2007

The Advocate (Vol. 4, Issue 9)

Repository Citation

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Three Law Students Compete for Miss Williamsburg Title; Third Year Fassie Wins Crown

by Tiffany Walden
Staff Writer

On Feb. 17, a Saturday night, more than twenty law students shuffled into the Bruton High School auditorium. No, the Green Leafe had not moved for the night. Instead, these law students were supporting three of their peers who were competing for the title of Miss Williamsburg with hopes of becoming Miss Virginia and perhaps Miss America. Each class was represented by a contestant: Crystal Bailey (1L), Aida Carini (2L), and Nathalie Fassie (3L). Support for the girls was plentiful. Doing anything non-law-related while in law school seems almost impossible, but the Miss Williamsburg contestants managed to find time to practice their talents, work their interviewing skills, select evening gowns, and brave the dreaded swimsuit competition. After a three-hour competition of more than fifteen competitors, Nathalie walked away with the title of Miss Williamsburg.

The theme for the night was “Amer-I-can,” a cliché for beauty pageants, but a cliché for a reason. There is nothing controversial about being patriotic, and with the Miss USA scandal providing a negative perception about the whole pageant industry, it’s okay to be a little cliché. The contestants, in short white dresses, did an opening number and introductions. Aged 17 to 24, a few competitors were still in high school, while others had come home from college for the weekend in order to compete. The on-stage interview provided insight into the contestants and a bit of entertainment as well. Some of the less articulate contestants admitted to trying to “help people achieve their goals, even if they’re not good at them” and explained the work involved in planning a Juicy Couture-themed birthday party.

After the onstage interview, contestants demonstrated their physical fitness in a swimsuit competition. The girls all looked fantastic, and did not seem the slightest bit nervous about walking in stiletto heels and bikinis. One audience member had a more introspective thought on the swimsuit competition: “I think that the real turning point in the pageant was the swimsuit competition: “I think that the real turning point in the pageant was the swimsuit competition. It really summed up what the pageant was all about: not superficiality, but the inner beauty of each of the participants.”

Although beauty is important to win the title of Miss Williamsburg, the competitors really distinguished themselves during the talent portion. Nathalie did a pointe dance to “Ain’t No Sunshine.” When discussing her preparation, Nathalie, who earned a double major in dance and European studies, did not find the practice all that time consuming. “I manage my time well, and I dance two to three days with an undergrad dance troupe, so this wasn’t anything too different than what I am used to,” she said.

Crystal also danced; she performed a modern dance complete with a mid-routine costume change!

Continued on page 2
From Killer Sonar to Killer Plants... ELPR Symposium Covers it All

by Tara St. Angelo
Staff Writer


The law school’s Prof. Ron Rosenberg opened the day’s lectures with the question, “To what extent should environmental norms be adjusted to meet the needs of the military and vice versa?” Alex Beechler, the Assistant Deputy under the Secretary of Defense for Environmental Safety and Occupational Health, gave the keynote address, which focused on the positive thought that military goals are compatible with environmental goals. He explained by quoting Aldo Leopold: “Those who take care of the land are those closest to it.” He noted that the military trains on the land and that they must train in natural conditions.

The highlight of the morning’s lectures was the lively debate between Thomas Ledvina, Associate General Counsel for the U.S. Navy, and Joel Reynolds, the Director of Mammal Protection for the Natural Resources Defense Council, over whether military sonar testing harms marine cetaceans. Ledvina insisted that out of the over 3,500 whales that beach themselves each year, only five can be attributed to sonar. Ledvina further argued that the military must train the way they fight, and they defend themselves against submarine attacks by using sonar. Reynolds has fought numerous legal battles with the Navy over the use of sonar and has reached many compromises. Reynolds noted that it is unquestionable that sonar contributes to increasing the number of beached whales but that the mechanism is unknown.

Professors Robert Percival and Marcilynn Burke of the University of Maryland Law School and University of Houston Law School, respectively, opened the afternoon lectures by addressing the topics of military compliance with environmental laws. Percival focused on the uniqueness of the American military in that it is one of the world’s few militaries that is subject to environmental regulations. Joel Eisen of the University of Richmond Law School and Carolyn White, Senior Environmental Counsel for the Air Force, lectured about the military’s use of Brownfields and the cleanup of old military sites.

James Van Ness, Associate General Counsel in the Office of the Deputy General Counsel for Environmental and Installations in the Department of Defense, and Corry Westbrook of the National Wildlife Federation, spoke of the military’s efforts and need to maintain biodiversity. Westbrook in particular spoke about how invasive plant species hinder military activities by infesting training fields and increasing the severity of fires on military installations.

The wide variety of views on the topic of environmental regulations as they apply to the military made it clear that cooperation is a mission possible.

Pagant, continued from cover

Aida, dressed in a black evening gown, sang. Other contestants danced, and many also sang. Another played the piano, and one did an interesting performance: a dramatic monologue acting as one of Cinderella’s evil stepisters.

Before the winners were even announced Aida already knew what she would remember once the pageant was over: “The best part of the pageant was looking out from the stage and seeing three rows of law students cheering me on. It was amazing to see so many people there supporting me, and I seriously could not have done it without all of them.” It was Aida’s first pageant and Nathalie’s second year competing in the Miss America preliminaries. Crystal had participated in other pageants before, but all the girls enjoyed the experience. And if you win Miss Virginia the scholarship money isn’t bad either. As for the $2,000 Nathalie won: “It’ll go to help pay for my bar review course,” she said. She may be Miss Williamsburg, but first she is a law student.
Debate v. Dialogue

by Meghan Horn
Staff Writer

On Feb. 20, the Student Bar Association sponsored an open forum entitled “Debate Versus Dialogue: Finding Common Ground.” The Christian Law Society (CLS), the Black Law Students Association (BLSA), and the Lesbian and Gay Law Association (LGLA) all supported this event. The event was inspired by the aftermath of last semester’s incident of vandalism of the LGLA bulletin board as a means of promoting dialogue between individuals and groups with conflicting views. Professors Eric Kades and Davison Douglas as well as Carina Sudarsky-Gleiser and Felicia Brown-Anderson of the Counseling Center paneled the discussion.

Although it was an open forum not limited to the topic of last semester’s vandalism, most of the participants focused on that issue. In particular, participants discussed a number of proposals for promoting dialogue about controversial issues as a means of preventing future vandalism or hate speech.

After one proposal that smaller group discussions would perhaps make individuals more comfortable voicing unpopular opinions, it was proposed that, after larger lectures, small breakout sessions be held to discuss the topic. Another proposal was a public posting board whereby individuals would be able to anonymously post opinions on any number of topics.

A number of proposals suggested incorporating diversity training in law camp or in Honor Council training and policies. Incorporating diversity training in law camp could occur in a number of different ways, including a mandatory meeting at the beginning of the semester or a discussion on diversity led by a diversity committee comprised of members of various student organizations followed by smaller discussion groups. Less formal alternatives proposed were to have BLSA or LGLA sponsor a social event early in the year open to the entire law school community.

Ambiguous Community Sentiment About Child Welfare Agencies

by Kelly Pereira
News Editor

On Feb. 12, Prof. Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern Law, as this year’s Wythe lecturer, delivered a talk entitled “Child Welfare’s Paradox.” Roberts conducted a study concerning child welfare agency involvement in black neighborhoods. Nationwide, more black children are in foster care than white children. In fact, a black child is four times more likely to be in foster care than a white child. One third of foster children are black, even though blacks make up only 13% of the population. As a result, state custody of children demonstrates “racial geography,” meaning that poor, black, urban neighborhoods have a strong likelihood of agency involvement. For example, one of every ten children in Harlem is in foster care.

The disparate involvement of agencies in black communities make that involvement a “distinctively different institution for black and white families,” but the community impact is largely unstudied. Roberts hypothesized that the involvement of child welfare agencies in black communities might be hindering community autonomy. Results of a 2005 case study in the predominantly black neighborhood of Woodlawn in Chicago, however, proved to her that the relationship between black communities and child welfare agencies is more nuanced. When Roberts interviewed 27 women regarding their perception of the community, civic life, and autonomy, she discovered three profound contradictions: (1) case workers are perceived as both meddling investigators and appreciated helpers; (2) payments to foster parents are both helpful and hurtful; and (3) the amount of kinship caregiver support depends on the number of foster children in the home. The amount of kinship caregiver support depends on whether relatives meet the same licensing requirements as non-kin foster parents (“The higher the payment, the greater intensity of state supervision.”). The foster care system also may provide an incentive for families to seek formal foster placement rather than informal, temporary placements within the family.

Meanwhile, there are lower reunification rates and longer lengths of time spent in care for children in kinship care than in foster care. This is partially based on the facts that case workers have an incentive to push caregivers to adopt and that kinship care is often the result of low income and not specifically abuse and neglect (for example, in California, reunification of children from kinship care homes with a biological parent depended on the amount of financial support available). If social disruption is the price for child support, it is perceived as okay by the needy families. Roberts argued, “We need to change our view of the system’s institutional function.” With more than half a million children in foster care nationwide, there is a need to devise ways for voluntary support (counseling, clothing, food, etc.) before child endangerment arises.
Rachel Gedid (3L) presented her lecture entitled “The End of AIDS Exceptionalism” as part of the Benjamin Rush Symposium on Wednesday, Feb. 14. Ms. Gedid challenged the prevailing notion that HIV/AIDS is an “exceptional” disease which requires a different approach to disease detection and prevention. Ms. Gedid proposed that, at least in clinical settings, current policies requiring express written informed consent and pre-test counseling be replaced with traditional screening practices. HIV/AIDS should be treated as if it is any other disease, incorporating regularized testing into doctor check-ups, much like cancer or diabetes.

Ms. Gedid traced the rise of AIDS exceptionalism to the history of the disease itself. Throughout the first decade of the disease’s presence in the United States, stigma drove those with the disease underground. To combat this, AIDS service organizations (and later state and local health departments) developed procedures to protect patient autonomy and privacy in relation to testing. These measures included requiring informed consent and prevention counseling. These policies remain in place today, mainly as a result of state health laws which require all those who receive HIV tests to provide written informed consent and receive pre-test counseling, even in a clinical setting. These requirements make doctors less likely to include HIV testing as a regular part of their checkups, and because of this, fewer people are being tested.

Ms. Gedid argued that the unique approaches proffered to combat HIV in its inception now contribute to the stigma attached to those with HIV/AIDS—that they are somehow “different” from HIV-negative individuals. Central to her claim was that these vestiges which remain from the early days of HIV prevention are not in line with today’s testing and treatment options or with the progress achieved in fighting the stigma at the social level. Since advanced testing devices make detection less cumbersome and intrusive (a simple oral swab will do) and modern treatment no longer means HIV/AIDS is a death sentence, HIV/AIDS is no longer the exceptional disease it once was.

Presently, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that in order for HIV testing to become a regular part of a doctor’s check-up procedures, the requirements for written informed consent and prevention counseling be abolished. To test the efficacy of this policy, the CDC recommended that all pregnant women be voluntarily tested for HIV/AIDS as a routine part of their prenatal care. As a result, mother-to-child transmission almost has been eliminated in the United States. Ms. Gedid argued that the undeniable success of this program provided evidence that regularized HIV testing could reduce overall HIV transmission rates. Ms. Gedid pointed to several studies which showed that once individuals know they are HIV-positive, they significantly reduce if not eliminate entirely their risky sexual behavior.

It is not as if the CDC recommendations are entirely without risk, however. State laws which require prevention counseling are in place so that those who receive an HIV test also receive information tailored specifically to their behavioral risks. This information helps people reduce their risk of contracting HIV or other sexually-transmitted infections. The CDC recommendations suggest that those who get an HIV test as part of their regular medical care simply receive the basics of HIV transmission.
Alumni Discuss Starting and Building Their Own Law Practices

by Sarah Abshear
Staff Writer

On Monday, Feb. 19, a panel of alumni composed of attorneys Stephanie Montgomery '98, Joel Ankney '91, Cynthia Ewing '98, and Horace Hunter '99 met with students to discuss starting and building their own law practices. All four attorneys have their own law practices.

Stephanie Montgomery currently practices in Williamsburg, primarily in real estate. Her decision to open her own office was motivated by her desire to have more time for her children. She told students that being in control of her own time allows her to have a life; she can balance being a mom and a professional.

Joel Ankney worked for two large law firms for a total of twelve years before deciding to open his own law practice in Norfolk. He is a transactional attorney specializing in entertainment, trademark, and copyright law. Like Montgomery, Ankney cited his children and time considerations as reasons for his decision to leave the large firms. He also mentioned that he prefers to be his own boss and work on his own terms instead of having superiors tell him what to do. Also, he likes being able to work outside of the office sometimes, which he can do as long as he has access to a phone and the internet. For example, he once concluded a deal on the beach.

Cynthia Ewing considered starting her own practice from the beginning of her legal career. Because she was Certified Public Accountant (C.P.A.) and worked for a large accounting firm before law school, she already knew that the large firm life was not for her. Immediately after law school, Ewing worked for a small firm where she made partner. After about six years, she decided to leave and start her own practice. Ewing enjoys working the fewest hours she has ever worked. She tries not to work overtime or weekends and tries to leave work at the office.

Horace Hunter began practicing on his own right out of law school as a criminal defense attorney in Richmond. He joked to students that he still was not sure whether that was “smart or crazy.” Hunter was able to start out on his own by continuing to live at home and working other jobs part-time until he could earn enough money to establish himself. He received many of his initial clients from court appointments and making himself available around the courthouse. Hunter has recently decided to partner with a former classmate. He considers himself lucky in his success, as he knows many attorneys who have tried to establish their own practices and failed. He said practicing on his own is challenging, exciting, and new. There is a feeling that anything could happen, and also the satisfying feeling that “this is mine.”

Although both Ankney and Montgomery brought some clients with them from their old firms, all four attorneys stressed that client development is essential to establishing a successful practice. Montgomery said there is an old maxim that says to treat your first client well, because that is where you get the second. Ewing explained that she gets almost all of her business from word-of-mouth; contacts and referrals are very important. If you are not a good attorney, clients will not refer you, and your business will suffer. Montgomery said that, for this reason, any time you have a conflict with a client, you should be sure to handle it in the most professional way possible. Hunter explained that much of his business has come from former clients. For example, a father whose son he defended well might ask him to help negotiate a real estate sale. Situations like this have resulted in Hunter branching out his practice and learning new areas of law.

One student asked the panel whether they felt that a solo practitioner needed more than one specialty to be successful. Ankney said that he felt that way when he started his own practice. When he worked for the large law firms, he was extremely specialized, and he tried to branch out when he left. An experiment with employment law resulted in a loss of time and money. Now, he is able to refer work that he accepted a few years ago to another attorney and focus on his areas of expertise. This allows him peace of mind, because he was not as competent in other areas and felt less comfortable working outside of his expertise. However, he continues to do commercial real estate transactions, which he initially began because he found the deal-making involved was similar to the transactions he was used to doing. The ability to take on a new field of law for a new client is something Ankney would not have been able to do at a large firm.

Hunter agreed that there are things he does that he does not really enjoy, like divorces and child custody cases. However, he said that if he is competent in an area and there is enough money to make it worthwhile, he will take the case. He is just now getting to the point in his practice where he does not have to take these sorts of cases. Montgomery said that “bread and butter” practice areas help to cover the overhead. She also pointed out...
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.

Advocating for Children in Philadelphia

by Amy Wallas
Contributor

Last summer, with the support of the Public Service Fund, I worked at the Support Center for Child Advocates (Child Advocates), a private non-profit organization in Philadelphia. The main function of Child Advocates is to train attorneys in the community so that they have the necessary skills to represent children in particular cases on a pro bono basis. These cases typically involve dependency proceedings (when the state alleges abuse and/or neglect of a child) and cases in which a child has been the victim of a crime by an adult. In these cases, the child victim is expected to testify against the adult at trial and may need extra support from an advocate.

In addition to functioning as a training entity, there are six attorneys, five social workers, and other staff who are employed full time at Child Advocates. These individuals handle a small number of their own cases and provide support and assistance to the volunteer attorneys who represent the majority of the kids whose cases are assigned to Child Advocates.

While Child Advocates and its affiliated pro bono attorneys handle about 700 cases per year, the majority of children in dependency court are represented by attorneys from a special division of the Public Defenders’ Office. When the Public Defender has a conflict (because the office represented a parent in another matter, for example), Child Advocates is contacted to take on the representation. Additionally, by virtue of its reputation and experience in the field of child advocacy, judges occasionally assign particularly tough cases to Child Advocates because they are confident in the staff attorneys’ ability to handle the often complicated and difficult situations.

The staff attorneys, social workers, and fellow law students with whom I worked on a daily basis were great. It was clear that they are dedicated to this work and passionate about advancing the interests of children. I worked and shared office space with three other law students, all of whom attend law school in Philadelphia. My co-workers contributed to a very congenial working environment, and difficult situations.

My second case involved a seventeen-year-old girl from China who had been illegally brought across the Canadian border in the back of a truck. While all of the other people she was traveling with were sent back to China, she remained in the United States because she was a minor. When the case came to me, the child was living with cousins in Philadelphia, and an immigration attorney at a non-profit agency had contacted us to see if we might be able to help provide a pathway for this child to become a legal resident. As I learned, there is something called “Special Immigrant Juvenile Status,” which is a visa status typically granted to children who have been declared dependents of the state. Since my client had “no parental care or control,” one of the categories of dependency, we were able to bring her into the court’s jurisdiction so that this preferred status could be pursued. As this process was going on, there were multiple difficulties.

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Researching Forest Conservation

by Bryan Thompson
Contributor

Last summer I interned with the Model Forest Policy Program (MFPP), and I wanted to share my experiences with anyone interested in working for them this summer. My experience was extremely positive, and I recommend it to anyone interested in pursuing environmental law.

I worked on a variety of projects at MFPP. I definitely developed my legal research and writing skills, and the projects were extremely interesting. I learned a great deal about forests and forestry practices. I also learned about environmental policy and the difficulties of writing and implementing effective statutes. Most importantly of all, I was able to contribute to meaningful work and work with great people.

The projects I worked on primarily focused on statutes, with some case law mixed in. I was initially intimidated by my lack of forestry experience, and reconciling statutory language with the realities in the forest is not easy. I’m happy to say that, by the end of the project, I was able to effectively evaluate the laws, and I picked up a lot of knowledge about forestry.

Bud Watson was my main contact at MFPP, and I truly enjoyed working with him. Mr. Watson is an outstanding lawyer who is passionate about the environment and his work. Mr. Watson served as my mentor regarding forestry issues and the law. Plus, I had the chance to learn from his practical experiences balancing a desire to work in conservation and a need to make a living.

MFPP was great—I got to do meaningful, interesting work and meet great people involved in the field. I’d be happy to talk about the internship with anyone interested in applying.
with effectuating the plan, mostly because of cultural differences, and because the child was almost eighteen (the cutoff age for being declared a dependent in the state of Pennsylvania). This case was quite interesting, not only because it involved other legal areas like immigration law, but also because it was something that Child Advocates did not have much experience with, forcing me to do much of the legwork. I found out later, however, that a fellowship had been awarded to a law student to pursue more of these cases, so Child Advocates will likely become more experienced in using the designation of dependency to help minors who are illegally in this country without their parents.

In addition to working on my own cases, I was able to observe several hearings handled by Child Advocates attorneys. The process in dependency court is very different from the traditional civil or criminal courtroom. Instead of having just two adversaries represented by their attorneys, there are often five or six interested parties at the hearings. These include the child’s parent, or parents, and their attorney(s), the Department of Human Services represented by the City Solicitor, the individual social worker involved in the case, the child advocate, and, in some situations, the child, if he or she is old enough to be involved. The hearings are closed to outside parties and are, in general, conducted in a more informal manner. In Philadelphia, the courthouse I visited most often contained fifteen courtrooms that continuously heard dependency and delinquency cases. For those of us used to the two- or three-judge juvenile benches in this area, this was huge!

Overall, I had a very rewarding and worthwhile experience working for the Support Center for Child Advocates in Philadelphia. In addition to my invaluable learning experience at work, I had fun getting to know the city of Philadelphia, including my favorite farmer’s market, Reading Terminal Market, and many, many great restaurants. When I walked past historic Philadelphia, I felt right at home...I think I even saw Thomas Jefferson while I was there!

**Practice, continued from page 5**

that there is just not enough work for some specialties, joking that “you have lost your mind” if you think you can practice only sports and entertainment law in Williamsburg, for example.

Students in the audience were very concerned with the financial aspects of setting up their own practices. One money-saving technique is to rent an office in a building that has a community receptionist and meeting rooms or one in a business park. This will create a professional atmosphere for much less money. Montgomery said one building in Williamsburg rents out such offices for only $425 a month. Ankney said that his office in a business park was only $265 a month. Both Hunter and Ankney agreed that taxes could be extremely expensive at the end of the year and that that should be considered in any budget. While the panel agreed that malpractice insurance is cheap compared to medical malpractice insurance, it must still be factored into any budget. Ankney also warned that for some areas of law, like patent law, it can be very difficult to find an insurance carrier.

The panel agreed that lawyers beginning their own practice will need a lot of help from the law community. Ewing suggested joining local bar associations and networking. Montgomery pointed out that people are very generous with their help. In Williamsburg, beginning attorneys are required to have mentors for felony cases. Some of the best criminal attorneys in town participate as mentors. This can help establish relationships between less and more experienced attorneys that will last after the cases finish. Hunter said that more than one mentor is needed. It is perhaps more important to have an advisor who knows about business. This person does not necessarily have to be an attorney. Ankney explained that after his first year trying to run his business himself, he realized that he was making financial mistakes, like paying himself too high of a salary, and so he needed to hire a C.P.A. He also asks his clients for advice. For example, one client, an entrepreneur, is useful as a sounding board for marketing ideas. Clients want their lawyers to succeed, and many are willing to help lend their expertise. “You can’t do it by yourself,” Ankney told students.

**News In Brief**

**PSF Date Auction Ears Mad Cash, Wows Hundreds**

The Public Service Fund’s annual date auction, held Saturday, Feb. 24, raised a total of more than $13,500 from the live and silent portions of the auction. Hundreds of law students watched as their friends and classmates put their talents on stage and their behinds on the auction block, all for a good cause. Highlights included girls playing Twister, guys stripping/singing, tennis (both simulated and real), and the friends and followers of MaryAnn Nolan (3L) purchasing her for an unprecedented $800. For photos of the spectacle, turn to the collage in this issue of The Advocate.

**Trials of Life: Tribe’s Future Litigators Devour Competition**

The William & Mary School of Law Trial Team won the 44th annual Gourley Trial Competition on Friday, Feb. 23. In its first year competing in the 16-team, invitation-only tournament, the William & Mary team defeated George-town University Law Center in its first trial and beat out St. John’s University School of Law for the championship. Liz McElroy (3L) and Josh Whitley (2L), the two advocates for the Tribe, tied for best advocate in the tournament—a first in the 45-year history of the tournament. Jacksy Bilborrow (2L) served as the William & Mary team’s witness.

**Moot Court Mania: Harter Wins Bushrod Tournament, South Texas Takes Spong Invitational Title**

On Thursday, Feb. 22, Brandon Harter (1L) out-argued Robert Derise (1L) in the final round of the Bushrod Moot Court Tournament. The two withstood blistering questions from an esteemed panel of judges, including Judge Walter Felton, the current Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia, Judge Tommy Miller, and Judge Rebecca Beach Smith, both of the Eastern District of Virginia, Dean Taylor Reveley, and Prof. William Van Alstyne. Over the preceding weekend, a team from South Texas College of Law won the 36th annual Spong Invitational Moot Court Tournament, defeating another team from South Texas in the final round. In total, 25 teams and 38 judges from across the East coast and Midwest participated. Seth Carroll (3L) wrote the problem about how other states should treat same-sex married couples from “Marshall”chussets.

**No, Not the Dialectic Guy (He’s Dead, and He Spelled It Differently)**

On Saturday, Feb. 10, as part of the College of William & Mary’s 314th Charter Day celebration, Nebraska Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.) addressed a packed Phi Beta Kappa Hall. In his remarks, Hagel discussed the importance of public education and public service, tracing their roots in this country to the College. In recognition of his work in elected office, Hagel received an honorary doctorate of public service from the College. Every year, Charter Day marks the anniversary of the founding of William & Mary.

**Public Service Fund Assassins Update**

As of Friday, Feb. 23, 16 participants remained alive. Advocate columnist Matthew Dobbie was assassinated this week in the men’s room. Be on the lookout for skilled markswoman Barbara Rosenblatt (2L), who has five kills to her name. No other survivor has more than two.

Five deaths remain unconfirmed. Casualties are asked to e-mail psfassassins@gmail.com to report in.

---compiled by William Y. Durbin from reports by Eric Anderson, Liz McElroy, and Josh Whitley.

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**Children, continued from page 6**
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.

**Upcoming Events**

**Wednesday, February 28**
IBRL Luncheon Lecture with Professor David Holmes: Professor Holmes will speak on faiths of the Founding Fathers from 12:50 p.m. until 1:50 p.m. in Room 137.

Lunch with Lawyers: Jobs with the GAO: The OCS presentation will take place from 1:00 p.m. until 1:45 pm in Room 133.

**Thursday, March 1**
Cutler Lecture, presented by Prof. David Strauss: “Do We Have a Written Constitution?”; David A. Strauss is the Harry N. Wyatt Professor of Law at the University of Chicago. He has served as Special Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee and Assistant Solicitor General of the United States, and he has argued eighteen cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. He will deliver his talk at 3:30 p.m. in Room 119.

**Friday, March 2**
Farewell Reception for Dean Lewis: To thank Dean Lewis for his service to William & Mary and to wish him well as he heads to North Carolina, the Law School and OCS will host a farewell reception for him at 3:00 p.m. in the lobby.

Election Review Conference sponsored by Election Law Society: Top election law scholars and practicing attorneys will discuss the issues that arose during the 2006 midterm elections and the new Congress’s potential impact on current election law legislation. The conference will take place from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the McGlothlin Courtroom.

**Saturday, March 3**
PSF Singer-Songwriter Showcase: The Public Service Fund will host live music performed by members of the law school community. The event will be held at 327 North Henry Street. Those interested in participating should e-mail mscimi@wm.edu.

**Tuesday, March 6**
Student Intellectual Property Society guest speaker, Joy Bryant: William & Mary School of Law alumna Joy Bryant ’03 will speak about classes one should take in order to be an IP lawyer. She will speak from 12:50 p.m. until 1:50 p.m. in Room 127.

**Friday, March 9**
Spring Break Begins:)

**Classes Resume:**

**Thursday, March 22**
Virginia Bar Character and Fitness Information Session: Learn everything you wanted to know about the Character and Fitness portion of the Virginia Bar Exam Application. The review will be held from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. in Room 124.

3L Class Gift Kickoff: A reception for all members of the Class of 2007 will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the lobby.

**Saturday, March 24**
Ali’s Run: The annual 5K run/walk is one of two primary fundraisers for the Bone Marrow Drive and is held in memory of Ali Kaplan. Join the William & Mary and greater Williamsburg communities to raise awareness for the BMD. Prizes will be awarded to the top finisher in each category.

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It’s a bird, it’s a plane, no—it’s just the co-chairs of PSF, Maryann Nolan (3L) and Jennie Cordis (2L). I joke about their “super powers” because they seem like they have them. Both are Dean’s Associates and board members of the Students for Innocence Project, and both are involved in numerous other law school activities. Although it seems as if Maryann and Jennie have the ability to add more hours to their day, they are merely mild-mannered law students. Jennie, however, would want to be invisible if she could have any super power. She’d want to spy on people and become the law school gossip instead of one of our resident overachievers. Maryann, on the other hand, would take a more noble route in her super hero career and would want the ability to heal people. In her real life, Maryann’s “hidden” talent is her ability to heal herself. Although Maryann wishes she could sing, her true talent is endurance and the ability to bounce back from adversity. She says, “In the Peace Corps, I was held up at gun point, held up at knife point, survived 14 floods, dengue fever, I had niguia twice (where you have to cut open your own toe and carefully pull out a sack of worm eggs without breaking the sack and getting the eggs in your foot), ascaris, giardia, and other stuff.” Jennie declined to comment about her “secret” talent, but I think she just didn’t want to outdo Maryann. At the date auction you could have purchased one of these ladies and their caring nature. They showed their acting ability in a skit about drunk driving and then offered up their services as designated drivers on a one night drinking trip to Norfolk.

If you thought that Maryann and Jennie were great actresses, you probably didn’t get to see one of the only true celebrities at the law school, star of Disney Channel’s Bug Juice, Jason Wool (2L). This former child reality star was up on the block showing clips from the pinnacle of his career. After all the glitz and glory, Jason grew tired of the public life. He decided to return to the world of the civilians and not capitalize on his fifteen minutes of fame and spiral it into a daytime talk show. Jason’s true talent, however, is being able to read people. He can always tell when a girl is hitting on him, which never happens all the time. Despite his life of fame and the barrage of girls throwing themselves at him, deep down Jason truly wishes he could be a hypnotist. Jason, like everyone, has dreams of being superhuman (in more than just his rugged good looks). “Although I’ve been told it’s very ‘emo’ of me, I would want the power to stop time. A close second is teleportation, but since I could get anywhere while time was stopped, and all that walking would probably keep me in good shape, I’m sticking with my choice.

There was a precipitous decline in entries this week — which professor is giving out too much homework these days? Oh, that’s right: all of them. No matter, all it takes to have an Advocate contest is one entry, and thankfully this one was good: LAW R2-D2: Property of a Long Time Ago, in a Galaxy Far, Far Away. A simple, bright-line rule applies: The Empire gets to use what it wants. Property is not a bundle of light sabers...

Kudos, my gratitude, and the “What Not to Wear” locker mirror go to WD.
Blawgs, continued from page 10.

Just imagine how lazy you would get if you could teleport everywhere—teleport to the bathroom, teleport to grocery store, teleport to bed . . .”

Who knew that Greg Demo (2L) was more than just a pretty face? In addition to being a huge nerd, the best Contracts TA the law school has ever seen, Greg can play Nintendo Wii tennis. (This may just add to everyone’s perception of his immense intelligence.) His cat-like reflexes and precision movements on the Wii brought in the big bucks at the date auction. Sadly, all of these bucks were Greg’s that he distributed to members of the audience after pleading for bids. Greg’s talents don’t stop there. His trial team placed first at the nerdlamplurgy ABA Employment Law Tournament. He can also play the mouth harp. Ladies, you can rest assured, he is single. If Greg could add to his amazing array of talents, he would want to be able to walk through walls.

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Saturday, March 24, 2007

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Hosted by the W&M Sports and Entertainment Law Society

PSF Date Auction 2007
Sweeter Than Shug: Dating According to David Bules

by David Bules
Staff Columnist

Mr. Durbin, our esteemed Editor-in-Chief, rarely makes suggestions and pretty much lets us write whatever we want. So this week when he sent me a request, I figured I owed it to him to oblige. Lent began last week on Ash Wednesday. Will suggested I do a column on what it’s like to date during Lent. According to the trusty dictionary on my iBook, Lent is “the period preceding Easter that in accordance with various religious practices. Some even take the word ‘fast’ as being stricter. I might be the worst person ever to remember this rule not to eat meat on Fridays. I’m not bad at the whole giving up something for Lent thing, but remembering not to eat meat on Fridays is tough. When you bring this into dating it gets even harder. If you want to go on a date on a Friday night during Lent, how likely is it that you will remember not to eat meat?

Those of us guys who want to impress the girl are probably going to order some big piece of meat, because meat is manly and all. The last thing you want a girl to think is that you are a softie when you order a tofu concoction of some kind. So you have two choices (if you actually remember that it’s Friday, and that’s pretty hard for me): 1) Get the tofu or grass or whatever else it is kids get from Trader Joe’s these days, or 2) Go ahead and get meat and hope no one notices.

Now, the right thing to do, assuming you are of a religion that does not eat meat during Lent, is order the tofu. You can explain to the girl that it’s Lent and normally you’d eat a big T-bone, but it’s Friday. Hopefully she will understand and you can avoid any religious debate. Guys, you have to be sensitive to girls, too, if they do not want to get meat. I’ve forgotten it was Friday many times, and tried to encourage the girl to get more than just a salad. Most girls will point out it’s Friday and not be offended, and then I realize I have to change my order now that I know it’s Friday.

Beyond the no meat on Fridays rule, Lent can also pose a problem for the tradition of giving up a vice. In the past I have given up pop (yes, I said “pop”) three times, coffee and Red Bull once, and even fast food three times. My problem is that I get so used to not eating or drinking that thing that I forget to start doing it again when Lent is over. I also have a slightly weird superstition that I think it’s bad luck to break a streak, and if I have a streak of 40 days without caffeine, I see how long I can drag it out.

I gave up fast food for two years, two different times. I’ve given up pop now three times. The first was for three years (after downing thirteen wild cherry Pepsi the day before Lent in seventh grade). The second time was for three years in college. If I could have stayed on it the third time, I’d probably be like ten pounds lighter at least. In fact, I preempted Lent this year. As of early last June, I gave up coffee. As of early this January, I gave up Red Bull and pop again. Now I’m on a mission to give up fast food again. I also have one weird caveat: Subway is not fast food, as long as you stick to the items on those napkins that advertise the low-fat options.

So how can Lent play into things other than meat for dating? Well, if the person gives up chocolate, then you have to be careful with Valentine’s Day. From now until the year 2020 the earliest date that Easter falls on is March 23, next year. According to Wikipedia, that takes out chocolate for Valentine’s Day next year. Try explaining that to your sweetheart.

Until next week, keep livin’ strong and lastin’ long.

Things That Are Ridiculous and, Consequently, Sort of Amazing

by Michael Kourabas
Features Editor

We’ve all seen the campaign video (if not, please let it still be up at www.votearak.com), and, yes, it is amazing. It’s amazing in that “I can’t believe this is happening” kind of way. For those in the dark, it features our very own AKS, a horse, and Journey.

In a short few months AKS has become ubiquitous. Generally, ubiquity carries with it a negative connotation. Ubiquity leads to boredom, sensory overload, extremely high levels of anger, etc. We tire of things that are constantly thrown in our faces (save those dedicated tabloid readers). I tend to think that many view AKS in this way, and the campaign video may have just been more fuel on the fire for such folks.

However, I see it a bit differently. Read this, for example: http://www.yaledailynews.com/articles/view/16141 (thanks Pollard). The author pretty well captures the AKS persona (this time at Yale, functioning just as you’d imagine), and its ability to provide ample fodder for humor and gossip.

Face it: nothing happens in Williamsburg, nothing happens at William & Mary, and certainly nothing happens at Marshall-Wythe School of Law. AKS’s presence gives everyone something to talk about, and his antics only up the ante. What else would we be discussing? The recent SBA elections? Would anyone have mentioned anything about this meaningless event but for the presence of everyone’s favorite law school “villain”?

The great thing about the AKS phenomenon is its sincerity. The character genuinely cares about whatever it is he’s doing, and genuinely doesn’t care what you think about it. In this way, he has the potential to serve as a sort of quasi-hero to those with ambition but without the voice (or the requisite zeal to use it). He’s also the guy everyone loves to hate.

See, every community needs some such character. The one we lampoon. The one who never, ever, realizes that the joke’s on him (or her). We may say to ourselves or our classmates, “What is AKS thinking?” or “I’m just glad I’m not AKS” or “I want to rendition AKS to a black-site somewhere in Cairo.” But, in the end, doesn’t AKS get the last laugh?

The kid has book signings, for Pete’s sake. Can’t we appreciate the brilliance of that? Here’s a guy who has way too much to say, who absolutely relishes in the spotlight, and who gets to sit at the head of Continued on page 13
Amazing, continued from page 12

his own table at Barnes & Noble, waiting for people to show up so that he can sign their copies of the first ever rhetorical analysis of the Bush Administration’s case for the war in Iraq. So, while we sneer and scoff (and rightfully so) at whatever it is that AKS is up to this week, somehow I think the joke is on us.

“I may be a clown, but I’m still a person.” While half watching Lost and half reading for class this past Wednesday, a commercial for a breaking story on the “local news at eleven” caught my ear. All I heard was the aforementioned quote, so I made sure to catch the segment in its entirety.

Hilarity did in fact ensue. Evidently, the number for a woman-clown (probably in Newport News), named Spunky, accidentally appeared in the middle of the “Adult Entertainment” section of the local yellowpages, as opposed to where it belongs in (I think) the “Family Entertainment” section. Spunky’s ad was situated just below “Bare Assets,” which I took to be a service blatantly offering . . . sex for money. Is that even legal? It’s not clear.

Needless to say, Spunky has suffered her share of embarrassment and confusion in recent weeks. According to the sad clown, “Mostly people go right into it saying I want this, I want that.” One determined caller even asked if he could “have a full figured girl.” (Ironically, Spunky is quite the full-figured woman. The camera would have to add more than 10 lbs. for her to avoid this charge.)

In an attempt to rectify this situation, Spunky notified the phone company. Unfortunately, they were unresponsive to her complaints. To make matters worse, Spunky soon discovered that she was also listed on an internet database, as some sort of sex-clown.

Devastated, Spunky notified 13 News. And, in a heroic act of journalistic vigilance, News 13 was able to bully the phonebook website into removing the Spunky sex-clown ad. Nice work, 13! Clowns are people, too, you know.

Until next week, keep livin’ strong . . . oh wait, that’s not mine.

CANADIAN BACON: A Canuck in New Orleans

by Matt Dobbie
Staff Columnist

Two weeks ago, I did my part as a member of the William & Mary Moot Court Team and represented my school in a prestigious academic competition hosted by Tulane University. It was in New Orleans and coincided with Mardi Gras. Actually, now that I think about it, the tournament is probably not all that prestigious or academic. But it was a great excuse to get W&M to fund my trip. In order to try and prevent that money from being a complete loss (unlike our performance), I decided to write about it.

For those of you unfamiliar, Mardi Gras is French for “Fat Tuesday,” which is the final day before the Christian season of Lent: “Mardi” being the French word for Tuesday, and “Gras” being French for “festival when girls show their breasts for cheap plastic beads.” Although you wouldn’t know it now, the holiday is actually religious in origin. During the Middle Ages, Christians would give up sweet and fatty foods for Lent, and to prevent being tempted would cook them all up just prior to the Lenten period. This meant lots of sweet cakes and fatty foods being eaten, and the origin of the name Fat Tuesday.1 How this evolved into a season of debauchery I’m not entirely certain, but I’m willing to blame the French.

The tournament, if we went all the way to the finals, would have lasted three days. Unfortunately, we were eliminated after the second round, so it only lasted one. This left us in the unfortunate position of having to kill time in New Orleans during one of the biggest parties of the year, Quel Dommage. Dejected and depressed2 with our loss, we attempted to console ourselves with the sights and sounds of New Orleans.

The first bar we went to was a piano bar on Bourbon Street. It was quite the place, and in addition to playing various iconic rock songs, they also inexplicably played “God Save the Queen,” “O Canada,” and “The Star Spangled Banner.” I stood and sang along for the first two, but the not the third. Shockingly, everyone else in the bar did the opposite. Go figure. It was in this same bar that I discovered an interesting fact: While tourists may love New Orleans, New Orleans loves Journey. During the trip, every single bar I set foot into played Journey. No lie. Hell, one even played “Don’t Stop Believing” twice within an hour. I found a number of things confusing about New Orleans, but this was far and away the most perplexing. I still don’t understand it.3

Bourbon Street itself was also something to behold. Having never been to New Orleans before, I was expecting something out of Wild On!4 I was not disappointed. The first two nights we were there it wasn’t really worth writing home about it. But Friday night was another matter all together. It was beyond crazy—like Britney Spears shaving her head crazy. Massive drunkenness, nudity, strippers, and beads flying around like death from above. It reminded me of that scene The Ten Commandments just before Moses brings out the Ten Commandments, where the Israelites are having a massive orgy and worshiping a golden calf. Just complete and utter debauchery.

While you can get the rough idea by watching TV, you really don’t pick up on the little things until you actually get there. One is the throwing of beads: For reasons I can’t explain, people really want beads, and yet they’re constantly give them away. It’s bizarre, and they’re not always friendly about it either—more than a few people are tossing beads like Roger Clemens throws fastballs. I saw one girl take a string of beads in the head and drop like she got shot. It was sad, and it looked painful, and yet at the same time it was absolutely hilarious.

One other thing you don’t see on TV is the surprisingly large number of evangelical Christians on Bourbon Street. They’re out there holding large wooden crosses and passing out pamphlets. One even had a scrolling marquee sign.5 Don’t get me wrong, I’m a fairly religious person, but I can’t think of a bigger waste of time than to be preaching the Gospel to a crowd whose immediate goals are (a) getting drunk, (b) seeing naked girls, and (c) getting more drunk. You’d have more success teaching donkeys to read than gaining converts on Bourbon Street.

Anyway, that’s my report on New Orleans. It was certainly a week to remember, and even better because it was on the school’s dime. See you in a month.

1 Well, perhaps a tad concise, that’s as good a history of Lent and Shrove Tuesday as you’ll find in any student-run law school paper.
2 By dejected and depressed I mean ridiculously ecstatic.
3 Don’t get me wrong, Journey are a solid band and “Don’t Stop Believing” is classic song. It’s great for both sporting events and cheesy political ads. But honestly, I heard it so much you would have thought Steve Perry was the mayor of New Orleans.
4 Wild On! of coursing being the greatest travel show of all time.
5 Its message was “Repent now or burn in hell, sinners.” Which when you think about it really dovetails quite nicely into Jesus’s message of peace, love, and forgiveness.
The Real World of Virginia: Alan Kennedy Shaffer Reports from Richmond on the Jefferson Jackson Dinner

by Alan Kennedy-Shaffer
Features Editor

When was the last time three Virginia governors, two United States senators, and scores of elected officials appeared on the same stage to herald the “march of victory”? When was the last time they were all Democrats?

On Feb. 17, thousands of Democrats from across the state convened in the former capital of the Confederacy to hear speeches by Richmond mayor and former Governor L. Douglas Wilder, Senator Jim Webb (D-VA), former Governor Mark Warner, Governor Tim Kaine, and Senator Barack Obama (D-IL).

This year’s Jefferson-Jackson Dinner brought together a record number of Democratic legislators, donors, activists, and interns, including Carolyn Fiddler (3L), for a night of revelry and rhetoric. Referring to the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, Kaine described how the story of our country is the story of a welcome and opening capacity to dream big dreams.

“Love Triangle” art by Carolyn Fiddler.

Endorsed earlier in the day by Governor Kaine, Senator Barack Obama drew a standing ovation as he ascended the steps to the stage with his wife Michelle. The couple looked young and vibrant, the perfect picture of a presidential pair. Decked out in a black suit with a white shirt and blue tie, the presidential candidate looked dashing with the governor on his left and his wife on his right.

Obama began his address slowly, thanking Governor Kaine and the rest of the Democratic leadership in Virginia for inviting him to the biggest Democratic dinner in the country. He emphasized that his administration will concentrate on inclusion, investment, and education in the coming year.

Referring to the story of a welcome and opening, Obama reminded listeners that the end of the story is not yet written: “There is more work to be done . . . and Democrats need to do it.”

Because a few courageous Americans have had the “audacity to hope,” Obama continued, our nation no longer lives half slave and half free. Over the last few years, however, “we seem to have lost the capacity to dream big dreams.”

America must regain the audacity of hope, said Obama, a challenge that will help the country come up with creative ways to provide all Americans with basic medical care, ensure that all children have access to high-quality schools, and find new sources of energy so that Americans no longer “fund both sides of the War on Terrorism.”

The presidential hopeful challenged Bush’s plan to escalate the Iraq War by sending more troops to Baghdad, declaring the conflict a “war that should never have been authorized and that should have never been waged.” The nation needs a national security strategy for the twenty-first century, Obama said, and that means “bringing our troops home.”

With “unfinished business” in Afghanistan, Obama remarked, the nation can ill afford to continue fighting a losing battle in Iraq, a battle with no end in sight. “What sets America apart is the power of our ideals and projecting those ideals all around the world,” Obama asserted, stirring the crowd to passion.

“Pointing out that the United States started with a Constitution stained by slavery,” Obama reminded the audience that inequality has often given way to hope and progress. “Somebody noticed,” Obama explained. “Somebody agitated, somebody pushed . . . people marched and agitated until we arrived at a more perfected union.”

Continued on page 15
A Letter From The Chief Justice of the Honor Council

As a means of eliminating conflicts of interest, the Honor Council has been given the duty of running the SBA Elections. To further this goal and to keep the administration of the elections more efficient, the Honor Council has set up a committee who oversees the elections. This committee sets up the rules, accepts the intent to run forms, answers questions about campaigning, and counts the votes, along with a member of the SBA, at the end of each election. We have election rules as a way of keeping the administration of the elections more efficient, the goal and to keep the administration of the elections more efficient, the goal of the Honor Council.

I realize that we have just finished the elections for this year, and I would just like to congratulate all of those who won and thank all of those who ran. I am writing this letter to address the Honor Council’s role in the election process, to summarize the beginning stages of an Honor Investigation, and to make some final statements before the end of my term.

As a means of eliminating conflicts of interest, the Honor Council has been given the duty of running the SBA Elections. To further this goal and to keep the administration of the elections more efficient, the Honor Council has set up a committee who oversees the elections. This committee sets up the rules, accepts the intent to run forms, answers questions about campaigning, and counts the votes, along with a member of the SBA, at the end of each election. We have election rules as a way of keeping the campaign fair for all of those who are interested in running. While we do keep in mind that candidates will have innovative ways of campaigning, the rules are set as a way of giving all those running for a position equal access to the student body. Each election produces new ideas and new concerns. That is why we have an information meeting at the beginning of each campaign period. If there are any questions about the rules, the Election Committee is more than willing to answer them. At the end of the rules form is a statement that reads, “If you aren’t sure about something, please contact [the members of the Election Committee] beforehand . . . it is better to ask for permission than beg for forgiveness.” As a check to this, the Election Committee has a general policy of inclusion. The committee wants to give everyone who has put forth the effort to run the chance to experience fully the election process.

The Honor Council is also in charge of addressing all accusations of honor violations. This is a matter that we take seriously. With various competitions under way and exams coming up in the next months, I just wanted to remind everyone of the process of initiating an accusation of an honor code violation. The Honor Council addresses matters of lying, cheating, plagiarism, and stealing. Lying is the expression of a material untruth made with the intent to mislead another or with reckless disregard for the truth of the matter asserted. Cheating is the act of wrongfully using or taking the ideas or work of another in order to gain an unfair advantage. Plagiarism, which is included in cheating, occurs when a student, with the intent to deceive or with reckless disregard for proper scholarly procedures, presents any information, ideas, or phrasing of another as if they were his or her own and does not give appropriate credit to the original source. Stealing is the intentional taking or appropriation of the property of another without consent or permission and with the intent to keep or use the property without the owner’s or the rightful possessor’s permission.

To initiate an accusation there must be a good faith belief that a violation has occurred. First, the accuser must personally confront the accused. A satisfactory explanation of the circumstances that brought the accusation. If the explanation addresses the concern satisfactorily, then the matter must be dropped. However, if the explanation is unsatisfactory, or if there is no explanation given, the accuser must personally accuse the student of a violation of the Honor Code and offer the student the option of either resigning from the school or reporting himself to the Chief Justice of the Honor Council within twenty-four hours after the personal accusation. Within this twenty-four hour period, the accuser must reduce the charge to writing and deliver the accusation to the Chief Justice of the Honor Council. If there has been an unsuccessful good faith attempt to confront the accused, the accuser must reduce the accusation to writing and deliver it to the Chief Justice of the Honor Council. Following the delivery of the accusation, the Honor Council then begins its process of an Honor Investigation. As papers, exams, and assignments come due, it is important to keep in mind the tenets of the Honor Code—directing your own behavior and also should you witness questionable behavior of others. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the Honor Council members in person, or you can contact us at our e-mail address, lawhorn@wm.edu.

I would like to thank the SBA for choosing me as the Chief Justice. It was a job that I took seriously and with a mind open to new ideas. I wish the best of luck to the Chief Justice who will be succeeding me. You have a big job in front of you. Just remember to trust your justices; they will support you. I want to say thank you to the justices who worked with me this term. You all were a valuable resource of knowledge and ideas. I appreciate all of the effort that you put into this term and I wish nothing but the best for all of you.

And finally, as my final days here at Marshall-Wythe approach, I would just like to say goodbye and good luck to everyone. It has been memorable.

Sincerely,
Leondras J Webster
The SBA Source

by Wes Allen
SBA Vice President-Elect

SBA/LGLA Tolerance Dialogue: Faculty and students alike attended Tuesday’s “Tolerance Dialogue of Sexual Orientation and Related Diversity” event, hosted by SBA and LGLA. The panel, assembled by Professor Grover, included Professor Douglas, Professor Kades, and Felicia Brown-Anderson and Carina Sudarsky-Gleiser from the William & Mary Counseling Center. Together students and faculty members, including Dean Reveley, Dean Shealy, and Dean Kaplan, reflected on the events surrounding the LGLA Board’s vandalism this fall and the strong reaction from the school to unify during this act of intolerance. Students from the Christian Legal Society, LGLA, and other student organizations agreed that Marshall-Wythe is a welcoming, inclusive community, and we must continue to uphold this atmosphere in light of this isolated event of intolerance. Through an extensive brainstorm of how to inculcate this feeling of solidarity and tolerance in our incoming 1Ls, students and faculty gave the administration many ideas to execute this goal. One of these ideas was to incorporate a session during law camp, highlighting the pride we take in creating an inclusive, welcoming, tolerant community. Other ideas included having multicultural organizations host social events during law camp. If you would like to add any insight or suggestions on how the administration should proceed in maintaining the strong sense of community, please e-mail Kerry Loughman-Adams (keloug@wm.edu) or Jenny Case (jgcase@wm.edu).

Congratulations to the 2007-2008 Student Bar Association:

President: Sarah Fulton
Vice President: Wes Allen
Secretary: Jenny Case
Treasurer: Brandi Zehr

3L Reps: Scott Miller and Nathan Pollard
2L Reps: Kerry Loughman-Adams and Chris Crawford

The new SBA administration has many upcoming events in the works. We are working on a Spring Bar Crawl and obtaining an ATM for the school, and we will soon be appointing the 2007-2008 Honor Council and other SBA-appointed positions.

The First 100 Hours of Premier Fulton's Glorious Reign Over Her Grateful and Willing Subjects

by Rob Thomas
Contributor (Who Demands to be Called a “Gadfly”)

February 14, 2007. It is appropriate that Premier Sarah Fulton1 (may good fortune fall upon Her like 1,000 cherry blossoms in an autumn squall) ascended to power on the day when the people celebrate their love for one another, for that is what She offers us, my brothers and sisters. She offers us love, service, and progress; all in exchange for naught but our unquestioning fealty.

In a deafening expression of solidarity, the proletariat granted Our Leader the premiership with nary a dissenting voice. That’s right, my friends, Premier Fulton received 100% of the votes cast, a true mandate from the people. Within her first 100 hours as the head of both the Student Bar Association and the Fultonite Party, she took this mandate to her bosom, and we, comrades, shall reap the benefits.

Her first act as Premier (or, She Upon Whom the Sun Shines Brightest), was to establish a sensible system of Ministries with which She will effectively transform her enlightened visions into reality.

The Ministry of Truth, of which I have been appointed Secretary, serves to provide the people with complete, balanced, and thorough information concerning both the Association and the Party. We are responsible for ensuring that literature and media disputing the Premier’s Divine Will are eradicated from existence. Of particular interest to the Ministry of Truth are materials suggesting that Our Leader faced “opposition” to Her march towards absolute victory. Such a notion, as we all know, is utterly ludicrous.

The Ministry of Bar Review evaluates the various locations suitable for the Fultonite Party’s Thursday ritual and, as it has always ever been, concludes that the Hospitality House is the ideal venue for such social endeavors. Mike Ourabas, after being on vacation for 3-5 days, emerged from the Ministry and had this to say: “I love the HoHouse.2 The line policy ensures the safety of the patrons within, the drink prices are fair, and the bartenders are courteous, prompt, and efficient. I love karaoke too. I love dancing. I love dancing to karaoke.”

Most importantly, the Ministry of Love consists of the Premier’s enforcement branch, The Gentle Fist, and Her correctional department, The Velvet Glove. The Gentle Fist’s responsibilities include neutralizing the lingering dissidents who would besmirch the gifts the Premier has bestowed upon us. Yes, comrades, unfortunately, there are poor, misguided souls who do not appreciate how lucky we are to have Premier Fulton (from whom all blessings flow), and it is our duty as Citizens of the Association to do away with such undesirable elements.

Citizen Will Federspiel recently received the Fultonite Medal of Valor for reporting the traitor, Asim Hemant Modi, for shouting the following obscenities in public: “Freedom of Choice! A-K-S!” The first assertion is preposterous enough, but the letters are truly absurd and mean nothing at all.3 Traitor Modi was tenderly led away in one of the Party’s Ebony Satchels of Healing for reconditioning within The Velvet Glove. Today, Modi is a much more compliant member of our society, and is even in charge of organizing the Association’s annual Crawling of the Bars for next year. Any suspicious activity should be reported immediately to the Grand Marshall of The Gentle Fist, Wes Allen.

The activities of The Velvet Glove are, for the time being, classified. Rest assured, The Velvet Glove loves you.

Unfortunately, the radiance and wonder of the first 100 hours were sullied by violence and discord. The alleged “opponent” of Premier Fulton and his subordinates attempted to meet Her in battle in the Sunken Gardens. The wretched unbelievers nonsensically cried “A-K-S,” while throwing small candy bars at Our Leader’s mighty war machines. Premier Fulton (may Her enemies suffer her burning wrath) and her unstoppable Army of the Golden Path met the “opponent’s” pitiful rabble and, like Lewis Carroll’s young protagonist, painted the roses red,4 with blood.

The 100th hour ticked to its inexorable end just as She Who Shall Reign For Eternity raised the “opponent’s” severed head in front of the survivors of The Battle of the Sunken Gardens.4 The ensuing thunderous applause signified the death of pesky, childish notions of democracy and heralded a new age of peace, stability, and prosperity. Hail, hail!

1 Premier of the Student Bar Association, Secretariat of the Fultonite Party, Supreme Cardinal of the Fultonite Sectarians.
2 The Ministry of Truth does not condone such a vulgar euphemism for the Holiest of Watering Holes, and Mr. Ourabas has since been corrected, permanently.
3 You have been warned.
4 Remember our fallen comrades: Megan Erb (2L), Trey Howard (3L), David Bules (2L), Liz McElroy (3L), Dave Thomas (1L) (oh cousin, you did not die in vain).