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Rehnquist To Attend Law School Festivities

By Katie Riley

Marshall-Wythe has been the host to high-profile visitors this fall. A week after a visit from the Fourth Circuit, the law school is preparing for the visit of United States Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist on October 6th and 7th.

Rehnquist was born on October 1, 1924 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He left Wisconsin to serve in the U.S. Army Air Forces from 1943 to 1946, obtaining the rank of sergeant. After World War II, he went to California, obtaining his B.A. and M.A. from Stanford University in 1948. He then went Harvard to get another M.A. in 1950, but returned to Stanford for an LL.B. in 1952. After school, he clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson and then entered private practice in Phoenix, Arizona with an emphasis in civil litigation.

Rehnquist began his political career in 1969 when he was appointed Assistant Attorney General by President Nixon. He was nominated Associate Justice of the Supreme Court by President Nixon in 1971, and was sworn in on January 7, 1972. President Reagan nominated him for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in 1986. Rehnquist is also the author of three books: The Supreme Court: How It Was, How It Is, William Morrow, 1987; Grand Inquests, William Morrow, 1993; and All the Laws But One, Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.

The Chief Justice will be meeting with students and faculty on Friday afternoon. After that, he’ll be the guest of honor at a reception and a dinner for alumni and other College officials. On Saturday, he’ll be touring the Courtroom 21 Project before meeting with students and faculty for a small group breakfast. At 10 AM he will dedicate the law school’s new statues of its namesakes, John Marshall and George Wythe. The statue dedication is the one event that is open to everyone. After the dedication, Chief Justice Rehnquist will remain in Williamsburg to attend the Tribe football game against Rhode Island.

The Institute of Bill of Rights Law, which is coordinating the Chief Justice’s visit, encourages students to talk with Chief Justice Rehnquist when they have the opportunity. The appropriate forms of address are “Mr. Chief Justice” and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

The Chief Justice’s visit marks the beginning of a year-long celebration of the bicentennial of John Marshall’s appointment as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, under the coordination of the Institute of Bill of Rights Law.

Activities will continue on November 10th, when there will be a symposium in John Marshall’s honor entitled “The Federal Appointments Process,” and there will be a second symposium on January 19th on “The History of Free Speech.” The John Marshall Foundation, unaffiliated with the law school, will have a fund-raising dinner at the Library of Virginia in Richmond featuring Justice Antonin Scalia.

Cost per plate is $150.

The celebration will return to Marshall-Wythe for a two-day symposium on March 16th and 17th on “The Legacy of Chief Justice John Marshall.”

Chief Justice Rehnquist will be in residence October 6th and 7th.

Educational Outreach Program Brings Fourth Circuit Session To Marshall-Wythe

By Eric Nakano

On September 29th the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit held session inside the McGlothlin Courtroom as part of their educational outreach program at the invitation of Dean Reveley.

The three-justice panel representing the court consisted of the Honorable H. Emory Widener, Jr. (appointed by President Nixon in 1972), the Honorable Paul V. Niemeyer (appointed by President Bush in 1990), and the Honorable William H. Reade, Jr. (appointed by President Clinton in 1998). In addition to hearing oral arguments in three cases, the court held a question and answer session with students.

Due to the nature of the proceedings, students could enter or exit the courtroom only between arguments, so an overflow room was set up in Room 120 to accommodate students that could not otherwise attend. Due to technical difficulties, the video broadcast into Room 120 did not include sound.

The three cases covered a range of subjects. McClean v. Patton Communications, Inc. was an appeal from summary dismissal of a wrongful termination and sexual harassment suit based on the question of whether a federal wrongful termination statute applied in the case of at-will employees.

In United States v. Lofton, counsel for a hunter convicted of misdemeanor possession of a shotgun while in a federal park argued that the conviction should be overturned based on the park’s failure to post the prohibition of firearms as required by statute.

Washlefske v. Winston was an appeal from a dismissal of a prisoner’s suit alleging that his constitutional rights were violated by the prison system’s seizure of the interest earned on prisoners’ accounts (interest accumulated on the prisoners’ prison work paychecks).

Under the Virginia system, interest earned on prisoners’ accounts is used to purchase library books, commissary items, and other extras for the collective benefit of the prisoners. The question argued was whether this policy constituted a Fifth Amendment taking without compensation.

The Fourth Circuit is considered the most conservative of the federal circuit courts, and covers Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. Despite multiple appointments under President Clinton, several events including the death of Justice Francis D. Murnaghan, Jr. on August 31, have led to five vacancies (out of fifteen) in the Fourth Circuit. While the Fourth Circuit is currently 33% vacant, the national average for the federal judiciary is 7% vacancy, leading some to speculate that the positions are being kept vacant for political reasons by the Senate Judiciary Committee chaired by Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah).

The Fourth Circuit visits law schools regularly through their outreach program, but this was their first visit to Marshall-Wythe.

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From the Boardroom To The Classroom: Hynes Leaves Corporate Practice To Join Marshall-Wythe Faculty

by Andrew Hampton

Over the summer, Marshall-Wythe School of Law hired several new professors. Among the new faculty members is former corporate practitioner Richard Hynes.

Hynes is from Los Angeles and was originally drawn to the east coast, namely D.C., because of an interest in international relations.

Hynes completed his undergraduate studies at Georgetown where his interests drifted away from international relations and towards the study of law. He graduated from the University of Chicago School of Law in 1997. In addition to his J.D., Hynes received his PhD. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

In the fall of 1997, Hynes began working for Skadden, Arps’ Los Angeles office. Already he had other plans for his future, however.

According to Hynes, he “practiced law for several years for the experience with the intention of eventually teaching.”

While at Skadden, Hynes was in the corporate section with a concentration in banking and institutional banking along with secured loans and entertainment financing.

Hynes confirmed that Skadden lives up to its reputation, saying that it is an “excellent firm with long hours because of the complex nature of the work.”

This semester marks Hynes’s first time in the classroom, a “truly new experience” he said.

Hynes is currently teaching contracts and will be teaching a corporate legal theory class next semester, which will satisfy the student note requirement.

Hynes is spending much of his time completing a piece he is co-authoring with Eric Posner from the University of Chicago about consumer finance and bankruptcy. He said that his “future scholarship will focus on corporate areas.”

Hynes stated that he and his wife, along with their two year old child, are “adjusting very well to the life outside of Los Angeles.”

“We did not use babysitters enough to really enjoy the nightlife of Los Angeles, so Williamsburg is not that great of a change,” he said.

S. O. S.
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First Year Class Is Diverse Group

by Daymen Robinson

Who's in the 1L class? A quick look reveals a diverse group. The 1L class consists of 180 individuals. Of those individuals, 57 percent are men and 43 percent are women. The average age is 25. Twenty one percent are people of color.

The 1L class represent 109 different colleges and universities from 31 states, the District of Columbia, England and Canada. At least 20 members of the 1L class have masters' degrees in concentrations including: business, education, engineering, finance, history, nursing and theology.

Over half of the 1L class have full-time work experience. Fifteen members have served in the military. Several of the individuals have worked as legal assistants, paralegals, legal secretaries and litigation consultants. Jobs in other fields include: law enforcement, international sales, city planning, and marketing, among other interesting fields of work.

There are other notable things about the 1L class. There is an author and a published poet in the class. Many have participated in a variety of sporting teams and activities. Some are musicians. And some speak multiple languages and have lived or studied abroad.

My question is: If the 1L class is so diverse, why is it so hard to tell everyone apart?

Lexis Putt and Win Contest

Test Your Skill on the LEXIS course

OCTOBER 23rd

12 p.m.-2 p.m.

In the Lobby

Prizes and snacks!

PLUS—Hey 1L's, Sign-up for Career Training

Let LEXIS Power your Job Search!
Updates on Intramural Tennis, Softball, and Volleyball

By Brian Miller

Welcome back for IM Sports Version 2.0. All in all, it has been a tremendously successful couple of weeks for Marshall-Wythe out on the diamonds, clay courts and other sporting venues.

This week's top accolades go to the tennis duo of Malcom Milne (2L) and Hyung Kim (3L) for winning the Men's B Intramural Doubles Tennis Tournament the weekend of September 17th and 18th. Reliable sources conveyed accounts of resounding victories for the men on their way to claiming the overall Men's B Championship. Their efforts and abilities earned them an automatic spot in this weekend's Grand Slam Finale, the Men's A Doubles Tournament, where they will be matched up against, presumably, the best tennis players who I

Intramural Doubles Tennis Tournament

In the Public Offenders: Softball Edition. Will I

the weekend of September

talent this way to clinching the overall Men's B Championship. Their efforts and abilities earned them an automatic spot in this weekend's Grand Slam Finale, the Men's A Doubles Tournament, where they will be matched up against, presumably, the best tennis players who I

Wynne out on the diamonds, clay courts and other sporting venues. Successful couple of weeks for Marshall-Wythe, is left with only her wits and gardening skills to save her family home and dignity—but how this proper leading lady (big on hype, little on run production or defensive ability) and an entertaining 11-4 win over the Cleveland Crunch (disproving a longstanding myth and illustrating that Cleveland does not, in fact, "rock"). A 4-4 tie in the 4th soon turned into a rout after an inspirational moment of silence on behalf of injured teammate Michael Bradshaw (2L), who apparently had "pebbles surgically removed from the bottom of his tongue" (or something like that) earlier in the day. Notable performances from the first two games included a crawling/diving catch from catcher Miller Uriah (2L), a solid play at short from Seth Askins (2L), and consistent hitting from Dennis Schneider (2L). Despite registering the first-ever recorded swinging strikeout in softball history in the final regular season game of the Men's B season, 3L George Vogel dug deep into his bag of tricks, (honed in the back alley horseshoe courts of downtown Wburg) and provided enough solid pitching for a perfect, undefeated 4-0 regular season for the seniors of Crime & Punishment. Assuming there's no conflicting tee times, this group of 3L's appears poised for a strong run in the Big League title. Captain and first baseman Adam Doherty (3L) handed out silver stars to Joe Lizzi, who, "despite his struggles at the plate," made the highlight films with his play at shortstop, while Randall Hansen and Mike Sprow scored shooed out the outfield. In the box, Eric Smith went deep for a grand slam in the final game, with additional help coming from the bats of John Reed, Jason Harboux, and Derek Brostek in the lead off slot. Stay tuned for playoff coverage.

In Co-Rec, the Legal Eagles are off to a 5-0 start as well, thanks to the defense of Eric Smith (3L) and shortstop Hyung Kim (3L) who knows how to turn the double! Absorbing the concept as if it were the "at-will" doctrine, pitcher Nikki Wilson (3L) appears to be "learning the position quickly" and chalking up wins along the way. Sarah's Vanderghoot and Kinsman (3L) generate the runs, with Kara Konray's left-handed hitting adding an extra element of confusion to what can often be a very perplexing game. Tuesday nights on the plastic grass should continue to be the place for exciting, paternalistic-ruled IM softball action.

The Public Offenders: Volleyball Edition kept the undefeated streak alive in their first week of action, despite being short a player and having to figure out the above-mentioned "girls can't play sports without help" rules. Thanks to the serves of Cari Collins (2L) and the strong net play of John Cougnhill (2L) the PO's are 1-0 and primed for this Sunday's match.

Well, that's what I've got so far. I know there's more going on out there, but if I don't hear about it, I can't include it, so please send any and all sports news to me at btmwill@mail.wm.edu. In the meantime, thank those responsible for Moot Court and the Softball Team falling on the same afternoon. I'll, since you could care less about Moot Court, you'd better have at least four teams entered for the tourney! Special thanks to Adam Doherty for contributing to this story (mainly for the shots at the 3L's).

Quirky Brit Comdy is a Saving Grace Movie

By Jessica Norris and Audra Hale

Cast of Characters:

Brenda Blethyn (Grace)
Craig Ferguson (Matthew)
Martin Clunes (Dr. Bamford)
Tcheky Karyo (Jacques)
Jamie Foreman (China)
Leslie Phillips (Vicar)
Clive Merrison (Quentin)
Valerie Edmond (Nicky)
Merrison (Quentin)

True to form, Jessica and Audra decided to keep things light-hearted and playful by again choosing to review a comedy. They struck gold with this quirky, somewhat controversial British film directed by Nigel Cole. The plot seems relatively harmless—an English widow, faced with seemingly insurmountable debt after her husband's suicide, is left with only her wits and gardening skills to save her family home and dignity—but how this proper leading lady (big on hype, little on run production or defensive ability) and an entertaining 11-4 win over the Cleveland Crunch (disproving a longstanding myth and illustrating that Cleveland does not, in fact, "rock").

AH: "You're Scottish!" has never been such a funny phrase! This movie really is hilarious, criminal intent aside. The quite lovely Matthew (Grace's gardener who leads her into a life of crime) is worth watching the movie for by himself. The actor who plays Matthew also appears on the soundtrack. Brenda Blethyn is perfect as Grace, a lady with more moxie than business acumen. The actors in this film are well-cast, in part because none of them are too attractive to be plausibly as the part they are playing. While the quaint English village scenery is perhaps a little too perfect, the characters and their antics are fun to watch.

JN: While the villagers are hilarious and well-cast, so are the seamer "city" characters (a.k.a. the drug dealers). Grace must try to do so in London. In a hilarious scene, she dresses up in an outrageous, prim-and-proper white outfit, complete with a big floppy hat, and hits a sleazy London neighborhood searching for customers. It's funny to watch her approach the Rastafarians and other interesting city dwellers to show them a sample of her harvest. Eventually she is arrested, but she has the smarts to hide the pot in the feather of her hat. Eventually, she talks her London friend, "friend" who also happens to be her husband's mistress, into calling a dealer. The dealer turns out to be a whacked out hippie. Just when we thought it was "throwback to the 60's" time, Grace goes to the big leagues by meeting Jacques, a darkly handsome French drug kingpin played by Tcheky Karyo (the French soldier/advisor in The Patriot). This guy is really good, and can anyone resist his accent? Just when you thought Grace is a goon, she and Jacques form an unlikely alliance (in ways more than one!

AH: The whole town gets in on the act as Grace's grow lights begin to attract a nightly audience. The townsfolk all know each other's business, though part of the act is that everybody Pretends not to know all the things they know about each other. The extent to which this is true in this tiny village comes out later in the movie, as everybody from the vicar to the policeman attempts to turn a blind eye to Grace's horticultural exploits. While I won't say that merely having the lines in a pot movie read in English accents gives it a sudden veneration of sophistication, this movie skips along because it is well-written and fun. Don't go if you are looking for some sort of moral concomitant for those who would break the law, because you aren't going to find it here.

JN: In this movie, everyone gets the fun: old people, young people, blue collar workers, and society types. The best part about it is that the audience is also allowed to experience the "highs" and lows with the characters (legally, of course). The flick is great fun, and I recommend it to anyone who wants to laugh continuously for 90 minutes.

AH: I literally laughed so hard at this movie that my sides ached. If you are looking for fun at the cineplex, look no farther than Saving Grace. The ending is sappy but satisfying, and the journey to get there is a rollicking good trip.

There you have it! Saving Grace is certainly a film that deserves the "highly" recommended by both of our reviewers. Jessica and Audra also say that neither of them have seen any bad movies lately, so they are presently unable to give you any Nurse Betty-type warnings. It looks like Saving Grace really is a HIGH as they have both been in very good moods lately!
Local Animals Make for a Great Zoo

By Katie Riley

Animals are great. They don’t worry about homework and when their next Legal Skills memo is due. They don’t even construct sophisticated societal structures necessitating a legal system. Their goals in life are food and sleep. At this point in life, that’s what I want my goals to be. This is why I spent my Saturday with Eric Nakano (2L) visiting the Virginia Living Museum.

The Virginia Living Museum is a wonderful little zoo located nearby in Newport News. The charm of the place is that it is a zoo dedicated to local Virginia animals. The animals are less exotic than those found in larger zoos, but since North American woodland creatures are pretty adorable, the experience is fully satisfying. It’s also kinda neat to get a glimpse of the animals that live around us, but are normally too shy for visits.

A walk through the museum begins with a look at local fish. There are five aquariums featuring fish, frogs, and turtles for four regions of the James River and one for the Chesapeake Bay. There’s even a Nurse Shark in the Chesapeake Bay aquarium. The next exhibits discuss the evolution of small animals with examples of primitive fish and amphibians. There’s even a demonstration pool where you can see the exhibits of raccoons, beavers, and river otters. Although the nocturnal raccoons were sleeping, one of them was an amazing cinnamon color. As Eric described it, “Imagine a raccoon dipped in bleach.” The beavers did a lot of swimming in circles, but the otters were the most playful, seemingly enjoying the audience. The other outdoor animals included bobcats, deer, turkeys, bald eagles, a fox, a skunk and an opossum. At the end of the trail is a small butterfly house.

Because of my enthusiasm for the animals, I didn’t leave time to visit the museum’s planetarium and the Safari Mini-Golf. Unfortunately, both attractions cost extra money. I am at a loss to even guess at what the planetarium is like, but I was able to look in on the mini-golf. Safari Mini-Golf is not as extravagant as Williamsburg’s own Pirate’s Cove, but it’s definitely cute with plastic animals at every green and witty animal facts and commentary. If you are a mini-golf fan, Safari Mini-Golf would be worth a try.

The Virginia Living Museum is definitely a kids-oriented museum. The descriptions of animals are relatively simplistic and there are several hands-on exhibits. The gift shop sells lots of toys and stuffed animals and both the museum and mini-golf can even be rented for birthday parties. Being kids-oriented is a good thing, even for those of us without children. I know that I am not up to an academically challenging, stuffy museum after a hard week of legal education. The Virginia Living Museum doesn’t require much of an attention span. Be warned not to show up hungry though. The museum sells no food or drink, which makes sense if you recognize the need to keep human food from the animals.

The Virginia Living Museum is located at 524 J. Clyde Morris Blvd., off I-64 at exit 238A in Newport News. The cost of admission is $7 for adults and $5 for children (ages 3 to 12, under 3 is free). The Planetarium costs $3 for both children and adults and Safari Mini-Golf costs $4 for adults and children. The prices are reduced for individuals purchased admission to more than one attraction. For more information, check out the web site at www.valivingmuseum.org.

OCPP and the International Law Society present the 2000-2001 International Law Career Panel

October 11, 2000, Wednesday, at 1:00 Room 119

Come listen to international law practitioners (public and private) talk about their experiences and give tips on how to find work doing international law. Reception to follow.
Flavor

By Tim Emry

This month, we have three unique and original hip-hop selections for your consideration. New albums from Wyclef Jean, De La Soul, and Jill Scott act as the bright spots of hip-hop in an otherwise barren season.

Wyclef Jean
The Ecliptic

Wyclef, former front man of the Fugees is back with another solo offering. Surprisingly, he demonstrates an attitude of reconciliation toward his former mates. However, he saves room for some real battle rap aimed at his former associate Can-I-Bus. The album incorporates a strange cast of characters and has some bizarre moments, but in sum, it demonstrates the breadth of Wyclef's musical abilities.

The opening "Where Fugees At?" shows a surprising change of pace for Clef. He attempts to end the beef between him and Lauryn Hill, "Lauryn if you're listen­ing, Pras if you're listening, gimme a call, I'm in the lab..." The eerie, Wu-tang like beat of the track makes it a solid opening track. A hip-hop version of "The Gambler" with Kenny Rogers himself and Pharoahe Monch is bizarre, yet interesting. Next, his first single to the album, "Thug Angels," is a simple, fun club song. The following track, a pointless and annoying song featuring The Rock (that's right, the wrestler) is one of the low points of the CD. However, Clef quickly recovers with the help of the incomparable Mary J. Blige on "911."

The originality of the album really begins to take hold with "Pullin' Me In," a tale warning of the dangers of thugs life. Several solid, yet unremarkable tracks precede "Low Income," a fun anthem celebrating the weekend. By far the best song on the album, "Diffalo" is a tribute to Armand Diallo, the West African immigrant unjustly slaughtered by the NYPD. The song has a smooth reggae feel and questions the police actions in the shooting. "You said he reached, sir; but he didn't have no piece, sir..." Later, Clef raps, "You guys are murderers, in the middle of the night, killing innocent people, is that your appetite?" And finally, "You guys are vampires, in the middle of the night, suckin' on human blood, is that your appetite?" Wyclef has captured in this beautiful song what many of us have thought for some time. The album finishes with a stirring version of Pink Floyd's " Wish You Were Here" which is surprisingly enjoyable. In all, this album re-solidifies Wyclef's place in hip-hop. While he is a constant target of criticism, his style and ability always seems to triumph.

Jill Scott
Who is Jill Scott?

****

I've got to give props to West for tipping me to this disc. It is a solid, smooth R&B album that is high on poetic artistry. The opening track has an Erykah Badu feel, but with better singing. The provocative "Exclusively" paints a vivid picture and causes listeners to hit that back button to catch the words again. "Gettin' In The Way" has a jazzy feel with more stellar vocals. "It's Love" is an up tempo track full of creative poetry and artistry. "Honey Molasses" is another track featuring the spoken word over music and it blends smoothly into "Love Rain" to form one extended storyline.

It is refreshing to see an artist allow her soul to come out on an album. She demonstrates her talent without relying on the star power of her bandmates The Roots. While the album does become too repetitious at points, it is a true joy to see a female artist that respects herself enough to not use sex appeal to sell records. This is a solid debut for Jill Scott who demonstrates potentials.

De La Soul
ArtOfficialIntelligence: Mosaic Thump

****

De La Soul, one of hip-hop's most pioneering groups over the years is using this album as a launching pad to the first part of a trilogy of albums under the Art Official Intelligence title. This album attempts to go slightly more mainstream than their breakthrough albums 3 Feet High and Rising and De La Soul Is Dead, but not by much! The album features a ton of guest spots which provide for some interesting tracks. The opening "U Can Do" demonstrates this combination of the old and new styles of the group. The dissmont "My Writres" will hopefully get some solid airplay because it is a true jewel. The first single, "Oooh," featuring Redman is another solid track that demonstrates how much fun De La has when rhymin. "L.C. Y'all" with Busta Rhymes is another track that stands out from the pack.

Chaka Khan, lends her vocals on "All Good?" and really steals the show with her catchy hook. Mike D of the Beastie Boys provides an up tempo flow and takes it back to the old school on "Squat!". "With Me" is one of the strongest songs on the album and it demonstrates De La's ability to step out of their old formula. This song has a jazzy feel and an up-to-date sound. "Feelin" is very reminiscent of the De La of old, and the song really works well. Finally, "The Art Of Getting Jumped" is a humorous song with an up tempo beat making it conducive to being played in clubs.

In all, this is a strong and refreshing album where De La announces to all that they are still on top of things. While it cannot compete with their early albums, what really can?

Wireless Networking Comes to the Law School

By the Computer Curmudgeon

If you've been reading your e-mail, you're already aware that the law school is being set up to allow wireless networking. When completed, any laptop owner should be able to connect to the campus network without the hassle of locating a physical network connection. The ability to access the network in the lunchroom will allow us to work without pause while we deal with the inconvenient need to eat; being able to connect from the lobby will spare us the extra thirty seconds of walking needed to check e-mail from the library, and so on. Currently, the only locations that are set up are the lobby and the courtroom (as with anything concerning the courtroom, however, a few minor "bugs" need to be worked out of the system), but the library is scheduled to be networked next week, and the classrooms are scheduled for the week after that.

Although I'm sure you would be enthralled by a detailed article on wireless networking protocols, such an article can hardly convey how this technology will improve the quality of life for you, the law student. With this in mind, I've created the game of in-class wireless networking bingo. The rules of this game are very simple, and in fact exactly the same as travel bingo, the game your parents used to make you play on long car trips. But rather than searching for cows, farmhouses, and tractors, you'll be looking for fellow classmates utilizing the wireless network in various ways that enhance their lives during class. Obviously, you have an advantage if you sit towards the rear of the class, so you can observe the most screens. If you're unfortunate enough to be sitting in one of the first rows, you're probably one of the teacher's pets that doesn't deserve to play in-class wireless network bingo anyway. Just like travel bingo, there is no prize for winning. However should you actually win, please submit the winning card along with your name and class so I can list you in the next article. That way all your classmates will know how many you are.

If you find a new, interesting, and non-incriminating in-class use for the wireless network, I'd like to hear about it. E-mail me at grumpy@monstercuck.com.
Biased OCPP, Dogs, America’s Sexiest Bachelor

By: Your Daddy

Amazing. Six weeks of school and no Amicus publication, and here you have two copies of the Amicus in as many weeks (assuming everything goes according to plan). Not to worry, Your Daddy is equal to the task, as is evidenced by this week’s compilation of meaningless drivel (“Column”).

Your Daddy has noticed an interesting trend in his two-plus years of law school here at Marshall-Wythe. Law students, particularly during their second and third years, acquire dogs.

This is indeed a mysterious trend. Your Daddy has heard several competing theories to explain this phenomenon, none of which fact will allow him to discuss here. Your Daddy mentions this trend only because he finds it curious, and will leave to you thoughts regarding the implications of the movement on the West Coast to eliminate the concept of “owning” pets. (Apparently it is now politically incorrect to count to own any living creature.

For more information on this development, Your Daddy recommends that you contact PETA or move to Portland). Your Daddy is not completely insensitive to the plight of animals, however, and would like to ask this question: Who would fly a puppy hundreds of miles, completely alone, in a small dark crate, only to land in a strange airport and wait hours for its soon-to-be owner to pick it up? Certainly not Your Daddy.

Speaking of trends, Your Daddy noticed something this week that he hopes does not become a trend. Apparently, The National Lawyer’s Guild, PSF, and OCPP are co-sponsoring a rally against gun violence.

At first glance this seems innocent enough. Who isn’t against gun violence? But Your Daddy is concerned, very concerned. Your Daddy’s distress stems from OCPP’s participation in this event. OCPP exists to serve students in their pursuit of employment, not to engage in activities that are politically sensitive.

An event such as a rally against gun violence has the potential to raise controversial Second Amendment issues, even if that is not OCPP’s intention in sponsoring the event. And while there may well be support out there for a rally against an unqualified right to bear arms, such a politically slanted gathering ought to be avoided by organizations such as OCPP that are intended to serve all students.

By associating its name with such events, OCPP runs the risk of isolating itself from a certain segment of the student body. Make no mistake: Your Daddy is not criticizing OCPP for condemning gun violence. Further, Your Daddy would like to say that OCPP does a tremendous job of assisting students in their career search.

Your Daddy is merely expressing his concern over the possible implications of OCPP lending its support to issues outside the realm of career placement, particularly when those issues are as potentially divisive and politically charged as the Bill of Rights. Finally, Your Daddy had the unfortunate experience of watching “The Sexiest Bachelor in America Pageant” on Fox the other night. To be frank, Your Daddy was mortified. The acceptance of such rampant sexism in the new millennium is appalling.

What’s worse, this behavior comes after generations of women have worked tirelessly to erase this very type of sexism from our society. Now, ironically, women seem to have turned the tables. For those of you who were watching the Seahawks prepping for Bushrod in the library and missed this meat-market display, “The Sexiest Bachelor in America Pageant” was essentially the “Miss America” Pageant for men, only lacking in any semblance of decorum. The master of ceremonies got away with lines that, if used in a Miss America Pageant, would have had The National Organization for Woman and Patricia Ireland organizing a Million-Something March faster than Your Daddy can say “feminazi.”

Her introduction to the swimsuit competition consisted of, “Now let’s see what these bachelors are made of, literally.” Two female commentators, discussing their thoughts on why eventual winner Mr. Virginia was a crowd favorite, said, as he stood shirtless on stage, “He’s a teacher. I think they want to learn from him. Wouldn’t you?” The upside to all of this? The $100,000. grand prize and title of America’s Sexiest Bachelor now belong to a William & Mary alumnus.

Election Issues

Want to express an opinion about the upcoming election? The Amicus is looking for articles expressing views about issues and candidates for publication in our next issue. If you would like to submit something please drop a copy on a floppy disk in the Amicus hanging file or send an email to "amicus@wm.edu".

PSF CASINO NIGHT is Coming

Friday October 20
8:00 p.m. until Midnight in the Law School Lobby
Gambling, Food, BEvERages, Music and Door Prizes

All proceeds go to the recipients of Public Service Fund summer stipends which enable law students to pursue public interest legal work.

Tickets will go on sale in the lobby Wednesday October 11.
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Loose Fish
The Crossing, Part II: Of Flags and Moose

By Dennis Callahan

Leaving the grabby Canadian customs agents to exact their "free look" warrantless and suspicionless rummaging through the belongings of the next traveler (all in the pursuits of "safety" and "border integrity" no doubt), I could not escape the realization that like all before and all to come, I had silently succumbed to the agents' obscene practice. So what if another traveler felt violated by the Canadian Inquisition? The harm was sufficiently diffuse that I was not going to raise a stink about it beyond the retelling here. A thousand small indignities signifying nothing.

Cycling on into Quebec's Monts Notre Dame and issues of nationhood... Separatist sentiments in the deep neon of "Quebec bleu" and white rusting in this region of Quebec. I never would have believed there was a market for "Quebec bleu" asphalt shingles, but they top many of the traditional white-washed houses. Several houses are tattooed with "Quebec bleu" fleurs-de-lis, the symbol of the province. A few nationalists respond with white houses sporting trim painted "National red."

What these Quebecois lack with their infantile aesthetic sense, they recoup with a mature attitude concerning separatism.

Provinces and states should be self-determinative and the Canadians have it right by allowing referenda on secession (the last failed by only a few percentage points).

Contrast this to Abraham Lincoln's singular policy of maintaining the faux Union at the point of a gun. Six score and fifteen years later the detritus of our bloodiest conflict is still strewn about much of the South as large swaths remain impoverished economically, politically, and educationally.

If South Carolina, California, or Quebec want to go it alone or with a new confederation of peaceful allies, perhaps to thrive, perhaps to be welcomed back when the experiment fails, perhaps to be rejected by the remaining confederation, I say let them go.

Better to view the new sovereigns as incubators of culture and potential trading partners than as traitors to eternal notions of "one nation(hood) indivisible" and threats to bland homogeneity.

Many Quebecois fly enormous provincial flags consisting of a "Quebec bleu" background with a white cross and a white fleur-de-lis in each quadrant.

The Nationals display the red maple leaf and some if-by-whiskies fly both flags, though often the provincial flag is much larger than the national banner. What a waste of fabric. If I were disposed to do something as inutile as flag-flying I would hang a "Flag of Myself," running the image of Walt Whitman up a pole; or of a loved one; or, better yet, of a noble creature such as a mink or red fox.

But, the road is the goal, so back to it... As one follows the route down from the mountains toward the St. Lawrence Sea-way, the fewer flags and "Quebec bleu" houses one sees. I was led from this preoccupation with state affiliations by twin bull moose. Each approximately 800 lbs., they leaped out of the wood and down the center of the road at an easy 45 km/h clip.

For a kilometer or so these four-legged sentries signaled a break from the government-centered world of customs agents, houses doubling as political statements, and flags with attitude. In a few days I would be in the northern reaches of Quebec and Labrador enjoying the short summer explosion of color. Except for the dirt road which divides them, the forest and tundra are untouched by man. One can drink directly from the lakes and rivers without hesitation and cycle for hours without seeing a car.

Miles-long lakes void of any cabins lie alongside the route and one can only imagine what exists on the other side of the hill if this is the highway. With eight months of snow cover and other natural hindrances to development, this region is not likely to soon experience a huge influx of people.

Like few other areas of North America, one can be a loose-fish here.

I am the Lorax, and I Must Speak for the Processed Trees

Mr. Harwood addressed a very serious and profound issue in his commentary "A Modern Modest Proposal" (see last Amicus). He proposed using the tax code to change the legal definition of the word "born" to permit dependent deductions for partial-birth abortions. I must say that I am aghast. How dare you sir. The idea that one would utilize such a polarized issue to stab at the heart of what I hold dear is a simple abomination against man. The tax code is not a playing field for your fleeting imagination.

For as Mr. Harwood should have known, there are not one, but TWO tests to determine whether a child is a dependent. While correctly stating that a dependent, if constructively deemed alive for even a moment, can be claimed for an exemption in that year by the related taxpayer, he failed to address the second test, that is whether that taxpayer furnished more than one-half of the total support provided for the dependent during the year. The inner workings of the support test are further broken down at some length, the vagaries of which I leave to those with stronger stomachs. My goal here is simply to warn. Please, please, before delving into such dangerous waters again, consult a tax professional. Thank you.

-W. The Taxman

W&M Student Bar Association

Our annual semi-formal dance, FALL FROM GRACE, will be held October 21st from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Ballroom in the Patriot Holiday Inn on Richmond Road. Tickets will be $20 per person if you buy them early and will include appetizers, an open bar, and a DJ. Ticket information will be distributed by hanging file.

The W&M Student Bar Association would like to welcome: ALEX TUCCI, our new Assistant Treasurer; GEORGE BOOKER, EMILY ANDERSON, & CHARLES GRAY, the new First-Year Class Representatives; and JASON EVERETT, AVA GEORGE, MATT KEMKES, DEREK REDMOND, and ANDREW RILEY, the new First-Year Honor Council Representatives.

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