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Panel elects to talk political law

by Jennifer Gaspar, 1L
Law Weekly

Despite 100 years of campaign finance regulation, more money is being spent on political campaigns than ever before, particularly through independent expenditures on negative advertisements. This was the consensus of last Wednesday's election law panel, hosted by the Federalist Society and cosponsored by the Law Democrats and Law Republicans.

The panel, moderated by Professor Roy Schotland, featured four notable experts and practitioners in election law. Robert D. Lenhard is the vice chairman of the Federal Election Commission (FEC) and a former Associate General Counsel at the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Hans A. von Spakovsky was appointed to be a FEC commissioner earlier this year, after serving as Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Justice. Joseph E. Sandler has been

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Disco fever heats up EJF auction night

by Thomas Leroe-Munoz
Law Weekly

The Equal Justice Foundation (EJF) hosted their annual auction this past week to raise money for students who decide to work in public interest jobs during the summer. Throughout the week, EJF held a silent auction. The display for the silent auction took over most of the first floor of McDonough and was the lead-in to the live auction, featuring the glamorous and most highly sought after prizes, held on Thursday evening.

The categories for the silent auction closed in fifteen minute intervals leading up to the live auction. This was different from past years when the silent auction categories all closed at the same time. "We've changed the format [of the silent auction] to increase the level of last second bidding," said auction coordinator Jessica Galante, 3L. Swarms of people gathered around the tables in the waning moments, desperately trying to scribble down final bids. While some were unable to get in a final bid on their desired items, most found the system to work very well and the impetus behind such a system, increasing the number of last-second bids, was clearly apparent. After the close of the final category, the live



photo by Marika Maris, 3L

Auctioneers point to the winners of an item at Thursday night's EJF auction

auction began in Hart Auditorium with a speech by Dean Aleinekoff. He kicked things off with an inspiring message: "You guys have to drink a lot more beer."

And the beer certainly was flowing, along with numerous bids for prizes that varied between dinners with professors to bobblehead dolls of Supreme Court Justices. EJF volunteers constantly traversed the aisles in Hart with pitchers, making sure no

one's glass was empty. As food and drink are traditionally not allowed in Hart Auditorium, this made the event even more unique, with the crowd fluxing between relaxed, uproarious, boisterous and jovial.

Disco was the theme for the live auction, a change which many felt was an improvement on last year's cowboy/western theme. "The theme

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Law Center honors Drinan with chair

by Keith Parsons, 3L
Law Weekly

Last Monday at 4:00 the Law Center formally announced the creation of the Father Robert F. Drinan S.J. Chair in Human Rights. Around 175 people crowded into Hart Auditorium to honor Father Drinan and the first holder of the Chair, Judge Thomas Buerghenthal. They also came to hear the keynote speech by Yale Law Dean Harold Koh.

The ceremony started with Dean Alexander Aleinikoff reading a letter from Georgetown University President DeGioia, who was regrettably unable to attend. He then presented Father Drinan with an unspecified token of the University's esteem. With this the entire auditorium gave Father Drinan a standing ovation.

After the crowd had calmed down, Dean Aleinikoff introduced Professor Jane Stromseth, the head of the Georgetown Human Rights Institute. She called the new Chair "a fitting trib-

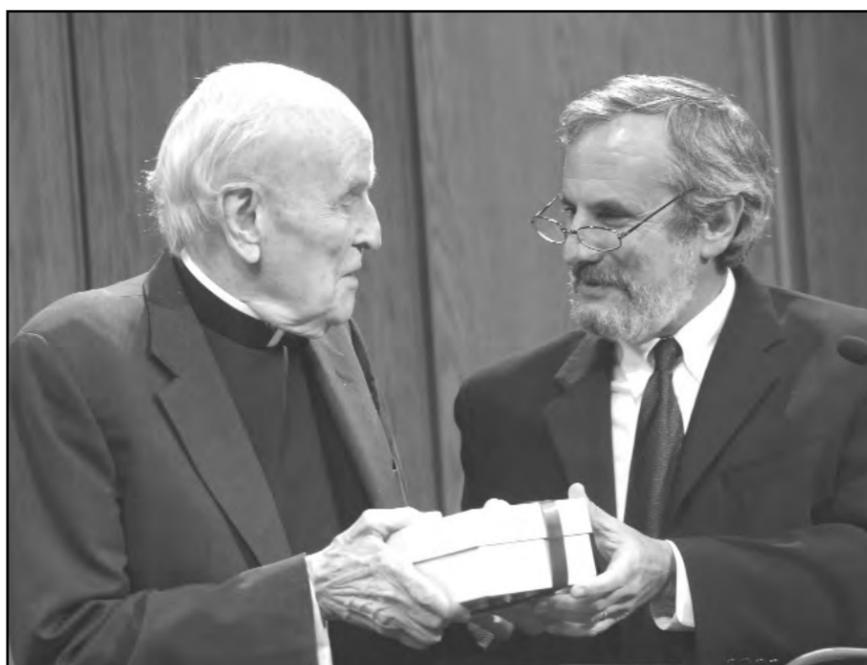


photo by Leslie Kossoff

Father Drinan and Dean Aleinikoff onstage at last Monday's dedication

ute" to Father Drinan. She also spoke year to promote human rights education briefly about the Human Rights Institute, which was established last

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Students explore corporate life

by Brian Corcoran, 1L
Law Weekly

The corporate law life, for all its bad press, is often a fascinating and rewarding one, panelists said at this year's Corporate Law Association Fall Symposium. About fifty to sixty J.D. and LL.M. students - including four conflicted first-years from Section 3 - gathered last Wednesday night to hear the panelists' stories.

Viqar Shariff, a partner at Clifford Chance LLP, spoke about his international mergers and acquisitions work for the London-based law firm and about the satisfaction he gets from "staying up to all hours of the night to work on all these fascinating, cross-border deals."

Mark Heimendinger, an associate at

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Georgetown Law Rugby Kills Widener 41-0
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GG&SS Prepares for Big Show
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Barrister's Council Fall Showcase

Come see what each of the Barristers' Council appellate, trial and ADR advocacy teams do and how you can become a member. Food will be provided. Stop by Room 206 McDonough on Thursday, Nov. 2, at 8:00 p.m. Contact Karen at kfl@law.georgetown.edu with questions.



Home Court!

Like Basketball? Want to help the Homeless? Want to interact with members of Congress? The Home Court committee is responsible for organizing and sponsoring a series of events to benefit the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless. Our main event is a basketball game between members of Congress and Law Center professors during the spring semester. Come join the committee and help out as we plan bar reviews, a three-on-three basketball tournament for students, the basketball game with members of Congress and more! E-mail Lisa Keels at lmk29@law.georgetown.edu for more information.



Faculty Tea

You are cordially invited to attend the Women of Color Collective Faculty Tea, on Nov. 6, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on the 12th floor of Gewirz. Come enjoy tea, crumpets and conversation with our esteemed faculty.



ABA Event

The ABA Section of Science & Technology Law invites all members to attend a networking luncheon on Friday, Nov. 10, 2006 from 12:00p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Room 110 McDonough. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your fellow Section law student members and to network with lawyer members from the Section. Learn how you can develop practical skills and enhance your leadership abilities by participating in various committee projects. Please RSVP by Nov. 8 to vannd@staff.abanet.org or call 312-988-5599.



Women and Islam

Join the Women's Legal Alliance and Law Center Professor Lama Abu-Odeh for a discussion of feminism and the Muslim faith. The event will take place on Thursday, Nov. 2, in Hotung 6006, starting at 12:30 p.m.



Be Careful Out There...

The Center for Wellness Promotion recently sponsored a safety awareness/self defense program addressing such issues as personal security, how to avoid and anticipate problems, safety while in transit, sexual assault avoidance, protecting your home and personal identity. Tactical Security Training owner and lead instructor, Donald Jones, educated us on these issues. In today's world, no one is completely immune to crime. We've invited Donald back to show us some basic techniques to use when presented with physical confrontation. Just knowing how to break from a hold could possibly save your life. We urge you to join us on Tuesday, Nov. 7, at 12:00 noon on Gewirz 12 as we explore these self defense tactics. For more information, contact Karen Pierce in the Center for Wellness Promotion at piercekl@law.georgetown.edu.



1L Bonfire!

Join your classmates for food and drinks, bus transportation included, at the 1L Social Bonfire at Butler's Orchard, on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 7 to 11 p.m., with an after party to follow. Tickets will go on sale, for \$10 each, from Oct. 30 to Nov. 3, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., on the first floor of McDonough. The bonfire is sponsored by the Georgetown Law Student Ambassadors.



Clean Air Act Panel

On Wednesday, Nov. 1 from 12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Room 201 McDonough, the Georgetown Environmental Law & Policy Institute, the Georgetown Supreme Court Institute and the Georgetown Environmental Law Society present "The Clean Air Act in the Supreme Court: The Duke Energy Case," a discussion following the Supreme Court arguments. A light lunch will be provided starting at 12:15 p.m. Questions? Email slf35@law.georgetown.edu.



Confirmation Hearings

Rachel Brand, Assistant Attorney General for Legal Policy, and a key participant in the confirmations of Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito, will share her perspective on the role of confirmation hearings. The Federalist Society will sponsor the event on Tuesday, Oct. 31 in Hotung 2000 at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be served!

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.

	5	9				3	1		8			1	9			7
1				6	9			8		2						1
4		3	5			7		9	4		1				2	6
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	3		8		5		6			8	1	7	2			
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1								2			5	1				3
		2				7				3						2
MEDIUM #22								HARD #22								

Solution on page 11



Shabbat Clusters!

Mark your calendars! The Shabbat Clusters are back, on Friday, Nov. 10. Locations and exact times have yet to be determined, of course, as the Clusters are more of a grassroots thing, but if you're interested, just tell JLSA your name, your class year, whether you'd like to host a Shabbat dinner, or just attend one, what sort of religious experience you're looking for and any kosher or other dietary requirements you might have. Don't miss out again! E-mail jlsa@bulldog.georgetown.edu.



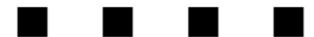
Ryan Lecture

This Wednesday, Nov. 1, the Law Center will host the annual Thomas Ryan Lecture on Gewirz 12, from 4 to 6 p.m. This year's speaker is Professor William Eskridge, Jr., who will discuss "Supreme Court Deference to Agencies, 1981-2006: An Empirical and Normative Examination." For more information, contact Kara Tershel at kat5@law.georgetown.edu.



Inter-city Shabbat

Join JLSA and MesorahDC for inter-law school Shabbat services and dinner at the Historic Sixth and I Synagogue on Friday, Nov. 3rd at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Carlebach service, followed by a Glatt Kosher dinner. RSVP required - email jlsa@law.georgetown.edu. Don't forget to tell your friends at other D.C.-area law schools about the event!



Eskridge on Same Sex Marriage

On Oct. 25, the New Jersey Supreme Court decided Lewis vs. Harris, ruling that gay couples are entitled to the same rights as heterosexual couples. Join the American Constitution Society and Professor William Eskridge of Yale Law School for a discussion on the implications of this ruling. Professor Eskridge, co-author of *Gay Marriage: For Better or for Worse? What We've Learned from the Evidence*, will speak on Thursday, Nov. 2, at noon, in McDonough Room 203, and pizza and beverages will be served. Please contact georgetownacs@law.georgetown.edu for more information.



Deadline to Drop a Spring 2006 Clinic

Students who were selected to take a clinic during the spring 2007 semester and who wish to drop the course must inform the clinic director in writing of their intention to drop no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, Nov. 10, 2006. After Nov. 10, professor permission is required for withdrawal from a spring semester clinic.



Feminist Theology

Join members of Campus Ministry, including Sister Dorinda, for the second installment of discussions about Feminist Theology. Bring your lunch on Tuesday, Oct. 31 to McDonough Room 492 at noon. Dessert and beverages will be provided!

Bidding, beer all flow for worthy cause at auction

EJF from page 1

is a lot more fun this year," said Eamonn Moran, 3L, "last year's theme didn't have the same kind of energy." Julia Cianfarini, 2L, was also impressed with the level of excitement at the auction; "There was definitely a high level of energy out there tonight, which really helped the event." The disco theme also allowed members of the Law Center community to put on their best polyester outfits and dance to 1970s classics, such as the Bee-Gees and ABBA. Dean Bellamy even broke out a white suit for the occasion. Most of the EJF volunteers who were staffing the event dressed up in period clothing as well, which the crowd certainly appreciated. "I've enjoyed the super-tight pants," said Chris Powell, 2L after watching the costume contest where volunteers paraded their best '70s clothing and disco moves on stage. Shelby Reitz, 2L, resoundingly won the costume contest with her groovy outfit and swinging moves.

The auction began with four tickets to any Georgetown basketball game that were sold for \$425 dollars.

Bidding started off slowly, but as the evening wore on prizes began to go for greater and greater sums. Perhaps it was because beer was openly served to the audience in Hart Auditorium, perhaps it was because the prizes became more interesting as professors offered their homes and their cooking to students. Either way, towards the end of the evening, bidding was quite high. Two separate parties with Professor Gottesman were auctioned off for over \$5,000 combined. Originally, Professor Gottesman was offering only one party, but as the two bidding groups bid higher and higher, he offered a compromise: two parties, one for each group if one bidding group would bid above the \$2,300 being bandied about at the time.

In addition to offering coveted prizes, the faculty also served as the auctioneers who induced students to bid ever higher on various items. Earlier in the evening, a Justice Kennedy and a Justice Scalia bobblehead doll were each auctioned off for considerable prices. Nicky McMillan, 1E, purchased the Justice Kennedy bobblehead doll for \$400. The doll was advertised as the only reliable

way to ensure a yes vote from Justice Kennedy. When asked why she was willing to purchase the bobblehead for such a high price, Nicky replied "I wanted to bid high enough to affect interstate commerce."

Not only did the auction start close to 7:30 p.m., but the bidding lasted until well after 11:30 p.m. By the end of the evening, EJF had brought in a large sum of money for public inter-

est work and all those who had participated had either won something or had a good time. "It's well-known that EJF Auction is the premier social event of the fall, yet at the same time is the Law Center's largest fundraiser targeted towards students. It's probably the most important event in Hart Auditorium, [save for] Gilbert & Sullivan shows," said Sean Byrne, 3L.



photo by Marika Maris, 3L

The polyester only added to the fun on Thursday, as students, faculty and staff dusted off the mothballs and showed off their Saturday night best

"World of Choices" shows wide range of law jobs

by Sarah Hale, 2L
Law Weekly

Graduating from law school unavoidably raises a host of daunting questions: What should I do with a law degree? In what setting should I work? What substantive area of law should I pursue? On Saturday, Oct. 28, about 90 students attended the twentieth annual "World of Choices" to find answers. This flagship program for 1Ls, however, did not purport to show that there are right or wrong paths, only that numerous paths exist. Moreover, the event-consisting of two panel discussions followed by a "table talk" with practitioners-underscored how an individual's personality should guide the search for a profession.

Barbara Moulton, the Assistant Dean of OPICS, moderated the first panel on "Legal Practice Settings" which featured four Law Center alumni, all of whom openly admitted to not knowing precisely what they wanted to do as 1Ls. Tovah Minster (L' 04)- the representative of the Small/Medium Firm setting-recounted that, upon graduating, she only knew that she did not want to leave D.C. and did not want to do transactional work. She was attracted to her current firm, Spriggs & Hollingsworth, by its smaller size (approximately 60 attorneys) and focus on litigation. According to Minster, the greatest benefit of working in such an environment was being "handed lots of responsibility right off the bat." Importantly, she advised students take classes like Civil Litigation Practice which allow them to "get into the mindset of a lawyer."

As a recent addition to the D.C. Public Defender Service (PDS), Nina Chernoff (L' 04) represented the public interest field. She noted that while public interest employers value "commitment over time" rather than grades and firm experience, they are still "just as snobby as corporate firm types." Chernoff also pointed out that,

"although no one wants public interest jobs...they are still really competitive." Hence, her critical piece of advice to students was to keep an open mind and "try working in a variety of work environments." Guided by her interest in criminal and juvenile justice, Chernoff herself underwent a series of career shifts: from the Juvenile Law Center to a clerkship at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit to her current position at the PDS's Special Litigation Unit.

In addition, her call to ask those in one's field of interest blunt questions, like "How much money do you make?" and "Do you have time for a hobby?" resonated with the audience. The real answers, Chernoff said, may only come with buying someone "a double at happy hour."

On the opposite side of the "setting spectrum," Steve Topetzes (L' 88) spoke to working in a large firm. Topetzes has been at the same firm - Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP - for 18 years. Like the other panelists, he stressed that different environments suit different personalities. His decision to stay at his firm, then, was motivated by the fact that the "culture" of that firm worked for him. Topetzes explained that he gravitated toward litigation, and the specific area of securities enforcement, because "trying to craft a story often with unattractive facts is what I enjoy." His concluding message to students was simple, yet powerful: "Resist the pressure to know...sample different areas and settings."

Muftiah McCartin (L' 90), the final panelist and an employee of the Subcommittee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, outlined how students can use their law degree in a variety of roles on the hill. For example, she said that one can really "blossom in a policy area" by working in a Committee. The Parliamentarian's Office, where McCartin said she worked for practically her entire life, is "a good fit for a Jeffersonian institution-

alist" who prefers a procedural focus. One can become a "national expert" on a particular area of law by drafting legislation in a Legislative Council. Finally, she informed students that the House General Counsel, though it employs few attorneys, is where "the real lawyering work" happens. With respect to advice, McCartin suggested that students try working at a firm before a public service job if torn between the two routes.

The second panel, on International Law Careers, featured its own set of distinguished Law Center alumni. Their interests and work made clear that "international law" is not a specific field, but rather encompasses several sub-fields, ranging from arbitration to anti-trust to government to human rights. Gihan Fernando, the Assistant Dean of Career Services and panel's moderator, recognized that filling in the space between "international" and "law" is one step toward narrowing a career path. Also, he advised students to separate "international" and "law" by first paying attention to developing their legal skills and then concentrating on a substantive area of international law.

The first panelist, Gaela Gehring-Flores (L' 96), revealed that she had no specific pipe dream while in law school. She knew, more broadly, that she wanted to practice international law and eventually came into the field of international arbitration. Currently a partner at Winston & Strawn, Gehring-Flores focuses on international public arbitration-an area that she says requires "being flexible and resourceful." After all, her job consists of "defending Latin American countries against private companies."

Jesse Nicol (L/MSFS '99) explained his role at the State Department as "negotiating the international treaties that Gaela litigates." Nicol's path, however, was not straightforward. He first worked on cross-border transactions at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton &

Garrison LLP, but soon learned that "transactional practice was not what motivated me." Nicol then began looking at governmental agencies and found that the State Department satisfied his new interest in negotiations. Drawing from his personal experience of having "a pipe dream [that] crashed and burned," he urged students to realize that what they like now may change.

The next two panelists, Tzili Mor (L/MSFS '00) and Jeremy Calsyn (L' 99) had strikingly different paths, which naturally led to distinct professions. Mor pursued work at international organizations and was the recipient of several fellowships. Her interest in human rights litigation motivated her to become a Teaching Fellow for the International Women's Human Rights Clinic. In contrast, Calsyn said he simply "went to OCI (On-Campus Interviews), got a summer associate position, accepted the offer and then clerked for Judge Oberdorfer." He is now an associate at Cleary Gottlieb, a large international firm with offices in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Both Calsyn and Mor stressed that one should not lose sight of learning the law while striving to be a good lawyer.

When asked how to break into the competitive public sector field after graduating, the panelists stressed having qualities like creativity, resourcefulness, and persistence. Mor recommended trying to get fellowships, which tend to look for recent graduates, by drafting proposals and trying to "shop them around." In addition to grades, journal, and academic background, Nicol said that "a demonstrated commitment" to a particular field of interest is extremely important to employers. Moreover, this intensity should come across both on paper and in person. All panelists seemed to concur with Nicol's advice to "go out and seek new, different opportunities" rather than "accept a set path."

Panel is "elect"-rifying

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general counsel for the Democratic National Committee since 1993, and Charles Spies is general counsel and chief financial officer of the Republican Governors Association and a 1998 graduate of Georgetown University Law Center.

Spakovsky began the discussion with an overview of the history of campaign finance law. Next year will mark the 100th anniversary of the Tillman Act, the first piece of legislation to regulate campaign spending by prohibiting corporations and banks from donating money to candidates. Spakovsky noted that virtually all developments in campaign finance regulation over the past century have resulted from scandal. President Teddy Roosevelt, he said, signed the Tillman Act out of embarrassment after allegations that Western Union and the Railroads had given large amounts of money to his campaign.

In 1971, Congress consolidated all election laws in the Federal Elections Campaign Act, which remains the foundation of election law today. Following Watergate, further changes were made, most notably with the establishment of the FEC as the central authority for campaign regulation. In 2002, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, popularly known as McCain-Feingold, attempted to address the increasing influence of soft money and the proliferation of issue ads in campaigns.

Lenhard addressed the effects of McCain-Feingold on campaign spending and management. He said that the most significant trend has been the increased role of independent expenditures by 527 organizations formed outside campaigns and political parties in order to comply with the new regulations. Since the 2004 election cycle, the first since McCain-Feingold became law, independent expenditures have increased by 27 percent. In the 2004 cycle, 40 percent of independent expenditures were spent on negative advertising, while in the current cycle that rate has increased to 78 percent. Panelists also addressed the way that the increasing complexity of campaign finance regulation has affected campaign

management. In particular, campaigns at even the local level have to rely on professional campaign consultants to make sure that they are in compliance with regulations. Spakovsky noted that in the first 6 months after McCain-Feingold was enacted, the FEC imposed the largest number of civil penalties in its history.

Spies questioned whether 527s created in the wake of McCain-Feingold will have the staying power of political parties. He conjectured that because they often formed to push specific issues, these groups have less incentive than parties to present moderated views.

Sandler addressed the factors that he believes have influenced campaign finance reform. He said that candidates and members of Congress on both sides of the aisle often push for campaign finance reform so that they can become more independent of their respective political parties.

Panelists also discussed the implications of campaign finance reform on First Amendment rights. Any individual who wants to spend his or her own money advertising for or against a candidate is required to register with the FEC and report all spending. Spakovsky questioned whether these regulations infringed on First Amendment rights, or if they could be justified by the need to prevent corruption in campaigns.

The panel took questions from the audience about the regulation of campaign activities on the Internet and the possibility of legislation being passed in the next Congress to ban individual contributions from lobbyists. They also discussed potential problems with voting technology in the upcoming elections.

Spakovsky asked the audience whether long-standing campaign finance regulations, such as the ban on corporate donations, still make sense in the wake of caps on contributions. He said that despite all the attention paid to campaign finance and the increasing complexity and difficulty of compliance, "No one has tried to figure out whether the rules and regulations we have today are still good public policy."

Corporate law chatted up

SYMPOSIUM from Page 1

McKee Nelson LLP, began his career doing work in the transportation field and slowly found his way to securitization and structured finance work in D.C. "One of the real perks about working for a law firm," he pointed out with a grin to students, "is that law firms rarely go under like tech firms or start-ups - the job security is wonderful."

Anthony Green, an associate at Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP, has worked at several firms over the years. Right now, his practice is "fairly diverse in the sense that I work with mergers and acquisitions, complex joint ventures, other complex commercial agreements - but everything is ultimately focused around the mortgage and banking industry."

Barbara Lubliner, a senior associate at Clifford Chance LLP's New York office, also works primarily in mergers and acquisitions. She took a fairly traditional path to corporate work and finds the cross-border work, large variety of clients, and large variety of deal-making opportunities available all to be exciting.

Nir Kaissar, a sixth-year associate at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, found that working for a firm turned him into a true generalist - while he "might not know anything truly solid until I'm in my fifties," he enjoys the intellectual opportunities he has found in corporate law. Part of the appeal, he told students, is that you get to make something really work: unlike litigation, which is generally focused on correcting the wrongs of the past, a lot of corporate work is directed towards success in the future.

When the panelists opened the floor to questions, the first was, predictably, about working hours. The general consensus among the lawyers was that the hours are long, but that the interesting work more than makes up for the time and effort. Lubliner hammered home the point, saying, "People don't go to law school with the expectation of getting a nine-to-five job, but the trade-off is that you do get a very interesting one."

On the other hand, Kaissar half-jokingly disagreed, denying the full extent of the rumored 90-hour work week: "Corporate lawyers don't work as hard as they say or you think, just like your study habits in law school. There's just a measure of bravado involved."

Janice Mangenello, Associate Director at the Office of Career Services, then posed a few questions she often hears from students to the panel, beginning with a question about the first year

of law firm work. The first year, panelists said, is like being "in a haze - it's a very steep learning curve, where you learn as you go."

Nonetheless, they said, it is a very survivable year if you keep a few things in mind. Asking questions early and often is important, noted Heimendinger, "although you always want to be sure you think out your questions fully before you go in - there's nothing more embarrassing than solving your own problem in the middle of asking the question and then backing out of the room sheepishly."

Green advised students to find a mentor early. "If you get the right mentor, he'll let you listen in on conference calls and look in on you, and that way you'll end up observing a lot from a very early stage."

In the same vein, panelists noted, it's important to take on responsibility as fast as you can, simply to get experience and to observe how everything in the law firm fits together. Even photocopying can be a learning experience if you make it so by studying the pattern of documents that come across your pile.

The panelists also gave students some advice on interviewing. Green, who has spent time on the hiring committee at Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP, gave a very detailed explanation of what firms are really looking for, saying, "It all comes down to four things: intellect, work experience, fit within the firm's culture, and the interest they show in the firm."

"Intellect is simply satisfied by the academic record; work experience, on the other hand, students often get confused by," said Green. "We don't care if you've never worked full-time before, but we do want to see that you were invested in whatever you have done, even if it's just a job at Starbucks. We also see a lot of qualified candidates that get rejected because they don't take lowly associates and secretaries seriously enough - you can't talk less formally just because you're at lunch with an associate instead of a partner."

Kaissar agreed, adding that when he interviews, he wants to get to the heart of what fascinates you about the law, or anything else: "That special fascination is what makes for a happy associate: we have people who've written books on trapeze artistry, on Ferraris, all sorts of things. The demonstration of expertise in any field is kind of an indicator that you have the right intellectual curiosity to do well in the profession."

Here's to life: root beer keg and fitness fair toast health



photos by Marika Maris, 3L

Students, faculty and staff enjoyed a healthy Wednesday reprieve with a root beer keg (left) and massages at the law center's health fair (right).



Koh speaks at ceremony dedicating Fr. Drinan chair

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tion, policy dialogue, and to serve as a resource for those interested in human rights. Professor Stromseth then introduced Harold Koh, the Dean of Yale Law School, where she herself received her J.D.

Dean Koh first talked about his personal connection with Father Drinan. He is a Korean-American whose father was not yet naturalized some 50 years ago when Father Drinan was dean of Boston College School of Law. Nevertheless, Father Drinan admitted Dean Koh's father to the law school after a short interview. As a result, Dean Koh's parents did not return to Korea as they had planned, and Dean Koh eventually followed his father to a career in the law.

Dean Koh's formal address was entitled "Father Drinan's Revolution." He spoke about the broad currents of change that have marked the field of human rights in the past sixty years.

He explained the four major phases of this revolution: Universalization, Institutionalization, Operationalization and Globalization - and how Father Drinan had figured in each of these eras. He spoke of how Father Drinan first educated himself and developed his personal knowledge and morals. Then he told how Father Drinan helped build human rights institutions through his terms in the U.S. Congress, and later how he helped establish the State Department's Bureau of Human Rights. Finally, he spoke of Father Drinan's role as an educator, author and inspiration, along with his pivotal role in the Vienna Conference, which was one of Father Drinan's key contributions to the field in recent years.

Dean Koh also spoke of how Father Drinan's Revolution was in danger. He talked about how after Sept. 11, 2001, U.S. policies changed and endangered the spirit of openness, cooperation and multilateralism that had characterized

the early modern era. He drew hope however, from the recent ruling in *Hamdan vs. Rumsfeld*, which he believed was the most important case on executive power since the Steel Seizure cases. Dean Koh expressed his concern that the forthcoming Military Commissions Act could be a foil to the position in *Hamdan*, but noted that the Supreme Court will be ruling on the constitutionality of the Military Commissions Act possibly as soon as the next term.

In the end Dean Koh concluded that the future of Father Drinan's Revolution was yet to be determined, and that if Father Drinan had taught us anything, it was that human rights are too important to be left to the government alone. It is up to every person, every day, to make sure human rights are protected for all.

After the keynote address was over Dean Aleinikoff returned to the podium and welcomed Judge Buergethal to the stage. He announced that Judge

Buergethal would be the first holder of the Father Drinan Chair in Human Rights when he comes to the Law Center this spring to teach. Judge Buergethal then lauded Father Drinan as the "one true hero" and inspiration to human rights advocates everywhere.

When the ceremony was concluded the participants walked across the quad to Courtside where an elaborate reception was prepared to celebrate the occasion.



photo by Leslie Kossoff

Yale's Dean Koh spoke of Drinan's revolution in human rights

BLSA hosts reception

by Benjamin Rubinstein, 2L
Law Weekly

Last Tuesday evening the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) hosted a reception for evening students in McDonough 140. Some 25 students gathered at the 8 p.m. event for food, drink and a chance to interact with both evening and day students. The event, which was open to everybody, was organized with those who spend their nights in McDonough in mind. Toya Carmichael, 2E, BLSA's evening vice president, noted that "evening students are so neglected, so BLSA wanted to show them some love."

And love they were shown, in the form of pizza, wings from Hooters, wine, salad, and cupcakes. The event was timed to coincide with the break between evening classes and give students a variety of food on which to munch. Students milled about the room as familiar and unfamiliar faces walked in, taking time to greet each other between bites of food. The more active BLSA members were sure to greet those who walked into the room and looked less familiar with the scene than others, the result being that all guests, whether of evening or day persuasion, were made to feel welcome.

Professor David Simmons, an adjunct at the law center who teaches an evening class on employment discrimination, noted that "it's just harder" for evening students at the Law Center. However, the Professor, who also works at his own law firm on employment law and civil litigation, was quick to point out that the Law Center itself was a very useful resource for the students. As a graduate of the Law Center, where he was in the evening program, as well as an adjunct for some 16 years, he spoke from a position of experience on issues facing evening students.

"Students are older and usually more experienced," noted Simmons, a fact that "makes for exciting classes." Though it can be harder to get faculty at night, the professor pointed out that a lot of students enjoy having adjuncts, because they have practical experience in the field.

Simmons also testified to the power of the Law Center in the legal field, as he noted "I'm a living testament" to the influence of Georgetown. He recalled his second year at the law center, when his job was abolished after Reagan administration cuts. He wrote cold letters to two large local law firms and got phone calls the next day. His two callbacks resulted in two offers, something that he attributes to Georgetown.

Students from both the day and evening programs expressed their satisfaction with the event throughout the night. "I definitely appreciate this," said Khalid Abdul-Khalia, 3E, "as evening students we often feel neglected at the Law Center."

Chris Powell, 2L, noted that such events "help bolster enthusiasm for the legal experience" and recalled, "When I was a 1L, I really enjoyed these."

The social aspect of the events was definitely a plus. Ivelina Benitez, 3E, noted "I get to meet the newer students" and that the events enable her to "build relationships with other students of color." Such networking is particularly hard for the evening students, Benitez explained, because they often spend less time on campus than those in the full-time program. The purpose of meeting new people, however, is not limited to socializing, as students use opportunities like the evening reception to exchange study tips and inside information on professors. "This," pointed out Benitez, "is when we get the nitty-gritty."



photo by Benjamin Rubinstein, 2L

Food and friends were in abundance

ABA talks rights at GULC

by Sarah Hale, 2L
Law Weekly

The American Bar Association Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities presented a panel discussion entitled, "Hot Topics in Civil Rights, Civil Liberties, and Social Justice" on campus last Friday. Panelists included John Payton, former president of the D.C. Bar Association and a partner at Wilmer Hale; Robyn Shapiro, a partner at Gardner Carton and Douglas; Virginia Sloan, president of The Constitution Project and Benjamin Wilson, director at Beveridge & Diamond. After a brief introduction by Bob Stein, the chair of the Section, each panelist presented a short overview of a topic of interest to the Section.

Payton spoke about the current debate on voluntary school integration and particularly about the two cases soon to be heard by the Supreme Court on this topic. Both cases involve plans aimed at racially integrating public schools and creating greater diversity in K through 12 education. Though institutional segregation has long since been declared unconstitutional, school districts, like these two, are still trying to determine what to do about the segregation that naturally results from residential school districting. The specific tool that both school districts are using to better integrate their schools is what Payton referred to as the "tie breaker." Children attending public schools are permitted to choose which school within their district they would like to attend. If their presence in that school would increase diversity their choice will be honored, but if their presence will decrease diversity they will not be allowed to enroll at the school of their choice. The tie breaker system clearly uses race as a determinant in granting students admittance to the school of their choice and as such it will be examined under strict scrutiny by the Supreme Court. One point in favor of the school districts, Payton noted, is the fact that the schools among which the students are choosing are qualitatively equivalent. Students are not being denied a better education because of their race. They are, however, being denied their preferred school because of

their race, and whether that is constitutional is the issue which the Supreme Court will be tackling soon.

Robyn Shapiro spoke on the legal issues presented by the advances in genetic testing and DNA analysis. She spoke about the positive uses to which genetic testing could be used, namely preventing and treating disease, but stressed that there are also less noble uses to which genetic testing can, and is being, put. For instance, will family law courts use genetic analysis to determine which parent will live longer, and then granting custody to that parent? The key issue in genetic testing, Shapiro suggested, is, "Who's going to draw the line?" between good and undesirable uses of testing.

Virginia Sloan spoke next about the civil rights issues surrounding the death penalty in the criminal justice system. She lamented that many of the principles students learn in law school are not followed in practice. Particularly she presented statistics and stories showing that, contrary to Supreme Court rulings and legislation otherwise, race and economic status matter in criminal prosecution. She spoke about the right to counsel that every law student studies and commented that in practice the rule has been applied such that all defendants are provided a lawyer, but not necessarily a competent lawyer. This practice is tolerated by judges who rarely overturn cases on appeal of ineffective assistance of counsel, even when counsel was clearly incompetent.

Benjamin Wilson, the final panelist, spoke about the emerging topic of environmental justice. His discussion, centered on the inadequacies of the response to Hurricane Katrina, was a challenge to the students in the audience. He asked if the response would be different next time, if a Georgetown Law graduate was advising those in charge or was sitting in a position of power, and expressed hope that it would be different.

The panelists all impressed upon the audience the importance of their work, and the interesting nature of the issues that new lawyers will face in the years to come, while encouraging students to stay involved in issues of civil rights and liberties.

Lace up: Faucheux tells students how to run for office

by Jennifer Gaspar, 1L
Law Weekly

One of the main goals of Ron Faucheux's George Washington University class on running for office is, he said, "to try to talk the sane people out of running." Faucheux delivered a condensed version of his course to students at the Law Center on Monday, Oct. 23 at a lecture hosted by the Georgetown Law Democrats.

Faucheux is a veteran political strategist and the former editor of *Campaigns and Elections* magazine. He is currently serving as Chief of Staff to Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA). He graduated from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and received a J.D. from the Louisiana State University Law Center and a Ph.D. from the University of New Orleans.

Faucheux told the group of approximately 30 students that, whether you are running for a small local office or for United States Senate, "Until you do it, you can't understand how difficult it is."

Faucheux discussed the ways that recent developments in campaign finance law and new technology have changed the way campaigns are managed. As technology has progressed, political campaigns have become more and more professional. He said that modern candidates have to rely on full-time experts to handle research, polling,

targeting, and fundraising for their campaigns.

The downside of this development, he said, is that the increasingly complex process is turning off talented potential candidates, which, in turn, has become a serious problem for the country. To emphasize this point, Faucheux cited a survey by the Pew Charitable Trust that said that 80 percent of candidates themselves thought that good people are no longer running for office.

With increased importance of 527s as a result of campaign finance legislation, candidates are also faced with the challenge of watching their campaigns conducted without their participation.

Faucheux said potential candidates should ask themselves several important questions before running for office:

Do you really want the job? Do you have the expertise and training? What do you want to do with the job? Can you take the time to run? What is the right time to run? Can you handle the name-calling and attacks? Can your family handle the name-calling and attacks? Can you raise money? Can you afford to lose? Can you afford to win? Are you prepared for people to egg your house and slash your tires? Do you have a governing philosophy? Do you have an image?

If the answer to any of these questions is "no", "I don't know", or "not now," Faucheux said, you might not be

ready to run for office.

Faucheux related his own experience running for Louisiana State Legislature at 24 years old, immediately after graduating from law school. He says that, although he won, his campaign would have been much easier if he had waited a few years, so as not to have to answer so many questions about his age.

Candidates, Faucheux said, typically decide to run for office in order to satisfy their desire for power, ego, or lifestyle. Power, he said, is the most noble of these three motivations, as long as it is defined as the power to affect change in a positive way. While satisfying ego has probably been the most common reason people run for office, Faucheux noted a new trend of what he terms, "lifestyle candidates," or candidates that run for office only to serve for a few terms and then leave for high-paying lobbying jobs that fulfill their lifestyle ambitions.

Whatever a candidate's motive, he or she must be prepared. Most importantly, according to Faucheux, candidates need to know how to communicate effectively. They have to be able to boil down complex issues into sound bites without losing substance.

Before running for office, potential candidates should make sure to have their resume as well as all personal and financial affairs in order. Faucheux said

that no matter what, candidates should not try to fabricate credentials.

Faucheux advised potential candidates to have a coherent plan and know their district. He said that before he ran for state legislature, he spent several days driving through every street in his precincts to make sure he could answer any questions he was asked.

Most importantly, he said, new candidates should apply grassroots strategies, knocking on doors and responding with personalized letters. He advised potential candidates to take the job seriously, apply a method, and most importantly, "don't let your ego take control."

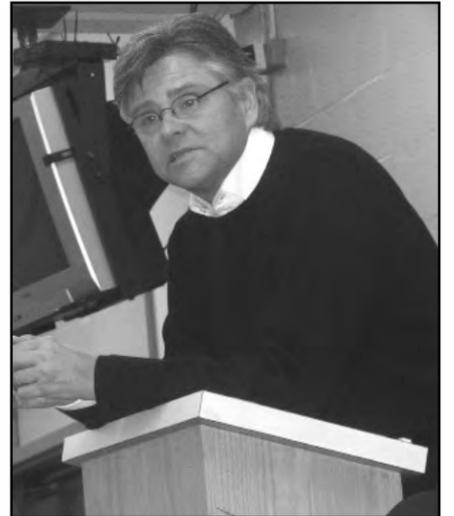


photo by Benjamin Rubinstein, 2L
Faucheux's advice was useful for students thinking about political office

Student-soldiers share their stories at MLS event

by Brianne Kennedy
Law Weekly

On Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 8 p.m. the Georgetown Military Law Society hosted a panel called "Law Students at War", where seven students who are either in or recently left the military shared stories about their experiences.

Before the panelists introduced themselves, Military Law Society Vice President Jim Day, 3L, who is himself a U.S. Naval Academy graduate and who coordinated the panel, spoke about why he felt this was such an important event.

"There weren't really a lot of people coming forward about their experiences," he said. "We thought that Georgetown needed a medium where they could talk about their experiences...openly. What better forum [for that] than this?"

Marine Captain Michael Edwards, 2E, was the first to share his experiences. Now stationed at the Pentagon, he joined the Navy after high school and was later appointed to the Naval Academy. He has been deployed to both the border of North and South Korea and, in 2004, to Haiti. "That was my first real world exercise," he said.

Because they were in Haiti, his was the only battalion from his base (North Carolina's Camp Lejeune) not to be sent to Iraq, something he said he has mixed feelings about.

Some of the experiences he had in Haiti, where he commanded convoys, were being shot at on the first day that he arrived, as well as being tasked with confiscating firearms from people who didn't have permits for them when it turned out that it hadn't even been possible for people

to get firearm permits.

Navy Commander Nadeem Ahmad, LL.M., who is a Judge Advocate General (JAG), then talked about his experience being deployed on the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk aircraft carrier at the start of the Iraq War in 2003. His primary responsibility was to make sure that proper rules of engagement were followed. "For whatever reason, JAGs have been taking a big role" in enforcement of the rules of engagement and educating other members of the military about them, he said.

One of his most interesting experiences as a JAG aboard the Kitty Hawk was unfortunately tied to the death of a pilot who was shot down. Because the death was the result of friendly, U.S. Army fire, he was tasked with protecting the interests of the Navy in the investigation of the pilot's death.

Marine Captain Chris Dalton, 1L, spoke next. He served in the Iraq War as a helicopter pilot, transporting supplies to the front of the convoy heading for Baghdad at the start of the war. "Our job was to fly around the clock pushing food, water, fuel and ammo" up to the soldiers at the front, he said.

Dalton also happens to be the son of former Secretary of the Navy John Dalton, who, along with his wife, attended the panel as a member of the audience, which was a pleasant surprise to the event's organizers and the panelists, several of whom had been in the Navy during his tenure.

"You're never comfortable...until you're out of there," Dalton said about his time in the Middle East. He spoke a lot about the fear that comes with being in a war, and how it was-

n't talked about much, which "makes war kind of a lonely experience."

One of the most powerful moments of the evening came when Dalton talked about the casualties of war. Of war he said, "Sometimes it has to happen, but if it doesn't have to, it sure as hell shouldn't."

Marine Colonel Kevin Michael Scott, 1E, is just months away from retiring after 26 years as a Marine. He has had many different experiences and jobs, including as a pilot, a parachutist, an instructor, and most recently as a Readiness Director in the Inspector General's office, where he works to make sure that the Marines serving in Afghanistan and Iraq receive all of the equipment that they need to do their jobs.

"You're not going to do just one thing," he said about joining the military. He also mentioned how different the experience of being a lawyer in the military is than it is in the civilian world. "You're probably going to be arguing before a judge within a week [after your first day]," he said.

Army Captain Jim Morin, 2E, spoke next. He is a West Point graduate and spent four months in the Middle East in 2004. He is currently a Company Command Leader in the unit of the Army assigned to protect the president and to work at Arlington National Cemetery.

Morin's experience in the Middle East involved a lot of communication with local villagers who he worked with to gain intelligence about the location of the Taliban and their network. "I drank a lot of tea," he said, at one time comparing himself to "an ambassador with a big gun."

The next panelist to speak was retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Mike Stollenwerk, 2E, also a West

Point graduate, and who retired last year after over 20 years in the Army. His experience was different because, in his words, he "basically had a Cold War career", which made it so that he was never involved in actual combat.

Although it is now as a civilian, Stollenwerk currently works as an analyst who runs statistical models for the military related to their current operations throughout the world, particularly in Iraq. He joked about the important role that PowerPoint seems to play in the military's strategy these days. "Whatever you do here, forget it," he said. "You should really learn PowerPoint."

The last panelist to share his experiences was retired Marine Sergeant Colin Keefe, 1L, who served as a heavy machine gunner during the invasion of Iraq and who was decorated for his actions there. He didn't shy away from talking about some of the worst things about his time there or about some of the flaws there may have been in the American military's plan.

"Basically there were always people shooting at you from all directions," he said. "A lot of the problems in Iraq today stem from...the invasion."

"More troops would help," he added.

After each of the panelists spoke, the audience of about 35 people asked them questions that prompted very interesting discussions and comments about everything from media coverage of the war to the impact that serving in the military and in war has had on the panelists' experiences as law students.

La Alianza hosts lively panel on Mexico's elections

by Margaret Rubin, 1E
Guest Writer

As America heads into its own elections in less than a month, La Alianza sponsored a timely discussion last Wednesday where speakers discussed the superiority of Mexico's election system to that of the United States, the outcome of the election and the controversy over the results. One issue that all three speakers seemed to agree on is that there has been a major role reversal between the America and Mexico concerning who has the fairer and more efficient election system.

The panel was constituted of 3 interesting voices. Dr. Robert Pastor is the Vice President of International Affairs and a Professor of International Relations at American University, as well as the Executive Director of the Commission on Federal Election Reform, co-chaired by Jimmy Carter and James A. Baker, III. Todd Eisenstadt teaches political science at American University's School of Public Affairs and has observed nearly a dozen national and sub-national elections in Mexico. He spent several weeks as consultant to advise the US Embassy in Mexico City on legal and political conditions surrounding Mexico's 2006 presidential election and the author of *Courting Democracy in Mexico*. Roy Schotland is a professor at the Law Center and has written on campaign finance reform, securities markets and administrative law and specializes in election law.

Mexico's past is no doubt tainted with major election fraud, as Dr. Pastor described his experience observing the elections in 1986 in Chihuahua, Mexico, but now Mexico "has the third best election system in North America."

When Dr. Pastor voiced his concerns on fraud in 1986 to Mexico's soon-to-be-president, Carlos Salinas, Mr. Salinas told him he simply did not understand the reality of the system in Mexico. As Dr. Pastor sees it, in only a few years Mexico's fraudulent system has become valid while the United States's system has been overcome by complacency. According to

Professor Eisenstadt, Andrés Manuel López Obrador (known as Amlo), who lost the 2006 election to Felipe Calderon, took advantage of Mexico's history of election fraud as a way to undermine the new, working system when he contested the results of the 2006 election. Because of Mexico's history of fraud, Obrador was able to take advantage of people's distrust of the political system when the election system had actually worked quite well. Dr. Pastor made the comparison that in the United States in the 2000 Presidential election, Al Gore accepted the results of a faulty election system.

Professor Eisenstadt discussed some of the validity in Obrador's complaints and request to annul the 2006 election. The electoral court (TRIFE) in Mexico has the ability to annul an election based on "generic" reasons that show a general pattern of fraud in the election. In 2000, TRIFE made a landmark decision to nullify an election in Tabasco state for "abstract" reasons rather than a single event. The tribunal found the incumbent governor "had rigged the process in favor of his protégé by limiting rival candidates' media coverage, intercepting their mailed campaign literature, and bribing and coercing voters." Obrador made similar claims after this year's election, claiming that incumbent president Vicente Fox had participated excessively in electoral affairs. Professor Eisenstadt asked where one draws the line between an incumbent rigging an election and simply performing his duties of office. The "generic annulment" also leaves a great deal of discretion to the magistrates on the tribunal, as opposed to the more concrete reasons to annul an election such as polls opening late or closing early.

Professor Eisenstadt also discussed campaign financing in Mexico, noting that party finance during the election cycle is very well regulated but that before parties pick their candidates financing is not regulated at all. Lastly, Professor Eisenstadt pointed out that FEPADE, the agency of the Attorney General's office that is tasked with prosecuting the criminal side of election fraud, has "yielded

nothing" even though the tribunal has found violations showing money laundering up to \$45 million and \$60 million in past scandals like "Pemexgate" and "Amigos de Fox." Professor Eisenstadt noted that while these are valid claims, they identify areas for improvement and not reasons to question the legitimacy of the election.

There was some disagreement between the presenters over whether a full recount should have been done. Professor Eisenstadt felt that a total vote recount would have been a "falling back to the age of cutting political deals" when the losing side was given certain appointments or "crumbs from the table of power." Professor Schotland agreed that a full recount would have been a bad idea.

Dr. Pastor disagreed, explaining that a full recount would have confirmed the process by a "nonpartisan, fully autonomous national election commission- the IFE. Predicting that the outcome would have been the same, Dr. Pastor believed the recount would have given credibility to the system. As it was, the election of Calderon came down to 0.58%, or about 244,000 votes out of 41 million. Also, Dr. Pastor said that by doing a recount Calderon would have brought a polarized population together by validating the system to Obrador's supporters, who are mainly from the south and feel marginalized. Instead, TRIFE did a partial recount of

10% of the vote and certified Calderon as the winner.

Dr. Pastor also discussed seven reasons why Mexico has surpassed the United States in electoral administration. Mexico has the nonpartisan IFE (Federal Election Institute), which is "well respected and tracked problems and responded instantly" on election day. The IFE "treats election administration as a civic obligation like jury duty," training 7.2 million citizens as election observers, choosing the 913,000 best to conduct the elections at polling stations, as opposed to the septuagenarians running the polls in the US, where the average age of poll workers is 72. Dr. Pastor watched these volunteers count votes in Maryland and says they did not have the endurance and training for the work. Mexico also has a national registration system with state-of-the-art, biometric ID cards, preventing citizens from voting more than once and registering 95% of citizens. In the US, he pointed out, voter registration lists are "organized poorly by counties or states with different ID requirements."

The speakers made it clear that the US could learn a lot from Mexico in upgrading its own election system and that while Obrador may have been unhappy with the results and there is room for improvement, Mexico has successfully revamped a once defective election system.



photo courtesy of The Economist

Panelists said that the election that led to Calderon (above)'s Presidency was in many ways more sound than recent American elections

It takes a lot more than shoes to climb Capitol Hill

by Tiphonie Miller, 2L
Law Weekly

Last Tuesday, a group of students, mostly first-years, packed into Hotung 1000 to listen to a panel convened by the Office of Public Interest and Community Service (OPICS) as part of its Pizza and the Public Interest series as they discussed what it takes to begin "Climbing Capitol Hill." As moderator Mern Moran of OPICS explained, working on the Hill can be some of the "most exciting work you can do as a law student, and as a lawyer."

The first panelist, Professor Chai Feldblum, director of the Federal Legislation Clinic, who first coined the term "legislative lawyer," emphasized the location of the Law Center, as D.C. is the perfect place to see if policy work is the right fit for a legal career. Given the importance of words and meanings in determining the out-

comes of legislation, having a J.D. is viewed on the Hill as having an extra credential. Professor Feldblum became a legislative lawyer because she loved politics, but also because she loved law, and told the audience that her clinic aims to help students meld the two.

The next speaker, James Assey, the Democratic Communications Counsel for the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, and adjunct professor at the Law Center, stressed the importance of legwork in finding a place on the Hill. Students were told not to take no for an answer, to find an issue or office that interested them, and get to know the people who used to have that job, or who are currently pressing that particular issue.

The third speaker, Jill Long, a graduate of the Law Center and currently Executive Vice President of McBee Strategic, a consulting and lob-

bying firm, found herself working at a law firm right out of law school, but far more interested in the legislative issues she was addressing in her firm's labor and employment law practice. Long underlined the importance of chemistry and networking; she received her first position on the Hill, as an aide to Senator Mikulski (D-MD), when she bumped into a friend of a friend at a Chinese restaurant.

The fourth speaker, Kenneth Thomas, Legislative Attorney for the Congressional Research Service, which provides nonpartisan research and analysis on various issues to members of Congress, described how his role allows him to be a part of legislation, without actually being beholden to politics. The forty attorneys at CRS must cover every possible legal issue about which Congress could ever concern itself. Thomas reminded the audience that there are plenty of internships available in D.C.,

especially during the school year, both on the Hill, and at nonpartisan research institutions such as CRS.

The fifth and final speaker, Genevieve Grabman, Government Relations Senior Associate at the Global Health Council, talked about her twisting path to legislative lawyering. Grabman encouraged all of the audience to pick up consulting jobs whenever they could, as she did, to start lowering their debt. Although her work as an advocate did not require a law degree, the credential made her stand out; as an attorney, she knew how to draft legislation, and took a role in the drafting of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Act. After the panelists had spoken, they took questions from the audience, which ranged from what first years should do with their summers to how current scandals on the Hill might affect the prospects of those students searching for internships.

Hafeez Hoya Report - Intramural Soccer

Zeeshan Hafeez, 2L
Law Weekly

This week the Hafeez Hoya Report will offer a personal look on the exciting world of Georgetown Law Sports, focusing exclusively on two sports that are highly exciting, but sometimes fall under the radar: intramural indoor soccer and Fantasy Football.

For over five weeks, both men and women have participated in the grueling sport that is intramural indoor soccer. Many people have played the sport that is known internationally as football, but the few who have stepped on to the court (not field) to play indoor football know that it is a constant marathon. Players essentially run wind sprints throughout the games chasing after a ball, kicking it off the walls and attempting to punch it into a tiny net.

You can only imagine what kind of athlete it takes to play such a sport, and the few that survive to make into the final rounds can only be described as ultimate warriors in the utmost pristine physical fitness. It should come as no surprise that this writer, after finally being able to join the team in the semi-finals (having missed the entire month of Ramadan), collapsed in the first half as our team went down 3-0.

Gasping for breath, grossly out of shape, this writer witnessed what can only be described as a miracle, as members of Ryan's Team came back from the large deficit, scoring 5 unanswered goals. Mayer Grashin, 1L, had said before the game that he would "win one for the Gipper", but it was simply unbelievable to see in action. Also shocking was the news the team next learned. After winning the Semi-Final game, Ryan's Team would get only a 15-minute rest before the Championship.

Emblazoned with the resiliency of law students and armed with Nutra-Grain Bars and Power-Aid over the break, Ryan's Team went on to play in the Championship game. In the first half, this writer made a miracle return to the court to score the first goal for the team. Perhaps, inspired by said goal, which could only be described as lucky at best, Ryan's Team went on to beat Man U Suck 6-4 in the Championship game.

The chief strategist of the team and the winner of the league's Golden Boot Award, Jonathan Miles, 2L, best described what had just happened that evening, "By playing two games back to back and winning both, we have advanced once again the acknowledged boundaries of what the human spirit can accomplish." This amazing feat was accomplished thanks to Miles and the team's captain, Ryan Chieffo, 2L, who was clearly the MVP of the League for his leadership. The man who was the MVP of the championship game for his perseverance against the adversity is Arash Jahanian, 2L. Jahanian played 80 minutes of soccer without a single minute on the bench and, more importantly, never stopped hustling.

The Georgetown Law League has reached the midway point of its second season as part of Yahoo! Sports Fantasy Football. This year the league expanded from 10 to 18 teams managed by some of the most brilliant minds of Georgetown Law.

Midway through the season, the interesting stories are always the trades. Lewis Smith, 2L, manager of Lew's Lineup, just accepted a trade from Mohammed Gangat, 1L, manager of the Producers that will bring Ben Roethlisberger and Nate Washington for

Reggie Wayne. Surprisingly, Gangat, the lone 1L, has found the time to be the most active trader in the league (this being his third), and also talks the most smack on the boards (mostly incorrect predictions and mistaken statements).

Many of this year's fantasy superstars have been players that many people overlooked in the first few rounds of the draft. Donovan McNabb and Michael Vick have both proved Rush Limbaugh really is a moron with their stellar performances this year. Undrafted fantasy player's like Rex Grossman, Marques Colston, and Maurice Jones-Drew have been huge pickups for their respective teams. This proves that there are always surprises and playing the waiver wire can be to your great advantage.

Meanwhile, some veterans of the Georgetown Law League have not been able to adjust to the new and larger league. Jinwoo Park, 2L, manager of the GGGGGMen, Zach Myers, 2L, of the Bukakke Ninjas, and Sachin Gupta, 2L, of the Canucks, have all faced difficulty in establishing themselves as contenders in the league this year, with only Myers currently in contention. Daren Garshelis, 2L, of Chile Libre, Chris Tatarowich, 2L, of the Donkey Punchers, and Mark Magazu, 2L, of Boom are all new and all in the playoff race. As the season steps closer to the finish, it's still anyone's game.

Jeremy Nufer's, 2L, team is undefeated and looks unbeatable as of the end of week 7. We'll see whether he's right as the season progresses as to whether or not anyone will be able to do something about the Clan.

This week's GU Sporting Events

Women's Volleyball

v. Notre Dame
Friday, 8 p.m.
@ McDonough Arena

v. DePaul
Sunday, 2 p.m.
@ McDonough Arena

Football

v. Marist
Saturday, 1 p.m.
@ Washington, D.C.

Women's Crew

GW scrimmage
Saturday, All Day
@ Washington, D.C.

Georgetown Law Sports

Georgetown Law Softball DC Fall Softball Tournament

Sunday, November 5th, All Day
@ West Potomac Park
For more information, contact:
jel39@law.georgetown.edu

Women's Basketball Club All-Star Break Night Tournament & Shooting Contests

Sunday, November 5th, 4:45 p.m.
@ Sport and Fitness Center
visit: getinthegamehoops.com
for more details

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AL9426

GULC rugby team kills Widener in first game

Ryan McMillan
Guest Writer

"Crouch, touch, engage," cried the referee as the Georgetown Law Rugby Club responded to the challenge posed by a more experienced Widener Law squad with 7 tries and a solid 41 - 0 victory in their inaugural game.

Friday night's heavy rain did not deter 35 boisterous fans from attending the contest on a cold and blustery afternoon at Gravelly Point Park. The crowd not only broke the all-time attendance record for the Hoyas, but also was exactly 2 more fans than attended the last Georgetown University Football home game according to University records.

Playing an untraditional game of three 20 minute periods, the Hoyas nonetheless worked well together and thoroughly dominated both the time of possession and the flow of the game. Despite their relative inexperience, the team demonstrated the savvy commonly associated with a more veteran team as they made good use of the complete width of the pitch and left the Widener boys looking for the oxygen tent by the first intermission.

On leave from the San Diego Padres, winger Mike Piazza, 2L, scored early and scored often striking first for the Hoyas with a try at the nine minute mark. Inside center Karl Blanke, 3L, followed with a try of his own three minutes later. The successful conversion by fly half and backs' captain Justin Landreth made it 12 - 0 at the end of the first period.

Widener responded to an unusual switch in referees at the start of the second period by attempting to substitute a large chocolate Labrador for one of their players. Unfortunately for Widener, the handsome hound proved more interested in sniffing the groins of several players than advancing the ball down the pitch. The substitution was also ultimately ruled illegal by referee Andy Bloom due to a lack of proper attire.

Piazza scored again halfway through the second period following a poor kick by Widener's fly half. Full back Jared Kirkwood, 1L, bowled through the defense to record the fourth try for the Hoyas in the 37th minute and finished his own conversion to make the score 24 - 0.

Widener's greatest threat came in the waning moments of the second period following a blocked kick

by their scrum half. Fortunately, a clutch tackle by the Hoya backs prevented the try and preserved the shut out as time expired.

Georgetown capitalized on a long sprint by Landreth two minutes into the third period and added to their lead with a try by outside center Erik Kenerson, 3L, in the 42nd minute. Piazza, who had no trouble finding the try zone all afternoon, completed the hat trick with his third try in the 53rd minute and went on to add a fourth for good measure with a long run from midfield in the 58th minute to complete the shutout.

Those attending the match in anticipation of enjoying a high level of physicality were not disappointed. A true meeting of the minds caused a nasty gash to open on the head of Aaron Novod, 3L, early in the first period, which prevented him from returning to action on the pitch. The Hoyas also proved to be true gentlemen by treating a similar injury to Widener's lock during the second intermission and allowed Widener to avoid playing with a man down for the rest of the match.

Fisticuffs also threatened to break out on several occasions as Widener's players became increasingly frustrated with their shoddy performance. Fortunately for both sides cooler heads prevailed and the contest was not marred by any extracurricular violence.

Despite winds that at times gusted to more than 35 miles per hour, the Hoyas' superior kicking game marshaled by Landreth put four points on the board. More importantly it also allowed the lads to enjoy superior field position throughout the game.

Forwards' captain Philippe Danielides, 1E, was particularly pleased at the way everyone came together in the scrum pack. Scrum half Javad Namazie, 3L, and tight head prop Ludolf Van Klencke, who effectively controlled the scrums and lineouts, were also key to young squad's outstanding performance.

With the holidays and exams just around the corner, the Hoya ruggers will take the rest of the year off ensuring that they remain undefeated in 2006. However, fans can look forward to several more good matches in the Spring including a highly anticipated contest against the Georgetown University Rugby Football Club for campus bragging rights.



Photo by Ryan McMillan
The Georgetown Law rugby club defeated Widener 41-0 on Saturday

Harsha Rao is better than you

On Good and Evil

Harsha Rao, 3L
Law Weekly

In *The Surreal Life* season 5, the B-List celebrity housemates were introduced to Janice Dickinson and Jose Canseco as the standard Reality TV "bad guys," ostensibly following in the traditions of Vanilla Ice and Mini-Me from *Austin Powers*. But by the end of the show, Janice was revealed to be depressed and lonely, and Canseco was revealed to be normal and actually kind of lame. The real enemy was none other than Omarosa, one of the many failed contestants from *The Apprentice*, who claimed to be mean because her "fans" loved it. She also professed to be writing a PhD thesis on reality television. Sadly, I didn't make that last one up. But the key life lesson the housemates and the 48 TV viewers learned was that the bad guy isn't always who the media makes him or her out to be. A wonderful example of media made heroes and zeroes comes in the sports media, as it loves to paint athletes with broad strokes into easy categories like "good" (Steve Nash), "bad" (Kobe Bryant), and "possibly the Devil" (Terrell Owens). Generally these portrayals are accurate, but the sports media is about sales, and nothing generates sales more than controversy or acclaim. The problem is, most of the "good" guys are also jackasses, and most of the "bad" guys also do good things.

Case in point is Stephon "Starbury" Marbury, who's been reviled pretty much wherever he's gone. And you know what? He deserves it. From the beginning, Marbury abused the system. He played a year at Georgia Tech before immediately declaring for the NBA Draft. During that year, he admitted that he rarely went to class, didn't know the proper name of the school, and "played" Georgia Tech and its coach for suckers. Really, a wonderful way to start out in the NBA. Then, unlike most star players, Marbury's presence has actually made all four of his teams significantly worse. He's been outed as a self-centered jerk who would much rather blame his teammates than himself in a heartbeat. On the Timberwolves, Marbury demanded a trade because he hated being in Kevin Garnett's shadow. While on the Nets, Marbury wrote on his shoes that he was "all alone" on the court. With the Suns, he was arrested for an extreme DUI and served 10 days in jail. And on the Knicks, Marbury has feuded with coaches and watched the team become steadily worse. So Marbury has earned his rep as a jack-ass, but the flip side of that is how few media outlets reported on his new Starbury sporting goods line.

The Starbury sneaker and clothing line was created through a partnership between Marbury and Steve & Barry University Sportswear, a discount retailer. The main purpose was to provide cheap, quality sports goods that were endorsed by an actual athlete. Headlining the apparel is "The Starbury One" basketball shoe, claiming to use the same material as an expensive Nike shoe, but retailing for

only \$14.98. As Marbury put it, growing up dirt poor in the Coney Island projects, he could never afford the latest shoes. But with the Starbury, most any kid can afford to wear hot shoes. Cheap shoes aren't new as other athletes have put out inexpensive ones, most notably Hakeem Olajuwon and Shaquille O'Neal. But unlike his predecessors, Marbury's taking his venture a step further by vowing to wear the Starbury sneakers for every game of the 2007-08 NBA season. In today's bling-bling NBA, Marbury's going in the opposite direction and endorsing something that poor kids can actually own. Marbury's been arrogant and a team cancer for most of his career, hallmarks of "bad" players, but he's also chosen to forego millions in shoe endorsements to put out something



Photo courtesy of St. Petersburg Times
The \$14.98 Starburys sold out within three days

that won't break the bank.

Before the diva act, Marbury was just another impoverished kid growing up in the Coney Island projects. He was the sixth of seven kids raised by a mother on public assistance. On the playground courts, however, Marbury was unbelievable, outplaying kids years older than him. Yet despite his skill, he was ripped for not wearing the hottest new shoes. But what else could he do? He couldn't afford the elite \$100-200 Jordans because, in his words, "that's grocery money." So when his shoe contract with And1 expired, Marbury himself went to Steve and Barry's and proposed the idea of a cheap shoe and clothing line (the shoes are the most expensive items). Unlike other shoe deals, Marbury receives no money up front, but merely takes a percentage of each sale. Michael Jordan had no qualms selling his \$100-plus sneakers to kids who couldn't afford them, but was celebrated as a sports hero. Marbury, who idolized Jordan, took the other route and actually attempted to help his community. But has there been any coverage of this? No, at least not in any of the major sports publications. After surveying eight top sports magazines and newspapers, I found only two small mentions of the Starbury line, both by lesser-known writers.

There are enough "bad guys" in sports. It's refreshing to hear when an athlete who's normally reviled takes a stand and does something admirable. I've never been a fan of Stephon Marbury, but I am now.

Neumeyer's direct

by Christopher Neumeyer, 3L
Law Weekly



photo courtesy of GULC Facebook
Anthony Ritz, 3L

Anthony Ritz, 3L

Why did you come to Georgetown? I didn't get into Harvard.

Should the bar exam be harder so as to reduce the number of lawyers in America? Sure, why not. It's probably a better idea than shooting them.

Would you rather be a flightless bird or a non-venomous snake? Penguins are kind of cute... I guess I would go with "flightless bird."

Would you rather "make lemonade out of lemons" or "turn that frown upside down"? I've tried standing on my head when I'm sad and it just makes me dizzy, so I'll go with the lemonade.

Mac-and-Cheese or Top Ramen? Top Ramen. It's easier to make, and it meets my daily requirements of MSG much more readily.

Would you rather be a Public Defender or a State's Attorney? State's Attorney. I would rather prosecute guilty people than defend them.

Why aren't mustaches called "mouth-brows"? Why isn't "goose" pluralized as "gooses"?

How did a fool and his money ever get together in the first place? Dumb luck.

Should Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld be fired? I think that his boss should be fired and Rumsfeld should go with him.

Would you rather argue in court with your pants on fire or your nose growing? I'd rather argue in court with my pants on fire. It's good to have that sense of urgency.

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard? I hate to break it to you, but Tarzan is fictional.

Would you rather be singing in the rain or whistling while you work? Singing in the rain sounds like much more fun. It doesn't involve work and I don't mind being wet... but I can't really sing... I can't whistle either, though.

When is it appropriate to take your shoes off in lecture? When you need to count to twenty.

What is a book or author you recommend? *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, by Judi Barrett. Uh, this will make me seem really intellectual!

Lauren Dunning, 1L

Why did you come to Georgetown? I came here to do the JD/MPH program with Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and to study with Professor Gostin.

Should the bar exam be harder so as to reduce the number of lawyers in America? No, I am from California, and it is hard enough already there!

Would you rather be a flightless bird or a non-venomous snake? Non-venomous snake; too many flightless birds have gone extinct.

Would you rather "make lemonade out of lemons" or "turn that frown upside down"? Lemonade out of lemons, because you can't make a mixed drink out of a smile.

Mac-and-Cheese or Top Ramen? Neither, both come out of packages and are mostly made from high fructose corn syrup and salt.

Would you rather be a Public Defender or a State's Attorney? Public Defender. Professor Donohoe used to do criminal defense work and she tells some pretty entertaining stories about it

Why aren't mustaches called "mouth-brows"? Because that would beg other questions like why a head of hair is not called forehead-brow, among others.

How did a fool and his money ever get together in the first place? Sometimes a fool has a father named George H.W. Bush.

Should Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld be fired? Yes, we are in an unjust war.

Would you rather argue in court with your pants on fire or your nose growing? Nose growing; it's less debilitating in the long run.

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard? The barber on the set shaves it for him each morning.

Would you rather be singing in the rain or whistling while you work? Whistling while I work. I really hate rain, I am from California and I might as well make the best of all the work I am doing this year.

When is it appropriate to take your shoes off in lecture? Everyday, I hope, since I do.

What is a book or author you recommend? Michael Pollan, who wrote *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. Think about where you think your food comes from and then read this book.



photo courtesy of GULC Facebook
Lauren Dunning, 1L

November movie preview

by Tiphonie Miller, 2L
Law Weekly

December is a month away, but the holiday movies and Oscar-bait are already pouring into theaters this month. Thankfully for everyone, November boasts plenty of hopefully sharp satire and irreverent comedies to help anyone out of a saccharine-overdose. But don't forget the new penguin movie; Robin Williams may be more of a hack these days, but he certainly makes for an adorable penguin, and adorable penguins beat skuzzy rats any day. And probably will at the box office, too.

Nov. 3

Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan

Kazakh television personality Borat (played with glee by Sacha Baron Cohen) has been dispatched by his country's Ministry of Information to prepare a documentary about the United States. Borat has clearly learned plenty about American culture: now, he even has a myspace page. Comic-con audiences loved the movie, and hype has followed it pretty much everywhere, especially on the internet. Given the relative disappointing performance of the last net-phenom *Snakes on a Plane*, fingers should be crossed that Borat's *Cultural Learnings* make big laughs in the "U. S. and A."

Flushed Away

A high society rat (voiced by Hugh Jackman) is, well, flushed away from his penthouse apartment to the sodden sewers of London in the first CGI film from Aardman Animations, the studio responsible for previous stop-motion films, including the Wallace & Grommit series. Three directors might spell trouble for a live action film, but reports are that even with the use of CGI, the film looks like standard Aardman fare. Whether that means that this CGI film won't be as unoriginal or tepid as the numerous other CGI films flooding, drowning, saturating the cineplex remains to be seen.

Also out: *Volter*, *The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause*

Nov. 10

Stranger than Fiction

Personally, I love Emma Thompson, and believe she can do no wrong. Personally, I feel almost the opposite way about Will Ferrell. But the two of them together, in the capable hands of Marc Foster (*Monster's Ball*, *Finding Neverland*), practically bates my breath in anticipation. IRS auditor Harold Crick (Ferrell) suddenly finds every aspect of his life narrated by a voice in his head. The voice belongs to a famous author (Thompson) who has decided to get over her writer's block by setting in place a series of events (unfortunate, I'm sure) that will ultimately result in the death of her book's character, Harold Crick. I suppose you could get blacker than that, but this comedy looks to be pretty dark anyway.

A Good Year

So, after an ungraceful public downfall following the commercial flop of *Cinderella Man*, Russell Crowe has finally gotten back on the acting horse. Here, he plays an Englishman who has inherited a Provencal vineyard from his deceased mentor. As he settles onto the property, the mentor's long-lost daughter shows up, and immediately becomes his love interest. I really can't get any meaner than those who have called it *Under the Tuscan Sun* with a spritz of testosterone, can I?

Also out: *Fur: An Imaginary Portrait of Diane Arbus*, *The Return*, *Harsh Times*, *Fuck*

Nov. 17

Happy Feet

Hugh Jackman, Robin Williams, Elijah Wood, Nicole Kidman and Brittany Murphy as adorable penguins. And they sing. And tap-dance. Of course it would not have been made absent the insane success of last year's *March of the Penguins*, or even *Madagascar*, but that doesn't lessen the cuteness factor. The plot registers high on the cute scale as well: in a society where penguins find their soul mates through song, how can a penguin who can't sing (voiced by Wood), but can dance, find his true love? Or, the more important question, if cute penguins who find love through tap-dancing don't make you say "aww," are you really human?

Casino Royale

Pierce Bronson out, Daniel Craig in. A blond Bond? Say it isn't so! Or so was the reaction of many die-hards to the announcement of Craig (*Layer Cake*, *Munich*) as the franchise's new leader. Armed with smoldering physicality, Craig offers something new to the stale series, and a return to the early days of Bond, just after earning his license to kill, might breathe new life, and a few surprises, into the established character.

Also out: *Fast Food Nation*, *Tenacious D in "The Pick of Destiny"*, *The Aura*, *Come Early Morning*, *Candy*

Nov. 22

For Your Consideration

Fortunately for us, director Christopher Guest was kidding around when he said in 2005 that he was done with the mockumentary genre. Guest's usual cast returns, along with Ricky Gervais, in a film skewering the kinds of promotions and advertising that go into the awards season. Ostensibly, a documentary film crew captures the excitement as three actors learn that their performances in the "film," *Home for Purim*, a drama set in the mid-1940s American South, are gaining awards buzz.

Also out: *Deck the Halls*, *Bobby*, *Déjà vu*, *Let's Go to Prison*, *The History Boys*, *Unconscious*

Hair and Halloween

by Devin Cain, 1L
Law Weekly

Let's start with a fact: Halloween costumes are great! Making a good costume is one of the few childish delights to which an "adult" can commit an enormous amount of effort and feel fairly distinguished in so doing. A good Halloween costume says, "I am skilled at this living thing and my values are correctly weighted." So, how did everyone do this year? Here is a snapshot of costumes I saw Saturday night.

Borat (at least twice over)

A simple idea, easily executed, the Borat impersonator is to be judged almost solely on his dedication to the character. A consistently funny Borat will demand high-fives throughout the evening; a quiet Borat is a sad spectacle, like a spoiled spaghetti squash with a tie and a moustache.

Transformer

This required a huge amount of work and cardboard. It is to be commended for that reason. The lad wearing it was, however, unable to access his mouth for drinking purposes when he sat down. Costumes, in general, should not ride up on the wearer. However, this Transformer did have the following conversation, which sounds suspiciously like solicitation, with a girl: "I have to go to the bathroom; can you take my costume off." It is awkward to try this when wearing a less cumbersome costume, so do not attempt it.

Peter Crouch

In order to pull this off, you must be at least 6'5", and you probably do not want weigh much more than 180 pounds. If you qualify, and you and your friends know who Peter Crouch is, this can be a very funny image. (Please note that it is a bit blustery out these days, and a soccer uniform is not conducive to long walks late at night.)

Bachelorette

This is a bad idea for a costume, although the girl who wore it did manage some quality time with the transformer. This seems like a fair match in the scheme of things.

Flava Flav

The concept is perfect, but like Borat, this costume requires a lot of post-wardrobe effort. The guy I saw wearing a Flava Flav costume did not once yell "Flava Flav!" or "Boooooooyyyy!" - inexcusable.

Hillary Clinton (?) / Barbara Bush (?)

The unfashionable politico is the opposite of the slutty name-your-noun that was conclusively shot down by Mean Girls, the obvious last word on these matters. Although certainly a funny visual, it may not be the most attuned to attracting positive conversation. It also loses a few points in D.C., where political costumes are a bit too simple.

Preschool Art Project

I didn't so much see this costume as wear it. It is a fairly lame idea, but also acceptable if you find yourself with little time, some crayons, Spongebob macaroni and superglue. It makes for a nice interactive costume, especially if you happen to know actual preschool students. I have never met anyone under the age of eleven.

Fidel Castro (Female)

A dainty Fidel is a fabulous addition to every party, though somewhat at the expense of the girl actually wearing the costume - who I feel in this case found the beard to be a bit of a burden as the night went on. Still, this gets a glowing endorsement.

French Maid (Male)

This could be have been pretty amusing, but turned out to be a cautionary tale. Two things to avoid if you're interested in being a French maid, boys: too much drink and too much back hair. That said, a man in drag can always muster up some lively situations. I'm sure Emily Post would agree that, in addition to Halloween, this idea also works at dinner parties and garden weddings.

Man Sodomizing a Ninja Turtle

Sure, this was hysterical, but I can't condone such loose morals. Tsk! Tsk!

The Inside of a Car

This sounds pretty great, but, sadly, I didn't get a chance to see it. I recommend it nevertheless.

Chinese Opera Singer

Any costume predicated mainly on excessive amounts of meticulous face paint is a sure winner. Other good choices in this vain (though not seen last night): geisha, David Bowie, a facelift.

Mullet Man

This is a lame costume unless you actually grow a mullet yourself. Wigs are wonderful in many social situations, but for this costume are a bit too easy. Also, if you're going to put in the time to grow a mullet, you might want to consider a moustache as well. A real moustache is a nice addition to most costumes.

Lastly, although I saw nary a one, I would like to offer a general endorsement at this point on behalf of dressing up as fruit. Fruit is a very funny costume because it comes in many shapes and colors. Also, fruit is edible. It is amusing to see someone disguised as something you are accustomed to eating. (A bratwurst is also a good choice.) However, you should not try to dress up as a fruit basket, as this will only lead to confusion and, by extension, sadness.

Well, there you have it: costumes! Now it's your turn.

GGSS students prepare to go *Into the Woods*

by Sarah Hale, 2L
Law Weekly

This week Georgetown's Gilbert and Sullivan Society will present their rendition of Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. With this production GG&SS, a staple on campus since the 1970's, will once again bring theatrical entertainment to our doorstep. *Into the Woods* rounds up everyone's favorite fairy tale characters, adds the Baker and his wife, and melds the entire group into one quite hilarious tale. Act I finds the characters, as usual, searching for "happily ever after", but *Into the Woods* continues where fairy tales stop - Act II explores what happens after "happily ever after." Ever wonder what happens after Cinderella gets her prince, or after Rapunzel escapes her detention in the tower? Act II serves as the sequel to these and other fairy tales. This time, though, the sequel is better than the original.

year students, embarking on law school theater for the first time this fall. On the presence of these 1Ls, GG&SS president Sean Byrne, 3L, commented, "I'm particularly excited at how many in the cast are 1Ls. I hope their friends come out to support them." Two such first year students are Zack Spencer, 1L, and Jim Burke, 1L, the two indispensable fairy tale princes. The two display confidence and talent on stage that suggest they will be regulars in GG&SS shows to come.

This week's shows will be the end product of much intensive work for GG&SS members. This sort of dedication and hard work is admirable in its own right, but even more so, when paired with the task of being a busy law student. Nick Freilich, 3L, pointed out that as a third year student he was better able to arrange his schedule to accommodate GG&SS responsibilities. First year students, though, do not have this option. With set schedules and all of the pressures that normally attend the first year of law school, the 1Ls' willingness to devote such time and effort to an extracurricular activity may be, at first, puzzling. The answer to this puzzle came quickly from Freilich, a GG&SS veteran - "It's a welcome release at the end of the day." He commented that despite the hard work and time commitment GG&SS has been vital to his law school experience.



photo by Sarah Hale, 2L
GG&SS cast members in costume

Without this artistic outlet, Freilich wondered, whether people like him, naturally drawn to the stage, would ever make it through law school. Thankfully, GG&SS provides these artistically inclined students an outlet for their talents and provides the rest of us superb entertainment, year after year.

Patrons who attended last year's performances will be met with familiar faces - and voices - this year. Of particular note, Jeanette Thurber, 2L, and Rachel Orsinger, 2L, who shined last year as 1Ls in GG&SS's spring show, *The Yeoman of the Guard*, once again bring their substantial talents to the stage as 2Ls in this year's production. Thurber plays the part of Little Red Riding Hood to perfection, leaving us once again rooting for her safe arrival at Grandmother's house. Orsinger plays our favorite fairy tale villain, the Witch. She conquers the part with a wicked laugh and a powerful voice.

Thurber and Orsinger are joined on stage by several other equally talented GG&SS regulars as well as a host of first

Into the Woods will run Nov. 1-4 in Hart Auditorium. Tickets may be reserved in advance on GG&SS's website, www.ggssonline.com, or by calling the GG&SS office at, 202-662-9270. Tickets can also be purchased at the GG&SS tables on the first floor of McDonough this week and at the door on the night of the performances. Admission for law students is \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Admission for non-law students is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

Sudoku solutions

from page 2

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

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

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

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

Universal Law

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)

After this week you will never look at Taco Bell (or your Torts professor) the same again.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The ghosts of Halloween night may haunt you for weeks to come.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

A Libra's got her eye on you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will awaken to the sound of dripping water on Wednesday.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Your incessant bragging about job offers will create bad karma for you this week.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

A shopping trip will result in massive amounts of debt and a questionable pair of boots.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

A haunting dream will leave you uncertain about your choice to come to law school.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

You will oversleep by ten minutes on Monday. The course of fate will be forever changed.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

Sugar-free cookies are still extremely fattening. You will learn this the hard way this week.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Your wireless will falter on Thursday; you will be forced to listen to your Tax professor.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Love will find you quite unprepared this week, as will your Corporations professor.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)

You'll fall for another loser this week.

horoscopes by Sarah Hale, 2L.

Law School Halloween Traditions

We all know that law students celebrate holidays a little differently than everyone else -- what other group of people will you find outlining Corporations during Thanksgiving dinner? It turns out we also have our own unique ways of celebrating Halloween...

- Reporting parties dressed as cops for impersonating a law enforcement officer (and then offering to get the defendant off, for a fee, of course)
- Giving out LSAT prep books to trick or treaters, because you can never start too early
- Dressing up as characters that only law students would understand (and find amusing) - the reasonable person, the eggshell plaintiff, etc
- Lobbying Congress to make Halloween an official holiday so we can get out of classes for it
- Threatening age discrimination suits when people comment that one of us is a little old to be dressing up for Halloween (and then offering to settle out of court for alcohol and some candy)

The Quotable...

"I hear a voice." - The Quotable Father Drinan

"We only have a few minutes left of class until the chess club invades our classroom discussion. I hate the chess club!" - The Quotable Professor Novogrodsky

"Your generation is better at technology and economics than mine. My generation is better at everything else." - The Quotable Judge Silberman

"If you convert to Islam from another religion you will go to heaven. If you convert from Islam to another religion you won't go anywhere." - The Quotable Professor Mattar

"It can be introduced if you can find an around the box use of it. Wow, that was a dangerous use of a metaphor." - The Quotable Professor Gottesman [discussing introduction into evidence of past sexual behavior]

Sage Advice for 1Ls

by Ono Youdidn, 1L
Law Weekly

The Bluebook is not your friend; do not let anyone convince you otherwise.

Attend Kegs on the Quad and Bar Review as frequently as possible - they are both great practice for the alcoholism that awaits you as a lawyer.

The cafeteria is closer than the gym - don't fight fate.

Enjoy being a 1L, contrary to popular belief being a 2L is worse.

Cheer up - you're over half way through the first half of the first third of law school!

Heat on the Hill

The Laws of Love by Logan & Lucy

Dear Logan & Lucy,
I've been dating this cute girl for a while, but with Halloween approaching and the usual Halloween parties and hot girls... How do I keep what might be going into a "potential relationship" (aka the dark side) strictly casual? I want to test the waters and have fun, especially as the naughtiest holiday of the year approaches.
The Pirate

Um, Pirate? ... I'm guessing that's your Halloween costume. Right? Ok. So, keeping a relationship casual. Well the first step is actually letting your "cute girl" know that your dating is completely casual. An awkward conversation might be best. Maybe talk to her about how both of you are free agents and aren't exclusive. Don't deceive her into believing that there is a deeper potential relationship around the corner. Otherwise it could get messy for both of you (I picture crying, upset, unhappy girl). Also, if she wants a relationship or any kind of commitment, a short "we are looking for different things" and a clean break is the way to go. It's unfair for you to string her along.

Sincerely,
Lucy

Ahoy matey - ok if you can answer yes to any of these questions you have a causal relationship (if you can't - get out while you can, your girl wants bigger and better things from you). 1) the most significant conversation you've had was Madonna's new baby boy or if your blue button up matches your baby blues; 2) you've canceled on her twice in a row while calling her by another girl's name and she doesn't seem to mind; 3) she's seen you around the block with other ladies and hasn't thrown a tantrum. Seriously, though, casual relationships aren't all they're cracked up to be. It gets tiring and sometimes the thrill of the chase wears off. It's nice to have someone you can just chill and relax with without being "on" all the time. Take it from me. Wow, I just sounded like Lucy for a sec - must be the sleep deprivation and massive alcohol consumption. So, um... dump the cute girl and go find yourself a naughty nurse tonight.

Happy Halloween,
Logan

Got Questions? Quotes?

Email Heat on the Hill

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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.

Arguments against gay marriage are unconvincing

Jane Dimyan-Ehrenfeld

In light of the recent New Jersey Supreme Court ruling on gay marriage, and the gay marriage bans pending or passed in states around the country, it seems like a good time to lay out the arguments against gay marriage in plain view, and to take stock of exactly what it is that anti-gay marriage activists are saying:

The purpose of marriage is procreation. This was a prominent argument made in the Massachusetts gay marriage suit, and it is echoed by opponents of gay marriage around the country. Unfortunately, this argument bodes ill for thousands of unsuspecting citizens. If the procreationists get their way then it is bad news for senior citizens. Because they have found love at an age at which the woman has gone through menopause, they will be prevented from the benefits and joys of marriage. Same too for couples who are infertile; once they cannot pass the fertility test that surely will come with a procreationist standard of marriage, they'll have to trade their wedding bells for a comfortable life of living together (minus all of the legal protections of marriage, of course). Couples who don't want to have children at all will have a rough time of it too, as they will either have to lie on the "statement of intent to bear children" that will come with any marriage license application, or risk having their application rejected. And if they do falsify their application, I wouldn't want to be them when the procreation police come knocking. Of course, the advocates of this position may actually be advocating two *different* standards of marriage - a procreation standard for gay couples and a non-procreation standard for heterosexual couples. But that wouldn't be equal protection now, would it?

Marriage is traditionally between a man and a woman, and we respect tradition. I'm all for tradition, when it

comes to naming your child after your grandfather, or shooting off fireworks on the Fourth of July. However, I think we can all agree that there are some traditions that we're glad the country jettisoned (slavery, anyone?), and that there is no hard and fast rule guiding which traditions we uphold and which ones have run their course and deserve reexamination. So how to we decide? It's simple: we acknowledge that tradition alone is a weak argument in any context, especially a legal one,



photos courtesy of amazon.com and nelsonideas.com, respectively

Are homosexuals like Brussels sprouts? We report, you decide

and we demand that something stronger supplement a desire to see a long-standing cultural norm continue. Traditions don't come to us out of thin air - presumably they once rested on strong foundations of necessity and social utility. If they are left hanging in thin air because those same foundations no longer exist, then it's time to let them go. Absent any true argument against gay marriage, tradition alone cannot suffice.

Gay marriage violates my religious principles. For members of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (www.venganza.org), U.S. anti-piracy laws run strongly against their religious principles, but you don't see them pushing for an amendment to Article I. Why? Because of that little thing called separation of church and state. And while it's clear that there's a segment of the population that would do away with that separation altogether, as long as it stands, religious arguments have no place in

governmental disputes.

Gay marriage threatens the sanctity and solemnity of heterosexual marriage. One word here should suffice: celebrities. But in case anyone needs to have the issue spelled out in a little more depth, let me elaborate: There are those in this country who marry for less than 24 hours, in Vegas, on a whim. There are those who marry for cash. There are those who marry underage girls, those who marry women they have picked out of the pages of a catalog, those who

tell you a few things that have not happened in Massachusetts since the Supreme Judicial Court handed down its decision: The sky has not fallen. The earth has not opened up and swallowed anyone. The divorce rate has not spiked. The number of children being referred to Social Services has not increased dramatically. The number of people applying for marriage licenses has not fallen (I can attest to this, having stood in a long line for mine). And most important - listen up here because this is a big argument gay marriage opponents like to trot out when trying to induce fear in others - no one, *not one person*, has married their dog.

I just think it's "icky." Here we get to the heart of the matter. As far as I can tell, while gay marriage opponents try to come up with legitimate-sounding reasons to want to ban gay marriage, like the ones listed above, if you push them a little bit, you often get down to this purely emotional reason for wanting to limit the rights of others. Well, there are things I find distasteful too, including but not limited to: Brussels sprouts, TV programs that show surgeries close up, and men in Speedos (except swimmers, who are hot). However, I recognize the difference between things I don't like and things that have a legitimate basis for litigation or legislation, and therefore you will never find me rallying on the Capitol step for a ban on Brussels sprouts. Enjoying the benefits of the freedoms that this country guarantees obligates us to accept the burdens of living with things we might find distasteful, but that are part and parcel of individual liberty. Those seeking to impose government restrictions on private behavior based on the dictates of their ideological or religious creed would do better in a theocracy (take your pick, there are plenty). That's just not what our country is about.

Jane Dimyan-Ehrenfeld is a 1L. You can reach her at jde25@law.georgetown.edu

Letters

Expressing dissatisfaction in IST

To the Editor:

We were disappointed to read in last week's Law Weekly that Pablo G. Molina, the Law Center's Chief Information Officer, is "not sure that the Law Center should continue to provide the technology support and resources ... to run student elections."

This semester, we were fortunate that we could rely on the able assistance of Mr. Molina and the Information Systems Technology staff. The individual whom Mr. Molina assigned to assist us consistently went above and beyond the call of duty. When we first met with him he quickly discovered that changes made to the SBA Constitution last year could not be accommodated by the software used to conduct online elections. As Mr. Molina mentioned, IST then performed last-minute software re-engi-

neering to fix the problem and allow elections to go forward. This fix was completed quickly and at no cost to the SBA. We are especially grateful for this assistance. IST also retrieved the lists of students eligible to vote from the Office of the Registrar and uploaded them into the elections software. One individual even gave us his cell phone number, in case we experienced any problems with the software in the middle of the night!

In his letter, Mr. Molina mentioned that outside entities are available to provide elections services. Specifically, he referenced The West Education Network (TWEN). We have considered the option of using off-campus services such as TWEN, and will continue to do so. At this time, however, we are convinced that IST provides a superior service. They can offer us greater assurances of reliability and security than any off-campus provider. Also, we are not sure that the SBA Elections Committee could or should turn over accurate lists of all students eligible to vote to an off-campus entity. We feel that IST, which is already entrusted with students' personal information, is better situated to fill

this role.

Once again, we would like to thank Mr. Molina and the rest of the IST staff for all of the support they have provided to SBA elections this semester, and in years past. We hope that the Law Center community may continue to count on their able service in future SBA elections!

- Elinor Ament, 3L & Jimmy Dubois, 3L
SBA Elections Committee Co-Chairs

On addressing Law Center issues

To the Editor:

In last week's edition, an article covering the SBA meeting discussed the Food Service survey conducted by the Student Bar Association. I would like to let your readers know a bit more about the process used to address issues such as those raised in this timely survey.

The Dean has created a number of administrative committees charged with addressing a wide range of concerns. In

this case, the survey was presented to the Food and Fitness Committee. The committee is comprised of faculty, staff and student representatives appointed by the SBA. The student representatives brought the survey results to the committee. Each item on the survey was discussed and solutions/responses were offered. In most cases, the committee put forth solutions that will go into effect within weeks. The student representatives should report the results of that meeting to the SBA. I hope the Law Weekly will continue to cover these reports and share them with the student body.

In the event that an issue is not obviously assigned to an existing committee, I encourage the SBA or other concerned students to contact me directly. In most cases, the Office of Student Affairs is able to facilitate a conversation or response from the appropriate administrative office.

Thanks for your good work.

- Katherine Hall
Assistant Dean of Students

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Efficacy of single-sex class dubious

Brianne Kennedy

When I first heard about the Department of Education's announcement last week that it is altering portions of Title IX to make it easier for school districts to implement single-sex classrooms and, in some cases, even schools, my reaction was a positive one.

It seemed there were many reasons why separating boys and girls, particularly for subjects like math and science, and particularly in hormone-heavy middle school, could be a very good thing. Then I did my homework.

Most of us are quite familiar with Title IX, the federal law passed in 1972 that bars any educational program receiving federal funding from discriminating based on gender. While its best-known effect has been on sports (it requires girls and boys to receive the same quality of athletic equipment and number of athletic opportunities), it actually covers all academic activities, including classes.

According to *U.S. News & World Report*, it "effectively prohibited single-sex classrooms except in a few special cases," such as physical and sex education classes.

The planned modifications of Title IX, which will take effect November 24, are actually tied to an amendment to the Bush Administration's No Child Left Behind act that Senators Hilary Rodham Clinton and Kay Bailey Hutchison co-sponsored in an effort to expand the abilities of public schools to implement single-sex education.

And while it's true that there are stories of public, single-sex educational settings being successful, particularly for girls and in the inner-city, the backlash to the Department of Education's announcement by groups devoted to protecting the rights and educational opportunities of women was swift and biting.

National Organization of Women (NOW) President Kim Gandy told *U.S. News & World Report*, for example, "Our experience has been, when it comes to separating girls and boys and men and women, separate has not been equal. At every turn, women and girls are the ones who are short-changed," and, "How can you expect a boy who's never been beaten by a girl on an Algebra test to think that it's okay for a girl to be his boss?"

Vice President of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Nancy Zirkin, was quoted in the *New York Times* as saying, "Segregation is totally unacceptable in the context of race. Why in the world in the context of gender would it be acceptable?"

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) are also both outspoken opponents of the altered regulations.

One of their biggest criticisms is the fact that research on whether single-sex education is actually beneficial to children is, as the *Christian Science Monitor* calls it, "scarce and inconclusive."

According to an AAUW position paper on single-sex education, a 1998 report by the association entitled

"Separated by Sex: A Critical Look at Single-Sex Education for Girls" found "no evidence that single-sex education is better than coeducation"

In its own review less than a year ago, the Department of Education itself "concluded research is too limited to be definitive in favor of either [side of the] argument," *U.S. News and World Report* reports.

The AAUW report also found that, although several major studies on the subject have claimed to find such education beneficial to girls' achievement, "once the findings were adjusted for student socioeconomic status, pre-enrollment ability, selectivity of the school, and other variables, the differences diminished or disappeared."

Of the 93,000 public schools in the United States, the *Christian Science Monitor* reports that 241 of them currently offer some single-sex classrooms, and 51 of those are completely single-gender schools. According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, though, the number of these schools is constantly growing (in 1995 there were just three such schools), and some were even opened this year under the presumption that these changes to Title IX would be announced.



photo courtesy of impactlab.com

Do classes like this one really benefit the students involved?

One of the greatest challenges these schools and those that will begin to provide single-sex education following the implementation of the new guidelines will face may actually be of the legal sort.

Because it will be up to individual districts and schools to determine how single-sex education is implemented, they will be left extremely vulnerable to litigation. "Because schools do not have to justify their use of classrooms or school segregation in advance, they will be vulnerable to 14th Amendment claims," the AAUW position paper states.

The *Washington Post* reports the ACLU as calling the new regulations "an open invitation to schools to violate Title IX." Deputy director of the ACLU Women's Rights Project Emily Martin even went so far as to say in a statement that, "[A]lthough the administration's regulations claim to make these programs optional, sex segregation can never be truly voluntary."

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights' Zirkin told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that the new regulations "violate both Title IX and the equal protection clause of the Constitution."

"It really is a serious green light from the Department of Education to reinstating official discrimination in

schools around the country," National Women's Law Center Co-President told the *New York Times*.

The resources needed to defend the inevitable lawsuits that will follow the November 24 implementation date for the new guidelines, and those that already plague the few schools where single-sex education is already offered, are simply not there.

Still, perhaps the greatest issue at hand is the social impact of single-sex education. The main point of it is widely accepted as being to remove the pressures and distractions that are often placed on children, particularly girls, by the presence of members of the opposite sex in the classroom, therefore making it easier for them to think less about gender stereotypes and more about learning. Unfortunately the same stereotypes that it seeks to dismiss often end up being reinforced.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* reports that a 2001 Ford Foundation study involving 300 students in Berkeley, San Diego and Toronto who were assigned to single-sex classrooms found that gender stereotypes were in fact reinforced, and that "Men and boys were consistently portrayed as tough," while girls were "taught they had broad choices in life, (but) were also applauded for being feminine and for being concerned about their appearance." Clearly not the intended result.

As the ACLU's Martin told the *Washington Post*, "The regulations allow schools to separate girls and boys for virtually any reason they can dream up-including outdated and dangerous gender stereotypes."

NOW's Gandy even suggested to *U.S. News & World Report* that single-sex education "could have adverse effects such as increasing gender inequality over the long term or perpetuating stereotypes."

Despite my initial enthusiasm for the idea of same-sex education, what I am personally most compelled by in forming my opinion that the new guidelines are a bad idea has less to do with endlessly debatable legal and social reasons and more to do with what the issue of single-sex education is distracting us from: the solvable problems that we know are affecting public education.

Overcrowded classrooms, under-involved parents, a shortage of quality teachers, and uneven distributions of books, materials, and other resources are all factors that we know have led to unsatisfying rages of student achievement in our country, and problems that we should be devoting any extra time, energy and money we have towards solving.

"Of all the things you could think about doing to improve educational outcomes, separating kids by gender is really low on the list," Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center senior scientist Rosalind Barnett told The *Christian Science Monitor*. And I now think she's right.

Brianne Kennedy works at the Continuing Legal Education Department in the Law Center. She can be reached at bsk32@law.georgetown.edu

Aliens deserve suffrage more than some Americans

Keith Parsons

So I was hanging out at the CATO Institute trying to think up new ways to oppress people when suddenly it hit me: why shouldn't resident aliens have the right to vote? I'll admit, I was trying to find a way to disenfranchise the homeless. But when I started thinking about all the reasons homeless people shouldn't vote, i.e. most of them are mentally retarded or ill, none of them contribute taxes, and thus shouldn't really have a say in where taxes go, etc., I realized that there is a class of people who are far more worthy of suffrage than the homeless, and yet who are not allowed to vote: resident aliens.

Why should resident aliens be allowed to vote? Well firstly, to elaborate from above, resident aliens possess all of the qualities that you would want from a responsible voter. They live in the United States, and are directly affected by our laws. They pay taxes, send their kids to our schools, and work in our businesses. They have every incentive to vote responsibly. Furthermore, they can't be any stupider or ill-informed than the average American citizen who is allowed to vote without question. In fact, chances are they are better informed.

Secondly, a resident alien has already made an important commitment to our country: they used to be in some other hell-hole area of the world and decided to come here. That means he uprooted himself from his family and friends, and undertook all the inconveniences of moving just to be here in the United States. By contrast, the average American citizen hasn't

put any more effort into being here than to get hauled out of an American vagina and then stick around. Most Americans are here by default, not choice. Anybody who chose to be here cares enough to be a responsible voter.

Third, the founding principle of democracy itself is that every person who has a stake in the nation ought to be able to have the power to vote. Resident aliens have at least as great a stake as the average American. They own homes here, have kids here, and so forth. It is unfair to deny them the right to determine what laws they live under, where their tax money goes, and other affairs of state.

"The only real arguments against allowing aliens to vote stem from American xenophobia and ethnocentricity"

Fourth, allowing resident aliens to vote increases prosperity for all who live in our country. We can expect any given voter and any given voting group to act in its own best interests, at least primarily. Thus, if some groups are allowed to vote and others are not the groups that vote will take advantage of the disenfranchised and enact laws in their own favor. While this is good for the enfranchised, it is bad for the whole of society. There are transaction costs associated with oppressing a disenfranchised group, along with waste from decreased productivity due to low morale, and other problems. There's a reason that countries like North Korea, where essentially the entire nation is oppressed have poor economies. The more free people are, the more they will seek their own good, and if everybody is seeking their own good as much as possible, the overall good of the nation is maximized.

Fifth, one of those other founding principles of democracy is that the political "marketplace of ideas" will lead to an ideal result. We should not silence unique or dissenting voices in our society or in our political process because sometimes these people, no matter how crazy, will be right. When that time comes, a well designed democratic system will allow the better ideas to take root and cause increased benefits for everybody. By silencing the resident alien voice we commit the same error as we would be silencing the African American voice, or the female voice. A diverse electorate will create the best policy results.

Now some may say that non-citizens can simply become citizens, and then things will be fine. However, the naturalization process is not quick or simple, otherwise why would we have any resident aliens whatsoever? They would simply fill out some form, become a citizen, and be done with it. Our system imposes significant costs on an alien who wishes to become a citizen, and those costs need not be born for the purposes of voting. Anybody who is living, working, and existing here has enough of a stake in this country to be entitled to vote, and no test about American history will make them more or less worthy. While citizenship as a principle may still be useful for finite privileges such as Medicare or Welfare, voting is a right that can freely and easily be extended to all without decreasing the rights of existing citizens. A citizen's right to vote is not decreased or removed by the fact that resident aliens may be

allowed to vote. And since there are substantial benefits to allowing aliens to vote, as I have noted above, the fact that there is little cost to extending this privilege makes the prospect all the more appealing.

Some might say there are administrative costs and potential for corruption from allowing resident aliens to vote. However, there would be hugely increased administrative costs if even an additional 10% of American's turned out to vote every year. That still doesn't stop people from arranging voting drives and promoting voter participation. The benefits of increased voting participation by stakeholders in the American economy clearly outweigh the paltry cost of administering the polls and registering voters. As for corruption, there is no real chance of any more corruption than is possible presently. Resident aliens would still have to register, would still need identification, and all other such safeguards against fraud.

The only real arguments against allowing aliens to vote stem from American xenophobia and ethnocentricity. The same irrational fear of immigrants coming and taking jobs plays itself out on the voting stage as well. Ironically, it is more likely that an immigrant will take a job than steal a vote. There are only a finite number of jobs, but there are enough votes for everyone. In the end, the benefits of allowing resident aliens to vote, to both the aliens, and to the rest of the United States are clear. I suggest we put this up for a referendum. Even retarded, welfare-sponging homeless people would vote for it.

Keith Parsons is better than you, and possibly even better than Harsha. Contact him at kdp23@law.georgetown.edu

The door may be open but the transfer ain't free

Mark Nabong

I had originally promised that I would devote this column to my personal struggles as a grab-bag of genetic detritus, but I've decided to renege on that promise. Reading about someone's difficulties in life is about as fun as listening to someone describe their dream from the night before, which is to say that it is not fun at all and kind of makes your angry.

Why do we insist on explaining our life story at every possible moment? Every discussion class I've ever had has involved someone describing their background, parentage, and major political views in detail before even answering the damn question. That is not warranted except in two instances: (a) you are in a class named "The Legal Philosophy of Second-Year Law Students," or (b) You are a transfer student.

If you transferred here from another law school, then congratulations! You've done two wonderful things by transferring here: (1) You decreased the number of people at the top of your class at your old law school by one, thus making it easier for your old friends to get jobs and

date the people who used to have crushes on you. (2) You've taken the place of one of the top students at Georgetown, who left for the bright lights of an even bigger pond. That is the feeding chain of transferring: we get some of the best students from The University of X, and we pass some of our best up to Y University. I'm almost certain there is some Buddhist theology that would be helpful here, but as a devout Catholic I don't actually read religious texts.

Before I get in trouble here, let me emphasize something all the students reading this, transfer or otherwise: don't base even a little bit of your self-worth on the fact that you're a law student at Georgetown. If I ever catch you making fun of a law school that happens to be lower-tier than here, I will personally hunt you down and kick your leg, Vossberg-style. The rankings that make you feel good when you talk to some people will make you feel like ass when you talk to other people. Go to ANY law school faculty web page and you'll find that they all went to the same six law schools, and Georgetown is NOT one of them. Go to any law school in the country and I will find students that are smarter, have better legal minds, and are less ugly than you. Every time you look at a school lower on your preference list

and breathe a sigh of relief, remember that there is someone at another school looking at you and breathing a sigh of relief themselves. You are lucky to be here, five minutes from the U.S. Capitol, at one of the best-regarded (rightly or wrongly) law schools in the country, and that is the extent of it. Be happy, but don't be arrogant.

Before I get in trouble for different reasons, let me emphasize this: This is a great place to go to law school. I've loved my time here, and that is despite the fact that the academic niche I've managed to fill here is not, shall we say, what I expected. The students who are my classmates are some of the most brilliant people I've ever met, and the facilities are top-notch. This truly is a wonderful school, and I'd like to thank Harvard and Yale for producing such amazing faculty members.

Anyway, back to the transfer students: welcome to Georgetown. I know you might think of yourselves as isolated, like it's hard to fit in, and that's understandable because it is. The untold story is that it is hard for the rest of us to fit in too. Every time you walk into a room and think, "Crap, I don't know anyone here," one of people who's been here as a 1L also walked into the room and thought, "Crap, all these people were in a dif-

ferent section than me." You actually have an advantage, as you are an unknown, an exotic figure; people haven't heard you tell the same stories over and over again, read the same columns over and over again, etc. At the moment you arrive here, you have something many, many of us do not have: an impeccable academic record. One of the great things about law school is that status really is determined by academic achievement, kind of like living in South Korea. Use it to your advantage! Your A-average brain probably remembers more about torts, property, and Con Law I than most everyone else here. Hell, Section 3 people didn't even learn the difference between contracts and torts; you could rule like a king over a group of Section 3 people, assuming you want a kingdom of ambiguous language and hemp clothing.

I know that it's not as easy to get to know people as it would have been had you been here as a first-year student, but think of how hard it must be for the evening students: those guys all have kids.

Mark Nabong is wondering who the 3Ls are who transferred away from Georgetown. His columns can be found online at chicago-typewriter.blogspot.com.

We failed with North Korea; we can't with Iran

**"The John Galt Line"
Jacob Cote**

A diplomat recently remarked that the West, in its dealings with Iran, must separate the concern over Iran's nuclear ambitions from its president's anti-Semitic ravings. But these two issues cannot, and should not, be considered apart. It is precisely because of the president's rhetoric - and the Islamic fundamentalist ideology that motivates it - that Iran must be prevented from possessing nuclear weapons at all costs. The desire to separate these issues is not merely the result of a cautious, diplomatic mindset, but is indicative of two larger intellectual failures: the confusion between cause and effect and moral subjectivism.

The cause and effect confusion has long been particularly problematic in the realm of nuclear arms control. Politicians and intellectuals insist on treating the existence of nuclear weapons as one of the main causes of international tensions and hostile regimes, instead of the other way around. While nuclear arms buildups may play a role in exacerbating pre-existing tensions, we must focus on the root cause of the arms buildup. For most of the Cold War, our leaders misunderstood cause and effect, and as such the arms control agreements between the USSR and the U.S. barely decreased tensions. They did not strike at the root problem - the expansionist foreign policy of the USSR. It was not until Reagan that actual arms reduction, rather than arms control, occurred, and that only after his policies helped bring about political changes in the USSR.

Nevertheless, this history is largely ignored today, and the Iranian president's recent call for a conference to discover whether or not the Holocaust is a myth meets with nothing more than delicate diplomatic disapprovals. Instead, politicians and intellectuals should understand that these remarks are the product of Islamic fundamentalism, the same ideology that is partly responsible for Iran's nuclear ambitions.

Just as the cause and effect confusion infects our approach to Iran, so does moral subjectivism. Clearly a world with fewer nuclear powers and weapons is a legitimate goal in itself. But another nuclear power is not per se evil - it all depends on who that power is. Simply put, Iran has no right to nuclear weapons, because Iran has no right to exist - that is, the current fundamentalist regime, not the citizens themselves. But politicians and intellectuals, with the exception of a few in Israel and fewer in America, will not put it that simply or even more complexly. They will not because they are moral subjectivists who do not believe that any judgment should be passed on another person or government, especially of a different culture; who do not believe in right or wrong; who do not believe in any absolutes at all. "Who am I to know?" they ask. This is a dangerous and potentially fatal question.

They should know better, and their failings contribute to a misguided foreign policy approach that will most likely fail, leading to a nuclear Iran, just as their failures led to a nuclear North

Korea. To the extent that the essence of humanity has to do with making mistakes, it is man's ability to understand why he erred and to learn from his mistakes that sets him apart from the savage. The politicians and diplomats should treat their failed mistakes as an opportunity to ensure that these failures do not happen again. At the worst, Iran and North Korea could actually use their nuclear weapons, or provide them to terrorists willing to use them without the risk of nuclear retaliation. Or at the very least, and perhaps most likely, a nuclear Iran would serve as a deterrent to much U.S. and Israeli policy in the region. Our goal of reshaping the Middle East into a democratic, free and secular civilization would become unattainable.

We should immediately take our incentive package off of the table, which never should have been offered in the first place, which only legitimizes the regime and strengthens its bargaining position and which is not working. We desperately need a new strategy, which should continue to utilize diplomacy, albeit a more aggressive and realistic diplomacy. But just as war should not be the only option on the table, neither should diplomacy, particularly after its failure against North Korea. It should be supplanted with action by the UN Security Council - effective economic sanctions, not merely strongly worded resolutions or passing the ball back to the IAEA. If the UN wants to prove itself as more than a gloried debating society, this might be its last chance. Additionally, we should increase our military posture in order to create an incentive for Iran to actually take diplomacy seriously and thus

comply.

We should also utilize our foreign policy against North Korea to deter Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons - to show Iran that this is what will happen to it if it goes nuclear, to show Iran that it is not worth it. But our response - or rather, lack thereof - to North Korea's nuclear test demonstrates to Iran that very little will occur if it goes nuclear, and even that it just might be worthwhile to do so. The UN and China's response was encouraging - for the UN and China - but North Korea does not appear to be taking it seriously, so why should Iran? Unless we can convince the UN and China to become more aggressive, which is unlikely, we should supplement the UN sanctions against North Korea with unilateral or multilateral measures that might actually work. For example, we should consider a total trade ban enforced by a Kennedy-style "quarantine"; a freeze on all North Korean assets; an immediate call for regime change; the end to all aid to North Korea (aid which merely propped up the illegitimate regime and further impoverished the citizenry), in order to incentivize the citizenry to affect a regime change via mass revolts and strikes and the initiation or furtherance of contacts with disaffected North Korean military figures in order to affect a regime change via a coup d'état.

We should not rule out a military option against North Korea as a last resort, but this does not mean the use of ground troops. War is not inevitable, despite what the mad ravings of the sick joke that is Kim Jung-il would have you believe. But if war is inevitable, it will not be another Iraq war or the

Korean War, Part II. A ground war on the Korean Peninsula would be even more anachronistic now than when it was fought half a century ago. If we go to war, not a single American soldier will set foot and lose his life in North Korea. We would sooner bomb them back into the stone ages - which would not take much - with a conventional bombing campaign or even nuclear weapons, of which, last I checked, we possess considerably more than North Korea (which are also capable of being launched).

And in the event that these tactics do not work to persuade Iran to give up, we - or at least Israel, with our full backing, unlike after the Osirak incident - should be prepared to carry out preventive military strikes to eliminate Iran's nuclear capabilities.

But a successful strike would not be the end of the story. It could merely prove a temporary setback to its nuclear ambitions. In any event, we should immediately adopt a policy of regime change in Iran, to be undertaken through the aiding and training of Iranian opposition groups, economic warfare, propaganda and possibly covert action.

If Iran should ever have the right to possess nuclear weapons, it will have to be a different Iran, a regime that we should help bring about. Not a new Shah, but a modern, Western democracy that just happens to be in the Middle East. Essentially, it will have to be the Muslim Israel - or at the very least, the Persian Turkey.

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by Christina Pamies, 1L