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Gradegate? Anxiety over grades, transcripts, and class ranks hits fever pitch as professor tardiness slows process

By Danielle Berry
(Exam Code 40178)

Grades, whether they ultimately bring joy and adulation or misery and despair, produce a degree of anxiety in law students otherwise unknown to mankind. M-W students felt this stress multiply when they returned from a brief midwinter vacation only to find their grades suspended in some administrative time warp which would not end until after the add-drop period did.

To add insult to injury, the one bright spot everyone shared when grades went up, the infamously “Wailing Wall,” had been abolished, replaced by the much more personal, and much less entertaining for others, computerized grade distribution.

As soon as these changes became public knowledge, conspiracy-minded law students began to hypothesize about why grades would take so long and why they would no longer be posted.

Lest any rumors about an abolition of the curve or about the hyper-inquisitive, grade-tracking 3Ls take root, the dean decided to launch its own investigation into “Grade-gate.” The first issue of concern to students, particularly upperclassmen, involved the delay in publicizing grades. Many upperclass students register for a maximum number of credit hours during fall registration period, planning to trim their schedule during the spring add-drop period.

Among the factors considered in deciding which courses to keep, students often evaluate their performance in classes with similar subject matter or the same professor during previous semesters — information which students did not have access to this semester until after the add-drop period had concluded. For example, a student who registered for Corporate Finance on the contingency that he performed well in his fall semester Corporations class had no way of knowing his grade in the earlier class until the add-drop period expired, potentially leaving him stuck in the Corporate Finance class.

Although amenioritarian argument could be made for students to register for courses based on the inherent value of that course and without reference to one’s performance in other classes, this noble idea ignores the importance of grades (particularly good ones) to the law student’s career search and the improbability of a student willingly continuing to take courses from a professor from whom they had received a poor grade.

So, why the delay on the grades? According to both Monica Augustin, University Registrar, and Lizbeth Jackson, Law School Registrar, faculty members who fail to submit their grades by the established deadline prevent efficient and prompt posting of grades.

The system is simple. Dean Jackson takes grades submitted by the deadline (mid-morning on Friday, January 10) and uses GRADINES on 3

LSIC Calls All Law Students For National Work-A-Day

By David Young

Law Students Involved in the Community (LSIC) is asking all law students to sign up to participate in the annual National Work-A-Day sponsored by the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association. The big event will be held on Saturday, January 25.

In the past, William and Mary has participated in this project by organizing the Children’s Fair. This year, the Children’s Fair will be held in March (close to the time it was held last year), while law students will do the Work-A-Day as an additional project. Whereas the Children’s Fair brings the community to the school, the Work-A-Day will send the students out into the community.

On January 25, students who sign up to participate will go to various sites around the Williamsburg area to do a variety of activities. Students might visit with residents of the Chamber facility for the elderly. Others might paint rooms for Housing Partnerships or work on building homes for Habitat for Humanity.

After students have completed their service at the different work sites, they can celebrate at the post-event party sponsored by LSIC. The first one hundred students to sign up to participate will also receive a free Work-A-Day T-shirt.

To raise the stakes even higher, the SBA has issued a challenge to our neighboring participating school, Regent Law School. SBA President Shaun Rose has challenged the Regent SBA to determine which school can generate the higher level of student participation in the project. The winning school will be able to display a trophy that can be used in future years.

Both the LSIC and SBA are relying on high participation from W&M to succeed in this challenge.

The LSIC Work-A-Day Committee has been working hard for the past two months to bring together work sites and student volunteers to make this project a success.

Hayhurst to VIMS

By Sutton Snook

Assistant Dean Page Hayhurst left Marshall-Wythe last week to become the new Dean of Development for the Virginia Institute for Marine Science.

Hayhurst served as Assistant Dean of Development and Alumni Affairs for six years at M-W.

Page brought an invaluable energized force for the [Alumni Association], program, and publications," stated Cunning Han (85, M.L.T. ’86), President of the Alumni Association. "I have tremendously enjoyed working with Page. We are happy to see her able to advance, but we will miss her very much."

Hayhurst decided the move was good because it presents a new challenge for her. The school has fewer graduates and thus a smaller alumni base. In addition, promoting the school will be vastly different than the law school because of the different focus.

"Although I am very proud of Dean Hayhurst and pleased to see that her stellar work has been recognized and rewarded with the most fitting promotion, I am frank to say that Page’s departure leaves a void that will be hard to fill," commented Dean Thomas Krattenmaker.

He added, "Page Hayhurst has been most instrumental in helping turn our graduates’ generous spirit to the constructive aid of the law school."

During her tenure at M-W, Hayhurst served as editor of all alumni publications, including The William and Mary Lawyer and the In Brief newsletter. She recruited class agents, coordinated appeals, and organized alumni events such as the incredibly successful Alumni Weekend in the Spring.

Hayhurst was also successful in developing new programs at M-W such as the Co-Counsel program, the mock inter-

Committee members Ellen Bowyer (1L) and Mona Raza (1L) have been busy searching through the volunteer directories of the College and the Williamsburg community. Meanwhile Mike Drewry (1L), Chris Wesser (1L), and Brian Wheeler (2L) have been pulling together the important fundraising aspects of the project and the preparations for the post-event party.

Finally Sybil Smith (1L) and Amy Webbink (1L) have handled all the publicity for Work-A-Day. "Through all these members’ efforts, LSIC expects a successful project," said David Young (3L).

Students who need more information about the Work-A-Day should contact David Young (3L).
From the Editor’s Desk . . .

Step Up Security

As I walked home last night from the law school to the Gradplex, I became acutely aware that my leisurely stroll past the rain-soaked sidewalk was swathed in darkness. Pitch black to be more precise. I couldn't even see my hand in front of my face, let alone the path that had been so reassuringly embedded by the grounds crew. I immediately asked myself, why a law school, with some of the finest legal minds in the Nation, would open itself up to liability by negligently ignoring the need for lights on the back path. Then I suddenly realized the answer: there really is no one from whom to collect damages should the College deny responsibility.

This is exactly what happened last year when several student were injured on the icy sidewalks after the blizzard. The College refused to accept responsibility, and no lawyer would take the students' cases, simply refusing to take action against the Commonwealth. This left the students stuck with the bills. So, of course, there is no incentive for the school to install any lighting.

Unfortunately, the dangers of not having lighting is more than just monetary. We are fortunate that no one has been seriously injured, or worse, attacked. I would hate to be the one to explain to parents that their child was attacked directly behind the school, thirty feet from home. I would hate to be the Editor when trying to decide to run story of the mugging that occurred in view of the Amicus window.

There is no excuse not to take this simple security measure to ensure the safety of the students. While there is an emergency call box at the Gradplex end of the path, this is insufficient and certainly no deterrent to any would-be attackers. The administration was placed on notice last fall, when IL SBA Representative Ellen McBarnette wrote a letter to the Editor, asking the administration to do something about the path. Nothing has yet been done. How much notice is required? An injury? An assault? I would hope not.

Setting the Record Straight

Upon my return to school two weeks ago, I was barraged by inquiries on why I was back. Many students had heard that I was moving to D.C. to take a job on the Hill, and 2. After I did not get this supposed job on the Hill, I was so distraught that I was moving to Ecuador. Obviously, neither of these rumors is true. But they do illustrate a disturbing trend in the school — rumors spread far too quickly and with reckless abandon for their truth and the rights of the subject.

In the above cases, there was no damage done; they only made the person who spread them look ignorant, but there have been another examples where the result has been more serious. The most obvious example is PDPgate, where it was rumored that I was writing an article of embezzlement in PDP. Not only was it not true that I was writing any article, but it was also not true that anyone was embezzling any money at all. The result was many headaches for the PDP officers and the newspaper staff, unfortunate lost friendships, and hours of work trying to mend fences. All for a few laughs by someone who perpetuated the rumor.

It is important to differentiate between idle gossip and vicious rumor attacks. Sitting with one's friends and discussing others is not itself damaging, but when that conversation turns to unsubstantiated attacks upon another's character, then it has gone too far. For example, after it was discovered that the famous "Wailing Wall" was not going to be erected this year, rumors quickly spread on the reasons, from nameless students who tracked others' grades, to professors losing students' grades. While many came to me and asked me to look into the causes, no one could provide an actual source of their information, insisting that it was all just "common knowledge." The real reason why no Wailing Wall?

Student Bar Association UPDATE

By Shaun Rose

Barrister's Ball
Saturday, February 1, we will be holding the annual Barrister's Ball at the Holiday Inn from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. There will be an open bar from 9:30 to 12:30 and hors d'oeuvres served from 10 - 12. They are offering us a special hotel rate of $39.95. This year, we are also having both a band and a disc jockey to offer a wide variety of music.

Ticket prices are posted around school and will be sold from 10 - 2 Monday through Thursday in the lobby. See Joni McCray, SBA Vice President and social goddess, for any questions.

I have also heard a lot of concern about the ticket prices this year. They are slightly more expensive this year for several reasons. This year we will be having a better presentation including a band and a DJ, a two hour plentiful food spread, and a three hour open bar. Also, Williamsburg Lodge (the traditional site) was completely booked and unresponsive which has meant that we are getting less favorable deals.

Finally, we have stricter guidelines this year about how we can spend SBA funds. The means that the ticket price must cover at least all of the alcohol which will probably be over twenty dollars per person. It is important that you realize that this dance costs the SBA between thirty and forty dollars per person, so no matter when you buy your ticket you will be getting a deal.

SBA Constitution

When I ran for SBA President last year, I promised that one of the things I would try to accomplish is to improve the SBA infrastructure. Therefore, I am pleased to announce that the SBA will propose several amendments to the SBA Constitution this semester. The Constitution badly needs to be updated and clarified. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee, co-chaired by Mark Ramos and Melvin Williams, has been meeting all year and taking a critical look at this document. They have made several suggestions for changes.

The SBA will hold a public forum to discuss the proposed changes and then will conduct a referendum to get the changes accepted. We will finalize these plans within the next few weeks and will conduct the referendum sometime in February.

Honour Code

As you are aware, last year President Sullivan attempted to force a unified Honour Code upon all the schools at the college. The law school took the lead in resisting this attempt and was able to stall President Sullivan's plans for unification. President Sullivan responded by inviting student leaders from each individual school to meet and to work on the Unified Honour Code to get it into a position where all schools would be able to accept its terms. While we did not believe that unification was the best plan for the law school, we did believe that President Sullivan would institute a unified honour code, with or without our participation. Therefore, the SBA got involved in this process to attempt to get the best unified code provisions that were possible under the situation.

I am pleased to report that the work on the Honour Code has almost reached a conclusion. I have been working closely with student leaders from the other schools at the college, as well as the SBA Board and Judicial Council to develop the best uni-

See SBA Update on 15
Hayhurst Heads For High Seas at VIMS

HAYHURST from 1 can fill her position, but we can't replace the warm relationships she has developed with so many alumni over the years."

Steve Carney, Class of 1980, former Chair of the Annual Endowment Fund and a member of all three alumni boards, commented that Hayhurst brought unparalleled patience, personality, and a sense of humor to the job. He added that Hayhurst remained focused on the alumni when her boss, Dean Sullivan, was leaving to become College President.

The Marshall-Wythe School of Law Foundation and the William and Mary Law School Association commended Hayhurst on Saturday, January 18, with a joint resolution honoring her work and dedication to the law school over the six years she worked here. They presented her with a copy of the resolution and a William and Mary chair at a luncheon Saturday. "Most importantly, many hundreds of alumni have been touched by Page's warmth and motivated to actively support the Law School Association and Foundation through her encouragement," stated the resolution.

Faculty and students said goodbye to Hayhurst at a reception held Wednesday, January 15, in the Faculty Lounge.

"I'm not sad about leaving because I'm not going very far," stated Hayhurst. "I'm not going away, I'm just going across the river."

"I know that wherever she goes, Page will always carry with her the very deep gratitude of everyone who cares about the Marshall-Wythe School of Law," said Dean Krattenmaker.

Join the Celebration in Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday and Legacy

Monday January 20th BLSA is sponsoring a Speakout in the Law School Lobby from 12:30-1:30 and a Candlelight Vigil at 6 p.m. on the Wren steps featuring readings from the “I Have a Dream” speech and film footage. Bring a Candle.

For more information call 221-2301
Over thirty students, alumni, faculty, and administrators gathered at the Williamsburg Winery this past weekend as part of the law school’s ongoing Co-Counsel Program. To participate in future Co-Counsel events or for more information, contact Shernita Rochelle.
Journal of Women and the Law to Hold Symposium on Mandatory Arrest Policies

On Monday, January 27, The Journal of Women and the Law will hold its first symposium. Hosted in conjunction with the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council, the symposium focuses on mandatory arrest policies employed by Virginia law enforcement departments. Among the topics slated for discussion is Virginia Senate Bill 113 which could augment the authority of police officers to arrest people involved in domestic violence situations. The Symposium's Keynote address will be delivered by Mimi Rose, a prominent figure in women's legal issues and a District Attorney from the Philadelphia Domestic Violence Unit. Professor Susan Grover will moderate a panel discussion among attorneys, a woman's rights advocate, a legislative advisor, and a statistician.

The Symposium will be held in the University Center Auditorium at 3:00 p.m. and is open to all who wish to attend. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Journal of Women and the Law.

Supreme Court Trip to Feature Scalia and Breyer

This year’s Supreme Court trip, sponsored by Phi Delta Phi, tentatively features meetings with two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, Justices Scalia and Breyer. The trip will also include a morning visit inside the Court's chambers to hear oral arguments on race-conscious redistricting and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. The trip will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 1997. Although preference may be given to PDP members, non-members will be able to participate on an excursio basis.

Sign up sheets will show up soon. Contact Dave Christian (564-9603) if you have any questions.

Kimm Walton to Speak at M-W

Kimm Walton, author of the widely acclaimed and best-selling book Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams, will speak at M-W on Monday, January 24, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 119. Ms. Walton's book, based on hundreds of students' successful experiences finding jobs as well as interviews with dozens of law school career counsellors and numerous lawyers, offers innovative and unique methods for finding a legal job in today's competitive market, "regardless of your grades, your school, or your work experience!"

Instead of repeating the standard rules of job hunting, Walton forged a new path, deciding that she "didn't want the standard, theoretical advice . . . I wanted to show people exactly what they have to do, from beginning to end, to get their dream job. And the best way to do that is to show how other people before them have accomplished that same goal."

Walton's humorous and upbeat approach in her book and seminars has captured the hearts and minds of once-dejected law students, leaving them excited and optimistic about their job search and confident of their success. According to Walton, job seekers "keep hearing the job market stinks and they're convinced they're not going to find a job. Law school beats them down until they're walking around with their self-esteem in a hat. With all of the thousands of people I've talked to, I know they can get the job they want. It's just a matter of getting them to believe it too — and showing them exactly what to do."

Muscarelle Museum Wins Federal Grant

The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded a Museum Assessment Program grant to the Muscarelle Museum of Art. The grant will enable the museum, through guided self-study and on-site consultation with a museum professional, to evaluate its current practices, establish priorities to achieve professional museum standards, and plan how to best serve the community. Ed Able, President and CEO of the American Association of Museums (AAM), the organization which develops and manages the grant, offered congratulations to the Muscarelle Museum, "wishing[ing] them well as they begin this process of self-review and planning for their future."

The AAM, based in Washington, D.C., is the national organization representing the concerns of the museum community. The AAM assesses museum programs and accredits museums; provides education and training; operates international museum programs; and advocates for the advancement of museums. In 1987, the Muscarelle Museum of Art, located on JamesTown Road, on the campus of the College of William and Mary, became the only art museum on a college or university campus in Virginia to be granted accreditation by the AAM.

The museum, currently showing the exhibitions, Will Barnet and Bob Blackburn: An Artistic Friendship in Relief and Selections from the Permanent Collection, is open without charge Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Docent-guided group tours are available by calling the Education Department for advance reservations at (757) 221-2703.

Congratulations! Congratulations to Ann Haselbauer, Brian Robinson, and Bayard Smith, for being elected as IL representatives in Phi Delta Phi.

West Publishing Unveils New Electronic Products

West Information Publishing Group demonstrated the latest law school and legal research technology at the nation's largest gathering of law school professionals and deans, the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), from January 2-7, 1997, in Washington, D.C. For the first time at an AALS meeting, West showed the new Web version of The West Education Network (TWEN) which allows law professors to create an electronic extension of the classroom. TWEN enables students to hold discussion forums, communicate with expert guests, and read electronic course materials right from their computer.

Clubhouse

P.S.F.'s Dinner Date Auction: Mark your Calendars Now!

By Kathryn Lamothe

PSF will be holding its Tenth Annual Dinner Date Auction on February 7, 1997, in the Chesapeake Room at University Center from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. PSF is a registered, non-profit organization whose main purpose is to raise money in order to fund law students who choose to work in public interest during the summer. Last summer, PSF was able to fund 14 students with up to $2,500 for ten weeks. In order to fund at least that many students again, PSF relies upon your support at the Dinner Date Auction.

What do you get out of the deal? Here's just a glimpse at some of the great items that will be auctioned off:

- Condominium in Duck, North Carolina during Beach Week (sleeps eight);
- One Westbar course (any state);
- 3 $500 Bar-Bri scholarships (that's right—you could bid on all three and rack up $1,500 off your Bar Review course!);
- A week's parking in Dean K's spot (perfect for those cold, bitter days when a walk from the cemetery isn't appealing).

Of course, there will also be "packages" paired with student dates. So, if there's someone you have your eye on, better put away those loan checks now! Some of the "packages" will include:

- Some of the "packages" will include:
  - Symphonic tickets;
  - Shirley Plantation tickets;
  - Passes for Busch Gardens & Water Country USA;
  - Golf packages;
  - Ski passes at Wintergreen;
  - Tickets to see the Williamsburg Players perform;
  - Dinners at the finest restaurants Williamsburg has to offer (O.K., there may be one or two pancake houses, too).

And, of course, there will also be a chance to bid on "dates" with your favorite professors, including:

- Dinner with Dean K (including an autographed copy of his new book);
- Dinner with Peter Kirchgraber (2L), Ethan Smith (3L), or Susan Ludi (2L);
- Dinner with Professor Marcus at Le Yaca;
- Dinner for four at Professor Levy's house.

PSF continues to get new packages in every day, and a complete list will be posted prior to the auction. As always, PSF could still use your help. If you can think of anyone who would make a great date (or if you'd like to volunteer to be one) drop a note in Kathy Lamothe's (2L) hanging file.

Additionally, we can always use more volunteers to help pour "refreshments," collect tickets at the door, and solicit donations from area merchants (to make those date packages even more attractive). If you're interested, drop a note with your name and phone number to Kathy Lamothe (2L), Ethan Smith (3L), Susan Ludi (2L), or Peter Kirchgraber (2L).

Tickets will be on sale from now until the auction. Buy early and save. Hope to see you all at the Tenth Annual Dinner Date Auction!
Emphasize Lawyer Role as New Attorney

Ralph Nader and Wesley J. Smith

Harvard Law graduate, Ansel Chaplin, a corporate lawyer with thirty years of practice under his belt, told us that many of his colleagues are big firm "spin control artists" who put the best face on the "outrageous or close to outrageous behavior" of their clients. As a consequence, clients view their legal representatives not so much as professionals, but "hired guns" creating a "system [that] promotes a kind of fundamental moral dishonesty."

These are not very encouraging words to read while you are a law student spending three years of your life in rigorous preparation for a license to practice law. But they are words that need to be taken to heart. The legal profession has developed into a mercantile business where the ethical obligation to "zealously represent clients" has become the be all and end all of legal representation, resulting in the surrender of professional independence, sadly commented on by Mr. Chaplin.

The general public is also aware that something has gone terribly wrong with the legal profession. The ubiquitous lawyer jokes we continue to hear are merely one sign that the legal profession has slipped into disrepute among the general public. And for good cause. People sense that the legal system does not serve the common good but has come instead to be utilized and administered primarily to benefit the richest and most powerful members of society. Is it any wonder, then, that respect for the rule of law has plummeted?

There is a powerful antidote to this despair and cynicism: the revitalization of the role of "lawyers" as a check and balance to the activities in by "attorneys." Many believe that the terms "attorney" and "lawyer" are synonymous. They aren't. The word "attorney" designates the private role of legal representative vis-a-vis the client. The word "lawyer" represents a vitally different duty required of the legal professional: the public role of "officer of the court" whose duties extend beyond the client to serving the justice system and the broader public interest.

The varying role of attorney and lawyer are both essential to effective and ethical legal representation. Without the attorney function, no duties of loyalty would be owed to the client, as a consequence, each legal professional would be tempted to become judge and jury of each case. But, without the lawyer function, legal representation would be reduced to an anything goes, whatever-it-takes-to-win form of legal Darwinism, where justice "scorched earth" litigation tactics of attorneys who are paid hundreds of dollars an hour to obfuscate, obstruct, delay, and otherwise transform the pursuit of civil justice into a protracted, expensive, and inefficient war of attrition.

One need only look at the business pages of newspapers and legal weeklies or read the news sections of the Wall Street Journal to see what is going on. Regularly, stories appear of attorneys from the largest and most prominent law firms accused of dishonesty, corruption, abuse, spoliation (destruction of evidence), misleading courts, and other unethical practices. Unfortunately, these corporate welfare or to aggressively restrict the access to justice and other legal rights of aggrieved persons trying to hold their clients responsible. Both the tort "deform" legislation drives and the vast pervasive one-sided sign-on-the-dotted line contracts that dominate the marketplace all the way to compulsory arbitration clauses undermine our system of justice.

This all extracts all toll: society, against individuals caught up in an increasingly cruel and unresponsive civil justice system, and to the emotional health and well being of the attorneys themselves.

Society is injured by a lowering of the respect for the rule of law. People who feel that they do not have reasonable access to justice lose faith in the justice system. They refuse to serve on juries. They swallow injustice rather than use the legal system for its intended purpose. (There are few mental agonies more acute than believing one has been deprived of justice without an effective remedy.) In some extreme cases, they decide to take the law into their own hands and act violently or otherwise unlawfully.

The personal toll on attorneys is also excruciating. Many come to hate practicing law but cannot leave it because they are hooked by the money that is made. Imagining working for years to obtain the laudable goal of receiving a legal license only to wake up every day with your insides churning because you hate what you do for a living. Is it any wonder that attorneys have high incidence of alcoholism, drug abuse, marital discord, and other emotional problems?

The time has come to change course and revitalize the essential role of lawyering in all areas of legal representation. This can and should begin in law school where law students have an especially vital role to play. Students can resuscitate practices undertaken by their predecessors in the sixties and seventies who sent questionnaires to recruiting law firms about their professional practices.

These questions could include issues of the nature and scope of pro bono representation, activities to empower systems of justice, ethical guidelines followed by the firms, etc. Such consciousness raising can have an impact - as it did back then - especially considering that the law student activists of yesteryear are now the managing partners of the recruiting firms.

At the same time, law professors and administrators can reinforce these activities by paying heightened attention to the importance of legal ethics in legal practice, pressuring firms which recruit on campus, and seeking the assistance of experienced alumni in the transformation of legal practice away from the attorney-dominant form to one balanced and benefitted by a greater exertion by legal professionals of their role as lawyers.

If students, faculty, administration, and experienced lawyers join together in a concerted effort, balance can be restored to the practice of law, and it can become, in the galvanizing words of attorney and former diplomat Sol Linowitz, "a profession that is once again independent, willing to be the voice for pride, eager to reassert its role as the guarantor of rights."
Crossfire
Clinton v. Jones: How Far Should Executive Privilege Extend?
The President Cannot Be Immune From the Law

Michael Coe

If the new movie The People v. Larry Flynt is a success, then we should expect similar films to grace the silver screen in the coming years. Twentieth Century Fox, the soon-to-be-swept disaster films regarding earthquakes, floods, volcanoes, airline crashes, etc., Hollywood, never shy about sacrificing originality and creativity for dollars, can really wring the life out of a genre. So if Larry Flynt brings in the cash, let me suggest a formula film: Paula Corbin Jones v. William Jefferson Clinton or "Trailer Park Trash" v. "The Powers That Be." If the essential elements are there: national political figures, money, power, important American legal principles, the Supreme Court, and, of course, sex. The bonus is the mysterious "distinguishing characteristics" of Clinton's genitalia. The sex will enjoy some leisure time, but all work and revealed, the political machinery of a nation mobilized to protect a president from his appetites and indiscretions. Consider the drama of partisans agonizing over the gap between their allies and their issues. An already giddy Hollywood could be happening if the bench had been a slipper or hooker who, having obtained her law degree on the side, was going to argue the case herself. Imagine the trailer which may say something like "delightfully shocking, terribly titillating, and weighty constitutional issues, too."

The more serious among us might find the whole mess as disagreeable as Mr. Flynt himself. As unpleasant as how ridiculous as one finds the situation, it is undeniable that serious legal questions abound. Specifically, may a sitting president defer responding to a private civil damages lawsuit until after leaving office? Finding an answer touches issues of considerable heft including the demands of the presidency, the separation of powers, and the rule of law. Because of the unusual way the issues cut, it may be too heavy a load for the Court to lift. They might just split the difference and allow discovery but not the whole trial to continue.

Are the demands of the presidency such that absolute immunity for the President is required in these cases? Justice Scalia expressed his doubts about the all-consuming nature of the office because presidents ride horseback, chop wood, play golf, etc. It is true that presidents enjoy some leisure time, but all work and no play makes jack a dull boy. The presidency is extraordinarily demanding, scandals au jour, aside, and presidents need to let off some steam on occasion. It is also true that the presidency is a 24-hour-a-day business, and lawsuits will invariably distract from the energies and time invested in the people's busi-

The President is a man — a fact to which Mrs. Jones can personally attest. Bill Clinton is only a man, not a demi-god or icon.

"The singular nature of the presidency necessarily argues for special consideration. The maintenance of the delicate balance of powers between the branches of government also militates in favor of protecting the President from the whims and/or political calculations of U.S. District Court judges. If Bill Clinton is in office, it will undoubtedly diminish the stature of the office as well as the man. In addition, insofar as the power of the presidency lies in the power of the pulpit, President Clinton will be exonerated by a contrary ruling. The Court is real and justified, and the Court is well served by its cautiousness in this area. It is important to remember, however, the distinction between protecting the office and protecting the man. If the office can survive the Nixon scandals, it certainly can withstand Clinton's private sexual dalliances. Also, most Presidents and presidetn candidates are honorable men and don't carry the litigation-prone baggage that Clinton hauls around.

By far the most pressing issue, and the central and ultimate question to be resolved is this: is the President of the United States above the law? There can be only one answer — a resounding and unequivocal "NO."

The President is a man — a fact to which Mrs. Jones can personally attest from firsthand observation. Bill Clinton is only a man, not a demi-god or icon. The law does, and must, apply equally to everyone, boy Clinton included. That the United States is governed by a rule of law is a basic and fundamental truth underlying our essential freedoms as Americans. To allow Bill Clinton civil immunity now for his wrongdoing prior to taking office necessarily places the President above the law. Remember, justice delayed is justice denied, and the power, money, and legal machinery is in Clinton's corner. The Jones case was meritorious enough to win a federal appellate court. Even balancing the above factors, which otherwise might favor the President, the plain fact is that granting the immunity which Clinton seeks is paramount to declaring the President, declaring that citizen Bill Clinton, is the one person in the Nation that doesn't have to answer to the courts, at least for a while. Not even Michael Eisner or Bill Gates of Michael Jordan has this power.

Subjecting the President to Civil Suits Will Paralyze the Government

Christian Mastondrea

Paula Jones is the now-famous lady from Arkansas who has accused Bill Clinton of sexually harassing her while he was governor of that state. She claims that she went up to the president's hotel room and — well, you can simply put the rest of it together yourself. She has a witness to this alleged incident, a former Arkansas State Trooper (I will of course leave all the possible jokes about his credibility alone, in the interest of Arkansas state pride). In short, she will probably be able to make out what we here in law school call a prima facie case for sexual harassment. This doesn't mean that my buddy Bill took a hit, or that at the very least that it wasn't consensual. I will be remarkably non-partisan here today by asserting that no sitting president should be haled into court on a civil lawsuit, for something that happened prior to his administration, until he has vacated the office. The President already has immunity for suits that arise while he is the sitting president, why not extend this principle in the interest of the Nation?

Now I am not suggesting that the president should not be subject to a criminal prosecution, that is by its very nature. The best-known crook once said, "The people have the right to know if their president is a crook" and, though Tricky Dicky got his pardon, he was in fact right — we do have the right to know that little fact. Yes, I can hear the outcry now: How is this different??

Don't we have the right to know if Wild Bill is a degenerate slug who abused this poor girl, doesn't she have the right to justice? In short, the president cannot be above the law? His job description doesn't make hailing him into court very simple, however. Let's face it, criminal charges are different and more serious.

How can a President who has broken the criminal code be expected to carry out his duties as chief executive enforcing it? Civil charges could arise from something as common place as a traffic accident. This is not to say that sexual harassment charges are not serious, but it is often said that easy cases make bad law. What if this was a simple traffic accident? Should the business of the state be held up then?

The Nation, like it or not, needs a president free to respond to national and global crises on a moment's notice. Dragging a sitting president into court on a civil suit could almost become addictive to some of our more fervent, anti-government, militia freaks.

Anyone would have the power to sue, for any action a president took prior to taking office. This is mad — every half-crazed lunatic would have the power to drag a sitting president into court so long as he stated the most basic of claims on the most meaningless of tort or contract disputes. This may be an apocalyptiv view of the matter, but I honestly believe that there are enough crack-pots on either side of the political spectrum to do serious damage.

Picture a state court judge ordering a sitting president to appear before him on a given day to answer some civil charge. What if the president has to be at an emergency meeting of NATO leaders, or must be briefed on an emergency security Council Resolution?

No president could effectively run the Nation while being hit with an order to appear. Let's not open the Pandora's box.

Give Paula Jones her day in court, let the suit proceed the day after Wild Bill gives way to Mild Al. If her case has merit and she is telling the truth, and, of course, her lawyer is better, she will win. It may be seven years later, but she will have gotten some justice. More importantly, the business of running a Nation would not have been disturbed at the same time.

By the way, as a point of information, Paula Jones's lawyer is running for Attorney General of Virginia on the Republican ticket. Thursday, it was reported by Channel 12 in Richmond that Mr. Davis has serious political troubles of his own. It appears as if he was caught on tape getting drunk with one of his clients and offering to get her a spread in Penthouse magazine. Again, discuss amongst yourselves.

Get your girl scout cookies! Sign up in the OCPP office
A Lettington Chronicle

By Robert Lettington

It's now 1997 and what's on our minds? 1996, of course. All those grades seem to cause far more stress than they're worth if you ask me, but then you probably won't since it's fairly common knowledge that I'm biased. You'd be biased too if you had my grades. Since all the professors are in pep talk mode, I thought I'd join in too. All you have to do is think that, except for one person out there, we all did better than somebody. If you're the one person... well, you're not a trainspotter or a not-so-free freeman in Montana, are you? What happens if you're too smart anyway? You get arrested by the FBI and accused of being the Unabomber. Everybody knows the authorities hate smart types, particularly the FBI since they're all failed CIA applicants. It's common knowledge that there's a lot more fun to be had in the CIA, so they have to take out their frustration on all the smart people.

Of course the clearest thoughts on this subject are to be had in Evelyn Waugh's philosophy that you should either get the top grade or the bottom — anything in between is time wasted. What happens if you get the top grade? You don't get a good job because everybody is afraid you'll steal theirs. If you get a bad grade, or better yet fail, you become a senior politician and make oodles of cash from your slush fund which is officially devoted to saving the Tahitian Purple Mandingo — a bird that is so rare that nobody has ever seen it. Who knows — you could even become a world statesman. Look at the British Prime Minister; he didn't even get grades good enough to get into undergrad in the first place. Things are always a lot more difficult if you're in the middle though — it could all go either way. One minute it looks like you're heading for senior partner at Big, Bigger & Lots-of-Cash in New York, the next you're in Podunk making your new I-800-BIG-CASH advert for victims of turkey farming tragedies. Who knows — you could be a law professor. Whatever happens, the moral is clear — if you got straight B's, then you're going to have to work when you graduate. A horrible thought but somebody's got to do it.

However, there is a lot more hope for those of us at the bottom of the heap. None of us really got bad grades. It was actually all a big conspiracy by the top law firms of this fine Nation; they knew that if we got good grades then everybody would be clamoring to employ us for big bundles of green stuff. The solution to this problem was to fix the results and deluding our bright young minds.

But even more difficult is when you get the bottom grade. What happens then? You don't get a good job because you know the authorities hate smart types, particularly the FBI since they're all failed CIA applicants. It's common knowledge that there's a lot more fun to be had in the CIA, so they have to take out their frustration on all the smart people.

As a final thought, if none of the above works for you, look at it this way — you now know that all that time in Paul's wasn't wasted. It did produce something: bad grades.

Overheard...

"We don't want a lot of Johnsons out there."
— Professor Alemante Selassie

"I live to tidy."
— Tanya Fickenscher

"He's quite intellectual. Some people call him Jesus."
— Deanna Griffith

"Why don't we just shoot him?"
— Professor Alemante Selassie

"Counsel, if you can argue that objection, you can sell dog poop door to door."
— Legal Skills Trial Judge

"Some of what I said might have been confusing. The rest is probably just plain wrong."
— Professor Elmer Schaefer

Crossword Answers

Professor Elmer Schaefer

Professor Alemante Selassie

Professor Alemante Selassie

Legal Skills Trial Judge

Sarah Seager.

Monica Taylor

Kevin Streit

Alex Long

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

This week: Wining & Dining with Alumni Co-Counsel
J.M. Randall's Offers A Break from the Olde

By Jim Scott

J.M. Randall's, in the Olde Towne Center at Longhill and Olde Towne Roads, features casual fare reminiscent of Bennigan's or T.G.I.Friday's. The extensive menu, however, features items with a bit more flair than standard family-oriented restaurant chains. In addition, the atmosphere avoids those chains' cookie cutter seen-one-seen-them-all decor.

The food, itself, is fairly consistent and hearty. Appetizers include standards such as quesadillas, potato skins, nachos, and items particular to Randall's as pirogies, sweet potato sticks, and "Irish Nachos" made with chicken chili. The nachos are indeed flavorful and made with melted cheeses, tomatoes, and the other appropriate accompaniments. The pirogies are a bit heavy and bland, yet acceptable none the less.

There are numerous choices for main courses. One may order any number of sandwiches, all of which include spice or plain waffled fries. In addition Randall's offers hamburgers with a variety of items which can be added for a per-item charge. These hamburgers also come with fries. It is the entrees however, which make Randall's stand apart from chain restaurants. Entrees include various chicken, beef, pork, and fish platters. Smothered Chicken, for example, is a flavorful pair of chicken breasts with mushrooms and green peppers topped with melted monterey jack cheese. The beef and chicken fajitas are disappointing, lacking the sizzling platter and generous mounds of condiments many have become accustomed to at Tex-Mex restaurants. Other entrees include steaks and fresh tuna. Many entrees include a choice of fries, vegetable, rice or baked potato.

Desserts are good, but unremarkable, although Randall's does offer chocolate truffles. Drinks include a small selection of wines and several varieties of beer on draft. Notably, there is a very wide variety of bottled beer.

Prices are modest and fair by Williamsburg standards. Appetizers cost from four to six dollars; sandwiches tend to run from five to seven and entrees cost from eight to thirteen dollars. There are nightly specials whose costs are comparable to other entrees. For the hungry, however, Monday nights currently feature a ten dollar all you can eat shrimp rib special and Wednesday nights offer a thirteen dollar all you can eat shrimp special.

Randall's also offers NTN Interactive Trivia for patrons' entertainment. More notably, Randall's offers live entertainment in the form of bands. In addition, a wide screen television airs ESPN and other sporting events, with Randall's organizing events around major events, such as the Superbowl and College Bowl Games.

Overall, Randall's offers above average quality of food, especially with the more traditional items on the menu, although it falters a bit when it ventures too far from the familiar. Whatever small failings exist in the kitchen are made up by the atmosphere and entertainment it offers.

J.M. Randall's is located in the Olde Towne Center at 4854 Longhill Road and accepts major credit cards. Its phone number is 259-0406.

TRADING CARDS: xxxxTOPIC GOES HERExxxx

Alex Long

Alex sampled the Winery's best as he searched for his long, lost co-counsel, a man he knew only as Chuck but whose Christmas party had proven to be a little less formal than Mr. Long anticipated. But as time wore on, and the Jell-O shots tasted better, Alex discovered that being a lawyer isn't so bad after all.

Kevin Streit

Kevin came to law school after a long interregnum by the Toronto Police, who were convinced that Kevin was a professional hit man. Unfortunately, the police had knocked down the wrong door; the hit man lived a few houses down. So Kevin packed his bags and moved back to the town that gave him his undergraduate degree.

Monica Taylor

While most cards are reserved for students, we just couldn't resist including Monica Taylor, Class of 1991. Monica has worked tirelessly to guarantee the success of the Co-Counsel program, although she has speculated that the real reason that Monica maintains such close ties with the law school is that she just misses Professor Butler's Property exam.

Sarah Seager

Taking full advantage of a rare opportunity to escape from her career in the law library, Sarah and Susan Bruce formed a tag team of co-counselors, making up for years past in which one had substituted for the other. While we attempted to uncover some deep dark secret of Sarah's, we were only met with "But I like Sarah." Who knew? Someone without skeletons.

Clinton v. Jones

CROSSFIRE from 8

If it is distressing that the President might be further embarrassed or that his second term might be marred or that construction of the 21st Century Bridge is delayed, so be it. The American people knew before the election that Clinton was subject to "bimbo eruptions." Certainly by the 1996 elections, Clinton had become a known quantity. That Clinton might be subject to public embarrassment in this case or more serious penalties from the Whitewater investigation were part of the calculation made by the American public in November. We chose Bill Clinton, though not by a majority, and we have to live with it. It would be unconscionable to sacrifice our most treasured principles and freedoms to protect Clinton from himself. America is far greater than this one man.

Larry Flynt eloquently described our First Amendment freedoms by stating that if the First Amendment protected a scumbag like him, then it would protect all Americans. The Court can now reaffirm another cherished freedom by holding that no man, not the President, not even slick Bill Clinton, is above the law.

Send Us Letters!

If you have something to say, why not say it in the Amicus hanging file by Thursday January 30, at noon.
**Music for the Masses**

**Hope the Movie is Better**

By Don Szego

Various Artists, subUrbia soundtrack

I'm sure I'm wrong about the first movie here, but it seems that ever since The Chase with Charlie Shien, films have been putting together some incredible movie soundtracks (Ignored Repo Man and Judgement Night there didn't I? Oops!). subUrbia promises to do the same, having a soundtrack with such current stars as Beck, the Revolving Cocks, Sonic Youth, and Elastica, as well as a few others.

subUrbia, based on the play (by Eric Bogasian, 1994) by the same name, is a post high-school story about "real life" (a drama, but they don't use such words in the blufts on promo albums...), and was directed by Richard Linklater, who vowed as with such uplifting films as Slacker and Dazed and Confused (seems like a directorial rut to me...). The film doesn't seem to be boasting any big time names (admittedly my source of info is the back of the promo soundtrack CD but still...so we'll find out in February if a movie can coast on the stars of its soundtrack.

The first track on the disk is Elastica with Pavement's Stephen Malkmus, doing a cover of X's Unheard Music. I didn't really like the X version, and I loathe Elastica almost entirely, so this song is trash.

Sonic Youth makes several appearances on the disk, including one track that is almost 8 minutes long. In general, Sonic Youth has been un-inspired over the last few years (at least since Dirty) and this is no departure from that trend. Who wants to listen to an eight minute "experimental" music track? Ugh.

Girls Against Boys rear their ugly heads along with Boss Hog (who come off as a really cheesy almost Riot Grrl sort of band), Skinny Puppy (who sounded way too English), Superchunk (here's an alternaclon song), and the Butthole Surfers (I'm not impressed).

I was somewhat surprised to see the Flaming Lips here too, being that they've been nearly ("effectively") silent since their Lollapalooza appearance a few years ago. Unfortunately, the recording levels on their track are screwed, and it sounds like it was recorded on an answering machine in someone's garage. Other than that it's not a bad cut (all I have to say is "TAAAAAAAANGERINE!).

The last song on the album is that 1962 Gene Pitney song "Town Without Pity," which I'm sure m must have been an interesting pitch to get someone to provide it. With the help of his wife, Althea (Courtney Love), he did just that.

**Review: The People v. Larry Flynt**

By Lee Ranieri

The People v. Larry Flynt

It must have been an interesting pitch to get The Peoplev. Larry Flynt produced: "Yes, boss, I think what America really wants is a movie about Hustler magazine and its disfavored create. And they want Courtney Love in it, too." Whether Larry Flynt gains popular acceptance remains to be seen, but despite the unlikely premise, director Milos Forman made quite a good film.

Watching Larry Flynt is a truly guilty pleasure. The film is equal parts biography of Flynt and chronicle of the seemingly uninterrupted legal troubles brought about by his magazine. Woody Harrelson stars — and does a great job — as Flynt, who started Hustler after a backwoods childhood as a junior moonshiner. While running a go-club in Ohio, Flynt apparently decided that what pornography really needed was a new, more profound childhood as a junior moonshiner. While running a go-club in Ohio, Flynt apparently decided that what pornography really needed was a new, more profound level of degradation, and that he would be the man to provide it. With the help of his wife, Althea (Courtney Love), he did just that. The rest, as they say, is history.

Although Larry Flynt ostensibly is a biography, the focus is mainly upon the legal wranglings that brought about some important First Amendment precedent. Anyone who’s been through Professor Devins’ Constitutional Law class should be familiar with the stories, particularly the emotional distress tort suit brought by the Reverend Jerry Falwell. Of course, the courtroom scenes are typical Hollywood: no rules of evidence and some horrendous cross-examination, but they’re not too ridiculous. In fact, the Supreme Court argument was surprisingly satisfying.

Larry Flynt wasn’t without its problems, however. In particular, it wasn’t entirely fair. Director Forman did an effective job as portraying Flynt as the victim of a merciless witch-hunt, and, to an extent, he was. As a consequence, Flynt comes across as a very sympathetic character. In the process, however, director Forman minimizes Flynt’s uglier side. To be blunt, Flynt is a sleazy guy. It seems unlikely that he was more concerned with establishing noble First Amendment principles than he was with making a buck by putting out the lowest pornography on the market. Larry Flynt spends a lot of time discounting the moral objectors to Hustler, yet is conspicuously silent when it comes to answering feminist critiques. Whether intentional or not, Forman seems to be saying: “If it’s legal, that’s the end of the discussion.”

Despite this kid-glove treatment of Flynt’s “work,” The People v. Larry Flynt is interesting, well-scripted, and well-acted. Courtney Love put in another surprisingly good performance as Flynt’s liberated wife Althea, and Larry Flynt himself made an amusing, if badly-acted, cameo appearance as an autocratic trial judge. Be warned, however, that Larry Flynt is rated R for a reason, and is somewhat explicit in its depiction of Flynt’s career and personal life, which are often hard to distinguish.

Interesting side note: The motion picture industry actually censored the original poster for this movie, itself a two-hour diatribe against censorship. Rating: ★★★ (out of four)

**The Relic**

“This is so stupid! This is so goddamn stupid!” shrieks Penelope Ann Miller, toward the end of The Relic. I couldn’t agree with her more. "Stupid" basically sums up every single aspect of this movie. The acting was stupid. The directing was stupid. The script was stupid. The sound was stupid — and annoying. The "horror" was stupid. The lighting was especially stupid. The editing was stupid. Even the blocking was stupid.

Although several movies opened this last week, I could only find three that were showing in this area: Larry Flynt, The Relic, and Turbulence. Since monster movies can be fun if they’re done right (e.g. Alien, The Thing), it seemed that The Relic had to be a safer bet than Turbulence. While this may still be true, I regret not just quitting while I was ahead with Larry Flynt.

The Relic was too awful to warrant much discussion. In a nutshell, it was about a museum anthropologist who finds some sort of super-charged hormone fango in Brazil which he ships back to his Chicago museum. Since the anthropologist ate some of this stuff, on route back to Chicago he mutates into an enormous reptile-human thing that has to — try not to laugh too hard — rip off people’s heads and brains to get to his hypothalamus. This is supposedly because it needs more hormones. Never mind that the hypothalamus doesn’t produce hormones — glands do (but usually not after they’re removed from the body). If this was the dumbest thing about The Relic, though, we’d be lucky.

The rest of the movie is as foolish as the plot. For no apparent reason, the scientists in the museum tend to work in almost total darkness, and most of the exhibit rooms aren’t lit either, so it’s impossible to see half the screen on any given shot. Even more annoyingly, The Relic producers seemed to think that the potential of the “false surprise” isn’t being realized — every few minutes there was another deafening explosion of high-pitched noise, with something jumping out to “scare” you: a cat, a bum, a child, whatever. Ad nauseam. This allowed The Relic to hide the actual creature until the last fifteen minutes, which is a shame, because once it actually appeared, the effects were pretty good. Try to imagine Jurassic Park, but without the actual dinosaurs, and you get the idea.

The Relic wasn’t even bad in an amusing, kitchy way. It was just bad in an awful, gut-wrenching way. Rating: Zero ©.
Monday, January 20
BLSA Speakout: Commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and legacy. Law School Lobby, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Candlelight Vigil: In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Readings from “I Have a Dream” speech and film footage. Bring a candle. For more information, call 221-2301. Wren Steps, 6:00 p.m.

William & Mary Concert Series: La Boheme by the New York City Opera National Company. Also performed on Tuesday, January 21. Both performances begin at 8:00 p.m. For ticket information, call 221-3276.

Men's Basketball: v. VCU, 7:30 p.m. William & Mary Hall.


Tuesday, January 21
Master Director Series: The Spring program begins by featuring Milos Forman, director of films such as Amadeus, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, and most recently, People vs. Larry Flynt. 9:30 p.m., Trinkle Hall Call 221-3273 for more information.

National Trial Team Packet Distribution: 6 p.m. in Room 119. Contact Krista Weber at 220-9684, if you can't make the meeting but still want to participate.

Friday, January 24
OCPP Seminar: Kimm Walton, author of the best-selling book Guerrilla Tactics: How to Get the Legal Job of Your Dreams. Register at OCPP office to attend. 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Funeral: No, it's not Robert Lettington's funeral after his parents see his grades (See A Lettington Chronicle), but the movie at DOG Street Theatre, 9:00 p.m.

Curdled: A black comedy about a child who is fascinated by bloody murder. Stars William Baldwin and Angela Jones. At DOG Street Theatre, 11:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 25
National Work-a-Day: Contribute to Williamsburg by joining law students across the country in a day of local volunteering. Sign up sheets in Law School Lobby. Compete against students at Regent University for highest participation. Sponsored by LSC.

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

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Rantin' and Ravin'—Everything's Fair Game

By Chris Ambrosio

Taking a cue from comedian extraordinaire Dennis Miller (read: stealing his idea outright), I thought I would offer some commentary on a few events that have crossed the transom of American consciousness, or at least my consciousness, over the past several weeks. If you have any complaints about what I say, just put them in writing and give them to the Amicus. I should warn you, however, that in the spirit of modern journalism, I haven’t actually investigated any of the facts that are set forth in this piece. If you just want to nipsick about the accuracy of certain details, e.g., that the Germans did not, in fact, bomb Pearl Harbor, you are certainly welcome to respond. Remember, though, that we’re concerned with broader themes here.

Telemarketers: Aside from crack dealers, these people may be the most dirty and disgusting bunch of good-for-nothin’ junk peddlers in America today. They certainly present the greatest threat to our society and peace of mind as a free society. A typical scenario goes like this. I have just gotten out of the shower and I’ve begun to shave. The phone rings, and I slice my face to ribbons trying to finish up and rinse off. I sprint over to the phone and answer it just in time to hear: “Is Mr. ...uhhh ...Ambro... speechless? Mark... we’re speaking,” I reply, already steeling myself to deliver the knockout blow. “Good evening sir, I’m Michael Sinlirmninin in from Pro-teel services, are you doing today, sir?” Then I drop the hammer, before they can get to line two of their recorded script: “If you’re selling something, I don’t want it. If you’re asking for money, I’m in graduate school and I’ve got loads out the ass. Good night, and don’t ever call me again.” (You might ask why I don’t just let the answering machine pick up. I used to do that periodically, until it turned out to be a friend of mine who is a medical resident with an ungodly schedule, from whom I hadn’t heard in eight months. He hung up before I could answer, and it was another three months before I could get in touch with him.)

It seems like every damn charity in America has asked me for money, from Sally Struthers to kids to Jerry’s kids to some organization called VCOPS, and every fly-by-night via-night mail order outfit has tried to sell me some overpriced and worthless piece of crap, from long distance services to credit cards to insurance to feminine suppositories, probably. The people at the Daily Press, or whatever it is, call me approximately ten times per hour to get me to subscribe. I almost know these people by name. “Hey, is that you, Fred? Sorry, but in the six hundredth time, I don’t want the paper.” Undaunted, they have even sent actual human beings (from outward appearances, anyway) to my door to try to force that godforsaken rag on me. I’m sick of it. Professor Meese might argue that telemarketing helps to eliminate “information asymmetries” in the economy, or that it helps to “improve the efficiency” of business. In any case, I don’t want to hear any more of it.

Lawyers and the Boy Scouts: Apparently, some kids were sexually assaulted at a Boy Scout camp a little while ago. The alleged perpetrators were teenage Boy Scouts. A terrible crime, no doubt. But is it any reason to sue the Boy Scouts for seventy-two million dollars? The parents of the victims think so. Or, more likely, some sleazier attorney thinks so, and convinced the parents to file such an absurd lawsuit. Does anyone have a conscience anymore? Even defending a lawsuit of that magnitude will cost the Boy Scouts an arm and a leg. This isn’t Philip Morris we’re talking about here. This is the Boy Scouts, fer Chrissakes. Why would you cripple an otherwise terrific organization like that just to make a few bucks? I mean, some Girl Scouts once sold me a box of Trefoils with a couple of the leaves crumbled off! But you don’t see me running off to paralyze the organization with an expensive lawsuit. Looks like I may be the last American left with a conscience.

Drew Barrymore is all this country can stand at a show, and answer it just in time to hear: “Lawyers and Television: In the future, when legal historians from Canada (which will, incidentally, rule all of North America before too long) are trying to sort out the causes of the complete and total collapse of the American legal system, they will not be concerned with rulings of the United States Supreme Court, or any federal court for that matter. Rather they will point to one ruling by a previously obscure circuit court judge in Los Angeles County, a ruling which was probably not even published in an official reporter. They will say something like: “We can pinpoint the downfall of the American legal system to September 14, 1994, at 11:06 a.m., Pacific Standard Time, when Judge Lance Ito ruled that television cameras would be allowed to broadcast the proceedings of People of California v. Orenthal James Simpson.”

“Why this dire prophecy? Because Johnny Cochran, who wasn’t satisfied with making 157 speeches and writing a book based on his undeserved fame, has decided to take the case to TV. Not to be outdone, Marcia Clark has likewise announced that she, too, will host a TV show. This increases by two the number of irritating, pain-in-the-ass lawyers who have parlayed mediocre achievements into lucrative television deals. See also Greta von Sussen, Larry King.
SubUrbia Soundtrack
MUSIC from 11
seems to give an unfortunate glimpse at the plot of the movie. This song is one of those "classic" lounge-act type female vocals deals. Not my speed, but then again, it's a "classic" . . .

As much as I hate it, the best track on the album comes from Beck. "Feather in Your Cap" is an unusual piece of work for Beck. Here he uses slow, acoustic, steel-string guitars rather than synthesizers, and he sings rather than raps!

"Disappointment is a feather in your cap, want the truth so you can crush it in your hand." The best on the disk, but still not all that good. Great for Beck, though.

For a movie that's apparent!, going to try to coast off its director and its soundtrack, this isn't much of a soundtrack.

The local weather casters are freaking out about the "cold spell," but they haven't been inside M-W lately. On behalf of all M-W students, the Amicus would like to thank the administration for providing us with such tropical heat in the midst of this crisis.

Our advice: dress in layers.
Sports

Tribe Teams Fall During Losing Streak

By Kristan Burch

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Tribe squad secured victories in its first two games of the regular season but then lost nine of its next 11 games. The early wins came against UNC-Greensboro at W&M Hall and against Hampton University on the road. Rounding out the schedule in November, W&M lost a pair of games, one to Stetson in a 73-68 decision and the second to the Citadel, 78-71, at home.

The Tribe opened the December schedule with an early and decisive win on Dec. 2 against Catholic, but then went on a four game losing streak. The first of these losses came when Virginia visited Williamsburg. The Tribe played the Cavaliers tight in the first half, but was unable to maintain its intensity throughout the entire game, eventually losing, 75-64. The next three games were road losses in which the Tribe fell to Arizona State, Alabama-Birmingham, and East Carolina at their record on 3-6 by Jan. 2.

W&M was able to add another win to its record when it faced James Madison at W&M Hall on Jan. 4. This was the Tribe's first game of its Colonial Athletic Association schedule. The Dukes dominated the first minutes of the competition as W&M was unable to make a basket. JMU had amassed a 17-0 lead after seven minutes of play, and the first two points for the Tribe came from guard Sam Steen when he scored with less than ten minutes left in the first half. By intermission, the Tribe had started to get some points on the scoreboard, and the team only trailed 39-28.

The Tribe came out of the locker room fighting and was able to cut the Dukes' lead to just five and a half minutes into the second half. For the rest of the contest, the competition remained tight. W&M's improved shooting and JMU's ten turnovers in the second half proved the difference as the Tribe was able to come away with a 64-61 win from its CAA opener. W&M's scoring was led by guards Shaka Arnold and Terence Jennings who both had 17 points in the match-up.

Despite the enthusiasm shown in its match-up with JMU, the Tribe lost the next three of its contests, to set its record at 4-9 by Jan. 13. The first of these three road games was played in Blacksburg, where Virginia Tech's offense steamrolled over the Tribe and handed it a 71-46 loss. The Hokies were in control of the tempo of the game and the score for the entire contest. The Tribe was able to pull within nine by intermission, trailing 36-25. W&M opened the second half with the first four points, but the squad was unable to get any closer to the Va. Tech. Instead, the Hokies went on a 16-0 run in the second half and never looked back.

In its second CAA game, the Tribe traveled to Richmond on Jan. 11. The Spiders were ready for W&M and were able to hold off its advances at the Reynolds Center. Guard Randy Brady returned to the W&M line-up, after having been out since the game against Virginia on Dec. 4 because of a stress fracture to the lower back suffered during preseason play. Brady hit seven of his nine shots and came away from the game with 17 points, but even his presence was not enough to jump-start the Tribe to a victory. Richmond used its size advantage to help it defeat W&M, 82-72.

The Tribe extended its losing streak to three games when it traveled to Annapolis, to play Navy in Alumni Hall. With seven minutes left in the game, W&M had gotten to within two points of the Midshipmen, but that was as close as the Tribe would come to catching Navy. The Midshipmen ended up winning 74-63. Brady scored 19 points in the game, and forward Bobby Fitzgibbons added 14 more.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Unlike the men's team, the women's squad lost its first two games of the regular season. These upssets came to North Carolina and Lafayette. The Tribe then turned itself around and won its next three contests, downing Hofstra, Winagane, and Winthrop to stand at 3-2 by Dec. 22. Unfortunately, the Tribe's winning ways ended with the Winthrop match-up, as the squad lost the next eight of its games. The first of these losses came in Atlanta at the Georgia Tech Invitational when the Yellow Jackets beat the Tribe, 78-53. On the next day of the tournament, the game against Mount St. Mary's went into overtime, but the W&M women ended up losing 81-79. The next two losses also were close contests, as the Tribe fell to Georgia Mason by one and to George Mason by two points.

The loss to the Patriots was the fourth consecutive, and it left the Tribe record at 3-6. The Tribe trailed by ten at half time but regained some ground after intermission. With a little over three minutes left in the game, W&M lead GMU by four points, but the Tribe was unable to hold onto its lead. Guard Jessica Muskey scored 21 points for the Tribe, hitting six of the ten shots that she took. Year of six shots that she made were three point baskets. Muskey was the only Tribe player to score over eight points in the contest.

The trail of defeats continued as the Tribe matched up against Monmouth College on Jan. 8. The Hawks lead by only three points at halftime and ended up winning the game 70-67. After returning from this trip to N.J., W&M played American at home. This was the Tribe's third CAA loss of the season and the Tribe's sixth straight loss overall. The Eagles lead 35-32 at halftime, and W&M was able to keep things close for the beginning of the second half. Less than two minutes into the second half, the Tribe took the lead when guard Nekisa Cooper hit a three point basket. Yet, American went on a run and ended up beating W&M, 76-64. Forward Bridget Wagner was the Tribe's leading scorer with 12 points, and Muskey contributed nine points of her own. Guard Julie Sommer and forward Julie Hamiel both added eight points for W&M.

The next W&M loss came to Old Dominion in Norfolk. At the time of the contest, the Monarchs were ranked No. 2 in the Nation with a 13-1 record. ODU more than doubled W&M's score as it beat the Tribe, 79-36. The difference between the two teams, besides just in the size of their line-ups, can be evidenced by their performance on the boards. The Tribe had 24 rebounds for the afternoon while ODU had 39. Monarch center Nyree Roberts alone had 17 rebounds, and she was not charged with a foul during this stunning performance on the boards. The Monarchs took an early 25-4 lead, and by halftime, ODU had accumulated 25 point advantage. This was the 17th straight game that W&M has lost to this Norfolk powerhouse.

On Jan. 14, the Tribe played another road game against a local opponent when it traveled to Hampton to play Hampton University. The game was played tight, and the Pirates only led by two at halftime. Despite its continual efforts in the second half, the Tribe fell to HU, 58-55. This loss set W&M's record at 3-10 overall. Nina McIntyre lead the Tribe in scoring, with 15 points. Sommer added 11, and Hamiel contributed 10 points.

SBA Update...

SBA Update from 2

flled honor code that our school canpossibly have. I believe that our work, aimed at getting the schools to agree on one code, will be finished soon. When all of the schools are in agreement, our next task will be to get President Sullivan to agree to our proposal. Once this has been accomplished, we will present the unified code to the law school student body and hold a referendum.

This should occur sometime in February and you can be sure to see much more information once plans have been finalized.

SBA Elections

The elections for SBA Officers and Class Representatives are coming up soon.

While the exact dates have yet to be fixed, the election for the office of SBA President will occur the week of February 17th. The elections for the other SBA officers and class representatives will occur the following week. This campaign is not allowed to commence until the week before the elections. There will be more information posted in the student lounge and on the SBA bulletin boards as it becomes available.

SBA Work-A-Day

On January 25th, the Student Bar Associations at every law school in the Nation annually take on the ambitious task of all participating in a day of community service. Law Students Involved in the Community (LSIC), chaired by David Young (JL), is organizing our participation at the law school. They have put in a lot of hard work to make this event a success, so please support their efforts by volunteering to participate. They will be in the lounge all week with sign up sheets for different community service activities. For those who would like to help out, but cannot, you can participate by making a donation of $5 to help defray the costs of this event. Further, at David's request, I issued a challenge to Regent law school (Pat Robertson's university) stating that we could get more participation than they could. So please, for the sake of our school pride, help support this event.

Miscellaneous

The SBA finally got a bulletin board installed in the student lounge above the hanging files thanks to the hard work of Ellen McBurnette (1L Rep). One section has been designated for SBA information, but, besides that, feel free to post notices up on the board.

As we have moved to a system of getting our grades on the computer, one thing that we have lost is the ability to see how our grades ranked with others in the course. Thanks to a suggestion made by Alex Stiles (3L), Dean Jackson is going to look into the possibility of having the system allow you to see a list of the number of grades that were given for your course.

Finally, Dean Barnard is in the process of making arrangements for Jonathan Harr, writer of A Civil Action to come and speak at the law school. We are going to try to make copies of his book available in the library. I suggest that if you get a chance, read this book before his visit.
The Materials

Concise yet comprehensive bar exam oriented outlines keyed to both Multistate and Essay Examinations.

The Conivser Mini Review contains highly condensed summaries, flow charts, comparison charts and exam pointers ideal for final review.

The Workshops

The Essay Testing Program is designed to maximize students' performance on the essay portion of the bar exam.

The BAR/BRI Multistate Workshops teach Multistate exam techniques and alert students to bar exam tricks and traps.

The Three Day Gilbert Multistate Workshop includes a simulated Multistate exam with diagnostic feedback and two days of subject by subject analysis.

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