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Dear Students,

Welcome to 2006/07! It’s grand to have returning 3Ls and 2Ls in our midst again. It is also invigorating to have reinforcements – the JD Class of 2009 (202 strong), new members of the Class of 2008 (13 transfer students), the LLM Class of 2007 (13 strong), a visiting 3L, and three exchange students from schools in Austria and Spain. This marvelous constellation of new people hails from 113 undergraduate institutions, 39 states, the District of Columbia, Austria, China, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Italy, Great Britain, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, and Thailand.

As is clear to anyone with eyes to see, or ears to hear, the Law School remains a construction site, though progress has been made. The elegant new Sullivan Lecture Hall (a.k.a. room 120) was finished last summer, along with graceful new walls for the main classroom corridor. After a long gestation, the new library wing also came on line last summer, in July. The old library facility, however, remains deep in construction (demolition first, then total overhaul). By next summer the new wing and the old facility, reborn, will have meshed seamlessly into a superb library (to the delight of all concerned and the greater glory of the country’s oldest law school). Meantime, to get to the books, we go outside, climb a steel ramp, and walk through a window into the library’s temporary quarters.

Our full-time faculty has grown by three outstanding additions, Professor Glenn George and Assistant Professors Angela Banks and Nate Oman. All three received their J.D.s from Harvard (a worthy institution if only the second oldest law school in America).

While my recall of names remains pathetic, my interest in seeing and talking with you is powerful. It’s really true: If I am in my office and not on the phone or talking with someone else, I’m always delighted to see anyone who drops by. Come see me if you have a suggestion or concern, or would simply like to chat.

Best wishes,
Taylor Reveley

On behalf of the Honor Council, I would just like to say, “Welcome and congratulations!” to all of the 1L and transfer students, and to the returning students, I would like to say, “Welcome back!”

With a new year come new possibilities and opportunities, and we have come up with a lot of ideas that we would like to implement this year.

We want to be more accessible to the student body and faculty, and we hope that you all feel comfortable coming to us with any questions or concerns that you all may have, whether they be about exams, journals, class assignments, or Marshall-Wythe in general.

Keep in mind that while we are Honor Council Justices, we are also your fellow students, so if you do have a concern or just want to talk, please feel free coming to us. You may have a question that has not been addressed yet, and it would be to everyone’s benefit that it be discussed.

The “community of trust” exists here because of our working Honor System. To function properly, the Honor System relies on a knowledgeable and responsible student body and faculty. Everyone here plays a role in maintaining the Honor Code, and I am sure that everyone will be mindful in seeing that it is upheld.

To everyone, good luck this year,
Leonard J. Webster
Chief Justice

Honor Council Here to Serve Students

INSIDE
Library Renovations.............2
A Summer in Spain..............6
PSF Stories.........................7
B-LAW-Gs..........................11
Broken Promises..................14
Alternatives to the Library.....15
Library Renovation Making Progress, Set for Completion in Spring 2007

by Kaila Gregory
Staff Writer

Despite appearances, the orange checkered carpets and outdoor entrance ramp to the Marshall-Wythe Law Library are signs of progress as William & Mary expands and modernizes its library.

This academic year, the library will be housed in the 28,000-square-foot addition that was completed during the summer, but when construction is finished, the new facilities will be 60 percent larger than the old law library.

Although construction did not begin until last year, Law Library Director Jim Heller has been planning the library renovation for years.

“I’ve been working on this [project] for more than a decade,” said Heller, noting that a Virginia higher education bond referendum about five years ago helped put the renovation plans into action. “William & Mary was well positioned to participate in [the bond referendum] because we had done a lot of work, and we had plans and justifications for the new law library.”

The old law library was built in 1980, and Heller said the school simply needed newer facilities. “We just didn’t have enough space for everything or decent technological capabilities,” said Heller.

The previous building’s appearance was also problematic. “Our library didn’t look very good, so when students went to our competitors’ law schools and saw their libraries, our library looked . . . outdated in comparison,” said Heller.

“It wasn’t a deluxe facility.”

Heller said William & Mary Law wanted its students to have an outstanding library because of the important function the library serves. “It’s the heart of the law school,” he said.

Associate Dean Liz Jackson said that, outside of classes and extracurricular activities, the law library is “where the students spend a great deal of their time. It’s where they go to study and do research, and it’s also a social hub,” she said.

When renovations are complete, the law library will have glass-walled grand reading rooms, a rare books room, 100 more total seats, several student lounge areas, and spaces for student associations and law journals. Nearly every table and carrel seat will have electricity, and there will be a grand staircase and a skylight, which Heller says will allow plenty of light and views of the outdoors.

As the renovations continue, library patrons will have to deal with some inconveniences. Heller noted that there have been heating and cooling problems in the library. Also, because the bound journals were placed in storage, students must rely on Hein Online to refer to these materials. Also, because the bound journals were placed in storage, students must rely on Hein Online to refer to those materials.

Student Bar Association President Trey Freeman said that as a result of the project, students have also faced noise and a reduction in parking, making their commutes slightly longer.

“The renovation has made it hard to study in the library during peak construction times,” said Freeman, noting that, in spite of the hardships, students have made adjustments to accommodate the renovation. “While the library renovation has been tough on the students, we all know that it is for the betterment of the law school community. Thus, students allocate more time for their commute, find alternative places to study, and will wear a jacket when they have to enter the library this winter.”

Heller said he is impressed with the way the William & Mary community has dealt with the construction thus far. “The students have been great. They’re being really supportive, and they don’t complain,” said Heller, who is glad to see students readily using the new addition this academic year.

Construction is set to end in the spring of 2007, but Heller said the school will make sure the project does not disrupt students’ spring examination preparation. “If it’s getting close to the end of April before construction is complete, we won’t be doing any big moves [until final exams are over],” he said.

Whatever the inconveniences, Dean Jackson said she thinks the renovated library will be well worth the sacrifices.

“The new design is absolutely beautiful,” said Dean Jackson, who added that the old library structure and the new addition will be blended together to create a cohesive look that gives “a great sense of space and light.”

“The renovation is] really going to make the library an exciting space,” said Dean Jackson. “I think the law school community is really going to enjoy it when it’s complete.”
Spotlight on Faculty - Professor B. Glenn George

by Jennifer Stanley
News Editor

Though Professor George may be a new face to all of us, Williamsburg and the William & Mary Law School are certainly no strangers to her. Twenty years ago she had her first teaching job here, and it was during that time that she met her husband, the current President of the College of William & Mary, Gene Nichol. Professor George jokes that the marriage was inevitable as they were the only single adults over twenty-five at the time, but, looking around her office, filled with family photographs and her children's craft projects, it seems that what might have started out as an advantageous union has blossomed into a loving and successful family. She has three daughters: Jesse, 18, who has just begun her first year at Princeton; Jennifer, 16; and Soren, 12.

Professor George received her B.A. from U.N.C.-Chapel Hill in 1975 and her J.D. from Harvard in 1978. She was in private practice with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles (1978-83) until she decided to take a hiatus from the firm life and start teaching. What started out as a break has led to an academic career lasting over twenty years. She taught at the College of William & Mary (1983-88), the University of Colorado (1988-99), and U.N.C.-Chapel Hill (1999-2006), and, most recently, she returned to the William & Mary law faculty teaching Civil Procedure this semester. She also served as the Associate Vice President for Human Relations and Risk Management at the University of Colorado and Interim General Counsel for Chapel Hill. She has two upcoming publications: “Playing Cowboys and Indians,” to be published in the Texas Journal of Women and the Law, addresses reconciling one’s personal career path and family obligations and the effort to get labor law to adjust to these considerations. Additionally, she has a CALI online lesson designed to introduce the “bottom line” defense rejected by the Supreme Court in Connecticut v. Teal.¹

Her office may appear cluttered at first, but from her Kokopelli statue to the professional black and white prints of her family, Professor George exudes a mixture of casual elegance and whimsy that extends even to her choice to use an abbreviated name – whose meaning I will not disclose here. Though she prefers an abdominal exercise ball to a computer chair, it is clear she takes her academic role very seriously and hopes to engage and inspire passionate arguments in her classroom. If, like me, you’ve missed out on being in her Civil Procedure course this semester, look for her courses on Employment Discrimination, Labor Law, Patent Law, and the Patent Practice Seminar later in the year.

¹ http://www2.cali.org.

Professor George is pictured here with her husband, William & Mary President Gene Nichol, and their three daughters.
by William Y. Durbin
Editor-in-Chief

Like the salmon of Capistrano, students reliably return to Williamsburg every year about this time. They come back bearing stories of summer jobs and summer romances, holding high hopes for a year of expanding academic horizons and reducing grey matter. And just as students return not quite the same as when they left, so too does Williamsburg grow and change over the summer. Yes, even our sleepy little colonial hamlet sees progress, trading the proverbial dog-shaped van straight-up for the proverbial moped — totally redeeming itself! This summer was no exception.

As a service to our readers, The Advocate has prepared an unscientific, less-than-exhaustive rundown of new facilities around the William & Mary campus and new businesses in the greater Williamsburg metroplex. Check them out, and let us know what you think. If you know of other new spots, let us know that, too. E-mail us at TheAdvocateWM@gmail.com.

Is construction at the College complete? Sort of!

Marshall-Wythe School of Law Library Addition:

After more than a year, construction on the Law School library’s addition concluded during the summer. The new half of the library opened for business in July as work renovating the old half got underway. Although students must walk outside from the rest of the Law School to access the new facility, the snazzy study space has brought them in droves. But where is Ms. Prudence?

For a complete discussion of the library addition, see the full article in this issue of The Advocate.

Student Recreation Center:

It’s open! Although construction and logistical delays pushed back the completion of the newly renovated and expanded Rec Center slightly, it was set, according to Linda Knight, Director of Recreational Sports, to see a “soft opening” on Monday, Sept. 4. The Center was to be open only from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. to allow personnel to kick the tires of the exercise bikes and make sure everything worked. The Rec Center was to open for real on Tuesday, Sept. 5 at the normal hour of 6:00 a.m. So throw away those JCC Rec Center and Iron-Bound Gym membership cards!

Or don’t. Who knows what demand will be like? But the crowds and waits sometimes seen at the Student Recreation Center in years past should at least be substantially reduced. The facility has more than doubled in size, growing from roughly 40,000 square feet to roughly 90,000. Highlights of the new Rec Center include a two-floor climbing wall with room for nine climbers at a time, a multipurpose court designed for floor hockey and indoor soccer, all new freeweights, 25 new cardio machines, three state-of-the-art racquetball courts, two new exercise rooms for fitness classes, and one state-of-the-art squash court.

The existing facilities received substantial facelifts as well. The basketball courts of the Alan B. Miller Gymnasium have been resurfaced and given new divider curtains. The pool was acid washed, repainted, and given new lights. The locker room floors have been resurfaced, and the lockers will be replaced over Winter Break, giving that facility a whole new look.

When entering the Rec Center, students will see a large William & Mary seal and a series of futuristic turnstiles, which, eventually, will allow patrons to enter on a finger template recognition system. No more trips back to the car to get your ID! Students will also find a revamped equipment room, where students can get the balls they forgot or never had. On the way out, patrons can stop by the new juice bar and watch from above contests on the multipurpose court below.

Campus Drive Parking Deck:

Aside from being home to the abysmally overworked and understaffed Parking Services office, the new parking garage on main campus is fairly irrelevant to us law students. Maybe one of the 500 spaces will be open when you need to run over to Swem to get those sources for your cite check, but you’ll still have to walk a little ways. The brick facility does blend well with the rest of the College’s architecture, so they got that going for them, which is nice.

What’s new in New Town?

Everything (that’s why it’s called “New Town,” duh!)

Since the advent of a legit multiplex movie theater, New Town Cinema, Williamsburg has begun to feel less like the Land Where Time Stood Still and more like Anytown, USA. The New Town development itself evokes that feeling of an organic town of mixed residential and commercial buildings, even though the construction equipment reminds us that it’s anything but. Still, the area continues to grow and develop, adding new stores like Computer Concepts, a computer sales and repair outfit, and Conte’s Bicycle & Fitness Equipment, for all your golf and bowling needs. Kidding. And like any good organic small town, New Town has its own website. Catch up on all the changes, past and future, at http://www.newtownwilliamsburg.com. Here are just a few.

Barnes & Noble and Old Navy:

Slated to open in early October, these two retail chains will help anchor the New Town center. Because you have so much time for pleasure reading and budget clothing shopping.

Panera Bread:

Sandwiches served on fresh baked bread and free wireless internet access should make this a popular spot for law students.

5218 Monticello Avenue
Phone: 757-229-8810
www.panerabread.com
Monday-Saturday: 6:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

The renovated Rec Center was set to open Tuesday, September 5.
Openings and Closings Around Town

Sunday: 7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

How about downtown? Wait! Williamsburg has a downtown?

Those new “Historic Triangle” signs that sprouted up all over town seem to suggest the ‘Burg has a bustling financial district or some other center of commerce not centered on the trade of indigo or molasses. But they’re not fooling us students—at least the 2Ls and 3Ls. Although the Cheese Shoppe can get pretty busy at lunch time on a warm, sunny day, it’s no Potbelly at 17th and Pennsylvania. Still, there are a couple new spots near the center of our faux-old area.

Friends Café:
This new eatery assumes the location once held by the British Corner Shoppe. Indiana-Jones-style-bag-of-sand-for-Incan-idol swap, or vice versa? You decide! This new eatery offers pizza, sandwiches, wraps, soups, salads, smoothies, and coffee. Oh, and beer. That seems to be everything a law student could want during a lunch break away from school. And if you find yourself needing to peruse your friends’ Facebook.com profiles while you eat, they offer free wi-fi, too.

603 Prince George Street
Phone: 757-645-3100
www.friendscafewilliamsburg.com
Monday-Saturday: 7:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Sunday: closed

Retro’s is among the recent additions to Merchants Square.

Golden Leaf Restaurant:
Yes, there’s another “Leaf” in town. But leave off the last “e” for “Chinese food.” This Leaf offers an extensive buffet featuring over 100 items. No word yet on how Mr. Liu is taking the news of additional competition.

1665 Richmond Road
Phone: 757-220-5862
Open for lunch and dinner

Is that all? Heck, no!

Rita’s Ices, Cones, Shakes and Other Cool Stuff:
The name pretty much says it all. Set almost smack in the middle of the Big Lots parking lot, Rita’s stands as much a hazard to your car as your diet. Indeed, Ryan Browning (3L) and Sara Outterson (3L) suggest that the treats at this family-friendly stand are better than coitus.

220-D Monticello Avenue
Phone: 757-259-7482
www.ritasice.com
Daily: 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Three Olives Greek Restaurant:
Taking over the former location of Cornerstone Grill, this ethnic eatery has been an early favorite with law students. Just don’t look for the pants sculpture.

1203 Richmond Road
Phone: 757-259-7300
Daily: 4:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Ah, the Mediterranean sun. With the fallout of Tropical Storm Ernesto keeping it nice and gray and stormy last week, I can’t help but fondly remember my summer spent in sunny Spain with 27 other William & Mary students, 71 students from other law schools, and 3 Spanish law students.

The William & Mary Madrid Program is a long-standing study abroad program. The program has been running for nearly the past fifteen years. W&M was the first law school with a summer study abroad program in 1967, and then other law schools followed suit. The Madrid Program proved the most appealing of W&M’s offerings with its capital city location. The Madrid Program is now the exclusive summer program for credit to W&M students.

I thoroughly enjoyed the Madrid Program, but there were certainly some ups and downs. As Professor Moliterno (who taught Lawyers in the Global Perspective) put it, it was a summer of the “highest highs and the lowest lows.”

The on-site deans this year were Patty Roberts and Liz Jackson. Dean Roberts returned to the program this summer, having been in Spain two years before, and ran the first half of the program. Unfortunately, Dean Roberts suffered the sudden loss of her husband, Ken, during the course of the summer. In fact, it was a loss to the whole W&M and Madrid Program community. Ken was a fun-loving and easy-going man with the heart of a Spanish teenager when it came to following the World Cup tournament.

In comparison, the other “lows” in Spain were trivial, but they are worth mentioning for the benefit of students considering attending the program next summer.

First, there is no air conditioning in the dormitory. It gets mighty hot in Madrid, so that definitely takes some adjustment, although oscillating fans are provided, and there is an outdoor pool.

Second, Spanish food is not to everyone’s taste. Mediterranean food is world-renowned for its healthful qualities, but you wouldn’t really know that from seeing the amount of food fried in olive oil, served with some variety of ham at almost all times, and usually lacking fresh fruit and vegetables. The dining hall food had many people up in arms, particularly because there was no way to opt out of “board” if you roomed at the dormitory. Unless you are a vegetarian, have a serious food allergy, or are a picky eater, the food at the dining hall is passable. That is not to say that you won’t escape “Franco’s revenge.” Over half of the students suffered some form of food poisoning due to poor refrigeration at the dormitory or cafes.

Third, the dormitory is run by Jesuits. There is definitely a Catholic presence at the dorm. In fact, some priests live on the third floor. Students might find that some of the dormitory rules are rather strict, but they are understandable at a place which is a men-only, Jesuit residence during the rest of the year. There are no overnight visitors (Rafael at the front desk has the nightshift and he knows all!), and men and women must be fully clothed when walking to and from the pool. There is also a no-drinking and no-smoking rule, but it is effectively not enforced. You can’t smoke in common areas, but you can smoke in your room or on the balconies. There is allegedly no drinking, but this is tolerated so long as there is not a disruptive party (beer is sold in the vending machine, and there is a bar at the dormitory open until 11 p.m.).

As for highs, the Madrid Program is a great change of pace. It is really exciting and interesting to have classes with other students from other law schools. Living in the dorm was a small sacrifice to be surrounded constantly by a diverse group of people. Forty-three law schools were represented in the program, and people came from a variety of backgrounds, including two from Bosnia. There were always groups of people going into the city to do a variety of things from going to a club, to seeing an art museum, to rowing boats.

Also, Madrid is a great location from which to travel. The first weekend of the program coincided with the running of the bulls in Pamplona. Other popular weekend destinations included Valencia (city on the beach), Barcelona (vibrant modern city), Morocco (market central), Granada and Cordoba (cities with Islamic heritage), Seville/Seville (home of flamenco), Segovia (site of a castle and a Roman aqueduct), Toledo (medieval city), Salamanca (college town), Lisboa/Lisbon (capital city of Portugal), Lagos (Portuguese coast), and Paris (need I say more?).

In addition, Madrid is a great place to earn some credits, and rumor has it that Spain boosts your G.P.A. because virtually only the W&M students take the courses for grades. There are nine courses to choose from, and the courses are taught in English by Spanish professors (with the exception of one W&M professor who also teaches) who are experts in their fields. If you have any interest in international law, the Madrid Program is especially suited for you. Courses vary from Internet Law to Law of the WTO to Human Rights. While the reading for the courses is intensive, I managed to have every weekend entirely free of work.

Lastly, the Madrid Program is also very affordable when compared with similar programs. This summer, tuition, room, and board for the five week program totaled $2,700 with a $200 discount for W&M students. The estimated total cost, including transportation, shopping, and excursions, was $6,950. That may sound like a lot at first but consider the value of a cushion of six graded credits at the start of your 2L (or 3L) year. Also, consider the fact that the program provides some partial scholarships based on merit, and fluent Spanish speakers can apply for free room and board in exchange for translating for the on-site deans.

Any students interested in the program should look for postings at the law school, or contact Anne Beckley in the Summer Study Abroad Office (on second floor next to the Faculty Support Office).
We Know What You Did Last Summer…

Every year the Public Service Fund, in cooperation with the Law School, provides financial support to a large number of William & Mary students during the summer so that they can pursue opportunities with government and public interest organizations. Each issue of The Advocate will feature stories authored by the sponsored students.

Whitman-Walker Clinic Legal Services

by Julian Carr

“Don’t you understand? I’m dying.”

I had been fine up until this point. The client to whom I’d been speaking on the phone for the last five minutes or so had been rambling a bit incoherently, telling me he’d been a political prisoner because of his religion and because his father knew the mayor. He seemed delusional, but I tried to gently coax specific details out of him. How long were you in prison? On what charges? But my questions only frustrated him, and eventually he screamed, “I have AIDS! Don’t you understand? I’m dying.”

While I didn’t really believe that he’d been a political prisoner, I believed that he had AIDS. Most of my clients did. I also believed that he was dying. Too many of my clients were.

This past summer, I worked for Whitman-Walker Clinic Legal Services in Washington, D.C. The Clinic is a longtime provider of medical services to the local HIV-positive and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities. The Legal Services program serves mostly HIV-positive clients, and in its beginning years, during the dark pre-AZT days of the AIDS epidemic, mostly provided estate planning services. That’s all that most of those early clients had time to do, in between an HIV-positive diagnosis and dying. But now that HIV-positive individuals live longer, Legal Services provides more services in practice areas that were often quite new to me: employment discrimination, public benefits law, estate planning, and immigration law.

Four staff attorneys — with specialties in employment discrimination, immigration, and public benefits — oversaw the work of six interns. We manned the phones and took the basic information, consulted with the attorneys, and then did follow-up with the clients. Sometimes this would be simple counseling (as per the attorneys’ advice), setting up an in-person meeting with the attorney, or, most often, gathering more information for further attorney consultation.

Public benefits was the most common issue. People wanted to apply for benefits, appeal adverse benefits decisions, and just have someone help them wade through the morass that comprises many a government agency. The frustration was often palpable. My clients were low-income, frustrated with their health, and frustrated with the public benefits process. While sometimes they took out their frustration on me, like the caller who told me he was dying, most surprisingly didn’t.

There was one client who had the kindest eyes I have ever seen. Our staff attorney who is the public benefits guru of the greater D.C. area thought he was eligible for local benefits, so I scheduled him to come in. I walked him through the application — nothing particularly difficult, especially compared to some of the federal benefits forms — and before he left, he shook my hand and thanked me. And while I shook his hand and looked into his eyes, I knew he meant it. He really thought I’d helped him.

A week later, he told me he got tentatively approved for benefits. It’s true, I couldn’t keep my clients from dying, but I could help them get benefits to get their meds and other medical care. I’m proud of what Whitman-Walker Legal Services does for the community, and I’m eternally grateful that I could play a small part in the great work that they do. Likewise, I’m grateful to the Public Service Fund for the funding that let me be a part of this. I received a Lambda Fellowship, for work benefiting the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, and without it I don’t think I could have afforded living and working in the Washington, D.C. area.

The Real World: Petersburg

by Carolyn Fiddler

My summer experience with the Phoenix Project (www.phoenixproject.org), as wonderful as it was, wouldn’t have been half as meaningful if I hadn’t had the opportunity to actually live in the community in which I worked (so, thanks, PSF, for the rent money!). Most of the students working for the Project, both law students and undergrads, lived in a two-story house at 1012 West Wythe Street.

It was a little like I imagined a reality show might be, except that there were no cameras, and no one sucked. The cast of characters fluctuated a bit throughout the summer, but at any given time, most of the following students were living in the house:

Carolyn: The 26-year-old third-year law student sometimes felt like the oldest person in the house (turns out, she was). When she wasn’t at work, she could probably be found reading a comic book or making nice with the locals at the pub. Also, she really liked her car.

Hannah: This rising junior ruled the house with an iron fist. Well, not really, but Rosh never argued with her.

John: This third-year law student kept the house full of pure, unadulterated coolness.

Also, he mowed the grass, replaced the lightbulbs, and generally maintained the grooviness of the residence. Sometimes, he’d even grace Carolyn with his presence at the pub.

Justin: He’s a rising sophomore, and he was the “quiet one.” We kept our eye on him.

Pat: The second-year law student worked hard to enhance the, um, social quality of our living experience (he was the one who introduced Carolyn to the pub). He left us mid-summer to pursue his true passion: lifeguarding.

Roshan: This rising junior was our resident photographer extraordinare and shared his love of penguins and primates.

Pilot

The Phoenix Project “builds partnerships between Virginia’s

Continued on pg 9.
Between Torts and Contracts, Law Students Find Time for Hoops

by David Benatar
Staff Writer

After a long week of class and study, most law students are eager to wind down on Fridays. A group of law students has come up with the perfect solution to have fun while working out and meeting new people all at the same time.

Every Friday, a group of students meets up to play pick-up basketball games. The group originally formed through word of mouth and quickly grew. Different groups of friends that had previously organized their own pick-up games joined together to form one larger group.

One of the benefits to forming a larger group is the opportunity to meet new people. Ian Hoffman, one of the leaders of the group, heard about the games midway through his 1L year. He has noticed that the group has become more organized and “is all inclusive. Everyone who is interested is welcome to join.”

The games usually feature a mix of 3Ls, 2Ls, and 1Ls.

The group also participates in intramural basketball, usually entering two or three teams each season. William & Mary offers three-on-three basketball in the fall and five-on-five in the spring. There is a possibility that a co-ed team will be formed this year, due to expressed interest by the members.

The group is currently trying to spread word about the games in order to attract 1Ls. The 2L and 3L members are deliberate about talking up the games to the 1Ls that they meet and are trying to reach the 1L students early in the semester.

The group usually plays their games indoors at the Rec Center. However, due to the renovations, the games are being held at the courts located on Monticello Avenue, behind the Shell station and across from the Target store. Despite having to play outdoors, the location has not had a noticeable impact on the turnout at the games.

While the games are usually held on Fridays, games are also played at various times throughout the week depending on interest.

Continued on pg 9.

The Corner Pocket

Located just minutes from the law school in New Town, The Corner Pocket offers outstanding food and entertainment in a casual, upscale environment. An alternative to the traditional bar scene in Williamsburg, The Corner Pocket offers pool and live entertainment.

W&M Night
Every Monday 9-close
1/2 price pool and other specials
We Know What You Did Last Summer...

Every year the Public Service Fund, in cooperation with the Law School, provides financial support to a large number of William & Mary students during the summer so that they can pursue opportunities with government and public interest organizations. Each issue of The Advocate will feature stories authored by the sponsored students.

Real World, continued from pg 7

public universities and distressed communities and develops the next generation of nonprofit leaders.” The Project serves as a sort of facilitator between Virginian universities and distressed communities across the state, bringing students together with real-world problems.

What this actually meant for us this summer was nonstop excitement in the city of Petersburg.

This summer was the Project’s “pilot program” (read: the organization was less than six months old). My fellow law students and I were recruited to assist some existing Petersburg nonprofits with some legal issues they faced (under the excellent and bar-certified supervision of Marion Forsyth, of course). I especially enjoyed helping out with some of the nuts-and-bolts aspects of running and raising money for a nonprofit. (It’s weird that I got a kick out of filling out IRS form 1023, isn’t it? Shh, don’t tell). We also got some actual experience drafting contracts, drafting motions, drafting research memos, and drafting bylaws and articles of incorporation. Also, I realized that working for a nonprofit could really make me happy.

Together with the undergrads, we also helped develop the curricular aspect of the program for future summers, reading and discussing various articles on nonprofits and distressed communities.

Episode 17: Birthday Surprise

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Hoops, continued from pg 8

Richard Neely, another one of the leaders of the group, mentions that the group meets as often as possible, and those that cannot make a game come back the next time. Arranging a game is as easy as sending out an e-mail to the rest of the group members.

Players of all skill levels are welcome to join. A group is being formed in the groups section of the My WM website to facilitate contact between group members and will be up shortly. In the meantime, for more information, please contact Ian Hoffman (ishoff@wm.edu) or Richard Neely (rwneel@wm.edu).

On June 13, Rosh hit the big 2-0. It was Democratic primary day, so after work, I made the hour drive back to Williamsburg to cast my ballot. I picked up a cake at Ukrops before heading back. Upon my return, I parked on the street (driveways are for pansies! Also, we didn’t have one) and went inside. The cake was cut, the song was sung, and all was right with the world.

A bit later, one of our neighbors came over and talked Pat, Rosh, and me into a game of spades. Pat and I were totally coming back, and we were going to totally win that game…

And then someone knocked on the door.

John opened it. Another one of our neighbors poked his head in. “Does anyone here drive a Toyota?”

I stepped forward. “Um, I drive a Corolla…”

“Yeah, ah, I think someone hit your car…” The neighbor backed hastily out of the doorway.

I walked out onto the dimly-lit street, expecting to see some huge dent in the corner of my car, ready to shake my fist and seethe at some careless fool.

Oh, if only….

My little beige car was no longer resting comfortably against the curb as I’d left it a couple of hours before. It was actually sitting in what would have been someone’s front yard, had it not been a vacant lot. All of the body panels on the passenger side were crumpled and contorted, and there was even a hole in the rear passenger door. Also, the rear axle had clearly been broken when the car made its violent move from the street to the grass.

I cursed, went back inside to grab my phone, and started making the necessary calls: police, Geico, tow truck… Incidentally, the truck beat the cops to the scene. While we waited, my fantastic roommates walked around the neighborhood and asked people what they saw. The answer was always the same: a U-Haul truck careened through the neighborhood, the driver evidently lost control, and the truck plowed into the side of my car.

Some people saw the driver open the door, inspect the trauma he’d inflicted, and drive away. No one caught the license plate number.

After all the business stuff was taken care of, I went back inside and drank some wine to dull the anger and the sadness (I was eighteen months away from having that car paid off).

Epilogue

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I know this story has precious little to do with my actual work with the Phoenix Project this summer. Because of confidentiality, I can’t discuss much of what the law students actually did for the city and some of its nonprofits. But what I want to make sure I convey is that, despite this unpleasant and expensive episode, I had a truly fantastic summer. If I hadn’t lived in Petersburg, I’d still be driving that 2000 Corolla, but if I hadn’t lived in Petersburg, I couldn’t have understood the city’s challenges the way I did, and my work wouldn’t have been as meaningful.

But if anyone sees a U-Haul with a screwed-up front end and scrapes of beige paint on it, steer clear and give me a call, would you?
Look to this space for news about speakers and other major events at the law school. If your organization has an event in the next month you would like advertised, please e-mail TheAdvocateWM@gmail.com.

September 6 - Lou Fisher, guest speaker of IBRL
Book talk featuring speaker Louis Fisher of the Library of Congress. The book is In the Name of National Security: Unchecked Presidential Power and the Reynolds Case? Takes place on Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 124.

September 9 - SBA Bar Crawl
The bus will leave on its first trip at 2:45. Be there with your drinking hat on! (Please bring ID!) The bus will make the following stops:
- 3-5: Polo Club
- 5-7: South of the Border
- 7-9: Pints & Pipes
- 9-?: Square of Shame (Paul’s, Ho House, The Leaf, and College Deli)

September 14 - Criminal Defense Lawyer to Speak
Esther Windmueller, president of the Virginia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (VACDL) will speak about her work, and the link between testicles and soccer may not be immediately apparent. . . . Prior to 2005, recent W&M Law grads Bauer, Baroni, and Kaufman would trudge out to random patches of grass and do whatever it is three dudes can do with a soccer ball. Kramer and the Reynolds Case? Takes place on Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 124.

September 15 - Supreme Court Preview
Now in its 19th year, the Supreme Court Preview brings together leading Supreme Court journalists, advocates and legal scholars for a day and a half to discuss and analyze the Court’s upcoming term. Begins Friday, Sept. 15, at 6:00 p.m. in the McGlothlin Court Room.

September 16 - SBA/W&M Law School Softball Tournament
The 2006 William & Mary Law School Softball Tournament will be held at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center (5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg) softball fields. Teams will play a round-robin on Saturday, and four teams will advance to a single-elimination tournament on Sunday (detailed schedule to be determined following team registration). The winning team will represent William & Mary at the University of Virginia’s 2007 Law School Softball Tournament played in April. For inquiries, please contact Mike Spies (mdspie@wm.edu) or Bryan Shay (bmshay@wm.edu). Please sign-up teams and make this tournament as successful as it was in years past!

Supreme Court Preview (continued)
Continues Saturday, Sept. 16, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 119.

September 17 - SBA/W&M Law School Softball Tournament (continued)

"Friday Soccer" Helps Law Students Maintain Character and Fitness

by Tom Robertson & Kyle Bahr
Staff Writers

World Cup soccer occurs only every four years. The European Championships, every two. Even Montana’s annual Testicle Festival must wait a full year before again peddling its wares. Which begs the question, what does everyone do in the meantime? The answer became clear on August 25 when approximately 35 William & Mary law students showed up for the year’s first meeting of “Friday Soccer.”1 Formalized last year in an attempt to fight back against five days of classes, the Fall 2006 opening-day attendance showed that Friday Soccer has finally come of age.2 As a result, all Marshall-Wytheites deserve to know what’s really happening on the pitch. At 3 p.m. on any given Friday, the masses meet at the James City Recreational Center (“JCC”), warm up, and then split into teams according to shirt color or degree of shirtlessness.3 For close to two hours, people run around at various speeds, the skill level ranging from novice to washed-up high school varsity. The rules: no slide tackling,4 no offsides, and unless two willing goalkeepers show up, no goalies. The sidelines adhere to a reasonableness standard. Lastly, if you see 2L Brian Frutig wind up for a shot, the Dodge, Duck, Dip, Dive, and Dodge method is highly advised.

Starting in late September, the Friday Soccer crew will group itself into squads and take on the Business School, the School of Education, and all the hungover frats/sororities from the undergrad campus in Men’s and Co-Ed Intramural action. This article is a call to arms. If you see yourself as a collector of snazzy t-shirts,6 contact 2L Jason Stickler (jlstic@wm.edu) to get on the Friday Soccer distribution list. Or just come on out to the JCC any Friday at 3 p.m., so long as you don’t wear grey.

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1 The link between testicles and soccer may not be immediately apparent . . .
2 The Advocate continues.
3 Prior to 2005, recent W&M Law grads Bauer, Baroni, and Kaufman would trudge out to random patches of grass and do whatever it is three dudes can do with a soccer ball.
4 Manhood and womanhood are equally applicable.
5 Hurricane days excepting.
6 Wearing grey is a good way to get your ass kicked.
7 The Tom Robertson Guideline (2005).
9 Patches McHoughlihan.
10 The College of William & Mary awards IM Championship t-shirts to each individual who plays at least one game for the squad that wins each respective division, in any sport. Chris Bauer (Class of 2006) undoubtedly holds the record for largest IM wardrobe — estimated at 20 shirts.
by William Y. Durbin
Editor-in-Chief

Marshall-Wythe Student B-LAW-GS

Steve Cobb (3L) had to be wrestled to the ground and dragged one mile against his will to have his picture taken for this column. The man has been involved in politics for some time — working in Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, the District of Columbia, and even Oklahoma — so he knows the value of maintaining one’s image and protecting one’s privacy. Too bad for him he agreed to be interviewed for this.

Cobb, as he is most often known — except to his parents and other family members, who, for obvious reasons, would have to address him by a name other than his last — was born, he would have you believe, in Area 51. The man is that secretive. Any Liesenfeld (3L) once had to go on a commando mission to ascertain his date of birth.

Actually, Cobb was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he lived until he was four. His connection to Michigan remains strong, as he continues to support the Blue, particularly in Big Ten match-ups against classmates’ alma maters (cough, Ohio State).

Steve’s family moved to Norfolk, where he spent his formative years and developed his diction and repertoire of idioms. The best such Southernism has something to do with kittens in the oven. Ask him about it. It’s hysterical.

But Cobb betrayed the Commonwealth and went to the University of Maryland for his undergraduate studies. His identification with and knowledge of the land he left, though, remained strong. And it showed.

“I was the only person with any kind of Southern accent there,” Cobb said of College Park. “So I was always the source people went to for questions about Southern things like country music or Southern cooking.”

Cobb says that his favorite Southern dish is something called “pork hash.” What’s that?

“It would take too long to explain,” Cobb said with condescension to this reporter from Northern Virginia. “It’s served over rice.”

Good enough for me. Cobb says pork hash has a special place in his heart/stomach because it’s a dish only his grandmother’s brother has a recipe for and which he will not share. Steve can only enjoy it with other Cobbs when at family reunions in South Carolina. How Southern.

Indeed, Cobb wears his Southern-ness on his waist and on his feet. The man owns several sizable belt buckles and two pairs of cowboy boots, one of which is made from elephant hide.

“I’m sure it died of natural causes,” Cobb insisted.

What you probably did not know about Steve is that he is an accomplished musician, having played three instruments — the violin, the viola, and the cello. Upon the suggestion that those are essentially the same instrument, Cobb threatens physical injury. We can’t blame him though, as he worked his way through college as a bouncer. Only a drunk person would say the violin and viola aren’t really different — at least around Cobb.

“The viola was my favorite because that’s the one I started out on,” he said. “Everyone started playing music at the same age, so the kids who started on the viola or cello were the ones with big hands.”

What does that mean, Cobb?

Steve hopes to spend his twilight years back in Norfolk “because it’s home.” When asked if he would live on a houseboat (Get it? Cuz Norfolk is on the water), Cobb proved that he’s not above a little self-effacing humor.

“I would rather live in a hot air balloon,” he said.

Keeping with the Southern theme, the BLAWG bus heads deep into Dixie to find the home of John Newton (2L). “Memphis” John was born in Sheffield, Alabama but mostly grew up, predictably, in Memphis, Tennessee. Keeping true to his Southern (or perhaps NASCAR?) roots, John says Mountain Dew is his favorite drink. No argument here. That stuff is delicious! John even owns a Dew tee. That is strong.

Perhaps John is all jacked up on Mountain Dew when he hits the dance floor. The man can move. Or maybe the neon green elixir gave him the superpowers he needed to play X-Men (specifically, Rogue) with his childhood friends, running around the house using towels as capes. The Fox cartoon was his favorite, and the X-Men trilogy are among his favorite movies.

But there’s much more to John than gumbo (his mom’s is his favorite food) and Gavin Degraw (his favorite artist). He had his own Eurotrip in 2004 when he studied abroad in Florence, Italy and trekked around the continent.

“Several friends and I decided to go to Austria, and, while we were there, we took a trip to Bratislava, Slovakia,” John said. “We went on May 1, 2004, which happened to be the day that they joined the European Union. There were parties everywhere in the streets, and everyone was giving away food and drinks. Those friendly Slovakiens were also very eager to paint large yellow stars on your cheek — even when you politely asked them not to.”

When he’s not in the library, which is often (unless you’re a professor, he said — then he wanted this to read that he is rarely not in the library), John is usually playing some sport or other or fantasizing that he is a spy, a la Sydney Bristow of “Alias.” Just don’t let him near your pets, particularly of the avian persuasion.

“My main pets were birds,” John said. “Yeah, I really am lame.” Don’t be so hard on yourself, John!

Steve’s family moved to Norfolk, where he lived until he was four. His connection to Michigan remains strong, as he continues to support the Blue, particularly in Big Ten match-ups against classmates’ alma maters (cough, Ohio State).

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“My main pets were birds,” John said. “Yeah, I really am lame.” Don’t be so hard on yourself, John!

I hear Mike Tyson has/had birds. He’s not lame, is he? Even if he is, you’re not gonna tell him that to his face.

“Of course, I wasn’t very good with the birds,” John continued. “I had a nasty habit of leaving the ceiling fan on when I let the birds out of the cage. Whirling blades and dumb parakeets are not a good combination.”
Taking a lesson from “Sesame Street,” this issue of BLAWGs had to include one not like the others. That one is Pennsylvania native Tim Polin (1L). And since he’s different, we’ll take a different approach to his BLAWG entry. The Advocate asked him a bunch of random questions, and he gave some random answers. How random! Here they are.

**Advocate:** What’s your favorite book/movie/TV show/band/ballet/opera/work of art?

**Tim:** My three favorite books are *Dune*, *The Fountainhead*, and *Law, Law Study, and the Lawyer’s Role*. I usually have ESPN on all the time, as I’m a huge sports nut, but my favorite current TV shows are “Nip/Tuck” and “South Park.” The best movie I’ve seen in the theater was “Little Miss Sunshine.” My overall best movie choice of “Glitter” was recently supplanted, though, by that compelling mini-drama we watched during that funnest known as “law camp.” I don’t know much of anything about art, but I like the painting *Nighthawks* by Edward Hopper, mostly because it was cited by the director as his inspiration for the look of one of my real favorite films: “Blade Runner.”

**Advocate:** Who is the coolest/strangest celebrity you’ve met?

**Tim:** I saw a few famous poker players when I was out in Las Vegas in March, like Sammy Farha and Jesus Ferguson. I played at a table with Barry Greenstein’s son, Joe Sebok. However, the only celebrity that I can recall ever meeting was, sadly, David Copperfield. I think I must’ve been in something like second grade, and we went to his magic show at the local performing arts center. I still vividly remember standing in line with my mom after the show, clutching a picture of him that we’d bought so that he could autograph it. I was petrified for some reason (I don’t even think I had heard of him before this show), and my mom had to reassure me he was just another person like anyone else. I know I didn’t talk to him, but I got the autograph, and that was the important part. I still have it at home: it’s this ridiculous black and white glamour shot of him sitting on a motorcycle for no reason at all. Good thing he became famous for marrying Claudia, because otherwise most people reading this would never have heard of him and I would be celebrity-less.

**Advocate:** Have you ever been on TV?

**Tim:** There’s a remote possibility my mug may have been flashed in some 3 a.m. feature in local news on a chess tournament in middle school that nobody would have watched, but I seriously doubt it. Other than that remote possibility, probably the closest I’ve ever come is the national news from this past summer, when the local valley near my house was completely evacuated on account of the threat of flooding. So, to answer the question: no, I have never been on TV.

**Advocate:** What is the coolest foreign country you’ve been to? Why were you there? Why was it the coolest?

**Tim:** I spent seven weeks in the summer of 2005 studying abroad in St. Petersburg, Russia. As long as they don’t think you’re a Chechen, Russia’s an amazing place. In the same weekend in July, I saw a Live-8 concert on Red Square and also toured Lenin’s mausoleum. The concert had some great music and energy, while seeing Lenin’s actual body, no matter how much work had been put into preserving it, was one of the creepiest and most surreal moments I’ve ever had. One thing you may not know about Russia: though it’s widely-known for its vodka, Russia has the best domestic beers of anywhere I’ve been.

**Advocate:** Any pets? Allergies?

**Tim:** I have three dogs at home: a beagle, a Doberman, and a mini-poodle. My mini-poodle thinks she’s a cat — she’s affectionate in a way that poodles are not generally portrayed. It’s a good thing she only thinks that because I’m very allergic to cats. I’m also allergic to something like thirteen kinds of grass and all sorts of trees. I’ve managed to sort of acclimate myself to most of them because I caddied for many years at a local country club. Ragweed will still set me off like nothing else, however. If you haven’t realized it yet, I’m a really virile specimen of manliness.

**Advocate:** So you think you can dance?

**Tim:** No, I have no such delusions. I’m so bad at dancing that if I set out to prove to some unlucky bystanders my ineptitude, I’d most likely screw it up. I don’t know if that’s possible, because I certainly wouldn’t mistakenly dance well. I think the best I’ve ever done is running in place at a ska concert for a few hours. Think Elaine from “Seinfeld,” and mix it with the awkward dance scene in “Heavyweights”: I’m ten times as ungraceful and twenty times as awkward in even attempting to ask someone to dance. The only positive thing about my dancing is that you’ll never have to endure it, since I know better than to “dance” with anyone I would hope to ever talk to again.

**Advocate:** What was your favorite subject in school in fifth grade?

**Tim:** For a short, shy, myopic kid in public school in fifth grade, there’s absolutely no class that I would never have heard of him and I would be celebrity-less.

Continued on pg 13.
I could’ve looked more forward to than gym class. Picture the kid who gets creamed in the face during the ADAA training video in “Dodgeball.” Other than public humiliation, my other favorite fifth grade subject was math.

**Advocate:** What was your favorite cartoon growing up?

**Tim:** If we’re talking newspaper cartoons, I have always loved “The Far Side” and “Calvin & Hobbes” very much. I have entire tomes of them both back at home. As far as television goes, I have to admit I watched the Turtles pretty often. Every episode I wanted shredder and Krang and the ninjas to emerge victorious, but that never happened, much to my continual dismay. I dressed up as Raphael for one Halloween, complete with the half-shell, red bandana, and two fake sai. I was definitely the coolest kid on the block … if by block you mean state … and by coolest you mean talks to no girls ever.

**Advocate:** Rock, paper, or scissors?

**Tim:** This answer is going to sound really pretentious, but there is actually some psychology to the simple game of rock, paper, and scissors. I play a ton of poker and chess, so you’ll have to indulge me with this bit of rambling about gaming. Most of this game, and there are real tournaments and experts at the game, is about deciding what your opponent is going to throw and why he will throw that choice. Rock is the most overtly aggressive choice of the three, and is straightforward and simple. Paper is the most passive choice, and its purpose is attempting to trap an opponent whom you feel will come after you. Scissors are the middle-ground choice, and are thought to be somewhat of a trickier choice designed to catch someone off-guard. If you’ve continued to read up to here, I’m sorry for wasting your time; I would choose scissors.

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**Canadian Bacon:**

**Random Observations**

**by Matt Dobbie
Staff Columnist**

I’ve been living in the United States now for a little over two years; some things are very much the same as in my native Canada,1 others not so much.2 A while ago I decided to record some of the observations I’ve made since moving to the United States. I think you will find them insightful, perhaps a small window into the soul of America.3

1. After first arriving in America, they stamped my passport, giving me a grand total of two stamps: Buffalo and Amsterdam.4 One of these cities is a world renowned tourist destination, with lots of culture, sex, drugs, and rock & roll. The other is Amsterdam.

2. My firm planned a nice dinner at a tapas bar. I’d never heard of a tapas bar before and thought they said “topless” bar. For those of you who are wondering, Spanish food is not a good substitute for half-naked women. Neither was our gay waiter.

3. I discovered that the Great Seal of North Carolina features two people in togas, one with a pitchfork, the other sitting on a cornucopia. In the background there is an 18th century Spanish Galleon. Apparently, North Carolina is going for historical accuracy here.

4. Although we have them in Canada, I’ve always found the “Seeing Eye Dogs Permitted” exception to the “No pets” sign quite ironic. Because chances are that if you can read the sign that says your seeing eye dog is allowed into the McDonalds, you probably don’t need a seeing eye dog.

5. While doing research for a sexual abuse case, I discovered a case where a couple came in for marriage counseling, and both the husband and wife ended up having an affair with the priest. I have no joke here, it really just kind of writes itself. Also, this kind of shit never happens in Canada. Perverts.

6. The gas station by my house in Raleigh has a sign that salutes Jesus and another that advertises NASCAR collectables. I was surprised, because the gas station near my house in Canada has the exact same sign. Expect it’s also in French. And it doesn’t salute Jesus. And it sells hockey collectables instead of NASCAR. But other than that it’s the exact same sign.

7. While out for lunch today, I passed a man wearing an “I survived an Arctic Shipwreck” tee shirt. While certainly admirable if true (and by the way he looked,5 I think it is), I can’t help but think that that as a society we’ve taken niche marketing too far if we are targeting “arctic shipwreck survivors” as a separate buying group.

8. On my second day of work this summer, my boss, a 53 year old man, did a cartwheel in the middle of the office. This would never happen in Canada. Cartwheels are strictly a first-day-only kind of thing.

9. One day this summer, the owner of the company I worked for asked me if he could borrow a quarter. For the record, I got paid in tee shirts this summer and he’s worth about $500 million. Maybe it’s just me, but I think there is something wrong with this picture.

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1. Clothes, television, and language to name a few.
2. Stephen A. Cobb
3. Actually, this is just a really easy and cheap idea for a column.
4. I have since acquired a third stamp: Port Huron, Michigan. Quite the global traveler I am.
5. Picture a drunker and slightly more unkempt Nick Nolte.
6. Oddly enough, he doesn’t talk to me anymore.
7. Actually, that’s a lie. I’m going to be writing about hockey. Go figure.
Broken Promises

by Alan Kennedy-Shaffer
Features Editor

Five years ago, Americans watched in disbelief as hijackers turned commercial jets into deadly weapons, caused the World Trade Center towers to implode, and struck fear in the hearts of millions of ordinary citizens. Widows grieved, lawmakers called for blood, and priests warned us that the end was near. Millions of people took to the streets to memorialize friends, relatives, and strangers who died in the 9/11 attacks. Partisans in Congress put aside their differences long enough to express their shared outrage and to authorize the Pentagon to pursue Osama bin Laden through the mountains of Afghanistan. Al Qaeda sought refuge in caves; Vice President Dick Cheney sought refuge in an “undisclosed location.” President George W. Bush promised to be “patient” and “focused,” and the nation believed him.

Four years ago, Americans listened as Bush, Cheney, former Secretary of State Colin Powell, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and former National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice advocated for the invasion of Iraq on the grounds that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction and intended to use them against the United States. White House officials repeatedly asserted that Iraq’s “weapons of mass murder” posed a “grave and growing danger” to our national security and raised the specter of mushroom clouds in order to drum up support for the seemingly inevitable invasion. For six weeks in 2003, bombs over Baghdad consumed the country’s attention. Troops marched into the Iraqi capital and Karl Rove staged a “MISSION ACCOMPLISHED” photo-op on the deck of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln. President Bush promised the nation that “major combat operation in Iraq [had] ended,” and the nation believed him.

Three years ago, Americans cheered when the Bush Administration announced the capture of Saddam Hussein and released photos of the former Iraqi dictator in his underwear. Thinking that the worst was over, the country rallied behind the White House and the man who kept saying that he wanted to be remembered as a “wartime president.” With Saddam Hussein behind bars, investigators hunting for weapons of mass destruction, and contractors beginning to rebuild Iraq’s essential infrastructure, Americans lost interest in the Iraq War and turned their attention to other pressing matters, such as unemployment and global warming. Republicans in Congress began talking about abortion, assisted suicide, and gay marriage, and Capitol Hill returned to business as usual. President Bush promised swift justice for Saddam Hussein and that the insurgency was in it “last throes,” and the nation believed him.

Two years ago, Americans voted to reelect Bush by a narrow margin in an election marred by allegations of fraud, intimidation, and disenfranchisement. By bashing gay and lesbian relationships, Republican operatives put Democrats on the defensive and routed proponents of peace with claims that either you supported the president or you supported the terrorists. American soldiers marched into Fallujah, winning a hard-fought victory in a war-racked region of Iraq. The Iraqis elected an assembly and laid out plans for a new constitution that would allow Shiites, Sunnis, and Kurds to share power according to their relative numbers. With all three branches of government dominated by Republicans, a new wave of not-so-compassionate conservatism swept the corridors of power. Halliburton and other contractors with connections to the Bush Administration made off like bandits. President Bush promised to win the “war on terror” and to turn Iraq into a self-sustaining democracy, and the nation believed him.

One year ago, Americans recoiled in horror as Hurricane Katrina displaced hundreds of thousands of residents of New Orleans and other coastal areas in Louisiana and Mississippi. Destroyed homes, abandoned shopping malls, and vacant office buildings served as a lasting testament to the destructive power of Mother Nature and the problem with incompetent government officials. While Bush vacationed in Texas and Rice went shopping for shoes in New York, senior citizens died in nursing homes that were never evacuated, poor black residents died because bridges to rich white neighborhoods were closed. Instead of demanding accountability from the Federal Emergency Management Agency or apologizing to the victims of Hurricane Katrina for ignoring early warnings, Bush toasted FEMA Director Michael Brown, saying, “You’re doing a heck of a job, Brownie.” President Bush promised to rebuild New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, and the nation believed him.

On September 11, 2006, let us think long and hard about the promises that President Bush has made to us over the last five years and the reasons why he has failed to keep any of them. According to the latest polls, a clear majority of Americans believe that Bush broke his promise to catch Osama bin Laden, broke his promise to defeat the insurgents in Iraq, and broke his promise to rebuild New Orleans. Most Americans think that the words “honest and trustworthy” no longer apply to Bush and that he no longer “shares [our] values.”

Midterm elections are less than two months away and Americans must choose between the status quo — broken promises, incompetent officials, rampant cronyism and corruption — and a new direction for the greatest nation in the world. Will we elect representatives and senators who align themselves with Tom Delay and K Street corruption, or will we throw the bums out and elect leaders who will fight for “lost causes” and keep their promises?

This year, let us keep our promises to the victims of 9/11 by lighting the fires of freedom and fomenting a truly democratic revolution.

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Life Outside the Library

by Tara St. Angelo
Business Editor & Staff Writer

Now that we are all squeezed into a library half the size of our old one, students are looking to branch out and find new study spots. With the basement mostly occupied by cite-checking journal members, the carrels stuffed with research fellows, and the top floor filled by the computer lab, there isn’t much space left to spare. Where can you go that has all the amenities, and maybe a few advantages of the law library?

If you still have your heart set on studying in a library, there are three other libraries in town: SWEM, the undergraduate library on the main campus; the James City County Library on Croaker Road (Exit 231A on I-64); and the Williamsburg Public Library on Scotland Street. All three of these libraries offer free access to a wireless network, SWEM obviously offering access to the William & Mary network. The Williamsburg and James City County libraries are great places to get away when you do not want to be around hundreds of studying students but still want to be in a quiet academic environment. Both libraries offer free parking. SWEM keeps late hours, but the town libraries close pretty early (9 p.m. during the week and 6 p.m. on Saturdays).

Most students look for places that have wireless internet. There are several places nearby that offer free wireless access. The Barnes & Noble school bookstore offers access to the William & Mary network. Although this spot has its advantages in its access to food and coffee from the Starbucks inside, there is a shortage of outlets and seating. You pretty much experience many of the same problems as you do in our current library, but they are masked by the coffee and scones. If you prefer a cozier setting, you can take the short walk from the bookstore to Prince George Street and have your choice of two coffee shops with wireless access: Aromas and the Friends Café. Aromas has the same problems as the bookstore, but it offers better food and coffee, in my personal opinion. Aromas is also a noisy gathering place and is full of distractions. Right down the street from Aromas is the new Friends Café, which is comparable to Aromas with its good coffee and wireless access. That being said, all of the seating and outlet-access problems may be resolved once the new Barnes & Noble in New Town opens — most Barnes and Noble stores have wireless access, food amenities, and plenty of seating.

If Barnes & Noble and Aromas do not satisfy your need for coffee and wireless internet, there are several other places that offer these study tools, or hindrances, depending on your study tactics. If you are willing to travel a little farther from the law school, you can go to Sacred Grounds Coffee Shop on Richmond Road. Sacred Grounds offers fair trade coffee and free wireless access in a relaxing atmosphere. If you are looking for ways to wind down, Sacred Grounds also offers yoga classes.

The café area inside of Ukrop’s, in the Marketplace Shopping Center on Monticello Avenue, offers wireless access for a small charge and big comfy couches. If you don’t mind a little noise, have a long-living computer battery, and would rather get cozy in a big comfy chair, this is a great place to study. Sacred Grounds and Ukrop’s are both highly underutilized study spots that enable you to get away from crowds of law students.

You can find additional Starbucks locations in all three of the Farm Fresh Supermarkets in Williamsburg, located on Merrimac Trail, John Tyler Highway, and Norge Lane, and also in McClaws Circle on I-64. Like the Starbucks in Ukrop’s, you have to pay to access the wireless network at these locations. These are also underutilized study spaces. Although you can avoid crowds, the Starbucks in McClaws Circle is the only location with access to power outlets. Starbucks may only be an ideal place for those with long-living computer batteries.

Even if the new Barnes and Noble isn’t open yet, you can still find a study spot in New Town at Panera Bread. If you don’t mind crowds of people and love their food, this is a great place to study. You have your choice to study more conventionally at a table or curl up in one of the chairs.

You can also find wireless access on Richmond Road at Casa Maya, a great Mexican restaurant, which, if you haven’t already been introduced to it, you will be soon at an upcoming bar review. At first glance a Mexican restaurant doesn’t seem like the best study spot, but it has all the necessities. In addition to the steady supply of chips and salsa, Casa Maya offers large table spaces where you can really spread out, whether you are with a study group or cramming for exams on your own.

If you are not concerned with wireless access, Books-a-Million, or BAM, on Richmond Road near the Food Lion, is a great study space. You have your choice of studying outside, in a cushiony chair, or at a table. BAM offers great coffee and a wide array of magazines to peruse while you are taking a study break.

If coffee is your main ingredient for studying, you should definitely try the Coffee Beanery on James town Road. Wireless access is free, and you don’t have to pay for refills on coffee. The Beanery can get busy and noisy in the morning but is usually quiet and calm in the mid-afternoon. Also, staff members are very willing to let you stay all day as long as you don’t occupy a booth during the lunch rush.

There are plenty of study spaces to go around if you leave the library. We should stop trying to cram ourselves into the itty bitty library and get out and try new places. Also, keep in mind that you don’t necessarily need to be studying to check out any of these places.
Returning from summer vacation, you may have noticed a message from Legal Skills that wasn’t exactly run of the mill. If you thought it was a joke that you didn’t quite understand or some kind of clue about your next Legal Skills client, you were wrong. Intrepid, investigative reporting of The Advocate revealed that the facts were just as they appeared. Legal Skills had a lizard. It was on the loose, and it needed a name.

On more than one occasion, Legal Skills Program Assistant and Court Clerk Kristin Young and Dean Patty Roberts encountered a rogue lizard in the Legal Skills suite. The lizard probably had enough of the library construction and needed some place to relax away from the noise, the dust, and the vexing number of work boots stomping around.

One thing is for sure, the lizard was around to stay. The lizard resisted capture and decided to make the second floor his home. Clearly, the new member of the class of 2009 needed a name.

Kristin Young wrote, “Well, we have this lizard in our office that I have almost stepped on twice. Dean Roberts and I chased it around one day, and he still won’t leave. So we came up with the idea for a contest to either name it or at least have someone catch it. Just something fun for back to school and all — and it really has taken off, several students have replied!”


The email solicitation for names piqued the curiosity and creativity of many law students. Here were some of the submissions:

- Ari Johnson — I like puns. Let’s call him “Indemnity.”
- Brandon Moon — His name should be Lawzard. Unoriginal, but appropriate.
- Jason Wool — I submit the name “Don Mattingly.”

Sadly still definitively nameless, the poor lizard may have met his demise. Tyler Akagi wrote Kristin Young, “If this lizard thing is for real, I may have some very bad news. As I was exiting Classroom 141 yesterday evening at around 5 p.m., I found a very squished lizard carcass lying belly-side-up in the doorway. Much to my classmates’ horror, I picked it up to get a better look. It was less than 2 inches, black with thin stripes (yellow?) running down the length of its body. I put the little guy in the room’s garbage can. If this is the LS lizard, I’m very sorry you had to find out like this.”

There could be more than one Legal Skills lizard. If you have a lizard sighting, want to suggest a name, or find out which names are the favorites, stop by the Legal Skills suite.