



Christmas Ale is awesome

Three members of *The Gavel* staff research and explore the beer that has changed the lives of the C-M community.

LAW, PAGE 4



What happened to Thanksgiving?

The Gavel explores the commercialization of the holiday season.

OPINION, PAGE 8



New "Iron Chef" hails from C-town

Chef Michael Symon is the new Iron Chef. He shares a special recipe for law students.

LAW, PAGE 4



THE GAVEL

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 3 DECEMBER 2007

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT CLEVELAND-MARSHALL COLLEGE OF LAW

C-M to implement new grading system

By Michelle Todd
STAFF WRITER

Pending approval from Cleveland State University's Faculty Senate, the grading system at Cleveland-Marshall will soon convert to a more widely recognized format that will afford professors a broader range of grades with which to reward their students.

The change, which will likely not be in effect until the Fall 2008 semester, adds minus grades (A-, B-, etc.) to the possible letter grades a law student can receive and also assigns point values to these new grades (A- = 3.7, B+ = 3.3, B = 3, B- = 2.7, etc.).

Although the faculty of the law school has already approved the new system, several other university committees must also vote on the issue before it can actually go into effect. The final vote needed is that of the

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PHOTO BY PAUL DEEGAN—GAVEL

2007 Annual Moot Court Night

On November 7th, C-M hosted its 39th Annual Moot Court Night. Two C-M teams argued in front of the Hon. Boyce Martin, Jr., and the Hon. Karen Nelson Moore, both of the Sixth Circuit, and the Hon. John Gleeson of the Eastern District of New York. The two teams competed in front of a crowd of approximately 300, the largest in C-M history. The team of Alexis

Osburn, Shawn Romer, and Erika Imre Schindler, sponsored by Baker Hostetler, argued for the Petitioner, while the team of Terrance Doyle, Cathy Reichel Smith, and Todd Wintering, sponsored by Jones Day, argued for the Respondent. The panel held for the Baker Hostetler team, and Shawn Romer was named best oralist. Both teams were coached by Professor Stephen Gard.

Tuition increased for 2007-08 without student notice

By Kevin Shannon
STAFF WRITER

On June 28, 2007, the Cleveland State Board of Trustees voted to increase the law school's tuition by 10 percent. This year's tuition of \$16,477.50 for full time in-state students is a \$1,495 increase from last year's tuition. While the law school's tuition increased by 10 percent, graduate school tuition increased by only 6 percent and undergraduate tuition remained at \$7,920 per year.

Most C-M students recognize that tuition increases are to be expected. But, students did express surprise with the size of this year's increase and the lack of notice provided by the school.

Matthew Gambrel, a 3L, did not learn of the tuition increase until he returned to campus this fall. He felt that school administrators "didn't go out of their way" to let students know about the increase. However, he noted

that tuition increases ought to be expected by students, explaining, "that's the way things go."

Another 3-L, Christian Moore, stated that he would have appreciated some form of notice about the increase. He explained that the information would have been helpful in helping him plan his budget for the school year.

Dean Geoffrey Mearns explained that the Board of Trustees ultimately approved the tuition increase after relying heavily on the input of CSU President Michael Schwartz, Vice President for Business Affairs & Finance Jack Boyle, and Provost Mary Jane Saunders.

Dean Mearns explained that his involvement in the ultimate decision was limited and he realized that some tuition increase was inevitable. However, he lobbied the administration to

See TUITION, page 2

Don't bring political stereotypes to the polls

By George Sakellakis
GAVEL CONTRIBUTOR

Republicans love guns, hate abortion, and will make us pray while at school. Democrats love taxes, hate guns, and won't let us worship where anyone else can see us. Republicans work tirelessly to empower us while Democrats toil away to keep us poor. Independents are not sure what they want, so we should not take them seriously.

Does this sound ridiculous? If it does, you're on to something. Many supposed "members" of the Republican and Democratic parties possess just enough familiarity about their party's platform to get them through a boring two minute conversation which culminates in a baseless argument. Soon, many of these people will choose their candidates in the primaries, and on November 4, 2008, they will take to the polls to select our next president. Too many of them will vote based on political prejudice and strict party lines, finding answers to issues too complex for most of us to understand in friendly smiles and 15-second radio/television ads. Come on, America. Real people have sacrificed and died for our right to vote. Shouldn't we honor them and ourselves by going to the polls armed with knowledge, knowing we made

the best decision?

Most voters who perceive themselves as Republicans believe that their party is tough on terrorists and will keep their borders safe. Some think they will eventually pay noticeably less taxes if they continue to vote Republican, and others just can't stand Democrats because they all refuse to admit that they inhaled the chemical byproducts of burning vegetable substances. Others hide behind their party simply to protect themselves from the horrors of "Billary." More than a few blind conservatives will vote for Rudy Giuliani because they think they want a president with Republican values, but will later be surprised when he supports abortion, civil unions, and tougher gun laws. Mike Huckabee is gaining popularity as a candidate who leans solidly to the right, but some voters might wonder about his plan to substitute federal income tax with a new consumer-based tax, or they might speculate as to why his proposed answer to the health care crisis is eerily similar to Hillary's? Do these voters know that some Republican candidates are steadfast supporters of free trade? Isn't that a democratic issue?

Democrats might believe that their party will

See POLITICS, page 10

You Should Know



Upcoming Important Dates:

December 18 - Last day of Exams

January 7 - Spring Semester Begins

April 22 - Last day of Instruction

April 23 - 27- Reading Week

Important Holidays:

Jan. 21 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 18 - President's Day

March 9 - 16 - Spring Break



Our history of opportunity and justice

Last month, Cleveland celebrated the 40th anniversary of the election of the late Carl B. Stokes as Mayor, the first African-American elected mayor of a major American city.



The Dean's Column

Carl Stokes was a graduate of Cleveland-Marshall. Two years after his mayoral election, his older brother, Louis Stokes, who also graduated from our law school, became the first African-American elected to the U.S. Congress from Ohio.

For the Stokes brothers, choosing our law school was a natural—a given for persons of color aspiring to careers in law. We were the first law school in Ohio to admit women and one of the first to admit minorities. For most of the 20th century, Cleveland-Marshall was the state's primary legal educator of women and black attorneys.

Today, the legal profession in Ohio is diverse because of the role our black graduates played in breaking down the barriers that separated the races. Nationally, those same early graduates were laying the groundwork for the civil rights movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

You will find their names throughout the CLEVELAND ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HISTORY and scattered on government buildings all over Cleveland. For example, William Clifford ('02) worked for the city of Cleveland and ended his career as an auditor in the War Department. Chester Gillespie ('20) served three terms in the Ohio General Assembly and was known as "Mr. Civil Rights" for his advocacy of many black causes. Louise Johnson Pridgeon ('21) was the city's first black woman lawyer. Lawrence O. Payne ('23), a WWI Purple Heart veteran, was the county's first black assistant police prosecutor and a long-time Cleveland City Councilman. Norman Selby Minor ('27) was a legendary trial attorney, long-time assistant county prosecutor and mentor to two generations of young black attorneys, including the Stokes brothers. Jean Murrell Capers ('45) was the first black woman elected to Cleveland City Council and a former Cleveland Municipal Court Judge. George W. White ('55) was the first African-American Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. They were pioneers and path-breakers.

By the end of WWII, African-American political capital was on the rise. Citizens of color had served their country loyally, and Cleveland-Marshall's black graduates of that era began forging powerful alliances and civic organizations.

In the wake of the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, people joined forces to protest the failure of the Cleveland Public School District to institute genuine school integration. Ultimately, the NAACP took the matter to court in two pivotal cases: *Craggett v. Cleveland Board of Education* and *Reed v. Rhodes*. The plaintiff's claims in *Craggett* failed. But in 1976, the court in *Reed* ruled that the school board had willfully promoted and maintained segregated schools. Though the case became the battleground for additional challenges and continued to be fought until 1998, the initial victory in *Reed* was a stern reprimand and a warning to all future school boards and politicians that they should avoid any attempt to violate the spirit and law of *Brown*.

Our black graduates were prominent in both cases. Representing the plaintiffs in *Craggett* was a stellar team of Cleveland-Marshall lawyers, including Louis Stokes, Russell Adrine, and Raymond Basie. Joining NAACP General Counsel Nathaniel Jones in the initial *Reed* was James L. Hardiman, who was lead counsel in all subsequent filings in *Reed*. Throughout the 20-year fight for the schoolchildren of Cleveland, Mr. Hardiman drew heavily on the legal skills of our graduates, among whom were Vincent C. Campanella and Teresa Demchak.

Today, the descendants of William Clifford and Louise Johnson Pridgeon have a strong local and national presence as lawyers, partners, general counsel, judges, legislators, and as entrepreneurs and business persons. Our law school opened the doors to African Americans. Carl and Louis Stokes opened the floodgates. And the world has never been the same.

2007-08 Tuition increased for students

Continued from page 1--

keep the increase limited to a more reasonable 6 percent.

Last year, Governor Ted Strickland announced a tuition freeze for Ohio's public universities. When asked if the freeze on undergraduate tuition impacted the higher than normal law school tuition increase, Dean Mearns sug-

gested that it did not. According to Dean Mearns, the increase was meant to make up for the law school's high level of expenses.

Dean Mearns noted that law schools are expensive places to run. C-M has a clinical program, an independent library, and a student services center that all contribute to the high operating budget of the school. The school is also very generous with scholarships.

Dean Mearns expressed three main concerns he had with the

tuition increase. The first was equity to the existing students. He thought it was unfair to charge current students with an increase that is the highest in recent history. Dean Mearns was also concerned with the impact on C-M's efforts to attract new students. He explained that the tuition is much lower than other Ohio schools, including C-M's neighbor to the east, Case

C-M has a clinical program, an independent library, and a student services center that all contribute to the high operating budget of the school.

Western. According to Dean Mearns, the increase somewhat diluted the strength of this selling point. The third concern was the perception of students who would read about the tuition freeze in the news headlines and assume that this applied to both undergraduate and graduate school. Sending notice to the student body of the tuition increase could have perhaps alleviated this third concern.

Acknowledging that no notice was sent, Dean Mearns explained that he was focused on lobbying the administration in the hope of limiting the increase to 6 percent.

He was emailing the administration up until the afternoon before the trustees approved the raise.

Dean Mearns noted that he had not received too many complaints about the tuition hike. He received one email about it and his conversations with SBA President Nick Hanna revealed very little concern among the student body.

When asked what the students can expect next year, Dean Mearns stated that he anticipated some increase but hopes that it will be modest. He recognizes that students pay a great deal to attend C-M and he really wants to keep a lid on the amount of loans that students take out. He is extremely focused on keeping C-M a law school of opportunity.

However, students at C-M still get a pretty good value for what they spend, said Dean Mearns. He noted that C-M has one of the lowest law school tuitions in the state, especially when compared to schools like Ohio State or Case Western.

The difference in tuition between C-M and Case was highlighted in a front page *Plain Dealer* article. Noting that C-M graduates had beaten Case in bar passage rates in Ohio, the article stated, "[i]n the meantime, CSU's law school has another selling point to trumpet, along with an in-state tuition of \$16,478 a year - compared to Case at \$34,700."

C-M hopeful that construction will be finished before start of next semester

By Margan Keramati

CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dean Geoffrey Mearns and Dean Jean Lifter are meeting with CSU architects to ensure that building construction will not distract students and interfere with exam taking.

Specifically, the exam schedule will be provided to the architects to let construction workers know when noise is permissible, and to make clear that this is a particularly important time of year, said Dean Mearns.

"Surprisingly, I've heard almost no complaints about the noise. I guess students have come to expect it," said Nick Hanna, SBA president.

The main student concern regarding the construction is simply when students can expect the construction to be finished, added Hanna.

The area on the ground floor, known as the "garden terrace" room, should be completed and finished when classes resume in January, said Dean Mearns.

The completion of the ground floor area is more of a priority than completing the deans' suite, and new E. 18th Street entrance, added Dean Mearns.

The renovated ground floor will include new clinic offices, student organization offices, and classrooms.

Dean Mearns will also address what can be done regarding the cold temperature in parts of the building that are exposed to the outside due to the E. 18th Street entrance construction at the meeting with the architects.

"Initially, when the cold weather hit us early on, I heard a few complaints about the temperature downstairs, however as the winter has worn on, it seems as though those complaints have faded as the school has cranked up the heaters to keep our students warm," said Hanna.

"I'm confident that once the construction is finished, students will feel like the disadvantages of this fall will be outweighed by the benefits of the future," added Hanna.

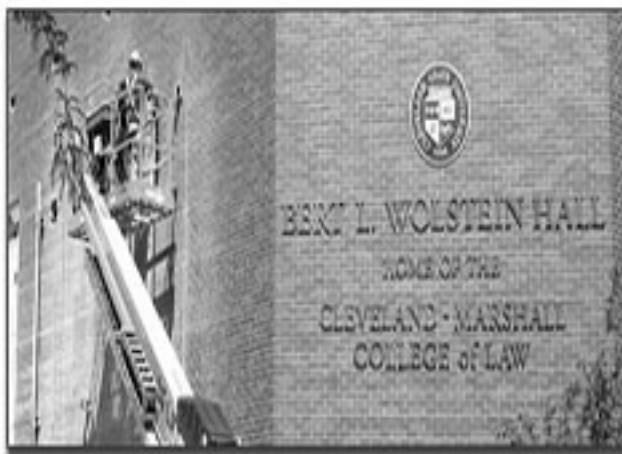
While students can expect to see the construction completed by the time classes resume for the spring semester, the law school cafeteria will remain closed. The cafeteria is not related to the building construction, said Dean Mearns.

There are discussions between the law school and the main university regarding renovating the law building's food-service area. However, nothing has been confirmed yet, said Dean Mearns.

Dean Mearns is working with Nick Hanna to come up with a permanent food-service solution for the building. The earliest this could happen would be by next fall, said Dean Mearns.

Next semester, however, CSU will be installing a new food cart on the inner-link bridge between the law school and school of communications.

This will provide law students with another option besides the food stand in the business school, said Dean Mearns.



From Japan to Cleveland, 1L hopeful for new career

Spotlight on the Student

Dave Sporar

By Emily Honsa

STAFF WRITER

From law clerking in Ohio to teaching English in Japan, and back again to Ohio for law school, Dave Sporar is dealing with the pressures of finals like the next stop in his journey. The 26-year-old from Bainbridge, OH (now living in Lakewood) looks forward to being a constructive force in society with his legal education.

"You can practice law in a manner that is socially conscious, or in a manner that is especially lucrative. You can even do both." That range of possibilities is what attracted Sporar to law school, in addition to the personal rewards the practice of law yields. The challenging nature of practice and the ability to help people with problems were two other guiding principles in his decision.

Prior to deciding on law school, Sporar toyed with the idea of teaching. To that end, he accepted a position as an instructor in Japan.

Teaching in Japan was an amazing experience for Sporar. He was contracted for two years as a corporate English instructor, spending his final year teaching

English in junior high school. He was drawn to education for many of the same reasons that he was drawn to law: the opportunity to do meaningful work that changes lives. Though he did not speak Japanese when he arrived, he now speaks the language.

That career was not for him. Although he found it very difficult to leave the students whom he viewed as little siblings, the instability of a one-year contract concerned him. There was no real job security, professional growth potential, benefits, and there was limited development of transferable skills. Sporar did not see it as a viable career path.

Sporar has positive things to say about all his courses—though he remains tentative about exams. He is especially impressed by the quality of C-M faculty. Sporar lauds his contracts professor as being well structured, easy to follow, and able to challenge students while ensuring that no one is lost. He finds property intuitive and fun, and although civil procedure subject matter can be inherently dry, it is presented in an engaging and interesting way. He finds torts interesting and dynamic, and he reflects that it invites him to use a different philosophical approach to studying how society regulates people's conduct. "I'm interested in everything," Sporar laughs.

His academic history reflects that. Hailing from the undergraduate institution Hiram College, a small liberal arts college located in Hiram, Ohio, about 45 minutes east of Cleveland, Sporar was one of approximately 800 undergraduates instilled with the globally focused and civic-minded values of the school. There, he majored in history, with a minor in political science.

The largest struggles Sporar has experienced have been related to the nature of the law school social scene. After dealing with the pain of leaving his long-term



Japanese girlfriend upon returning to the states for law school, Sporar was like so many other 1Ls—eagerly anticipating a new social environment surrounded by people who were as intellectually curious and adventurous as he. Unfortunately, he reflects, that was not exactly the case. "You don't get to hang out with people as much."

Sporar found that students already had established social networks with little to no room for new friends—and more importantly, little to no time. His new peers include those with families or long-term relationships, along with those who are married to school. Although he certainly does not begrudge the commitment to education, he recognizes that time constraints prevent students from getting together and bonding like they were able to do in residential undergrad, where students had a shared experience and were at the same maturity level. He knows many other students share his frustration and jokes that they all need to seek each other out. After finals.

Sporar's outlook on law school is equally frank. He originally had ambitions of attending an ivy-league school and being part of the so-called elite. He was also considering attending a school with a strong international law focus, such as American University in Washington, D.C. However, he soon came to grips with the "outrageous expense" of these schools. "With the exception of Harvard and Yale, where a job is practically guaranteed to you regardless of your class rank; any other expensive school is somewhat of a gamble." He also expresses serious doubts that he would have been admitted there anyway.

Ultimately, the economic and geographic advantages of C-M won Sporar over. Cleveland was the region where he grew up, and had an established social network. He knew that it would be easy to get ideas about potential careers and much easier to get meaningful job opportunities. Sporar reflects that it may also be more efficient to start local and build off of what he already has. Additionally, C-M is staggeringly inexpensive when compared to many private schools, with an increasingly strong reputation.

Sporar has high hopes for the coming year. He'd ideally love to be at the top of his class, but will be content with a level of success that enables him to remain in law school. His advice to the incoming students of next year was quick off the tongue: "There are different and distinct skill sets you need to develop to be successful. You need to be able to master cases, state the clear black-letter law, and articulately analyze it all. Memorization alone is not sufficient. There is a huge difference in understanding material and effectively expressing that comprehension. You need to be able to prove to the professor you know it, and you do that by writing."

New grading system: "minuses" added

Continued from page 1--

Faculty Senate of CSU. Dean Phyllis Crocker expects this approval to come sooner than later.

"We anticipate that the Faculty Senate will approval this rather quickly...it [the approval] may actually come before the end of the Spring 2008 semester," Dean Crocker said.

But, even if the new system is approved before the end of the spring semester, law school administration will not implement the change at this time.

"We don't feel that it would be fair to the students if we imposed a new grading policy in the middle of a semester," Dean Crocker said. Instead, the law school will wait until either the summer or fall semesters of 2008 to make the change.

The change in the grading system was motivated primarily by a charge to the Academic Standards Committee of the law school by Dean Mearns.

Dean Mearns initially asked the committee, which is composed of law school faculty

members and two law students, to conduct research regarding the grading policies at other law schools in the region to decide whether adopting this new policy would be beneficial to C-M students.

Based on their findings, the committee recommended the change to Dean Mearns and the faculty of the law school then quickly approved the new policy.

When asked what effect such a change would have on C-M students, Dean Crocker said she feels the new policy will only benefit students and faculty members.

"Many law professors here at C-M have wanted more flexibility in the types of grades they can reward their students with, because sometimes a student will be right on the border between two letter grades," Crocker said.

"Students will benefit from the new system as well, because if they happen to be on that borderline between grades, the minus grade may give them a higher point value than they would have been able to receive under the old grading system," she added.

Library Hours During Exam Period and Winter Break

Sunday, December 2 – Thursday, December 20 Reading & Exam Period

Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – Midnight

Friday 8:00 am – 10:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am – 10:00 pm

Sunday Noon – Midnight

Thursday, December 20 8:00 am – 9:00 pm

Friday, December 21 – Sunday, January 6 Holiday/Winter Break

Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday Closed

Sunday Closed

Monday, December 24 Closed

Tuesday, December 25 Closed

Monday, December 31 Closed

Joy to the world! Great Lakes' Christmas Ale is here

By Shawn Romer

CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Kevin Shannon

STAFF WRITER

Matt Samsa

GAVEL COLUMNIST

Spiced with Ginger, Honey, and Cinnamon, Great Lakes Christmas Ale has infiltrated the Cleveland community. Armed with a pen, a pad of paper, and a few Christmas Ales, *The Gavel* hit the town in efforts to review and describe the popularity of Great Lakes' prominent brew.

According to "Bartender Jody" at McCarthy's Ale House in Lakewood, Christmas Ale is very popular and has a pronounced impact on the clientele. The Great Lakes website indicates that Christmas Ale has an alcohol content of approximately 7.5 percent (down from last year's brew, which hovered around 9 percent). "Bartender Jody" believes that the high alcohol content contributes both to the beer's popularity and the effect it has on her customers. Jody went on to describe various incidents that she attributes directly to customer consumption of Christmas Ale, one of which landed an undressed customer in Lakewood jail and another handcuffed to his hospital bed.

According to Bartender Jody, customers should take caution in drinking the ale because of its high alcohol content, and she encourages all to enjoy the drink responsibly. For extra spice and a new twist, she also recommends that aficionados enjoy the beverage with cin-

namon on top.

Patrons at McCarthy's echoed the sentiment that Christmas Ale is just plain good.

"It makes me feel warm, it makes me feel happy, I want to do it again," clamored Julie Dutkowski, Lakewood resident and bar-frequentier.

The C-M community also enjoys Christmas Ale. According to 3-L Cassie Louie, "[Christmas Ale] makes me feel happy, it makes me feel very happy."

Gavel columnist and self-proclaimed beer connoisseur and expert Chuck Nortcutt stated that "[a]s a greater Cleveland native, I am very fond of Christmas Ale. I like having a local taste for the holiday season and another way that I can connect with the season and our community... It's a quality beer for a quality time of year."

Not all enjoy Christmas Ale's taste, however. Producer Nick of Q-104's morning show indicated that he would rather drink Natty Light than drink another Christmas Ale.

Some should take caution when imbibing the holiday brew. According to Moot Court Chair and 3-L Katie McFadden, some friends she knows have broken out into hives after drinking Christmas Ale. Though the condition has not been medically documented and can't be directly attributed to Christmas Ale, Katie

believed that an allergic reaction to some of the spices used could be the cause of this condition.

Also, drinking too much of the 7.5 percent alcohol drink can cause problems the morning after. "The hangover is as bitter as the taste," according to 3-L Cathy Reichel Smith.

The Great Lakes Website describes Christmas Ale as "[a]

Christmas Ale has been wildly popular this year, and according to the *Plain Dealer*, we're running out.

robust style of beer made with spices to celebrate the holiday season." The full-bodied ale is brewed from American two-row wheat, roasted barley, and English

crystal hops, along with the honey, cinnamon, and ginger spices that are ostensibly evident in the taste.

The website also indicates that the Ale has won many awards, including Gold medals in the 2005-2007 World Beer Championships. When describing the Ale's food compliments, the website states that "[t]his festive brew is a perfect addition to big holiday feasts and goes particularly well with the fruit cakes and breads of the season."

In the latest Mass Market Retailers and Information Resources, Inc., newsletter, reported in the *Plain Dealer*, Christmas Ale ranked 28th in the entire U.S. in dollar sales for the four-week period ending November 4th. This rank is especially

notable when considering the fact that most the beers that beat Christmas Ale are year-round beers sold on-tap almost everywhere in the country, including Budweiser.

Christmas Ale has been wildly popular this year, and according to the *Plain Dealer*, we're running out. Great lakes upped its production of Christmas Ale 35% from last year, and yet local pubs and stores are having trouble keeping the drink in supply. The Bier Market on West 25th street indicated that it was sold out of the popular holiday beverage. Many bars on Lakewood's Detroit street have also sold out. Other retailers who sell the beer in six and twelve packs are likewise finding difficulty keeping supply.

According to Great Lakes employee Dan Grady, who works in the brewery, Great Lakes added a midnight brewing shift to compensate for increasing demand. As evidenced by the lack of supply in relation to this demand, Great Lakes seems to be losing this battle. Though, granted the beer's cost of \$10 per six pack and \$40 per case, this is a problem that has likely resulted in huge profits for Great Lakes Brewing Co.

Great Lakes Christmas Ale will be available until the end of December, unless Cleveland drinks all of it before hand. Supplies are diminishing because of its heightened popularity, so for those who have yet to swig the tasty beverage, these *Gavel* writers recommend you do so soon.

Cleveland's Michael Symon is the new "Iron Chef"

By Margan Keramati

CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Cleveland "foodies" are rejoicing—the city has its very own Iron Chef—chef Michael Symon. The best part is that Symon is down the road from C-M.

To fans of the television series *Iron Chef America*, an Iron Chef has super powers. They battle chefs from around the country in The Food Network's "kitchen stadium," and have an uncanny ability to transform one secret ingredient into five gourmet courses in only sixty minutes in order to please a panel of judges.

Michael Symon, owner of two Cleveland restaurants, Lola on E. 4th Street and Lolita in Tremont, competed against seven other nationally recognized chefs on the Food Network reality series *The Next Iron Chef* and came out victorious.

The last challenge came down to Symon and John Besh, owner of Restaurant August and Besh Steak in New Orleans.

The secret ingredient: swordfish. The two had to prepare five courses highlighting swordfish for a panel of discerning judges—Iron Chefs Bobby Flay, Cat Cora, and Masaharu Morimoto.

Symon's first battle as an Iron Chef aired on Nov. 19th. Symon won "battle Thanksgiving," and beat chef Ricky Moore in all three judging categories: taste, presentation, and originality.

More importantly, however, Symon's successes have been positive

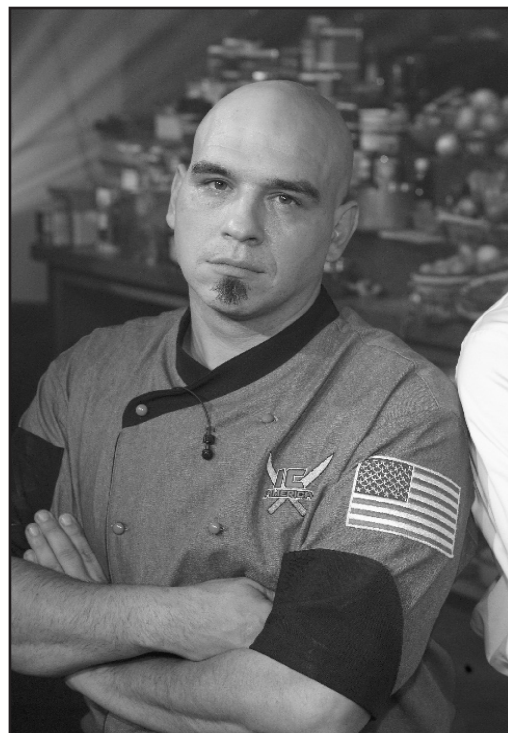


PHOTO COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK.

Iron Chef America airs Sundays at 9 PM et/pt. Michael Symon's next battle is slated to air in January 2008.

for Cleveland.

"Business has shot up 20 percent, and people are really being adventurous about what they're ordering. I think this is spectacular. Now everyone knows they can visit Cleveland and get a good meal. I think it may even encourage people to come here not only to eat, but

to open up restaurants. And that'll be good not only for my business, but the city of Cleveland," said Symon to CNNmoney.com.

Symon, originally from Cleveland, attended St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio, according to Symon's Foodnetwork.com biography. He attended the Culinary Institute of America and graduated in 1990.

According to WKYC.com, Symon has also received a Mayoral Proclamation from Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson, and a Proclamation from Councilman Joe Cimperman.

Symon was named a national "rising star" for 1997 by *Restaurant Hospitality* magazine, Best Restaurant and Chef in Northeast Ohio by *Ohio Northern Live* magazine, and one of the Ten Best New Chefs in America by *Food & Wine* magazine in 1998.

This time of year, C-M students may not have the expendable time or money to taste Iron Chef Symon's delicacies.

During exam time, most students venture down to the cafeteria's cold and uninviting layer to find "nourishment" from the school's vending machine. Chef Symon, however, has provided C-M students an easy, gourmet recipe, that any law student can prepare, even during exam time.

Bon appetite!

Macaroni and Cheese

Recipe courtesy of Michael Symon

Ingredients:

6 (6-ounce) boneless skinless chicken breasts
2 tablespoons Hungarian paprika
1 tablespoon kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 quart heavy cream
2 tablespoons of thyme
2 pounds of cooked rigatoni
6 ounces goat cheese

Season chicken breasts with paprika, salt and pepper and set aside. Heat olive oil in large sauté pan and place chicken in it, browning on both sides. Place in 400-degree oven for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool, then dice into large pieces. Heat cream in large saucepan, add herbs, salt, and pepper and reduce by half. Add the cooked rigatoni, cheese and cooked chicken and simmer for 2 minutes. Remove from heat and serve.

Attention 1Ls: Take advantage of your legal writing teaching assistant

By Adam Davis

FIRST-YEAR LEGAL WRITING TA

As the first semester of the school year comes to an end, many 1L's will be stricken with the anxiety of final exams. One of the best ways to prepare for exams is by meeting with a legal writing tutor. Not only has the tutor recently been through the 1L-exam experience, but they can also provide excellent insight and tips as to how first years students can survive – and succeed – on their finals.

Here are some tips on how to utilize your first-year legal writing tutor:

1. Stop By During the Semester. Legal writing tutors usually have posted times when they are available to meet with students. Use them throughout the semester to help answer questions from class or even to figure out what classes you want to take in the future. Tutors can help you answer lots of law school questions, not just legal writing.

2. Come With Specific Questions. As law students, we all know the value of time. Therefore, when you come to see one of the tutors, come prepared to discuss a particular issue or question you have. Don't show up – rough draft in hand – and ask the tutor if they can "look it over." Tutors aren't there to edit rough drafts or be human spellcheckers. They are there to help you develop an argument, organize a complex research issue, or work with you on citations.

Here are some last minute exam-taking tips:

1. Be Organized. There's a reason why so many professors ask their students to outline their answer before they begin writing the exam. Not only will outlining help you with issue-spotting, but it makes it easier for your professor to follow your analysis and see that you know what you're talking about. Keep this in mind too: professors have a lot of exams to grade. The easier your answer is to read and the more logically your answer is developed, the better you will do. Use topic sentences. Separate ideas with new paragraphs. Don't say in thirty words what you can say in twenty.

2. Be Responsive. Many students, especially 1L's, utilize the shotgun approach to exam taking. In other words, they fire out every detail about the subject that they can remember, relevancy be damned. Do not – I repeat – do not become one of these students. If you want to do well, make sure you answer the specific question that is asked. If, for example, the first question on your torts final asks you about assumption of the risk, don't go off discussing joint and several liability. Your professor won't give you points if it isn't relevant and you'll just end up wasting time. Also, if a question asks you to discuss potential claims for the plaintiff, don't write three pages about defenses.

3. Be Prepared. There's no way around it. If you want to do well, you'll need to put in the time of learning the material. It is equally important to emphasize in your studying the same areas your professor emphasized in class. For example, if your contracts professor spent one class lecturing about the recovery of lost profits after a breach, but two weeks discussing the rights of third-party beneficiaries, then your studying time should reflect that disparity.

College campus safety in wake of recent school violence around U.S.

By Christine Tibaldi

STAFF WRITER

Recently, a 14 year-old in Cleveland brought guns to SuccesTech Academy and hurt four others before committing suicide. In April 2007, Virginia Tech experienced the worst campus shooting in US history when Cho Seung-Hui killed 32 students and faculty by day's end. After these attacks, many wonder how safe college campuses and schools really are.

Some say that if a disturbed individual is committed to hurting others in a "Columbine" type of attack, there is not much that can be done to stop him. Although this is surely true to a degree, what is being done here to prevent one of those horrible types of attacks? We must also ask, "do we have proper security to prevent petty thefts and other crimes that are committed every day?"

Dean Mearns was eager to discuss campus security, especially here at the law school. He seemed genuinely committed to improving safety and has obviously done a great deal of thinking on this topic.

For example, some may remember the door that led to the corner of Euclid and 18th Street that was suddenly locked about half way through the 2005-2006 school year. Dean Mearns felt that this area was a real safety hazard because of the hidden walkway outside and also because it gave access to anyone who wished to enter the law school. "One of the goals of the new construction is to create a high traffic entrance to discourage any criminal activity," Mearns said.

Mearns also implemented a one year security audit. He decided that the law school should augment the University's programs with 10-15 security cameras that are now functioning in the law school.

But, have these cameras or other security measures at the

University made our campus safer? Crime Prevention Officer Beverly Pettrey of the CSU Police Department assures students that there are always ongoing programs to improve campus safety. When asked if these new cameras at the law school have decreased what she calls "opportunity crimes," she said, "I do not know of a decrease, but these cameras always help us find and charge the perpetrators. These people are charged fully with the crime, just like if it happened outside of campus."

The campus web site safety page indicates that "CSU Police ... [are] *highly visible*" on campus. [Italics added.] Unfortunately, the C-M students don't seem to agree. According to an informal poll of 2L's and 3L's, 84 percent feel that there is a "low presence" of police, and 16 percent said there is a "medium presence." That leaves 0 percent that see a "high presence" of police. Most students said that they have only seen an officer patrolling at night. There is also concern about parking lots and lesser issues, such as lack of salt on icy spots that are high traffic during the winter. Even more disturbing, the same poll revealed that the exact same percentage, 16%, said they were a crime victim, here on campus. Thankfully, none of these students was a victim of a personal or violent crime.

The school is addressing some of these problems. According to both Dean Mearns and Officer Pettrey, the University is hiring 12-15 unarmed security officers to add to patrols. But this process has just started. According to Officer Pettrey, only one or two are now ready to begin patrolling. The goal is to have all of them trained and ready to go by next year.

Both Dean Mearns and Officer Pettrey suggest having 687-2020 in your phone for escort service or other campus police services. Dean Mearns adds, "it is [all of our] responsibility to alert the proper authorities if we see a problem."

Support the 2008 Graduation Challenge

*What will your degree be worth in ten years?
Invest in C-M, invest in you, give now.*

The Graduation Challenge is a fundraising drive organized by the Class of 2008. The purpose behind it is to increase the number of students who donate to Cleveland-Marshall. The Wolstein Fund will match donations made by students to the law school. Investing in C-M is investing in how much your degree will be worth in the future. Please attend the Graduation Challenge "Kick-Off" event, which will be held in the Faculty Conference Room on the following dates:

Wednesday, January 16, 2008 from 4:30-5:00 PM

**Thursday, January 17, 2008 from 5:00-6:00 PM
(directly preceding the SBA Welcome Back Social)**

At the event, the Graduation Challenge Committee will explain the fundraising drive and how you can contribute. For more information, you can contact any of the following committee members:

Nick Hanna
Susan Hughes
Katie McFadden
Shawn Romer
Adam Saurwein
Jud Stelter

How to organize a law school

exam answer

By Karin Mika

LEGAL WRITING PROFESSOR

Legal Writing *What's the real difference between an "A" exam and a "C" exam?*

Although most students who don't receive an "A" on an exam will look at an "A" exam and not see a difference between that exam and one's own, there tend to be major differences. Unlike math problems, or objective history quizzes, there are no set of "right" answers that ensure a high grade. Most law students will be able to rattle off all of the legal elements for all classes by exam time, but that makes little difference in terms of grade. That's the minimum of what is expected. The maximum of what is expected involves the following:

1. Accuracy. Being right does count, but not necessarily right in terms of whether the action will be successful or not, just right in terms of whether the analysis supports the position that, for example, there was a contract or not a contract.

2. Organization. Questions should be answered in the order that they are asked and the answer should follow a logical format with the elements or defenses introduced in the order that they are introduced.

3. Legal Structure. The rule(s) must precede the analysis. Legal elements must be defined before the writer is able to conclude that the elements exist within a given fact scenario.

4. Specific Analysis. The object of our legal system is to determine whether a given fact situation falls within a certain legal definition. When applying the facts to a rule, the facts must be examined specifically, not generally, in relation to the rule. General analysis results in "conclusory" logic and looks something like this:

"A contract consists of an offer, acceptance, and consideration. Here, there was an offer, acceptance, and consideration. Thus there was a binding contract."

5. Depth of analysis. It is not always sufficient to spot, for example, that there is a negligence or duty issue in an exam, but perhaps that there were certain special duties that might have been owed based on the relationship between the parties. All exams have components that everyone will see, with some components that only a few students will pick up on.

6. Presentation. Good writing skills and good grammar count. An exam should not force the professor to find the answer in the essay or translate the material to see if the answer is in there. The exam should also not distract the professor by having frequent misspellings or grammar errors. The exam should also have frequent paragraph breaks (appropriate to topic) so that the professor is able to absorb a manageable amount of material. Just as few students enjoy two hour lectures without pause; few professors enjoy a two hour cumbersome read.

Of course, the way to achieve the best chance for balancing all of these elements is to study hard, and practice taking exams.

Recent C-M grad shares job-hunting tips

I've been asked to write an article about life as a recent C-M graduate that gives you, the current student, an accurate portrait of the first year or so after graduation. First, I'll do a favor for those readers who will read a paragraph of this article and skip to the next one: The bottom line is that your JD and even your bar passage entitle you to nothing. It's a different world out here, and stellar performances on law school exams do not automatically translate into career success.

I was lucky to have a great clerk position during school, but it could not turn into a full-time position after graduation. I thought I would look for jobs while studying for the Bar, but let's be straight here: that just is not going to happen. I'm sure that all of you have received a good amount of advice concerning the Bar Exam, so I will not go into it here, but suffice it to say that the test consumes your life. I quickly learned in retrospect that if one does not have an offer in hand, the final spring semester is the last chance (until the following Fall) to try to secure a job, so get wise and start now.

After the Bar, I took a great road trip out west with my father, but even that did not wash away the pressure of finding a job. I was allowed to stay at my clerking position only until the Bar results were

released. Needless to say, the thrill of passing the Bar was soured somewhat by the realization that my future was now uncertain.

I then hit bottom. I did not start drinking, but did something far more damaging to one's psyche: I took a legal temp job. The company's initials are LMI, it is mindless cubicle-drone work, and I suggest that if you hear these letters and your future discussed in the same sentence,

I then hit bottom. I did not start drinking, but did something far more damaging to one's psyche: I took a legal temp job.

you immediately start filling out fast food applications. After all, some of those places let you eat for free while you are clocked in.

LMI shattered my self-esteem as an attorney, and it was only then that I could truly empathize with the movie Office Space. What a downer it is to go from passing one of the most difficult tests around to being told that personal cell phones can only be turned on in the break room during authorized breaks. It is with no pleasure that I tell you that it's all but inevitable that some of you will put in your time at this place, or somewhere equally as bleak before you work as an attorney. The trick is to think ahead and plan your exit from this purgatory before you become embroiled in it.

I was not alone in this career limbo.

Some of the best and brightest from my class were alongside me, doing the legal equivalent of asking someone if they want fries with that.

During this time, I chased down every lead I could, mostly coming up empty-handed. I was eventually (thanks to the tireless efforts of our own Alumni Association) connected with an esteemed local attorney who was looking for a young associate to join his new firm. After May of 2007, LMI only persists in my nightmares.

Again, this is where I restate that you are still entitled to nothing, even after being offered a real job. I was thrown right into the world of personal injury litigation, and had to grasp foreign concepts immediately, sometimes in the presence of a judge. By the end of the summer, I became more comfortable with these responsibilities, but this was accomplished *only* through hands-on experience. Now, a full year after being sworn in, I am beginning to feel like a real lawyer.

Some of you have secured jobs already, and you should be proud of that. For the rest of you, take heart that you're not alone, and embrace the idea that real life is a great teacher, and you are about to get schooled. Trust me, you will be a better attorney for it.

Ryan Harrell is a 2006 graduate of C-M and an associate at Chamberlain Law Firm.

Volunteering enhances resumes

By Sarah Dixon

GAVEL CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With one full semester of law school under their belt, some 1L's are still dazed and confused, while others have begun translating contracts they find on the internet for fun. Regardless on which end of the spectrum you fall, you may want to consider volunteer opportunities to supplement your academic performance. Now that everyone is receiving their e-mails, has located the restrooms, and all are in the giving spirit with the holidays right around the corner, it is a good time to get involved, network, and learn something new.

There are so many opportunities available requiring different skills and interests that there truly is something for everyone. For the students who are not sure yet what kind of law that they would like to practice, the Legal Aid Society is a great place to look for general law-related opportunities. They have brief-advice clinics in which students complete intake interviews with low-income clients seeking legal advice. Those interested in immigration law may wish to volunteer for the immigration clinic, where students are assigned to families with immigration issues to help them complete the filing process. 1Ls who want to become involved with family law may consider the pro-se divorce clinic, which helps low-income clients obtain divorces without costly legal fees. These clinics are a great way to get involved for only a few hours a month, while still getting all of the benefits of volunteering. They

also have a competitive Summer Associate Program for those of you wondering what to do all summer.

If you like kids and think that you would be a good mentor, the Big Brothers-Big Sisters program is a great way to make a difference and take a much needed break from law school stressors. Students spend time with children in need of a mentor and provide a positive role-model for children. For something with kids, but still in the legal realm, the 3R's Program helps teach 10th grade social studies classes in Cleveland City Schools.

If you have always wanted to help the homeless, the Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Program allows students to do research as well as prepare documents and pleadings to assist people with various legal questions. Habitat for Humanity's Buildable Hours program is another way to provide housing assistance with a hands-on approach, pairing students alongside attorneys. The Cleveland Bar Association has opportunities posted on their website and is a great organization to get involved with. In addition to working in conjunction with other programs mentioned, they have a volunteer lawyers for the arts committee and a pro-bono program for non-profit organizations. If you are interested in tax law, the Cuyahoga Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition is recruiting volunteers to help people file their taxes.

Whatever your interest, there is someone out there looking for you to work for free. The advantages to volunteering are limitless, and you never know what you

might enjoy or who you could meet. If you would like to volunteer with other students from C-M, the Student Public Interest Law Organization (SPILO) always has volunteer opportunities available. If you are interested in the programs above, please use the following contact list to get involved:

LEGAL AID SOCIETY: LAUREN GILBRIDE AT VLPCLERK@LASCLEV.ORG

LEGAL AID SOCIETY'S SUMMER ASSOCIATE PROGRAM: MELANIE SHAKARIAN AT MASHAKAR@LASCLEV.ORG

BIG BROTHERS-BIG SISTERS: REGINA FISHER AT RFISHER@LAW.CSUOHIO.EDU

CLEVELAND HOMELESS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: JOAN BURDA AT JOANBURDA@NEOCH.ORG

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: LINDA HARSHMAN AT LINDA.HARSHMAN@TUCKERELLIS.COM

3R'S PROGRAM: MARY GROTH AT MGROTH@CLEVELANDBAR.ORG

TAX CREDIT COALITION: KATHLEEN MATTHEWS AT KATHY_R_MATTHEWS@YAHOO.COM

SPILO'S FACULTY ADVISOR: PAM DAIKER-MIDDAUGH AT PAMELA.DAIKER-MIDDAUGH@LAW.CSUOHIO.EDU

CLEVELAND BAR ASSOCIATION WEBSITE: WWW.CLEVELANDBAR.ORG

The Political Broadside

Should the U.S. government provide universal health care?

By Chuck Northcutt

CONSERVATIVE GAVEL COLUMNIST



Beware of the Democrat promising free governmental benefits, because what *'she'* (as in Hillary) is really saying is "I want to raise your taxes and take away your free choice on private decisions!" While there is no doubt that something needs to be done about our rising costs in healthcare, a mandatory universal healthcare plan enforced by Big Brother is simply not the answer, especially in our free market democracy. While the well-intentioned idea of free healthcare for all sounds good on the surface, universal healthcare is simply not free. The money to pay for such a contraption has to come from somewhere, and the liberal elites won't hesitate to raise taxes to pay for it. Even if the government borrows the money, this simply translates to a higher government debt, which leads to more inflation that makes your dollar even weaker. This phenomenon is otherwise known as a hidden tax. Either way, a free healthcare plan from the government is not free at all.

Even if we are obliged to pay for such a "large community project," as my opponent will surely argue, all that one has to do to realize that government enforced healthcare doesn't work is to simply look at countries that have tried it. Whether it's a totalitarian regime like the former Soviet Union or a free democracy like Canada, anytime the government steps in and takes over free market healthcare, it results in substandard healthcare if not complete failure. Once the Soviet Union collapsed, it was finally revealed that their healthcare system was in complete shambles, lacking modern medical equipment and basic plumbing. As Robert Conquest wrote in "Reflections on a Ravaged Century," Moscow's health minister acknowledged in 1991 that "half of the hospitals in the (capital) had no sewerage, 80 percent lacked hot water, and some 17 percent did not have running water of any sort."

For those who think that I shouldn't pick on communists every time Democrats wants me to pay for "large community projects," government enforced healthcare has also failed in the West. In Great Britain, where the National Health Service (NHS) pays for all British citizens' medical needs, 60,000 Britons still traveled abroad for healthcare in 2006, while another 70,000 are expected to do the same in 2007, with that number expected to increase to 200,000 by 2010. See Larry Elder, *Government: If It Ain't Broke, They'll Break It*, <http://www.townhall.com>, (November 8, 2007). This is due in large part to long wait-lists and inadequate care. The London Times reports that the NHS "is in deep trouble, mired in scandal and incompetence, despite the injection of billions of pounds of taxpayers' money."

The Canadians also find themselves struggling with their supposed prized nationalized healthcare system. Despite being illegal, private hospitals and clinics are spurring up across the country to handle the overflow of patients frustrated with long waitlists. See Clifford Krauss, *Canada's Private Clinics Surge as Public System Falter*, The New York Times (February 28, 2006). Rather than closing these new private hospitals, overwhelmed public hospitals are actually sending them patients. One of these private hospitals founders, Dr. Brian Day, calls Canada's current system illegal, explaining that while dogs can get a hip replacement in less than a week, people have to wait two to three years. The Canadian Supreme Court also found Quebec's ban on private health insurance unconstitutional where "patients were suffering and even dying on waiting lists."

In finding a solution to healthcare's high cost, nationalization is simply the wrong answer, as it will create more problems than it will solve, just as it has in other nations. The real solution lies in looking at the causes of healthcare's high costs and fixing them through the free market, ensuring that there is *'real'* competition in the medical industry. And, yes, my fellow future lawyers, placing limits on medical malpractice suits may also be necessary to drive medical costs down. Ultimately, the government isn't exactly known for its efficiency. Do we really think that this will change once government nationalizes healthcare? Let's not ignore the obvious: it's exactly because of our free markets that our medical care is the envy of the world. To put it another way, I certainly don't want to switch to a healthcare system where a dog gets medical treatment two to three years before I do, which is exactly what Hillary and her cronies would give us!

Liberal rebuttal. . .

Universal health care plans in other developed countries are, of course, as imperfect as the people who designed them. But when every single developed country in the world but the United States has adopted such a plan over the last hundred years, and none has discarded it, shouldn't this make one think that maybe they're right and universal health care actually does work better? It is of course possible that the whole world is mistaken and we are correct; but isn't it more likely the other way around?

Brandishing the favorite conservative bugaboo – higher taxes – only tells half of the story and conveniently ignores the fact that we are paying a lot of money for health care right now. Our current health insurance premiums are, in effect, a health care tax. Add to that the high deductibles. Then add the medical debt that hospitals can't currently collect, and distribute it to all of us through higher medical fees. Then add the cost of lost work hours due to sick days. Whether they're called tax or something else, these are costs that ultimately come from our pockets.

Let's not confuse medical technology with medical care. We have top medical technology and services, but tell that to the 47 million of us who are uninsured and don't have access to them. I wonder how our medical care system would be the envy of the developed countries, when we rank #37 for our health care system's overall performance; #45 for life expectancy; and #41 for infant mortality (*data: CIA World Fact Book, WHO*).

On the other hand, we rank #1 in terms of health care expenses per capita. So here's the dotted line: we're spending more than any other country for health care; what we get for our money is less than what most developed countries get; and unlike all developed countries we don't have universal health care. Connect the dots.

By Alin Rosca

LIBERAL GAVEL COLUMNIST



We believe that everyone in our country has the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Yet 18,000 of us lose their lives prematurely every year because they don't have health insurance; millions more are the prisoners of mounting piles of medical debt; and for the 47 million uninsured Americans, happiness is but an illusory dream when a visit to the emergency room can ruin their lives.

We have the largest economy in the world; the most powerful military; the most advanced technology. Yet we're the among the laggards of developed countries when it comes to caring for our own sick. We're at the top among the developed nations in terms of sophisticated hospitals and state-of-the-art medical equipment, but at the bottom when it comes to overall health care performance and life expectancy. We're the only developed country that does not offer universal health care to its citizens.

We think of ourselves as a compassionate nation: we give money to fight AIDS, poverty, and illiteracy on other continents; we send relief to other nations that fall victim to catastrophic natural events. Yet our compassion has evaded those among ourselves who fall victim to the personal catastrophe of getting seriously ill while being uninsured.

We spend tens of billions of dollars every year to maintain military bases in faraway lands and guarantee the security of foreign peoples. Yet we don't guarantee the basic health of our own people. We've spent hundreds of billions of dollars in the last six years alone to fight real or imaginary enemies in foreign countries. We've ignored the ill and uninsured in our own country.

We pool our money together as a society to provide support for our elderly when they retire; for our disabled; for those of us who suffer work-related accidents; and for those who lost their jobs. But we leave our sick and helpless to fend for themselves. We provide support to our elderly, disabled, injured, and unemployed because we care about them; because we know we ourselves will get old, and may get disabled, injured, or become unemployed; and because it benefits our society when people in need are cared for, so they can be less of a burden and more of an asset to their communities. But what about our sick? Don't we also care about them? Aren't we also concerned that we or a family member may be hit by a serious disease at a time when we're least prepared for it? Wouldn't we as a society be better off if all of us are healthier? Then why are we not helping our sick as we help our elderly, disabled, injured, or unemployed?

Social security, disability insurance, workers' compensation, and unemployment insurance are social programs whose vocation is universal. They may have problems and could be improved, but they work and serve us well. We've come to regard them as normal entitlements – basic rights – for which we as a society pay, and on which we as individuals can rely on if or when we're in need. What's the difference between these and universal health insurance?

We value our fundamental rights and spend tremendous energy to preserve them. But how is health care less fundamental when all other rights are just empty words for someone who can't exercise them because he's ill and can't get medical treatment? How important is freedom of assembly for a bedridden cancer patient who can't pay for his chemotherapy? How important is freedom of speech for an expecting, uninsured mother who can't afford to give birth in a hospital?

Designing an adequate universal health care plan is certainly a monumental endeavor. But it's nowhere near the impossible task that some conservatives claim it to be. There are plenty of models among other developed countries that have dealt a long time ago with the issues we're contemplating just now: Germany has adopted universal health care in 1880, Great Britain in 1948, Australia in 1975, Canada gradually up until 1984. They've had problems, but they're improving them and the problems are much smaller than the benefits.

We are an advanced, wealthy, compassionate nation. We have the resources to make sure that everyone has access to this fundamental right: the right to get medical help when needed. There's no reason to deny this right to those in need.

Conservative rebuttal. . .

I want to thank my counterpart for proving that free healthcare is not free at all. Rather than raise taxes, he would pay for nationalized healthcare with the high price of national security by pulling our military out of the War on Terrorism. Although he believes in his fantasy liberal wonderland that terrorists are "imaginary enemies," I seriously doubt that the families of the over 3,000 victims of 9/11 would agree. Though the war is another debate for another day, the price my counterpart proposes is a price that I'm certainly not willing to pay, especially for something that fails everywhere it's tried, including those nations that he so blindly lauds! While the government's ability to defend our great nation can easily be found in Articles I & II of the Constitution, nowhere does the Constitution even mentions a supposed right to free healthcare.

Whereas my counterpart would have you believe that we are a heartless nation that "leave[s] our sick and helpless to fend for themselves," nothing is further from the truth, as even uninsured Americans are able to receive healthcare. Nonprofits and government-run hospitals provide services to those who can't afford insurance, and, most importantly, it's illegal to refuse emergency care, simply because someone lacks insurance. Additionally, nationalized healthcare will reduce doctor flexibility and lead to poor patient care, just as it has in Britain and Canada. The loss of private practice options and possible reduced pay may also dissuade many from pursuing the medical profession. For instance, Canada is experiencing a national doctor shortage, where in the Ontario province alone, 1.4 million people lack access to a family doctor.

The real solution is to enforce existing antitrust laws, ensuring real competition in the medical industry, and limiting medical malpractice suits. Only then, will prices come down, while the ingenuity of American medical advancements continues to be the world's envy.

Thanksgiving hijacked: holiday consumerism trumps tradition

By Paul Deegan
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As I walked into Starbucks the day after Halloween, I noticed a peculiar atmosphere unlike any that I had experienced before. The place was full of green and red, and there was festive merchandise placed all around. I was aghast to instantly realize that somehow, somehow, the corporate world decided to eliminate Thanksgiving this year. It felt unnatural, like drinking beer with breakfast – it was just wrong.

I knew it was coming. For a number of years, the “holiday season” has crept upon Thanksgiving’s “personal space,” but I never believed that it would ever start the *day after Halloween*.

Not too long ago, the holiday season began the day after Thanksgiving.

That Friday was always the first day of the shopping season, and all the stores around the nation seemed to have prepared their decorations the night before

to prepare for a grand unveiling that somehow gave a person a special feeling inside.

But nothing is special anymore – tradition is dying. The only thing special today is profit, the only tradition – hoped for quarterly gains. As a result, the commercialization of the “holiday season” has all but eliminated Thanksgiving.

History shows why this is happening. As profits have waned in previous years, marketers came up with the idea to extend the shopping season. Brilliant minds decided to start the season early by flooding the market full of festive products and decorations, well before Thanksgiving, in order for their company to survive.

The
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But nothing is special anymore- tradition is dying. The only thing special today is profit, the only tradition- hoped for quarterly gains.

Many businesses completely rely on the holiday season to stay profitable. The response is understandable, but it doesn’t change the fact that Thanksgiving, one of the most important holidays celebrated in the nation is taken for granted.

Thanksgiving is so important. First, the holiday is patriotic and helps give us an identity. Nothing is more inspiring than thinking about those original immigrants giving thanks for the bounty the future United States provided for them that autumn season.

It further represents the determined spirit of Americans and the American dream for a better life. Second, Thanksgiving is a holiday everyone can celebrate. It doesn’t matter what religion a person belongs to – everyone can give thanks for something.

Even with all of its faults, the United States is still the best nation in the world and we can all give thanks for being here.

This is not to say there aren’t those who venerate the holiday. Almost every community has some sort of outreach program to help the poor in their area and there is always some story of a philanthropist donating turkeys or pies to those in need.

It’s just unfortunate that the commercial industry doesn’t follow that example. It seems the only commercial players acknowledging Thanksgiving are supermarket chains trying to sell turkeys and pumpkin pie.

Of course, other companies don’t really have an incentive to market for Thanksgiving, but there was always an implied respect for the holiday by



refraining to advertise Christmas until after the last Thursday in November.

Please don’t misunderstand. I love Christmas and the holiday season, but there is a right time and place for everything.

Before Thanksgiving is just not the right time. The negative ramifications of this practice are twofold. 1) Thanksgiving becomes overshadowed by Christmas and the holiday season. 2) The true meaning of Christmas and the holiday season is diluted when companies add an extra month of intense marketing.

Thirty more days of holiday shopping only increases consumer debt and shifts the traditional meaning of Christmas that promoted family and charity to consumer greed and a feeling of entitlement.

It seems like we are all so worried about *what* we’re getting for the holidays that we forget *why* we’re celebrating in the first place. Unless we get back to the true meaning of things, Thanksgiving is doomed to continue to take a back seat to commercialism.

Now that the real “holiday season” is upon us, I appreciate seeing festive decorations, hearing holiday music, and smelling holiday scents. But I can’t help but be disappointed that Thanksgiving was hijacked this year. I know it will only get worse. Maybe next year they will start the holiday season the day after Labor Day. I wouldn’t be surprised.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student responds to “2Ls in 1L classes” story

After reading November’s “2Ls competing in 1L classes – Is it fair?”, I am in disbelief that most respondents believe the practice of grading 1L’s and 2L’s on the same curve is fair. Most surely it is not.

Since much of the difficulty of the first year curriculum is unfamiliarity with legal reasoning and final exam testing practices, how could it possibly be fair that students with a year’s familiarity with the law and law school are permitted to compete with those who have never encountered these trials before?

The rejoinder that 2L’s in first year classes have had “external commitments” that somehow negate their classroom advantage is utterly unconvincing; 2L’s year-long exposure to the law and law school – an exposure not enjoyed by 1L’s – occurred whether or not they were subject to other pressures.

This cynical and resigned approach to justice should not be countenanced in a college of law.

I propose a fix: the professor creates the curve without considering the 2L’s scores.

Once the curve is formed with 1L’s scores only, 2L’s scores are then placed at the appropriate points on the already-fixed curve and assigned corresponding grades.

This method would justly award all and penalize none.

Others may counter, complaining that this would create too many A’s and B’s. But wouldn’t this rejoinder simply confirm the suspicion that the 2L’s have an unfair advantage?

The article quotes a 1L passively sighing that life and law are not fair.

This cynical and resigned approach to justice should not be countenanced in a college of law.

If a law school’s grading of students early on fosters in them the impression that fairness and justice are fiction and fantasy, then the society which these students will one day serve is unfairly disadvantaged.

Ed Herman, 1L

Monotony of law school life gets to 1L

Anonymous 1L

The following is the third part of a six-part series following the experiences of an anonymous first-year student.

As I struggle to find something to write about, I am forced to face the fact that there is nothing new or interesting for me to relay to the student body. I am completely stagnant. I have nothing creative, nothing witty, and as always, nothing intelligent to share with you. Ergo, I will write about the mediocrity and predictability that is my current state of being.

I walk to class every morning, coffee spilling over the rim of my paper cup burning my hand. I walk in the same direction everyday. I walk through the same doors, up the same stairs, and into the same room. The regularity of my life not only leaves me feeling vulnerable to a stalker, should one chose to become such, but it also leaves me feeling commonplace. I pull my pen out of my bag and wait for something important to write down.

It is funny how “important” changes with the passage of time and circumstance. In elementary school, it was very important that I was first in the lunch line. Now, it is very important that I understand “color of title.” What should be important and what I deem to be important are two vastly different things.

For example, it should be important for me to keep my apartment from precipitating a public health emergency. However, it is currently more important for me to read about output contracts than to properly dispose of the gallon of Crystal Light that has been sitting in my fridge since August.

The more importance I place upon the official-looking case books, the more my external life seems to fall apart. I have been deemed by my family to be M.I.A. I found dust on my laundry basket, and I have forgotten how to read for fun. My mind tells me that this is not the way things should be.

So perhaps the real challenge in law school is not mastering proximate cause. Maybe the challenge is not to lose sight of what is really important. In order to help my fellow 1L's, I am going to make a list of important things. Remember that what is really important to me may

not be important to you, but it should be.

The first important element in life is the obvious “family.” Despite the annoyingly incessant phone calls and prying inquiries, they are the only people

who are in it for the long haul. They put up with me, which is more than I can say for the majority of people I have met. While there are moments where I want to forget about them, they are my backbone and deserve a phone call from time to time.

The next element is a cluster of “important” in order from most important

to least: beer, personal hygiene, overall cleanliness, and fostering my creative faculties.

While these things may seem expendable, they are not. Drink a beer. Brush my teeth. Take out my trash. Draw a picture. They are relatively simple procedures that do not require much energy, but I often forget to do them... except drinking a beer. I usually do not forget to do that but I felt that I had to mention it for those students who are not prone to drinking. Beer is relaxing.

Finally, it is most important to not forget who you are. While grades are important, they are not so important as to justify losing oneself in the thicket of law school. Since I have become a law student four months ago, I have changed.

The way I dress, the manner in which I speak, and my mode of thinking have become alarmingly different from my pre-law existence. At the end of the day, I still look extremely unattractive when I sleep, I still despise cilantro, and I love to be around crass, inappropriate people. The things that comprise us are most likely a large part of what got us into law school to begin with. We need to hold those quirky

Anonymous 3L believes law school is not “end all, and be all of life”

Anonymous 3L

The following is the third part of a six-part series following the beaten and broken law student.

As we approach the end of another year, I find myself in a state of reflection. I am not the same person I was when I began law school. I think many (if not most) of us have changed in ways we didn't anticipate.

There are the ways in which I wish I wouldn't have changed, including my renewed sense of insecurity and self-doubt. Law school has beaten me to a pulp and spit me out, and, at times, I feel like a shell of the person I once was. On the other hand, law school has made me stronger. I feel like, after what I've been through over the past few years, I can do anything.

I can see the light at the end of the tunnel, and I have recently (finally!) gained a sense of clarity. Law school is not the end all and be all. I am not a bad student or any less of an accomplished person because I am not at the top of my class. There are far worse things in life besides not doing well on one exam, just as there are greater joys in life than doing well on an exam.

Law school is not an indication of anything except how good I am at the game of law school. It does not reflect the kind of lawyer I will be or whether I

will be successful in my career.

I have heard these thoughts from so many practicing attorneys, but it wasn't until now that I truly believe them.

I honestly feel relaxed going into finals this time, and I'm not sure if it's because of these revelations or because I have already gone through this four times. I'm still here after four rounds of finals, and I like the person I have become.

Don't get me wrong – I still feel stressed and my classes are difficult.

Law School has beaten me to a pulp and spit me out, and at times, I feel like a shell of the person I once was.

But, I think this is a different feeling and one you can only understand in your last year of law school.

First years take note! This is your first round of finals. Please do not hyperventilate;

they are only tests. They are important right now, but your life will not be over if you do not do well. Trust me.

You have two choices: 1) let finals eat you alive or 2) take it as just another challenge in life that will be over in a few weeks.

In the words of my dad, “all you can do is your best and if that's what you do then you should be very proud of yourself.” I know it's cheesy but he's right. And it's the holiday season, so I'm allowed to be cheesy – it's required this time of year.

I want to wish everyone good luck on finals. Have a wonderful holiday and a happy and healthy new year.

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The Gavel

Submissions or letters to the editors can be e-mailed to:
gavel@law.csuohio.edu

The best Christmas movies of all time chosen by someone who dislikes Christmas

By Matt Samsa

GAVEL COLUMNIST

In an attempt to put myself in the holiday spirit, I've decided to compile my unofficial list of the top Christmas movies of all time. These movies are in no order in particular. The numbers after the actors are their "Bacon Numbers."

Die Hard -- New York cop John McClane gives terrorists a dose of their own medicine as they hold hostages in an LA office building

Nothing says Christmas like a disgruntled, divorced police officer played by Bruce Willis (2) blowing up the Nakatomi Building in Los Angeles. This movie has it all: Bruce Willis' corny one liners (all too foul to quote here), the warm Los Angeles Christmas environment, Carl Winslow (Reginald VelJohnson, 2) from *Family Matters* buying Twinkies and arguing with his recalcitrant supervisor, Deputy Police Chief Dwayne T. Robinson. It's always nice to see a really foul, violent movie at Christmas time, and *Die Hard* certainly fits the bill. A can't miss Christmas flick.

Home Alone -- An eight year-old, who is accidentally left behind while his family flies to France for Christmas, has to defend his home against idiotic burglars

Another can't miss Christmas film. Joe Pesci (1) and Daniel Stern (1) bumblin' through a house as Macaulay Culkin

(2) sets painful traps for them. This film comes complete with a wide range of slapstick humor, including countless blows to the antagonists' groins. John Candy (1) even makes a cameo as the Polka King of the Midwest and drives Culkin's mother, played by Catherine O'Hara (2), back to Chicago in time to pull off a Christmas miracle. As a bonus, Daniel Stern reminds me of *The Wonder Years*, which he narrated, which reminds me of the rumor that Paul on that show grew up to be Marilyn Manson. Which then reminds me of the rumor about Manson's ribs.

Bad Santa -- A miserable conman and his partner pose as Santa and his Little Helper to rob department stores on Christmas Eve. But they run into problems when the conman befriends a troubled kid, and the security boss discovers the plot.

There's nothing like drunken Santa and his Little People friend robbing a department store. Billy Bob Thornton's (2) tour de force as an alcoholic disgruntled Santa really cheers me up. There's

something about a terribly foul Christmas movie that makes me feel much better. Like *Die Hard*, there's absolutely nothing I can quote from this movie here. But the mom from *Gilmore Girls* (2) makes a wonderful appearance.

The Nightmare Before Christmas --



Jack Skellington, Pumpkin King, ruler of Halloween-town, happens upon Christmas town, and decides to change Christmas into another Halloween

At the very least, this movie is enjoyable because it turns Christmas into something goth. Nobody has ever captured Santa quite as well as Jack Skellington when he said "And on a dark cold night, under full moonlight, he flies into the fog like a vulture in the sky!" It's like watching *Beetlejuice* with a Christmas twist. Catherine O'Hara does the voice of Sally, which gives her appearances in two of the top Christmas movies of all time.

A Christmas Story -- Ralphie has to convince his parents, teachers, and Santa that a Red Ryder BB gun really is the

perfect gift for the 1940's

I wasn't sure whether I wanted this movie on the list anymore because I simply cannot stand how they play it for 24 hours straight on Christmas Day, but I think it really needs to be on the list. This movie was filmed in Cleveland and it's nice to see downtown Cleveland the way it used to be during the Christmas season, especially the old Higbee's Christmas bonanza. I also love watching the waiter cut the head off the duck at the Chinese restaurant. As a side note, there's a *Christmas Story* museum on W.14th Street in Tremont.

It's A Wonderful Life -- An angel helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman by showing what life would had been like if he never existed

This is the only sappy movie I'm going to put on the list, but I don't think any list of the best Christmas movies would be complete without it. However, it's funny to think that everyone in the town loved the town banker so much -- I can't imagine loving my banker. Also, being in the midst of a foreclosure crisis, it's interesting to think back to the scene where James Stewart (2) reminds people making a run on his savings and loan that their money is tied up in the houses in the community. I wish we still had more savings and loan institutions instead of a mortgage backed securities market.

Importance of researching political parties and politicians

Continued from page 1--

look out for them and will end crooked government. Even with knowledge of classical philosophical theories, which surmise that governmental corruption predates civilization (is that possible?), they still believe their ears.

Many will stick with their party just to protect them from the wealthy, power-hungry Republicans, and even more will go Democrat because they believe in open immigration.

But have they ever seen "regular person" John Edwards' house? Are they aware that the much touted "Hillary Care" is not a national health care plan but rather just an injection of a little more control, some tax credits, and insurance portability into the current system? Isn't Barack Obama's once-and-for-all idea of securing our borders and speeding up citizenship for current illegal immigrants similar to... wait a minute... Ronald Reagan's?

If reading this makes you think, good. If it causes you

to seriously contemplate which candidate will earn your vote, even better.

Whether we consider ourselves Republican, Democrat, or other, we should begin to appreciate the fact that there might not be as much daylight between the parties as the biased media or candidates would have us believe.

Take the time to find out where the candidates stand on the issues that are most important to you.

Use your own reasoning skills to determine the likelihood that they will break political tradition by putting you before the special interests.

The information can all be easily found online, so you can check on these issues while planning your next quail hunting trip or purchasing some carbon offsets.

When you're content that you know exactly who and what you are voting for, get your now-informed self to those polls and punch that Diebold machine with the awareness and conviction that you now proudly possess.

1L reflects on first-week mishap

By Tamie Myers

GAVEL CONTRIBUTOR

I got stuck in one of Viking Hall's elevators a few months ago. It was early Friday afternoon of Labor Day weekend, right after Property class. I was eager to get going on my holiday plans—a "working weekend" at my hunting cabin that included maintenance projects as well as reading and briefing for my classes. Loaded down with law books, laundry and my laptop, I stepped into one of the three elevators. Unfortunately, I picked the wrong one. After the doors closed the car lurched into motion, traveled a short distance...then shuddered to a silent stop. Damn. I waited a few beats before touching the emergency bell. The ring sounded tinny. This did not comfort me.

My pessimistic nature took over. The cable would break; the car would drop; I would freefall over ten stories to my death. Could I jump up at the last second and save myself from massive blunt-force trauma? No, I saw that myth busted on TV. Just as I was about to pick up the phone and report my predicament, the car began to move. Gritting my teeth, I swore I'd exit the swinging

steel prison on whatever floor the doors opened. When they finally parted on nine, my stuff and I literally tumbled out of the car. Taking the stairs, especially down, never felt so good.

After a productive weekend of mowing grass, cutting firewood, watching deer and reading cases, I returned to campus and my temporary home in the dorm. Approaching the elevator lobby with some trepidation, I briefly contemplated hoofing it up thirteen floors, but soon concluded that that option was, quite possibly, MI-inducing. Reasoning that no one would find me if I gorked-out on the stairs, I reluctantly swiped my ID across the scanner, pressed the call button and waited for my next elevator adventure to begin. This time I was transported to the top floor without a hitch, a smooth and uneventful ride. It was almost as if the elevator was apologizing for its previous transgression. But I refused to be lulled into complacency. I grabbed my stuff, stepped across the car's threshold and strode into the elevator lobby. As I rounded the turn into the hallway toward my room I thought I heard a snicker. No one was in the lobby. I glanced back at the elevator, but the doors were

already closed. The car was on its way to pick up its next unsuspecting victim...uh, passenger.

I have an uncomfortable relationship with elevators. Living in Viking Hall during my first year of law school is enough of a jolt to my system without the added pressure of using elevators every day. Oh, I can hear the comments—how can I possibly be concerned about daily rides in an elevator when in my former life I ran into burning buildings, risked exposure to blood-borne pathogens, and even rescued people from stuck elevators? (That terrified woman we extricated from an elevator through the car's trap door comes to mind.) It's easy, I reply. I know what can go wrong with the darn things! Or at least I'm capable of imagining what can go wrong with them, a skill developed through years of training at the fire department.

That life is behind me now. In middle age I've turned my focus to law. No more working fires, EMS responses, auto accidents or water rescues. Now it's contracts, property, civil procedure and torts. And while I recognize that my practical "firefighter eye" may not be the most useful tool in this scholarly setting, I doubt if it will ever leave me. Which may not be such a bad thing after all, especially if my student experience includes daily rides in an evil-minded elevator.

Volume 1, Issue 2

December, 2007

Student Bar Association

SPECIAL NEWSLETTER SECTION

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the S.B.A. Executive Board and S.B.A. Senate, I would like to start by thank the entire Cleveland-Marshall community for a great semester.

On October 26th, the Student Bar Association held its annual Halloween Social at Panini's Gateway. An enthusiastic group came out to celebrate, and many elaborate costumes were on display.

The event was a great success, but the best costumes seemed to be on display at the day's earlier Halloween event: The First Annual S.B.A. Halloween Kids social. This event saw around forty law school community youngsters spend the afternoon playing games in the atrium and watching "The Great Pumpkin" in the Moot Court Room. Thanks to all who helped make this event a success!

For those looking for a break from their constant studies during finals, be on the lookout for the End-of-Semester Social as finals come to an end, as well as our Spring Semester Welcome Back Social! In addition, Barrister's Ball is rapidly approaching, as our Programming Committee is in the final stages of

selecting this year's venue!

The S.B.A. would also like to thank BarBri for their generous Bar Review course donation which was auctioned off in conjunction with our graduation photos. Thank you to all of those who bid on this course. Support like this will hopefully allow the S.B.A. to continue its tradition of giving to Student Scholarships this spring.

As the new year approaches, I would like to encourage students to contact me, or any of your S.B.A. Senate representatives, with any concerns regarding your time here at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. The S.B.A. is here to serve you, so please let us know of any pressing matters which you feel need to be addressed.

In closing, the S.B.A. Executive Board and Senate would like to wish all of you the best of luck on finals. Additionally, we wish all of you a happy holiday season.

Enjoy your time off over the next month; we look forward to seeing all of you next semester in our newly renovated and updated facilities!

Nicholas Hanna, S.B.A. President

1L SENATOR PROFILE: MELANIE SHWAB

First year student and SBA Senator Melanie Shwab is a witty New Yorker who is ready to climb the ladder of success.

Before law school, Melanie attended The Ohio State University and worked at Ernst & Young in Boston, Massachusetts. In between her work and play, she spent six months in Israel to help troubled children.

Now she is grounded in Cleveland and happy to be back in a learning environment. Melanie expressed that she enjoys learning and working towards her goal, and is espe-



cially fond of the continuous free pizza that the law school supplies.

Her ultimate goal is to land a job in employment law, or to just be employed in general!

Outside of law school, Melanie likes going to Sushi Rock in downtown Cleveland and shopping at Sweet Lorain, a vintage clothing store.

She has found little time for entertainment since school has started. Melanie explained that her strongest dislikes about law school are the grading curve and ambiguous PowerPoint slides in her classes.

Melanie is happy to be in Cleveland, and has enjoyed school as well as being a first year Senator. "What is really cool about S.B.A. is being in a leadership position and contributing to the student body life in law school," she said.

Laura Kolat, 1L Day Senator

C-M ITALIAN ORGANIZATION MAKES LEGAL CONNECTIONS

A savvy group of Marshall students celebrated Italian culture with a seven course Italian dinner at the Cleveland Justinian Forum's annual "Night Out in Little Italy".

Nido Italiano restaurant played host to over sixty guests, the majority of which were Italian-American judges and lawyers living in the Cleveland area.

"The event made for a great networking opportunity for twenty Marshall students," remarked Matt Lallo, Social Consigliere for the Cleveland Chapter of The Justinian Forum.

Mr. Lallo joined The Justinian Forum this year, and has been surprised by not only this event, but the participation of club members in general. "Meetings alone have garnered quite a nice turnout," he stated.

The Justinian Forum, dedicated to preserving Italian culture in America, is named after Eastern Roman Emperor Justinian I, who reformed the Roman civil code to influenced modern day law.

Not surprisingly, there was talk of history at

the Night out in Little Italy—it's customary for the party's attendees to engage in a round of trivia. Judges faced-off against lawyers in seven heated rounds of questioning, on topics ranging from famous Italians, to marriage statistics of Italian-Americans.

Philip Angelo joined the fray, selected as the most knowledgeable Marshall student on hand. Unfortunately, he could not lead the lawyers to a victory.

While it was the judge's team that carried the day, everybody ended up happy with the event, according to Justinian Forum officers Kira Kittoe and Melanie Shaerban.

"Everyone left happy, after meeting many of the area's prominent lawyers and judges," Ms. Shaerban said.

Ms. Kittoe agreed, offering, "And we expect that we'll have the same turnout when we attend Night Out in Little Italy next year!"

She added, "Anyone interested in learning about the Justinian Forum should check out our website, and join us for future events!"

The Justinian Forum website: www.justinianforum.bravehost.com

Rick Ferrara, 2L Day Senator

SBA EVENT OF THE MONTH

S.B.A. PROGRAM SUPPORTS THE TROOPS

The S.B.A. Adopt a Unit Initiative is underway!

In an effort to support our troops serving abroad, the S.B.A. has teamed with the United Services Organization (U.S.O.), a private non-profit organization whose mission is to support the troops by providing morale, welfare and recreation-type services to our men and women in uniform.

While the S.B.A. is not making a statement on current events, this is a great way for us to support our troops. Our hope in this initiative is to represent our law school by extending a touch of home to our troops.

Starting this week and throughout the end of finals this semester, the S.B.A. will be collecting the following donations for the U.S.O. to send out to units stationed abroad: toilet paper, oral hygiene products, men and women's personal products, magazines, DVD's, CD's, and any kind of food item, especially chocolate.

Donation drop off locations will be located at the Student Services Office by Israel's desk and the S.B.A. office during office hours.

All donations will be greatly appreciated!

Chuck Northcutt, 3L Day Senator

Have a student organization event that you want to highlight? Let us know! Contact cnorthcutt@law.csuohio.edu

Visit the S.B.A. Website for more information: www.law.csuohio.edu/currentstudents/studentorg/sba/

Editors: Rick Ferrara, 2L Day Senator; Chuck Northcutt, 3L Day Senator

What does Hillary Clinton stand for? You decide

Compiled by Daniel Kelly

STAFF WRITER

Do you think you know the presidential candidates? How does Hillary Clinton really feel about certain topics? The following are some often overlooked quotes involving presidential candidate Hillary Clinton that put some of her positions in perspective.

Iraq

-Leslie Stahl: We have heard that a half million children have died [as a result of the sanction the U.S. insisted on maintaining on Iraq regardless of anything Iraq did to comply with the Clinton Administration's demands.] Is the price worth it?

-Madeline Albright, currently a top advisor to Hillary Clinton: I think this is a very hard choice, but the price--we think the price is worth it. *60 Minutes* May 12, 1996

-Sec. of State Powell: "[Saddam] has not developed any significant capability with respect to weapons of mass destruction. He is unable to project conventional power against his neighbors." Feb. 24, 2001

-Pres. Bush "Fuck Saddam, we're taking him out" *March 2002* - As reported *May 2002* in *Time* Magazine

-Pres. Bush: I'm committed to a regime change." *September 10, 2002*

-Q: "And doesn't this really confirm...that Mr. Bush is not interested in a U.N. resolution that would resume inspections of any kind, that what he's really interested in is getting international support for the military action, the regime change that he feels is necessary?"

-Whitehouse Spokesman Fleischer:

Well, Wendell, I think what it shows is that the President is interested in exactly that." *September 13, 2002*

-Sen. Clinton: "Today we are asked whether to give the President of the United States authority to use force in Iraq should diplomatic efforts fail" *October 10, 2002*

-H.J.Res.114: "The President is authorized to use the Armed Forces of the United States as he determines..." passed by Senate *October 11, 2002*

-Sen. Clinton: "[The President] misused that authority." -repeatedly, *throughout 2007*

-Sen. Clinton: "We lost that opportunity by refusing to let the UN inspectors finish their work in Iraq and rushing to war instead. *Nov/Dec 2007 Foreign Affairs*

-Sen. Clinton: "It is right in the heart of the oil region. It is directly in opposition to our interests, to the interests of regimes, to Israel's interests. So I think we have a remaining military as well as political mission," interview with the *New York Times* March 14, 2007

Settlements

-Former Israeli Foreign Minister Shlomo Ben Ami: "[Arafat's] only way to get back to the territories was through an agreement...he made enormous concessions...If the Israelis, after Oslo, continued expansion of settlements they were violating the spirit of Oslo" *Democracy Now!* Radio program *Feb. 14, 2006*

-Yassir Arafat, PLO Chairman: I, as chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, hereby once more declare

that I condemn terrorism in all its forms." *Dec. 13, 1988*

-Sec. of State Rice: "For a generation now...the Palestinian leadership has adhered to the principles that would undergird a two-state solution, including renunciation of violence and the willingness to live side by side with Israel." *March 19, 2007*

-Pres. Clinton: "Shlomo Ben-Ami worked tirelessly and courageously for peace."

-Shlomo Ben-Ami: "If I were a Palestinian I would have rejected Camp David, as well." *Democracy Now!* Radio program *Feb. 14, 2006*

Note: Settlements increased almost continuously throughout the Oslo "peace process."

To paraphrase the numerous statements **Sen. Clinton** has made on the subject: "It's pretty much all Arafat's fault that an agreement wasn't reached in 2000."

Iran

-Sen. Clinton: "If Iran does not comply...all options must remain on the table." *Nov/Dec 2007 Foreign Affairs*

-Anne Miller: "[I] asked her if she really would leave all options on the table and how could she threaten, in effect, other countries' children with nuclear genocide. She looked me right in the eye, and she said, "No options are off the table."" *Feb. 13, 2007*

-Vice Pres. Cheney: "All options are still on the table." *Feb. 25, 2007*

-Sen. McCain: "So I think the

president's comment that we won't take anything off the table was entirely appropriate." *Aug. 14, 2005*

-Sen. Lieberman (D-Lockheed Martin), the most important lying warmonger in the U.S. Senate and cosponsor of the Lieberman/Kyl Act designed to bring the U.S. to war with Iran: "The Iranian government, by its actions, has all but declared war on us and our allies in the Middle East... The regime in Iran is betting that our political disunity in Washington will constrain us in responding to its attacks. For the sake of our nation's security, we must unite and prove them wrong."

Note: Sen. Clinton voted for the Lieberman/Kyl Act.

Honesty

-Sen. Clinton, former board member of Wal-Mart: "We've got to have more unionization because we need to give workers a real stake in the future of our economy going forward."

-Website of Burston-Marsteller; PR firm headed by top Hillary strategist Marc Penn: "Companies cannot be caught unprepared by Organized Labor's coordinated campaigns." (as of March 2007)

-Katherine Griffiths: "Starting the first Wal-Mart employees' union in North America seemed a good idea... the store closed last week... Wal-Mart has moved out of town for good." *May 11, 2005 Independent/UK*

Note: But she's a woman. And she's pro-choice. So you have to vote for her.



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