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## SBA gears up for late elections

by Benjamin Rubinstein, 2L  
*Law Weekly*

The Student Bar Association (SBA) is holding elections for all of its unfilled delegate positions next week, thus filling out the remainder of the student government after a brief delay in this year's elections. The elections, to be held over a 48-hour period from midnight on Oct. 18 to 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 19, will send three delegates from each of the five first-year sections and the LL.M. class to the SBA, as well as one delegate from the transfer community. The transfer student position is new this year and is designed to address concerns about underrepresentation of transfer students who miss upper-class SBA elections held in the spring. Candidate declaration forms are due to the SBA by 5 p.m. on Thursday, and the candidates' brief profiles for the *Law Weekly* are also due Thursday, though not until 8 p.m.

Current second-year students

See ELECTIONS, page 7

## Lord Falconer addresses terrorism, rights

by Prashina Gagoomal, 1L  
*Law Weekly*

As Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs and Lord Chancellor, Lord Falconer of Thoroton is uniquely positioned in the British government. Yet, while his recent criticism of America's approach to the war on terror has caused quite a stir, its implications are not entirely clear. Do his comments signal a deep rift between the allies? Do they portend a complete severing of ties?

During his speech, entitled "Finding the Balance between Security and Liberty in the Modern World," Falconer clarified that no such divergence is in progress. He argued that disagreement with the United States is largely possible "because we are allies and friends."

What, precisely, is wrong with America's handling of the fight against terrorists? For one, Falconer deems the U.S. practice of detaining terrorism suspects without charge at Guantanamo Bay "a shocking affront to democracy," and urges shutting down the military prison. He similarly denounced the use of secret CIA prisons for interrogation. From the British perspective, the deployment of both "tools" in the



photo courtesy of University of Birmingham (UK)

Lord Falconer addressed the student body on Tuesday about the British view on America's tactics in the War on Terror

war against terror goes beyond the rule of law; their use is premised on the misguided belief that national security acts as "a wand to sweep away human rights." While Falconer observes that the increasing involvement of Congress and the Supreme Court in these matters marks a "movement into lawfulness," he still conceives of the American executive as detached

from sufficient judicial scrutiny.

The British system, in contrast, places strong emphasis on a partnership between the executive and judiciary because, as Falconer notes, one cannot "rely on the say-so of the government." This is not to suggest that Britain lacks its share of heavy-handed measures. For

See FALCONER, page 3

## Foley scandal becomes talk of the town

by Thomas Leroe-Munoz, 2L  
*Law Weekly*

The story is a pseudo-classic in Washington. Evidence that a member of Congress has engaged in illicit activities comes to light and members of his party seek to distance themselves from snowballing allegations. The latest of these scandals, however, carries with it larger implications for the 2006 election season, as the Democrats in Congress are actually in a position to challenge the Republicans for the Congressional majority.

It all began a week and a half ago, when news sources reported that Representative Mark Foley (R-FL) had been having inappropriate online conversations with an underage former Congressional page. Congressional pages are teenage students who live in a Capitol Hill dormitory and who attend a special school while serving as aides in the House and Senate. Though the program is kept under close watch, there have been past incidents between



photo courtesy of New York Times

House Speaker Hastert has been caught up in the controversy surrounding Foley pages and Congressmen. In 1983, the House censured two of its members, Daniel B. Crane (R-IL) and Gerry E. Studds (D-MA), for sexual misconduct

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## Faithful celebrate holidays

by Jennifer Gaspar, 1L  
*Guest Writer*

Law students of Jewish and Muslim faith are celebrating holy days throughout October. The Jewish and Muslim Law Students Associations are hosting a variety of events throughout the month to give students of both faiths a place to worship and an opportunity to connect with other members of their faith at both the Law Center and the Main Campus.

The Jewish Law Student Association (JLSA) does not host its own services for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, or Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, but many students attended services and joined

See HOLIDAYS, page 6

**Oktoberfest,  
A Reason to be German  
page 5**

**Law Students Share  
Coming Out Stories  
page 13**

**LL.Ms - Smart and Hot  
page 16**

## BriefsBriefsBriefsBrief BriefsBriefs!BriefsBrief



### Minorities in the Law

Come join the Women of Color Collective for a candid discussion with lawyers from firms and the government sector about the challenges that face women in the legal profession. Panelists include Profs. Abu-Odeh, Matsuda, Howrey, McKenna, and others, and will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 11, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in McDonough Rm. 200. Food will be served.



### Want to be a Clerk?

Ever thought about clerking? Wondering how to apply? Interested in knowing what Federal judges look for in applicants? Have you already secured a clerkship and are wondering what to expect while clerking? The Honorable Ronald Gilman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit will be having a conversation with a former clerk, Scott Meisler (Georgetown Law '05), on October 11 at 3:30 p.m. in McDonough Rm. 202.



### Abortion and the Supreme Court

Concerned about the impact of upcoming Supreme Court cases on abortion rights? Want to learn more about the litigation and get the inside scoop on how the Court might rule? Join Law Students for Choice for a discussion with Belinda Bulger, Deputy Legal Director of NARAL Pro-Choice America, about *Gonzales v. Carhart* and *Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood*. These cases will determine the constitutionality of the federal ban on "partial-birth" abortion. The event will take place on Thursday, Oct. 12, at 12:15 p.m. in McDonough Rm. 141. Snacks will be served!



### Separation of Church and State?

The American Constitution Society and the Jewish Law Student Association Presents: Dr. Shlomo Cohen, "When Church and State Should not be Separated: Insights from the Israeli Example and Reflections on U.S. Law" on Monday, Oct. 16, at 3:30 p.m. in McDonough Rm. 347. Snacks will be provided.

Dr. Cohen graduated summa cum laude from Hebrew University, where he earned his Ph.D. and was awarded the Bronfman Prize for his outstanding dissertation. Dr. Cohen received his M.D. from Hadassah Medical School and actively practices medicine in addition to his work specializing in ethics, health, politics and history.



### ABA Fall Roundtable

Join the American Bar Association this Saturday, Oct. 14, at the University of Pennsylvania Law School for its Fall Roundtable. Activities include informal discussions with lawyers that practice in dispute resolutions, tax, estates, antitrust, class actions, arbitration, labor, employment and more. In addition, there will be panels in National Security Law, International Law, Trademark and other legal areas. See [abanet.org/ltd/fall\\_mtgs/2006/penn/home.html](http://abanet.org/ltd/fall_mtgs/2006/penn/home.html) for more information. Also, if you would like to apply for a 2007 BAR/BRI Scholarship, remember that the Feb. and July 2007 bar examinee applications must be postmarked by Nov. 22, 2006.



## Four Sudoku puzzles

Fill in the grids so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

2		4	7			6		
			9	6	8			5
	8				3	1		7
	3	9		4	2		1	
	1						7	
	6		1	3		9	8	
8		6	3					2
9			2	7	5			
		7			9	4		3

V. EASY #18

6			8					4
		2						7
			5	3	2			6
			6			3	2	5
		5		7		6		
4	9	6			5			
5		1	4		2			
9							1	
7				9				3

EASY #18

			8					
	9	6	1			4		
				4	1	8		
	3		8	4	1		2	
				3				
	4		2	7	5		1	
	6	3	9					
		2			3	5	7	
				2				

MEDIUM #18

			7					8
4								3
	8		5	3		4		7
	6				7			
8		2				5		6
			9					1
1		8		6	4			7
	4							3
7					5			

HARD #18

Solution on page 11



### Global Health Conference

On Friday, Oct. 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., the Law Center will be hosting a Conference on Public Health Law and Human Rights, in HTNG Rm. 2000. The conference is being held to commemorate the designation of the Georgetown/Johns Hopkins Center for Law and the Public's Health as the only World Health Organization (WHO) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Collaborating Center on Public Health Law and Human Rights. Emerging issues in international health and human rights will be discussed. For more information about attending the conference, contact Kara Tershel, at [kat5@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:kat5@law.georgetown.edu).



### Protect Yourself

Join the Center for Wellness Promotion on Oct. 16 at 8:00 p.m. on Gewirz 12, or on Oct. 19 at noon in Room 202 for an informative class that will address personal security, sexual assault avoidance and defense tactics (a demonstration will follow). Learn to anticipate and avoid problems, safety while in transit, protecting your identity, your home and more. For more information, contact Karen Pierce at [pierceKL@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:pierceKL@law.georgetown.edu).



### Democratic Politics and the Law

The Georgetown Law Democrats present a discussion with democratic national committee general counsel, Joseph Sandler, about "What can I do with my JD in Democratic politics?" The event will occur on Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 4:00 p.m., in HTNG Rm. 1000. Pizza and drinks will be provided. For more information, contact Zach Myers at [zam3@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:zam3@law.georgetown.edu).



### Lunch in the Sukkah

Join the Jewish Law Students Association for a kosher lunch in the Sukkah on the McDonough patio, on Wednesday, Oct. 11, at noon. In addition, the Law Center and JLSA invite students to a Shabbat Service and dinner at Professor Chused's home on Friday, Oct. 13. RSVP to [jlsa@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:jlsa@law.georgetown.edu) if you'd like to attend.



### Health Living Series

Join guest speaker Carol Day, RN, CNS, MSN and Director of Health Education Services on Main Campus for a discussion of "Nutrition: Eating right, eating on the run & other eating issues." The discussion will take place on Oct. 16, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 437. For more information, contact Karen Pierce at [pierceKL@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:pierceKL@law.georgetown.edu).

## HOME COURT BAR REVIEW

at the BIG HUNT!

Thursday, October 12

Buy a wristband and get \$3 Drafts and \$3 Rail Drinks!! In the basement, 10pm-close.

Proceeds Benefit HOME COURT & The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless.

## Falconer gives friendly advice to American allies

FALCONER from page 1

example, the government endorses a 28 day pre-charged detention (compared to 48 hours in the U.S.) and utilizes executive control orders, which can severely restrict the activities of a terror suspect. Falconer himself admitted that Britain has a much "stricter [security] regime" compared to the U.S. in some aspects, especially on the heels of the July 7, 2005 series of bombings on the London Underground perpetrated by so-called home-grown terrorists.

Under the 1998 Human Rights Act, the British court has the power to determine whether legislation is at odds with human rights conventions. After the court's declaration, the legislature can then rectify any incompatibilities with the rule of law. Given the Lord Chancellor's primary function - to protect the independence of the judiciary - it is only natural that Falconer adopts the motto, "The tougher the measures [in the fight against terror], the more the need for judicial safeguards."

Such a comparison between the two countries elucidates how the tension between liberty and security persists in one case and has arguably been, to an extent, resolved in another. Moreover, the assessment highlights how the former, imbalanced scenario carries the dangerous potential of playing into terrorists' hands. Falconer suggests that coun-

tries failing to engage in lawful action and to maintain their values "stand as recruiting agents for the terrorists."

Falconer asserts that a change in U.S. strategy is especially pressing because the terror threat continues to loom.

Most recently, an alleged terror plot to blow up commercial airliners flying from Britain to the U.S. surfaced in August, prompting Britain to review its counter-terrorism capabilities. As the War on Terror trudges on, Falconer warns that undertaking a balancing act will prove vital. On the one hand, there is a need for more robust, forceful measures since the "primary job of the government is to protect the lives of the people." Falconer is a prime example of a leader who believes that effectiveness and respect for individual liberty are inherently intertwined. He stated that, "Adherence to our principles...is not simply a moral issue," but rather one that "makes us stronger in defeating our enemies."

Falconer remains optimistic that the U.S. will be able to change its course in the current struggle. He says that, with its "proud [history] and system of courts defending individual civil liberties," the country has a strong potential of striking a balance between liberty and security and hence combating terrorism effectively.

With regard to tribunals, Falconer did not prescribe any spe-

cific formulas for the U.S. to follow, but generally recommended giving detainees the right to challenge or appeal their detention in a truly independent forum.

Falconer's criticism is not only representative of his views, but also those of the British government. When asked if Prime Minister Tony Blair would agree with his statements, he resolutely replied, "I speak with the authority of the British government." He further explained his

government is not heading "down the road of division...[but] is united" with the United States. Britain is not abandoning its ally, but rather wants the U.S. to uphold the values of liberty, democracy, tolerance and justice as much in action as in rhetoric. After all, beyond the existence of a common enemy, these shared values are what initially and tentatively still keep the two countries linked together.



photo courtesy of Law in a Box  
Lord Falconer impressed the student body with his analysis

## GOP looks to defend seat after Foley step-down

FOLEY from page 1

with pages. In light of the new allegations, Rep. Foley resigned on Friday, Sept. 29.

The first instance to come to light was an email that was sent by Foley to an unnamed page in August 2005, in which Foley inquired as to how the page was doing and if the young man would send him a photograph of himself. Foley assured the leaders of Congress that his behavior was purely innocent, but he was warned to keep his conduct with the pages on a professional level. Despite these claims, rumors about Foley had been circulating amongst the pages who warned each other about interactions with Foley. Former page Matthew Loraditch noted that Foley had sent messages to other pages, all of which "became explicit and similar to what we're seeing [now]." Following this revelation, other pages quickly came forward and produced detailed instant messenger and cell phone text conversations with the former representative.

F.B.I. officials began reviewing many of the messages sent by Foley in a preliminary investigation to see if the former congressman had broken any laws. Additionally, House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert called for a formal inquiry into Foley's actions, citing a desire to learn who had knowledge of his actions over the course of the three years in which they took place.

Various Republican leaders in Congress acknowledged that they had known of email correspondence between Foley and the 16-year-old

Louisiana page for months, but that Foley had told them that the emails were innocent and the parents of the boy chose not to take any further action. This issue came to light after Rep. Tom Reynolds (R-NY) stated that he had told the Speaker of Foley's actions months ago. Despite this acknowledgment by the Congressional leadership, the issue was left to Rep. John Shminkus (R-IL), the chairman on the panel that oversees the page system. Hastert asked the Justice Department to draw a line between this email correspondence and the more illicit online conversations that House leaders claimed not to know about.

Meanwhile, the House ethics committee issued subpoenas in an attempt to unravel the incident in a matter of "weeks, not months." This effort to temper the political reaction that threatens to throw the November elections into chaos is aimed at the House and not Mr. Foley.

Following the swirling allegations, Foley finally spoke out last week, claiming that an abuse of alcohol had led him to have the inappropriate conversations. "He is absolutely, positively not a pedophile," David Roth, Foley's lawyer said. "He is apologetic for the communications that he made while under the influence of alcohol."

Foley has been dogged by his non-traditional home life in the past. Being a single male in politics, critics often accused him of being homosexual and such claims, purportedly, kept him from running for higher office. Last Tuesday, Foley's attorney announced that he was, in fact, gay. "Mark Foley wants you to

know that he is a gay man."

Roth also announced that Foley had checked into a treatment center for alcohol abuse and mental health problems. As part of his recovery, Foley revealed that he had been abused as a youth by a clergyman and that he had been keeping it a secret. "Based upon the experts that I've spoken to," Roth said, "the combination of alcohol [and] mental illness can result in inappropriate conduct, which Mark Foley has fully accepted responsibility for."

After the initial allegations and conversations came to light, it was discovered that other members of Congress had known about the conversations Foley had been having the pages, but chose to deal with the issue internally, rather than outwardly reprimand Foley. On Thursday of last week, Kirk Fordham, a former aide to Foley, came forward and stated that he had implored House leaders to stop Foley's actions as early as 2003. This statement was corroborated later in the week by unnamed sources and Fordham is expected to testify under oath about the allegations later this week.

At the Law Center, reaction was mixed to the news. Razeeb Hossain, 3L, president of the Republican Law Students Association (RLSA), noted of RLSA, "We don't have any sort of institutional position." Speaking in an individual capacity, however, he admitted that "it is a pretty shocking scandal" as well as "a really unfortunate one." Hossain said that, as a person, "Representative Foley himself obviously has a problem." However, in terms of the House leadership Hossain did not

think that there was a bad faith effort to cover up issues, and pointed out that "it is probably not what the country needs to be focused on." Nevertheless, Hossain acknowledged the importance of the news. "I think that it should be an issue, just not a centerpiece electoral issue," he said.

On the other side of the aisle, Zach Myers, 2L, president of the Law Democrats, noted in a similarly individual capacity that "this scandal will absolutely have a big impact on election day." Myers asserted that "the Republican leadership's cover-up of Foley's behavior, along with the failure of leadership in Iraq, Katrina and a long list of other failures in this do-nothing Congress, shows that they are incompetent, corrupt and out of touch."

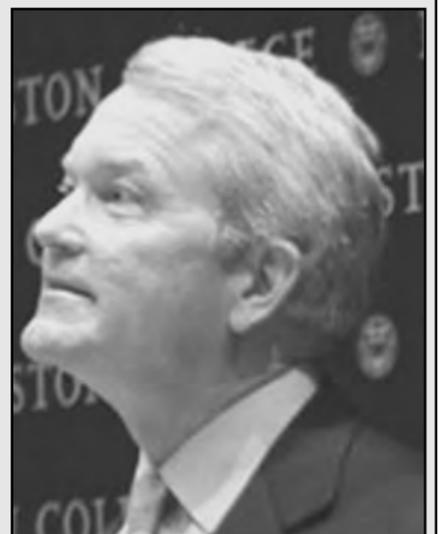


photo courtesy of The Heights (Boston College)  
Former Rep. Foley is at the center of a scandal that could affect the GOP's electoral fate in November

## JAG panel informs students

by Brian Corcoran, 1L  
*Law Weekly*

For students who want the most intense and wide-ranging experience possible right out of law school, the JAG (Judge Advocate General) Corps is waiting, said panelists last Tuesday night. The Military Law Society (MLS), which attempts to bring together students with an interest in military and national security law, brought three current and former JAGs to campus to discuss their time and experiences in the military. "The idea is to show you the bad, the good, and everything else that comes out of serving as a lawyer in the military," said MLS president Seth Deam, a current 3L and an Air Force Captain.

Panelists spoke about a vast array of experiences. Commander Nadeem Ahmad, U.S. Navy, a current LL.M. student at the Law Center, found himself in court on his very first day at work as a JAG. He has worked as both a prosecutor and as a defender, and has done appellate work in Washington, in addition to his time spent stationed at sea and in Italy, Japan and Bahrain. He talked about how lawyers are helping the military to "simply saturate Iraq with JAG volunteers" in order to stop events like Abu Ghraib in their tracks.

William Burke, a partner at Williams & Connolly, LLP and a former Air Force JAG, spoke on military litigation. After leaving the military, he discovered that he had received better training and had more trial experience than other associates in his firm. In the Air Force, he worked as a defense attorney for a time and was surprised to find that, "in a strange way, the military justice system is actually far more fair to the accused in 99% of the cases. We got full disclosure from the prosecution, access to the investigators' notes, etc. In the civilian world, the system is set up to ambush the defense, which is actually a sad commentary."

Captain Megan Middleton, an Air Force JAG and current Area Defense Counsel at Andrews Air Force Base, spoke about her own strange path to the military. She did a great deal of public service in law school, including a stint in the juvenile public defender's office, but originally had no intention to enlist. September 11 changed her mind, and she interviewed in Nov. 2001. Since then, she has practiced practically every type of law possible: criminal, civil, environmental, administrative, labor and others.

The discussion was primarily informational and did not touch on such disputes as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." MLS, like the military, remains apolitical and does not take an official stand on sensitive topics. The main thrust of the evening's discussion focused on the wide and varied experiences and people to be found in the armed forces, which was especially relevant in light of the recent debate on campus.

## Shulman 'literally' new professor

by Tiphonie Miller, 2L  
*Law Weekly*

Joining the Georgetown Law Center faculty this semester is Professor Jeffrey Shulman, who received a B.A. in English literature from the University of Maryland-College Park, an M.A. and Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a J.D. from Georgetown Law. Professor Shulman has previously taught English at the University level, worked as an associate at Sidley Austin, served as a pro bono fellow and published numerous works of literary criticism. Professor Shulman joins the Law Center faculty as an Associate Professor of Legal Research and Writing, and has already begun to teach a portion of the first-year students enrolled in Section 7.

For 21 years, from 1984 to 2005, Professor Shulman taught in the English department at Georgetown University,



photo courtesy of Georgetown University Law Center  
**Professor Shulman is new to the law, but not to the academy**

where he served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of English. During this time, Professor Shulman's areas of discipline were literature and culture studies, and he was considered an expert in Renaissance literature, Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, Restoration comedy, Shakespeare and Milton. In 1988, he co-edited *Robert Kennedy: In His Own Words: The Unpublished Recollections of the Kennedy Years*, published by Bantam Books, along with Edwin O. Gutman, a senior lecturer at the University of Southern California and press secretary to the former Attorney General. One reviewer on *Amazon.com* thought that the collection was a must-have for RFK fanatics, especially since it contains many rare photographs, and the book remains part of the reading list recommended by the Robert Kennedy Memorial. As the *New York Times Book Review* said, the book is "[c]rowded with fresh material about memorable events...The book will deepen understanding of Robert Kennedy's drive, his appeal and his role in his brother's administration." Professor Shulman has also written literary criticism extensively, publishing numerous works on classical and Renaissance literature, including his dissertation, published in 1980, entitled "Ovid among the Goths: the Ovidian comedy of Eros in Lyly and Shakespeare," a topic he revisited in another article, "Ovidian Myth in Lyly's Courtship Comedies," published by *Studies in English Literature* in 1985. Professor Shulman also published an article concerning intertextuality in Shakespeare, "Bottom Is Up: The Role of Illusion in A Midsummer Night's Dream," in 1987. An article by Professor Shulman, "At the Crossroads of Myth: The Hermeneutics of Hercules from

Ovid to Shakespeare," appeared in *ELH*, a journal of English literature and history distributed by the Johns Hopkins University Press, in 1983. Professor Shulman has also written on spiritual custody disputes, especially concerning their constitutional implications, and was published on this subject in 2005 by the *Journal of Law and Family Studies*. In addition to his extensive publications, Professor Shulman also spoke at American University's Lavender Language XI conference in 2004, where he discussed "The U.S. Supreme Court's 'closeted' narrative in Lawrence," a topic he presented again with Professor Craig Hoffman at American University's Conference on Languages and Linguistics that same year.

In 2005, Professor Shulman graduated from the Law Center. Upon graduation, he worked for the Washington, D.C. Public Defenders Service, whose mission is to provide and promote quality legal representation to indigent adults and children facing a loss of liberty, as a D.C. Bar pro bono fellow. From 2005 to 2006, Professor Shulman was also an associate at Sidley Austin in the firm's Washington office.

Professor Shulman's current research focuses on the relational character of constitutional rights, especially regarding the law of church and state. Professor Shulman's research is additionally concerned with the use of statutory efforts to delineate the boundaries of the Free Exercise Clause of the Constitution, as well as religion and family law issues and the ministerial exemption. In addition to teaching his Legal Research and Writing course, Professor Shulman will also be supervising a group of Law Fellows in a seminar class.

## Fall Break



photo by Marika Maris, 3L

**Students take a break from class and enjoy free beer and food outside**

# AIDS walk raises money and awareness in D.C.

by Brianne Kennedy  
*Law Weekly*

The rate of AIDS cases in the District of Columbia is around ten times the national average. Some reports put the number of people in the District with HIV or AIDS as high as one in twenty.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, two groups of Georgetown Law students made their way downtown to do something about it: walk in the 20th Annual AIDS Walk Washington.

Jacqueline Smith, 1L, coordinated the participation of Georgetown Outreach, a community service group resurrected this year by a group of 1Ls, which had eight students attend the walk.

Ethan Krasnoo, 3L, coordinated the Georgetown AIDS Law Movement team, which included about ten student walkers.

The Georgetown AIDS Law Movement is a student group that was established two years ago and deals with all aspects of HIV, AIDS and the law.

Before the walk, participants gathered in Freedom Plaza, at 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, to listen to music by groups like the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, which sang the national anthem, and to speeches by community leaders like Congressional Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton.

Although the effect that AIDS has had on D.C., the nation and the world

is a depressing one, "they did a great job keeping it positive," Smith said of the pre-walk activities.

Along the route of the 5K walk, which raised more than half of a million dollars for Washington's Whitman-Walker Clinic's AIDS and HIV services, walkers were greeted by people cheering them on from the sidewalk.

Together, Georgetown Outreach and the AIDS Law Movement team, which also was open to people who had signed up to join at the Student Organizations Fair and at a recent Outlaw meeting, raised \$750 for the Clinic, which they requested to be devoted to the activities of its Legal Department.

The Whitman-Walker Clinic's Legal Department, Krasnoo said, does a lot of work to help people who are infected with HIV or AIDS get public benefits, and address issues like discrimination and immigration.

The history of AIDS Walk Washington is interesting. As the *Washington Post* reported, "Over the years, the walk's objectives have shifted, from a call for political recognition of a health crisis in the early 1990s (when marchers numbered 20,000) to an effort to assist cash-strapped Whitman-Walker last year (when about 3,300 walked)."

In fact, both Smith and Krasnoo believe that many more Georgetown Law students might have participated this year if it had not been a three-day

weekend, when many of them make plans to be out of town.

"There was a lot of interest," Smith said. But, "I got a lot of emails from people who were interested in walking but couldn't because of the three-day weekend."

Krasnoo agrees. "There was a lot of support," as he told people at the Law Center about the walk, he said. Still, last year there were at least 20 people who ended up walking in his group, instead of just 10.

Regarding the walk overall, though, Krasnoo said, "We were afraid with the rain that there wouldn't be a big turnout... but once the walk started there were a ton of people."

Smith felt that Georgetown University as a whole was well-represented at the walk, where she saw a lot of people wearing Georgetown sweatshirts and other gear.

Georgetown Outreach will be holding a second AIDS-related service project later this month, and anyone is welcome to participate. Next month they hope to take part in service activities related to homelessness.

Upcoming Georgetown AIDS Law Movement activities include co-sponsoring a Keg on the Quad, organizing panel discussions and hopefully organizing an appearance and speech by Stephen Lewis, the UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa.



photo courtesy of Washington Post

Rain may have dampened turnout but not spirits at Saturday's walk

## SBA Oktoberfest brings festivities, food to quad

by Sean Byrne, 3L  
*Law Weekly*

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, the Student Bar Association held its annual Oktoberfest celebration. The Oktoberfestivities, taking the weekly slot usually occupied by Keg on the Quad, featured hundreds of Georgetown Law students enjoying beer, brats and beautiful weather (all brought by the good folks at SBA).

For purveyance of Bavarian food and drink, SBA selected Old Europe, a Glover Park German restaurant that will celebrate 60 years in the District next year and is a caterer of past Georgetown Law Oktoberfests. Old Europe brought 768 bottles of beer (Köstriker Oktoberfest and some domestic beers), 100 pounds of bratwurst, four gallons of German potato salad, four gallons of German noodle vegetable salad, 100 pieces of chicken schnitzel (breaded chicken), ten gallons of hand-made cheese spaetzle (pasta) and 150 pieces of vegetarian shish-kebab. Despite the cornucopia of delicious delicacies, there was a lack of sauerkraut. The mustard, however, certainly merited a shout out.

The Old Europe chefs began setting up at 2 p.m., beginning with a portable charcoal grill so that students could enjoy the bratwurst freshly-cooked, at their peak of flavor. Students began congregating on the terrace outside of the Sport and Fitness Center well before the official 3:30 start of the event. Instructed to wait until the appoint-

ed time to release their vittles, Old Europe staff guarded the bounty valiantly and effectively, allowing only those students who were TIPS-trained and would be serving the beer to abscond with their schnitzel early.

The serving of beer in bottles as opposed to the usual Wednesday kegs, while reducing beer loss due to foam, did create bottlenecks at the recycling bin: students being too environmentally conscious given the two or three temporary recycling containers specifically set up for the event.

Though quite sure of their enjoyment of the event, Georgetown Law students were quite unsure as to what the original Oktoberfest celebrated. Several students, Juan Barrientos, LL.M., Marika Maris, 3L, and Raya Bakalov, 2L, among them, predicted that beer provided the inspiration for the celebration. The vaunted beer tents of Bavaria, however, did not arrive on the Theresienwiese until around three quarters of a century after Oktoberfest had begun.

Another family of popular, though unfortunately incorrect, responses centered around the time of year: "The harvest," said Dave Freeburg, 1L; "Fall," said Ozge Solmazer, LL.M.; and "The equinox," Jason Porter, 3L, said.

Self-identified Native American Kyden Creekpau, 2L, offered, "Our German heritage," while Professor Mike Frisch, identifying himself as Professor Bauman, guessed, "Something German, not Halloween."

"An historical event in Germany? Something involving [Iron Chancellor Otto von] Bismarck?" surmised Leslie Lai and Matt Fischer, 2Ls, with Fischer adding, "Possibly an invasion of Poland?"

One student pointed out that while he or she did not know the reason behind the Oktoberfest celebration, he or she did know of a spring German festival during which an Asparagus Princess is crowned.

And Damon Martichuski, 3L, provided confidently, "Oh! The Boxer Rebellion!"

Of the students interviewed,

only one, Hiram Powers, 1L, provided a correct, if incomplete answer. "I think it's... a wedding?" guessed Powers, and indeed, a wedding it is.

In the autumn of 1810, Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria married Princess Theresa of Saxe-Hildburghausen and celebrated the event with a horse race in Munich. Enjoying the festivities so much, the local citizenry decided to hold a festival every autumn, eventually moving the dates from entirely in October to primarily in September to capitalize on more favorable weather.



photo by Marika Maris, 3L

Students enjoyed a taste of Germany mixed with some beautiful Washington weather on the Tower Green

# Holidays a time for reflection for Muslims and Jews

HOLIDAYS from page 1

other Georgetown students for holiday meals at the Main Campus. JLSA also referred students to synagogues throughout the Washington area that accommodate all observance levels.

Observance of Yom Kippur requires a 25-hour fast beginning and ending at sundown. During the holiday, observers ask God for forgiveness of sins committed during the past year. JLSA hosted a potluck meal to break the fast on October 2 in the Gewirz TV Lounge. Approximately twenty students participated in the dinner, bringing bagels, salads and a variety of traditional pastries and desserts.

JLSA Co-President Josh Pila said, "High Holiday programming helps Jewish students interact with other Jewish students of varying ages and class years on a familiar and common basis." Observance of the holidays, he noted, "allows the community to grow stronger and more cohesive."

The Muslim holy month of Ramadan involves a month-long fast during daylight hours. Ramadan commemorates the month when it is believed the Koran was first revealed. Between dawn and dusk, observers abstain from food and drink, as well as evil thoughts, actions and words. They are encouraged to be more charitable and to strengthen ties with family and friends during the month.

Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA) president Muizz Rafique says that observance of Ramadan helps to foster spiritual growth and self-discipline. "If you can abstain from something that you are allowed to do, it is easier to stay away from things that are forbidden," Rafique said.

MLSA is hosting a "break-fast," or Iftar, in the Gewirz TV Lounge every Wednesday during the month.

Different styles of Halal food are offered each week. The first week's Iftar offered Popeye's chicken from a Halal franchise, while last week featured Afghan and Pakistani food.

Daily break fasts are offered on the Main Campus for the entire Georgetown Muslim community. Groups have been traveling from the Law Center to participate in these meals on days when the break fast is not held at the Law Center. Rafique says that going to the Main Campus during this month "helps to build unity between Law Center and Main Campus Muslims."

Balancing observance of holidays with the demands of classes can be challenging for students of both faiths.

The daily requirements of Ramadan observance may require a major change in a student's everyday schedule. Observers are encouraged to wake up before dawn in order to eat and say morning prayers before the fast begins. Rafique says that, for him, having evening classes twice a week makes breaking the fast particularly challenging. "The fast actually ends when I am in class, so I sit there with my food ready, or wait for the professor to take a break to finally eat," he said.

Although Rosh Hashana took place on a weekend this year, the obligations of the holiday still created a challenge for some. "It can be difficult to keep up with reading assignments when traveling home for the holiday or attending services for the whole weekend," Pila pointed out. Yom Kippur fell on a Monday this year. "As far as I have heard, the Law Center and individual professors were very accommodating for missed classes," he said.

Ramadan will continue through Sunday, Oct. 22, and is followed by Eid ul Fitr on Oct. 23.

The Jewish holiday of Sukkot began on Friday, Oct. 6, and will con-

tinue through the 13th. Sukkot is a harvest festival that also commemorates the 40 years Israelites from Egypt spent wandering in the desert, living in temporary dwellings. During Sukkot, observers are required to build and eat all meals in a temporary structure called a Sukkah. Last Wednesday, JLSA members constructed and decorated a Sukkah on the northwest corner of the McDonough patio.

Both groups are planning continued observances throughout the month. The JLSA will host a free kosher deli lunch on Wednesday, Oct. 11, in the Sukkah next to McDonough. In addition, there will be a Shabbat service and dinner at Professor Richard Chused's home on Friday, Oct. 13.

MLSA will host its next break fast meal in the Gewirz TV Lounge at 6:36 PM this Wednesday, Oct. 11. On Oct. 18, an interfaith break fast will be held in connection with JLSA, Christian Legal Society and the Catholic Legal Forum. Rafique says that the MLSA is encouraging non-Muslim students to experience Ramadan observance by joining the Muslim community in fasting that day.

Ramadan celebrations will culminate with the annual Eid dinner on Monday, Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. on Gewirz 12th Floor. The dinner will feature a documentary film by Alexander Kronemer, an American convert to Islam. The film, entitled "Three Faiths in One Land: The Rise and Fall of Pluralism in Medieval Spain," explores the history of Islamic Spain.



photo courtesy of Zeeshan Hafeez, 2L

Ramadan is a time for reflection and prayer for Muslims around the world, including those at the Law Center, seen here praying in Gewirz

## Disability services gets new administrator

by Victoria Taylor, 3L  
*Law Weekly*

Over the summer, the Law Center instituted a new administrative position, Director of Disability Services. The permanent position, filled by Marianne Huger, was created after lobbying by the Georgetown Law Disability Rights Group and at the request of students who previously needed to coordinate separately with at least three different administrators.

Originally from North Carolina, Ms. Huger graduated from Georgetown College in 2003 and obtained a Masters Degree in Higher Education Administration from George Washington University in Dec. 2004. She is currently continuing her education at GW, pursuing a Doctorate of Higher Education Administration, and focussing her dissertation on disabilities. Before working at the Law Center, Huger worked as an assistant to the Dean of Students at the Medical School. She is hopeful that the research she is undertaking for her dissertation will help her bring a practical and theoretical balance to her work at

the Law Center.

Huger noted that one of the first things she did was to create a Confidentiality Agreement, which is signed by staff members who work with students. As many departments are in part staffed by Law Center students, it is important to many students that details of their disability remain confidential.

In addition to safeguarding students' privacy, Huger was also concerned that much of the institutional knowledge regarding the best way to accommodate different challenges was being lost, as it often took a semester or two for a problem to be identified, another one or two for it to be properly addressed and then soon thereafter the student graduated. The new position allows for a more formalized process to coordinate accommodations for students with disabilities. The website set up by Huger, accessible from the Student Services webpage, via the "Academic, Career and Personal Services" page, [law.georgetown.edu/counseling/disabilities.html](http://law.georgetown.edu/counseling/disabilities.html), contains a form for students to submit, which allows her to open a file and proper-

ly follow-up on the accommodations she is able to provide for them. The position also means that students with disabilities will no longer have to speak with various deans in order to properly be accommodated. Ms. Huger can communicate directly with the Dean of Students, the Audiovisual Department, the IT Department, the Facilities Department or the Registrar on behalf of the student to coordinate the best facilitation.

After her initial familiarization with the position is complete, Huger has plans to go beyond offering basic services and pursue additional programs. Going forward, she is interested in looking at new technology, not yet offered at the Law Center, which may be able to assist students and also to coordinate programming at the Law Center about disability awareness and diminishing the stigmas concerning disabilities.

Huger promises a student-oriented focus, in which input from students will hold great weight. She noted that this outlook would mirror the feeling existing at the Law

Center. When interviewing for the position, she met not only with deans but also with students with whom she would be working.

The biggest challenge facing Disability Services, noted Huger, considering the positive interaction she has had with various administrative departments, is the physical buildings themselves. While Hotung and Wolff Library are relatively new, many of the buildings on campus, with their traditional sets of stairs, narrow pathways in large tiered classrooms and close-set chairs can present problems to students with impaired mobility. However, Huger stated that she is reluctant to say "No, it can't be done" and is looking forward to working with students to come up with creative solutions to challenges which may present themselves.

Ms. Huger is available at [hugerm@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:hugerm@law.georgetown.edu) or (202) 662-4042. A brochure, titled "Services for Students With Disabilities," is available on the department Web page which summarizes the services available.

## Candidates file this week for SBA spots

ELECTIONS from page 1

may notice that this year's elections are occurring later than they did last year, and they are correct in that assessment. Elinor Ament, 3L, co-chair of the SBA's Election Committee, noted that the student government wanted to hold elections last week (the week beginning Oct. 2) but the process was delayed for a variety of reasons. The employee at Information Systems Technology (IST) who is an expert with the election software was unavailable early in September, and so the election was delayed out of concern for accuracy.

Ament pointed out, however, that incoming delegates will only miss one meeting as a result of the delay and thus she did not expect the delay to cause much of a problem in terms of 1L, transfer, and LL.M. representation in student government. "It's a longer delay than I would have liked," mused Ament, but she said that the upshot of the delay is that there has been a longer advertising period to get candidates involved in the election process. The hope is that this will produce a more robust candidate field and yield more choices for those who log on to the polls next week. She also thought that interested candidates might attend the SBA meeting held yesterday and have a better idea of

what they were getting themselves involved in. "Hopefully people will have the opportunity to get excited," said Ament.

Jimmy Dubois, 3L, Ament's co-chair on the Election Committee, concurred and noted "We hope all people who are thinking about running [attended] the meeting."

Some confusion about the election's timing may have been spurred by an email sent out to the SBA Executive Board from Dubois stating that fall elections would be held on Oct. 11 and 12. This announcement was followed by an email sent last Tuesday, just two days before the filing deadline for candidates listed in the original email, noting that the election was in fact Oct. 18 and 19. Because the email was sent out only to the Executive Board, however, it is unlikely that Dubois's typo had any large effect on the electorate. In any case, the mistake was quickly caught and corrected by the co-chair, who encouraged recipients to notify all interested parties that the election was to be held on the 18 and 19 of October.

The email did explain, however, that the original dates sent out were those that IST were using to run a test election. While in the past SBA advertised the dates for the test elections, this year they are not doing so because they only need about a dozen voters in each category to test

the system. Ament stressed, "We're concerned about online election issues even at this local level. I do trust our system. I think it's very good." She also pointed out that the system is designed to preserve electoral integrity even while facilitating voting, and that there is no possibility of students voting twice.

The election mechanics themselves, for those who are unfamiliar with them, are unique to the Law Center and designed to give students the greatest opportunity to vote in a flexible manner. The SBA utilizes 48-hour online elections, so that students can vote from class, home or Courtside. In fact, the governing body was so enthusiastic about the system that they used their own funds to buy the online elections system, which has been in place for several years. "It's a good system," Ament asserted. "We paid for a good system and we want to use it."

Dubois was excited by the initial response he had seen from the 1Ls, transfers and LL.M.s. "We are encouraged by the response we've gotten in all the classes we've been able to visit."

In the end, Ament said that she is looking forward to welcoming her new colleagues after the polls close next week. "I'm looking forward to having 1Ls on SBA again."

## Moon Festival out of this world

by Brian Corcoran, 1L  
Law Weekly

A crowd gathered on the 12th floor of Gewirz last Thursday night to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, an event organized by the Chinese Development Forum (CDF), the Korean-American Law Students Association (KALSA) and the Korean Graduate Students Association (KGSA). A huge turnout led to a night of socializing, celebration, and plenty of excellent food, as well as end-of-the-night raffles and a last minute run to Chinatown to refill the emptied tables of food.

The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival is celebrated in China, Vietnam and Korea on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month, a time when the moon is at its fullest and brightest. Traditionally, it is a time when families sit down together to eat moon cakes, pay respect to their ancestors and give thanks for the harvest.

Although the festival is supposed to be a family holiday, much like the American Thanksgiving, many of the Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese students at the Law Center do not have families in D.C. In holding the festival, the organizing groups wanted to bring those students together to celebrate the holiday like a family would, and to provide special treats like the moon cakes, a labor-intensive Chinese confection ordinarily only found at ethnic groceries out-of-town, which aren't easily accessible for most students.

Although the event was mostly attended by Asian students, there were plenty of other students as well. "This is a great socializing opportunity for students who are interested in such cultures," noted Ning Zhang, a leader of CDF. "The diversity of the student body

is one of the best things GULC has to offer to its students, and we hope that this festival can also help boost the understanding and appreciation of certain East Asian cultures at GULC. Especially for students interested in pursuing legal careers related to certain East Asian countries, the events our organizations hold provide invaluable exposure and networking opportunities."

Zhang also emphasized the way in which organizing this festival had been a learning and cooperative experience for the various Asian communities on campus as well, saying, "Bringing together several groups really lifts the event beyond narrow cliques." KALSA and KGSA helped the CDF to organize both financially and logistically, and the members got a chance to learn about the way other cultures celebrate the same event.

The festival is an Asian tradition over 3000 years old, dating back to the Zhou dynasty. The moon, and its association with female elegance and beauty, holds a special place in Asian folklore, and the moon cakes themselves, confec-

tions made of lotus paste and dough, represent an ancient tale about Chang Er, the Lady on the Moon.

There are many variations on the story, but the one given on Thursday night recounted how Chang Er, a beautiful girl, had tricked a cruel king out of the pills of immortality. When she swallowed the pills to keep them from the king, she found herself flying up to the moon, where she lives to this day with a rabbit and an old man. The festival memorializes the beautiful and immortal Moon Goddess, and the salted egg yolks found inside many moon cakes represent her loneliness on the moon.

The moon cakes also represent a slightly later historical event. According to Chinese folk legend, the end of the Mongol Yuan dynasty was sparked by a Han Chinese rebel leader named Liu Fu Tong, who placed secret messages inside the moon cakes to coordinate the uprising, which took place on the night of the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.

Today, the moon cakes are eaten to remember both legends. And a very tasty way of remembering they are.



photo by Marika Maris, 3L

Students had a tasty experience last week when Moon Cakes made their way to Gewirz



Whatcha gonna do when they pun for you?

### On Campus

Thursday, Sept. 22: A laptop last seen in McDonough 335 was reported missing. The incident is currently under investigation.

Tuesday, Oct. 3: A student reported the theft of a sweater from the Wolff library. The student left the sweater unattended for a brief period on one of the library tables and it was gone upon his return. The theft occurred the afternoon of Wednesday, Sept. 27.

-DPS Reports

### Around Town

At GWU, the swan song of the bong (Wednesday, Sept. 27): Housing programs saw drug paraphernalia in a Thurston Quad room during a random health and safety inspection and notified University Police. After a search the police found 3.5 grams of marijuana. They refused to say whether the student was freaking out, man, or whether he offered police some interesting insights into the ways of the world.

Also in Foggy Bottom, note that threats do not pay (Wednesday, Sept. 27): A student who works at the ticket counter in the Marvin Center alleged that a female threatened her. The female apparently came to the ticket booth and asked for tickets. Upon being informed that there were none available, the suspect left a rude note near the glass window and walked away. No word on whether the note said "thanks anyway, but GW basketball sucks compared to Georgetown, or even George Mason, for that matter." In any event, you can be sure the writings were well noted by the UPD.

Still at GW, don't play ball (Friday, Sept. 29): University Police received a report that a fire alarm had been falsely pulled in Fullbright Hall. Upon arrival, UPD discovered that the plastic cover of the alarm had been pulled off, which triggered the alarm. A student reported hearing people throwing a baseball in the hallway before the alarm sounded, and thus officers believe the baseball hit the cover and activated the alarm. They also might believe that the perpetrators are aspiring Yankees, since they pay a ton of money to attend GWU yet have horrible pitching.

-Courtesy The Hatchet (GWU)

### And Elsewhere

In Spring City, Tennessee, be "underwear" of the police: Cameras at the Big Apple Market in Spring City caught a pair of criminals as they made a brief getaway with a 200 pound safe and a few cartons of cigarettes, recently. It was their costumes, however, that gave them away to the fuzz, as they were busted wearing their sons' "tighty-whitey" underwear on their heads, along with a pair of socks. Word is that they are actively being recruited to write fashion advice for the Law Weekly.

-Courtesy WTVC

## Hoya Report - Law Center flag football

Zeeshan Hafeez, 2L  
Law Weekly

"There was hope until I crushed it," Harsha Rao told me on the way to the premiere match-up of the week between the two Law Center teams in the intramural Georgetown Graduate Student Flag Football League early last week at the Main Campus practice fields.

Having just found out that I had joined the team that had the unfortunate luck to face the juggernaut *J Deez*, I felt I had the fiduciary duty to explain to my team, the *12b6ers*, exactly what they were up against - that three members of the opposing Law Center squad played some college football and that no team had scored any points against the team to date. Needless to say, that the team in my car was a little intimidated.

"Maybe they won't show up." Sure enough, only three players on the opposing squad were in attendance, while a fourth, Neal Fisher, 1L, was there but was recovering from a motorcycle injury with pins in his leg. The team needed five players on the field to play, so I was traded for an undisclosed sum to the opposite team, so the game could go on.

The *J Deez* roster had four healthy players and the injured underground Georgetown football player, Fisher, played despite being hurt, so that five men would be on the field. The *12b6ers* took the ball to start the game and drove the length of the field taking advantage of the shorthanded squad to go up 6-0, after failing to convert on a 2-point conversion.

The *J Deez* fought back, led by scrambling QB Ande Durojaiye, 1L, who put on a performance that drew comparisons to Texas Standout Vince Young. The *J Deez* were then able to go up 7-6 going in to the half, thanks much to some amazing runs by Durojaiye. In the second half, three *J Deez* players arrived, and there was no coming back for the *12b6ers*. The *J Deez* finished the game 28-6, to remain undefeated.

After defeating Harsha Rao yet again, I asked him how he felt about the trade. I asked him what he got in return for sending me to the opposing squad, and he responded, "pride and self respect." All I knew was there was even more proof now that Harsha Rao was definitely not better than me, and that people are still on the lookout for the person(s) whom Harsha Rao is better than.

### Main Campus Sports

The Georgetown Field Hockey team that was the sole winner in the last Hoya Report, lost 5-1 against UConn. It is worth mentioning that the Huskies are ranked Number 10 in the nation and the Hoyas only took two shots on goal. It came as no surprise that the Lady Hoyas lost stacked up against such difficult odds, and fell to 4-7-4.

Meanwhile, the Women's Volleyball team dropped a decision that they came in to with every chance of coming back with something. The Lady Hoyas took on the Lady Mountaineers of West Virginia, and fell 3-0. West Virginia came in to the game having won only won of its previous twenty games. The Hoyas dropped to 5-12.

The Women's Soccer team followed the trend of the Lady Hoyas in its 1-0 loss to the 15th-ranked Lady Louisville Cardinals. Georgetown put up a valiant effort, but failed to capitalize on numerous scoring opportunities. In the end, a goal in the 89th minute sealed the Lady Hoyas' unfortunate fate.

Luckily for the women of Georgetown University, all was not lost. The Georgetown Women's Tennis team was able to defeat the Delaware Blue Hens 4-3. The team is undefeated after winning its first dual match of the season.

The men of Georgetown were unable to record success of any kind. The Men's Soccer team faced the challenge of the 8th ranked Notre Dame Fighting Irish. It was a challenge it was unable to overcome, as the team fell 4-1.

Finally, to close out the Report, the Hoyas Football team fell to Lehigh 28-3. Nothing positive can be said about the home team's performance, aside from maybe the leg of Freshman David Corak th converted a 38-yard field goal. This has extended the Hoyas losing streak to four games. For those of you Hoya hopefuls who still believe in the team, you can catch the Hoyas this Saturday at home against Bucknell at 1:00 p.m.

*If you know of anyone who Harsha Rao is better than, alive or dead, real or fictional, please send their name(s) to lawweeklysports@gmail.com.*

## This week's GU Sporting Events

### Swimming and Diving

Potomac Relays  
Friday, 5 p.m.  
@ American University

### Softball

v. Maryland  
Saturday, 11 a.m.  
@ College Park, Md.

### Football

v. Bucknell  
Saturday, 1 p.m.  
@ Washington, DC

### Men's Soccer

v. West Virginia  
Saturday, 1 p.m.  
@ North Kehoe Field

### Women's Volleyball

v. USF  
Saturday, 2 p.m.  
@ McDonough Arena

### Field Hockey

v. Lafayette  
Sunday, 12 p.m.  
@ Kehoe Field

## Georgetown Law Sports

### Georgetown Law Softball

Saturday, 11 a.m.  
@ West Potomac Park

### Georgetown Law Rugby

Friday & Sunday, 2 p.m.  
@ 3rd and Madison, National Mall

### Women's Basketball Club

Sundays, 6 p.m.  
Sport and Fitness Center

## Harsha Rao is better than you - Football Jesus

Harsha Rao, 3L  
Law Weekly

How the people of Philadelphia rejected the Savior and will never win the Super Bowl: a Gospel in 3 parts.

I. On March 16, 2004, the Savior came to Philadelphia. A city long-devoid of a sports championship and fielding the three-time NFC champion runners-up in the Donovan McNabb-led Eagles was itching for someone to lead it to the Promised Land - or at least to the Super Bowl. And then in a cloud of controversy and an elaborate three-team trade came Terrell Owens, the Savior of the Eagles and the City of Brotherly Love, to lead the Eagles to the Promised Land. But the people of Philadelphia refused to listen to his teachings, and instead condemned Football Jesus to the purgatory of organized sports: Dallas.

II. After years of mediocre play, the Eagles hired Andy Reid to right the ship in 1999. Reid quickly turned things around by drafting Chicago schoolboy legend Donovan McNabb. The McNabb-Reid pairing produced immediate dividends as the Eagles repeatedly advanced to the NFC Championship game. But for three straight years the Rams fell short, leading to calls to find a viable deep threat. In an attempt to finally make it to the Super Bowl, the Eagles engineered a complex three-way trade to bring the talented but temperamental receiver Terrell Owens to Philly. Things worked out fantastically during

Owens' first season, as he caught 14 touchdowns and gained 1200 yards before a season-ending injury knocked him out after his 14th game. Football Jesus vowed to come back for the Super Bowl and, going against multiple doctors' advice, Owens risked his career to take Philadelphia to the Promised Land. But despite T.O.'s gain of 122 yards on nine receptions, his teammates let him down and the Eagles fell to the champion Patriots. Afterwards, the media ignored Football Jesus' amazing



photo courtesy of AP  
T.O. = Jesus

comeback, and instead focused on media darling Tom Brady.

T.O. risked his career to play in the Super Bowl. If he'd become permanently injured, the Eagles could have cut him and he would have had no ability to get a new contract. But Football Jesus had faith in his new team, and in the offseason T.O. went to the Eagles looking for a reward for that faith: a new contract. But Owens trusted the wrong people as the Eagles refused to reward their hobbled superstar, instead ignoring and criticizing him. The Eagles assumed that T.O., like their other play-

ers, would keep the contract dispute under the table. But the Eagles didn't know that this Jesus was a little whack. T.O. went on the offensive and held numerous irrational and confounding press conferences, destroying his relationship with the city and the quarterback that had abandoned him. The glory of the Super Bowl run had ended and the City of Brotherly Love had forsaken its savior.

After T.O.'s inglorious exit, the Eagles spun everything as his fault. But really, who didn't think Owens was a little crazy before the Eagles traded for him? This was a man who fought with coaches, forgot to sign key-free agent documents, and insinuated that his former quarterback was a homosexual. Everyone knew T.O. was crazy. T.O. knew T.O. was crazy. But apparently McNabb and Reid missed this startlingly obvious fact and assumed he was a rational human being. See, T.O.'s magic only comes on the field, where he becomes Football Jesus, an unstoppable wide receiver and warrior who refuses to submit to injuries. Off the field, the crazy comes out. Now, if the Eagles had merely bitten their tongues and rightly rewarded a man who risked his career to play in the Super Bowl, Philadelphia would be dominating right now. If Donovan McNabb had been the bigger man and not worried so much about a bruised ego, the Eagles would be dominating right now. If Andy Reid had actually attempted to manage a troubled but talented receiver, the Eagles would be dominating right now.

Sure, the Eagles are 4-1, but who

have they played? They have wins over the mighty Packers (1-4), the unbeatable 49ers (2-3), and the dominant Texans (1-3). Those teams might have been good 10 years ago, but they're the bottom of the barrel in 2006. The Giants won two Super Bowls in the 80's with crazy Lawrence Taylor. The Cowboys won a Super Bowl in the 70's with crazy Duane Thomas. The Eagles threw away a chance in the 2000's with crazy Terrell Owens. Philadelphia will do well this season thanks to a weak schedule, and it'll probably make the playoffs, but it'll be out quicker than the Yankees. All because it were unable to manage Football Jesus off of the field.

III. Jesus came to lead the people of Philadelphia to the Super Bowl. But this Jesus was a little whack. Although he could pull miraculous one-handed catches out of wobbly passes, remarkably recover from season-ending injuries, and inspire the masses to believe in something great, he turned crazy when he wasn't given the respect he deserved. Despite risking his career to lead the Eagles to the Super Bowl, he was betrayed by a weak-stomached quarterback and arrogant organization. The Eagles lost their window of opportunity and will never again come close to the Super Bowl. On the other side, the Cowboys are floundering with T.O. after losing to the Eagles on Sunday. But, despite that loss, there will be a second coming for Football Jesus. Just not when Drew Bledsoe is the quarterback.

# Conversation crib sheet - MLB postseason

Adam Taylor, 1L  
*Law Weekly*

So, it's October again, and if Tommy Lasorda is to be believed, we all live for the baseball postseason. Because the former Dodger manager's generalizations may not apply to all law students, especially those of us 1Ls busy writing memos all week and weekend, here's a recap of the Divisional Series of both leagues. As background information, four teams from each league qualify to play after October 1: the three division champs and one wildcard team (the non-division champ with the best record). This first round of the playoffs pits teams in a best-of-five "short series." Without further ado, on to the recaps.

## American League

### Oakland v. Minnesota

Oakland swept the Twins in three games. The American League West champion A's took two games in Minnesota before returning home to finish off the Central Division champions.

Both teams are remarkable for their yearly success despite their relatively low payrolls. Both Minnesota and Oakland are in the bottom half of the league in payroll, yet both find themselves at least on the cusp of the playoffs every year.

Game 1 of the series saw Frank Thomas, the slugger who spent most of his career with the Chicago White Sox before signing with Oakland over the winter, hit his first two postseason homeruns since 1993. Thomas hit the

second shot in the top of the 9th inning to provide the winning margin as Oakland won 3-2.

Games 2 and 3 were not as close, and Oakland proved itself to be the better team, scoring a combined 13 runs to Minnesota's 5. Very little went right for the Twins, who allowed an inside-the-park, two-run homerun in the 7th inning of Game 2. By sweeping the Twins, Oakland makes its first appearance in the American League Championship Series since 1992.



photo courtesy of AP  
**Zito will start for the Oakland A's in Game 1 of the ALCS against Detroit**

### Detroit v. New York Yankees

Every year, people expect at least one New York baseball team to be playing after the first week of October. This year, however, that team is not the Yankees, who fell in four games to the AL Wildcard Detroit Tigers. The Yankees, with their famed payroll approaching \$200 million, the highest ever in the history of Major League Baseball, lost Game 2 at Yankee Stadium

and dropped two more in Detroit.

The New York lineup, described by many to be the greatest ever assembled could not solve the Tigers' pitching after Game 1, only managing six runs over their three losses and suffering a scoreless streak of twenty consecutive innings. The postseason loss has caused reports to circulate, stating that Yankees manager Joe Torre will be fired and replaced by former Yankees player and manager Lou Pinella.

After their Game 4 clinching of the series, the Tigers carried manager Jim Leyland off the field on their shoulders. Leyland, in his first year with Detroit, guided the Florida Marlins to their first World Series crown in 1997, his first year with that team. The Tigers, who were within one game of setting the Major League record for losses in a season just three years ago, had not posted a winning record since 1993 before dominating the AL Central for much of this year. They meet the Oakland A's in the ALCS beginning Tuesday, October 10.

## National League

### Los Angeles v. New York Mets

The Mets were head-and-shoulders above the rest of the National League for much of this year, but many thought they would fall back down to the pack after losing two of their best starting pitchers to injury. Stories of the Mets' demise turned out to be exaggerated, however, as the Mets swept the Dodgers in three games to advance to the Championship Series.

L.A. kept Game 1 close, falling 6-5 in

New York. The Dodgers fell prey to a bizarre double play in the top of the 2nd inning, as both Jeff Kent and J.D. Drew were tagged out at home within seconds of one another. In Game 2, also in New York, Tom Glavine, another Mets ace, shut down the Dodgers, who could muster only one run. Game 3 saw the Dodgers correct their offensive woes, as they managed 16 hits and 5 runs, but New York solved the Los Angeles pitching, scoring 9 runs of its own to complete the sweep.

### San Diego v. St. Louis

Like the Tigers, who also limped into the postseason with a weak close to the regular season, the Cardinals nearly blew their own large lead in the standings to end the season. But they were able to advance in the playoffs despite opening on the road. St. Louis took the first two games in San Diego before eliminating the Padres in Game 4 within view of the Gateway Arch.

Even in its win, San Diego could not muster more than 3 runs in any game, and only totaled 8 runs over the four games. Oddly, this was the only series of the four in which the winning team did not win three straight games to clinch. Instead, the Padres took Game 3 in St. Louis and held tight in Game 4 until the Cardinals unleashed a four-run 6th inning to set the 6-2 final score.

St. Louis starter Chris Carpenter pitched both games 1 and 4, both victories. The Cardinals meet the New York Mets in the NLCS. Game 1 is Wednesday night at 8:00.

Q

## How can I quickly and easily find major rules of law in the actual language of the court?

A

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AL9426

## Fall music reviews

by Jeff Hayes, 2L  
Guest Writer

Album: *Boys & Girls in America*  
Performer: The Hold Steady

A clear frontrunner for album of the year, *Boys and Girls in America* stands poised to catapult The Hold Steady into the mainstream consciousness. Painting on a broader canvas than last year's *Separation Sunday*, the band exhibits a newfound appreciation for traditional song structure and production values without betraying the foundations of its appeal. Chunky guitar riffs and Craig Finn's garbled, half-spoken vocals still define the band's aesthetic, but *Boys and Girls* augments the established Hold Steady sound with piano, horns, accordion and xylophone, suggesting a post-punk variation on Bruce Springsteen's E-Street Band.

The album succeeds in balancing more listener-friendly material with the classic-rock grit and evocative lyrics fans have come to expect from The Hold Steady. The arena-ready choruses of "Chips Ahoy!" and "Massive Nights" highlight this fine-tuning of the band's formula without sounding like concessions to the mainstream.

A loose concept album about the highlights and pitfalls of young lives in the big city, *Boys and Girls* follows the lyrical cues of prior Hold Steady albums while expanding its storytelling perspective from individual characters to universal situations. The ostensible "stars" of previous efforts - Holly, Gideon and Charlemagne - only make cameo appearances here. In "First Night," the band's first-ever stab at an actual ballad, Finn sings about the trio with genuine fondness, coating his sentiment in some clever meta-commentary on his band's slight change in style: "Holly's insatiable, she still looks incredible, but she don't look like that same girl we met on that first night."

Even without his stock cast of characters, Finn is a wonderfully adept lyricist, taking sex, booze and religion - those most basic of rock'n'roll themes - and splicing them together into couplets like "She said it's hard to feel holy when you can't get clean / Now she's bumping up against the washing machine."

When Finn sings, "I've had kisses that make Judas seem sincere," the words find a place in the larger tapestry of rough-and-tumble working class poetry he's carefully woven over the course of three albums.

The acoustic "Citrus" may contain the lyrical key to The Hold Steady's career: "Hey bar-room, hey tavern - I find hope in all the souls you gather." Even in their most accessible and consumer-friendly moments, Finn and his band can't pull themselves away from society's slackers and drop-outs. The bars and back alleys where rock music and romanticism go hand-in-hand are where The Hold Steady finds comfort, and

where its music sounds right at home.

Album: *The Information*  
Performer: Beck

Under the steady hand of Radiohead producer and frequent collaborator Nigel Godrich, *The Information* marks a notable first for Beck: while each of his previous albums represented sharp left turns from their respective predecessors, *The Information* mostly sounds like a skeletal retreat of Guero's hazy, late-summer vibe. Godrich dresses the songs in all sorts of fancy bells and whistles - sometimes literally - but the mundanity of Beck's songwriting renders the project largely shrug-worthy. There's a palpable staleness to Beck's shtick - especially over an endurance-testing fifteen tracks - that even Godrich's top-notch production can't mask. To be fair, the album's speckled with minor pleasures (those aforementioned bells and whistles) and doesn't house any outright clunkers, but without the effortless pizzazz of past successes like *Odelay* or *Midnite Vultures*, *The Information* doesn't add up to much more than pleasant ear candy.

Album: *Ben Kweller*  
Performer: Ben Kweller

Kweller's third album finds the singer finally casting aside the Ben Folds and Weezer fixations of prior efforts in favor of a more traditional pop songwriter sound. His formative years behind him, the 25-year-old now seems completely at ease with the verse/chorus structure of classic AM radio, and while the effortlessness of Kweller's songwriting lends the album an appealing comfort-blanket vibe, the disc also lacks any real knockout tracks. "Run" and "Penny on a Train Track" are lushly-produced standouts, but neither quite measure up to Kweller's previous highlights, and a creeping sense of *deja vu* hangs over much of the remaining material. Still, there's a good ear for melody and dynamics at work here, and Kweller's thin, earnest vocals pack enough charm to keep the album afloat even during its more formulaic stretches.

Album: *Ta-Dah*  
Performer: The Scissor Sisters

The guilty pleasure album of the year, *Ta-Dah* handily one-ups the Scissor Sisters' debut, stringing together one flamboyant pop homage after another. Disco-glam Elton John sound-alikes, sassy Princeisms, Queen-like music hall diversions and dead-on 80s synth-pop are all tossed into the Scissor Sisters' musical blender, given a relentlessly slick veneer and spilled out onto the dancefloor. Unabashedly embracing style over substance, the kaleidoscopic result might not be a work for the ages, but songs this bubbly and wild-eyed should melt the hearts of even the staunchest hipster naysayers.

## Neumeyer's Direct: 1Ls

by Christopher Neumeyer, 3L  
Law Weekly



photo courtesy of Georgetown Facebook  
Brian Pingree, 1L (Section 1)

Why did you come to Georgetown? My friends were moving here, and rent for four is cheaper than rent for one.

As a 1L, what has been your biggest surprise since school started? The thing that has most surprised me coming to law school is that while I can print 10,000 pages worth of irrelevant case documents for free, it'll still cost me a dollar to print my 10 page memo.

As a 1L, what has been most confirmed about your expectations of law school? That everyone brings laptops to class and people are doing far more than taking notes on them.

What is your favorite class this semester? Torts, because on the second day of class Spann referred to a student as an "admissions' mistake," albeit as a compliment.

Is 1L year more like being thrown to the lions or put in the barn wet? Let's see, it is definitely not being thrown to the lions, so with an exclusionary principle we can go with the latter, though I am at a loss as to what it means.

Do you get panic attacks in class thinking about being called on? No, but maybe I should. The one time I have been called on so far was when I was writing an email.

What would it take for you to eat your law books? Three years and a blender.

Do you like the cafeteria food? No. It is worse than my undergrad cafeteria!

Should the library be open 24 hours a day? Yes, because for \$45,000 a year a personal library assistant should follow me around on every research project, so being open 24 hours goes without saying.

What is your favorite online game to play during lecture? Pac Man. It is reasonably mindless.

As a 1L, have you learned to live without sleep? No, sleep is necessary, 8 hours every night, and since the library is not open 24 hours a day, I cannot study all night there, anyway.

Would you rather take notes in your book with a dull pencil or a leaky pen? If I take notes in my books, how can I sell back my books for full value to the book store?

Which library do you prefer: Williams or Wolff/Hotung? Williams. Legal Research & Writing Class has yet to see me fit to be sent to Wolff.

What is a book or author you recommend? *Snow Crash*, by Neal Stephenson. It is the most re-readable book, so it is the most bang for your buck.



photo courtesy of Georgetown Facebook  
Jamie Branda, 1L (Section 3)

Why did you come to Georgetown? It is the only place I got in to.

As a 1L, what has been your biggest surprise since school started? The keg on the quad events. Law school is the one time in our lives when we should not be drinking and suddenly everyone is offering us free booze.

As a 1L, what has been most confirmed about your expectations of law school? A lot of reading. Let me repeat: I have had to do a lot of reading.

What is your favorite class this semester? Legal Practice. It is interactive and I feel we are learning lots of realistic material.

Is 1L year more like being thrown to the lions or put in the barn wet? Into the barn wet. I don't feel like I am in over my head, but it has been uncomfortable at times.

Do you get panic attacks in class thinking about being called on? Sometimes, when I haven't done the reading.

What would it take for you to eat your law books? A knife, a fork, some scissors, a half a bottle of vodka and about \$600.

Do you like the cafeteria food? Yes, although I do worry they leave the sushi out for God only knows how long.

Should the library be open 24 hours a day? Yes, because people like to keep very strange study hours.

What is your favorite online game to play during lecture? Chess.

As a 1L, have you learned to live without sleep? Nah, the trick is to sleep through your first lecture.

Would you rather take notes in your book with a dull pencil or a leaky pen? I suppose the dull pencil, because I don't take many notes in my book anyway, and I don't want my book messed up with ink smears.

Which library do you prefer: Williams or Wolff/Hotung? Williams. I have never been to Wolff.

What is a book or author you recommend? *Stalin: Court of the Red Czar*, by Simon Sebag Montefiore. It is extremely well written and also informative.

# One, two, shoot! (silly beats science)

by Devin Cain, 1L  
Law Weekly

Here are some things you might learn from *The Science of Sleep*: women with big hands probably have big penises; Gael Garcia Bernal intends never to appear in a movie without showing his penis; Frenchmen think that their armpits smell like sperm and inventing magical devices is the path to a woman's affection, not crying or running into her door.

Watching Michel Gondry's latest movie is not likely, I am pleased to report, to deepen your knowledge of, say, the science of sleep. The only insight this movie offers therein is that dreams are composed of handfuls of spaghetti noodles, but this fact is already well-established in most learned circles. Instead, Gondry deals with ambitious cinematography and abstract issues, which does draw from the imagery and structure of dreaming, in quite light-hearted, often hilarious ways.

The plot could hardly be more straightforward. Stéphane (Garcia Bernal) likes Stéphanie (Charlotte Gainsbourg). Sometimes this involves a very funny hat, sometimes not. Always it focuses on Stéphane's inability to deal with people in the living world in an authentic way. He is overly attached to his dream world, overly convinced of its influence on his waking life. This struggle colors his courtship of Stéphanie.

The Parisian neighbors connect in an awkward manner, and this connection is always in flux. They move closer, they distance themselves. Their possible relationship is founded on a mutual admiration of artsy projects, like growing a forest inside a toy boat, and motorizing a felt horse with button eyes. This element can feel a little too precious, but mostly it stays on the safe side of endearing.

The movie, meanwhile, traces Stéphane's intricate dreaming as it relates to this wooing. His dream life operates from an egg carton and shag rug soundstage complete with cardboard cameras. Its episodes involve many cellophane squares like a colorful jellyfish salad, Stéphane with enormous hands getting into a few fights and a reworking of the Velvet Underground song "After Hours" to reflect his desire to snuggle with Stéphanie. The tension in this relationship arises from Stéphane's difficulty separating the events of his dreams from his actual encounters with Stéphanie. She in turn is put off by his fittingly manic treatment of her.

Perhaps surprisingly, and certainly fortunately, the dream sequences do not impede the flow of the movie. Gondry calibrates them ideally so that they only make the story fuller, instead of burdening it. The cinematography is likewise adept at integrating the surrealistic dream imagery without weighing down the movie. Fanciful visuals occur organically within the movie's movement. They fill out the scenes instead of standing alone, as is ever a danger with inventive camera work.

Much like David O. Russell's *I (Heart) Huckabees*, *Science* ostensibly

addresses serious, weighty issues; each in turn relies more on silliness and wit as its real source of momentum. Only delicately does this balancing succeed. In each it ultimately does, but not without worrisome moments. Where *Huckabees* nearly loses itself in politics and philosophy, *Science* teeters on the tasteful boundaries of melodrama, occasionally veering over them. Luckily, Gondry never abandons his playful spirit.

This also distinguishes *Science* from Gondry's other peculiar look at love, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, which owes its thematic elements to memory or the lack thereof. In *Eternal Sunshine* (which received a highly polarized welcome), the director is considerably more committed to deconstructing memory as a plot device. For better or worse, that movie is not nearly as jovial (or funny) as *Science*. But perhaps this stems from the difference between memory and dreams. "Remembrance," remember, "like Rembrandt, is dark but festive." The dreaming in *Science* tends to stay away from the somberness of its dark cousin.

On a more concrete note, though, the two Gondry movies share a similar attitude towards their characters. One critique leveled at *Eternal Sunshine* was that none of the characters were particularly likeable, making it a bit more difficult really to care what happens to them. While played outstandingly well by Garcia Bernal (as we have come to expect from him), Stéphane is frequently loathsome in his incessant whining. That said, he redeems himself with a sharp humor and general irreverence that allows the audience to move past his unsympathetic moments. Stéphanie's refusal to be party to his wallowing is equally beneficial in this regard.

In a supporting role, Alain Chabat as Guy is an absolute delight. Stéphane's boss at a calendar company, Guy warms to Stéphane and helps him through his love sickness with crass jokes and offensive pejoratives - obviously the best source of support.



photo courtesy of Cinempire.com  
Stéphane fights off enemies with his enormous hands in a scene from *The Science of Sleep*.

Perhaps, then, *Science* asks these questions: How can we untangle our dreaming from our living? Should we? Will Stéphane end up with Stéphanie? It is smart enough to answer with a better query: Does it really matter much when the movie is so pretty and so funny? Your take on this last matter will go a long way toward determining if you find *Science* enjoyable or tedious. Gondry's decision to let the silliness of *Science* shine through turns out to be an altogether winning one.

# Restatement (First) of Fashion

by Sarah Hale, 2L  
Law Weekly

## Ch. 17: Flying in Style

§1. General Provisions: To the best of my knowledge and Googling abilities, TSA has failed to release fashion rules. This is clearly a dangerous oversight in these turbulent times. I can't get a bottle of leave-in conditioner past security but the girl in front of me isn't even questioned about her hideous choice of accessories. A Hello Kitty watch on a grown woman, are you kidding me? We can't allow this sort of complacency and carelessness in our airline safety.

§2. Destination wear: It's important to know where you've been and even more important to know where you're going - that's why we get boarding passes. There's no need to wear your destination. It's great that you love New York; I love it, too, but there's no need to wear your "I (heart) NY" shirt on the plane ride back from New York. Several weeks back I was in Union Station and ran into a destination-wearing family even more annoying than the NY shirt-wearers. This family had just returned from a trip to Disneyworld. Mom, Dad and two annoying kids were all standing in my way in Union Station wearing Mickey Mouse ears and Disney shirts. Destination wear angers me for two reasons. First, not to sound like a high school girl here, but it's just undeniably dorky. Second, it's rude. I'm just trying to get a pretzel at Union Station before heading back to my apartment to continue on my endless reading and bluebooking assignments, and I've got to be reminded that some people are out there going to Disneyworld? I really didn't need that.

§3. Suits on a plane: Unless you are going directly to a business engagement from the airport, do not wear a suit on the plane. This bit of wisdom occurred to me recently while on board a flight to a call-back interview. I'll relay the story and I think it will become obvious why you shouldn't wear a suit on a plane.

As I took my seat on the 6 a.m. shut-

tle to New York, I noticed that I was surrounded on all sides by men in suits. At first, I must admit I was a little pleased, I felt like a *real* adult. Then the suits started to talk. Apparently Suit #1 had recently procured a new home and while he was discussing his new neighborhood (in VA, naturally), Suit #2 realized that another friend of theirs lived in that area...

Suit #2: Hey, isn't that where Cindy lives?

Suit #1: No. She lives nearby, though - in an apartment.

[Awkward silence. Apartment?

Cindy lives in an apartment?

That sounds decidedly low-class.]

Suit #1: It's gated, though.

Suit #2: [In a relieved tone.]

Oh, okay.

I wanted to announce to all on board that although I was also wearing a suit and sitting amongst these men, I was in no way connected to them and didn't share their belief that all good communities are gated. The next time I board a plane I'll be wearing jeans and a sweater. Who wants to be an adult anyway?

§4. Carry-on luggage: I may have been the only person in the world that was pleased when the TSA announced more stringent rules for carry-on luggage earlier this summer. I have been somewhat disappointed, though, by the application of these new carry on rules. I expected them to be more restricting than they are now and would like to suggest one new rule for carry-ons: You get one carry-on, not one plus a personal item; one, period. Besides the fact that you'll look like a bag lady packing your carry-on plus personal item plus laptop plus whatever else they let you past the gate with, which is no small matter, all of those bags are taking up space on the plane and planes aren't really that spacious to begin with. Put your laptop, iPod, cell phone and all of the other electronic devices that you can't live without for more than two hours in one bag and check everything else - more room on the plane, less time in security and you'll look super-chic - everybody wins.

# Sudoku solutions

from page 2

2	9	4	7	5	1	6	3	8
3	7	1	9	6	8	2	4	5
6	8	5	4	2	3	1	9	7
7	3	9	8	4	2	5	1	6
4	1	8	5	9	6	3	7	2
5	6	2	1	3	7	9	8	4
8	5	6	3	1	4	7	2	9
9	4	3	2	7	5	8	6	1
1	2	7	6	8	9	4	5	3

6	1	9	2	8	7	5	3	4
3	5	2	9	6	4	8	1	7
8	7	4	5	1	3	2	9	6
1	8	7	6	4	9	3	2	5
2	3	5	8	7	1	6	4	9
4	9	6	3	2	5	7	8	1
5	6	1	4	3	2	9	7	8
9	4	3	7	5	8	1	6	2
7	2	8	1	9	6	4	5	3

3	1	4	7	8	6	2	9	5
8	9	6	1	5	2	4	3	7
2	5	7	3	9	4	1	8	6
7	3	5	8	4	1	6	2	9
1	2	8	6	3	9	7	5	4
6	4	9	2	7	5	3	1	8
5	6	3	9	1	7	8	4	2
9	8	2	4	6	3	5	7	1
4	7	1	5	2	8	9	6	3

3	1	5	7	4	2	9	6	8
4	2	7	6	9	8	1	3	5
6	8	9	5	3	1	4	2	7
9	6	1	2	5	7	3	8	4
8	7	2	4	1	3	5	9	6
5	3	4	9	8	6	7	1	2
1	5	8	3	6	4	2	7	9
2	4	6	1	7	9	8	5	3
7	9	3	8	2	5	6	4	1

## Universal Law

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)

You will be easily irritated this week. Remember, throwing objects at classmates is frowned upon at Georgetown (and basically everywhere in the adult world.)

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)

You will eat seafood on Wednesday. Fish everywhere will be angry with you.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

An unexpected visitor will appear on Thursday. Be nice to her; an unexpected visitor is better than no visitor at all.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You can't avoid him forever, just go ahead and dump him.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will discover heretofore unknown dance skills this weekend.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Your Torts professor will call on you on Friday. Pretending you don't recognize your own name might be the best course of action.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Avoid all contact with rap music this week.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

You will fall while walking through Courtside. That's what you get for laughing at Lindsay Lohan.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

Go to the gym on Friday. No cosmic reason, you just really need to start working out.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

A package has just arrived in the package room with your name on it.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Don't panic, no one else knows what they are doing either.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

If you find a puppy this week, take him home - it's meant to be.

horoscopes by Sarah Hale, 2L.

### Got Questions? Quotes?

#### Email Heat on the Hill

laweekly@law.georgetown.edu  
*Confidentiality guaranteed!*

#### Please Note:

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

## Call-backs not calling back?

Okay, your call-back interview was two weeks ago and you're officially concerned. Why haven't you heard anything back from that firm yet? Fret not, there are plenty of legitimate reasons why you haven't gotten any news yet...

They lost your phone number - just like you *lost* the number of that creep you met at the bar last week.

The hiring partner, in a fit of jealousy and fear, threw away your resume when she realized that with your stellar record and even more stellar personality you would soon be vying for her spot at the top.

They're trying to decide how to tell you that, not only are you not getting an offer, but, in fact, your interview was such a waste of firm time that they've decided not to reimburse your travel expenses, either.

They're trying to decide if hiring you is worth the risk that they'll all be divorced in two years after they can no longer resist your charm, charisma, and devastatingly good looks.

by Unemployed & Unconcerned, 2L

## The Quotable...

**"Right now I am wearing Pierre Cardin underpants." - The Quotable Professor Steven Goldberg**

**"The prisons in Saudi Arabia are bad. The prisons in the United States are wonderful. That is why so many people want to go to prison in the United States. If you want to have fun..." - The Quotable Professor Mohamed Mattar**

**"Congress can't get its act together. That's hardly a national emergency, that seems to be a regular state of affairs these days." - The Quotable Professor Barry Carter**

**"What I would have given for a Pensieve [from Harry Potter] when I was a prosecutor..." - The Quotable Professor Julie O'Sullivan**

**"...unless he molested her *with* the computer, which is just too awful to contemplate." - The Quotable Professor Mike Gottesman**

## Sage Advice for 1Ls

by Ono Youdidn, 1L  
*Law Weekly*

Apparently, someone told all of the 1Ls that it's time to start outlining. In light of the general panic that naturally ensued, the administration at Georgetown offered a lecture on how to outline first-year courses. We all know that if you really need law school advice you don't go to a Maximizing Law School lecture, you come to Sage Advice. So here it is 1Ls, the best advice we can offer on outlining for first-year courses...

Write in red, highlight in green - it's Christmas in October! (It's the little things that get you through exam season.)

Searchable outlines with links and flashing text are impressive until you realize that all the time you spent customizing your outline would have been better spent actually learning the material.

Be wary of outlines inherited from 2L friends. I know 2Ls seem infinitely more experienced and intelligent than you, but they were just as confused and hopeless last year as you are now. The outlines they so willingly turn over to you may reflect that.

Our best advice? Put your pens and highlighters down; wait two weeks and then start outlining - it's only the middle of October!

## Heat on the Hill

### The Laws of Love by Logan & Lucy

Dear Logan and Lucy,

Help! I really like one of my co-workers and I tried everything to get him to notice me. I sent him naughty texts, invited him to lunch, after-lunch coffee and even offered to cook him dinner at my place. He played coy and didn't act interested. I moved on because I thought he didn't like me. When I saw him again yesterday, he accused me of playing games. I can't believe it - especially because he never acted interested in me. I always pride myself on being honest in relationships and it hurts because he thought I was just using him. I'm seeing him tomorrow and I don't know how to act.

~Wendy

Dear Wendy,

I'd like to give this guy the benefit of the doubt and say perhaps he was just shy or unsure of his own feelings. I think you have already made it clear to him that you are interested, so perhaps your change of heart confused him and caused him to lash out. I'm sure he doesn't mean that you are playing games. And even if you are playing games, that's ok! Guys say they hate the game and the player, but secretly they enjoy the challenge. My advice would be to stop paying attention to him and let him come to you. Ignore him and his interest level will peak.

Sincerely,  
Lucy

Wendy,

I, unsurprisingly, disagree with Lucy. As a guy, I hate when girls play games. I like my women like I like my work-out routine - straight and sweaty. None of this cardio-boxing-dance-yoga-combination stuff. If they like me, I want to know; if they don't, I want to know, too (ok, just kidding; even if you don't like me just pretend you do). That being said, we do enjoy the chase. Don't make it too easy on him, lead him on like a female bulldog in a pen full of overplucked male poodles. Balance subtle hints that you dig him with making it clear you want him to take the lead. By the way, if it doesn't work out with Mr. Co-worker, you can send your naughty text messages my way.

Flipside,  
Logan

Log on to our anonymous email account, [lucyandlogan@gmail.com](mailto:lucyandlogan@gmail.com) (password: georgetown) to send comments, questions, and problems to laweekly@law.georgetown.edu. Confidentiality guaranteed!

# OUTLAW members share "coming out" stories

Wednesday, Oct. 11, is National Coming Out Day. To celebrate the day, OutLaw members want to share anecdotes about "coming out," "being out" and "the closet." We believe that telling our own stories is the best way to raise awareness and enable understanding.

OutLaw will also be tabling on Wednesday, Oct. 11, from 11 a.m. to 2p.m., outside of the Market Café. Come by and show your support by wearing a rainbow ribbon!

## Allison Harper, 3L

I've been truly in love twice in my life, once with a man and once with a woman. Both times I couldn't keep quiet or keep my hands off them. I came out about the man immediately, and I came out about the woman immediately, too.

As for the woman whom I first fell for and continue to fall for, her name is Jenn. I always wanted to kiss a girl because I grew up in a place where you weren't supposed to do that. I never knew that I'd want to kiss her again...and again...and again. I went from kissing her as a form of protest to kissing her as a form of living and being. I guess that I, too, viewed girls kissing girls as a form of defiance, not as a possibility for true love. I, too, had internalized the pervasive heterosexuality that we breathe in each day to the exclusion of other forms of love. But here's the thing: I didn't think too much about it at the time. I just was... I was happy. I was high. I was in love. I couldn't stay away from her. I held her hand in the street. I kissed her in the classroom. I took her to our dance. I think the smartest thing I did in falling for Jenn was to not think about it - I just did it.

While there were a few folks who couldn't understand "why I'd choose to love a woman instead of a man," there were so many more who surprised both me and themselves by being entirely genuinely happy for our love and affirming that those who were not understanding carried the burden of change. Not only had I fallen in love, but I was feeling my friends' and family's love more deeply as well. I saw my friends and family use their love for us to move (and sometimes struggle in doing so) from a place of discomfort to a place of understanding of a wider range of human experience, even if it took time. At bottom though, I'm just thankful to be in love.

## David Steib, 2L

Coming out? What a chore. It took years. And in some ways, it is a process that never ends, in as much as it involves self-discovery and fully accepting what you find. Everyone, straight and gay, has to come out multiple times in his or her life. As for the traditional meaning of the term, my parents were the first people that I came out to. And I didn't exactly come out to my parents so much as ask them for relationship advice. Granted, I was asking them for advice about my long-term, same-sex relationship, which my parents took to mean that I was gay. But, at the time, I was only willing to recognize that I had strong feelings for my boyfriend, as a person, not as a guy. And so, in a way, I came out to my parents before I came out to myself.

Eventually, after breaking up with my boyfriend, I realized that I wanted my next sexual relationship to be with a man and not with a woman. Eventually,

I came out to myself. But even after coming out to my parents and myself, it took me years to come out to my friends. And even after coming out to my friends, I felt pressure to act straight in my career. Before coming to law school, I lived in New York and worked as an actor, constantly worrying about whether or not I was passing as straight on stage. My discomfort only held me back. Audiences want to see a self-actualized human being on stage, celebrating life. It's much easier to offer that as an actor when you've realized it as a person. I'm getting there, and although it's not easy, I can assure you that it's really worth it.

## Amy Simmerman, 3L

My aunt, also my Godmother, is a religious conservative who has deep moral objections to gay people. Even though she knows I'm gay, even though she spends holidays with me and my partner, I've carefully avoided overtly discussing or asserting my sexuality around her. Just this week, however, she began discussing religion and morality with me, and I had increasing discomfort about my continual willingness to "overlook" my sexuality. So as she discussed her beliefs about what it means to be a religious and moral person - which includes rejecting homosexuality - I told her how her truth was different from my truth as a gay person who also believes in God. I pressed her, respectfully but unrelentingly, to tell me what was morally wrong with being gay. "The Bible condemns it," or "God made men and women for each other," she said. I asked her to tell me what was objectively wrong with being gay, in the way that we say murder or rape is objectively wrong. And the more I pressed beyond her stock answers, the less able she was to tell me just what was so wrong with it.

## Brandon Kraft, 2L

It began with the phrase "I have a secret." "What?" my friend, and ex-girlfriend, Kim responded. I kept on thinking to myself, how am I ever going to tell her? I only broke up with her two months ago. I could tell she was scared of what I was going to tell her. She had been asking the entire walk home why I made her leave the pub early.

"You have to promise nothing will change," I said. "What did you do?" she responded. My heart is beating fast. I start to sweat. "Are you ok?" she asked. "I want to tell you," I said. "Tell me what... what happened?" she responded, getting annoyed. The conversation continued like this for what seemed like ages.

Ok, this was the moment. It was now or never. "I am gay, or bisexual or something." Silence.

"Oh," she said. Another pause. "That's fine. I thought you were going to say you killed someone or something. Wow! Don't scare me like that!" Another silence. "So we have more in common now than I thought we did. How do you feel about Josh Harnett?"

## Rebecca Shaeffer, 3L

When I first realized I was falling in love with a woman, I threw up. I couldn't eat or breathe; I felt sick and shaky all the time. I didn't want to believe that I had that much homophobia inside of me, that I was that afraid of being gay. I thought I was progressive and had so

many gay friends; but when it was me, all of the fear and shame I thought I was above rose up in me. I try to use that experience to have patience inside myself for people who respond to different sexualities with fear or revulsion. I know how they feel - I felt like that too, when confronted with my own sexuality. But for me, the love was stronger than the fear, and kissing her for the first time on the street, in public, something loosened in my chest that I never even knew I had been holding. I felt so free, and so triumphant! At the risk of invoking many cliches, it made me trust in the power of love; it is so much stronger than my ignorance and fear and shame and social programming.

So I really believe that people can change, that homophobia is not an incurable disease. That's why coming out is so beautiful and celebratory - it represents much more than an identity or preference or practice. It represents the triumph of love over fear, and the world looks so much bigger and friendlier afterwards. And you can breathe better! Believe me.

## Jer Welter, 3L

Being out as bi is a difficult, constant process, because simply being open about the person who you're with doesn't do it. In my case, as a man, if I'm with a woman, I'm assumed straight. If I'm with a man, I'm assumed gay. So just living openly doesn't cut it. If I want someone to know I'm bi, I have to tell them. It's so easy to be binary in our thinking, even my own.

In early high school, it took me a while to realize I was bi, because when I'd be having a conversation with, say, my history teacher (a man for whom the word "strapping" was invented, and with a British accent to boot) and would feel myself wanting to kiss him, I'd think to myself, "Am I gay?" and then a minute later think, "Well, I'm attracted to girls, so clearly I can't be gay." I knew in an abstract way that bisexuality existed, but it took me a little while to put the pieces together and realize, "Oh, that's me." Ever since, I've been "out" in the sense that I don't hide my sexuality, and will tell anyone who asks - but sometimes it's exhausting spelling it out - a process that never ends. But although it is exhausting, it's too important not to do it.

## Christina Davis, 2L

My mom became suspicious when she found a copy of *Rubyfruit Jungle* in my room. When I finally got a girlfriend at 17, I came out as a lesbian to my mom (who is a hard-core Democrat with tons of middle-aged gay friends) and she screamed and cried for about three days, and asked me melodramatically "Why are you doing this to meeeeeee? You hate me!"

For a couple years after that our relationship was basically the same, except for certain physical aspects. She raised me by herself, and we've always been very close and affectionate. For a couple years after coming out I could tell that she was a little uncomfortable with me at times. For example, she refused to hold my hand in public anymore, or link arms with me. One day I was having dinner in a restaurant with a friend and a very drunk woman a few tables over stood up and loudly proclaimed to the whole crowded restaurant, "Excuse me! I just want everyone

here to know that I am a lesbian and this is my mother!" I swore to myself that I would do the same thing next time the right opportunity arose. Fortunately, I never had to; my mom eventually got over it, and by the fifth year after coming out my mom was proudly marching with P.F.L.A.G. in the San Francisco gay pride parade.

Seven years after coming out as a lesbian I committed original lesbian sin: I left my partner for a man. One by one, I had to "re-come out" to all my lesbian friends, and my family, who had just begun to really catch the gay-pride bug. When I told my best friend (my first girlfriend years ago) that I was dating a guy, she cried and said, melodramatically, "How could you do this to us, Christina? Men always win." Apparently, every time my sexual identity changes I make someone cry.

## Daniel Hughes, 2L

My first real sexual experience with another man occurred between my sophomore and junior years of high school. I lied about my age, found an FBI officer online and initiated contact. Rather hilariously, he repeatedly insisted on seeing my driver's license to verify that I was eighteen - which I was not - and I came up with a panoply of lies for why I did not have my license with me. Meanwhile, my license was right there in my wallet. My conduct was probably reprehensible, but hormones were raging.

Then, the following year (1995-1996), when I was sixteen, I was a House Page. I don't know quite what it is about the congressional page program, but that year centered on "sex, drugs (mostly alcohol) and rock and roll." Indeed, when I was a page, one never knew precisely who or what was going to pop up at the bedroom door that night. While I had two relatively serious girlfriends that year, I also fell in love with another guy for the first time. He was a bisexual bad-ass from South Carolina who was kicked out later that year for a drinking offense. I wrote him a love letter the day that he was sent home. I left it on his bed, then returned to his room and ripped the letter up because I did not know how he would react.

Incidentally, I do know Mark Foley quite well. He made suggestive comments to me while I was a page and later hinted that I should return with him to his hotel room when I was at the 1996 Republican Convention in San Diego. Although I had already had sexual experiences with other men, I felt profoundly confused. While I was quite attracted to him (he was forty-one then, extremely charming, and muscular - it was before he turned into the "silver fox" of today), I could not quite believe what was happening and shyly declined to return with Mark to the hotel. Mark re-initiated contact years later (when I was twenty-three or twenty-four) and sent a series of prurient e-mail messages (Maf54: "Got a pic?" "What do you like to do at night?"), until I realized what a sad case of arrested development he is and we both stopped contacting each other. I know that he is a complex case, but Mark Foley truly personifies the perils of the closet. Society needs to encourage GLBT people to "come out" and make healthy (and legal!) lifestyle choices. The public policy consequences of the closet are just too high.

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### More stories about "coming out"

continued from page 13

Andy Gilden, 3L

10 a.m.:

"Mom, my friend you met the other day is actually my boyfriend"  
"I am okay with that, but I don't know how your father will take it..."

7 p.m.:

"Dad, my friend you met the other day is actually my boyfriend"  
"I am okay with that, but how is your mother doing?"

Helen Pihlstrom, 1L

Coming Out: First Reactions

Me: "I'm gay."  
Older Brother: "But you're pretty!"

Me: "I'm gay."  
Mom: "At least you're not pregnant."

Me: "I'm gay."  
Dad: "Honey, being a lesbian is no big deal. Sex is highly overrated."

Me: "I'm gay."  
Guy Across the Hall: "I just thought you were really picky."

Me: "I'm gay."  
Close Male Friend: "Me too!"

## Owning felines: fun or infuriating?

Ewa Budz

I had the brilliant idea a couple of months ago to get cats. I felt very adult, and responsible, and mature getting cats, and generally speaking they have been wonders.

However, there has been some contention regarding whether or not the cats are a desirable addition to the household. "They're nasty and rub their butts over the whole counter!" and "I think I'm becoming allergic!" my roommates say. As such, the cats have become quite the source of consternation in my life. So, based on quintessential law-school-type analytical thought processes, I have decided that the best way to explore the cat issue is via a cost/benefit analysis.

### Benefits

**Cuteness:** As the photo shows, these cats are damn cute. They are very exciting due to their extremely diverse personalities, and since they have been accosted by humans since a young age, they are used to it, and allow said accostation (sure, it's not a real word, but it SHOULD be). So, their general attractiveness is a plus, especially given societal preference for aesthetically pleasing individuals.

**Distraction:** There is no better way to avoid studying or reading for ostensibly required classes than choosing to play with cats. They are always in need of activity and stimulation so I feel like I am doing a public service. Personal sanity is also enhanced (and it needs loads of enhancement).

**Maternal Instinct:** I am not what one would call a "warm," "fuzzy" or altogether "caring" person. However, having kitties has significantly increased my warm and fuzzy quotient. Also, I have become quite skilled at baby-talk. "How are my little puddings? Mommy will feed you now, yes? Yummy wummy foodie woodie! Schmooper doopers!" etc. While roommates, having overheard said talk, are not altogether very impressed, I believe it is a good thing for me to develop these maternal and warm and fuzzy instincts.

**Combating Loneliness:** This one speaks for itself. On long nights when there is no one around, it's always good to at least talk to a cat.

**Helicopter/Windmill:** Now, just to reassure the members of the Georgetown Animal Legal Defense Fund, these next two items are purely hypothetical, and I would never actually perform such cruel, inhumane practices.

However, hypothetically, fun cat activities could include two moves

known as the "helicopter" and the "windmill." The "helicopter" involves grasping the cat firmly on each end of his torso, then launching him into the air in a spinning fashion, resulting (hypothetically) in lots of cat-flail and splayed-leg-landings (always upright, of course).

The "windmill" is hypothetically a move in which you grab the cat's bum in one hand, and firmly place your other hand over their head, then proceed to spin back and forth while trying to avoid said cat's claws. These activities are actually wonderful learning opportunities for cats in how to be hardy, as well as how to use their claws. And hey, I'm not de-clawing, so at least I get points for that. Hypothetically.



Photo provided by the author.  
Behold cuteness! Princess Sophia is on the left, Kroll Warrior King on the right

### Costs

**Shitting:** Biggest. Issue. Ever. My cats have a litter box, which I always attempt to keep clean and pristine. So, theoretically they should be defecating into said litter box.

But, no. At first they were using the bathtub as a toilet, and conveniently aiming their fecal material into the drain - so as to ensure that removal, cleaning and de-smelling the bathroom would be close to impossible. (The key is to wait until it DRIES and use tweezers if necessary. DO NOT try to "flush it down" with water).

A friend who took care of the cats one weekend was the first to note the cats' predilection for pooping in the bathroom. I solved that problem temporarily by simply closing the door to the loo when I was not around.

So then they moved onto the bed. I wish I had just let them take over the bathtub. It's not like I bathe that much anyway. So now, I have resorted to covering my bed with a sleeping bag when I'm gone, because the material is shiny and slippery, and easier to scoop cat poop off of. Also, perhaps they need to see the vet. Because this is not normal. Though they may have picked up on the fact that as far as hygiene goes, I

tend to be the equivalent of 10 frat boys, rather than a dainty lady. But still.

**Roommate Tension:** I mentioned this earlier, but when I got the cats, the rule was that they should not be on the couch. Then they arrived, and it turned into not letting them in the living room at all. I am generally okay with this, but sometimes it leads to tensions. I.e., anytime there is a smell, or some sort of unwanted cat hair somewhere, there are words. This sucks, because I love where I live, but I also love the kitties. So choosing between the two is not an enticing option. Also, I am unable to fathom hatred of cats. They are so damn cute. Look at the picture!

**Cost:** Kind of goes without saying. The damn vet is so expensive. I like my vet. She is a progressive lesbian lady, who is accepting of the cats' gender mis-identification (although she did say Sophia would turn lesbian). Oh, on the topic of that, basically, I have a male cat named Princess Sophia, and a female named Kroll, Warrior King. They are named after Matthew McConaughey's penis. Watch the movie, *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*. Point being, they are expensive, and de-gendering them from their mixed-up genders was exceptionally bad.

**Incestuous Sex:** Perhaps influenced by witnessing several of my own bed shenanigans, Kroll and Sophia matured rather more rapidly than would ordinarily be expected from kitties. At month 6, I caught Sophia attempting to mount Kroll, and therefore had to separate them for a number of days whilst awaiting vet intervention. I mean, I am all about free love, but I don't want mutant babies. And given the fact I am having enough trouble with two cats, more (especially incestuously conceived!) would just be more than one CCL could handle.

**Loud Night Activity:** I am an insomniac. I should not care about this. But these little putzes are exceptionally loud in the evenings. And when I say "evening" I mean "4 a.m." They have an affinity for body-slammng themselves into walls, and everything else. So, I go to sleep with a relatively organized room, and wake up to total chaos. I love that they are active, but I have to work at 9 a.m. some days, damn it.

As a sum up: cats are awesome, you should love them, come visit them anytime and respond with your cat comments, to foster intelligent debate regarding cat ownership.

Ewa Budz is a 2L. You can contact her at eab43@law.georgetown.edu. And you can visit the cats. They will probably not shit on you.

# Hezbollah questioned

**Aaron Hiller**

In the Oct. 3 edition of the *Law Weekly*, Akbar Rahel offered us four columns of criticism entitled "Demystifying Hizbollah's Controversial Resistance." After hurling a litany of complex accusations ranging from "Rumsfeldian fantasy" to "ethnic cleansing," he concludes his rant in terms that are simple enough: "the Israeli government is a terrorist organization."

On a number of facts, Rahel is straightforwardly mistaken. He claims that, on the night of July 12, 2006, "Hizbollah resistance fighters killed several Israeli soldiers and abducted two in a guerilla operation that indisputably did not target, or kill, any civilians." This is *causus belli* enough. But Rahel does not describe the barrage of Katyusha rockets and mortar bombs raining down on Israeli border towns as the kidnappers made their escape. Civilians were killed to provide cover. Indisputably.

Rahel accuses the "Israeli propaganda machine" of manufacturing the notion that Hezbollah guerillas hid among civilians. He asks us a series of rhetorical questions to prove his point. He should have looked harder for the answers. "Would grown men endanger their own women and children by hiding amongst them?" Yes, according to Jamal Hezhal, the Municipal Leader of Hermel, Lebanon, who told NPR that Hezbollah readily mixed in with the civilian population. Absolutely, according to Fayad Hanna Amar, who told the *New York Times*, "Hezbollah came to Ain

Ebel to shoot its rockets. They are shooting from between our houses."

When you describe the "carnage of the Israeli invasion of 1982" but ignore the civil war that ravaged Lebanon from 1975 to 1990, when you decry "the sick paradox of destroying mediums of travel" but make no mention of the illegal flow of arms into Lebanon across every unguarded point on the Syrian border, when you praise Hezbollah's "lack of corruption" even as its leadership calls for more martyrs and more violence, you have not written history. You have written propaganda.

Worse than factual inaccuracy is the utter confusion of the ideas at stake. Rahel celebrates Hezbollah's independence from the "impotent Lebanese army." The inability of the Lebanese to comply with two United Nations resolutions requiring Hezbollah to disarm is no cause for celebration. Hezbollah operates southern Lebanon as a virtual fiefdom, a territory propped up by tremendous popular support and nearly absent of the rule of law.

Rahel sees rule of law as a sign of weakness: where Israel has tried to explain the necessity for civilian casualties on legal and moral grounds, "at least Hezbollah has the *chutzpah* to admit responsibility for the death of Israeli citizens." Last week, the Israeli government convened an investigatory panel to be led by Supreme Court Justice Eliyahu Winograd. It is tasked with a comprehensive evaluation of Israel's military and tactical approach to Lebanon, beginning with UN recognition of Israel's complete withdrawal from Lebanon in 2000 and ending with the present conflict. Even Rahel concedes that the IDF

has broken no laws with its choice of weaponry. But if the conduct of the military was ethically unacceptable, its leadership will be held accountable. To the north, where Hezbollah launched thousands of rockets into territory where the civilian population was thickest. Rahel promises us that the leadership will be praised. Southern Lebanon may be "about a group of oppressed fighting against oppression," but civilized peoples do not take pride in the body count.

Israel does not always live up to the ideas it espouses. It purports to do justice for all its inhabitants, to afford basic civil liberties even to those who stand accused of doing violence to its people, and to exercise its considerable military might with restraint and principled reserve. When a modern nation fails to carry its burden, as Israel often has, it submits itself to criticism. Rahel points to "widespread torture" of Israeli prisoners, but the Supreme Court of Israel outlawed the use of torture in 1999. He disparages "Israeli censorship laws," then goes on to cite three conscientious objectors - all regular contributors to Israeli newspapers who publicly denounce the actions of their government. Progress can and will be made by debate, and reason, and democratic process. But dialogue is especially hard to find these days between the northern tip of Shebba Farms and the southern bank of the Litani River.

Rahel is so consumed with demonstrating how Israel is "dehumanizing the perceived enemy" that he cannot see what he has done to Israel, or how he has wholeheartedly catapulted himself out of effective discourse. In Israel, in Lebanon, and in our own community, I pray that calmer words and cooler heads prevail.

## Letters

To the Editor:

Thank you for publishing Mr. Akbar Rahel's editorial, "Demystifying Hizballah's controversial resistance." Unfortunately, we hardly ever have an opportunity to read or understand international affairs holistically, as the U.S. heavily censors information that does not serve U.S. interests. Contrary to America's standard media and news, Mr. Rahel's piece offers the view of the oppressed, not the oppressor. Please give my thanks to Mr. Rahel for sharing his respectable and admirable research and for shedding light on some of the truths of the Israel-Lebanon conflict.

*Niloufar Khonsari, 1E*

To the Editor:

Thanks for writing/publishing that article on Hizballah, which does a good job of laying out the context that is all too often ignored - though it neglects to discuss the fact that (perhaps at this point it goes without saying) while all this was going on Israel was continuing with its never-ending offensive against the people of Palestine.

*James Lyall, 3L*

To the Editor:

I tend to agree with one of the premises of Mr. Rahel's conclusion. Hizballah is not merely a group of radical Islamic terrorists that are "anti-Semitic, unemployed and in need of some democratizing." They are certainly not unemployed! Hizballah is actively employed, armed and funded by Iran, which is trying to extend the reach of its revolution. Hizballah has repeatedly carried out vicious attacks on Jews wherever they are vulnerable, such as in the barbaric bombing on the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires in 1994. This was not an act of resistance; it was cold-blooded murder. While Israel is arguably reckless in its attacks on civilian areas in Lebanon, not even the staged media campaign orchestrated by Hizballah has shown that Israel ever attacked a building purely for being a Muslim center. The same cannot be said for Hizballah vis-à-vis the Jews.

Mr. Rahel ignores the fact that Israel fully withdrew from all Lebanese territory on June 16, 2000, as documented and endorsed by the United Nations. Nevertheless, over the last six years, Hizballah has launched over 13,000 rockets into mainland Israel. Apparently Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon did not reduce the "acts of resistance," but actually seems to have encouraged them. The continuation of these indiscriminate attacks without justification reveals Hizballah's true terrorist nature.

The sad reality is that, by applauding Hizballah's terrorist "chutzpah" in attacking Jewish civilians, this article encourages future anti-Semitic attacks.

*Pablo Kapusta, 1L*

*Opinion columns represent the beliefs of the writer, and not necessarily the views of the Law Center or the Law Weekly. Editorials should not exceed 800 words and should be sent to lawweekly@law.georgetown.edu. We reserves the right to edit submissions.*

# Rahel reverses roles in conflict

**Paul Werner**

In his Oct. 3 editorial depiction of the recent conflict between Israel and Hizbullah, Akbar Rahel purports to present a "more sober assessment" of Hizbullah and its heroic and justified "resistance," while at the same time showing the evil, maniacal, scheming Israel and its "propaganda machine" for what they really are. Instead of treating his readers to a "more sober assessment" of Hizbullah and the recent conflict, Mr. Rahel engages in his own form of propaganda by whitewashing Hizbullah and hurling astounding charges at Israel.

First, Rahel describes the July 12 aggression by Hizbullah against Israel as being carried out by "resistance" fighters. His use of the term "resistance" in describing Hizbullah begs the question: What are they resisting? While it is true that Israel occupied a portion of southern Lebanon for nearly 20 years, Israel completely withdrew from that area in June 2000. Israel even invited the UN to verify the completeness of its withdrawal from Lebanon, which the UN indeed verified. Despite Israel's complete unilateral withdrawal, Hizbullah continued to attack Israel, waiting hardly four months before they kidnapped three Israeli soldiers in a cross-border provocation, soldiers whose bodies were returned to Israel several years later, along with a kidnapped Israeli businessman. Is this "resistance"?

Over the next six years, Hizbullah carried out numerous cross-border provocations, and as recently as November 2005 attempted to kidnap Israeli soldiers. Israel's response to these numerous attacks across an internationally recognized border was muted and restrained. It was only after six years of unprovoked assaults, after receiving pledges from Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora that he would rein in Hizbullah, after Israel was already embroiled with the Palestinians over the kidnapping of Gilad Shalit, that Israel responded with force. And while the amount of force and weaponry used may or may not have been justified, the fact that is little mentioned in Rahel's piece is that the conflict with Hizbullah would never have happened had Hizbullah not carried out its aggression. Crackpot conspiracy theories aside, Israel had no intention, nor desire, to enter into a war with Lebanon. After all, they left that place six years ago.

Second, when addressing charges that Hizbullah used Lebanese civilians as human shields, Rahel fails to deal with the evidence behind those charges. Instead of explaining the numerous videos of katyusha rockets firing from within villages, instead of explaining the photographs of plain-clothed Hizbullah fighters (a war crime) standing by their rocket launcher in a town center (another war crime), instead of explaining the emails of a Canadian UN peacekeeper that Hizbullah was using his site to launch attacks on Israel, Rahel asks us rhetorical questions which supposedly have an obvious answer and calls upon

us to use our "common sense." And while it would have seemed obvious 20 years ago that a grown man would not endanger his own women and children, that is not the case today. With the advent of suicide bombing, after which the parents of the child who just committed suicide and murdered innocent men, women and children often throw parties and give out candy, "common sense," and common decency, indeed go out the window.

Third, Rahel accuses Israel of engaging in a "genocidal campaign" and of "ethnic cleansing." However, as Mr. Rahel himself writes, Israel distributed flyers warning Lebanese civilians of impending attacks, and Israeli pilots aborted missions for fear of killing innocents. How this constitutes genocide or ethnic cleansing is beyond me.

In fact, if anyone thirsts for genocide, it's Hizbullah. Hardly two years ago, Mr. Nasrallah remarked, "If all Jews gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide." (*New York Times*, 5/23/04.) That's about as genocidal a statement as you can find, and rivals the Hamas Charter, which openly longs for the day when "The stones and trees will say, 'there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him.'" (Hamas Charter Article 7.) How is the desire to kill all the Jews "resistance"?

By using such Orwellian newspeak, Rahel commits the same misdeed he accuses Israel's propagandists of committing: He turns the oppressor into the oppressed and the victim into the executioner.

# Children's education: dreams deferred or dying

**Jane Dimyan-Ehrenfeld**

There's a phone call I have to make that I've been dreading. It's not job-related, or career related, nor should I be scared to make it. But I am.

The call I don't want to make is to a former student of mine, a girl I taught nine years ago when she was in third-grade. You're not supposed to have favorites as a teacher, but it's inevitable, especially with a student like Annie. She had this wonderful blend of third grade and purely adult qualities; she was giggly and was capable of consuming chicken wings in quantities that only a skinny child can, but she had been through tragedies and had an ability to deal with life's blows (both hers and others) with grace and honesty.

I kept in touch with Annie after I left the school where she was a student, and even brought her up to Boston with her best friend to spend a week with me one summer. At that point she was in middle school, and things were going well.

One thing to know about Annie is that as long as I've known her, she's always wanted to be a lawyer. She knew she wanted this long before I ever wanted it for myself. I don't know where her determination came from, but her eyes were fixed on this goal through elementary school, and middle school as well. She could see the map of her life - high school, college, law school - and had no doubt that this was what she wanted.

The last time I talked to Annie was a year and a half ago, when she was in ninth grade. She was attending a miserable high school in Prince George's County, a school known for its high dropout rates and generally hopeless atmosphere. She sounded down when I called in February, and when I asked how school was going, I couldn't believe

what she told me.

Back in September, a month into school, she had been present when a friend got into a fight with another girl. Annie stepped in to stop the fight, and the principal, appearing on the scene at that moment, mistook her for a participant and expelled her from the school.

After five months at home, doing nothing, and growing increasingly more depressed, the advocacy of Annie's mother and friends finally worked to get her readmitted to school. So she was back in class when I called, but her depression was still apparent, and she seemed to understand how seriously this incident had affected her future.

I tried calling after that to check in on her, but no one ever answered at her number. A year went by, and eventually I moved back to D.C. from Boston. And ever since my move in July, I've been meaning to call, but somehow I can't bring myself to do so. The reason for this is clear: I don't want to know what has happened in the meantime. She's in eleventh grade now, and I know that when I call it will be quickly apparent whether Annie still has a shot at law school, or whether her school experience has derailed her from this dream. And even if she's given up her vision of this future for herself, I'm not ready to give it up on her behalf.

So why should you care, and what does this have anything to do with you, or law school, or law in general? The connection is this: Annie has probably lost her chance to go to law school not because she's not smart, or not hard-working (this is a girl who insisted on doing her homework every single night of the year that her father was in hospice, dying of cancer). It's not a lack of motivation, or a lack of interest. If Annie is denied this future, it will be because of a mere chance of birth: she was born to a poor African-American family in America at a time when the likelihood

that a child of such a family will receive a decent education is falling dramatically, and when the level of segregation - by race and income - in our nation's schools is rapidly approaching pre-Brown levels. Around the country, hundreds of thousands of children like Annie are being handed the perverse antithesis of a birthright - the guarantee that their schools will be separate and unequal; the kind of places where a dream of being a lawyer is frustrated and defeated.

I had the chance, during orientation, to take a tour of the D.C. youth detention center with Professor Henning - a place where not a single white child could be found. As we were talking to a group of boys there, I asked them what they would change in their communities that would best keep kids out of jail. One boy answered immediately. Come to my school, he said. Don't announce your visit, just come and see what really goes on there. It's not safe. No one teaches us anything. Another boy joined in: What's the point of going to school when that's what it's like? We have no good school to go to, so we end up making bad choices. Moreover, they said (and the girls we talked to later echoed this sentiment), the school within the jail was the only school they had been to where they had actually been taught, and where anyone cared if they learned. In a few short words, these boys cut through all the equivocation practiced by advocates of the status quo, and made the issue clear: ours is an apartheid school system, and these children are its casualties.

Part of the reason that this matters so much is because in December the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in two cases involving school desegregation. Here, the districts encompassing the cities of Seattle and Louisville have asked to be allowed to consider race as one factor in certain school assignment plans (not favoring one race, or allowing quotas, but simply seeking to create a

better racial balance in their schools, whether that means denying a white child or a minority child a slot in a given school). In both cases, white parents are arguing that any plan that tries to integrate the districts' schools is fundamentally unfair to their children. Given what we all know implicitly to be true about education in America, I have to ask: does the burden of unfair policies and practices really fall on the white children in this equation? I feel for the kids who don't get to go to their top choice high schools - all of them - but it's nothing compared to what I feel for the kids who don't get to go to schools with AP options, and an arts program, and classes that aren't brutally overcrowded, where students are safe and cared for, where the ceilings don't leak and where college is part of the clear path ahead, not the distant cloudy mountaintop.

As much as we all would like to think we're the smartest folks around (and hard-working too), the vast majority of us are here in no small part because we're lucky: luckier than most of the world's population, but luckier than much of this country's population as well. We didn't earn our seats at Georgetown simply because we're the best candidates possible; we did so to a certain extent because a percentage of the candidates were eliminated from the competition when they were children, and the rest of us look a whole lot better as a result. The cases coming before the Supreme Court seek to broaden the competition just a little (although in the judicial environment that exists today with respect to race they can't even really argue that as a motive). I don't know about anyone else, but I'd feel a whole lot better if they'd give kids like Annie a fighting chance to lead the lives they imagine, not the ones they are consigned to. In the meantime, I'm going to call Annie, and hope that her dream is still alive.

## LL.M.s: Smarter, hotter, and more fun than you

**Mark Nabong**

The biggest conundrum you will face here at the law school is not whether or not you should take Tax II (you should not), not whether or not you should accept that job offer with the firm that requires 23,500 hours billable a year (you should, then film your quitting speech). The biggest boondoggle is how much you choose to get to know the foreign LL.M. students.

Why should you try and hang out with foreign LL.M.s? You have plenty of friends already, and most of them don't hold you personally responsible for the ludicrous actions of President Bush. You're comfortable, and you don't really need to add more complication to your life. If you are like the typical American in her or his mid-twenties, you already have the following:

Two (2) Parents.

One (1) Step-parent.

One-point-three (1.3) Siblings, at least one of which is trying to stop using drugs.

Two (2) close friends from college.

Two (2) friends from college whom you actually dislike but you have to see sometimes because they now live in the same town as your parents.

One (1) ex that you would like to begin dating again if you could.

One (1) ex that would like to begin dating you again if they could.

One (1) pet that you left with your parents, or, if you are Asian, an elderly relative.

Twelve (12) "close friends" here at law school, which actually consists of five people you will stop talking to by your third year, four people with whom you will try unsuccessfully to hook-up and three people you only know from IMs and Facebook.

That seems, to you, like plenty of people in your circle. I urge you, urge urge urge, to broaden your horizons. There is a wealth of untapped experience here, and it comes in the form of the foreign LL.M.s. The LL.M.s are ALREADY lawyers, so you can rest assured that they already know how stupid you are as a J.D. student. You don't have to fake intelligence like you do with your other friends, and you don't have to pretend like you know what do do about their landlord problems. Also, every LL.M. is hot. Every single one. Why? The reason is that there is a definite association of "foreign" with "hot." If you have a non-American accent, you can immediately seem at LEAST 15% above your normal attractiveness level, and that is the minimum. Canadians, for example, seem

15% above their objective attractiveness level. French people are 30% above, while French Canadians are 20% above (it would be 25%, but there is an 5% penalty for Avril Lavigne marrying the fugly primate-dude from Sum 41).

The foreign LL.M.s are also much, much smarter than you. While YOU can barely speak English without dropping an F-bomb or dangling participle into every sentence, the foreign LL.M.s speak grammatically correct English in addition to their native language. While you absorbed your knowledge of the English language from Jeff Foxworthy DVDs and Nelly albums, the foreign LL.M.s were studying proper grammar, vocabulary and relatively little porn dialogue. They probably also speak many more languages, especially if they're Swiss or West African. By the end of their LL.M. year, they will have gleaned a proficiency in another seven or eight languages, too, thanks to their classmates. In fact, by the end of their year here, many foreign LL.M.s no longer speak one discrete language; they instead speak a conglomerate pidgin of French, Spanish, English, German, Urdu and Hindi, with up to five Filipino words (all curses). The guy who invented Esperanto did it in Washington, D.C., while trying to hit on a Venezuelan LL.M.

Speaking of dating, the is a signifi-

cant advantage to dating an LL.M.: they will leave within a year. There messiness of "where do we go from here?" is alleviated because whomever you date will have to leave in eight months to take a job in Brussels, Jakarta, Narnia, Waterdeep, etc.

You: "Baby, after you get your degree, where do you see yourself going to?"

LL.M.: "I think you mean to say, 'To where do you see yourself going?' Your English is very bad, lazy, American, middle-class student."

The number one complaint by the foreign LL.M.s every year is that they do not know many American J.D. students. The number two complaint is that our beer tastes like it came from a stadium trough, but that is a story for another time. (To my foreign friends: please do not blame us for the current administration or the beer. We did not elect either of them.) You should get to know the other students who share your classes, your school, your bathrooms. They're great people, and I guarantee you the stories you hear will be better than anything "Glen," the guy who sat next to you in torts, has to say. The next time you spot a group of LL.M.s (the proper term is a "murder" of LL.M.s), stop by and introduce yourself.

One caveat, however: do NOT date the taxation LL.M.s.