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Fire Scare at Law Library

On Saturday, October 25, at 7:35 PM, Megan Hay (3L) noticed smoke while leaving the law library. Hay called 911 to report the incident and within ten minutes emergency vehicles filled the faculty parking lot and blocked off South Henry Street. Students evacuated and were greeted by firemen exploring the smoke-filled area around the circulation desk. There were no flames, and firemen attributed the smoke to a possible HVAC mechanical malfunction.

Students Learn by Teaching in Constitutional Literacy Seminar

By Amanda Christensen

The justices of the U.S. Supreme Court have nothing on a classroom full of high school students when it comes to firing off questions about legal concepts.

So the inaugural class of the law school’s Constitutional Literacy Seminar has discovered over the course of this semester.

For the past month, students in the seminar have been teaching various Constitutional law lessons to middle and high school students in Hampton Roads. It’s part of a project through the Institute of Bill of Rights Law that Professor Neal Devins thought would highlight William & Mary’s citizen lawyer ideal.

Students in the seminar agree.

“This class is more rewarding than other classes at the law school,” said Jessica Izzo (2L). “We are serving the community and being citizen lawyers by expanding Hampton Roads’ Constitutional literacy.

Even the teachers are learning things from us, and that benefits the students even more.”

Lessons include freedom of expression, election law, due process, and the Constitution and the courts, among others. For the middle and high school students it’s an exciting moment when they realize the principles apply to their own lives, whether it’s a senior ready to exercise his right to vote for the first time or a sixth-grader testing the ruling in West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette by not standing for the morning Pledge of Allegiance.

For the law students, it doesn’t matter whether you slept through Con Law your 1L year or you sleep with a copy of the Constitution under your pillow, teaching the lessons is its own crash course.

“The class has given me a unique opportunity to sharpen my own understanding of fundamental Constitutional principles, and at the same time, help the community,” said Erin McNeill (3L). “I never understood Marbury v. Madison, Continued on Page 3.

Nigerian Human Rights Lawyer Visits W&M

By Abby Murchison

“Am I a human rights lawyer?” Hauwa Ibrahim wondered aloud before a lunchtime audience of W&M law students on Oct. 22. “I’m not sure. I just found myself in a position where I had to do something.”

“Women could be stoned to death for adultery,” said the Nigerian-born lawyer, describing the grim reality of the Islamic Shari’a law. In northern Nigeria, Shari’a law not only governs the daily lives of the Muslim majority, but it also threatens human rights. “If you consume alcohol, you can be flogged. If you steal a cow, your limbs can be amputated.”

Ibrahim is perhaps best known for successfully defending Amina Lawal, the northern Nigerian woman who, in 2002, was sentenced to stoning for having a child out of wedlock. Ibrahim was born to a poor Muslim family in northern Nigeria, where literacy rates are low and 12-year-old girls are married off rather than educated. Ibrahim was determined to stay in school, hawking goods at the local market in order to save money. Her sharpness and drive landed her in law school. She has defended numerous people under Shari’a law and has been recognized around the world for her pro bono work.

Despite this extraordinary biography, Ibrahim spoke not about her personal achievements but instead focused on the structure of Shari’a law in northern Nigeria, and about her three strategies as a criminal defense lawyer therein.

“First, you must understand the local dynamic and work within it,” Ibrahim said. “Our aim is not to impose Western ideals of justice and Continued on Page 11.
Two Years Post-Vandalism: Where Are We Now?

Staff Editorial

At Marshall-Wythe clubs come and go. In the past weeks we witnessed the successful debut of the brand new William & Mary Women’s Law Society and recently we celebrated 20 years of the Public Service Fund’s achievements. You may already know that last week students from Students for the Innocence Project, BLSA and the ACLU held a rally and signed petitions for Troy Davis as part of a global day of action (Davis’ execution has been stayed) and the SBA prepared for the annual Fall from Grace. You may not know that last week also marked the revival of another of Marshall-Wythe’s many student groups, the Lesbian and Gay Law Association (LGLA).

LGLA president, John Calabrese (3L), was excited about the turnout of just more than a dozen students for the group’s first interest meeting of the year, which happened later in the year than planned due to room scheduling conflicts. Calabrese, who has been involved with the group throughout his three years at Marshall-Wythe, recalled that the group has never had more than 4 or 5 regular members and that he even doubted whether interest would be sufficient to merit the group’s continuing existence this year. Then one new student who had seen the group’s bulletin board when visiting W&M contacted Calabrese to inquire about an interest meeting and upcoming events.

Ironically, it was this same LGLA bulletin board that an unknown party vandalized in September 2006 (the same time Virginia sought to pass its marriage amendment), crossing out the words “Lesbian and Gay” and writing over them “FAG” and “DIE!” in large red letters. Students, faculty, and the administration mobilized in response to the incident. The LGLA organized a petition against the hate speech that many students signed and distributed rainbow ribbons so individuals could show their support. Now president (then Dean) Taylor Reveley said the speech was “directly opposed to basic principles in our community” and former Vice President of Student Affairs, Sam Sadler, stated on the University’s behalf: “It goes without saying that this shouldn’t happen at W&M, or at our law school, or in our community.” The law school suggested it would incorporate “sensitivity training” into law camp or the legal skills program, offer more classes on civil rights, and provide more open forums. A police report was also filed and a reward for information on the incident posted.

Two years later, as National Coming Out month comes to a close, you have to wonder: Does it take a disgusting incident like the vandalism of the LGLA board for the law school community to take notice and to offer its support to an admittedly less visible student group? Neither we nor the LGLA can or want to force you to take interest or action, but we can inform you that the group is out there, and whether you are gay, straight, pansexual, a virgin, undecided, a Christian, a member of ACS or SIPS or Military Law Society, or no society, Phi Alpha Delta, an LL.M or 1L, whether you are from Texas or California, regardless of your political viewpoints or Facebook status, as members of the Marshall-Wythe community, we should all remember what happened and think about what is happening now and what can happen in the next two years and the next twenty. Wouldn’t it be nice if we all—students, administration, faculty, staff—were a little more aware, a little more open, no matter where you’re coming from? Come or go, for now we are here to stay a while.

The Marshall-Wythe Press

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After delivering a letter signed by SBA, Honor Council, and many student organizations to Dean Lynda Butler regarding the recent changes to the law school poster policy, Jenny Case informed organization leaders that a bulletin board in the law school lobby will have spots for four fliers per day, available on a first-come first served basis. Additional regulations include:

1. Fliers sponsored by a student organization do not need prior SBA approval in order to be posted; others must be approved by the SBA Secretary.

2. Fliers must be dated and can only be posted on the day of the event (they must be removed by 8 am the following day).
Internet Law Class Convenes in Second Life
By Justin Meyer

On Friday, October 10th, Professor Stacey-Rae Simcox walked into Room 124 to teach her Internet Law class. Only, there were no students in the room. As the scheduled time for the class drew nearer, no students showed up. Ten o'clock came and passed, and the only person in the room with Simcox was Professor Linda Quigley. And yet, this did not seem to be a problem.

Simcox surveyed her island and saw who was missing. She provided teleports to those students who needed one. And then everyone was in class, in Spain, in Starbucks, and in their own living rooms—this class in Internet Law was being held on the internet service Second Life.

Second Life, launched in 2003 by a company called Linden Labs, is a virtual world where people log on and are represented by avatars. In this virtual world, they can interact with each other, and buy and sell property and objects. There is a whole economy surrounding it, and some companies have set up their own islands within Second Life. Some countries have even set up embassies in Second Life in order to appeal to travelers who want more information.

Simcox saw this Second Life session as an opportunity to look at some real-world applications of what her students had been talking about in class (where they look at the practical uses of the law). Second Life has had intellectual property issues since it was created, and can create other problems that have not fully been explored. Do people who purchase virtual property in Second Life, which is held on Linden Labs' servers own that property? Bragg v. Linden Research, Inc. (E.D. PA 2007) was a lawsuit over that very matter. The case was settled out of court and no precedent was set.

Holding class on the internet was no easy task. This was the first time that the class met in Second Life (although not their first session in the virtual world. The class had a two-hour training session on main campus where they were able to create their avatars and learn about the system.) and some students had problems with their microphones. Others were unable to raise their hands. However, there were some positives. Students were able to type out replies while their classmates were talking. Students could be anywhere in the world and still participate in the class. Education is starting to take advantage of Second Life for these reasons. Already, it is possible to set up and watch famous trials or observe an archaeological dig from 1920's Egypt. Harvard and Princeton have set up their own islands, and have taught classes in Second Life. Other, smaller universities have done the same.

While the results of the class were positive, and the students were very enthusiastic about the experiment, it was just an experiment. Simcox was clear that she doesn't believe that virtual classes will replace in-person interactions. Nevertheless, while the campus debates use of computers in class, this professor actually held class in a computer.

First Person on Second Life
By Myron McClees

The Second Life (SL) class was a fun experience that was different yet familiar. Certain aspects of our regular Internet Law class changed, but most stayed the same.

I began that Friday a little different from any other Friday. For starters, I woke up in Petersburg at the crack of 9:45, just enough time to brush my teeth and pour a bowl of cereal before the 10 o'clock session. However, my clearly laid out plan had a monkey wrench thrown into it at the 11th hour. I received a call from the cable man asking if he could move our noon appointment up to 10. Yeesh! I thought, but then I remembered how much employers like multitaskers. "Come on through," I told him as I poured 1% on my Lucky Charms.

The class began without a hitch. I noticed that students let their personalities shine a little more during class in SL. One of my favorite differences between regular class and that held in SL was that we could type our thoughts on the subject to other students while another person was participating verbally. Just when I was getting comfortable, a white van pulled into my driveway. I showed the cable guy the rooms I needed serviced while listening to the class on the laptop tucked under my arm. Afterwards, I settled back into devouring red balloons, blue moons, and green clovers.

I did experience one technical snafu that would not allow me to raise my hand in order to respond. Some would argue that was not a bad thing. After a quick restart of the program I was back to dishing out massive quantities of sweet verbal justice.

I did notice that other students had technical problems, but I'm sure these will be ameliorated in the future with program updates and less user error.

All in all, class in SL was no different from any other class in that you get out of it exactly what you put in. All the students were prepared for class, and that certainly helped foster discussion. It was a worthwhile experience that can't be matched as far as comfort and ease are concerned. After class was over, I watched a riveting episode of Maury on the newly installed cable while adding the action verb 'multitasker' onto my resume.

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From Page 1 until I had to explain it to a class of high school seniors in a way they would find interesting and accessible...

The concept is based on the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project at American University Washington College of Law in which law students go into Washington D.C. high schools to teach civics education.

The seminar is on the schedule again in the Spring and if you sign up, you might be giving the next generation of lawyers their start in the law.
Society

Virginia Is For (Wine) Lovers

By Mairead Blue
All photographs courtesy of author.

On an idyllic fall Sunday, a group of daring law students loaded up a bus and directed themselves westward, towards Charlottesville. The reason? SBA’s annual bacchanalian affair known simply as the “wine trip.” Zack DeMeola, assisted by his marvelous mother Judy, scouted our course on the road to three different wineries. As bus wheels rolled, ambitious students put aside law books for friendly conversation and games of competitive Hangman. Special mention goes out to a certain Daily-Adams duo who proved acutely apt at guessing those “easy” five-letter words.

Our adventure commenced at Cooper Vineyards. Scrambling off the bus, students rushed to the outdoor table, crowded to capacity with bottles of wine just waiting to be tasted. While the owner gave a brief history of the winery, a jolly old man ambled through the crowd, pouring out libations, workers opened up crates of fermenting grapes for us to taste. Was it a particular AZ who suggested jumping directly into the crate? Intimate tours of the production facility, coupled with friendly owners eager to talk about their product, left everyone with a contented sense of gained knowledge and a thirst for further stops ahead.

Next on the map was Kluge Estates, a winery owned by the scandalous society-page vixen Patricia Kluge. Rolling hills, fall foliage and sunlight glistening off of still ponds welcomed us to our second tasting. Save for one particular presentation. Fully sated and properly buzzed, we boarded the bus, ready to wave goodbye to Kluge and its beauty. But wait? Did we forget something? Remember that movie scene of a young man running, trying to catch the bus as it pulled away? Well, there is a particular IL, whom courtesy keeps me from mentioning (initials VI), who will certainly never forget.

Excitement mounted upon arrival at our third and final winery. Blenheim Vineyards, owned by Dave Matthews (yes, that Dave Matthews), offered complex wine and an expansive, take-your-breath-away balcony view. Sipping on glasses of cabernet franc and chardonnay, the boys, led by one Mr. Nicholas, smoked cigars outdoors as others took time to admire the art on display in the tasting room. As the sun set, we all looked around, content in our newfound knowledge of the vine and happy to have had the opportunity to share the experience with close friends.

And The First Marshall-Wythe Idol Is...

By Mairead Blue
Paula. Randy. Simon. These easily recognizable judges from the hit show American Idol need beware of the newer, younger game in tow. On October 16th and October 23rd, William and Mary law students gathered for the first annual Marshall-Wythe Idol competition. Emceed by LaToya “always classy, calm-under-pressure” Asia, the show served as an entertaining means of raising money for the 3L graduation party.

Twelve law students from all three years participated in the first-round of competition. Week One highlights included: Kate Kruk, looking stylish in her newsboy cap and fashion pumps, kicking off the evening with Gloria Gaynor’s “I Will Survive,” Respected fashionista, should-be-on Project Runway, Angie Cupas singing “Very Superstitious,” Eric Scalzo’s boot-tap inducing “Beer for My Horses,” Shannon Daily’s soulful version of “Son of Preacher Man,” and Jason Wool’s get-the-audience-out-of-its-seats rendition of “Summer of ’69.” One impressed female student felt compelled to admit that “I was kind of obsessed with him 1L year,” while her tablemate responded “Totally the big man on campus.” Anyone looking for groupies?

Week Two found only six wannabe Idols on stage. After three days of voting, during which fans could place money in the cups of contenders they most wanted to see return, the SBA announced that Laura Collins, Angie Cupas, Shannon Daily, Sherwin Ignacio, Kate Kruk and Jason Wool would take the stage for the final round.

With crowds gathered to cheer on each hopeful performer, inter-singer and inter-class competitiveness increased. Who would come out on top? The 3Ls and the always entertaining Sherwin “I’ve been thrown by Andrew English but that’s not my only skill” Ignacio? Or would it be the 2Ls and Kate “I have nothing against geography but what the f*** kind of song is ‘Africa’” Kruk?

Judgments on each performance issued from the ever austere, always respected trio of Jenny “That’s Ms. President to you” Case, Johnny “Toto was the best 80s band ever” O’Kane, and Bishop “Darlin’” Garrison. Ultimately, the judges selected two performers to compete in a sing-off for first place. Cupas v. Kruk, the final round, began with Angie’s performance of “Material Girl” and ended with Kate adding new style to the old classic “Hotel California.”

Still unable to choose a winner, the judges threw it out to the audience. Angie bravely faced the applause-o-meter first. 2Ls responded with polite claps while 3Ls roared approval. Next came Kate. With voices
Business

Joe the Plumber: Talking Tax Plans

By Matthew Myer

With the state of the economy being issue number one in this presidential election, the candidates’ typical humdrum stump speeches recently took on an added flare. On Oct. 12, Joe Wurzelbacher, an Ohio resident and plumber by trade, asked a question of Barack Obama: “Your new tax plan is going to tax me more, isn’t it?” In doing so, he asserted that he intended to buy the plumbing company for which he worked, and that the company’s $250,000 to $280,000 yearly net income would meet a threshold requirement in Obama’s plan.

In a nod to simplicity, John McCain nicknamed Mr. Wurzelbacher “Joe the Plumber,” and used the persona as a theme in his rallies. McCain even dedicated a page on his website to it (http://www.johnmccain.com/joe/). Subsequently, however, it was revealed that Mr. Wurzelbacher’s employer has gross yearly sales of $100,000. Nevertheless, Obama’s reply to him was justifiably controversial: “When you spread the wealth around, it’s good for everybody.”

Without considering economic and philosophical concepts to critique whether either economic “good,” or philosophic “good,” could come from re-distributing wealth, let us take a brief look at the two candidates’ tax plans. After doing so, we’ll suggest the context in which the recent wave of publicity, and the candidates’ plans, should be considered.

First, Obama would create a threshold of $200,000 for individuals and $250,000 for couples. Above it, the tax rate would increase from 33% to 36%; the highest tax bracket would be taxed at 39.6%. Below it, individuals and couples would get a flat $500 and $1,000 permanent tax cut, respectively. He calls this the “Making Work Pay” tax credit. Senior Citizens making less than $50,000 would not pay income taxes. The same threshold levels would apply to capital gains and dividends taxes, with those below it paying them as they are now, and those above it paying up to 20%. For estates, the threshold would be $7,000,000. Those above it would pay a 45% rate, with those below it not paying the federal estate tax. Last, he advocates having financial institutions provide their customers with pre-filled forms to simply filing.

For small businesses, Obama would eliminate capital gains taxes on investments in the business itself, provide a 50% tax credit for money used to purchase health insurance for employees, and allow a $3,000 tax credit per new employee hired over the next two years. McCain advocates a 35% maximum tax rate on ordinary income.

Paper Money, Sex, and Power

By Gregarious Magnanimity

There are three common classifications of the interests of man: money, sex, and power. Power, the ability to physically force someone to do something, is useless on paper alone (eg. a war plan without an army). Sex, of course, is useless on paper alone (eg. pornography). Money too, in the form of an un-backed paper currency, is useless on paper alone.

The Framers of the Constitution understood this “that’s not worth a Continental” but sadly, Americans in the present day do not. The boom-bust cycle, and the current “crisis” on Wall Street, are directly attributable to the paper money system governed by the Federal Reserve. Specifically, monetary inflation causes price inflation.

Though these interests are often criticized, each of them is intrinsically good. Other things the same, the more that anyone has of any of them, the better. Why, then, are they criticized?

In truth, they cannot be criticized. Rather, only the motivations, methods, and manners of individual persons desiring, pursuing, and using them can be criticized. That is, the nature of man can be criticized, but not money, sex, or power.

The Founding Fathers criticized man’s nature, and this criticism led them to set up a government with checks and balances to prevent individuals in office from abusing their power. In Federalist No. 51, James Madison famously wrote that: “It may be a reflection on human nature that such devices [checks and balances] should be necessary to control the abuses of government. But what is government itself but the greatest of all reflections on human nature? If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself.”

In considering potential abuses to check, arguably, that of power for sex is much less dangerous than that of power for money. This is because sex, in economic analysis, is called a “consumer’s good.” It is something immediately and directly serviceable in the attainment of an end. As such, it can only be enjoyed by particular individuals in person. Therefore, the scope of benefit is confined to the abuser there is little incentive to expand the scope of abuse beyond that in which they benefit.

Money, on the other hand, has a much larger scope of potential abuse because the scope of benefit is not confined to the abusers. Instead, money is a medium of exchange, a unit of account, a store of value, and a capital good (a capital good is something that is indirectly serviceable to the attainment of an end). As a medium of exchange, money is the most transferable form of benefit. When power is abused to get money, the benefit can either be: 1. Used to purchase a consumer’s good to benefit the abuser 2. Measured, saved, and invested for growth to benefit the abuser 3. The same as #2, but transferred to others

Notice that the third option benefits both the recipient, and, at the same time, increases the power of the abuser by giving them control over the distribution of benefit.

Because of this self-enforcing character, money is the most likely target for the abuse of power by government officials. Indeed, if we took these conclusions to their logical end in an argument to the absurd, we would expect that governments would maximize their power by giving themselves the exclusive power to define, produce, and distribute money to literally “create” money out of thin air by printing units of currency on paper. Sadly, with the creation of the Federal Reserve System, this is exactly what has happened.

This is quite ironic. On August 16, 1787, the Framers debated striking out an enumerated power that had been listed in a draft of the Constitution. The clause read: “and emit bills on the credit of the United States.” James Madison, Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787 470 (1987). The debate convinced Madison, who had initially been opposed, to vote with the majority to strike the clause. He explained in a footnote that “This vote in the affirmative by Virgina was occasioned by the acquiescence of Mr. Madison who became satisfied that striking out the words would not disable the Govt. from the use of public notes [bonds/securities] as far as they could be safe & proper; & would only cut off the pretext for a paper currency, and particularly for making the bills a tender either for public or private

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Culture

The Maturation of Japanese Comics

By Jin Li
All images courtesy of author.

What is Dragon Ball? If you answer that it is only a famous comic book or some fascinating cartoons, you are 20 years behind the times. Today, Japanese comics have expanded into an industry, and the name of a comic book stands for everything that constitutes that industry.

Artwork by CLAMP.

Dragon Ball is not merely a popular book—it reflects the top-selling toys, best-selling movies, most interesting games, fabulous songs, and most popular character voices. It is even responsible for a new kind of theater and a new English word—we call it Cosplay (that is, Costume Play). Comics permeate the very essence of Japanese culture. From their humble beginnings, the popularity of Japanese comics has grown to such a degree that they have begun to influence even American cinema.

Since 1917, Japanese comics have come a long way. They started with translating world famous novels, going through several phases to become what we know as comics today. Not until the 1980s did this kind of creation come to the business field. During this decade, GUNDAM became a movie, comic books matured, and the world’s first Original Video Animation (OVA) debuted, creating a super new, video market. This kind of video cannot be played on TV or in a cinema; only if it becomes really popular will producers consider making it a movie.

Because of the popularity of the comic books, different kinds of products were marketed to encourage further interest, such as Tekken games and character dolls. The Dragon Ball game has occupied the top spot among products for a long time. Because of the movie’s popularity, well-known singers love to contribute their songs for the soundtrack: “I wanna thank you for all the trust and devotion/ thank you for the good time/ For your love, love as deep as any ocean” This is one of the most famous songs in Japan, introduced in 1985 for the movie Urusei Yatsura. At first, most people did not believe this song “Remember My Love,” was written for a movie based on a comic. Yet, the sales volume for this record was over 500,000 records, causing a trend of popular singers also to record for the comic movie.

There are even special schools for people who are interested in comic production to learn the special art form. Even American movies have started to adopt the technique from Japan. Next time you watch an American comic movie, pay attention to the production group, and you will not be surprised to find some Japanese artists were involved.

Japanese Comics
Through The Ages
by Jin Li

1. Prewar Period (1917-1945)
In the early days of this period, Japanese comics were more focused on world famous novels. Then, a change: they began to encourage war and violence before and during the Second World War. During this time, comic books improved their technique of expression, describing combat and explosions. Today, Japan continues to take pride in being the leader in this technique.

2. Discovery Period (1947-1951)
After losing the war, the growing anti-war sentiment began to be reflected in the comics. This topic has affected a great number of comic books and continues to be popular today. At the same time, Japanese comics started to try other subjects; some of them were successful, and some of them were quickly forgotten by people.

This is the first period that people were really interested in comics.

Bio-Ship Paladin was the first movie with a complicated plot and its post-episodes lasted for ten years. However, after this period, people’s passion for comics faded away, and the comics industry ceased progression.

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Top Ten Classic Comic Books
By Jin Li

1. Always the first Dragon Ball—Monument. This little boy with a monkey tale fighting against endless enemies has attracted millions of people. However, when this little boy grew up the comic book became an opus magnum.

3. Doraemon—Dream. Everybody loves Doraemon, this mysterious creature with an amazing unknown pocket. You can get whatever you want from this pocket, even a spatio-temporal machine. The author offers us a dream. Even in the 1980s, the Japanese economic crisis could not stop people from loving this book, leaving hope for the Japanese Comic Industry.

5. GUNDAM—Epic. It is undoubtedly an epic in Japan, in many ways. A human being with a gigantic machine is an attractive story. Even today, the products of Gundam are still the most popular products in Japan.

7. Detective Conan—Truth. This is a detective comic. The main character, a famous detective, was forced to take some drugs and became a child, but he did not stop looking for the truth for every case. The author has spent ten years on this comic and is still developing this interesting story.

9. CAPTAIN TSUBASA—Excitement. Another sports comic. But do not be judgmental, this comic has attracted a great number of teenagers who are starting to love soccer and getting involved in this sport. That is why the Japanese team suddenly became strong in the World Cup ten years after this book came out.

2. Slam Dunk—Perfection. A bunch of cute guys contribute all their energy to their own dream—basketball. Humor, battle, emotion...whatever you are looking for, it is in this book. No matter how fastidious you are, you will find at least one person you love in the story.

4. SaintSeiya—Childhood. This book is well-loved by children born in the middle of 1980 who love comic books. With origins in Greek mythology, the goddess Athena with her Saint Seiya Mobile did their best to protect the World. Those mysterious fairy tales, stunning costumes, beautiful-yet-funny splashes have occupied a cherished place in people’s hearts.

6. Touch TVSP Cross Road—Le Temps. Although many people think this is another sports comic, I would say instead it is more of a love story based on baseball life. The author uses a lot of gestures or eye-contact to describe feelings between characters. It seems like only people in love can understand this subtlety.

8. Ranma1/2—1/2. This is one the most popular comic books in Japan. The main character for some reason can become either a woman or a man. But what if he or she fell in love with another woman? This story is full of Japan’s own funny elements and can make you laugh all the time.

10. Dr Slump—Relax. Another unbeatable machine idol, except this time it is a little girl. This exaggerated story is for everyone despite age, gender, or any other difference. After watching this, you will love this little girl.
Opinions

Interview With A Gunner

By Ryan Ruzic

If you are like me, and I am sure you all are, you have noticed that some of our classmates are a little... different. It is not their clothes or hobbies, nor their backgrounds or beliefs; it is an approach to class that the rest of us find, well, annoying. They raise their hands for every single question, and sometimes even when there was no question asked. They pontificate at great length about how their undergraduate major (usually a top 10 school) gives them penetrating insight that the professor lacks. They are, in a word, gunners. It might be fun to make some jokes about gunners and their tiresome and long-winded diatribes, but that would be easy, and this is a serious column with ambitions beyond the cheap laugh. We are better than that; America is better than that. So instead of writing an article of gunner jokes, like “You can tell you’re a gunner if you literally run up to the professor after class” and “If you read and take notes for legal skills, you’re a gunner”. I am going straight to the source, and am speaking with a gunner, anonymously, to get the inside look into the minds of these, the most serious and annoying of law students.

Ryan: “First I wanted to thank you agreeing to talk to me about gunners.”

Gunner: “I don’t know why you wanted to talk to me, I’m not a gunner.”

Ryan: “Right, sure, of course not.”

Gunner: “No, really, when I went to [top ten private school] we had gunners, I had a friend who would check out and read the books of every professor he had. That’s crazy. By the way, did you know that Professor Green wrote a book about Nietzsche? It’s called Nietzsche and the Transcendental Tradition. Since philosophy was one of my majors, I checked it out. It was...”

Ryan: “Ok, ok, gotcha. So, why do you talk so much in class anyway? The grading is anonymous.”

Gunner: “I just hate how slow everyone is to get to the point; we never get through all the material. When I worked in the [government agency] I worked 160-hour weeks and...”

Ryan: “I don’t think that’s possible...”

Gunner: “Oh, it’s possible. It just takes some commitment. I remember when I was talking to Nance...”

Ryan: “I’m sorry, who?”

Gunner: “Nance? Oh, I mean Professor Combs; sorry; so anyway, N-dawg and I were talking and I was telling her how I spent fall break outlining my outlines and...”

Ryan: “Sorry, I, um, I think I’ve got all I need.”

Gunner: “Really, I was thinking I could tell you about this great law blog I read every day.”

Ryan: “No, no, I’m good, it’s a short column. I think I am going to bar review tonight, though, if you’re interested.”

Gunner: “Oh, you’re taking review classes for the bar too?”

I Ain’t No Hallow Back Girl

by Jamark Woolike

Once a year, we all get an excuse to dress up inappropriately. But this column is not about Fall From Grace. It’s about Hallowe’en. The holiday where many people irrationally eat dozens of miniature candy bars because it simply does not add up to 4 king sizers. Fractions do not exist on Hallowe’en. That being said, here’s some half-decent suggestions for costumes.

Political

Don’t do it. Seriously. Your Sarah Palin costume is not funny. Even if you carry a little cabbage-patch Trig. Even if you wear an American flag bikini and carry binoculars with Russia painted onto the lens. Even if you choreograph a dance and pretend you’re the Ghostface Wasilla. Also, your Obama costume is not tastefully done. Don’t do it. (Disclaimer: Kucinich Keebler elf costumes allowed. He’s not actually a political figure.)

Non-Costume Costumes

Don’t do it. Don’t just wear a nametag that says “Hello! My name is Kiefer Sutherland” and say you are Kiefer Sutherland. (Yes, it’s true that Jason did not dress up last year and instead told people he was Robbie Williams simply because he had not shaved in several days, but he considers it one of his greatest failures in life to date - plus he should have just said he was the Verizon guy if he wasn’t going to wear an actual costume). Please people - if you’re going to dress up like Kiefer Sutherland, do yourself a favor and actually buy a Kiefer Sutherland costume. I think they sell them at Claire’s Boutique.

Be Creative

Yes. Totally be creative; however, don’t be too creative. In college, Mark carried around a loaf of rye bread in a baseball mitt and wore a jersey that said “Caufield #51.” It got a little bit frustrating having to explain to all the ‘phonies’ that he was the ‘Catcher in the Rye’, as most people just assumed he was Piazza, New York Catcher. Accordingly, you might want to avoid literary references unless it’s fairly obvious because you’ve got a lightning bolt scarf and a Formula One Nimbus (cf. wearing a Flava Flav clock around your neck and asking people if they have seen your friend ‘Godot’). Furthermore, interactive props are much encouraged. For example, dress up as a fortune cookie and hand people improved fortunes; and, if they’re attractive, put your phone number on the back as the lucky number. Or, copy Mark’s IL costume, and snap a photo ‘Memento’ of partygoers with a Polaroid camera and encourage people to remember ‘Sammy Jenkins.’ Actually, don’t copy other people’s costume. Be creative!

debits.” Contrast Madison’s view with the statement printed on every paper Federal Reserve Note: “THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.”

The Founders knew of the ill effects of paper money through emissions of it made by both states and the Continental Congress to fund the Revolutionary War. A few of these effects, which are the same ones we are dealing with in today’s “crisis” on Wall Street, are:

1. Inflation ‘other things the same, when the supply of money is increased (monetary inflation), the purchasing power of all bills in circulation is diluted, causing prices to rise (price inflation).

2. Distortions the method of emitting or injecting the money into particular areas of the market causes “bubble” distortions.

3. Less Growth ‘monetary inflation encourages spending, and discourages saving. Contrary to popular belief, long-term economic growth is caused by production, saving, and reinvestment’ not consumer spending.

This election season, while watching the turmoil unfold on Wall Street, and learning about the hundreds of billions of dollars hastily thrown into “bailout” programs, remember the unique relationship that the abuse of power has with money. Remember that neither power, nor sex, nor money is worth anything on paper alone. And consider the words of the economist Murray Rothbard: “All that the analyst or historian need do is to assume, as an hypothesis, that people in government or lobbying for government policies may be at least as self-interested and profit-motivated as people in business or everyday life, and then to investigate the significant and revealing patterns that he will see before his eyes.” The Case Against the Fed 89 (1994).

This election season, be critical of man’s nature, and check the abuse of power with your votes.
From Page 4.

screaming, tables banging and feet stomping, the 2Ls blasted away in appreciation. Would the rivalry never end? How could the competition be decided outside of class bias? Then lo, from the back of the room, softly at first, but then joined in power by friends, a voice chanted out "Jason Wool. Jason Wool!"

Was that the 1L class declaring the need for a write-in winner? Was that allowed?

The judges conferred. Noting a desire to be fair, but also to reward those that shone the brightest, our even-minded justices declared a three-way tie, including a fair division of prizes. Jason Wool took home the first place trophy. Angie Cupas stole the second place trophy and Kate Kruk walked away with the cash prize. All in all, the performers and the audience had a great time, and maybe, just maybe, a little tension eased between both classes. Rock on Marshall-Wythe. Rock on.

From Page 5.

come, with a 15% maximum on capital gains and dividends. He would also seek a permanent ban on internet taxes, and advocates phasing out the alternative minimum tax, which has begun effecting middle-class filers because of increases in wages and prices brought about by inflation. For businesses, McCain advocates lowering the maximum corporate tax rate from 35% to 25%, because, increasingly, other countries have been more competitive than the U.S. in lowering their corporate tax rates.

Both candidates make the usual promises of reducing wasteful spending and balancing the budget. And both have a dozen other more specific credits and deductions that they would offer or adjust. In between these touted items, the details remain unclear.

As to the context in which these plans should be considered, the U.S. Treasury's Bureau of the Public Debt listed the (adjusted daily) national debt as of Oct. 23 at $10,524,112,985,802.87. On Oct. 15, The Wall Street Journal reported in "Federal Deficit Soars to Nearly $455 Billion," that the 2008 federal budget deficit was $455 billion. That same article estimated the deficit for the current fiscal year, begun on Oct. 1, will run between $750 billion and $1 trillion. And estimates of the "entitlement" liabilities coming due with the retirement of the "Baby Boomers" are in the tens of trillions.

Readers should consider that reducing spending, balancing the budget, and paying off the national debt are simply choices to do so, or not. And voting for one candidate over another is simply a choice to do so, or not. With U.S. economic growth stagnant and China and India rising, the ranking of world powers hangs in the balance. It would seem that both candidates have more choices to make. And so does the average voting "Joe."

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International Bridges to Justice
Calcutta, India

By Nassim Hooshmandnia

This past summer I worked as an intern for International Bridges to Justice (IBJ), a Geneva-based organization specializing in restoring basic human rights in criminal justice systems all over the world. I worked with IBJ’s fraternal organization in Calcutta, India called MASUM (Banglar Manabuddhi Suraksha Mancha, or the West Bengal Human Rights Protection Platform).

MASUM focuses on issues of police inaction, custodial torture, custodial death, and illegal detention. While the organization works out of the Calcutta office, MASUM has individuals that act as “monitors” in each nearby district. The monitors are at the front lines, receiving information about incidents that require MASUM’s immediate attention. The organization investigates cases of human rights violations, creates fact-finding reports, documents the incidents of torture, provides medical and legal support for the victims, lodges complaints to various judicial and administrative authorities, and works with international human rights bodies and UN Rapporteurs.

MASUM gave me the opportunity to see and experience many different aspects of what it is like to be a human rights lawyer in India. On several occasions, I accompanied MASUM members on trips to remote villages along the Indo-Bangladesh border to interview victims of human rights violations. With the help of a translator, I interviewed victims of rape and beatings to obtain information for the complaints we would lodge. For cases involving those that were not fortunate enough to survive, MASUM conducted interviews with family members and witnesses.

During MASUM’s visits to these villages, the members would hold “know your rights” sessions. The villagers listened carefully as the lawyers discussed the legal procedure that should take place during and after an arrest. The villagers were often bewildered during these meetings as they began to understand the vast discrepancy between what they have witnessed and what the law demands.

I also helped MASUM organize a sit-in demonstration in front of the West Bengal district court offices in the Murshidabad District. MASUM’s president, Continued on Page 11.

By Elyse Simmerman

“I represent the United States of America.” I think that every Friday when I went to court and observed the attorneys I worked with at District Court and heard them utter that statement I knew what I wanted to do with my life. We are lucky at William & Mary to have the opportunity to work for such prestigious government summer internships our 1L summer. I had the opportunity to work at the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, in the Civil Division in Alexandria, VA. Without a doubt, it was the opportunity of a lifetime. My first day of work I was asked to write a Motion for Summary Judgment, which was great since I had NO idea what that was! However, I soon learned, and when the lead attorney won the motion a few months later, she made sure to give me the credit. Hearing that you saved the government a lot of money is a pretty rewarding experience.

When most people think about the U.S. Attorney’s Office they think of the sexy world of drugs, crime, major trafficking “bad guys” getting taken down, or white collar criminals like embezzling CEO’s being put away and learning a life of poverty. The Civil Division doesn’t have that excitement. But what we do have is complex legal issues, and some of the most brilliant legal minds in the country who I know will one day serve as Appeals Court Judges and possibly even Supreme Court Justices. I had the chance to work on medical malpractice cases, civil rights cases, torts cases, employment discrimination, as well as many others. Oh, and to all you Michael Steven Green students...my boss has been working on a case that this term the Supreme Court will use to decide if Twombly extends beyond anti-trust cases. I know, exciting stuff. Interning for a government agency also means they pay you in “field trips,” like the ones to the CIA, the shooting range at the FBI Academy, and the Supreme Court (on a decision day, so we got to see all nine justices! Kind of like a rock concert). What I enjoyed most was working with intelligent and talented attorneys who Continued on Page 11.

PSF Celebrates 20th Anniversary!!!

On Thursday, October 23, the Public Service Fund held a reception in the lobby of the law school to commemorate 20 years of providing students with summer funding. Members of the board cut into a large sheet cake (below) and PSF President Sarah Bellinger (3L) and Dean Kaplan toasted to the group’s continued success (right).
democracy. We argue simply that no woman should be stoned to death.”

To promote justice within the rigid Shari’a system, Ibrahim said that she had to be creative and use intuition. For example, women convicted of adultery may say they “feel comfortable” about being stoned to death because they are “going to heaven,” Ibrahim recounted.

Ibrahim sought not to undercut this religious view but, rather, to help re-frame the issue. Ibrahim would ask the woman, “Are you comfortable to leave behind all of your children who depend on you?” Only then, Ibrahim said, could the woman recognize her immediate significance and value. “The woman begins to see herself as worth more than what Shari’a law dictates.”

A second strategy for Ibrahim’s legal team is to focus and remain focused. While they may be in the midst of a clash of civilizations, where Islam meets the West, Ibrahim found it important to remind herself could have worked anywhere and been paid the astronomical salary, but instead chose to serve at the U.S. Attorney’s Office. These men and women truly enjoyed their jobs and liked the work they were doing. They also had chances, one year out of law school to argue in federal district court on a regular basis. You won’t get that at the big money firms!

I was so fortunate to have this summer experience and not only learn more about the practice of law, but know about who I want to work for in my career. The United States. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve my country in this capacity and I encourage everyone to look more seriously into a legal career with the federal government.

Clip & Save Marshall-Wythe Trading Cards! Collect them all! This Week: Citecheckers

Ben Novak (2L)
Current subject: Miranda rights (“The Sound of Silence”) Previous subject: Algorithms 
Style: One big block of time, standing up, approximately 20 shots of espresso per citecheck
Bluebook, friend or foe? Friend. Rule 21 is my favorite - the last one. 
See generally: I almost enjoy the process overall. 
But see: The author makes up cases and leaves out numbers from citations.

Kirity Roy, spoke passionately about the atrocities that occur on a daily basis. The victims’ voices echoed throughout the city as they came up to the microphone one by one to share their stories of injustice and sorrow.

I also had the opportunity to participate in the litigation process relating to victims of torture, arbitrarily arrested persons, and pre-trial detainees, including complaint writing and motions hearings. One of the most memorable clients was a 17-year old boy who was senselessly shot in the leg by a Border Security Force officer. The officers then arrested the boy in order to justify the shooting. The boy received no medical attention as he sat in jail for three months with a bullet in his leg. We scheduled a hearing with a judge but the police refused to produce the client. After almost six hours, the police finally brought the defendant to court and the judge granted an order for immediate medical treatment. This was a small victory for MASUM.

I had an incredible opportunity with MASUM this past summer. MASUM represents a desire and hope for change. MASUM’s team of dedicated advocates and attorneys are truly inspiring in their relentless struggle for justice.
Elyse: According to the polls, and the “liberal elite media,” Obama does a much better job at handling the current financial crisis, and that’s why he is leading by around 9% right now. The problem is...he isn’t HANDLING anything! He can speak better and has a smoother demeanor, and yes he’s charismatic. But talking isn’t going to solve the economic crisis, and Obama talking all touchy-feely, making us feel better, will not do much to get us out of this mess.

Bishop: You’re right. Changes are only created through concise, intelligent, strategic planning. But, apparently, Colin Powell – former Secretary of State thinks that Obama can lead us out of these dark times. Then again, what the hell does Colin Powell know? I mean, he did lead one of the most successful military operations in U.S. History and is beloved across the modern world...and he isn’t friends with a guy that wants to own a plumbing business even though he has no license and owes back taxes.

Elyse: I seem to remember you saying there would be no bringing up of Joe the Plumber in this article. But break your own rule. With all due respect to General Powell (yet another great African American male “transformation.” Yes, Obama does represent these popular phrases. But for tangible ways of actually DOing something to get us out of a mess, you need someone who does have a plan, and has changed the way Washington works. Obama might have a cooler head, and that’s great, but just because Obama “seems” like he knows more, he might win an election. Apparently pretending you know what you are talking about does get you somewhere. We’re to be lawyers; we know this.

Bishop: We don’t need a man that has changed his principles in order to be elected to the highest position in the world. John McCain once stood for everything that was noble in politics (as little as that seems to be these days) and was adamantly against negative campaigns and partisanship. Seems like that “change” came pretty easily from him. And Senator Obama has the only plan that works for everyone, unless you call taking $300 billion in taxes in order to “buy” bad mortgages a good idea for the people who can’t pay the mortgages to begin with. Guess where are we going to get $300 billion in random taxes for this plan?

Elyse: Yeah, Obama’s plan works really well for the “middle class” citizens he is claiming to help, those who follow the rules, make a decent, but not great, living (who he considers rich), and are now going to see their money being taken away to pay for other people who made mistakes. “Sharing the wealth” seems great and utopian. Until you remember it’s socialism. This economic plan, even when offered with a “calm demeanor,” doesn’t work.

Bishop: So help in a time of crisis is socialism? I guess the GOP helped push through over $700 billion worth of Socialism, then, huh?

Clip & Save Marshall-Wythe Trading Cards! Collect them all!!!

This Week: Citecheckers

**Lindsey Craven (2L)**

Current subject: Tax Exemptions

Previous article subject: Voter registration

Style: Sweatpants, cite-checking diet (no time to eat), organized chaos.

Bluebook, friend or foe? Friend, sleep with it nightly, see Rule 14.5.

See generally: (Few) good points, camaraderie in the citechecking room and being awake to talk with my West Coast friends.

But see: My author plagiarizes himself, Citechecking overall is evil.

**Amy Ream (2L)**

Current subject: 1st Amendment

Previous article subject: Presidential rallies and removing dissenters

Style: Hoods, headphones, & excel.

Bluebook, friend or foe? Friend, and tabbed with love. I like the periodicals section and the index.

See generally: I don’t really mind citechecking.

But see: I dislike killing the environment. Hug a tree (if there are any left).