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The Amicus Curiae

Barrister's Ball with the Breakfast Club Makes Friday Detention Fun

By Brooke Heffernan

Approximately 250 law students and their dates attended the Barrister's Ball, which was held Friday, February 9th, at the Williamsburg Lodge in Colonial Williamsburg. The decoratons for the event attended to every minute detail, from yellow tulips in the lobby to the Williamsburg Lodge insignia carved in sand in the lobby (which we later threw out in our excitement).

The Lodge provided "heavy hors d'oeuvres," such as Beef Wellington, mini quiches, crab cakes, and shrimp for those who desired a light meal. Luckily for the others, there was a well-stocked open bar.

The biggest success of the evening was, by far, the band. The Breakfast Club, an 80's cover band from Atlanta, Georgia, has earned rave reviews all around. Whether you were reminiscing about your favorite 80's songs or just there to have fun, you were sure to enjoy the music. The band's enthusiasm did not waver throughout the evening, and they even returned for an encore performance.

Of course, the band's enthusiasm was not the only thing that wowed the crowd. The Lodge provided a great backdrop for the event, with the Williamsburg skyline visible in the background. The atmosphere was festive, and everyone seemed to be having a great time.

In addition to the music, there were also many other activities to enjoy. Students could take a photo with the "Happy Law Students dancing the night away at the Barrister's Ball" sign, and there was also a dance floor where people could dance the night away.

Overall, the Barrister's Ball was a huge success, and everyone who attended had a great time. It was a great opportunity for students to socialize and have fun in a fun and exciting environment.

Students Explore BioEthics

By Brooke Rolka

At some point in your law school career, you will have to take a class or participate in an event that requires you to take notes. Unfortunately, most of the time you will find yourself in a situation where your notes are not as clear as you would like. In order to improve your ability to take better notes, consider the following tips.

1. Review your lecture notes right after the lecture. This will help you to remember what was discussed during the lecture and to identify any gaps in your understanding.

2. Use different colors for different types of information. This will help you to quickly identify important concepts and themes.

3. Take breaks during the lecture. This will help you to stay focused and to avoid Burnout.

4. Make use of technology. There are many apps and programs designed to help you take better notes. Consider using one of these tools to improve your note-taking skills.

Medical ethics and moral issues are handled in the legal field. As our technology improves and medical procedures become more advanced, the question of "How far must we go?" becomes ever more prevalent. Many of the papers presented take an interesting look into this issue as it applies during a lecture given on Monday February 12.

Overall, student response was extremely favorable, this band was mentioned as being much better than past bands or DJs who say they will play your requests and then fail to deliver. If you're interested, you can check them out at www.diyerfeldevents.com/feedingtheschedule, booking information, or if you just want to drop them an email complimenting their purple jackets. Just don't try to get on stage with them.

All in all the evening was summed up by first year student Tash Quinn who said that the Barrister's Ball was a "night of great memories, tons of fun," while fellow first year George Booker called the evening "one of the best nights of my life."

Former CIA Director Discusses National Security

By Amy Bauer

That the United States must learn from its own history of past failure to be better able to meet the national security threats of the 21st century was the message delivered by former CIA Director R. Woolsey during a lecture given on Monday February 9th. Woolsey repeatedly stressed that the United States cannot afford to let down the guard and that we must remain vigilant and aware of the ever-changing landscape of national security.

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Former CIA Director Sees New Threats to U.S. National Security

From CIA on page 1

The second category of threat are the so-called "rogue states." Among the members of this category, according to Woolsey, are Iran, Iraq and North Korea. In particular, Woolsey is worried by Iran and its distrusted Saddam Hussein. It is those states that potentially could use Weapons of Mass Destruction as tools of international blackmail against the United States.

Finally the third category are terrorist groups. There are many bootleggers that have arisen today in the past. Rather than drawing political influence termen, such as Osama Bin Laden, some more interested in destruction and death.

Woolsey identified three categories of possible threats. The first threat are those states large enough and with the potential power to challenge the United States. Woolsey felt that both Russia and the People’s Republic of China have the potential to be enemies that could challenge the United States.

Norfolk’s Chrysler Museum:
Where Jazz and Art Meet

By Kara Wolfe

The Chrysler Museum is one of Norfolk’s greatest cultural assets, and as a recent late night proved, it is well worth the 40-mile trek from Williamsburg.

On Wednesdays, the museum hosts a jazz band in the beautiful open-air Roy Court, as well as a small bar set up with desserts, coffee, drinks and wine, from 7 to 9 p.m. No admission is required, but attendees are asked to donate a small amount as they feel able.

Last week, the band performing was Wynton Marsalis, a trio from the Hampton Roads area, featuring saxophonist,-keyboardist and a drummer. They provided a mellow, but solid, background for the evening, playing many familiar jazz standards. The music can be heard in all parts of the museum, but the music’s good enough to end out as one walks from room to room with an interesting, unique element to the museum experience.

The artwork on display was by far the most impressive aspect of the night. The museum’s permanent exhibits include an Egyptian room featuring a partially reassembled necropolis, African, Asian, Pre-Colombian, Greek-Roman and Islamic displays. These ancient exhibits include artwork, pottery, clothing, jewelry, writing and a few translations, which offer a rich, brief glimpse into the cultures.

The second floor contains the more modern works, spanning the last thousand years. A large, impressive multimedia section houses famous works by Andy Warhol, Alexander Calder, and Roy Lichtenstein, as well as a number of striking works of modern photography. Several multimedia pieces are hard to forget, including an unquelled depiction of Harry Potter at breakfast, featuring at least a dozen television screens. Several American Artworks are appealing, one of which currently contains American market sculptures from the 19th Century. Along with classical nudes and deities are there life-sized sculptors of American presidents. (Sorry, Marshall and Wythe aren’t represented, even amongst deities).

An impressive gallery featuring works by Monet, Degas, Renoir, Gaugain, Rodin and Cezanne. The gift shop offers many reproductions and other merchandise for impressionist enthusiasts.

The primary museum donor, Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., had a close personal relationship with Lewis Comfort Tiffany, and as a result was able to donate a substantial glass collection that is considered one of the best in the world. The glass is the largest permanent exhibit in the museum. John Russell, in a New York Times article about the Chrysler said, “there are well-evident masterpieces from five centuries...any museum would kill for those.”

A walk through the entire museum takes more time than expected because so many of the holdings command time and attention from viewers. The trip is great for a date due to the museum’s proximity to many restaurants in Ghost and the New movie theatre. The museum is at 245 West Olney Rd., at 777-664-6220 or www.chrysler.org.

Letter to the Editor

A Modest Proposal to Update the Amicus

I have proposed to the Amicus to eliminate the paper in its current form. I don’t know if anyone else has noticed, but every week something like 10,000 copies of the Amicus get delivered to the school. Yet, as far as I can tell, only 10 of those copies get read. Being in an advantageous mood, I picked up a few editions and quickly deduced why. Much of the paper’s “journalism” consists of sophomoric complaints about age-old legal/ school evils. Suddenly, however, I realized the implications of reading such a paper: that a student who had to rely on anecdotal evidence could be punished and no one could be held accountable. I am going to use the Amicus to highlight such problems in the future.

In my opinion, the Amicus is a small portion of our school. What we need is a W. Olney Rd., at 777-664-6220 or www.chrysler.org.

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Amanda isn't sure where to begin her research.

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Westlaw
Military Law Society to Host Panel Discussion on Non-Traditional Families in the Military

The Military Law Society will be hosting a discussion on 22 February 2001 concerning the topic: "The Impact of Non-Traditional Families on the Military: Is the Military doing Too Little, Too Much, or Just Enough?" The panel will be addressing the following questions: Are the military's current policies regarding non-traditional families appropriate in light of the military's need for mission readiness and the adequate numbers of competent, disciplined personnel with high morale? As the demographics and operational needs of the military force change, issues of family support are increasingly important to military personnel, their families, and commanders at all levels.

In broad terms, we would like to explore the ways that the military currently deals with non-traditional family problems, assess whether these policies are designed primarily for the benefit of the service member and his/her family or to ensure the effectiveness of the military force, and examine what assumptions/presumptions military policy-makers have made regarding the definition of a "traditional" military family. Implicit in this coverage are questions of whether the military is balancing the needs of the individual/family with the needs of the service and whether, as a policy matter, they should be balancing these needs or merely acting to further the military's mission. Although this topic is ripe for examining military need versus family need, we would like to limit the coverage to non-multifamily situations, i.e., dual military spouses, single parent service members, and military members with working spouses (especially professionals such as doctors and lawyers who may require special training or assignments).

The overarching issue will be the impact on readiness, that is, on the ability of the armed forces to succeed in their missions. We would like to explore how, if at all, a service member's non-traditional family status can affect: 1) Personnel actions such as assignments, evaluations, and promotions 2) Military justice actions such as potential charging and sentencing disparities, use of non-judicial punishment, and commander's discretion 3) Morale of others based on disparate treatment or perceptions of disparate treatment 4) Service member morale when deployed, in training, or at home 5) Ability of a unit to man and deploy without undue entanglements 6) Recruiting and retention is within this context that we would like to examine the topic. We anticipate a 2 hour panel discussion starting at two o'clock, with each speaker making a 15 minute presentation followed by an hour for questions, comments, and debate. The discussion will be preceded by a luncheon for our speakers at noon, and will be followed by reception in the law school lobby. The panel will consist of four speakers with varying familiarity with the subject and differing opinions on the government's priorities.

We have invited the following individuals: Dr. Joy Tenenbaum of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Carolyn Bercuff, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Mr. Meg Kathleen of the National Military Family Association, and Pat Goodley of the University of New Hampshire. We have invited Lieutenant Commander Donna Smith to moderate the discussion. The discussion will take place in the McGlothlin Courtroom the William and Mary School of Law.

Lone Reviewer Rates Recent Videos

By Jessica Norris

Greetings fellow law students! I'm doing something different for this issue because my co-reviewer, Audrey Hulse, is swamped with such ungodly amounts of course papers and preparing for her upcoming moot court tournament. Since my own moot court obligations...um...fell through, and I have no course papers due this week, I've elected to do this issue's review on my own. However, I was left with virtually nothing after purchasing Beachy/Chudnov's season pass to the Date Auction, and I really didn't want to brave the Williamsburg movie theater by myself. Looking for a solution, I scoured some loose change and I...um...visited a local video store to check out the recent releases. With the Date Auction and Beachy/Chudnov occurring on successive Friday nights, I figured this was a time for law student indulgences, so you will might find video review more useful than our regular "in theaters" movie review. Even if you don't, this article will still take up some space, so I might as well mention the obvious: the movie and its edition of the flip calendar for the time being. See Video on 8

Students Explore Bioethics

The symposium's namesake, Benjamin Rush, was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He became known as the "Surgeon of the Revolution." He is also related to our own Warren's Marty Bass.

The Symposium will be composed of six presentations and will be continuing through the middle of March. Although you may have missed both Mark Geer, co-chair, and Amy Hauer's presentations, you will still have the opportunity to attend one or all of the four remaining presentations.

On February 21st, Matthew Frey will be presenting his paper on Physician-Patient Relationships. The following week, John Mask and Ramon Rodriguez will be presenting their paper on Human Genetic Research. The Symposium will conclude after Spring Break with Wendy Alexander presenting her paper on Involuntary Sterilization on March 14th, and Stewart Wertchek with his presentation entitled "Liability for Nonconsensual Disclosure of Confidential Genetic Information v. Duty to Warn Third Parties at Risk." Support your fellow students by attending these presentations, and feel free to ask them questions about their papers and their classes. The presentations also strongly encourage students to take the Bioethics class next year.

The Military Law Society invites you to attend a panel discussion on: "The Impact of Non-Traditional Families on the Military: Is the Military doing Too Little, Too Much, or Just Enough?"

Thursday, February 22, 2001
2:00 p.m.
McGlothlin Courtroom

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During my once a day dump I feel compelled to hum J. Reeves’ “I Am Only Guilty of Loving You” for the roach and his sweetheart coupling and tuggling in between the toilet and my feet. No monosyllabic grunts. No discourse devoted to the right pleasure spot. Rotate antennae counter clockwise, wildly twitch all six legs, then move along to month old popcorn by the bathroom door. I envy this pair, not driven to stroke each other into climatic wailing of: Little baby is still two years old. Make him an adult. Make him itchy. An hour of sex. Sprinkled with silk Snoopy panties and Suave body lotion requires jazz @ a. carroll’s RESTAURANT AND MARTINI BAR

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Can Depend On

Wednesday, February 15, 2001 Tim Annes

By Chad Carter

It's an "it's a man's world," back with the comment-

ary and social insights.看得 out are all know-

and love. For all of the followers, nothing is important at all because they are so busy making their own love. 

I'm with you my friends. Somebody call my momma? Okay, now we can proceed with this issue's installment of my latest ramblings and ruminations. I must say though, it warms my heart to know that you all have wonderful things to share.

The vision in my mind of your glorious hands reaching for the new issue of the Antics, salivating over my articles on the inside just waiting for your consumption. Now, on to what you came for.

The XFL

This new football league is not to be missed. I was skeptical going into the first game, but after watching a 330-pound offensive-

man fracture his leg in two places I am convinced; this is the football league I have been waiting an eternity for. Maybe it did mean sacrifice his leg for the good of the team, but he had the audacity to make kick-off signals to the fans while being wheeled into the ambulance on the stretcher. My only complaint was that the power source for the XFL should not have to rely on repeatedly stumpy. 

The league needs to understand that this is the kind of thing that people want to see. Compound fractures equal ratings...end of discussion.

HANNIBAL

Speaking of compound fractures and the like, I was wondering through the redneck abyss that is Newsweek, Newsweek when I found a movie theater and thought I would check out Hannibal, sequel to Silence of the Lambs. And, for those of you who have no liebly otherwise as appeal to most readers of this paper, let me just mention now that Silence of the Lambs was itself a sequel to 1986's Manhunter, where the villain we all know and love in Hannibal, Lecter first met his seemingly delicious head. Hannibal could be found at a local Video Update near you.

Anthony Hopkins reprises his role as Hannibal, Lecter beautifully in this well-done sequel to Silence of the Lambs. And, no mistake about it, Jodie Foster is not unseen in the best thanks to the true grieschakten by Julianne Moore in the role of Agent Starling. This movie seems to pace itself beautifully, showing a different side of Lecter than what has been seen previously. Though a bit much, Lecter's role to other criminals in Hannibal, though on the dark side. More than once the audience in the theater burst into laughter at seemingly unfunny quips by the madman.

The only complaint about this movie is the relative unbelievable ending of the movie, and the special effects used to accomplish it. Though the ending does not harm the movie in the least, the final scenes do nothing to add to the appeal of it either. Also, in Silence Lecter's ideal again the play acts a bit like a CEO

Thursday, February 15, 2001 Tim Annes

ammon and I laughed so hard (even during the movie's opening scene) that people turned around to see who was making all of the racket. Soon, they too were practically rolling on the floor laughing. Remember, this, I grabbed the one remaining Scary Movie video and ran home to watch it.

For those of you who haven't seen Scary Movie, it spoofs a variety of two slasher films such as the Sawan trilogy and I Know What You Did Last Summer. It also includes funny tip-off scenes from The Brave Little Tailor, The Matrix, The Ninth

Second, and some personal favorites, The Unusual Suspects. Scary Movie is directed by Kevin Jove (who is left in some Color fame) and its stars include random terms/twenty-somethings and the rest of the Wayans clan.

If you are a fan of "gross-out humor," you'll really love this movie. If you can't stand South Park-esque humor or you are easily offended by gay jokes, sex spoof and/or male genitalia, you should probably avoid Scary Movie. If you are an upper-middlebrow (like Xander), you'll be able to tolerate this movie because all of the violence is obviously fake and played for laughs. Surprisingly, for a "horror" movie blood is NOT the most common thing bodily fluid (and that's all I'm going to say about that). Scary Movie doesn't try to be any more than it is: a laugh riot! Rather than tell you all about it, I'm just going to give you my recommendation:

Buy, Rent, DUPLEX, or WATCH ON NOW & PICK UP A COPY OF SCARY MOVIE. Then, prepare to laugh yourself silly. 4 stars!
The Mystery of Class Ranks and Grading

By Jim Parrett

Last week I was fortunate enough to receive an official grade report and my far unexcited about finding where I fall in my poses of rounding off. Thus, a person with place. Now of where you're supposed to be in the gine, and obscure note cases. Seeking in the way in which they are calculated.

Another problem is with how Cleaning skills and access to financial statement to W &M dents with emergency power generator to classroom during power outages, and devising com can more easily caning calls from anxious and sometime irate professors who are late turning in exam rooms; and occasionally, intimidating and recalculating exam grades, handing out further butts anywhere but the trash can; checking up on what happens with W &M School of Law administration.

Overworked property professor seeking professional coaching assistance to manage large class of 120 students. Responsibilities include tutoring students in accordance with W&M School of Law administration.

Laudly contracts professor, 32 looks on the outside, 55 looks on the inside. Please provide resume, picture, and any and all certificates received with W&M School of Law administration.

Frustrated law school administrative seeks assistant for various odd jobs. Responsibilities include handling malevolent updates of North Wing construction, packing outside patio area with man port to drive recentCanadians from leaving their butts anywhere but the trunks can, clocking soap level in all law school bathroom restrooms; and occasionally, intimidating professors who are late turning in exam grades. Please police experience a plus. Please describe, any fine skills and qualifications, and writing sample with W&M School of Law (Administrative Office).

Torts professor seeking personal trainer. Must be AJA (American Professional and Trainer Association) certified and particularly experienced with upper body strengthening. Must work flexible hours and be willing to come to my office. Also needed: professional artist to work four hours a week (time commitments not stated) would be heavily underpaid.

Another problem with class ranks is a simple percentage of scores that should ideally be reported as a range. Class ranks are supposed to be officially reported as "top XX%". This really is a gift to the students because unless your GPA, for example, is 3.24 whereas you list it as "top 25%", you really aren't in the top 10%. Rather, some reviews and recalculation between whatever percentage you are told and the next percentage rank. If I'd like to print out all the GPA's that haven't received class ranks yet that aren't of the top 10 percentage, you. But the next percentage rank is. In reality, you never know where you fall within the class. For example, you're only given a rank of "top 40%", that sounds pretty good. But the next percentage rank that students fall in "top 70%", then there is a wide range where you really could be within the class. Without knowing the next percentage rank, you really don't have a clue where you fall. Again, class ranks aren't telling you anything that useful.

Now you may wonder why the administra tion doesn't take GPAs out further than the tenths place so they can have meaningful class ranks. Certainly taking GPAs out further wouldn't be that last. Two kids and a chimpanzee could make the necessary spreadsheet. As one reason, I've heard that employers wouldn't be able to understand where students fall in the class if the class ranks weren't blasted into also hand-drawn every 10% or so. But do we really think that employers, who themselves have graduated law school, are so incompetent as to not be able to tell the difference between "top 40%" and "top 42%"? Supposedly, if you have an individual class rank that wasn't a percentage, employers wouldn't be able to figure out that 10%.

I propose lawyers forget third grade math after they take tests or contracts. I guess another reason might be the same reason I hear over and over again that it's the way things that have always been done. I'm not saying that's really could be within the class. Without this ad.

I couldn't get any responses to my re provide resume, picture, and any and all certificates received with W&M School of Law administration.

The Law School Classifieds

"Where really desperate people look for work."

Must be skilled in chalkboard drawing. Must be willing to come to my office. Also needed: professional artist to work four hours a week (time commitments not stated) would be heavily underpaid.

Must be skilled in chalkboard drawing. Responsibilities include:

- Handling updates of North Wing construction, packing outside patio area with man port to drive recentCanadians from leaving their butts anywhere but the trash can; checking up on what happens with W &M School of Law administration.
- Providing resume, picture, and any and all certificates received with W&M School of Law administration.

Must be willing to come to my office. Also a professional artist to work four hours a week (time commitments not stated) would be heavily underpaid.

By Andrew P. Ambrose

A Bit of Sports News

By Brian Miller

It's a slow week on the court for this reporter. There are quite a few games this week, but I just can't get any responses to my requests for tickets. So I'll just have to ask them yourself. I did manage to catch up with one hoopster who gave me the rundown on his team (who may end up being the only team worth watching anyway). Executive VP, The President, and Head Coach James Ewing (2L) is reported in that tiny "above the Law" squad of Mike Lacy (2L), Mike Ralston (2L), Mike Dunn (2L), Jeremy Bell (2L), Bitty Moore (2L), Steve Woon (2L), Greg Bauer (2L) and Daniel Fortune (2L) were sitting just as soon as it did.}

On the horizon, the law school looks poised to field their separate soccer teams in the Men's A, B, and Coaches (sorted by Mike Ulmer (2L) is making his bid for a street on the floor blocking of the floor hockey court with a band of boarders. You'll have a better shot for basketball, and will be just as soon as it did.}
Loose Fish Cliques and Crack

By Denise Callahan

The last installment of Loose Fish dis­cussed the link between crime & drugs and the economic failiure of reporting the War on Drugs because the cost of drug production is infinitesimal in comparison to the ultimate black market price. The crime/drug link focused only on the prop­erty crimes drug purchasers commit in order to pay for the absurdly high-priced blackmarket drugs. A second crime statis­tica focused on the " turf wars"over control of the illegal narc­otics trade. Drug war proponents would have you equate drugs with violence as if the connection hasn’t failed to do so with drug prohibition. Wrong! it is the very hars­hness of the narcotics trade under pros­cription that is driving everything that lives to protect an exclusive distributorship. A related effect is the elastic supply of suppl­iers. As the quickest means to making enormous wealth, if we sent one drug seller to prison for a cruelly long period of time, 10 replacement sellers show up to wade good-bye to the bus.

I mention this because even some Drug War envoys are reeling in this accepting at face value the word, but incorrect link between crimes and drugs. This week’s case-in-point comes from the front lines of the international theater, Tolima, Columbia. Ana Carrigan wrote in her February 15th NY Times op-ed, "Persisting [Columbia’s peasant crops] growers to eradicate their drug crops is the easy part because they are sick of drug-related vio­lence..." Carrigan’s conclusion, through well-intentioned, misses the mark on two levels. First, like turf wars on America’s streets, the violence stems from drug pro­hibition, not the drugs themselves. Sec­ond, prohibition or not, there will always be a ready supply of cocoa growers. As ex­plained last time, even if the cocaine ex­porters pay peasant growers the paltry sum of $2000 per ton, that still doubles what the growers could earn with any other crop. 

Now to the related concepts of high school cliques and crack houses. Many people point to the unquestioned damage wrought by narcotics use (identfied lives and families, the psychological and mental-deterioration rooted in long-term, etc.) and argue that if we were to repeal the drug prohibitions, the widespread availability and lowered cost of recreational narcotics would increase the damage exponentially. Just like the beer-bonded policing of drugs with violence, this argument does not place the blame where it properly belongs—on the drug-prohibition itself. Forcing narcotic­ics into the black market has two con­sequences which are often overlooked.

1) The Clique Effect—Whatever your high school called them—"peers,""gangs,""""turban"—likely there were groups of students who hung out together

Black History: Celebrating the Past & Present

By Jeanne Tyler

Black History Month is the black present. I fast back and think about how far we’ve come. Exactly how far have we come? And how far do we have to go? And what are we doing right now to secure the future?

Well, for those of us struggling another way leading to a better life, hopefully we will see our knowledge and talents to become a leader and to help others to succeed. We can do this. "Now, if did it, I can trade. Drug War hoopla would have us focus on the "black man." Of course, I don’t think that our job is done. But, in fact, our job is not done. Our job is just starting because now, of all of sudden, we’re smarter. We have a "voice".

People will listen. What you do with that influence is up to you. Now, you can do it by me and just go settle down, have babies and grow old gracefully. Or you can think a little bigger and see what happens. Maybe something will happen, but maybe some­thing will happen. I mean when Dr. King was a child he didn’t think he would be responsible for changing the country or that a holiday wouldn’t be created in his honor. But, by the time he was 28 years old he was making moves. Think big. Think every­body can be Martin Luther King, but we have 500 or so W&M law students think­ing we could be president, one of us might actually get there. So, there we have it. With legal alco­hol, most people do not guzzle them every time they socialize with friends. Similarly, were drugs legal, less concentrated forms would be the norm and most people who choose to use drugs other than alcohol would do so as a secondary facet of social­izing.

Thursday, February 15, 2001 THE AQUOS

I’m in no way suggesting that you join a myriad of community service activities, spreading yourself too thin, and thereby losing your mind and failing out of school. I’m currently suggesting that you give some­thing of yourself to other people. Just like you planned to go to law school, make plans to do other great things. The struggle doesn’t end here, it’s just beginning. It is a constant thing, and Black History Month is a constant reminder. We know, in this way, we can continue to make moves that will be beneficial to all. The bottom line: don’t forget about the present as we celebrate the past.
By Brian Miller
I had initially intended this article as a counterpoint to Katie Ray's excellent article in the last issue about the problems with social services in this country. Knowing my family, like Katie's, has had a first-hand experience with the system, and I thought I would provide you with a few success stories to file alongside the rightfully long list of reported failures that too often result from our society's attempts to deal with our less-than-optimal family relationships.

I've always known that my parents housed three different foster children in the early years of their marriage, but I had never really discussed with them what it was like, so I mentioned the subject in a recent phone call home to hear what their thoughts were on the system. My mom is unable to have children due to an illness and so both my 19-year-old sister and I ended up with them in spite of their brief time as foster parents. Their time as foster parents occurred in the two years before they adopted me, and I had always assumed that it was their enjoyment of their first parenting experiences that led them to decide to adopt. However, as Katie's story is intended to, it's almost amusing that I ended up with them in spite of their brief time as foster parents.

The first boy they opened their home to was a 7-year-old boy who had been removed from a terribly abusive home life, was a 7-year-old boy who had been removed from a terribly abusive home life, as a 7-year-old boy who had been removed from a terribly abusive home life, as a 7-year-old boy who had been removed from a terribly abusive home life, as a 7-year-old boy who had been removed from a terribly abusive home life, and who exhibited all the agonizing behavioral side effects that such an upbringing can engender. Violent, aggressive, uncontrollable tantrums were daily occurrences, with one even leading to this young boy somehow locking my parents out of their home. They were forced to imagine oneself being sent off to college at the age of 6 or 7 and then transferring schools every quarter of the exasperation provided to you by foster parents who may only see you as a source of income, disappear completely. These children who need so much is to get back to a level playing field receive no medical help, no professional guidance, no structure and certainly as stability. Instead, it's a meal, a bed, and lots of television. They are sent through a revolving door of strangers who often have more love to give than they know what to do with, but who almost always find themselves unable to deal with the problems these children present. I can only hope that the boy and girl, who at one time were almost my own brother and sister, have managed to beat the odds and have survived.

Transcendence like we all have achieved is unrealistic for those who start with so much stacked against them. Surviving to appreciate the mere gift of a day of life and all its benefits is all that I would ask for those new-grown adults, and as Katie might agree, for children of America's system, even that might have been taken away long before their potential was ever realized.

There was the third child, whose experiences with foster care, I came to find out, mirrored my own in many ways, and who I felt confident had a much better chance of enjoying a rewarding life. But I'll save that for another day. In the meantime, enjoy what you have, whatever it may be.

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

We all had fun that night. It is just that some of us had more fun than others. So in case you can't quite remember we give you the Stars of Barrister's Ball.
Monday, February 19, 2001

Barrister’s Ball Voting Session

Topics of discussion will include: The Constitutional Implications of the 4th and 14th Amendments; The Legal Dilemma in Having a Successful Racial Profiling Claim; and, The Law Enforcement Perspective. Speakers will include Kenneth Marks, Author of Driving While Black; Judge Margaret Speck; Richmond Circuit Court; Judge Ulysses Taylor; Norfolk Circuit; Courter-Chambers; and Mayor Henry A. Allen, Richmond Police Department; Professor David Douglas, College of William and Mary.

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George Booker

No one is really quite sure if George ever left the dance floor. Every time he tried someone other young lad dragged him back out there. “You're killing me George.” was heard to be exclaimed. Although truth be told he really didn't seem to mind so much. But he did draw the line at repeating his strip tease from Date Auction.

Dan Froehlich

Dan stood out from the crowd at Barrister’s. Whether it was because of his medals and on head, Dan was easy to spot. His problem was that his medals kept getting caught on his dance partners but surely that couldn't have been an accident after a dozen times or so. Dan seemed especially moved by Joe's display. Angry, excited? We don't ask, we don't tell.

Joe Liguori

Joe, still having not given up his dream of being a Las Vegas showgirl (See Nov 16 issue of the Amicus) Joe put his talon(??) on display for all to see. This kept up a tradition Joe had established during Barrister's Ball his 11 year. But he kept it under control and did not take his act any further. "Hey I made $600 in one dollar bills" Joe was heard to say.

Erin Marzabain

"Seriously EJ I'm going to throw drink on him tonight! YAHOO YAHOO YAHOOYAHOO!!!" Erin showed off the skills at Barrister's that propelled her to the political elite and led her election as the most powerful elected official on Henry Street. Working the room and propounding her positions about the critical issues that reflect the law school, Erin proved that she still has her constituents vote.

Wednesday, February 21, 2001

"Reviving Election 2000"

From 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Courtroom 

Featuring Washington Post political correspondent, David Broder. Mr. Broder will also be commenting on the election on the main campus at 8:00 p.m. in the Commonwealth Auditorium at University Center. This program is free and open to the public.

Thursday, February 22, 2001

Military Family Lecture From 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the Courtroom

"Mass Overt Bluff," Presentation by William and Mary Thorne. The show starts at 8 p.m. and will run through Feb 25 at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. Tickets are $6. Box office opens Feb. 12.

Bar Review

Friday, February 23, 2001

Student Information Session, 11:30 a.m. in the Courtroom

Spengler's Court Tournament Saturday, February 24, 2001

Spengler's Court Tournament

Wednesday, February 28, 2001

LunchwithLawyers: Using Your Law Degree in the Business World, Wednesday, February 21, 11:30 a.m. in the Employee’s Lounge. Sign up in OCPP.

Please submit your entries for the Amicus Events Calendar to Bob Ford (3L), Deborah Siegel (3L), or the Amicus hanging file. Entries may include activities sponsored by law school organizations, main campus or community events.

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