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Clerks chasing an elusive buck

Law clerks are having to use some finesse to score decent wages these days. How to get \$15 when they want to pay you \$8. **LAW, PAGE 2**



Diapers over depositions

Maureen DeVito '97, on why she chose volunteering and staying home with the kids over becoming an attorney. **CAREER, PAGE 6**



Joe Sixpack's blues

Standing in line at the all-night Kmart and clutching a package of underwear, 4L Dan Pope began to do some soul-searching. Here's what he found — low-down. **OPINION, PAGE 8**



THE GAVEL

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 2 ■ NOVEMBER 2000

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT CLEVELAND-MARSHALL COLLEGE OF LAW

2L candidates juggle jobs, law and high-stakes campaigning

By Clare Taft

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While most Cleveland-Marshall students are finding it difficult to make time for sleep, two students are fitting bids for public office into their already-busy schedules.

Between briefing cases and studying, 2Ls Brian Hodous and Gordon Short enjoy shaking hands and kissing babies as they prepare for lives in politics.

Gordon Short

Short, a part-time 2L, was always interested in public service and found opportunity in the Cuyahoga County treasurer position. He said he saw his day job as a CPA as the perfect springboard into the treasurer's race.

"I wanted to get into politics where I could have the best impact," Short said. "I considered running for office before. This race came up a few years ahead of schedule, but it is the sort of See **CANDIDATES**, page 3



ED PEKAREK—GAVEL

American Indian civil rights attorney Lawrence Baca retold the story of his troubled youth at the Hate Crimes Symposium on Oct. 20.

Speakers tackle hatred, hecklers

GAVEL STAFF

The day was not without incident, but for the most part Cleveland-Marshall's first-ever Hate Crimes Symposium went off without a hitch.

Highlighted by the return of Justice Department attorney Lawrence Baca, the daylong symposium on Oct. 20 also

featured moving presentations by professor Karin Mika and a relative of James Byrd Jr., the Texas man killed by white supremacists. The event's publicity and the arrival of two supremacists drew controversy.

Turn to page 4 for more on the symposium by contributing writer Ed Pekarek.

Students lure Citizen Ralph

3L Vaughn, 2L Lukas Jackson bring Nader to campus for campaign stop

By Tricia Hurst

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Consumers equal voters. At least that's what Ralph Nader is counting on this Nov. 7.

Nader, the legendary consumer rights advocate and presidential candidate for the Green Party, was at Cleveland State Oct. 26 to bring his message of reform to students.

It's no small feat to get a presidential candidate to speak on a campus. Those who saw Nader have two Cleveland-Marshall students to thank for bringing him here: Asian-Pacific Islanders Law Student Association president Ann Vaughn, a 3L, and Student Public Interest Law Organization president Jennifer Lukas Jackson, also a 2L.

Vaughn began working to



E. PEKAREK

Ralph Nader

bring Nader to CSU in July when she discovered he had an afternoon gap in his schedule after a speech as part of the Town Hall series in Cleveland.

After getting the required permission to bring him here, she began running into trouble with Nader's national organization. Dean Steven Steinglass suggested she contact SPILO for help. It turned out that Lukas Jackson is a friend of the national field director for Nader's campaign.

Even though Lukas Jackson See **NADER**, page 4



By KELLY JOHNSON

Online research

Online research assistance is available from the Westlaw and Lexis student representatives.

Westlaw reps: Lindsay Clayton and Marquetta Johnson, both 2Ls. They assist students with everything from searching for case law to printing to passwords. Their hours are posted in the Westlaw printer room, but they also answer e-mails immediately.

Lexis rep: Otto Elkins, a 3L. He can be found in the computer lab Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1-3 p.m. and Wednesday from 10 a.m.-noon. Students can train on Lexis one-on-one with Elkins or enroll in Lexis' new free certification program.

Helpful tips: Visit WWW.LAWSCHOOL.LEXIS.COM for more tips. Get free outlines, enter contests and check out local information via the "My School" link. If you have a Westlaw question and neither rep is available, call Westlaw attorneys directly on the blue phone near the computer lab printers.

Local NAACP chief, Jewish leader join forces

Blacks, Jews must work together to combat future racism, say Forbes and Melamed in talk at C-M

By Michelle Tibbetts

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Blacks and Jews — two historically oppressed and fractious groups — should unite for the same cause, according to two local leaders who met in a forum here on Oct. 24.

Former Cleveland councilman and local NAACP president George Forbes joined Alan Melamed, a local business leader and Jewish advocate, to discuss the relationship between blacks and Jews as part of a joint presentation of Cleveland State's Black Studies Program and the Cleveland Hillel Foundation.

Both Forbes and Melamed began their speeches by recounting



NAACP

George Forbes

two examples of overt racism from their childhoods. Melamed explained that as a boy he recited the rhyme, "Eenie meenie minie moe, catch a nigger by the toe" — not knowing what "nigger" meant. And Forbes recalled a nonsense rhyme that ended with, "If your daddy chews tobacco, he's a dirty Jew."

Forbes said anti-Semitic blacks cannot resolve being anti-Jewish today.

"If you are anti-Jewish, how do you defend yourself against anti-black sentiments?" he asked. "Those who have suffered from discrimination or had to fight their way to this point can't turn [their

backs on where [they have] been."

The common experience of living through prejudice can bring Jews and blacks together, according to Melamed. The two groups share the history of slavery, the effort to achieve freedom and the need to continue their struggle.

"There is a natural affinity between blacks and Jews," Melamed said. "If anybody should be joined together, they should."

Forbes added: "If we are going to rise, we've all got to rise together."

Forbes was asked what role C-M students can play in politics as he left the moot court room following the hour-long discussion.

"Law students and young attorneys can have the most profound impact on the political process. In many ways, they *are* the process," he responded.

Trying to keep communication flowing freely

By Steven H. Steinglass

In a school as full of activity as ours, it is especially important that we listen to and hear one another. The *Gavel* is doing a great job in this regard. When the editors gave me a list of some of the topics to be touched on in this issue, I found it an impressive array of subject matter.



The Dean's Column

I look forward to reading about the Hate Crimes Symposium, law students running for public office, law clerk wages, an alumna's column on volunteering and raising a family and a minority student's op-ed. These are voices we need to hear: many perspectives on many topics. For communicating well is one of the ways we learn from one another how to build a stronger law school.

In the past few years, we have worked hard to create new and efficient channels of communication. "News to Note," our e-mail calendar and our Web site's "Public Events and News" keep us up to date on coming events. "The Bar Tender" provides crucial advice to students preparing for the bar exam. The career planning office posts jobs on its Web site, and through e-mail and leaflets we learn of the pro bono program's projects. Several law school brochures — the visiting scholars brochure and the criminal justice forums, for instance — give us notice of speakers and conferences.

The law school walls are regularly papered with announcements; we keep students abreast of these events by stuffing your mailboxes and sending e-mail reminders. Your professors discuss their research topics through the faculty speakers series, and every student receives the twice-a-year publication of the law alumni association, *Law Notes*, which features a dean's column, reviews of the previous semester's events, profiles of faculty, staff, students and alumni, as well as articles on law school history.

All of these are instances of us telling and our students listening. When do *students* have a turn at telling? There are many opportunities for lively exchanges and discussion during the dean's forums, my visits to SBA, my meetings with student leaders and our annual dinner together at Viking Hall. And I hope all students understand that I encourage them to come by my office for a talk.

Bulletin boards filled with news and information, an informative Web site, memos, reminders, brochures, leaflets, a prize-winning student newspaper and provocative e-mail messages — these are signs of a vibrant academic community where much is accomplished and more and more is anticipated.

Steinglass is dean of C-M.

Be prepared to chase the buck

For many law clerks, making ends meet means asking for more pay

By Dave Steiner

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Student law clerks face tough financial decisions when they apply for clerking positions. Often, they choose to postpone rent rather than pass up the résumé-builder.

What is a fair rate of pay for a student law clerk? According to Office of Career Planning Director Jayne Geneva, law clerk positions in Northeast Ohio pay anywhere from \$6 to \$30 an hour, averaging roughly \$15 an hour. She noted that smaller firms have recently experienced difficulty finding law clerks at an hourly rate of \$8, given that students now find they can earn the same wage at McDonald's.

To some college-educated law students, \$8 an hour is insulting — especially when they have the capability to perform complicated legal research and writing that only a tiny percentage of the population can understand. Others consider low wages an example of students paying their dues before graduation, after which lawyers typically make substantially more.

Geneva said law firms generally bill clients for the work of a law clerk at five times the rate of what the clerk earns. But she was quick to point out that, much like lawyers' hourly rates, many hours of a law clerk's



Part-time 4L Dan Pope shows little concern over what his employer charges clients for his work.

"I have no idea at what rate they bill me out to clients," he said. "Quite honestly, I don't care. I think it's a mistake for a clerk to get caught up in how much profit a firm makes on them if they are getting paid enough to make ends meet."

Still, the question remains: Who can make ends meet for \$8-\$10 an hour while paying law school tuition?

Those applying for clerking positions who are on a tight budget should be prepared to negotiate. According to Geneva, it is important for students to stress to employers why they are worth more than the rate of pay advertised for the position.

"I do not suggest asking in terms of your own personal need for more money," she said. "This opens up a can of worms about your financial responsibility." But she stressed that students should be prepared to walk away from the job if the pay is not increased.

Another tool Geneva suggested for the negotiating process involves inquiring about performance reviews and salary adjustments after the first two to three months on the job.

Pope is one example of a clerk with a successful negotiating story. After selling his strengths, he told a prospective employer what amount he needed to make ends meet. His firm then offered him the position at the midpoint of his requested pay range — and agreed to cover his health insurance, an unlikely prospect for most clerks.

"I can tell you it is an unusual deal in this town," he said.

It is important for prospective law clerks to emphasize why they are worth more than the advertised pay rate.

time cannot be billed to the client.

"The billing is the only income to cover all office expenses, library updates and salaries," she explained. "While the rates may seem high, they are usually designed to meet expenses."

But one anonymous 2L said her firm tends to bill clients for most of her working hours. She said her firm charges clients approximately seven times her hourly rate, which she admitted is "on the low end of the scale."

Seven tips for being mistaken as a normal person

By Melissa Stickney

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

You're a first-year law student and a few things have already been drummed into your head. You've already gleaned the importance of briefing cases, the preeminence of good grades and the necessity of having an impressive extracurricular activity on your résumé.

These simple, easy-to-follow steps are the traditional means for achieving excellence in law school and, eventually, landing a position with the perfect firm. Following them is, of course, easy as pie.

What you may not have learned — and what only the truly elite are able to achieve — is the ability to be mistaken for a normal person who just happens to be in law school. So listen up, 1L. If you can master the following seven habits, your future as a normal person will distinguish you from the mass of law school graduates who've checked their normalcy at the door.

1. Never do schoolwork on Friday or Saturday nights.

The rest of the world is relaxing, partying or eating. Get with the program and go out.

2. Watch at least one TV show regularly.



Next in a series

People gawk at you. You notice it at the grocery store, at the gas station, in your car. No one says word one to you. *You are a law student.* Sound familiar? Here's how to blend in with the crowd.

Preferably it should be a show with a ridiculous premise that has no connection whatsoever to the real world or the law (no "Ally McBeal!"), such as "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," the "X-Files" or "South Park." The ability to discuss a mindless show is a sure sign of normalcy.

3. Treat yourself to real-world rewards for even the slightest accomplishment.

Read the *Palsgraf* case? Finished a legal writing assignment? Treat yourself and one of your fellow students to a couple of beers in the Warehouse District, buy yourself a pair of shoes at Nordstrom or check out the latest action flick. Participation in the real-world pleasures of consumerism — on a school night, no less — is a rare sign of

normalcy. No one will ever suspect you're in law school.

4. One day per month, pretend you're not a law student.

This involves doing no law homework, peppering your vocabulary with the words "like" and "you know," walking the dog in the Metroparks, going out with non-law friends until the wee hours and pretending you're planning to sleep in the next day. The day must be totally wasted to pass the normalcy test.

5. Read non-law books and an occasional trashy magazine.

Pick up the latest Stephen King novel or *Glamour* and scare yourself silly either way. The rush of adrenaline from reading non-law material will result in productive study energy the

next day. Plus, such reading obviously passes the normalcy test: Normal people would never willingly read anything that contains words like "demurrer" and "stare decisis."

6. Spend some time with your family.

Normal people don't merely do this on traditional family holidays. Impress your family by coming home without your law books, helping Mom in the kitchen, pattering in the yard with Dad and picking on your little sister. Your family will worry, of course, that you've dropped out of law school since you're acting so normal ... but that's the whole point.

7. Talk on the phone for more than an hour with your old college friend in California.

There's nothing like gossiping and reminiscing with a good friend to remind you that knowing the holding of *Hawkins v. McGee* is really insignificant in the bigger picture. Normal people have perspective and can talk long-distance for hours — guilt-free. The ability to choose AT&T over contracts is a sure sign you haven't succumbed to the dark side of law school drudgery.

Stickney is a 2L.

SBA doles out uniform grants to student groups

In an effort to improve fairness and replace what was a more arbitrary funding process, the Student Bar Association has revamped the way it distributes money to student organizations.

Under previous years' funding procedures, organizations were required to submit projected expenses for the full year, which SBA would consider prior to allocating the funds.

This year, each qualifying organization has been given a \$375 start-up grant for general office expenses. For additional funds, SBA instructed the organizations to submit grant proposals detailing each event planned for the first semester.

"The new system gives every organization the opportunity to be the best and most active group on campus," explained 3L

Maureen Connors, a member of SBA's budget committee.

To qualify, organizations were required to send representatives to an initial funding meeting earlier this semester. SBA reminded the representatives that funding for specific projects would be weighted based on whether the event is open to all students and is on campus.

To receive money for second semester, organizations must again submit grant proposal forms by Dec. 1 and attend a funding meeting on Dec. 3.

2Ls represent C-M in international competition — Cleveland-Marshall 2Ls Mat Rieger and Pete Holdsworth argued this weekend at the annual International Environmental Moot Court Competition at Stetson



College of Law in St. Petersburg, Fla. They battled 20 teams from the United States and overseas.

Rieger and Holdsworth won the chance to compete in June by submitting the best briefs to the International Law Students Association, a C-M student club.

Results from the Stetson competition were not known as of this printing.

Moot Court Night set for Nov. 8 — C-M students will be able to watch the moot court team at work during its annual Moot Court Night, this year

scheduled for Nov. 8. The event is a dress rehearsal for two C-M teams chosen to go to the national competition in mid-November.

The teams will argue against each other in front of a panel consisting of Judges Alice M. Batchelder and Timothy E. McMonagle from the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and Chief Judge Paul R. Matia from the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

Moot Court Night is open to the public. A wine-and-cheese reception will follow.

A modern twist on contracts law — Contracts and commercial law students should see changes in the way their professors define "signature" nowadays.

On Oct. 1, the Electronic

Signatures in Global and National Commerce ("E-Sign") Act took effect. Signed by President Clinton in June, E-Sign provides for the legal enforceability of otherwise proper electronic contracts and signatures arising in commercial transactions. The law grants electronic signatures and other legal instruments, such as records and contracts, the same status as those completed on paper, as long as the electronic version of the document can be secured and accurately reproduced.

Utility cancellations, health or life insurance cancellations, eviction notices, testamentary documents, court orders, product recalls and hazardous material shipments must continue to be documented in paper form.

— Gavel staff

CANDIDATES: Short, Hodous live three lives — law, work, politics

Continued from page 1 —
position I am prepared for."

Attending Cleveland-Marshall influenced Short's desire to enter politics. "Law school has given me a thorough understanding of the laws and legislature," he explained.

Short admits the election cuts into his studying time, but he has learned to balance work, school and the campaign. "You have to prioritize things. Certain weeks my job takes precedence, and sometimes school does," he said. "Right now, the election is most important."

With Election Day looming, Short's time is increasingly being spread thin. "It's like a second job you don't get paid for. I spend 25 to 30 hours per week on the campaign. My campaigning time has doubled since Labor Day."

The 26-year-old John Carroll University graduate decided to enter the treasurer's race in December 1999. Short, a Republican, faces Democratic incumbent James Rokakis. If elected, Short's term will begin Sept. 1, 2001.

"I will resign from my current job, but the treasurer position is a 9-to-5 job, so I can still continue with law school as an evening student," he said.

Short sees the trade-off between law school and campaigning as a give and take. "Some days law school is life, some days campaigning is easier. I enjoy both, and I have learned to take the good with the bad."

"If I don't win, I will be back for something else," he said. "It has to be the right opportunity. If the right opportunity arose again before I finish law school, I'll do what I'm doing right now all over again."

Brian Hodous

Although Hodous has with-

drawn from C-M with honorable status, he may return depending on where his political aspirations take him.

Hodous is currently campaigning for Cleveland City Council in his neighborhood of Old Brooklyn. Last year, he campaigned for the Ohio House of Representatives in the 13th District. His bid ended in March, when he lost the Democratic



Brian Hodous

primary to Mary Rose Oakar.

This summer Hodous decided to focus on the new campaign and put law school on hold. "I went back and forth for a while. I wasn't sure for a while, but the decision came fairly recently," he said.

While still attending C-M as a part-time evening student, Hodous spent more time on school than on his campaign. "I still brief all my cases, contrary to a lot of other people. They may not be good briefs — they're brief briefs — but I still did my reading," Hodous explained. "I was spending at least 12 hours each week on law school and eight to 10 hours per week on the campaign."

Hodous, a social worker working with mentally ill adults, finds connections between his work, law school and politics. "I like being a social worker, and law is an opportunity to advocate and make an impact on the system," said Hodous. "Social work makes an impact on individual people, and politicians can impact the system as a whole."

While Hodous does not think a law degree is a prerequisite for politics, he sees his experience in law school as a boon to his campaign. "Whether I finish my degree or not, it's helped sharpen my mind. Getting back to school gets your mind quicker to think in different ways and learn new things."

A career in politics is goal for Hodous. As an undergraduate at

Miami University, Hodous was a senator and vice president in the school government. "I excel at legislative positions. At Miami I enjoyed being senator much more than my executive position," he said. "As a legislator you can pick different issues and advocate them. The legislature is the most powerful branch of government, although no one legislator is very powerful."

While balancing politics and law school, Hodous found classes to be much easier but admitted that politics was more important to him. "There was not as much pressure in law school. I kept up with the reading, did my briefs and put a lot of time into my exams, but law is so structured," said Hodous. "The structure is what makes law school easier. Politics

is much more self-discipline."

Depending on what happens in next year's city council race, Hodous may return to C-M for spring semester 2002, most likely as a part-time student. "I am pretty excited about the city council race," said Hodous. "If I can win, I think I can be on city council for a long time. Council has a lot of young, dynamic people right now."

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Baca returns for first-ever Hate Crimes Symposium

Despite flare-ups, SPILO's forum showcases local, national activists for equal rights

By Ed Pekarek

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Teaching children tolerance and improving hate-crime reporting procedures emerged as common themes of the inaugural Hate Crimes Symposium, held in the moot court room on Oct. 20.

Analysis | With only a few disruptions, the student-sponsored symposium examined the causes of and solutions to discrimination, hate and xenophobia in the United States.

Keynote speaker Lawrence Baca, a senior trial attorney in the civil rights division of the Department of Justice who spoke at Cleveland-Marshall last year, was introduced by 1L Ilah Adkins, the only C-M student of American Indian descent. Baca's return was filled with his trademark charm, passion and disarming humor.

Baca is the first Harvard law graduate of Pawnee descent and a self-styled "storyteller in a suit." His tale was a touching timeline of personal and professional challenges in confronting the stereotypes and bias he has encountered throughout his life.

He began with stories of simple school bus tussles based on prejudice against American Indians and "Ugh," the pot-bellied, cartoon-like Indian who served as his high school mascot. Later he discussed the bias he experienced at Harvard and later at the Justice Department.

Baca attributes the student incidents to attitudes rooted in "cowboys and Indians" caricatures of 1950s television and film, analogizing the character "Tonto" with the black "Sambo."

He raised the emotional stakes of race hatred as he progressed, finishing his speech by describing vividly the 27 stab wounds of "white justice" his father received more than 40 years ago for seeking help in a whites-only bar when



Above: 2L Peter Traska, right, listens to one of two white supremacists discuss a widespread liberal media conspiracy during a break from the Oct. 20 Hate Crimes Symposium. Right: Juan Reyna lambasts Chief Wahoo.

ED PEKAREK—GAVEL (2)

he was stranded on a rural Colorado highway. Through tears, Baca said the attack has left multi-generational scars. He was given a standing ovation.

Professor Karin Mika launched the daylong event by presenting an often-ignored aspect of the Holocaust. Mika's family is Christian but her parents suffered six years in a concentration camp. Regrettably, Mika's comments, delivered to a near-capacity crowd, were the only ones of the day that received any measurable attendance from C-M faculty.

Bettysue Feuer from the Anti-Defamation League discussed the ADL's efforts in improving statistical reporting of hate crimes. She said that across America professionals in real estate, school systems and local politics squelch classification of acts as hate crimes.

"Some states like Alabama don't even bother to report [FBI hate crime statistics]," Feuer noted.

Sandra Holmes of the National Conference for Community and Justice, a gay-rights initiative, illustrated some of the many creative programs that exist to counter anti-

gay sentiment efforts. Ed Boyte of the Lesbian and Gay Community Service Center offered statistics that demonstrate an alarming increase in local attacks.

"Hate crimes tripled in Northeast Ohio between 1997 and 1999," he said.

Former Ohio ACLU director and C-M professor Kevin F. O'Neill described the "crippling blow to speech codes" rendered by the Supreme Court in *R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul*, while noting that statutes enhancing sentences for crimes based on hatred still thrive under *Wisconsin v. Mitchell*.

Gerald Henley, former president of the Cleveland School Board and a senior member of the NAACP, spoke about the pervasive "ripple effects of racism" and proffered a controversial legal concept — criminalization of any wrongful or constructive discharge based on aspects other than an employee's quality of work.



"Job discrimination is the foremost complaint the NAACP receives," Henley reported.

Henley introduced Rachel Stewart, a Clevelander and the grandniece of James Byrd Jr., the victim of a hate-inspired dragging death in Texas. Stewart's remarks were punctuated by chains resembling those used to murder her great uncle, stretched across the room while she spoke.

Juan Reyna of the Committee of 500 Years of Dignity & Resistance, a group that supports indigenous peoples' rights, cited conflicts of interest such as when a civil rights attorney worked for

past Cleveland Indians owner Richard Jacobs and when Bishop Anthony Pilla's "right-hand man" took offense to Reyna's organization, which publicly criticized the Catholic Diocese for not shunning the Chief Wahoo mascot.

The symposium was not without controversy. One member of C-M's faculty took umbrage with the use of a burning Celtic cross in the event's advertising. There was pressure to remove the symbol from all advertising prior to the conference. Organizers complied, blacking out the icon.

Student Public Interest Law Organization member and an event organizer Renni Zifferblatt took the symbol from a hate group Web site and explained that the cross represents white power groups.

Professor Tayyab Mahmud took issue with the development, angrily commenting at the onset of the conference that the censorship

was an abridgement of First Amendment rights.

Associate Dean Michael Slinger responded to the incident by e-mail: "I am sure that the person(s) who designed the poster in question meant no malice towards Catholics (I am a Catholic). I know that the purpose of the conference is to denounce hate and I am sure that all of the organizers are persons of good motivation."

Deans Steven Steinglass and Jack Guttenberg reportedly viewed the need to obscure the symbol as "ridiculous." The professor initially offended by the symbol later apologized, saying he was mistaken as to the symbol's meaning.

Two men sporting crewcuts and tatoos provided their version of "White Christian" viewpoints from the audience. One publicly denied any organizational affiliations, but in an earlier debate with 2L Peter Traska outside the forum, admitted to attending multiple Aryan Nation rallies. Baca and Henley expertly dispatched with their comments.

Deans discuss 1L grading, technology at forum

By Dave Steiner

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dean Steven Steinglass answered students' questions and spoke about the past, present, and future of Cleveland-Marshall at the dean's forum Oct. 12.

Permanent midterm grades for two-semester courses and a 90-credit-hour requirement for graduation are new curriculum changes affecting first-year students, Steinglass said. When students asked for the rationale behind the new permanent midterm grades, he said 1Ls should have a "clean slate" after midterms. Employers also want to see 1L grades when hiring clerks, he added.

Communication between students and the administration is required to improve the law school, Steinglass explained.

Recently expanded hours of the student services center and the addition of library laser printers a few years ago are both results of recent student-recommended improvements. Several technology improvements are slated for the library and some classrooms, according to Michael Slinger, associate dean and library director, who also spoke at the forum. The computers and monitors in the library computer lab will be upgraded, he said. Computers will be installed in the classroom on the second floor of the library and computer projectors will be installed in other classrooms in the law school.

When asked how these technology improvements will affect tuition, Steinglass said that tuition probably would continue to rise. He noted that funding for

state schools has become increasingly difficult to obtain.

Steinglass fielded a variety of other questions and concerns, including security issues about faulty outdoor campus lights near the main entrance and the safety of students crossing East 18th Street without a crosswalk to the business school. He said he would look into the report of the non-functioning lights. As for the need of a crosswalk to the business school, Steinglass noted that he has voiced his concern with the school's administration several times, but the city of Cleveland ultimately has the final say.

About 30 students and faculty members attended the second of two forums offered during the week of Oct. 9 in the moot court room.

NADER: Dark horse brought to campus by C-M students

Continued from page 1 —

smoothed the way, she pointed out that it was Vaughn who did all the legwork.

That work paid off when students filled the auditorium at the University Center last Thursday. There were relatively few sign-wavers in the crowd but plenty of enthusiasm.

Vaughn drove Nader from the Town Hall appearance and introduced him to the crowd. "I had the pleasure of bringing Ralph Nader in an American and union-made car with seatbelts," she explained.

Nader spoke directly to the law students in the audience when talking about corporate law and standardized contracts. He also discussed the environment and campaign finance.

He said he doesn't agree

with those who think he draws votes from Al Gore.

"The only person who can cost Gore votes is Gore," he said.

As the candidate for a lesser-known party, Nader said he sees little to distinguish Gore from George W. Bush. He said both are members of one corporate party.

"If you vote for the lesser of two evils, that still leaves you with evil," Nader said.

As for his own campaign contributions, Nader refuses to take PAC money and relies solely on individual contributions.

Vaughn and Lukas Jackson said the event should not be considered an endorsement by their organizations for either Nader or the Green Party.

Nader will be listed on Ohio ballots as an independent.

West ad

Another 'living document' — the class outline

By Karin Mika

Q: People keep telling me I should be outlining all throughout the semester, but I hardly know what's going on to be able to outline it. Is it best to put things together as you go along, or at the end of the semester when you have a chance to concentrate outside the day-to-day preparation of class?

A: Different people have different learning styles and are able to "master" information in varying increments. One of the mis-

apprehensions about law school (and about learning in general) is that an outline has definitive rules and that once you write it down on paper it's permanent and unchange-

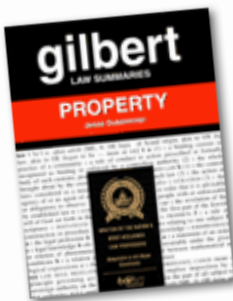
able — even if it's later discovered to be incorrect. An outline is no more than a processing of information that enables each individual to put some organization to what they've learned. It is a tool to organize an individual's thoughts rather than this creation (looking something like a Gilbert's outline) that has every conceivable correct answer to a test question.

To that end, the answer to your question is that it's best to do both — every once in a while, stop and organize what you think you've learned (even if it doesn't seem to be a whole lot), and then when the semester is over, try to organize the larger picture of the full semester's material. Additionally, there's nothing wrong with organizing your material in conjunction with a using commercial publication (such as a hornbook or Gilbert's) just so long as you use the materials only to clear up what you might be confused about rather than to eliminate the work involved in creating your own outline.

I might note that I have seen a variety of outlines students have used in preparing for exams. I, personally, had only a sketchy, one-page outline of each course that jogged my memory about a case or lecture. I had friends who learned by writing and re-writing text from lectures, supplements and other materials winding up with outlines well over 200 pages per class. I also had friends who tested successfully using no written outlines whatsoever. Keep in mind, however, that these latter people did not actually skip outlining. They merely parceled the knowledge as it came in and constructed their outlines mentally.

It all comes down to the same thing: organizing information in a way that is easiest for you alone to access in an exam setting.

Mika is the assistant director of legal writing at C-M.



Not the answer.

Legal Writing

Choosing suburbia over suits

Charity, motherhood outperform lawyering By Maureen DeVito

IF YOU READ THE BRIEF BIO BELOW, you should probably ask yourself, "What can I learn from a suburban mom with four little girls?" After graduation from Cleveland-Marshall, I voluntarily chose to trade in any thoughts of a sleek Lexus for a minivan filled with broken crayons, Barbie heads and pieces of french fries throughout. I have become the virtual reality of "There was an old woman who lived in a shoe."

Alumni Advice

Instead of working in a high-profile legal office, I play Ring around the Rosie, wipe runny noses, work a bit part-time from home on legal issues for my husband and volunteer whenever I get the opportunity.

In my limited "my time," I volunteer at St. Christopher School and at International Services Center doing immigration work for those who can't afford a private attorney. I'm the type that would rather spend free time helping the less fortunate than sipping margaritas by a sunny poolside.

I chose a career path a bit different than most of yours, but to me it's quite gratifying. Volunteer and non-profit work has made a positive difference in my life, and I'd suggest you find something you enjoy doing and volunteer in your area of interest. You may even be more fulfilled by volunteering than by the work you've actually accomplished.

Since you are busy with law school, extracurricular activities and family responsibilities, your ability to balance many activities will give you more time to volunteer. You may have more opportunity to give your time now than in the future, when you will be saddled with even greater responsibilities. Besides, volunteering is a great way to gain legal experience, develop professional connections, meet new friends and feel good about the work you are doing.

As a law student on the road to obtaining one of the more sought-after professional de-



You are not lucky, my priest says, but blessed. Use your talents, time and energy to help others.

grees, you are blessed. I used to think this a corny statement until I got a bit older. A dear friend of mine and older priest, Fr. Eldon Reichert, often corrected me by saying, "You are not lucky, but blessed."

You are in the process of obtaining one of the more highly acclaimed degrees and professional licenses. You have been given the intellect, skills and drive to be admitted to law school and eventually practice law. While only a select few students will have the opportunity to start at a six-figure salary, most of you will live quite comfortably.

Now and for the next several years, I hope

most of you will volunteer your skills in your community. C-M is regionally recognized as fostering a sense of community and encouraging volunteerism. Many of you already volunteer through C-M's pro bono programs and clinics. In fact, last year more than 20 percent of you volunteered for a total of more than 8,000 hours. In addition, many of you share your time and talents with your churches and other local organizations. Professors and staff at C-M can give you suggestions on organizations that need your help — today and in the future.

As a mother of four young children, I thoroughly enjoy getting out of the house to volunteer. A favorite organization of mine aside from the ISC is the Cleveland Foodbank. Opportunities to use your time and skills there vary: While the Foodbank needs packers, the ISC needs researchers to help with immigration issues. Call the Foodbank's Nancy Newman at (216) 696-6007 after organizing a group to repack food on Wednesday evenings; or see professors Pamela Daiker-Middaugh and Beverly Blair, who already have groups repacking in November. To join the immigration volunteers at ISC, call me at (440) 333-8762.

When I go to bed exhausted at night, humming Winnie the Pooh tunes, I'm grateful for the chance to be at home with my toddlers and thankful that I'm not on the recipient end of the volunteer efforts for the needy. In the meantime, I think my kids need to expand their musical horizons to fit my likes.



■ About Maureen DeVito:

DeVito is a 1997 C-M graduate. Prior to attending law school, she ran the first three Harvest for Hunger campaigns in Cleveland, raising \$3.5 million. She and her husband live in Rocky River

with her four girls, one of whom is adopted from China.

Personalities begin to emerge in Ohio court race

By Maureen Connors
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past term, the Ohio Supreme Court has held that property tax school funding and tort reform are unconstitutional — controversial decisions that make this year's race for the court the most important on the ballot, according to many Ohians.

Here is a brief biography of each judge running for the court:

Justice **Alice Robie Resnick** drafted the opinion of the court for the school-funding and tort-reform cases. Elected to the Supreme Court in 1988, Resnick received her J.D. from the University of Detroit and was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1965. After 10 years in practice, she was elected to the Toledo Municipal Court where she served until she was elected to the 6th District Ohio Court of Appeals in 1982.

Although her commercials say she is independent and above party politics (as required by judicial ethics), Resnick has come under fire for being a member of many Democratic clubs.

She helped create Toledo's Crime Stoppers program in



1981. Her advocacy of gender fairness and women's education has earned her recognition by the Ohio Women's Bar Association, which continues to award the "Alice Robie Resnick Distinguished Attorney Award" to other attorneys in her honor.

Her challenger, Cleveland native and 8th District Ohio Court of Appeals Judge **Terrence O'Donnell**, commits to bring integrity to our high court. "Preferred" over Resnick by the Cleveland Bar Association, he is



While incumbent Resnick (above) has made national headlines fighting her opponent, Black (left) has barely made a peep fighting his.

a graduate of St. Edward High School.

O'Donnell earned a J.D. in 1971 from Cleveland-Marshall. He serves on numerous committees and commissions, including the Supreme Court's commission for professionalism, the Ohio Legal Rights Commission and the Public Awareness Advisory Committee.

Justice **Deborah Cook** is also running for re-election to the Supreme Court, where she has been since 1995. After receiving her J.D. in 1978 from the University of Akron, Cook practiced in Akron until she was elected to the 9th District Ohio Court of Appeals in 1991.

Serving on numerous community and public commissions, Cook is a member of the Ohio

Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management. She has 13 siblings — making her a natural at dispute resolution.

Cook is rated "excellent" by the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and "preferred" by the Cleveland Bar Association.

Challenging her is Judge **Timothy Black**. A 1975 Harvard University graduate, Black attended Chase College of Law in Kentucky while teaching full-time. He received his J.D. in 1983 and was elected judge of Hamilton County Municipal Court in 1994.

Rated the top judge in a lawyers' poll by the Cincinnati Bar Association, Black has the largest criminal docket in the state. He is an advocate for victims of domestic violence and trains police officers and other judges on the law. He was awarded for his efforts from the Cincinnati Coalition on Domestic Violence.

Black's vision is to rebuild neighborhoods by advocating for children, schools and victims of crime. In the right circumstances, he favors treatment of drug addicts in lieu of incarceration.

PMBR ad

A torch song for part-time 4Ls: the Joe Sixpack Blues

By Dan Pope
STAFF WRITER

It's after midnight at the 24-hour Kmart. I'm behind Joe Sixpack in the checkout line. Joe is giving me an incredulous look. My suit is out of place here and the sixpack I'm holding is underwear rather than beer. I don't know what problem Joe thinks I have. But I know it's law school.

Once again my schedule hasn't allowed a change of clothes from morning to the last hours of the night. My sink is full of dishes. The fridge is empty except for condiments. It takes less time to buy new underwear than wash all the laundry overflowing the hamper. So here I am with Joe.

I work full time while taking night classes. I was aware it would be a big commitment when I signed up. Class is a chunk of life I'll never get back but preparation for exams is where the effort lies. I can't imagine how much time it would take to actually do all the reading assigned.

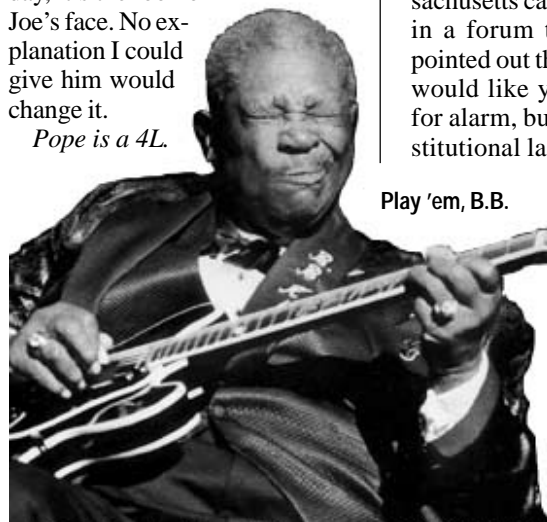
I didn't realize what I would give up for law school. My nephew jumped straight from diapers to kindergarten. I ceased to exist to friends outside school. My dog is happier living with my parents.

For all the things I've given up I've gained a few in return. Interesting new friends. A heightened appreciation for a good night's sleep. The ability to see negative experiences in a positive light. There's nothing like getting your nose bloodied in verbal fisticuffs with a professor or classmate to permanently cement a point of law. (Thanks, Lew. Thanks, Dave. I get it now.)

Most of us have never worked as hard for a such long time to achieve a goal. It's easy to focus so completely on getting it over with that the process of getting there becomes disheartening.

For me, the key to sanity is finding value in the day. Whether it is the palpable feeling of relief when the guy next you gets called on, a good story shared by a classmate or the satisfaction of doing well on an exam doesn't matter. Just find one thing each day to keep it from blurring into the sustained effort of the next or the last. Today, it's the look on Joe's face. No explanation I could give him would change it.

Pope is a 4L.



Play 'em, B.B.

GARRY BRECHEISER



JOHN SPINKS—AJC

Fear of a black planet

In the wake of O.J. and Amadou, future lawyers must recognize the problem before solving it

"Many Americans will share their homes with a creature not of this species yet refuse to inhabit the same space as a human being of another skin color."

— Anonymous

By David Wims
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I agree with Bill Clinton. Race is the country's most pressing problem. It's amazing to me how many ways race or racism affects us. I see it everywhere.

What about you, where do you see it?

I'd like to give a few examples in which I see racism. I remember when in the 1980s President Reagan initiated the "War on Drugs." Some people saw his attempt to wage a war on drugs as a government official's shot at ending one of the country's social evils.

I see racism. Think about it. At the time, drugs had been in the black community for decades. It was when white kids

in Shaker Heights started using them that Reagan declared a "War on Drugs." I mean, after all, this is the same person who reputedly financed the Iran Contra scandal by authorizing or allowing the sale of cocaine to black people in South Central Los Angeles.

I also remember when O.J. Simpson was on trial. Many white people were sure he was guilty, and many black people were sure he was innocent. I must have encountered 50 dif-

ferent white people who felt it necessary to tell me that they knew O.J. was guilty. I wonder why those people felt compelled to tell me that — did they think that when O.J. allegedly killed those people, black people were all acting in concert?

Black people had been telling the rest of America that we needed to fix the justice system for decades. They wouldn't listen. I find it interesting that after a black man is acquitted for a murder that much of white America believed he committed, then white people came to the conclusion that we needed to fix the justice system. Oh, really?

Lastly, what about Amadou Diallo? What subliminal message is sent when a black man reaches for his wallet in the presence of undercover law enforcement officers and is repeatedly shot and killed while unarmed? Does this tell future police officers that they may kill young black males with impunity? What does this tell young black males about the sanctity of black life? You figure it out.

The student body of Cleveland-Marshall will contribute to the future administration of justice in this country in their roles as attorneys and judges. Future perceptions of the justice system will be based on our actions. We must proceed with caution. We have been entrusted with a great responsibility. The stability of our society in part depends upon us.

I have accepted the challenge. Have you?

Wims is a 2L.

Gore promises to keep High Court flexible

By Michele McKee
STAFF WRITER

Apathy is running amuck! The last four people I have asked about the election told me they "probably won't vote," followed with a statement that it doesn't make any difference who's elected since both candidates are just "slimy politicians."

This election matters more than any other previous election because of the major impact it could have on the make-up of the Supreme Court. Democratic Rep. Barney Frank of Massachusetts came to town Oct. 21 and participated in a forum to discuss this very topic. Frank pointed out that George Bush (and Ralph Nader) would like you to think that there is no cause for alarm, but anyone who can grasp basic constitutional law should know better.

Frank and the other panelists, including Ohio State Sens. Robert Hagan and Eric Fingerhut, discussed the fact that the next president will appoint at least two and up to four Supreme Court justices. Two justices, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Day O'Connor, have been very ill and two more, Will-

iam Rehnquist, 76, and John Paul Stevens, 80, are past the retirement age. In my opinion, a Republican president with the Republican Senate means that three Republican-appointed justices (Rehnquist, O'Connor and Stevens) are even more likely to step down.

George Bush has said on national television that he will appoint "strict constructionists" to the Supreme Court like Rehnquist and Antonin Scalia. Rehnquist and Scalia are very conservative; both voted to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, vigorously dissenting from the 5-4 majority that upheld it. Their records on civil rights for minorities, women and gays are dismal to the point of open animosity.

The fact is that we are facing the possible replacement of two moderates in O'Connor and Stevens, one liberal in Ginsburg and one conservative in Rehnquist with four conservative judges. Even with the Republican Senate, under a Democratic president we can realistically hope to get at least moderate justices.

Apparently, Bush is counting on the fact that most people don't understand constitutional law, let alone the impact it could have on us for the next 30 or so years. So if you, or someone you know, has no other reason to vote, vote for the Supremes. Vote Gore.

McKee is a 3L.



THE GAVEL

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Appreciate your vote while you have it

IN THE 1998 ELECTION, BARELY more than a third of the voting-age population went to the polls. In 1996, voter turnout was 49 percent of the voting-age population, the lowest voter turnout on record for a presidential race, according to the League of Women Voters.

"If you don't vote, you are letting others decide the future of your community, your state, your country," writes the League's Monica Sullivan.

Political scientists claim that voting will make a difference this year, regardless of years past. "We always say turnout matters," said University of Akron professor John Green, "[when] in a lot of elections it really doesn't." This year, it *does* matter.

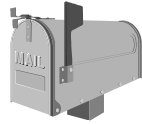
I'm continually surprised that Americans are so complacent about one of their rights when so many of us had to fight for that right, and when people around the world are *still* fighting for it.

I am reminded of East Timor, where a friend worked as a U.N. elections observer. People and families were threatened, shot at and bombed to prevent them from voting. Even so, they made it to the polls to vote because their opportunity to be heard was held so dear.

We don't have a perfect system, but we have a working system. Be grateful that all we have to dodge is apathy, inertia and excuses. Vote!

Moira Arsenault
Arsenault is a 3L.

Mail Pail



We don't have a perfect voting system, but we should be grateful no less.

SPILO pays its respects

A formal thank you to those at Cleveland-Marshall and Cleveland State who helped make the Hate Crimes Symposium a success. The symposium would not have been possible without the guidance of the C-M administration, including deans Steven Steinglass, Jack Guttenberg and Frederic White. The tireless support of Louise Mooney, Sandra Natran, Louise Dempsey and CSU's Sandra Emerick was invaluable.

Thanks especially to the following organizations and their leaders: the Asian-Pacific Islanders Law Student Association, Coalition for Equal Rights, Criminal Law Society, CSU Project Lambda and Student Public Interest Law Organization, whose enthusiasm and financial support made the event uniquely student organized.

The participation and financial support of the Student Bar Association was critical

and deeply appreciated. Additional funding from CSU Minority Affairs and professor Patricia Falk enabled the symposium to be a truly quality program. Thanks also to the numerous students, faculty and staff who contributed their energy and creativity.

Renni Zifferblatt, coordinator and brainchild behind the Hate Crime Symposium, deserves strong praise and thanks for her endless effort and commitment to this project and its success.

Jennifer Lukas Jackson
Lukas Jackson is president of SPILO.

Response to Dean White

I would just like to thank Associate Dean Frederic White for spelling my name correctly each and every time he used it in his recent letter to the editor (October 2000).

Francis S. Cwiklinski
Cwiklinski is a 2L.

Agree?

Do you take issue with an opinion in this edition? Do you have a special perspective that would help shed light on the subject? Tell us. E-mail

KEVIN.BUTLER@LAW.CSUOHIO.EDU.

Submissions must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for clarity.

No meat? A tasteless idea

A summary of recent newspaper headlines from across the country would read as such: "In the eyes of the law, pets are becoming more like people everyday." Some people have way too much free time.

Michael Cheselka

The Weak in Review

In Miami's airport, a woman stopped me to ask if I would sign her petition. I asked what it was about and

she replied that it was "inhumane" to kill animals for food. I asked her if she had told that to the animals, as animals kill animals for food.

"Look it up," I said. "It's the way the world was designed. Half the animals eat, the other half get eaten, and those piddly, wimpy little animals that just eat nuts and berries — well, they get eaten first!" She looked at me like a deer caught in headlights.

Animal-rights activism is religion for people who don't believe in God. Nature doesn't need our help; we're the species with all the problems. You never drive past a bar and see it full of raccoons. You don't find lions in anger management classes. You don't see birds popping up out of the water exclaiming, "I can't swim!"

Even when we do try and help, look what happens: Go for a ride out in the country and notice all the yellow signs with the little deer on the front. Those are deer crossing signs. In between the deer crossing signs you will see rabbits, opossums, squirrels, foxes, frogs, etc., splattered all over the road. Where are these animals supposed to cross? Does a rabbit have to strap on a pair of antlers to get any respect in Ohio? Do the whales that are being chased at this very moment by Japanese whaling ships feel better knowing that Todd has a "Save the Whales" T-shirt on while enjoying a caramel latte at his local coffee bistro?

We're not supposed to eat tunafish because every once in awhile they kill a dolphin. *But they always kill the tuna.* Don't tell me there aren't tuna in the bottom of those boats thinking, "Hey, I'll jump through the hoop. Give me a chance!"

To borrow a phrase from Ford, this is not Job One. When there are no more ethnic cleansings taking place, when there are no children in third-world sweatshops, when we have thwarted the attempts of those who would implant diodes under our skin lest we be tracked by global positioning satellites, and those others who would try and clone Jesus, then, and *maybe* then, I'll ask the scientific community to release all their disease-ridden rats into the Manhattan sewer system.

Human beings meet, date, fall in love and get married. That can be a real mess. Animals just mate. That works perfectly. For example, when the female orangutan is "in the mood" she secretes a musk that can be detected for up to three miles by all male orangutans. They come running. They sit in a straight line. She picks the one she wants and presents herself to him. Just one time, I'd like to be sitting in a bar ...

Cheselka is a 2L.

Silence, conservatives: All Beltway bigwigs look alike

Warning to all students who frequent Becky's Bar: The Republican-led Congress has determined that Washington knows how best to fight drunken

driving in Cleveland, Ohio. States shall lower the legal limit of blood-alcohol concentration to .08 or lose federal highway funding. Yet how can this be? Did not these same Republicans run on slogans such as getting Washington off the backs of the states, letting the states run the states, and promoting local control? Don't these Republicans want less government in our lives, and don't they think that the states know how to fight drunk driving best? Don't they know what works in rural Ohio might not work in Chicago?

Just one more example of typical right-wing hypocrisy. The party whose leaders run around their respective Congressional districts and states wailing about too much Washington get to Washington and attempt to create a more intrusive government. If this piece of legislation passes both houses (it's expected to) and Clinton signs it (he's expected to), then expect the size of local government to increase. Before cops would be able to let the between .08 and .10 drinkers drive home; now they will have to make arrests. More drunk drivers will be arrested and processed through the system. This will require more cops to make more arrests, more secretaries to process more paperwork, more prosecutors to prosecute more cases, more interns to assist them,

Why do Republicans always shout for smaller government if their Congress spent more than any other in U.S. history?



ROMAN GENN —
IMPOLITIC.COM

'Surprise, Mr. Bush! Your people are just as big-government as mine.'

more public defenders to defend the accused, more bailiffs to assist more judges to adjudicate more instances of guilt or innocence, more correctional facilities ... and on and on until we continue to have the big Washington-influenced government that the Republicans supposedly fight against.

Wouldn't it be closer to the Republican message of less Washingtonian influence in our daily lives to let the states decide how to fight drunk driving? Republican Sen. George Voinovich so far agrees and has indicated he will vote no. Voinovich is the exception, however; Sen. Mike Dewine,

the rule. The latter senator supports the legislation. Dewine either feels that the Republican legislation in Ohio and the Republican Gov. Bob Taft can't do the job without him as a lieutenant governor or he was never as federalist as he claims to be. Voters will draw their own conclusions.

Statistically, the lowering of the blood-alcohol concentration level does nothing to curb the much more serious threat of chronic, 12-pack-guzzling drinkers, driving with or without licenses. The majority of alcohol-related fatalities happen when the blood-alcohol content is higher than .15. This lowering of legal blood-alcohol content amounts to one more step toward neo-prohibitionism.

This law is but one example of myriad examples of contradictions inherent in conservative theory and praxis. It gives one pause to consider how honest the Moral Majority and many anti-Washington Republicans are, especially when one considers that the Republican Congress has spent more money than any other in Congressional history, despite claims to cut spending on the election stump. So perhaps Clinton lied about fellatio. And Al Gore exaggerated about how long that little girl stood during class in Florida. These sound more and more like Republican-drawn red herrings. For Republicans have built their entire anti-Washington federalist philosophy with the bricks and mortar of lies and hypocrisy.

It makes you so sick just thinking about it that you want to cruise over to Becky's and throw back a few beers under the watchful eyes of Washington Republicans.

Petrus is a part-time 3L.



A First-year Primer

5413 Franklin Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
October 4, 2000

My First-year Peer Mentee
Cleveland-Marshall
College of Law

Dear 1L:

At this time of the year, you are probably wondering if you are doing OK academically. The following should provide a good measuring stick. If you believe any of these statements to be true, you may need some assistance:

- A case brief is an undergarment worn at the other law school in Cleveland.
- The SBA was a New Deal policy.
- Learned Hand describes a good juggler.
- Penal laws are federal regulations concerning men's underwear.
- The Articles of Confederation are still good law.
- Duress is something one does in the morning.
- *Mens rea* is the masculine term for a common intestinal malfunction.
- Damages can be mitigated with a good shampoo and conditioner.
- Due Process occurs when water condenses.
- The Law Review conducts drill and ceremony and has its own marching band.
- Legislative history includes a discussion of the Roman senate.
- The Supreme Court resolves disputes between the Star Fleet Command and the Klingons.
- Justice Frankfurter is best known for inventing a ballpark meal.
- Conversion involves a sex-change operation.
- Passing the bar means going home early.
- Becky's is an unpopular place that does not serve beer.

Let me know if I can help.

Sincerely,

Frank
Frank Cwiklinski,
Your loyal mentor



Focus On: Mark Gould

Note: "Focus On," which profiles some of Cleveland-Marshall's more interesting people, begins this month. It will be a regular feature of the Gavel.

As an undergraduate geology student at Cleveland State, 1L Mark Gould took two four-month research trips to Belize. He participated in the Maya Mountains Archaeological Project, a project started at CSU and funded by National Geographic. He and five students, as well as 20 Mayan guides and scholars from around the world studied the collapse of the Mayan civilization in Belize by examining its archaeological sites.

Why did you decide to go to law school? I saw that as a geologist, I wasn't going to be able to prevent contamination and pollution from happening. Law would be a way to prevent it as a consultant, to help prevent companies from polluting and remain in compliance with laws and statutes.

How did the trips to Belize change you? Living in the rainforest, I was hiking everyday with our guides, living without a bathroom, on rice and beans, no phone, no TV, no distractions. I struggled with that at first. But the Mayan Indians, who didn't have all that, were the happiest people. The trip forced me to reevaluate my values and what they are based on. And it got me over my fear of snakes and bugs.

How will your experience with the MMAP help you in law school and later as an attorney? It was a two-day hike into the bush with 30-pound back packs. I had to overcome mental and physical challenges similar to law school. I've done that and survived; that gives me the confidence that I can do this.

Where do you see yourself five years from now?

Practicing environmental law for a small to midsize firm, and traveling extensively.

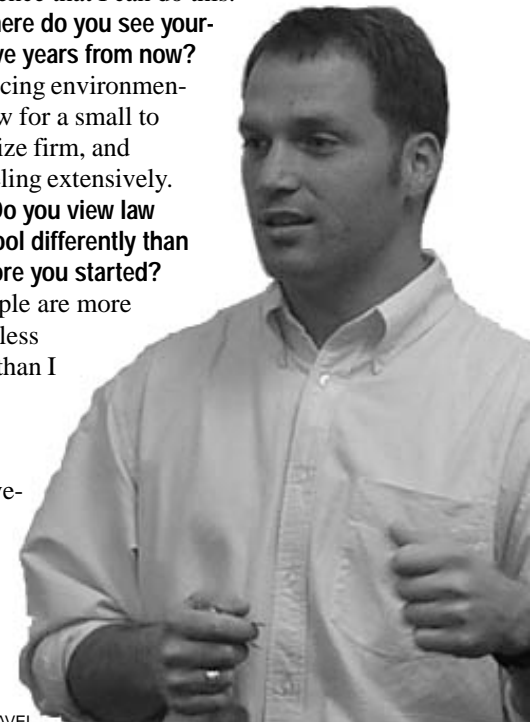
Do you view law school differently than before you started?

People are more

friendly and less competitive than I had heard.

Favorite class: torts.
Movie: "Braveheart."
Legal television show: "Law and Order."
— Clare Taft

DAN POPE—GAVEL



Find your bearings

By LeA Schemrich

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If you're thinking your first year is the worst part of law school, you're right. And if you've successfully blocked your first year from memory, here's a reminder of how bad it was.

You know you're a first-year law student when:

1. You look at the clock and find yourself thinking that 11:30 p.m. is early.
2. You take your outlines into the bathroom if you think you may be awhile.
3. Grocery shopping is a welcome chore.
4. Two words — Socratic method.
5. You know more about the trials and tribulations in the lives of your study group than of your family.
6. You realize the statement, "It gets easier in the second year," does not apply to you.
7. The only place you don't take your books is Becky's.
8. The employees at McDonald's know your first name and favorite sandwich.
9. You're thinking of raising funds to erect a statue of Emanuel.
10. You've entertained the idea of dressing up as either the "Reasonable Man" or Mrs. Palsgraf for Halloween.
11. You find yourself using the word "reasonable" to describe *everything*!
12. You *can't* begin to imagine life in the classroom without your cases briefed.

13. Your friend begins to tell you a story about what happened to him and you find yourself issue-spotting.

14. Of all the things you've lost, it's sleep you miss the most.

You know you're a second-year law student when:

1. Your professor makes it to class before you do.
2. You read constitutional law opinions and wistfully remember the days when your cases were only three pages long.
3. So long, Socratic method!
4. A higher percentage of the class is now divorced.
5. You're desperately hoping the rumor that all upper classes are graded on a "B" curve is true.
6. You finally learned a majority of your classmates' first names.
7. You've broken the habit of using "reasonable" to describe everything!
8. You can begin to imagine life in the classroom without your cases briefed.
9. Your parents' friends begin soliciting legal advice.
10. Your priorities shift to the point where losing the 10 pounds you gained last year from eating so much McDonald's is equally important as passing property.
11. You look back at last year and realize, almost fondly, just what a fantastic motivator fear of public humiliation was.

LeA Schemrich is a 3L.

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Gregory Sedmak



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