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The Amicus Curiae

VOLUME X, ISSUE THREE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1999

WILLIAM & MARY SCHOOL OF LAW

Students Drink, Dance and Be Merry at Fall From Grace

by Lauren S. Fassler

The parking lot at the Holiday Inn on Richmond Road started filling up Saturday night as more than a third of the law school arrived to celebrate the annual mid-semester "Fall From Grace."

"Everyone knows that 'Fall From Grace' is a good time so we generally get good attendance," said 3L Mac Stuckey, the Student Bar Association (SBA) president, regarding the October 16 semi-formal that last from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Men in suits and women in cocktail dresses crowded the low-lit hotel ballroom complete with a dance floor, buffet table, two open bars, and circular tables covered with white table cloths and clear glass vases with candles casting shadows.

"Last year Fall From Grace was held on campus," said 2L George Vogel, the SBA treasurer. "Apparently it was not as nice as everyone wanted it to be, so we stepped it up a notch this year."

Many students arrived with their

spouse or significant other, but a number of other students without dates came alone or in groups.

"Hopefully that wasn't a discouragement, people not being able to get a date," Vogel said.

At first people mingled around the tables and sampled the appetizers at the Holiday Inn-catered buffet table, including a vegetable platter and dip, wings, and meatballs. They also queued up behind the bars located at the two back corners of the room.

Before long, people started heading to the dance floor, kicking up their heels and breaking out a sweat to a mixture of Top 40 rock, Swing, slow dance, line dances like the "Electric Slide," and old favorites like "Shout."

Most students seemed to be having a good time, savoring the opportunity to get out and leave their studies behind. Then at 12:30 a.m., the atmosphere changed abruptly. The D.J. cut the music



Students take time off the dance floor to chat.

Photo by Lauren S. Fassler

off and the light went on, revealing the slight haze of smoke in the air and the beer bottles and empty glasses that had collected on the tables during the evening. Stuckey went in front of his peers, express-

ing his hope that everyone had a good time and announcing that taxi cabs were available outside for anyone who needed a safe

See Fall From Grace on 3

Backus Wins 1999 Bushrod Tournament

by Eric Nakano

This year's Bushrod T. Washington Moot Court tournament ended on Sunday, October 17, as the two finalists, Mary Sue Backus and Curtis Wayne Owen, presented their arguments in the appeal of *Wilderness Girls of America v. Kim*. This year's problem was designed by Kindra Gromelski and concerns the dismissal of two adult troop leaders from the Wilderness Girls of America after one wrote a letter identifying herself as a lesbian to her college newsletter. This letter subsequently came to the attention of the Wilderness Girls. The Wilderness Girls of America then dismissed the two troop leaders, who had served for two years. After unsuccessfully petitioning the regional Wilderness Girls chapter, the two women brought suit against the Wilderness Girls. The trial court ruled in favor of the Wilderness Girls, and the appellate court ruled in favor of the troop leaders. The case was then appealed to the Supreme Court of Wythe.

The tournament was larger than usual this year, with 92 students competing for the 32 spots on next year's Moot Court team. Both finalists were visibly nervous as they stepped up to the podium, but quickly regained the poise that had al-

ready carried them to the final round.

"You may have one or two judges convinced that you are absolutely wrong but you only need one-half plus one to win."

Bushrod Chief Justice Charles Poston

Ms. Backus spoke first, representing the Wilderness Girls of America. Responding quickly and confidently to a barrage of questions, she argued that the Wythe Law Against Discrimination is intrinsically linked to physical facilities. She then continued, arguing the Wilderness Girls is a selective and private organization and therefore not subject to the Law Against Discrimination. When pressed by the court, she conceded that this was a question of fact as well as law. Finally, she concluded by asserting that enforcement of the Law Against Discrimination would "trample the Wilderness Girls' First Amendment right of association," by forcing the Wilderness Girls to endorse homosexuality.

Mr. Owen, representing the dismissed

troop leaders, began by arguing that the appellate court was correct in finding the Wilderness Girls a place of public service, citing the size of the organization, and its lucrative cookie business. He continued to assert that the WGA's own policies prohibit it from establishing any particular religious view, regardless of whether a troop is sponsored by a church. Then, as he was winding down his arguments, Mr. Owen was met with a particularly tough question: If his clients were dismissed in 1992, and the Law Against Discrimination didn't cover them until the version amended in 1993, should the law apply? Pausing only a few moments, Mr. Owen urged the court to broadly interpret the Law Against Discrimination.

After a brief rebuttal by Ms. Backus, the panel went into chambers to deliberate. During the intermission, both finalists chatted with members of the audience. Mr. Owen, when asked how he felt, joked "I didn't cry. I didn't faint. I didn't throw up."

When the panel returned from deliberation, they announced that Ms. Backus had prevailed, and then proceeded to critique the two contestants on their technique. Particularly noteworthy, in their opinions was Mr. Owen's quick recovery during questioning when presented with a question that had not been previously considered, and Ms. Backus's apparent ease before the panel. Both contestants

See Backus is Bushrod Champ on 2

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Professors

Spotlight On: Paul Marcus

By Andrew Hampton

Professor Paul Marcus has a wide variety of experiences to his credit. He has been a dean, a law clerk, an author and a litigator. Now he is once again doing what he enjoys the most: teaching. The courses Marcus teaches here at William and Mary include Entertainment Law Litigation, Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure. He is not a newcomer to either field, his professional experiences having prepared him well for his classroom role.

Marcus received his law degree from the University of California at Los Angeles where he was Articles Editor for the *UCLA Law Review*. After graduation he headed cross-country to clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Between that time and joining the faculty of Marshall-

Wythe School of Law in 1992, Marcus taught at the University of Illinois Law School, served as Dean of the University of Arizona's law school for five years and spent some time in private practice in California doing mostly criminal and entertainment trial work.

The entertainment side of his practice allowed Marcus to work with such big name acts as The Allman Brothers, Grand Funk Railroad and artists on the Motown label. Most of his entertainment work was copyright related, Marcus said. He took on an even larger role in the area of copyright with the completion of a casebook entitled *Copyright and Other Aspects of Law Pertaining to Literary, Musical and Artistic Works*. The casebook,

See Professor Spotlight on 4



Photoby Lauren S. Fassler

Backus Claims Top Spot in Bushrod Final

Backus is Bushrod Champ from 1 were cautioned, however, against conceding any points in the face of difficult questioning. In Chief Justice Charles Poston's words, "Don't feel that if you get really slammed by one judge or a couple of judges on the panel that you've lost. You may have one or two judges convinced that you are absolutely wrong, but you only need one-half plus one to win."

Members of the team will compete in intramural tournaments as 3Ls next year. They will write briefs and argue them before judges much as they did in Bushrod. Team members are ranked according to their Bushrod results to determine who gets preference in tournament selection next year.

1999-2000

Audra Hale
Derek Brostek
Jennifer Brewer
Katherine Morrison
Martha Swicegood
Scott Hovey
Tameka Collier
Monica Robinson
Andrew Margrave
Curtis Wayne Owen
Sheyna Burt

Moot

Mark Jackson
Gretchen Greisler
Jessica Norris
Mark Floyd
Matthew Nieman
Stacey Mollohan
Traci Miller
Adam Doherty
Daniel Froehlich
Mary Sue Backus

Court

Team

David Shewchuck
Humes Franklin
Jill Kantor
Martha Lawson
Sarah Gee
Thomas Voekler
William Garrett
Amy Bauer
Anthony Tacconi
Karan Singh

THE AMICUS CURIAE

William & Mary School of Law

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Editorial Policy

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Letters to the Editor may not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper or its staff. All letters to the Editor should be submitted by 5 p.m. on the Thursday prior to publication. *The Amicus* will not print a letter without confirmation of the author's name. We may, however, withhold the name on request. Letters over 500 words may be returned to the writer with a request that the letter be edited for the sake of space.

We always need new writers and new ideas. Suggestions and/or criticisms are always welcome. (But note we reserve the right to get you back by making you a trading card.)

If interested contact the Amicus office at 221-3582.

Fall From Grace Brings Out The Class

Fall From Grace from 1
ride home.

To make the event a success, SBA started planning last semester, Vogel said. SBA signed up a DJ with a Virginia Beach company called Astro Jockey, which the SBA used for last year's formal Barrister's Ball. SBA also had to take care of contracting with Holiday Inn for the room and food.

This fall SBA advertised the event with posters and hanging file drops, but excitement through word-of-mouth also helped generate sales, Stuckey said. Tickets went on sale three weeks before the event, selling for \$15 for the first week and for \$17 after that. Even at those prices, the tickets do not cover the full cost of the event, which is partly subsidized by SBA funds.

The fall semi-formally is definitely not a fund-raiser, Vogel said. Rather, it is an opportunity for law students to party together with their classmates before they start stressing about exams but after they have had an opportunity to get settled and meet people.

But where did the dance's colorful name come from?

"The implication is 1-Ls come in all bright-eyed and bushy-tailed with hopes of changing the world," Stuckey said. "After two and half months they've 'fallen from grace.'"



What in the world is cooking today?



Fresh Wrap and Salad Flavors
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Marketplace at the Campus Center

Monday - Thursday 11AM - 2PM & 4:30PM - 8PM

Friday 11 AM - 2 PM



Band Night @ the Greene Leaf



The Green Leaf is
proud to announce the
return of band night on
Tuesday the 26th

Marcus Continues Criminal Law Work Outside The Classroom

Professor Spotlight from 2

begun by his father-in law Nimmer, the international leader on copyright, is one of the leading casebooks on copyright and entertainment law. Though he enjoys copyright law, Marcus is quick to mention that it is not his emphasis, criminal law is.

Marcus is the author of multiple criminal law books including *The Entrapment Defense and Criminal Procedure*. Marcus's love of criminal law is one of the reasons he left the west coast to come to Virginia. "Most of the criminal law work is in either New York or D.C.," Marcus stated, "and California was simply too far away." Professor Marcus also said that he liked the beauty of the area and the fact that the east coast actually had four seasons whereas California was mild year around. Since joining the faculty in 1992, Marcus

has been called upon to return to an administrative position twice. He was asked to serve as dean on an interim basis when the position was suddenly vacated not long after he arrived. Marcus soon returned to teaching but was once again asked to act as interim dean prior to the arrival of Dean Reevly.

"I had no intentions of becoming the permanent Dean," Marcus stated.

He said that "acting as Dean was rewarding" but that he would much rather teach. He felt that administrative duties consisted of work mostly outside of the school such as fundraising, which kept him away from the classroom and the students.

Outside of the classroom Professor Marcus is staying active assisting in criminal

trials, one of which will be before the Supreme Court this coming spring term. Marcus said that the case concerns the death penalty and jury instructions. He, along with several William and Mary students, is doing research to assist the defense.

Though Marcus typically works with defense teams, he does sometimes assist prosecutors as well. He is currently working on an organized crime case and the application of conspiracy law.

Marcus does all of this on a *pro bono* basis.

Marcus's teaching has not been limited to traditional law students and law school settings. He has also been fortunate enough to travel the world teaching criminal law to foreign judges. His travels have

taken him to Asia, India, Europe and South America where he has taught judges about the U.S. criminal process and helped them find solutions to the problems in their own countries.

Professor Marcus said that though he is the one doing the teaching, he learns much about our own system and its faults while abroad. He says, for example, that he "likes the way some nations train their judges," but he still likes how judges are chosen in the U.S.

Professor Marcus sees his job as very rewarding and feels fortunate in that each aspect of what he does, be it teaching or trial work, is not only exciting and enjoyable, but that it builds on itself, each aspect sharpening the others.

Organizations

Spotlight On: The International Law Society

by Carolyn Jackson

China, France, Korea, Chile, Khasakstan, Brazil.... No, this is not some exotic travel wish list (although I must admit to wanting to travel to many of these countries), but places in which members of the International Law Society (ILS) have lived.

As the world gets smaller due to technological advances and faster transportation, a more global outlook is required in order to stay on the cutting edge. For those of you involved in a job search, most firms now have an international practice area, and many magazines list international law as an up and coming field of practice. Most people know that we have an LLM program here at the law school which attracts candidates from all over the world (in the past couple of years, candidates have come from, among other places, Scotland, Norway, Poland, and France). In case obtaining an advanced degree abroad entices you, just go to the OCPP and discover all the options available to you.

Beyond all the career reasons to look beyond your own borders, an understanding of the world makes for a better rounded individual. This is where your friendly local chapter of the ILS steps in to help you out by providing ways to both learn about legal opportunities and obtain a better understanding of a variety of cultures.

On Wednesday, October 20, the OCPP and ILS co-sponsored an International Career Panel. Doug Adler, an attorney with Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts in Washington D.C., Frank Pedrotty, from the Attorney General's office in Richmond, Peter Kirchgraber, a 1998 MW graduate currently working at the Department of Commerce, and John Guyer, from the Reynolds Company, spoke about their experiences, how they got their current jobs, and what skills were necessary to break into their respective areas.

Mr. Adler travels the most of all the speakers, since his work in financial transactions requires him to globe trot frequently. His career requires the skill of sleeping on a plane (17 hours in the air is a frequent occurrence) and a tolerant spouse (he spent 90 days on the ground in Karachi over the course of nine months while completing a deal).

Mr. Pedrotty took an opportunity to spend six months in Bosnia working as legal counsel to the Elections Appeal Subcommittee set out by the Dayton Peace Accords.

Mr. Guyer rallied to the cause of the working as general counsel for a corporation. With the possible exception of prosecuting war criminals, he said that he had worked in all the areas mentioned by the other speakers. Working for a corporation also allows an attorney to move beyond merely working on legal issues to deciding

more business and larger picture issues.

Mr. Kirchgraber was the one speaker to begin work in the international arena, the result of a planned strategy throughout his law school career (2L summer spent at the DOC). Currently at the Department of Commerce, he highly recommends government work because you get a large amount of responsibility quickly (he started working on an 80 page brief as his first project at the DOC), and gain ample writing and research experience.

TIPS on finding jobs in international law: Although being a polyglot is an advantage to getting your foot in the door, the speakers suggested that lack of facility in a second (or more) language should not deter you from seeking a job in the international arena. If you do want to learn an additional language, Chinese and Spanish are hot languages to know at the moment since both China and Latin America are markets which are just beginning to be tapped. Never pass up an opportunity to network - figure out what you want (a job in Poland, for example) and let everyone you meet know what that is. Opportunities may come from unlikely sources.

All four of the speakers agreed on two things. First, no matter what type of law you practice, there is almost no way to avoid working with some aspect of international law. Second, no matter what type of law you initially practice (most people do not start out in international law), if you want

to get into international law volunteer for the opportunities that arise.

In addition to the Career Panel, ILS plans to provide several other opportunities to you over the course of this year. Other events currently planned are a welcoming Bar-B-Q for the LLM candidates who are here this year, a Foreign Film night or two (we know there are a lot of hidden film buffs lurking in these crowded hallways), and an Around the World Dinner. In addition, to provide more ongoing resources for you, we are establishing a better rapport with the undergraduate Reeves Center (which attracts a lot of big name speakers), and providing you with information about CLE classes sponsored by the ABA Section of International Law and Practice.

If you have any suggestions, time to volunteer, or want more information about ILS, just drop a note in the ILS hanging file and we'll be in touch.

Institute of Bill of Rights Sponsors School Voucher Debate

By Sarah Kinsman

More than 90 people gathered at the Institute of Bill of Rights October 19 debate about school voucher programs. The IBRL brought two of the country's most prominent attorneys in the voucher debate to discuss the issues involved.

Clint Bolick, vice-president and director of litigation for the libertarian public interest firm Institute for Justice, debated Elliot Mincburg, vice-president and education policy director for People for the American Way.

Bolick and Mincburg agree that the goal is quality education, but differ on the means of achieving it.

"Making sure every child gets the best possible education is the key goal," Mincburg said. "The best way to get there is to have public accountability and education gets the money it needs."

Bolick disagreed. "Opportunity is the most important aspect," he said. "Much of educational policy in recent years has been focused on equality, such as forced busing, and we've had a leveling down. If parents are given a decision, then that will take even the most disinterested parent and make them part of the process."

Voucher programs promote equality and choice by giving opportunities to inner-city students who may be relegated to attending mediocre schools, Bolick said.

"We've made tremendous strides in making opportunity equal," he said. "However, the process has been unequal in inner city schools where we have what amounts to educational apartheid."

Voucher programs like the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program provide a voucher out of public funds for parents to send children to another school, often private or parochial. This encourages schools to improve, Bolick said, because "instead of going to a public school because that's where (children) have to go, the schools could compete for them."

He cited several statistics showing improvements among voucher students, such as a tendency to stay in school, rising test scores, and increased graduation rates. Voucher programs are vital to school reform, he added.

In Florida, if a public school fails in any two years out of four, the children may attend a better public school or a private school, and the state will attempt to correct the failing school's problems.

"What we are no longer going to do is hold children hostage while we talk about fixing the public schools," he said.

The voucher programs give rise to concerns about violations of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, which mandates separation of church and state. Opponents of voucher programs

believe that vouchers constitute public funding of religious schools.

However, Bolick said that even though in some cities 97 percent of voucher students attend religious schools, many other choices are available. Already students use federal funding in higher education to attend religious schools or get divinity degrees.

"Individuals are deciding where they want to spend their money," he said. "The government is not subsidizing religious schools, but is giving parents control over actual dollars."

"What we are no longer going to do is hold children hostage while we talk about fixing the public schools."

Clint Bolick

Mincburg opposed school voucher programs on several grounds, including undermining the separation of church and state, and diverting funds from public schools.

College students can use federal funds such as Pell grants to attend any school, including religious schools, because the student pays for higher education and has a choice to attend, Mincburg said. In kindergarten through 12th grades, children

must attend, but don't have much of a choice of schools because many of them are religious, he added.

The vouchers take money from public funding, Mincburg said, significantly harming education for students left in public schools. Public schools must pay for infrastructure, special education, and other programs for which private schools don't pay.

The voucher program allows schools to escape accountability, Mincburg asserted.

"The public has a right to expect accountability," he said. "But private schools want to be independent from public education. The result is private schools aren't accountable."

Mincburg also discussed how private and religious schools could choose to expel those that don't meet standards or not accepting them at all.

Public schools must educate all students, but private schools may not choose to educate all. Therefore, programs like special education may not be available to a voucher student who needs them.

Michael Wilson (3L) and Mandy Padula-Wilson (3L) are happy to announce the arrival of Alexander Padula Wilson. Alex was born October 4, 1999 at 12:30 pm, weighing 6lbs. 3oz., and measuring 20 inches long.



Did you Make our Fall from Grace photos?

All photos by Lauren S. Fassler



Presenting the Marshall-Wythe Dance Team



Duck-ing "The Donald"

By Cameron Lynch

Question: What do you need to be a presidential candidate? Answer: debt and bad hair. Evidently, casino and real estate mogul and sometimes billionaire Donald Trump has formed a presidential exploratory committee.

Trump will likely throw his hat into the ring for the 2000 election sometime before the New Year. This move is amusing to those Americans involved in the political process as well as to those Americans who can form basic sentences.

While George W. Bush and Al Gore continue to distance themselves from the other contenders in their party's primary races (Gore's road appears to be a more tumultuous one), a separate political sphere has developed that we will call - for lack of a better term - Famous People. More than likely fueled by Governor Jesse Ventura of Minnesota's election to that state's highest office - an event that rocked and horrified the political world -- several celebrities have pondered presidential runs. Warren Beatty. Cybil Shepard. Oprah Winfrey. Fortunately for global citizens, those rumors appear to be just that. "The Donald," however, insists he is playing for keeps. Or at least for license to rename the Oval

Office - "The Trump Oblong Circle."

Trump has hired several policy advisors and has begun to outline stances on issues such as social security and tax cuts. Of course, Trump has no prior political experience or training. In fact, The Donald is appalled by the act of shaking hands.

Not to worry, Trump does still manage to press the flesh -- usually with twenty-four year old models. Give him one thing, at least he's honest. When asked how his administration would differ from the Clinton White House, Trump responded "my women would be better looking." Amen, brother The Donald.

The question, then is not whether Trump has any realistic chance for the White House, because of course he does not. More importantly "Trump-Mania" (term already licensed by Trump Inc.) forces the American public to question what it is we want out of the people vying to lead us as our President. Al Gore, who has been known to lull himself to sleep while speaking, not only bores the public but also scares us by threatening to speak horrid Spanish in public again. George Bush is sleeker, although still a politician, and can speak much better Spanish.

Now virtually assured of the Republican nomination, the original media awe with the Governor of Texas appears to be waning.

Which leads us back to The Donald - who seems to be seeking a bid in a fraternity rather than election to the Presidency of the United States. What can a man who has built his fortune by stealing from the American people (a.k.a.: casino management) possibly tell us about our dissatisfaction with the political process? Foremost, Trump's actions will likely scare those voters disenchanted with the political system back into support for established, career politicians. Gov. Ventura's victory was unexpected and politically capricious.

And although his public record thus far has been without tragedy, Ventura's recent remarks to Playboy Magazine suggest that there are only so many ticks left on the time bomb. Trump's run, while a likely blip on the political radar screen, will undoubtedly draw significant media attention. Americans will certainly see The Donald over the next few months, but it is doubtful they will translate that coverage into the all-important vote next November.

But if worse comes to worse, there will be Blackjack in the West Wing.



ASK
MADAME
EIGHTBALL

Real solutions to your real problems, featuring interpretations by the mysterious Madame Eightball

Dear Madame Eightball:

I'm a 1L. I am also a pre-op transsexual. No one at the law school knows this about me. My "problem" is that I met this great guy at Fall from Grace. We really hit it off and plan to go out sometime. Should I tell him right away about my transsexuality, or should I wait to see how things go first? --Wondering in Williamsburg

Dear Wondering:

This is a really good question. The Eightball says YES you should wait, but not too long. If you consider your transsexuality to be a private matter, then telling anyone here may be a big mistake. But if you've ever watched Jerry Springer, you should know that such big secrets usually don't go over well when they finally come out. The problem is having to wait long enough to see if you like this person and he likes you, and whether he is trustworthy. Something you can do right away is attempt to gauge his attitude about alternative sexualities. For example, on your first date, you can mention something about gay rights. Make the statement neutral enough so that he won't be inhibited from expressing his true opinions on this issue. If he responds with any kind of negative statement (e.g. "God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve"), then it should be fairly obvious that this is not the guy for you. If he exhibits a positive attitude, this could be a sign that he may be open-minded toward your situation.

This, however, should not be a green light for you to see how far you can go sexually without revealing your masculine genitalia. Try to cultivate a friendship with him first, and then tell him that you are a pre-op transsexual before you two become physically involved. That way he shouldn't feel like you've taken advantage of him. Disclosing private matters such as these is always risky, however, if you want to build a healthy, lasting relationship with someone, you need to be honest with him.

Dear Madame Eightball:

I have this friend whom I'm worried about. Everyday, she visits the Magic Eightball in the library to ask it questions. She does this several times a day, asking two or three questions each time. I've always thought she has issues with making her own decisions, but now I think checking the Eightball has become a compulsion for her. Do you have any advice I can give her?

--Lurking in the Library

Dear Lurking:

MY REPLY IS NO.

Please forward all questions to "Madame Eightball," care of the Amicus hanging file.

Letter to the Editor

TO MOOT COURT: ANPIZEE

Sometimes I gaze out the classroom windows and find myself befuddled to why it is that I am in law school and then I begin to wonder why I question myself. Usually I am unable to find an answer at all but last week the explanation to why I question myself was clearly answered by Moot court.

First, I would like to congratulate everyone who made moot court and let it be known that I respect the vast majority of members on moot court. But contrarily, the method by which moot court abides by during its selection process is insulting, infuriating and completely outrageous.

As if it is not bad enough that I must endure the rigors of law school itself, now I must deal with third year law students who are afraid to speak their mind and give me an indication of my true progress. Critique as I know it means a critical analysis. So you would think that when the "justices" critique you, they would do just that. Unfortunately, that does not happen to be the case with the Moot Court members.

I am instead told how wonderful my poise and voice were throughout the argument and how I would be a great asset to the team. Not to mention, the "justices" praise my overall ability to argue and the

substance of my argument.

Well, needless to say after I completed round 1A, I walked out of the employers lounge (where my first argument was held) thinking that I had just conquered the world and that in two weeks it was plausible that I could be Moot Court champion.

And again the following day the sequence of events did not change one iota for round 1B, I now was certain that I was on my way to winning it all or at least making the team. But then when I went to the board to see what time I was to argue on Tuesday, I noticed my number was not up and it was not listed either. 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19 - no 16 I repeat no 16. My heart stopped for a second and I took a deep breath but to this day it still has not begun beating again.

My first thought was that there must have been a mistake. I found the first person I could that was associated with moot court and informed him of my initial belief and he told me that a mistake was impossible. Dejected and down I went home playing back in my head what each "justice" had told me. My memory recalled nothing that could lead me to think that I had done exceptionally well.

Not only did I think I did well but the

fact that six so called justices had the audacity to fill my already egotistical mind with compliments and praise led me to believe something that never existed. I am a man and I can handle criticism but I am unable to understand why people tell me how wonderful I am and then turn their backs to me.

Are the members of moot court so afraid to speak their mind that they must give false hope to individuals who need nothing less than false hope? Does moot court not have enough pride that it cannot instill in its members the virtue of being honest?

I just hope that the individuals from my class, who made moot court, will be strong enough to let next years participants know how they really performed. As for me the damage is done, the tempest has past and only time can cure my pain.

Written with the utmost sincerity by,
Joseph C. Liguori

Letters to the Editor may be submitted by dropping a copy of the letter along with a disk in the Amicus hanging file. Letters may also be sent via email to amicur@wm.edu

Following the Stock Market for Beginners

By Josh Herbst

The stock market is a wonderful place. If more money is put in than is taken out, the market increases in value, and vice versa. It's simple supply and demand, capitalism in all its majesty. Well, just like many of you found in your undergrad. economics classes (and if you never took an economics class, a good book is "Economics in One Lesson" by Henry Hazlitt), things are rarely that simple. This column will hopefully begin a series discussing financial topics of interest for you future corporate lawyers and defenders of justice. Why law school students should even think about the stock market is beyond me. But Bob thought it was a good idea, so here it goes.

It is a bit of a difficult task, deciding where to begin. Like a good law school-book, you want to start with a broad overview, but the danger in that is like that of giving a foreigner the box-score from a baseball game; he'll know what the score was, and who got a hit, but not how the game is played. If you're unfamiliar with the game, you might read that Andrew Jones was two for four with one driven in on a solo shot in the bottom of the fourth and think that baseball is some sort of bizarre mating ritual. Unfortunately, teaching this game is also difficult, so in the meantime, here's the box-score.

How to read the stock pages: (generally the same for any stock exchange page)

The symbols and numbers flood your eyes, and you go numb. As your sympathetic nervous system goes into overdrive, you fight the urge to flee your seat and run for your life. No, it's not a Stubbs contracts class; it's the stock pages.

Well, calm down, take a deep breath, and be not afraid.

From left to right...

52-Week High and Low: The highest and lowest prices that the stock (like the fictitious WMLaw) sold for over the previous 52 weeks plus the current trading week (not including the latest session of trading). Presently, stock prices are listed in fractions usually as small as "eighths", although you may find prices listed in fractions as small as "thirty-seconds" or even "one-hundred twenty-eighths." An "eighth" equals 12.5 cents.

So for example, the price 50 1/8 equals \$50.125 per share of stock.

Stock [Name]: Similar to your standard BlueBooking techniques, company names are often abbreviated. AT&T (American Telephone & Telegraph) or GenElec (General Electric), or in the example above WMLaw (William and Mary School of Law), or UVLaw (hmm, have to look that one up).

Div: This stands for the Annual Dividend (in dollars and cents) paid by the company for every share of stock you own. Generally, companies pay dividends in four quarterly installments (one every three months). The Div is the estimated total of all the dividends you would receive if you owned

The Virginia Legal Stock Exchange for Monday October 11, 1999

52-Week										
High Low	Stock	Div	Yld %	PE Ratio	Sales 100s	High	Low	Last	Chg.	
50 1/8 35	WMLaw	1.45	3.4	22	1492	44 3/4	42 1/2	43	+ 1/8	
20 5	UVLaw	.05	1.4	35	666	5 3/8	3 1/2 d	3 1/2	- 1 5/16	

(note: GMULaw, RegLaw, and WLLaw are not listed due to low trading volume)

one share of that stock for a year. Why do I say estimated? The newspaper, in the interest of laziness, takes the last quarter's dividend payment and multiplies it by four. However, quarterly dividends are often changed based on a variety of factors that won't be discussed here. Thus, the Annual Dividend is just an estimated number. But as an example, if you owned one share of WMLaw and held it for one year, you would receive an estimated total of \$1.45, while if you owned twenty shares of UVLaw, for the same time period, you would only receive an estimated \$1.00.

Yield %: This is just that Div number divided by the Last closing price, rounded off to the nearest tenth of a percent.

Example: WMLaw, \$1.45 divided by \$43.00 equals 3.4%.

PE Ratio: PE stands for Price to Earnings. The price is just the Last closing price. Here, Earnings stand for Earnings per Share (EPS). EPS is the net profit for the last twelve-month accounting period (Revenue minus Expenses) per share of stock outstanding.

So, assuming WMLaw has \$10,000 of net profits and 5,000 shares of common stock outstanding, WMLaw's EPS would be \$2.00 per share (10,000/5,000).

WMLaw's Last price = \$44.00. 44 divided by 2 equals 22. So, WMLaw has a PE Ratio of 22.

Sales 100s: This is not the sales of the company. Sales 100s is the trading volume in hundreds of shares. So, if the number is 666, 66,600 shares were sold (and bought by other people).

High/Low: These give the highest and lowest prices of that trading session. A "d" indicates a new 52-week low, while a "u" indicates a new 52-week high.

Last: The price of the last sale made during the day's trading session.

Change: The difference between the Last price in this trading session and the previous day's Last price.

Now that you can read the stock pages, let's try for something a little more obscure.

How to Read those Ticker Tapes on MSNBC and over the NBC studio at Rockefeller Plaza:

The ticker tape was an actual paper tape containing the information about trading activity on the stock market. Trade data was sent by telegraph from the exchange and manually entered onto the paper at various places around the country. Later, Thomas Edison invented the

automatic tele-type machine that, true to its name, automatically printed out the ticker tape information. Today, that tele-type machine has been relegated to the museum. The ticker-tape format remains.

If you watch any financial cable channel during the day, you'll see a blur of numbers and symbols run across the screen. Believe it or not, they serve a purpose greater than hypnotizing errant viewers into watching their channel (thereby increasing Nielsen ratings, bringing in massive quantities of advertising dollars, and ensuring the subversion of the populace to the will of the capitalist financial complex!!)

Whoa where did that come from? Bob do me a favor and erase that last sentence, every time I try to, my hands just type "Dorfman, Dorfman"—strange...

Although there are different forms of the ticker tape, the most common is the consolidated form. The consolidated form reports the actual sales occurring in the market, although there is a fifteen-minute reporting delay to give the professionals an advantage. (With the advent of the Internet and real-time quotes available to anyone with a brokerage account, this delay is a little out-dated. There are two lines. The top line reports the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) corporations' trades. The bottom line reports the American Stock Exchange (ASE) and National Association of Securities Dealers (NASDAQ) over-the-counter quotes. For simplicity's sake, we will only deal with the NYSE here.

If you could freeze it, the top line of a ticker tape might look like this:

FTU 37 1/2 D 10s 45 NNN 20.000 34
NSC 45 SHRS 27 3/4 NSC.A 45 SHRS 27 3/4

First, a little reminder: Stocks are traded under symbols, so if you wanted to buy 100 shares of Norfolk Southern, you would not place an order for 100 shares of Norfolk Southern. Instead, you would use the trading symbol for Norfolk Southern, NSC, and place an order for 100 shares of NSC.

FTU 37 1/2

When you see FTU, it stands for First Union Corporation. Today, trades are most often made in groups of 100 shares. So, when you see only a stock symbol and a price, it probably means that 100 shares were just traded. FTU 37 1/2 means that 100 shares of First Union Corporation stock were sold for \$37.50 per share.

D 10s 45

D is the stock symbol for Dominion Resources (parent company of your Virginia Power Corporation). Since trades are given in multiples of 100, 10s means 10 x 100 shares. The last number is generally the price per share. So, D 10s 45 means 1,000 shares of Dominion Resources were sold for \$45.00 a share.

NNN 20,000 34

NNN is the symbol for Newport News Shipbuilding. You know what the 34 is. When the volume of shares is 10,000 or more, the total number is given. Thus, 20,000 is 20,000 shares traded.

NSC 45 SHRS 27 3/4

NSC is the symbol for Norfolk Southern. Occasionally (and in reality only with companies whose stock is rarely traded), a trade will be executed for less than 100 shares. When that happens, you will see the symbol SHRS. So here, forty-five shares of NSC (Norfolk Southern) were sold for \$27.75 a share.

NSC.A 45 SHRS 27 3/4

(To paraphrase Bill Cosby, those of you who have taken or are taking Corporations will understand.)

Occasionally, a corporation will have more than one Class of common stock. Each Class may have different legal rights, and are traded separately. The .A after NSC indicates Class A shares of Norfolk Southern stock, with forty-five class A shares sold at \$27.75 a share.

Another common symbol is Pr. Pr stands for preferred stock. Preferred stock may be differentiated from common stock by different legal rights and preferences (that you will learn when you take Corporations).

In addition, for some ticker tapes, you may see an up or down arrow followed by a fractional number like 1 3/4 (\$1.75). The number indicates the Change from the Last price in the previous trading session to the current selling price for the stock. One final note: sometimes, the number of shares traded, 10s, 10,000, etc., will come before the stock symbol as in 10s D 45 rather than D 10s 45. They both mean the same thing.

Alright, you can let that breath out now.

Please send comments, questions, or angry diatribes concerning why the author needed to write out that 44 divided by 2 is 22, to the author's e-mail address, jmherb@wm.edu.

Keeping your Priorities in Order

By Sari Benmeir

It's strange how your perspective changes from first to third year in law school. Other than deciding that you will run away to Afghanistan and spend the rest of your days in a yurt knitting, some more obvious changes are apparent, such as your day-to-day priorities.

Take, for example, the following priorities of the typical 1L:

1. **Reading for class.** First and foremost, it is a "must," primarily because some time passes during first year before anyone has the nerve to say, "I don't know," or "I didn't do the reading." (That changes quickly. I recently had a class, as a 3L, where the instructor called on six or seven people in a row (for real) who hadn't done the reading.)
2. Doing suggested outside reading. Not yet having the experience of a law school exam can make you do some strange things.
3. Reading for legal skills. Can you believe it? Sometimes you even see 2L's reading for legal skills!
4. Doing legal skills assignments.
5. Taking exam prep courses.

6. Listening to exam prep tapes.
7. Doing practice exams.
8. Eating.
9. Drinking beer.
10. Sleeping.

By the time you get to your third year, you realize that you've been wasting your time for the past two years. Your priorities change:

1. Fretting over your student loan balance and lack of employment because the firm you worked for over the summer decided not to hire any of their summer associates.
2. Looking for a job.
3. Planning strategies for your next hockey game that will enable your team of 11-year-olds to maintain their FIRST PLACE and UNDEFEATED status (FOR REAL!!!) (i.e., well if I put Ricky in the goal, he won't be up there scoring, but on the other hand)
4. Working on the cars. (Maybe this should be listed as item 1.) When your newer vehicle is 14 years old (and appears to need the valve seats machined and just why is it starting so sluggishly?? The

battery is OK) and your older vehicle is 22 years old and you got it for free (Why doesn't it start sometimes?? Is it vapor lock or is it the alternator or generator??) and pieces fall off of it every time you drive down Quarterpath Road (for real) and you spend many daylight hours driving up and down Quarterpath Road in search of those lost pieces, you become obsessed with vehicle performance, and wonder how it's possible to have TWO vehicles with an identical unique quirk (non-working horn -> a miracle occurs -> now it works!!)

5. Knitting.
6. Planning trips. First and foremost is the Christmas trip to Durango, Colorado, where your mother so conveniently decided to retire. Second, is the post-graduation trip to San Diego where your sister conveniently got a job at Scripps Institute and has an office overlooking the beach.

Third, is the post bar exam trip, where you're not sure what you're going to do, but you know you're going to take at least a month doing it.

7. Going to lunch. It became a habit over the summer at the firm. Too bad you no

longer have the income to support the habit.

8. Keeping track of your classmates' employment status and not talking to those people with jobs.
9. Reading trashy novels.
10. Calculating the interest on your student loans.
11. Eating, sleeping and drinking beer.
12. Watching TV and playing video games that involve shooting a lot of people.
13. Painting toenails.
14. Reading "In a Nutshell" outlines of your current classes. Note the small, convenient, lightweight format that can easily be perused during class when you choose to attend.
15. Maybe, once in a while, actually attending class.

Please remember that I did not claim these priorities as my own. I'm sure there are other 3Ls who spend their time knitting, coaching hockey and rebuilding their engines, or at least eating, drinking beer and sleeping.

Big City? Richmond is Less Than an Hour Away and It's Nicer than Norfolk

By Jeff Yeates

For many years I've felt guilty that, as a native north Virginian, I have never been to Richmond, my own state capital. My excuse was that since inexhaustible D.C. lay only a half-hour away, why bother driving to Richmond? Well, on October 12th that guilt ended. I have been to Richmond. So, would I now make the two-hour drive from my home in northern Virginia to visit? Well, probably not. Richmond is great, but it's not D.C. However, far more important for our immediate purposes, Richmond is well worth a 45-minute drive from Williamsburg and here are four reasons why.

1) The University of Richmond campus is gorgeous. It looks the way a college should look. We all need to support Dean Reveley in raising money for Marshall-Wythe because, and I hate to say it, Richmond's T.C. Williams School of Law is more attractive. Heck, just look at their wood entrance doors and you'll see what I mean. But back to the campus itself. . . Even the entrance road to the University (we took Cary St.) is spectacularly beautiful, especially with the leaves beginning their annual melt into yellow and red.

Once on campus, you can see how the buildings were designed so that they more or less surround a picturesque lake (which we spent a pleasant half hour circling on foot).

Among the many "Oxford collegiate-style" buildings we saw, our favorite was the Cannon Worship Center, located on a

rise overlooking the lake. Don't let its p.c. name fool you; it is still a church, and a beautiful one at that. Take a few minutes and try to decipher the religious and secular symbols patterned into the stained glass windows. (Look for a tiny, red Richmond Spider in one of them.)

2) Capitol Square. After an enjoyable morning on the campus and lunch at the nearest Ukrop's Deli, we turned onto Cary St. (gasping at some of the stunning homes lining the street--this must be where the lawyers and tobacco guys live) and drove into downtown Richmond. After a 20-minute drive, we arrived at the Capitol Square area where we parked and walked up to the State Capitol.

The Jefferson-designed building is very, well, Jefferson-like, and sits in the middle of a park complete with fountains, statutes, and aggressive squirrels. The Capitol is open to the public and you will not meet many friendlier tour guides than the ones there.

Adjacent to the Capitol is a memorial to George Washington, surrounded by six other statues of famous Virginians: Jefferson, Marshall, Patrick Henry, James Madison, Merriweather Lewis, and Thomas Nelson. I felt rather pleased and proud that no other state comes close to matching the leadership that Virginia has supplied to this country, and that's not even counting four more Presidents and other Virginia notables not included with the memorial.

Numerous other points of interest sur-

round the Capitol Square area: John Marshall's post-Supreme Court home, the Museum of the Confederacy, several churches, and the wildly Gothic-looking Old City Hall. Another nice feature of downtown Richmond is the plentitude of reasonably priced parking garages both near the Capitol and also conveniently located near the third reason to visit Richmond.

3) Shockoe Slip area. The slip is gone ("slip" apparently refers to its site next to a now non-existent boat basin), but in its place are numerous trendy shops and restaurants. Our favorite shop was the Fountain Bookstore, where I spent some time reading through a 1946 edition of Winston Churchill's wartime speeches. Since it was selling for \$75, all I did was read from it, but there are plenty of lower prices among the eclectic mix of new and used books.

If you're looking for a good restaurant, the Slip area is the place to be. Winner of our "Best Restaurant Name" award goes to: "The Frog and the Redneck." (The food is supposed to be outstanding.) Other delicious looking places include La Grotta (Italian), Europa (Mediterranean), Peking Pavilion (Chinese--duh!), and The Tobacco Company (specializing in prime rib).

4) The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The fourth reason to visit Richmond is this much acclaimed museum, located on the other side of Richmond in the Fan District area. I must confess that we did not actually visit the Museum of Fine Arts because it is closed on Mondays, but we

plan to someday return. I have heard that, thanks to recent donations and acquisitions, it now possesses a collection ranked among the top ten in the country. Not too bad for a regional southern city. And I suppose that that sentiment would sum up our assessment of Richmond in general: not bad at all for a regional city just a day trip away from the 'Burg.

Richmond, Virginia

Take I-64 or, for a more scenic route, Rt. 60 or Rt. 5.

Crowd Factor: (1-10, "10" being like the floor of the NYSE and "1" meaning we were alone.) 2. We went at a very uncrowded time, the Columbus Day holiday. There was very little traffic and no crowds.

Expense: (1-10, "10" is most expensive (which means Rebecca probably paid for it) and "1" is free.) 4.5. Richmond is not a particularly expensive city. Most of the sights are either free or only require a modest entrance fee. The Museum of Fine Arts requests a \$4 "donation." The restaurants listed are a little pricey (particularly "Frog" and "Tobacco Co.," but not exorbitantly so).

Date Potential: (1-10, "10" is akin to a moonlit garden walk and "1" is akin to a bowling alley.) 7.5. I think Richmond is an overlooked destination. There is plenty to see during the day, and Shockoe Slip and the surrounding environs appear to provide a decent nightlife.

Overall Rating: (1-10, you get the idea) 7. It beats Norfolk or Hampton.

My Brief Affair with Floyd

By H. Lee Harrell

I should have known that Fortuna was spinning her wheel against me that morning. It began with a plaintive knock at 8:00, on the morning of September 17. Upon opening the door, I found a large, sopping wet elderly woman wearing what had become a translucent t-shirt and little else. Ordinarily, I might have been aroused by such a sight, however, with the day off from school, this was my one opportunity to sleep in. The woman informed me that doom was impending, and that I should take heed.

Apparently, my domicile was on the verge of being flooded. I awoke my stunned roommate Jerry, and we decided to move our cars. (This would later prove to be pivotal to our well-being.) In the early stages of what would become a full-blown disaster, I experienced giddiness. Not having been victimized by nature before (excluding that incident my junior year in college that involved a large bottle of Jack Daniels, a creek, and some errant lightning), I envisioned myself being interviewed on television looking windswept, but remarkably good, and lauded by the national media for my heroism and fortitude. Little did I know that within a matter of hours I would be floating in raw sewage.

Floyd took out its fury on my little neighborhood, Jamestown 1607. By noon we had 18 inches of water in the living room. At first it was fun. *Ha-ha the futon is floating! Wow, look at that, there's a perch swimming by the faux maple dinette set.* Then, when it became apparent that we were frolicking in human waste, the fun was over. Having an unerring sense of decency, Jerry decided to

leave and seek shelter elsewhere (he later reported that after literally swimming to safety, he was eerily confronted by a Diana-like mob of paparazzi). I defiantly refused to leave. If I left, I might miss my opportunity to appear as a sexy survivor of a natural disaster on national television. If I stayed, my story would inspire awe and a general outpouring of sympathy.

At approximately 1:00 p.m., James City County began to evacuate the area using pontoon boats. This only served to increase my defiance. Armed with a total lack of common sense and shielded by the embattled Fourth Amendment, I refused their offers of help. Acceptable help did finally come, and it came heroically. My friend, C. Wayne Owen of recent appropriately named Bushrod fame, phoned.

When he discovered my predicament, he immediately jumped at the opportunity to participate. "I'm on my way, and I'm bringing some low fat Pop Tarts from the Winn Dixie." After a pause he asked, "What is appropriate disaster wear?" I advised him that a bathing suit was most suitable for his adventure.

Wayne was forced to park his car over a mile from my house and walk, yet was undaunted by his task. As he neared the edge of the water, he was confronted by a large crowd of onlookers and rescue workers. He waved off their offers of help and desperate pleas to turn back. Despite their puzzled looks and shocked whispers, Wayne valiantly walked into the water, putting Esther Williams to shame.

Wayne arrived just in time to help me with my latest

problem. My dogs had been in the house for over 12 hours with nowhere to "go." Despite my urging that it was okay to do their business wherever they pleased, they only stared at me with a mixture of ennui and desperation. I needed to produce dry land for them soon. Wayne and I realized that the only solution was to take the dogs to higher ground. The problem was that one of my dogs can't swim, but that issue was solved when we discovered Jerry's giant Tupperware sweater storage bin. With Wayne, Elmer (dog) and I swimming, and Lou (dog) being pulled in the Tupperware, we approached dry land and a large crowd of onlookers.

When the rescue workers saw us coming, they attempted to mount a rescue, but we waved them off and courageously made it to the newly created shore. To the dismay of this morass of onlookers, and in clear, flagrant violation of the homeowner's association rules, my dogs explosively relieved themselves. Elmer proceeded to harass several members of the crowd, and we were informed by the authorities that our behavior was menacing, and that we had to leave. A hush fell across the crowd as we returned to the water.

The flood eventually receded, and the days that followed showed our comparative good fortune. However, we continue to live a somewhat "Little House on the Prairie" existence. What did I learn from this experience? Probably very little. I was fine, and lost little save the tatters of my dignity. I chose to find humor in my own experience, but certainly not in that of others. Send some money to Franklin or North Carolina if you can.

Music Review

Flavor

By Tim Emry

This week we take a look at two new releases from the world of Hip-Hop. One is eagerly anticipated and talked about, while the other release comes as a surprise given the recent tragedies that the group has encountered. Of course I'm talking about the new album from Method Man and Redman, *Blackout!*, and the new offering from Lost Boyz, *LB IV Life*.

Method Man and Redman
Blackout!

Rating: ** and 1/2* (out of a possibly *****)

Meth and Red first hooked up on a track several years ago and since then rumors of this duo hooking up on a full album have been rampant, now it has finally happened.

However, this album failed to meet the hoopla and fanfare that has surrounded its release.

Despite production courtesy of RZA and Erick Sermon, the CD really lacks a solid flow and lacks a steady theme. The more commercial production style of Sermon contrasts with the RZA's preference for grungy tracks with cryptic piano beats. While I have been rather hard on the album, it certainly has some strong tracks and redeeming qualities.

The opening song, "Blackout," is a uptempo track that is capable of pleasing heads in the club. The next track, "Mi Casa," is a prototypical Redman song that will fade into mediocrity as another boring, repetitive Redman rhyme.

At this point, a listener must be wondering if we are going to hear more of the same, or if these two talented artists will actually try and explore new territory to make something truly remarkable. For the most part, our fears are realized.

After several unremarkable songs, one including the painfully tired LL Cool J, we hear one of the shining points of the album, "Cereal Killer." This is a gloomy track which

in

Your

Ear

mixes the old RZA sound with his new fetish for digital gadgetry. However, "Cereal Killer" is a impressive production that has staying power. The song is followed by "Da Rockwilder," a bizarre digital sound that seems to polarize people. I appreciate what they were trying to do, but it simply did not reach its full potential.

Next, it is 'MTV time,' with the first single, "Tear it Off." While Carson Daly and Hot 97 may like this song, it is hardly a highlight of the CD. "1,2,1,2" is another track that seems to be destined to use up valuable airtime when MTV could be playing some legit rhymes. MTV, may I suggest you play "Run 4 Cover" an intimidating sound that features a guest appearance by Ghostface Killa of Wu-Tang Clan? Or possibly "Dat's Dat S**t," a stunning production courtesy of Mathematics.

Despite closing with some classic Meth and Red tracks, the disc is a disappointment that can't help to leave one wondering if this duo has simply reached its limit. However, I do give them credit for reviving the sound of X-Clan on the intro track, a group of true teachers from the late 80's that have influenced many Hip-Hop acts.

Lost Boyz
LB IV Life

Rating: *** and 1/2*

The LB Fam is back, despite the loss of member Freaky Tah, a victim of his own fame, murdered at a party. However, the group has courageously released the album that was done largely before Tah passed. The Lost Boyz have made their name for being a fun-loving but hardcore crew that pleases the crowd at any show in which they appear.

While this album does not have the same intensity and somewhat lacks tracks that can measure up to the classics of "Renee," "Jeeps, Lex Coups, Bimaz and Benz," and "Summertime," it is a solid effort given the adversity with which it was produced.

The album gets going on "We Got That Hot S***," with its overwhelming chorus that leaves listeners humming, long after a listen. "Ghetto Jiggy" is another catchy, up tempo, and happy song that is rather refreshing.

"5 A.M." is a song which ironically can be used as an anthem for the fallen Freaky Tah. The chorus flows, "This be some real life, ghetto s**t... When I die, you'll remember me." Appropriately, the song is followed by "Only Live Once," a hard rhyming, yet smooth sounding track that defines the Lost Boyz unique, unparalleled style.

"Cheese" is a traditional LB anthem which challenges, "It's LB Fam, right or wrong, you really thought that we were gone?" "Plug Me in" is a song that really allows the leader of the crew, Mr. Cheeks, to shine. The rhymes are steady and impressive throughout the whole track. Mr. Cheeks really shows off his incomparable flow, which is truly one of the most underrated in the world of Hip-Hop.

"Can't Hold Us Down" is my favorite track from the CD. It is a smooth, slow-tempo song which has an incredible sound to the chorus. The song follows the laid back, smooth sounding style that is best typified by their classic "From My Family To Yours" on their second album. The album closes out with "Ghetto Lifestyle," another smooth track that is best listened to on a warm summer evening with that special someone.

While this effort did not match their previous CD's, Lost Boyz have again proved that they have true staying power. It is unfortunate that many Hip-Hop listeners have ignored this peerless crew out of Queens, NY. Their music is extremely versatile and can be enjoyed by many different types of listeners.

Want to argue with my reviews? Want me to review something in a future column? Want to simply argue about Hip-Hop? E-mail me at timemry@gocubs.com. Thanks for reading.

The Impact of the Constitutional Congress on the Divisional Series Playoffs

By Jeff Polich

Its not that I don't like the East. Or the West for that matter. They are nice places to visit. Some of my best friends are from there. Lot of stuff happens there. Always has and always will. It's just that I am a child of the middle. I was born and raised there. I was educated there. My family is there. I intend to work there and raise my own family there. I will be buried there.

So you can imagine my dismay when I look at the four major league baseball teams that have advanced to the playoffs and I see four teams that are all within a days drive of the Atlantic Ocean. It has now been two-hundred and twenty-four years since our Nation's independence was declared, almost one-hundred years since the first World Series, and we still can't produce a playoff outside of the original thirteen colonies!

Do you want to know what's really pathetic? The Atlanta Braves are a more historic franchise than most people realize. Many realize that before the days of Dale Murphy and those horrible sky-blue uniforms, the Braves played in Milwaukee. What some don't realize though, is that before Milwaukee, the Braves played in... can you guess where I'm going here ... Boston! Even now, in the modern age of thirty baseball teams in twenty-six major metropolitan areas, we can't seem to get away from New York and Boston.

So who do I want to win it all? The answer is E, none of the above. I am still holding out for some unexplained and unexpected event like a players' strike or a

gambling scandal to kill the Series again and put me out of my misery for the year. I hate all of these teams. Let me tell you why.

I should start with the Bad Sox as they are probably the hardest to explain. Sure they are an ancient team. Sure they haven't won a Series since World War I. And sure, they have the greatest stadium ever. But here's the real deal. They deserve what they get. You sell Babe Ruth to make a musical called *No No Nannette*, you get a curse. Not only that, but it's not like they haven't had their chances. The Sox had another up after Bucky Dent hit his homer. And after Bill Buckner blew that grounder, they still had another game to play. Don't let their whiny fans tell you different.

Next up is the Wets. They're just dirty. After being ejected from a game this year, their manager disguised himself to get back in the dug out. Such noted felons as Doc Gooden, Vince Coleman, and Darryl Strawberry got their starts there. Their battery-tossing fans also root for the Rangers, Knicks, and Jets. And did I mention they play in Queens? I know what's up. *Coming to America* was just on WGN a few days ago.

Explaining why I hate the Schmaves is almost too easy. They are owned by that loveable jet-setting liberal tycoon Ted Turner, best-known for his failed attempts at colorizing classic movies and being married to a noted communist. Their fans' favorite cheer is not only disrespectful to Native Americans, it is also ripped off from Florida State. Finally, they choke more

than a litter of puppies in a bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken. They're like the big kid in an arcade who pushes his way to the front of the Ms. Pac-Man line only to put in his quarter and blow it on the first board. It's time to put up or shut-up for the Schmaves.

The Spankees are actually a little harder than one might expect for me to despise. This Spankee team in particular is likeable in that many of them developed in the Yankee organization. Joe Torre and Don Zimmer are very difficult to root against. But the fact is that they are still the Spankees. They are still owned by one of the most despicable people ever to walk the mean streets of New York. They still outbid smaller market teams for the lion's share of their talent. And their fans are still some of the most obnoxious and arrogant folks this side of Normandy Beach.

As a subplot to this whole East-bashing thing, I cannot resist taking a poke at the dunderheads who run Major League Baseball.

Four teams, all playing in the Eastern Time Zone, and you morons can't play a game that ends before midnight. Do not come crying to me when Major League Soccer passes you in popularity because children and people with jobs can actually watch the play-offs.

Well that's enough venting for now. It's early Wednesday morning and the Schmaves just made it to another Series where the Spankees will surely skewer them in five. Well, at least it beats a subway series. Or worse, a beaneater series.

SPORTSREPORT:

Not a whole lot going on what with softball finishing up and football starting. Two softball teams that I know of are still alive in the playoffs. The 3-L team, Assault and Battery, is playing their next flock of frat guys in the A-league championship although there is some doubt as to whether the whole team will make it out for the game. Sure as rain is wet, A&B pitcher Chris Morrison will be lobbing every piece of junk he can muster to keep the frat guys from rounding the bases.

Meanwhile, the 2-L team, Law Dogs, is also still alive in the B-league championship. Humes Jefferson Franklin, III tells me that he is the only thing keeping this team afloat and that George Irving Vogel III throws like Martha Custis.

Football is also underway. Assault and Battery played valiantly in their first game but lost. Coach/Player/Kicker Bob "The Toe" Morris blamed exhaustion due to iron-man football and smoking in the huddle. Meanwhile, John McDonald's team, the Roving Band of Sell-Outs and Thieves, played their first game, but I don't care what happened.

Hopefully, Kevin Rice dropped many easy passes. Once again Don Martin has fielded a co-rec and a women's team although, contrary to earlier reports, they are not one and the same. As added incentive this year, Coach Martin has promised his teams a trip to Bristol, Virginia/Tennessee for the Goodie's Headache Powder & Snuff 500 if they bring home the T-Shirts.

More Clip 'n' Save Marshall-Wythe Trading Cards! Collect them all!!

"Fall from Grace" wasn't just the dance's name, it was their goal. Meet our Fallen Standouts!



Partied out



Keeping things in hand



What am I doing here?



Having fun

Calendar of Events

THE AMICUS CURIAE
Monday, October 25, 1999

Monday October 25

3L Registration

The time has finally arrived for this year's 3L's to choose the final set of classes they will take in Law School. Factors to take into consideration: instructor's attendance policy (or lack thereof), whether the subject will be on the bar and how early is the exam.

Learn your Manners

George M. Woodwell, the 1999 Canon Visiting Scholar, will give a lecture entitled "Global Manners in a Full World." So come out and learn to behave properly.

Tuesday October 26

2L Registration

Okay, you've reached the half way point and it's all downhill from here until you graduate. The problem is you now realize there are no courses you really want to take.

Depression Screening Day

The thought of impending exams got you down, well here's your chance to find out if you really are depressed or whether you are just feeling like a law student. Today there is free anonymous testing for depression and opportunity to speak to a mental health professional. The testing will be held in the James/York rooms in the University Center.

Concert Series Continues

The William & Mary Concert Series continues tonight at 8 pm in Phi Beta Kappa Hall with a performance by the Parsons Dance Company.

Wednesday October 27

Harris Book Signing

George Harris, Chancellor Professor of Philosophy will sign copies of his new book *Agent-Centered Morality* this afternoon at the Bookstore.

Friday October 29

1L Job Search Discussion

OCPP staff and Kimm Walton, author of *Guerrilla Tactics to Getting the Law Job of Your Dreams*, will be on hand to walk 1L's through the job search jungle. They are so good you may actually believe you will find a job.

Saturday October 30

Halloween Party

Come on out in your last second thrown together costume to one of the best parties of the year.

W&M Homecoming

This weekend is Homecoming weekend which means there is a Tribe Football game at 1pm and that you should forget about going anywhere near the Leafe unless you actually like waiting 30 minutes to get a drink.

Fore!

SBA Golf Tournament

When: November 5 at 9:00 am (shot-gun start)

Where: Golden Horseshoe Green Course

Price: \$60, which includes greens fees, carts, range balls, bag of golf "goodies," continental breakfast and lunch

All proceeds go to Athletes for Charity, a committee that raises money for the Virginia Special Olympics.

Please submit your entries for the Amicus Events Calendar to Bob Ford (2L), or the Amicus hanging file. Entries may include activities sponsored by law school organizations, main campus or community events.

More Clip 'n' Save Marshall-Wythe Trading Cards! Collect them all!!

Help they've fallen and they can't get up. They're our Fall From Grace Standouts!

Lavonda Graham

As can be seen in the photo Lavonda had a great time at Fall from Grace. She put most of her classmates to shame out on the dance floor and seemed to be everywhere at once. It was Lavonda that everyone heard shout "It can't be over" when the lights came on and the music stopped.

Joe Grogan

Joe wasn't really sure if he was supposed to be here or not. One minute he was on his way to an interview and the next he was surrounded by over a hundred drunk dancers. Making the best of a bad situation Joe hit the bar and blended right in, but was disturbed when the photographer for the Amicus caught up with him.

Jerry Smith

With Bushrod all but over Jerry was finally able to relax and remember what was important in life. Here he can be seen keeping his hands on the two most important things in life, his date and his drink. He set the standard for the rest of us at Fall from Grace. However his violent reactions anytime anyone mentioned the Wilderness Girls caused some concern.

Andy Frank

Andy was the standout 1L at Fall from Grace. Every year there is one who separates himself from the crowd and is forever remembered as "that guy" from Fall from Grace. Even now he hears those fateful words everytime he walks down the hall. Now, if he could only remember what he did that night to make such a name for himself.