William Pryor, prior to the Law Center's Spring Break. This appointment is effective until the next election, when Pryor will have to vacate his newly acquired seat on the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals unless he is confirmed by the next Congress. This appointment is "legal" because Congress was closed for a week in celebration of the Presidents' Day holiday. This is the second time this year that the President has used this method to appoint a judge that he alone wanted on the bench.

The Constitution authorizes the President to make appointments while Congress is not in session. While this action might be "legal" it surely is not right and flies in the face of the legislative purpose. The Constitution, also, requires the "advice and consent" of the Senate before a judicial nominee may take the bench and given the power to interpret Constitutional and Federal law. Bush blatantly bypassed explicit Constitutional language and cancelled the balance of power by ignoring the "advice and consent" clause

and directly appointed the candidate he preferred.

When the Constitution was drafted, America was an agrarian society seeking limited government. Congress was only expected to sit for a month or two throughout the year and any pressing requirement like a judicial nomination might not be accomplished during that time. Recess appointments were created to allow the continued administration of law when Congress was not available. They were surely not to give the President fiat power to seat any candidate that he pleased without the support of the Senate. More recently, Congress stays in session most of the year, making justification for a recess appointment far less palatable. The Senate is available. If they wanted Pryor to be a federal judge he would have been appointed.

I am not suggesting that this section of the Constitution should be stricken or that the Supreme Court should find recess appointments outweighed by the conflicting importance of the "advice and consent" clause. There is merit to the power to appoint when the Senate is unable to meet due to natural disaster, war, or act of God. However, if the Senate is available the President should not circumvent the purpose of "advice and consent" merely because he doesn't approve of their advice.

This is just another chapter in the ongoing political fight between the President and Senate Democrats, whose politics Bush characterizes as "unprecedented obstructionist tac-

tics." He goes on to allege that "their tactics are inconsistent with the Senate's constitutional responsibility and are hurting our judicial system." This argument may have had some traction, Mr. President, if the Senate had not overwhelmingly approved your judicial candidates and had only blocked the most extreme from sitting on the federal bench. As of last November, 168 judicial candidates had been approved and 4 had been blocked. This hardly seems like the Senate is "hurting our judicial system." In fact, Bush seems like a whiner who thinks that the Senate is required to approve every candidate he sends to them. On the contrary, the "advice and consent" clause is not a rubberstamp of Presidential nominations.

This is not the first time that the President and his congressional cronies attempted to circumvent the power of the Senate to bring unpopular candidates to the floor for a vote. In November, the Republicans staged an all night debate session intended to test Democrats resolve to filibuster Pryor's nomination. As was expected, the all night debate was nothing more than a reason to drag some old men out of bed in the middle of the night to respectively challenge and defend constitutionally authorized powers. What bothered me the most of this debate was that its true purpose was abundantly clear to everyone participating and in the immediate vicinity. It was not a legitimate attempt to break an obstructionist Senator trying to prevent needed civil rights legisla-

tion, like the filibuster employed by Senator Strom Thurmond in the 1960s. This was a media circus, employed by Senate Republicans to make a point on national television and at the expense of the nation's taxpayers. Of course, the point got lost in the rhetoric of partisan bickering and the requisite showmanship of the Senators. I am sure that a few southern Senators won some votes that night from their constituents, but otherwise the political debate was not advanced in anyway.

I find it disturbing that Republicans have resorted to tactics that attempt to force Democrats to acquiesce to their demands and, in the alternative, weasel in the candidate while the Senate is on a scheduled break. For a President who claims he is willing to break the partisan deadlock and reach over to the other aisle, Bush is consistently intent on beating his opponents into submission rather than gaining their support.

One must ask why these four ultraconservative, anti-abortion, anti-gay, anti-civil rights are candidates are so important that Bush is willing to alienate all Democrats in the Senate. Unfortunately, the answer comes down to a singular personality trait - ego. Bush cannot stand by and allow even one of his consecrated ultraconservative soldiers to be blocked by the heathen masses and their Democratic allies. This is not how politics was supposed to be run when Bush promised to bring an outsider's perspective to Washington.

## Georgetown Law Weekly

Elizabeth E. Hancock, 2L  
Editor in Chief

Jenny Cieplak, 2L  
Audrey Perry, 2L  
Managing Editors

Nicholas C. Erickson, 1L  
Kevin Mittler, 1L  
News Editors

Erin Lien, 1L  
Amy Messigian, 1L  
Features Editors

Annie Wartanian, 2L  
Commentaries Editor

Alaina Dartt, 2L  
Michael Palisano, 1L  
Assistant Editors

Tye Andersen, 2L  
Shawn Bates, 1L  
Adam Briggs, 1L  
Katherine Clark, 1L  
Angela Corridan, 3L  
Matthew Dalton, 2L  
Feras Gadamsi, 1L  
Chen Fong Goh, 1L  
David Kim, 2L  
Sayo Kondo, 1L  
Adam Laxalt, 2L  
Scott P. Lindsay, 2L  
Tarek Maassarani, 2L  
Jessica Mazzaro, 1L  
Michael B. McClellan, 2L  
Katherine Penick, 1L  
Laura Phillips, 3L  
Amina Rana, 3L  
Ari Scott, 3L  
Katie Tenney, 1L  
James Veverka, 1L  
Rebecca Young, 1L  
Staff Reporters & Writers

Mark Leighton  
Jon Massimino  
Katie Mierau  
Avedis H. Seferian  
Editors Emeritus

Mark Arimoto, 3L  
Artist

Monica Stearns  
Business Manager

The Rev. Robert F. Drinan  
Faculty Advisor

Georgetown Law Weekly  
600 New Jersey Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Telephone: (202) 662-9265  
Fax: (202) 662-9491  
lawweekly@bulldog.georgetown.edu

Georgetown Law Weekly is published throughout the school year by students at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

The Law Weekly is composed on Quark Express 4.1 and is printed by Southern Maryland Publishing.

The writing, graphics and design are the responsibility of the Law Weekly and do not necessarily represent the views of Georgetown University Law Center. Signed columns represent the beliefs of the writer, and not necessarily the views of either Georgetown University Law Center or the Law Weekly. Unsigned editorials represent the opinions of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor should not exceed 700 words and should be submitted on disk for P.C. or as e-mail attachment in Microsoft Word. The Law Weekly reserves the right to edit columns for length and style.

Deadline for material submission is Friday at noon before the Monday of publication.

# Community voices: letters to the editor

*Ed. note: In the past week, Law Weekly has received a number of "anonymous" emails sent through untraceable accounts, from persons purporting to be members of the Law Center community. As readers are aware from news coverage from this year, these sorts of correspondences have become a problem on campus as tools for cloaked harassment of students. While Law Weekly respects and understands the wishes of students who choose to remain anonymous in expressing their opinions (We honor this desire through the "Name Withheld on Request" designation), we decline to print statements from people whose identities as members of the Law Center community cannot be verified. The opportunity to misrepresent one's identity, misrepresent one's personal knowledge of the workings of some entity, or falsify public opinion or dissent for some person or idea that may or may not exist in reality, is extremely high in anonymous email communication. We choose not to make the free discourse in our community vulnerable to such attacks.*

## Federalist Society: Fact vs. Myth

### To the Editor:

I was asked by members of the Federalist Society to write about our group in an effort to explain its purpose and to correct possible misconceptions surrounding it. As the Fed Soc encompasses a variety of view points, in some instances in contradiction with each other, I will simply describe my own views and contrast them with some of others in the group in order to illustrate what is, happily, an association of respectful debate, not deadening consensus. Here are some thoughts, to the best of my ability:

The greatness of our American legal system is a combination of two factors: the Optimism regarding the Individual inherent in the Common Law and the US Constitution; and the culture of Judicial Restraint that we inherited from England.

On optimism: Only an ingrained confidence in every person's natural capacity for justice could give us the jury system, judge-made law and democracy. Trust in the individual to best perceive its own interests and to be capable of fairness towards others (mutual benefit and good faith) underlies and morally justifies the Freedom of Contract. The pervasive doctrine of Reasonableness underscores the presumption that the average person is prudent and discerning.

Judicial Restraint, meanwhile, reflects the sound realization not only that one judge's understanding cannot normally be equal to the collective wisdom of a legislature but that judges should have the humility to systematically consider whether the conclusions of the previous judge might not be superior to their own. Healthy skepticism towards one's own ability to ascertain the truth is surely one of the bulwarks against tyranny or the desire to be tyrannical. Reliance on precedent is of little worth if judges are intemperate, as those who consider themselves the arbiters of all questions must be. Interest in studying the intentions of legislators

and constitution framers springs from a similar humility, though many prefer to see such an effort as either, favorably, intellectual rigor or, critically, intellectual enslavement.

These two qualities, bold Optimism in the Individual and humble Judicial Restraint, protect society from pervasive, judicially created, arbitrariness, immoderation, and distrust. Our judiciary is held to a high standard yet allowed broad discretion; this would be appropriate only were judges to be worthy of our trust and capable of justice and moderation.

Having returned from a Federalist Society convention February 21 at Vanderbilt University (at which our own Professor Peter Byrne kindly agreed to speak, though not himself a member), I will mention a couple of instances (there were many more!) where I found myself in disagreement with speakers.

First, Judge Frank Easterbrook insisted that managerial malfeasance at publicly traded corporations cannot be usefully dealt with other than by strict dependence on contract law: enforcement of contracts and punishment of fraud. It seems to me that government has long established the legal parameters of corporate structures and I do not see why government today should not adapt those structures to our current understanding of minimal Best Practices.

Second, Judge Kenneth Starr called for a continuation of the Grand Tradition of American jurisprudence, stretching from Chief Justice John Marshall to, interestingly, Justice Byron White. I find Tradition to be the weakest argument in favor of our legal system. In fact, it is supine deference to the past or to the current consequences of the past that has most brought our legal system into disrepute: the long tolerance of slavery and segregation.

I will end hoping to see everyone come to future Federalist Society events and with the promise that many viewpoints will be presented and all welcomed.

Charles Iragui

## A Woman's Body; A Dad's Response

### To the Editor:

After reading Chen Fong Goh's editorial last week, I feel compelled to address some disturbing assumptions and assertions. I am an opponent of abortion, but I'd like to think none of the stereotypes Chen provided in his essay describe me.

But who knows? I may well be a religious extremist, you tell me: my wife and I are Catholic. As such, we don't use contraception; we use Natural Family Planning (not the rhythm method), an easy way to determine exactly when she ovulates, so we know exactly which days would likely result in pregnancy and which most certainly will not. NFP, properly used, is just as effective as BCP's or condoms.

I also know a little something about childbirth. My wife and I have a 22-month-old, the ornery product of a happy and planned pregnancy. And get this, I "helped" through Anita's natural (absolutely no pain killers of any type—her choice) childbirth by holding

her hand, speaking with her, helping her breathe, and giving her ice. Yet, while my "help" was insignificant compared to the tremendous work of pregnancy and childbirth, we were still in it together. Xavier is our son. The pregnancy represented a common choice and, most importantly, involved a whole new life.

Chen argues that because of the lopsided burden of pregnancy and childbirth, abortion should be exclusively the mother's choice, but I think his examples actually work against him. For example, he states that if a woman agrees to sex without a condom, she may destroy her educational aspirations and career plans. This should tell us to provide resources for pregnant women in school, not to promote abortions. At one point Chen even states outright that many women "must make this decision," that is, to have an abortion. But as soon as you say "must," choice is gone. And I think he's right. Many women don't have much of a real choice.

Feminists for Life (feministsfor-life.org) makes this point wonderfully. If you're really pro woman, and/or if you're really pro-baby, you have to come to grips with the fact that much of the real help needs to come way before abortion. Having to choose between an education or a baby isn't much of a choice at all.

Chen tried to distinguish the abortion issue by framing it in terms of the deeply individual nature of the mother's choice. I think he's very wrong. There is a duty of care—parents have a legal duty to care for their children. There is a reasonable person standard—reasonable people would not want women to have to choose between education or babies. There is a contractual obligation—using Chen's own words: "the social contract demands moral decisions from all of us." Regarding abortion, the fundamental moral decision we are required to make is whether to recognize how deeply incoherent the in-utero/neonate distinction is as a basis for the definition of personhood.

To me, the question is this simple: either fetal life is afforded its due respect and society restructures itself to its protection hand-in-hand with the support, care, education, and protection of women, or fetal life is subordinate to the mother's life and the value of any life is not intrinsic, but rather evaluated by its impact on other lives.

Bonard Molina

## Student Stops Professorial Praise

### To the Editor:

I'm writing in response to the "Person of the Week" article in your March 23-March 27th edition. As the writer noted, "you are likely to get a wide range of thoughts about Professor Heidi Li Feldman and her teaching style." However, I would suspect that the range is heavily tilted towards the negative thoughts. As a Section 3 student who had to endure her lack of responsibility and respect for students last year, I have been deeply disappointed about the administration's lack of response to my classmates' numerous complaints. Seeing her lauded in your pages has deepened our frustration.

Name withheld on request

# Speak your mind - letters to the editor spark debate

## Law Weekly: Cover Undergrad Affairs

### To the Editor:

I doubt that many law students are aware, but the past three weeks have been difficult ones for Georgetown University. On Friday, February 26, 2004, over 250 undergraduate students rallied in response to recent acts of racism on main campus. The rally was planned after several students came forward to report incidents of racial attacks and insensitivity perpetrated against them by fellow students and even professors. The culmination of these events came when a letter addressed "Dear Niggers" and including other derogatory statements about African-Americans was sent to the Black Student Alliance and NAACP membership. Although no one affiliated with Georgetown was responsible for sending the letter, its delivery compelled many students to organize and formally address the increasingly contentious racial climate on main campus.

University President John J. DeGioia's responded quickly, declaring, "racism would not be tolerated" at Georgetown. In addition, DeGioia met with undergraduate student leaders to devise a plan of action to halt the proliferation of intolerance within the Georgetown community. Among the provisions endorsed by the student coalition are mandatory diversity training for students and faculty, the expansion of the African-American Studies minor to a major and the creation of a concrete procedure for reporting hate crimes. While it may be surprising to some that such measures are not already in place at Georgetown, what is even more shocking is that student leaders made many of these same requests four years earlier. In the spring of 2000, undergraduate student leaders met with DeGioia in response to several acts of vandalism and intimidation including a death threat directed at all African-American students on campus. President DeGioia convened a panel of student leaders to develop ways to make Georgetown more inclusive. The University enacted several of the panels' suggestions including creating the aforementioned African-American studies minor and requiring the Department of Public Safety to include hate crimes in their annual crime statistics. Despite these measures, however, Georgetown University has continued to struggle with discrimination based on race as well as gender, religion and sexual orientation.

As disturbing as the events that occurred on the main campus were, even more troubling is that there seemed to be no response from the members of the Law Center community, most notably, Georgetown Law Weekly. While undergraduate student leaders were interviewed on two separate occasions by local news outlets, Georgetown Law Weekly, a recognized leader among its peers, remained silent. The University's response to intimidation and racism on main campus is particularly relevant to the Georgetown Law community. Hate speech and hate crimes raise legal questions about balancing the safety of individual students and the community at large against the interest in freedom of speech and promoting honest discussions about diver-

sity. More importantly, this story is relevant to the Georgetown Law Center because these events directly affected students that attend the same institution as we do. Georgetown Law may consider itself a liberal environment, but that fact certainly does not mean the Law Center campus is immune from ignorance and intolerance as well. Perhaps now is the time for the Law Center to reflect on its own efforts to promote diversity and community. Self reflection, however, is ineffective at best and impossible at worst if we are not fully informed. Georgetown Law Weekly can and must play a role in this process.

Georgetown University's Jesuit identity challenges its members to be "men and women for others." However, before we can be "men and women for others," we must be men and women for each other. Although the Law Center may have a separate campus, we remain a part of the larger Georgetown community. As such, we must remain informed of and involved in the issues that affect this institution and our peers. I hope that Georgetown Law Weekly will take a greater role in facilitating this process by reporting on newsworthy events that occur on the main campus in addition to the Law Center.

Donald Sherman

## Law Weekly Criticized for Racial Identifier

### To the Editor:

Why did the Law Weekly's recent story, "Female students assaulted near GULC," identify two assailants as "African American males?" The suspects' race was not given so that other students could potentially avoid the assailants. After all, describing someone as an "African American" does nothing to narrow the field of potential assailants in the District of Columbia. In addition, the story gives hardly any identifying information other than the suspects' race, making the story useless for other students who may wish to avoid the suspects mentioned in the article.

Further, the suspects' race was not given so that the suspects could be brought to justice: as the story points out, both suspects have already been apprehended, one by the Metropolitan Police Department, the other by the non-existent "Capitol Hill Police." (Shouldn't this be the "U.S. Capitol Police?")

Indeed, the suspects' race was given for one of two reasons. Perhaps you wanted to perpetuate the stereotype that black males are untrustworthy and violent. Or perhaps you wanted to cast black males as being mentally ill street criminals, in light of the unsubstantiated allegation in the article that "the assailants in the two cases may have had inadequate psychiatric medication or alcohol and drug treatment."

I hope that you, the editors and staff of the Law Weekly, take a hard look at your newspaper and realize the racial stereotypes that you are perpetuating in this and other news stories. ("Student's family victim of car break-in near Gewirz" is another example in the very same edition.) In addition, the Law Weekly could take a lesson from the Washington Post, which uses racial identifiers only where such information

is relevant to the news story.

Omari Norman

### Reporter Response

#### Dear Mr. Norman:

My name is Sayo Kondo, and I am the writer responsible for the "Female Students Assaulted Near GULC" article. I deeply regret that my wording has offended you, and apologize for any misunderstanding it may have caused. The article in no way tried to depict racial stereotypes or discriminate against particular people.

The information was obtained from the police report through the DPS and the GULC Crime Beat section on page five of the March 15th edition of What's Happening. I did not want to use the phrase a "young black male," as used in What's Happening, because I believed it was inappropriate to refer to the color of the skin.

The article states that the assailants may have had inadequate treatment because they were taken away by the police, and the DPS could not obtain information regarding what happened to them afterwards. They knew that one of the assailant was taken for psychiatric evaluation, and suspected that he had a mental illness. This particular assailant had caused previous problems and the DPS officers knew about him from before. The other assailant was suspected of alcohol or drug use due to his behavior. The assailants' names were not released at the request of the DPS.

As for the Capitol Hill Police, that was the name I obtained through the DPS and the Crime Beat section, and I apologize for not conducting a back up research on it.

I wanted to write a candid article giving as much information as possible, despite the fact that some information could not be released due to the sensitivity of the matter. However, I deeply regret offending you and again stress that I did not intend to make racially discriminatory statements. As a minority student of color myself, I understand and have experienced the problems of racial discrimination, and regret that my article has caused misunderstandings. I am completely responsible for the article, and the other staff of the Law Weekly had no responsibility over the phrases that have caused offense to you or to other people. Thank you very much for your advice, and I will be more careful in referring to sensitive issues in the future.

Sayo Kondo

*Ed. note: Mr. Norman's point regarding racial identifiers is well-taken. However, an insinuation that inclusion of an identifier was motivated by malice and a desire to perpetuate stereotypes is incorrect. The Law Weekly regularly incorporates physical descriptions of violent offenders when such offenders may still be in the area of the Law Center.*

## No Welcome Mat for SBA Campaigners

### To the Editor:

I write to express my disapproval with some of the candidates' antics during the recent SBA election, specifically the use of door-to-door cam-

paigning in Gewirz Hall despite Residence Life's policy against such solicitation. In my opinion, this kind of aggressive campaigning is both unwelcome and seemingly unnecessary for an election of this magnitude.

Though I cannot personally attest to the other allegations described in last week's article, I was sorry to read about the tone of the campaign. I remind this year's candidates, as well as future candidates, that when we are gone, we will be remembered not for SBA office, but by our kindness, honesty, and personal integrity.

On a lighter note, I'd like to commend Mike Palisano for the informative and well-written article in last week's paper.

Mohsen Manesh

## Student Criticizes Candidates

### To the Editor:

Nothing irritates a politician so much as the media. Political accountability is often inexpedient, and sunlight often stings the ego. Still, it's probably best that the powers keeping our leaders honest are not afraid to step on toes. What could be more basic than that simple civics lesson, reaffirmed here in an institution where the First Amendment can be the basis of an entire career?

But earlier this week, Scott Lindsay wrote a memo. Lindsay-campaign manager and significant other of freshly inaugurated SBA President Dartt-expressed his surprise and anger at the Law Weekly and their coverage of the recent election. He wanted to remind the paper of its "powerful moral duty to uphold the public trust in its news and editorial standards by . . . protecting the Law Center community from abuse of the newspaper's unique monopoly on information." He then suggests a few regulations-from now on, advises Lindsay, the Law Weekly should reject any editorial that praises or criticizes a student leader "gratuitously." Discussion of an elected official's general character ought to be altogether banned.

Pleading for stricter standards in quality and accuracy of news coverage, when what Lindsay actually suggests is content management, is deceptive. Arguing for objectivity in our only newspaper, when he and his candidate declined to recuse themselves from the newspaper's staff during the election, is hypocritical. Claiming to speak only for yourself, when you are boyfriend, manager and mouthpiece to a president we elected days ago, is plain silly. But it seems appropriate that he discusses "a unique responsibility to uphold the public trust."

Article VII, section 1 of the SBA Constitution clearly states: "the elections of Delegates and Officers shall be fair, open, and unbiased and shall be held to the highest ethical standards of democratic electoral conduct." At the very least, we would have expected Dartt and her campaign manager to recuse themselves as editor and reporter for the Law Weekly-in the spirit of the objectivity they now espouse.

But Dartt and Lindsay did not recuse themselves from the paper. In fact, they used the offices of the Law Weekly as a surrogate headquarters for

# "Women on top" drives 2004 SBA election insanity

Mass Appeal  
Jon Massimino

If there was ever a time I would have killed to still be the EIC, it was the last month. I would trade my entire term if only I could have been running the show during the past elections. I am not implying that Emy and the crew did a bad job at all – far from it. I am realizing how much I miss it and how much I would love to be calling the shots during one of the most controversial yet ludicrous stories in recent GULC memory.

Yes, the SBA elections again found themselves in bed with controversy, but in the end the right woman won – three times. Obviously, new SBA President Alaina Dartt had to overcome severe challenges to do so. Even though she has proven her honor on many occasions, oftentimes Alaina had her integrity questioned simply by doing her job every week for the Law Weekly. I guess people did not trust her, or the rest of us at the Law Weekly, to limit whatever improper influence was allegedly at work. I will say now, and I'm sure not for the last time, that Alaina never once even thought of using her position to

improperly influence the Law Weekly. I always found the very suggestion that she would do so to be a deep insult to myself, Alaina, and to the Law Weekly. We are above that. I wish I could snap my fingers and have all these allegations end for Alaina, because not only do these charges rise to the level of insanity, but to me and about 99 percent of the campus it is a non-issue. However, a select few have a deep-rooted problem with Alaina's victory, and I think I may have figured out what this issue is, but it deeply disturbs me that I may be right.

It would have been very easy for Clark Walton to throw in the towel after the first election. Alaina narrowly missed the majority called for by the rules and had nearly doubled up the vote total of Walton. For him to come back after spring break, campaign hard, and make a close election of it speaks to how much he wanted to win. But that's where I stop following the chain of logic of subsequent events. The decision to challenge the election results due to alleged campaign violations committed by Alaina escapes the realm of coherent thought. Among the many complaints listed by Walton, he cites the campaign slogan "Women on

Top" as "unbecoming of law students as professionals." Yes, and ripping off an ad slogan from the Dairy Farmers of America reeks of the type of professionalism we're looking for in our SBA President. Clark listed eight other "violations" which were each rightfully dismissed by the SBA Judiciary Committee. I'm trying to understand how Walton in good faith could have believed that these charges, which were so easily dismissed by the SBA, constituted something requiring Alaina be disqualified.

Alaina wanted this position for a long time. She planned and worked her way to the presidency. She executed a fun and influential campaign that kept its joviality while considering very real and important issues. Alaina wanted to win; she executed an aggressive and smart campaign and she did come out on top. She is now in a position of some power, and that may really bother people.

The visceral reaction with which Walton and others responded to Alaina's victories shocked me. Objectively, Alaina did not do anything wrong. She did not push any lines of indecency or abuse any of the positions she holds in her other extracurricular activities. (She is simply

ambitious and involved) Yet fresh off her victory she is subjected to a fellow member of the Law Weekly's Editorial Board calling for her, and the rest of us apparently, to grow up. There is a large difference between immaturity and not taking oneself too seriously, which we as law students do far too often. One of the reasons I voted for Alaina is because of her ability cut through the bloviation of her fellow students. She is competent beyond belief and yet she is also a happy individual. To underestimate her because she has a fun-loving attitude is a huge mistake. Unlike the article written last week, Alaina certainly is not someone who speaks up just to hear the symphony of her own words.

The column printed here last week encourages us to act like the lawyers we will necessarily become. That entails sitting back and looking at the true motivations behind why we say the things we say and do the things we do. If you are uncomfortable with Alaina's victories, ask yourself is it really because you fundamentally disagree with her on the issues, or because you are less comfortable with the aggressiveness with which she pursued the presidency?

## Students, Law Weekly address campaign criticisms

Continued from PAGE 11

most of their campaign. These guardians of journalistic integrity never blinked an eye at using the Law Weekly computers to send campaign email, the Law Weekly copy machines to print their fliers, the Law Weekly editors' meetings as a forum for their platform, however sparse. Not only did Dartt cut costs on her own campaign by appropriating newspaper facilities as her own, she used her influence as editor to suppress two articles that she found disparaging.

Those articles-by Amy Messigian and Barry Junker-were only allowed to be printed after the election results were final. They are also entertaining political commentary in the otherwise all-too-serious climate of campus politics. But Lindsay deems these pieces "subtly crafted critique and character attack," and wants similar articles proscribed from the Law Weekly lest he remove his name from the letterhead in protest. Incidentally, her presidency affirmed, Dartt resigned from the Law Weekly staff three days after the election.

In his memo, Lindsay argues that "as the sole newspaper within an insular student community," the Law Weekly "has an even higher responsibility to safeguard members of the community from abuse." The suggestion that this community of students and scholars needs protecting-that we are unable to read critically, think independently or weigh an opinion for ourselves-is as condescending as it is naïve.

There is no doubt that his job and Dartt's would be easier absent public criticism. I'd rather be able to read an amusing article, and encourage the authors of such pieces to write more without fear of censorship or reprisal. If this is the kind of insincerity we can expect from the Dartt Administration, the president should expect commentary and cartoons to be the least of her concerns.

Aaron Hiller

### From the Editor:

When I accepted the job of Editor in Chief of the Law Weekly, little did I know that (in the eyes of some students, at least), I was also expected to take on another public office -- one I didn't even run for, Elections Regulator for the SBA. Since campaigns began, the integrity of the Law Weekly has been attacked because I allowed Alaina Dartt to remain on staff during her campaign. This criticism is misdirected.

The Law Weekly has never had a problem with allowing staff members to participate in other school extracurriculars. We consider our content enriched by a diversity of voices, drawn from as many community representatives as show the initiative to write rather than remain silent. If the SBA, or any of its membership, has a problem with a candidate being a Law Weekly staffer, they have the means and the standing to legislatively regulate candidate involvement in extracurriculars. Asking students in other organizations (especially those already overburdened with coverage of an extremely lengthy and nit-pick-filled campaign season) to do this duty for them is not acceptable. The Law Weekly had not the obligation nor the burden of babysitting Alaina Dartt's every move. Alaina is an adult, and was allowed, against no opposing legislative effort, to remain on our staff, with the understanding that any and all public relations consequences which might result from this personal decision would be hers and hers alone to bear. Yes, she did have access to the Law Weekly office during her campaign. I cannot address her alleged use of our copy machine, because the Law Weekly office does not have a copier.

But while we're scrutinizing abuse of law school materials for personal gain, I do have to implicate Alaina, and every other candidate who submitted a candidate statement for print this term, along with the SBA. Mr. Hiller's assertion that

Alaina used her influence to get two commentary pieces cut from the issue that featured the candidates' statements doesn't wash for one reason--because of the enormous amount of space used in the issue by SBA for the vanity press of its candidates, every single commentary piece for that week had to be cut. Did you read the news, that week? Believe it or not, a lot of things were happening in the world other than debates on the price of pizza. Unfortunately, none of the Law Center community had a venue to comment on these world issues because of the free advertising Law Weekly gave to campaigners for a school election.

It was my decision to allow the candidate statements, after I realized that SBA had an expectation of the free advertising at election time, and had made no alternative arrangement to use its own funds to publicize its candidates. The election chairs are not to be faulted for this arrangement. However, any community member asserting that the Law Weekly "cut" valuable student commentary for that week intentionally should redirect his frustrations where they belong -- toward the candidate he endorsed whose statement took the space that the "cut" commentary would have had, and to all the rest of the candidates who took the same space.

Finally, several students have approached me regarding Mr. Lindsay's statements at our meeting, and whether or not the Law Weekly will be incorporating censorship standards into opinion columns in the future. The answer is no.

I have to live in this community every day, just like Mr. Lindsay. And I am just as uncomfortable with the constant bickering and personal attacking that goes on here in the Law Center community. We've never limited this sort of "gratuitous" speech to criticism of electoral candidates--people who dare to speak up in class with unpopular opinions get it, too, as do professors with bold new theories, and those deemed to be "past their primes." We are a Law

Center--a title that describes a coming together, if not necessarily a congruence of ideas. Because law is our field of scholarship, the term "center" also implies the mathematical definition -- that of an origin or point of balance. Our field necessarily entails integrating justice with mercy, ethic with logic, and life with theory. All students eventually realize the difficulty of making purely objective holdings outside the influence of personal values. This struggle to attain that balance is fraught with difficulty, and, as we've all heard, with choice and varied vocabulary. Attempting to draw a line at which expressors of opinion are "gratuitous" wouldn't only be impossible, it would put out the passion of debate that drives our involvement.

As to the argument that the size of the school (a "one-newspaper town" as Lindsay described it), should have some bearing on the degree of censorship of opinions, I'll cite the experience of my grandfather. He ran the *Interior Journal*, the single paper in a tiny town. In that Southern community, he faced the routine pressures of not printing "certain" opinions of "certain" folks. However, he was of the opinion that sugarcoating opinion speech, and muffling sentiments, did not help the community. Rather, it fostered a climate of timidity, fear, and stagnation.

My continued service to this paper will be one in which opinions printed will not reflect a watered-down voice of democracy. I do this not as a tribute to my grandfather, but to the great voices of my classmates and professors. Although the way some people push the envelope with their assertions is not always agreeable, at the very least, it provokes a community to shout back, boldly, rather than mumble in the hallways.

Elizabeth E. Hancock,  
Editor in Chief  
Georgetown Law Weekly

# Rubin to pursue NASCAR dream

by Warren Sapp, 1L  
*Law Weekly*

Peter Rubin had a dream. As a small boy, Rubin would command control over the television to watch Fireball Roberts compete for the Winston Cup title, something he would never receive. "Fireball had a rich career with 32 wins, including the Daytona 500, but the guy never got his break. He never won the title. I am going out there to win one for Fireball." On Tuesday, Rubin informed his Section 1 Criminal Justice students that he would be leaving teaching to become a race car driver.



Fireball Roberts

Rubin's announcement was followed by a wave of confusion. Some students grabbed their things and walked out. "NASCAR isn't even a sport!" cried one student. Others followed suit, arguing that pushing a pedal is hardly competitive. "Turn left. Turn right. Turn left again. Give me a break," said Warren Harding, 1L.

In Rubin's absence, visiting Legal Research and Writing professor, Joanne Durako, has been called on to take over the final weeks of class and prepare a final. Durako claims, "This will be more than apples and oranges. It will be sorting good apples from bad oranges."

I asked Professor Rubin what he thought about the dangers of NASCAR. He said his foremost fear was that sporting a mullet would dangerously clash with his newly sewn Professor Goth Boy costume. He was less concerned with the tactics of other race car drivers than he was with warrantless searches of medicine cabinets and underwear drawers.

"Those are the real problems of this country, not the tobacco chewing red-necked hillbillies I will be racing against. Well, except Tony Stewart. That guy is crazy."

These days, NASCAR has been rife with cronyism and Rubin may just be the Schwarzenegger of auto racing - no prior experience, but ready to win the title. Regarding the increased debate on allowing "slow" drivers to compete, Rubin is unmoved. "I am here to win the pole, baby, not come in last." He then likened himself to Lil' Kim, rapping word for word, "And if you see a shiny black Lamborghini fly by you/That's me the Night Rider/Dressed in all black with the gat in the lap/Lunatics in the street, gotta keep the heat."

Rubin is not the first Law Center professor to take an extended leave of absence to participate in competitive sports. Popular Contracts and Con Law II professor Girardeau Spann left GULC from 1996-98 to play running back for the Denver Broncos, and even Dean Areen considered stepping down from her position to return to figure skating for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

But there is something about Rubin's exit that is different. Maybe it is because it is NASCAR. Maybe because it is April and there is only one month left until finals. Maybe because even now one cannot help but see that boyhood dream to win the title shine though when Rubin discusses high speed police chases in his class.

I, for one, say "go get 'em" tiger. Don't just win one for Fireball, win one for us all.

# Summer Employment

With the end of the semester fast approaching, the pressure to find a summer job is steadily increasing. What steps are jobless students taking to secure employment?

- Focusing less on top law firm associate positions and more on waitressing positions
- Adding Chief Justice Rehnquist to list of references, under theory that no one would dare check it out
- Expanding resume to include previously unmentioned past accomplishments, such as first place in 8th grade science fair
- Bursting into various legal recruiting directors' offices, violently waving resume and shouting "Hire me, damn you! Hire me!"
- Finding classmate who has a job, legally changing name to match theirs and beating them to orientation day
- Practicing a convincing, "Do you want fries with that?"
- Trying to appeal to public interest groups by explaining that high school soccer camp "opened my eyes" to racial injustice
- Trying to exploit family connections, realizing family is composed entirely of deadbeats with no connections
- Lying in bed, sobbing quietly

# Law student goes on date, has good time

by Melissa Joan Heartbreaker, 1L  
*Guest Writer*

When I was young, I never needed anyone, and making love was just for fun, those days are gone. Livin' alone, I think of all the friends I've known, when I dial the telephone nobody's home. All by myself, don't want to be all by myself anymore.

Celine Dion's powerful voice called to me on my drive home to Alexandria. There, on the 395, stuck in traffic, I was bawling. All by Myself, a song written by Eric Carmen, no - not Cartman, seemed to explore my world. Every night, stuck in my library carrel, my second home, I wondered what I was doing here. I needed to get a life.

"Life" started two weeks ago when I ran into a nice looking man at Trader Joe's. I was rushing to get my shopping done; tired of eating Ramen and toast, but seriously needing to spend an evening curled up with my Evidence case book. There we were in the frozen food section. I was stocking up on green curry chicken and he was reaching for the chicken masala dinner. "Excuse me," he said, "Is that any good?" Green curry, like the color of his eyes. Yes it was good.

We parted ways as I continued my sprint to the wine section. Time to stock up on three buck Chuck. I don't know how he did it, but as I reached for the Shiraz I felt his presence upon me. Lest this turn Harlequin on you, let me just say that I left with more than Charles Shaw that night. I also left with Jonathan Quinley. Well, his number at least. And he left with mine.

I didn't think he would call, but he did. And, get this, he wanted to go out for dinner and drinks. Drinks? That would definitely ruin any chance I would have at coming home to some Con Law II reading. But I said yes. A girl's gotta do what a girl's

gotta do.

So, we started our date over dinner at Zaytinya, and there is where I tried to employ the lessons I have learned from fellow law students' dating mistakes. These lessons are sure to help you, especially if it has been awhile since you have left your library carrel.

1. Legal jokes are only funny to law students. Repeating Professor Byrne's "How's a covenant like a mini-skirt?...It binds the assignees" will not get near the same reaction as it got in your property class.

2. Gunners aren't popular in real world settings either, and there is no need to raise your hand every time your date poses a question.

3. There are conversation-worthy topics other than torts, and you are best to stick with them. Try something entirely unrelated to politics, morality or social issues, like how Steven Cojocararu became a fashion guru.

4. Cutting a first date short to study is sure to send the wrong message. Plan ahead and pull an all-nighter to catch up.

5. Studying attire and dancing attire are two entirely separate things which should not be confused. The "I just got out of bed" look tells your date that you didn't quite care enough to try.

I know these tips worked for me. I had a great first date and I am meeting his parents tomorrow night. This love affair has given me a new lease on life. I have come to realize that dating can be fun, even for a law student, and these days, my song is a little different: "All by myself, don't need to be all by myself anymore."



## Adopt A Pet Today!



This week's Pets of the Week are Britney and Miller. They are both at A Cause for Paws waiting for new homes. Please take these animals. We are going out of our minds over here.



**Britney** is what you might call a high maintenance biatch. She requires a special person who can handle her daily tantrums and unfaltering codependence. She will not prepare food, do laundry or take out the garbage, unless by garbage you mean your wretched, unfunny, never pet me again boyfriend. Britney not only has all her shots, she also calls all the shots and is a remarkably talented con artist. Britney hates most people.

**Miller** leads a "fly by the tip of his tail" sort of existence that his owners just couldn't tolerate. His mid-week binges make Miller unsuited for homes with children. When sober, Miller is perfectly amicable. However, his problems with substance abuse have led to aggression towards other animals and weak-minded people. Miller has issues.



There are tons of furry critters just like Britney and Miller. If you don't already have enough stress in your life or strain on your budget, why not adopt a kitty in need of housebreaking or a dog that eats your things? Induce your breakdown today and adopt a pet.

A Cause for Paws  
555 Fussyfluff Lane, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
800-GOT-PAWS? (24 hours)

# Hey, I say some pretty neat things when I am drunk

Anise Starr

I know what you are going to say. "Anise, you were pretty drunk last night. You probably should not have gone out AFTER those four hours at the 1223 happy hour." And, you know what? You are probably right. Tossing down seven Long Islands was probably a little much. But I have to tell you, I say some pretty neat things when I drink. Like when I told the bouncer of that last club not to quit his day job. That was pretty funny. Oh yeah, and then when I called my ex-boyfriend and told him that we were so over. Boy was he confused!

It isn't that I am not funny otherwise, but somehow this special person comes out when I drink that is a total superhero. Like the kind of superhero who totally loves margaritas. What is cool about being this person is you get to dance on bars and tabletops.

There was this one time when I pulled my boyfriend in really close

and told him that Mickey wiggled his feet at us. He had no idea what that meant, and to tell you the truth I didn't really remember saying it until he reminded me about it the next day. I guess I was talking about Mickey Mouse? Or maybe Mickey Rooney? That would be a trip, because I met Mickey Rooney once and he never wiggled anything at me. Either way, I have no idea what it means but boy did it give us a laugh.

The one thing I do regret is getting into a fight with my best friend last week at the Irish Times. The things I said then were definitely not neat, like when I called her boyfriend a neutered pitbull and told her that I was only her friend because she understood real covenants, which I totally don't get. You have to admit that the "neutered pitbull" comment is pretty original.

You will also probably agree that it was not the smartest thing to approach Professor Lazarus at the faculty bartending event last Thursday and to tell him with slurred words, "Yuurr [giggle]...I



Cartoon by Mark Arimoto, 3L

thinkth yur the Profethur of Awwwwwesome!!" Sure, he may have laughed, but do you remember how he asked me to remind him what my name was? Do you remember how I responded, "Whatevvur you wannit to be [giggle]." I may just have to miss class this week.

I may no longer spend my week-

ends in the drunk tank, but the memories remain. Memories of spring break in Mexico making out with men whose names I never knew, collecting more bedazzling jewelry than Elizabeth Taylor at Mardi Gras, and jumping fully clothed into swimming pools in December. These days I have control. Sort of.

## Baseball, family, Boba Fett, and Ted Williams' head

Warm 'n Fuzzy  
Michael Palisano

In early July 2002, Ted Williams passed away. His son from his second marriage, John Henry Williams, then led a successful battle against his half sister, Bobby-Jo Ferrell, to have the former slugger, whose nickname was "Teddy Baseball," frozen at Alcor Life Extension in Scottsdale, Arizona. Despite Williams's will, which stipulated that his remains would be cremated and scattered over the Florida Keys, numerous testimony from friends, family, and former teammates that these were his wishes, John Henry relied on a motor-oil stained scrap of paper signed "Ted Williams" which purported to express Williams' desire to be cryogenically suspended in Bio-Stasis. Ferrell claims that her father always signed his name "Theodore S. Williams." John Henry also apparently failed to pay for his father's freezing, and apparently owed \$111,000 to Alcor, who seems to have had trouble enough with the process. Apparently, the head was cracked as many as 10 times due to improper freezing. Incredibly enough, John Henry recently passed away himself at the age of 35 due to leukemia, and will be frozen in the same room as his father.

No, out of all the stories you read in the Law Weekly today, this one is not false. I promise. The facts, although defying belief, are one-hundred percent true and relatively cut and dry, though they compose a tragicomedy more bizaare since Oedipus was Rex in Thebes. Yet, this is one of a subspecies of stories that is nearly impossible to make sense of. However, there are a variety of ways of viewing it to help aid this process, and it is in this fashion today that I hope to explain it.

### The Dysfunctional Family Hypothesis

Ted wasn't the greatest dad, and probably not an overly nice human being either. According to my father, who saw Williams play the Yankees at Yankee Stadium, Williams would make obscene gestures and taunts toward the partisan Bronx faithful. Then again, it was the Yankees, and they do seem to be able to conjure up a special sort of hatred in baseball. But I digress.

John Henry spent most of his childhood estranged from his father. Later in life, after he had reconciled with his father, he tried his own hand at professional ball, but never got beyond the minor leagues. He then spent most of his father's later years, depending on who you believe, by either trying to make money off his father's name by having him sign sports memorabilia and selling it off, or getting to know his dad (Can you guess who said what?). Lastly, when he died, John Henry had himself frozen so that he can spend the rest of eternity with his father. However, I fail to see how this time is well-spent if both of them are frozen.

Under this hypothesis, you can view Ted's fate as his own fault; the love he failed to give his son festered into a weird dichotomy of attachment and control. As for the actual controversy of what Ted wanted done with his body, all I'm saying is that it's difficult to imagine someone as curmudgeonly as Ted Williams wanting to have his body and head frozen.

### The Eugenics / Red Sox Winning World Series Hypothesis

According to Ferrell, John Henry told her that it would be really "interesting" to sell their father's DNA because of its obvious (to him at least) marketability and that then there could be "lots of Ted Williamses running around." Think of the possibilities Sox fans! John Henry could be an altruist in disguise with the best

interests of the Red Sox organization at heart. The organization could buy his DNA (they still do have rights to him don't they?) and could clone him. They could open a secret Ted Williams training camp and start him in numerous positions. Think of how it could help their offense to have one of the greatest hitters of all times in their lineup. In fact, with a team of multiple, cloned Ted Williams might finally be able to bring the World Series back to Boston. But then again, probably not (see below).

### The Curse of the Bambino Hypothesis

Regardless of everything, the Babe probably is laughing his ass off at this ridiculous situation right now. In fact, the debacle of the head probably is, in some indirect way, the responsibility of the Bambino himself. Williams is unquestionably the Red Sox best player ever, and now he has become a cheap joke to be bandied about in the likes of the Georgetown Law Weekly. I mean, picture it. The former Yankees are all asleep in their shrines, almost like the Christian saints and martyrs in the catacombs of Rome, guarded and

remembered fondly as the "luckiest men on the face of the earth." Ted Williams finds himself on a laboratory straight out of a B Science Fiction movie. One shudders when imagining the fate that awaits Bill Buckner. Then again, if his legs were separated from his body, the Sox might have won in '86.

### The Star Wars Hypothesis

Remember in *The Empire Strikes Back* when Han was frozen in carbonite on the orders of Darth Vader and taken away by Boba Fett with that look of pain upon his face? Unfortunately, the ever-elusive carbonite freezing and unfreezing technology remains elusive, stuck a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away. However, when we do develop the technology, and there is no question in my mind that we will, Williams can follow Han Solo's lead and someday lead a daring raid at the Imperial Base on a moon of Endor to disable the shield surrounding the second Death Star. Then, he will marry Princess Leia and father twins. Either way, I'm guessing Ewoks will be involved.



Last chance to  
take the survey!

Don't miss your chance to provide the Law Library with your opinion on our services and register for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to Amazon.com

Go to  
<http://survey.libqual.org/index.cfm?ID=977899>

or click on the link in  
the March 24<sup>th</sup> or April 5<sup>th</sup> emails.