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Not a top-10 student? Plenty of options, says 'Job Goddess'

By Tricia Hurst
STAFF WRITER

Kimball Walton, author of “Guerilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams” and self-proclaimed “Job Goddess,” stresses stresses using creativity and ingenuity when looking for a job.

Walton, who spoke at Cleveland-Marshall this semester and talked with the Gavel, said she wants to help students likely to be frustrated when trying to find work.

“‘It’s easy to get frustrated. You think your grades aren’t good enough or you’re looking for work in another city — but there’s always a way to get the job you love,’” Walton said.

None of these approaches come from her own experiences.

The creator of Law in a Flash flashcards had never had a lawsuit-related job.

To write the book she went to law schools in search of ideas from people with different levels of confidence. “Some people can talk to anyone,” she said. “Some people don’t.”

C-M professor Joel Finer discussed representing the late Timothy Leary (above), the Harvard professor who advocated using psychedelic drugs.

Finer and the acid ambassador

GAVEL STAFF

Although veteran Cleveland-Marshall professor Joel Finer discourages using psychedelic drugs today, he didn’t always feel that way.

In a speech at C-M on April 10, Finer said he agreed with notorious 60s acid advocate Timothy Leary, who argued that using psychedelic drugs for religious purposes should have been protected under the Constitution.

Finer was so drawn to Leary that he defended the Harvard professor in a famed criminal case.

Turn to page 2 for more by staff writer Dave Steiner.

Cancellations plague 1Ls

Section 3 professors often absent; some avoid, others require makeups

By Frank Scialdone
MANAGING EDITOR

A wave of cancellations and make-up classes has proved disruptive to students in one first-year section who have had more than 15 classes cancelled over the fall and spring semesters.

Professors who teach Section 3 students have cancelled classes for a variety of reasons including illnesses, a medical operation and professional responsibilities.

While generally understanding the need for professors to cancel classes on occasion, students complained that it is not convenient when a class is cancelled or rescheduled with little advanced notice. Some also decried the prospect of rushing through material to make up for cancelled classes.

“I understand that professors have other things to do and at times have to cancel class, the problem comes in when classes are rescheduled during time we have set aside to study,” said IL Kate Koren.

Associate Dean Jack A. Guttenberg has fielded several complaints this year from students about class cancellations and has talked individually with some professors about their cancellation practices. Guttenberg would not disclose the professors’ names.

“We do expect faculty members to attend their classes and to make up classes that they miss,” said Dean Steven H. Steinberg.

“At the same time, we recognize that it is important for faculty members to be engaged in professional and academic activities outside the classroom.”

See CANCELED, page 3

2L slate wins in controversial SBA election

By Ed Polakoff
BUSINESS EDITOR

An e-mail endorsing certain candidates in last week’s Student Bar Association election resulted in a dispute between 3L Roger Bundy, SBA’s outgoing treasurer and a vice dean of Delta Theta Phi, and the author of the message. 2L Michelle Conrad, an SBA senator and Delta Theta Phi officer.

The controversial e-mail, which was apparently intended for law fraternity members but was forwarded to all students by Cleveland-Marshall secretary Rosa Devecchio, favored 2L candidates Dan Markey, Bernie Hessley, Renee Zaidrenras and Chris Zelke. The four prevailed over a slate of 1Ls in the April 18 election.

Markey was elected president. Conrad said that seven out of 12 current members of the executive committee were advised before she sent the e-mail. She also noted that Bundy sent her a written apology and that she has taken remedial steps to create a Delta Theta Phi listserver.

Conrad said that seven out of 12 current members of the executive committee were advised before she sent the e-mail. She also noted that Bundy sent her a written apology and that she has taken remedial steps to create a Delta Theta Phi listserver.

“The really important issue is that the SBA and student body put this non-event behind them and work together to better the law school,” she observed the victorious Hessley.

“We were engaged in a small glitch does everyone at C-M a disservice.”
A backward glance at this successful year

By Steven M. Steinberg

It is hard to think that the 2000-2001 school year is drawing to a close. August, it seems, was only yesterday. For almost all of us, faculty, staff — it has been an eventful and successful nine months in which, to paraphrase our Strategic Plan, we have asked much of one another.

We have asked much of one another in organizing and conducting an exceptionally large number of symposia, conferences, lectures, receptions and special events, all informative and all calling attention to the obligation this law school meets in serving the public, the bench and the bar. Throughout the year we have also asked much of our student organizations and the many students whom we poring over books in the library, rushing between classes or stationed in the computer labs, who are striving to become the best lawyers they can become. All these hardworking students, and all the world what we already know: that this is a wonderful law school with opportunities for all kinds of all kinds of students with all kinds of interests.

I especially wish to thank the 227 men and women whose student days are ending and whose alumni days are about to begin. The class of 2001, the fourth class I have seen graduate since I became dean in 1997, has been one of the most energetic and enterprising in my experience. Not only have they been exceptional in academics, they have also been exceptional in public service.

Many of them are already assuming the role of conscientious alumni, first by participating in the job-search process in a manner that does credit to Cleveland-Marshall and then by taking part in the Graduation Challenge, pledging to support the law school and the students of the future. I look forward to participating with them for many years to come, when, as accomplished lawyers, they bring to the law school the same energy and entrepreneurial spirit they have brought as students.

To all of you, those returning and those leaving for zdellar, I wish the days ahead may be as productive as those you have spent this year at C-M. And, always, I look forward to our work together in the coming years.

Steinberg is dean of C-M.

Correction: From the last column, C-M's HLSA was mistakenly omitted as a sponsor of the forum "Race: Does it Matter?"

Wearing Leary’s LSD mantle

By Dave Steiner

Students and faculty were invited to “tune in, turn on and drop out” when Cleveland-Marshall professor Joel Finer discussed his representation of drug guru Timothy Leary during the turbulence of the C-M Faculty Speaker Series.

Finer gave an in-depth multimedia presentation April 10 that focused on his representation of Leary. A former Harvard professor, Leary was internationally known for using the urging of certain drugs to help achieve greater spiritual and mental enlightenment. Finer also discussed significant social and political changes of the era of the 1960s.

The presentation began with colorful, psychedelic computer graphics accompanied by the Moody Blues song “Legend of a Man.” The song’s chorus proclaims, “Timothy Leary’s dead.” Referring to the computer graphics, Finer jokingly commented, “My cat loves this.”

Finer discussed how his scholarship on religious freedom and psychodelic drug use led to a request to defend Leary from drug charges brought by the U.S. Government. Finer, a law professor at the University of Texas at the time, said Leary refused to plea bargain because he wanted to raise the issue of drug use and religious freedom in court. Leary was unsuccessful and was sentenced to prison time.

Finer discussed the use of hallucinogens in a religious setting to obtain a positive spiritual experience. He also discussed mysticism found in most religions. He added that the state cannot prohibit religious practices without a compelling state interest.

Finer acknowledged the problems of legal drug use for spiritual and religious purposes, including the potential for people to claim all drug use is “religious.” To rebut that argument, Finer proposed that juries could determine the sincerity of persons who claim drug use as religious. Finer likened the religious drug use issue to that of a conscientious war objector who is exempt from active duty.

Finer said there are certain conditions, which are difficult to satisfy today, that must exist for a positive religious experience with hallucinogens. These include: a pre-psychotic screening, a background check, a trained guide and an appropriate setting. He sent a schoolwide e-mail before his presentation denouncing the use of hallucinogens.

The second half of the presentation consisted of an audio-tape that contained recordings of important events of the 1960s. These recordings included Martin Luther King Jr., Robert Kennedy addressing a crowd after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., Ted Kennedy giving a eulogy for Robert Kennedy at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, and Bob Dylan’s song “The Times They Are A-Changin.”

Finer left the room for the second part of the presentation and allowed those in attendance to simply reflect on the recordings. About 100 students and faculty members attended the hour-long event.

By Manju Gupta

To beautiful music. At the end of my first year, I deliberated what I should do with my summer. Instead of clerking, which had done the summer before, I decided I needed something a bit more adventurous after the tumult of the first year. What could be more rewarding than traveling to a country I had never been to before?

Studying overseas can be a tremendous asset to any legal education. It enables you to explore different cultures and the perspectives of foreign countries. I used my free flight stop-over (usually made in Fiji, Hawaii or New Zealand) to backpack through New Zealand for two weeks.

Studying abroad is a great opportunity to explore a new country while earning academic credit, gaining an international perspective and meeting new friends from around the world. It was an experience I will never forget.
Host of ‘stupidest’ show gets serious about politics

By Tricia Hurst
STAFF WRITER

If you are like most people, the name Jerry Springer does not instantly spring to mind when it comes to serious intellectual discussions. Most likely, you think of “the stupidest show on television.”

When you look past his claim to fame, you will discover that Springer has had a life some people can only wish for.

His interest in politics began during the Vietnam War and afterward he found himself working for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. “No one had to give a speech about getting involved in politics in the 1960s,” Springer said. “This was not an interest or a hobby; this was my life.”

After Kennedy’s assassination, the Northwestern University law graduate took a job at Fox & Jacobs in Cincinnati. The young attorney soon entered politics and was elected mayor in 1977. After that, he became a TV news anchor, hosting his 11 o’clock broadcasts with his now famous “final thought” that dealt with current events.

It was this experience that encouraged him to visit Cleveland-Marshall on March 30 to join a panel at the school’s student-run legislative forum.

Springer said it is no surprise that most politicians start their careers in law. “The law deals with public interest and you spend three years discussing this in law school.”

Even before law school, he explained, people develop an interest in public service. “Let’s face it: If you’re interested in serving the public, you aren’t going to be a biologist or something like that. You go to law school.”

For Springer, politics is a passion; everything else is just a job. “I hope you’re not going into it for a career but because you want to make a difference.”

He sees a danger in being an armchair politician. “It can make you intellectually dishonest,” he said. “When you have to feed your kids you’ll say anything to be re-elected. You have to be willing to lose an election.”

“See it as a passion. See it as a religion. Do not see it as a career,” he said.

Despite this view, Springer opposes term limits. He believes that it goes against the democratic process to tell the voters they cannot vote for someone. “The voters will tell you when to leave.”

He also has strong views on campaign financing. “You have to make the money irrelevant,” he said. He suggests free airtime when it gets close to the election. During the panel session, he joked, “My show two minutes shorter would actually be a public service.”

Springer said he thinks politics is less of a passion and more a résumé-builder for those who spend millions of dollars of their own money on campaigning.

What makes him passionate about politics is race and economic opportunity. “Race is the greatest test of whether we believe in the American dream. It makes us have to be honest with ourselves.”

The rumors of “Springer for Senate” surprised him as much as anyone. He was traveling in Italy when he found out one of the Cleveland news outlets had taken a hypothetical poll that said he would beat Sen. Mike DeWine for re-election. “After that, it took on a life of its own,” he said. “I don’t know. Someone was drinking.”

Contractual obligations prevented him from running any time soon. He is obligated to produce his show, which airs in 30 countries and 209 cities in the United States, for the next two to five years. But he already has a campaign slogan: “Springer for Senate — No Vacancy.”

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Avoid hurrying into clerkships after first year

By Karin Mika

Q: When is the best time for a first-year student to look for a summer job? I’m starting to get ner-

vous, but I would like to concentra-
tion on finals.

A: I think one of the primary mistakes first year students make is trying to decide who they are ulti-

mately going to be during the first year of school. Sometimes you lock yourself into people and situ-

ations that prove to be the worst of all possible situations in the long run. The same goes for the first summer job. I won’t say don’t keep your eyes open, but I will say don’t jump too quickly at the first thing that you sense for fear you won’t get anyth-

ing else. I didn’t realize what bad that every law clerk will be taken by the end of the school year. Take your time and see what’s out there, but if it’s not something that you truly want, check back again a little later to see if there is something more suitable. Also, put all of that on hold if and when it impedes your studies.

While the placement director will kill me if I say establishing early employment is overrated, I will say that a poor decision as to where you will be employed could be as bad as not being employed at all. And sometimes the benefits of a non-legal situation outweigh the benefits you would derive from a clerking position. I was involved in two memorable situations where I believe my counter-grain advice worked out for the best. (Remem-

ber, this is my column, so I don’t have to disclose where my advice didn’t work out as well.)

The first situation involved a student who was torn between landing her first clerking job and attending a non-legal graduate school, as Miss Watson did. (I suggested England — would you?) — and it turned out to be the best experience of her life. She is now happily employed in law. The sec-

ond situation involved one of our active alumni, Susan Yarb-

row, who during her first year contemplated whether she should attempt to clerk rather than accept a job as a TV author. After spend-

ing all of law school working an anchor position, I think she is now happily employed in the legal field.

These choices are, of course, different for the choices one makes first year students have, but the bottom line is the same: Don’t try to carve your destiny in stone too early, and don’t think there won’t be choices that might arrive after the time every-

one else has seemingly already decided what they are going to do.

Mika, the assistant director of legal writing at C-M, was recently named to succeed Stephen Wrocher as most counsel adviser.

Where the world needs justice, not mere adherence to law, we must seek a delicate balance.

By A. James Quinn

SOMETHING BETWEEN LAW, LOVE

IT OCCURS TO ME THIS IS THE –

season of graduations, including law school graduations. Graduations offer-

es speech galore: some long, some short. We hope and we pray those speeches are laced with wisdom that inspires graduates, especially law school graduates, to be grateful for the educational opportunities they enjoyed and to do good things with the knowledge and tools they have assembled.

My own career as a priest who is also a lawyer follows a path-

way that runs between love and law. For me, there is only one abso-

lute and that absolute is the will of God. I know that God wills me to re-

spect and honor law and also to love my neighbor as myself.

Law and love?

May I introduce to my essay the name of Huckle-

berry Finn? Would you walk with me in the barefoot prints of “Huck” for just a short stretch of moral reflec-

tion?

Huckleberry Finn was far less educated than any of us but what we can learn from Huckleberry Finn will make all of us better lawyers and me a better priest.

Huck was intuitively en-

dowed with the instincts of that is inherently incompatible because that is the way he was created by his author, Mark Twain, who had a lesson to teach.

In a world of rivers and rafts, Huckleberry Finn faced a terrible dilemma. Huck betrayed a run-

away slave named Jim.

The law, if you recall, said Huck’s new friend was someone’s property. Jim be-

longed to Miss Watson and Huck was acting contrary to the law and social convention.

Huck had deduced that slavery was wrong, and that conclusion prompted him to reject a law he, deep-down, felt was unjust.

“The most I studied the more my con-

science went to grinding it. I made it shiver … because I’d got to decide, forever, betwixt two things, and I knew it. I studied a minute, sort of holding my breath, and then says to myself: ‘All right then. I’ll go to hell.’”

That conversation with himself marked a break for Huck from both law and reli-

gious insofar as both they, bound, supported the institution of slavery which Huck con-

cluded to be plain wrong.

What we can learn from Huck is cour-

age to do our lawyering and our living in accord with the principles of law and love, no matter what the Miss Watsons of the world think, no matter how prevailing pub-

lic opinion judges us.

The Miss Watsons can be expected to frown when we dare to be conscience.

And materialists will regard us as foolish whenever we put ourselves second to the rights and needs of others.

Nothing I have written should be taken as disrespect for law. I am simply lamenting that law sometimes can be used as a substi-

tute for responsible decision-making, or as a shield against moral accountability. We can be tempted to allow the letter of a law to stifle the life-giving quali-

ties of principled love. Oh, we can commit ourselves to employ law always in a manner that em-

bodies more fully the principles of love and justice.

What about Huckleberry Finn? Whatever we find our-

selves doing in life, we, too, will find that we are enabled by conscience to live be-

tween law and love, drawing from both the arts of law and love to discipline the other. May we, then, not allow love in our hearts to be crushed by the weight of legalism.

What knows what moral dilemmas await each of us? May we work our way through challenges by selecting the pathway truly to be hardwired to be helpful.

People really are grateful for the educational opportunities they enjoyed and to do good things with the knowledge and tools they have assembled. When students rely on

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Don't worry; Dubya doesn't

By Michele McKee

There is no doubt that we, as U.S. citizens, are members of a greater world community. AIDS, the West Nile virus, killer bees, bad cow disease and foot-and-mouth disease know no political borders. But some economic costs are inextricably intertwined as well. It's clear how a new trade deal or textile plan could affect the economies of our trading partners. But can we extend that thinking to military issues? Can we foresee what the impact of war might be on our economy? And who will pay the bill for this new war? And if we lose in the end, who will pay the price?

There is no question that the United States is being asked to shoulder the burden of the war in Iraq. As of this writing, we have spent more than $110 billion to date, with the cost of a single major offensive operation running about $3 billion per day. The cost is staggering, and the U.S. economy is already compromised by a long period of economic decline. The war in Iraq is not only a military conflict, but also a test of our economic strength. How will we finance this war, and what impact will it have on our economy?

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A 'moral' city lets loose its demons

Cincinnati Mayor Charles Lukan is torn between how to handle people who were evicted for their grievances and having a "law and order city." "We've had no choice," he admitted to Plain Dealer reporter. "I don't have the answer." Part of the reason the mayor does not have the answer is because he's not asking the right question. He asks how these riots could happen here. But the question that should be asked is: "How come the costs don't happen more often?"

The law and order zealots have been in power since Nixon rode this gag to the presidency. But with serious crime on the decline at 20 years since, this fanaticism now? Here we have a 19-year-old kid shot to death on the run from the cops over warm tents issued for, among other misadventures, parking tickets. There was a time when gratitude was issued almost strictly for robbers and murderers. Now, kids who parked too close to fire hydrants find themselves the targets of the same law and order mentality. That someone should so much as be arrested for a parking violation is ridiculous; that he should be shot over it is so absurd even Albert Camus couldn't have thought up the story line.

China's spy-plane power play fails to fool

By Francis C. Corkinowski

Staff Writer

After 11 days of detention on Hanian Island, the crew of the Navy EP-3E Aries II surveillance plane, "bumped" out of the sky by an American plane. The situation on the difference between national prominence.

In the short run, nothing has changed. The United States will continue surveillance flights in the near future in order to keep tabs on China's recent developments in submarine technology — technology that could most likely pose an offensive threat to U.S. and allied aircraft carriers. I guess we should be thankful that our crew members are back on U.S. soil and were treated humanely during their captivity. Although I have one large complaint about how the crew of 24 was treated: I thought with eight you get an egg roll.

China's all-out push for law and order now haunts its prudish citizens. Minds, be opened.

As any former resident of Cincinnati will tell you, it's one of the most backward-accept cities on the map. During the Mapleton exhibit, I argued with the self-righteous, moralistic majority adn that Mapleton should be allowed to exhibit his photos. "If you don't want to see them, then don't buy a ticket. But don't interfere with your God given right to see a picture of a man with a whip up his ass," Funny, yes, but their arguments were hypocriti- cally to the core. "We object on moral grounds. We have moral values in Cincinnati." But where were these same moral, white right-wingers when the Ku Klux Klan erected a cross on Fountain Square during Christmas? They were nowhere to be found. The cross was pro- tested by Largely African-American activists.

Fourteen black men have been killed in confrontations with Cincinnati police since 1995, four since this past November. (Happy holidays.) And just now, only after days of pro- tests, riots, looting and shooting is the city finally waking up to something other than soft-core consummational porn.

"The environment here fav- ors law and order at all costs, even when it violates human rights," said Pastor Shawn McMullen of Harvest Faith Fel- lowship Ministries in Cincin- nati. He points out a larger prob- lem. It's not just a few cowboy cops causing the trouble; it's a societal mentality. And only when Cincinnati faces up to that and starts to question its igno- rant obedience and enforcement of the law at all costs, no matter how innocuous the lawbreakers, might be, will Cincinnati ever be taken seriously as a major city. Or, that matter, as a moral place to live in.

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