2-2003

2003 Vol. 51 No. 4

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

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Roupe skips trial date
By Ed Pekarek
NEWS EDITOR
The Cleveland man accused of killing 3L Frank Cwiklinski in a high-speed collision while fleeing police failed to appear for a Jan. 28 trial. Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Carol Skutnick ’92, indicted Russell Roupe with a class One felony for aggravated vehicular homicide after attempts to secure a guilty plea were stalled by Roupe’s court-appointed attorney, Carol Skutnick ’92, attempted to locate his client by phone from Judge Lillian Greene’s courtroom. Gatner, speaking to a bailiff in court said, “he had an appointment with me last week, but he didn’t show up.” Gatner also said, “he told me he didn’t want to go to trial—which is smart.”

According to Cleveland Police Detective James McNamee, Roupe allegedly opened a stolen 1995 Toyota Camry with a suspended Ohio driver’s license at 70 mph when he
See ROUPE, page 3

A Separate Peace
The world’s three major faiths worship in a historically holy land in a country the size of Rhode Island, is there room for each and for peace?

Shiny Happy People
The world outside the cozy confines of C-M may seem scary, but graduation opens doors to exclusive perks. Michael Cheselka ’02 welcomes his Alumnus status.

Crime wave renews security concerns
By Colin Moeller
MANAGING EDITOR
Three LCD Projectors valued at approximately $10,000 were stolen from C-M classrooms during winter break. Vicki Plata, C-M budget director, said three LCD Projectors were removed from the ceilings of LB 206 and 237 in January costing the university approximately $10,000 to replace. According to Cleveland State University Police Lt. Nathan Cabot, the thefts from LB 206 and 205 occurred between the close of business Jan. 2 and the start of business Jan. 3. Cabot said neither room was locked. Cabot confirmed, however, that LB 237 was locked when the Jan. 6 theft occurred with no signs of forced entry. While Cabot said it is possible that the door was not properly shut, CSU police have not ruled out the possibility that the theft was an inside job. The LCD projector from LB 237 was stolen during daylight, near 12 p.m. Plata said the university is self-insured. Because the policy claim deductible is $25,000, C-M was forced to pay the cost of replacing the new projectors. While the projectors had security devices on them, Plata said the thieves cut through the locks. Plata notes that the price tag for replacement projectors included enhanced security mechanisms.

Fair Housing Clinic founder Ed Kramer and co-counsel Diane Ctrinio talk to reporters on the front steps of the Supreme Court after oral arguments.

C-M’s Supreme litigation
The C-M Fair Housing Clinic litigated before the Supreme Court a dispute between a Columbus-based developer of affordable housing and the city of Cuyahoga Falls that includes issues of fair housing, invidious racial discrimination, election law, first amendment rights and due process. Turn to page 2 for more.

General Fee tightens belt with stipend freeze
By Michael Luby
STAFF WRITER
Double-digit percentage tuition hikes were cited as the basis for the General Fee Advisory Committee (GFAC) decision to freeze General Fee subsidized tuition stipends for students at the current rates. CSU opted to cap all stipends at the current rate for several reasons. Committee member 3L Brian Stano supported the move. The decision was based on an imbalance in CSU enrollment rates in conjunction with anticipated state subsidy cuts. The cuts are expected to be announced by Governor Bob Taft and the Ohio Legislature. CSU capped undergraduate stipends at the current rate for 2002-2003.

Students, such as the editors of the Gavel and SBA officers, receive full or half tuition stipends in exchange for certain services provided to C-M. Tim Long, a faculty GFAC member, said that at the Feb. 7 meeting that students are overpaid for the amount of hours required at each position. Committee members agreed but noted that nearly all stipend-receiving students work significantly more hours than required at each position. Money is going to be “saved” by the freeze, but Stano expressed concerns about whether the savings will accrue to C-M, presumably through student organizations. In a letter to C-M Dean Steven Steinglass, CSU Dean of Student Life Diane Dillard, wrote that the current decision will in no way reduce present funds to law school organizations.” Dillard and the GFAC, however, made no such guarantees that future funds will flow to C-M.

According to the GFAC, graduate students pay a $16.05 fee per credit hour up to a total of $208.65 towards the General Fee, the primary funding source for campus organizations and other student programs. All funds freed up by the new cap are expected to be pooled into the CSU general operating budget and re-budgeted through budget requests. The apparent cost shift raised concerns with Stano that C-M funds will no longer be allocated to law students. A final decision on future funding was tabled for further discussion.

Some stipend receiving students support the cap, including Stano, SBA vice president of budgeting. Stano said stipends have always been commensurate with tuition, but the current economy will not allow a stipend status quo. The GFAC decision will be implemented on a temporary basis for fiscal year 2003 with further committee evaluation next year.

Luby is a 1L.
In praise of C-M students

By Steven H. Steinglass

At C-M, not only are we educating men and women of great promise for future profession, we are educating future attorneys who, even as students, have demonstrated a commitment to their community. Our Student Public Interest Law Organization (SPILO) and Pro Bono Program students continue to impress the community in their countless acts of good will. SPILO brought noted public policy attorney, prisoner's rights advocate and labor lawyer Stoughton Lynd to speak about his efforts on behalf of death-row prisoners, while throughout the year our Pro Bono students volunteer for city-wide organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the Homeless Legal Assistance Program and the Clevel- land Municipal School District.

Our clinical education programs, among the country's most ambitious, attract service-minded students to projects that forge strong alliances between the law school and the community. Students in the Community Advocacy Clinic joined with students in the Environmental Law Clinic on a project in one of the city's "at-risk" neighborhoods. Students in the Employment Law Clinic coun-

ốn some of the area's neediest citizens. Last semester, two stu-

dents in the Fair Housing Law Clinic, Michelle Huth and Ed Pekarek, helped research, write and edit a brief to the United States Supreme Court, City of Cuyahoga Falls v. Buckeye Community Hope Foundation. We are proud, as well, of 4L students Michela Huth and Ed Pekarek, who were one of seven students elected to the Board of Equal Justice Works, a national organization that trains and supports law students who aspire to public service careers.

C-M Moot Court teams have a remarkable record of success, and members this year upheld the tradition. In January, Mark Gould, Don Herbe and Rhonda Porter competed in the ABA National Moot Court Competition in New York City. Likewise, Donald Elder and John Rustegaard traveled and our nationally circulated Cleveland State Law Review and Cleveland State Journal of Law and Health are telling the world that we are a school of seriously engaged future attor-

neys and that C-M is a school to be reckoned with.

We are fortunate to have stu-

dents of such high caliber and commitment at C-M.

By Ed Pekarek

NEW EDITOR

The C-M Fair Housing Clinic accepted a case seven years ago that has wound its way through every level of both state and federal courts. The last stop in the long line of litigation was the U.S. Supreme Court. C-M adjunct Prof. Ed Kramer argued on behalf of Columbus-based developer, Buckeye Custom Homes, Inc., before the Ohio Supreme Court, founded, in January 21. Two ad-

juncts, two professors and two students played roles in bringing the case before the Court.

Kramer, C-M Fair Housing Clinic founder, contended that the City of Cuyahoga Falls violated its due process rights and the federal Fair Housing Act by permitting a voter referendum to de-
lay issuing building permits to a development site plan that was already approved and ex-

ceded the city's zoning code. Kramer argued that the vote was the culmination of an illegal and racially motivated campaign against Buck-

eye, while the city maintained that it merely followed the law and allowed its citizens to exercise their first amend-

ent right to vote on the con-

versational development. At stake are millions in damages and attorney fees due to Buckeye based on their victory in the Sixth Circuit. Among those who aided in the drafting of Buckeye's brief on the merits were Kramer, adjunct Prof. Diane Citrino and co-counsel Prof. Ken Kowalski, as well as Prof. Steven Lazarus and C-M students Michelle Huth and Ed Pekarek.

Buckeye proposed to city officials a development for moderate income families called "Cuyahoga Terrace" in

1995. While Buckeye's site plan conformed with or exceeded every aspect of Cuyahoga Falls' zoning, city officials urged Buckeye to change the name in order to "smooth the process." Buckeye's site plan for the newly named Pleasant Meadows and was told they would also need to build an 11 foot high fence to separate the apartment complex from a neighboring condominium development. City Planning Director Louis Sharpe admitted under oath that it was the expected number of children who would reside at the apartments that prompted the city to require the barrier. Buck-

eye lawyer Citrino said the bar-

rier was designed to "ghettize" Pleasant Meadows.

Buckeye reluctantly complied with the new terms and applied for building permits. The City Planning Department approved the site plan. The Plan-

ning Commission approved it as well, though Mayor Don Robart abstained from the vote, a move known as a "pocket veto." During the same time, vari-

ous city officials took measures into their own hands to find ways to thwart the development. Buckeye lawyers contend that it was this "public-private partner-

ship," with its allegedly under-

lying racial motive, that was the force behind the denial of the building permits. Council members urged the city to build this muddy building site in the hopes of finding wetlands, others sent fliers to constituents urging them to organize and at-
tend meetings in violation of the Law Director to find a "legal sherd" to get around approving the development, and the Mayor used a city-owned building to host a meeting designed to de-

vote a voter-based plan to stop the development. Fervent oppo-

ponents to the apartments attended the public meetings and made disparaging racial remarks on the record.

Buckeye lawyers asserted that the tactics were illegal, rac-

ially motivated and unconstitu-

tional. Kramer said to Chief Jus-
tice Rehnquist, "the plaintiffs have been denied unlawfully their site plan and its benefits, in-

cluding a building permit. City conduct. Nothing to do with ref-

erendums. Nothing to do with First Amendment rights." Jus-
tice Scalia said, "the Federal Congress passes unconstitutional laws all the time. You are en-
titled to pass an unconstitutional referendum. We will ignore it, however." Scalia's comments drew laughter from the gallery.

Justice Breyer said, "once we got into the business of paying damages, because it turns out they are evil, that would, in fact, chill the legislative process, which is a democratic pro-

cess." Kramer responded, "the referendum is only the culmination of all the acts. There was a series of discre-

tionary acts...the strategy of the city was to do two things. First, to drag out this project because they knew there was a very fi-

nite period of time for our little nonprofit tax-exempt developer to build this project or lose their financ-

ing. So they knew the longer they could delay, the more likely the project would die. And second of all, they wanted to make this project more costly."

Buckeye lawyers asserted that Cuyahoga Falls' delay tac-

nies nearly bankrupted the devel-

oper, and few cases have fol-

owed a longer litigation track. Buckeye was the first to use a city-owned build-

ing developer and the city stopped at every level of the jus-

tice system in both state and fed-

eral courts.

The case was twice consid-

ered by the Ohio Supreme Court. A 4-3 decision on whether a refer-

endum on a purely administra-

tive measure comported with the Ohio Constitution, first favored the city, then was reversed as a Justice changed sides, resulting in a 4-3 holding favoring the de-

veloper. Buckeye also prevailed at the Sixth Circuit Court of Ap-

peals, which held inter alia, that the "public-private partnership" violated the Fair Housing Act and the Civil Rights Act.

The city applied to the Court for certiorari and retained Jones Day for $10,000. Petitioner's counsel, Glen Nager, was smooth and conversational with the Court, never once using prepared notes. And in a moment of gamesmanship, Nager offered his commemorative quill pen (given to all who argue before the Court) to Buckeye co-coun-

sel Kowalski, and wryly said, "I have nine or 10 of these already."

A decision was expected at the end of the Court's term in June.

Race v. referenda

C-M Fair Housing Clinic challenges suburb's permit denial

By Jay Crook

STAFF WRITER

The U.S. Supreme Court announced its de-

cision in Eldred v. Ashcroft Jan. 15. Buckeye Court

upheld the 1988 Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act in a 7-2 opinion, providing addi-

tional protection for works such as Mickey Mouse, while dashes the hopes of advocates of the public domain, including the C-M amici curiae team headed by Prof. Mickey Davis. The team was first to file an amicus brief on behalf of petitioners in the case.

The Bono Act allowed for both prospective and retrospective extension of copyright terms for existing copyrights from "life plus 50 years" to "life plus 70 years" for original works, and from 75 to 95 years for works for hire. Justice Ginsberg, writing for the majority, said, "it's a reasonable compromise. There was no quid pro quo of public benefit in exchange for protection in the copyright clause.

The case may have been persuaded by the fact that Congress has extended Copyright many times in the past with-

out challenge, the extension was consid-

ered proper in light of its historical pedi-

gree. Addressing the Court's historical pedi-

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Bono Act upheld; Disney's Mickey Mouse still runs the House

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Bono Act upheld; Disney's Mickey Mouse still runs the House
C-M Moot Court makes consecutive top 10 ABA finishes

The C-M Moot Court team finished in the top 10 again at the American Bar Association National Moot Court Competition. 3Ls Mark Gould, Donald Herbe and Rhonda Porter led nearly 100 student employees alone is $11,000 and test results also showed marijuana use. "We always have to remember that Roupe's urinalysis showed he had more than double Ohio's legal limit, " said Cabot. "This is an open campus," said Cabot. "Evola, was among those in attendance to witness the combined initiation, as was DTP alumni member Dean Stringl.

He participated in the prestigious May Show at the Cleveland Art Assocation which purchased one of his pieces. CSI recently hosted his show, "Brian Glasmann: A Twenty Year Retrospective." SAFETY: Similar theft plague campuses Continued from page 1-- the university’s daily crime logs. According to Cabot, the University of Akron had a problem with stolen laptops. The CSU main classroom building lost a projector to theft in December. CSU police have not recovered the equipment, but Cabot said the police are making efforts to ensure that future projects are not stolen. "We are performing a process called 'Target Hardening.'" The site is the target in LCD Projectors. We are looking into new security devices that can be hooked up to the projectors, including devices that would link into an alarm system. Cabot said C-M used to have its own security guards in the law building, but budget cuts forced C-M to phase out security patrols. Cabot also said that outside security cameras were mounted, on the newer portions of the law building, as part of the building package. But, because the operation of the cameras was never assigned to a specific budget or department, the cameras do not operate.

Plata said he suspects that the high price tag of having a police officer, in addition to union contracts, prevent regular monitoring of the law building. "We have student security guards who remind faculty at night to lock up equipment and make sure doors are locked. The cost of these student employees alone is $11,000 annually."

Plata said C-M is relying on faculty to make sure classrooms are locked with student security guards checking doors. "There were talks about putting key pads on the classroom doors. But because the need to have change bars on the doors, it is not possible to also mount a keypad." "We always have to remember that this is an open campus," said Cabot. "Everyone needs to do their part to be on the lookout for suspicious activity."

Carole Plata / The Gavel

Mika said the team members delivered a "level performance" and test results also showed marijuana use. "We always have to remember that Roupe’s urinalysis showed he had more than double Ohio’s legal limit, " said Cabot. "This is an open campus," said Cabot. "Evola, was among those in attendance to witness the combined initiation, as was DTP alumni member Dean Stringl.

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Carole Plata / The Gavel

ROUPE: Prosecutor adds to indictment Continued from page 1-- struck Cwiklinski’s BMW at the intersection of Fulton Road and Lorain Avenue in Cleveland at 2:54 a.m. on June 29. Gautner said to McNamee in court, “you have two police officers as witnesses and I need to go over their statements with my client.”

According to former prosecutor, Miles Camp '94, “this is now a first degree felony and that is serious stuff. He could be sentenced to up to 25 years the way he’s been reindicted.” Skutchick upped the charges to reflect the suspended license and in response to Roupe’s repudiation of the plea deal. A source close to the case indicated that Roupe’s attorneys showed he had a .280 percent blood alcohol content, more than double Ohio’s legal limit, and test results also showed marijuana in Roupe’s system at the time of the crash. Camp suspected that Roupe might also be charged under Ohio R.C. 4511.19 (a)(6), which provides stricter sentencing for drivers whose blood-alcohol level greater than 17 percent.

Green issued a bond forfeiture notice and caps and warrant for Roupe’s arrest in response to his failure to appear. Roupe was captured by Cleveland Police Feb. 10 and is now in County Jail awaiting trial according to county records. Roupe has used multiple aliases and was extradited from West Virginia as a fugitive in 1997. He had been free since $250 bail since his July 2002 arrest on two charges.

C-M recently established the Frank Cwiklinski Memorial Scholarship Fund to honor the deceased West Point graduate, law review editor, and former Cleveland political commentator. Cwiklinski was slated to graduate from C-M in December 2002 and accept a position with the Ohio Attorney General just days before the collision.
Economic downturn dampens hiring for third straight year

By Christopher Friedenberg

STAFF WRITER

In the midst of economic turbulence, C-M students vie for job interviews this month in the Spring Interview Program facilitated by the Office of Career Planning (OCP). OCP Director Jaynee Geneva, said, however, that work, jobs and offers are all down this year from last year and they were down last year from the year prior as well.

According to statistics compiled from OCP records and student survey responses, 44 employees and over 155 students participated in the Fall Interview Program (FIP) this year. Students made an average of 13 job interview bids on Attorney.com and 704 initial interviews were granted, according to OCP data. Student survey results indicate that employers gave 211 secondary interviews to the C-M job-seeking pool.

The grades of students granted initial interviews ranged across the top 80 percent. However, the average grades of those who actually received job offers tended to be limited to the top quarter of our students. Evening students fared better as reported offers reached into the third quartile. According to survey returns, 85 job offers were made to participate in the FIP. 2LS accepted 30 offers. 3LS said yes to 27 invites. The remaining offers were made to students.

Economic downturn dampens hiring for third straight year.

You will never have to supplement your intake of Riboflavin, Chromium or Zinc.

Brave new world? Not exactly. Freshly minted alum tells it like it is (sort of)

By Michael Cheselta

O h, they save the best for last. I figure they have to. If they were to let us know from the very beginning, our enrollment would be astronomical. You can only try and imagine the world that waits once you become a C-M Alumnus. It is a subtle, yet pow-

erful, change.

I have noticed, since graduation, that people seem friendlier. Cashiers will let you take mega-cuts in line. Ticket bro-

ers will have special preferred seating options that are advertised and un-

available to those who have not subscribed to these special offers. Within

days, you will receive information through the mail, alerting you to the fact

that your life is so much more valuable than it was previously and that it must

be insured, immediately. When you are out driving amid road construction

discovery that traffic lanes are about to merge and narrow, people will pull over to

let you through. When you are out shopping, folks with screaming chil-

dren will leave the store so as not to disturb your earned right to

peace and tranquil-

ity. People with cell phones will wait until you are out of earshot before making unnec-

essary and useless phone calls. You will never wait for a table at Morton’s

Johnny’s if you slip the maître’d a note that says, simply, “CSU.” Downtown

downtown parking lots will never charge you more than a buck-a-half to park, all day!

You will avoid yourself special curbside baggage handling and security check-in procedures at the airport, any airport.

Panhandlers will wheel away a few bucks. Those are just a few of the external ad-

vantages, but wait, there’s more.

Your teeth will seem whiter, your breath fresher. Members of the opposite (or same) sex will want to dance with you. Bartenders will automatically pour you a double and never ring up a call brand.

No one will ever hang up on your answer-

ing machine. From out of the blue, people

will call just to make sure that they don’t

owe you money. Your clothes will fit bet-

ter. Your food will taste better. Your dog will feel a greater sense of pride. Never again will you cut yourself shaving. Your handshake will

send shivers through any and all you touch. Creditors will refrain from sending you late notices. You will stop having bad dreams. You will never need a laxative. You will never have to supplement your intake of Riboflavin, Chromium or Zinc. Tough ground-in

stains will magically disappear in the normal wash cycle. You will be able to donate your lint brush to charity.

One-by-one, you will be introduced to the others in our circle. Some members you will simply recognize. It might be the way they

lean against the streetlamp, oblivious to the storm. Some will just, well, I’m sworn to se-

crecy on that one, but you will know, and they will know you. Together you will realize that, as of this moment, it doesn’t seem so

brave, new, or even like much of a world out there.

Geneva is headed toward two-

buck s a gallon. Committees are meeting to discuss reading your e-mail. Social security never made it into that lockbox. The war may have started, and ended, by the time this

reaches your eyes. In the name of Homeland Secu-

rity, lines and whole para-

graphs of this column may have had to be crossed out or rewritten. Negligent doctors may only

have to go to work, for two-

week stretches, wearing paper

“damage caps” if our legisla-

tors cave in on tort reform. The budget of and perhaps be balanced on the backs of those

that smoke and drink and gamble. Meanwhile, those opposed to higher property and sales taxes will be carrying concealed weapons. Twenty-seven people will attend the next town hall meeting to discuss the future of the lakefront and the conven-

tion center. Meanwhile, 27 million people will stay home to decide, for themselves, if Michael

Jackson has had more

than two surger-

ies.

The good news is that graduation puts you in the company of some outstanding men and women who are making tremen-

dous contributions to the city, state, and region that we call home. You are on your way toward the opportunity to make a real difference and to finally understand what that saying really means.

The bad news is that we are almost fin-

ished. There’s not much left to fix or im-

prove. We are one generation away from living like the Jetsons with no cares, no worries and personalized jet-packs. So, hurry-up and study hard. Become an alumni-of-the-Universe, you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the Alumni Association is unfolding as it should.

Cheselta is a 2002 C-M graduate.
The Gavel

Opinion

The NFL’s only logo-les

Analytical skills, writing make for Bar passage

I love the Gavel and al
doubtedly. I feel this was a

Claire R. Taft
Editor-in-Chief

The Gavel

February 2003

THE GAVEL

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

February 2003

Opinion Essay

Amanda Paar
Managing Editor

By Michael Hunter
contributing writer

I’m writing to you and for the 1Ls returning to school for second se

Amanda Paar
Managing Editor

I love the Gavel and al
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The modern state of Israel was formed 54 years ago, but the historic right of the Jews to their ancestral land predates the for- mation of Israel even the Roman Em- pire. Indeed, the Bible refers to G-d’s gift of land to the chosen progeny of Abraham, extending from the Mediterranean eastward to the Tigris Euphrates Rivers (Genesis 13:14-17). Ironically, the Muslims also trace their right to the land of Abraham; Jews and Muslims are Biblical coun- terparts. The Muslims control 93% percent of the Middle East, the Jews live on a small Shoaal of land about the size of Rhode Island. The Jews had a presence in this land from Biblical times, as portayed by archeo- logical evidence. Babylonian and Roman persecutions and exile scattered the Jews about the world, but they also regarded Israel as their homeland. At the time of Muhammad, there were extensive Jewish communities in Medina and Mecca. Today there are none; Jews are portrayed from their “right to return” to these areas by Islamic law. While under Muslim control between the Tenth and Twentieth Centuries, the right of Jews to live in this land was severely circumscribed. Nonetheless, since the inception of modern Israel, the Jews have been willing and con- tinue to be willing to share their homeland with peaceful inhabitants of any religion. Indeed, Israel today is the only democracy in the Middle East; there are Arab members of its Knesset (Parliament). The ancient Temple locus in the Old City, while under Israeli control since 1967, is home to nu- merous Churches and Mosques which today serve their religious rites unhindered. By contrast, when my parents honeymooned in Israel in 1961, Jews were forbidden to even enter the historic Western Wall of the Temple by the occupying Jordanians.

Israel had made repeated attempts, throughout its modern history, to make peace with its surrounding Arab neighbors. It is instructive to recall that the Arabs were aligned with Hitler as part of the Axis Pow- ern of World War II, and the Mufti of Jerus- alem at the time called for the extermination of all Jews. As soon as modern Israel was partitioned by the United Nations in 1948, it was attacked by its Arab neighbors. Many Palestinians living in Israel at that time fled, both to avoid getting trapped in the war and fearing potential Jewish retaliation for in- cidents such as the massacre of Jews in Hebron in 1929. Israel allowed many Pal- estinians to return, believing peaceful co- existence was possible. Nonetheless, it has faced continuing animosity from those Arab- ings its destruction. The Palestinian Liberation Organization was formed in 1964, although at the time the Jews were ensconced behind the “Green Line” borders of 1948 and had no presence in the West Bank. Its charter promotes amelioration of Israel. This is hardly a recipe for Peace. The current Intifada against Israel be-

The following is the fourth in a six-part series following a first year C-M student from orienta- tion to spring exams.

When exam time comes, I found a hidden corner of the library and tried to memorize the pages of materials. While this became a rather tedious task, I was eventually brought to the point where I could not go over the materials any more. When I reached this point, I knew it was time to call it quits for that class. While I tried not to worry about the exams, once I decided to stop studying, that did not hap- pen. The night before my first exam, I could not fall asleep. I did not consciously think about the next day’s exam, but I could not get the materials out of my head. I would be about to fall asleep when, all of a sudden, fac- tors, elements, defenses, etc. were flying around in my head. Eventually, I distracted myself enough to get some rest and fall asleep. I have never dealt with any- thing like law school exams. As I sat down for each one, I told myself not to panic. For think- ing about each question, I began to write frantically. I had to try to ignore the cramping in my hand, elbow and shoulder. To- wards the end of each exam, my writing must have been nearly illegible as I tried to write about everything that I possibly could. The only good thing about each exam period was when it was over (which luckily seemed like a lot less than three hours). The only thing left was waiting for the grades. This was the scariest part. After reviewing each exam, I wouldn’t have been surprised by any grade I received (al- though I was pretty sure I was not going to get a D or F). But, I knew I had always done no way of knowing how my answers stacked up against those of my classmates.

As the grades started to trickle in, I was pleasantly surprised. It seemed as though my studying style worked for me. I can only hope that it works for the next five semesters (with maybe just a little more work).

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Faculty foot- dragging fails students

By Grant Monachino

STAFF WRITER

While my aspiration was to graduate from C-M with flying colors, the grading process is essentially four- part: (1) professors turn in their final grades to administrative staff by Jan. 17 (Fall semester’s due date); (2) the staff essentially organizes the exams, professors, and student names; (3) the grades are then approved by the dean and submitted to the registrar, where they are processed electronically on Viking and finally (4) the IT department posts the class grades on the student Web page.

This process in the current state has obvious deficiencies, but those deficiencies are com- pounded when one or more of the steps aren’t performed ad- equately. The consequences to students range from severe to plain inconvenient. Some stu- dents are basing major decisions on the results of their grades, such as whether to continue in law school, or whether to take a course to graduate or whether they should apply for a certain offered job. In order to make these consequences, these deficiencies need to be remedied.

First, move the already gen- erous grading deadline a week earlier, or stagger deadlines de- pending on when a final was ad- ministered. Staggered deadlines may encourage professors with multiple classes of exams to grade the exams in groups.

Second, part-time staffers should be added to help organize submitted exams. Finally, the law school admin- istrators should hold professors accountable for meeting these deadlines. According to the re- cent meeting between SBA and law school administrators, the preliminary deficiency stems from professors’ disregard for the grading dead- lines. This can’t be tolerated absolutely (no pun intended). Those that are, however, should be ashamed. I hardly think any pro- fessor would stand in his or her duties if it involved a client. In a profession that prides itself on professionalism, responsibility, accountability and re- sponsibility, these professors should practice more of what they preach.