Follow this and additional works at: https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/lawpublications_gavel2000s

How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!

Recommended Citation

https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/lawpublications_gavel2000s/18
CSU detected in the docket

By Eric Doeh
STAFF WRITER

In 1998, CSU, in an attempt to upgrade and integrate into one system for student registration, financial aid and student accounts, purchased computer software from California based PeopleSoft. CSU was one of the first universities to use PeopleSoft software to keep track of student’s academic and financial aid and student accounts, problems arose, ranging from difficulties with registering for classes to the financial aid office being unable to process financial aid awards.

A 1998 audit, conducted by Price-Waterhouse Coopers, revealed that $1.6 million in student accounts had not been collected. The audit indicated PeopleSoft software did not generate a report of uncollected accounts to allow CSU to collect on these accounts. Furthermore, the report indicated that because of late billings, the university had another $1.6 million in debt.

See LAW SUIT, page 5

Starting with a Full Plate

Adjunct Prof. Peter Truska, ’02, is a rookie husband, father, professor and employee. Now a voice of experience, he shares his thoughts and offers advice.

CAREER, PAGE 4

Clearing the Tier Four Hurdle

Law school rankings are constantly under fire as “inherently flawed.” The Gavel explores ways to manipulate those laws to U-M’s advantage.

OPINION, PAGE 6

Dr. Phil tells Cleveland to “Get Real”

Dr. Phil McGraw stopped at the CSU Convocation Center during his “Get Real” tour Nov. 7. He emphasized the importance of reaching one’s “authentic self.”

The talk show host disclosed his research of thousands of case studies of “successful” people, and pulled out the trends common to all of them.

Turn to page 3 for more.

July 2003 Bar Passage Rates

C-M’s July 2003 Bar Exam passage rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>First Time</th>
<th>Repeater</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Ohio State University scored the overall highest pass rate at 87 percent and the highest first time pass rate at 92 percent. Case Western Reserve University’s overall pass rate was 82 percent with an 85 percent first time pass rate.

Ranking below C-M were Capital University and Ohio Northern University, with overall passage rates of 54 and 69 percent, respectively.

Download on a Dilemma

Filesharing remains a highly debated issue, both in public opinion and in the courts. The Gavel breaks down the pros and cons of downloading files.

LAW, PAGE 2

Bar passage rate remains stagnant

By Jason Smith
MANAGING EDITOR

After the release of the July 2003 bar examination results, the Cleveland-Marshall administration is looking at passage rate trends hoping to come up with solutions to improve C-M’s numbers.

C-M, with a 75 percent first time pass rate and a 65 percent overall pass rate, ranked seventh among the nine Ohio law schools. While C-M’s first time pass rate has increased almost ten percent since 1997, certain trends are concerning C-M’s administrators.

A particular area of concern is the discrepancy between full-time and part-time students’ passage rates. Since 1997, full-time students have been consistently improving, while part-time students have not mirrored this trend. Over the past seven years, full-time students have outperformed part-time students by almost ten percent.

Jack Guttenberg, associate dean, said that, although there is no definite explanation for the discrepancy, it is likely due to the time constraints part-time students face. Guttenberg said, “Part-time students have significant responsibilities, including family and jobs.”

Guttenberg indicated this explanation makes sense and pointed to the fact that entering part-time students have higher undergraduate GPAs and LSAT scores than full-time students. In addition, part-time students pass the bar at a lower rate than full-time students with similar law school GPAs, said Guttenberg.

To try to remedy this discrepancy, C-M’s administration and faculty are publicizing the problem. In an evening corporations class, Prof. Veronica Dougherty told her students about the importance of spending a significant amount of time preparing for the bar. Dougherty added that part-time students need to take the LSAT and prepare for the bar, as well.

To see results, page 4

Professor Hoke suggests remedies for overworked American professionals

By Dane Macaskill

Today, Americans work, on average, nine weeks longer per year for the same standard of living enjoyed by citizens of most European countries. Attorneys rank among the professionals with the most demanding schedules, averaging between 70 and 80 hours per week.

In a presentation particularly pertinent for a body of students primed to enter one of the most demanding professions currently dominating the American employment spectrum, Prof. Candace Hoke spoke in the second of C-M’s 2003-2004 Faculty Speaker Series on the American tension between work and family.

Hoke identified the problem of overwork as one that takes a tragic toll on the social viability of the family. The inability of Americans to juggle the increasingly burdensome responsibilities of employment, while simultaneously raising happy and healthy families is a problem that is rapidly reaching crisis proportions, as she sees it.

Although Hoke cites many contributing factors to the prevalence of the overwork syndrome, including high unemployment, pervasive work reallocation and mandatory overtime, the most compelling, and arguably the reason most directly under our control, relates to American norms about what employers have a right to expect from employees.

According to Hoke, Americans view the ideal worker as someone who gives top, or even sole priority to the demands of the job. Such a person is prepared to work unlimited overtime, to agree to unlimited travel requirements and to relocate wherever and whenever it is required of him or her. Not only does this ideal present a problem for people who place family among their top priorities, it presents a problem for Americans who assign any priority whatsoever to their family.

Hoke offers the obvious solution: Americans should work less. Her strategies for achieving this end are multifaceted. First, she argues that Americans should reject the norm of mandatory overtime. This means taking a closer look at the Fair Labor Standards Act and making adjustments that reflect the needs of working Americans. Under the Act, as it currently exists, most employees can be exempt from overtime.

See RESULTS, page 4
The Dean’s Column

W. Burke to the Cleveland Municipal Court, making her the first black woman judge in Ohio.

Presently, three of the seven justices on the Ohio Supreme Court are C-M graduates; the Hon. Francis E. Sweeney, ’63; our Justice-in-Residence, Hon. Maureen O’Connor, ’80, and the Hon. Terrence O’Donnell, ’71.

Perhaps the most significant of the five judges on the Cuyahoga County Probate Court are our graduates. Sixteen years later, President Coolidge named Genevieve Cline to the United States Customs Court in New York City. A graduate of the class of 1921, Judge Cline was the first woman in America ever appointed to a federal bench.

Several years later, Ohio Governor James Rhodes appointed our 1951 alumna Lilian Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

C-M: The judges’ law school

C-M was the “law school of judges.” He had good reason to make that claim.

In fact, Ohio history is indebted to our law school for a series of judicial “firsts.” In 1923, three years after the emancipation of women, Mary Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

Sixteen years later, President Coolidge named Genevieve Cline to the United States Customs Court in New York City. A graduate of the class of 1921, Judge Cline was the first woman in America ever appointed to a federal bench.

Several years later, Ohio Governor James Rhodes appointed our 1951 alumna Lilian Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

C-M: The judges’ law school

C-M was the “law school of judges.” He had good reason to make that claim.

In fact, Ohio history is indebted to our law school for a series of judicial “firsts.” In 1923, three years after the emancipation of women, Mary Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

Sixteen years later, President Coolidge named Genevieve Cline to the United States Customs Court in New York City. A graduate of the class of 1921, Judge Cline was the first woman in America ever appointed to a federal bench.

Several years later, Ohio Governor James Rhodes appointed our 1951 alumna Lilian Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

C-M: The judges’ law school

C-M was the “law school of judges.” He had good reason to make that claim.

In fact, Ohio history is indebted to our law school for a series of judicial “firsts.” In 1923, three years after the emancipation of women, Mary Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

Sixteen years later, President Coolidge named Genevieve Cline to the United States Customs Court in New York City. A graduate of the class of 1921, Judge Cline was the first woman in America ever appointed to a federal bench.

Several years later, Ohio Governor James Rhodes appointed our 1951 alumna Lilian Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

C-M: The judges’ law school

C-M was the “law school of judges.” He had good reason to make that claim.

In fact, Ohio history is indebted to our law school for a series of judicial “firsts.” In 1923, three years after the emancipation of women, Mary Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

Sixteen years later, President Coolidge named Genevieve Cline to the United States Customs Court in New York City. A graduate of the class of 1921, Judge Cline was the first woman in America ever appointed to a federal bench.

Several years later, Ohio Governor James Rhodes appointed our 1951 alumna Lilian Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

C-M: The judges’ law school

C-M was the “law school of judges.” He had good reason to make that claim.

In fact, Ohio history is indebted to our law school for a series of judicial “firsts.” In 1923, three years after the emancipation of women, Mary Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.

Sixteen years later, President Coolidge named Genevieve Cline to the United States Customs Court in New York City. A graduate of the class of 1921, Judge Cline was the first woman in America ever appointed to a federal bench.

Several years later, Ohio Governor James Rhodes appointed our 1951 alumna Lilian Grossman, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants and a 1912 graduate of our law school, became the first woman in America ever elected to a municipal court.
Dr. Phil’s “Laws of Life”

Dr. Phil shared his theories on life, relationships and success at the CSU Convocation Center.

By Amanda Paar

Dr. Phil’s “Laws of Life”

By Amanda Paar

THE GAVEL ■ LAW

NOVEMBER 2003 ■ 3

CSU held its popular TV psychology program, Dr. Phil McGraw, where he spoke about his theories on life, relationships and success. Nov. 7 at the Convocation Center as part of his “Get Real” tour.

Dr. Phil earned a doctorate in psychology at the University of North Texas and opened a psychology practice with his father in 1979. However, he was not satisfied being a psychologist and he wanted to use his psychology degree in a different way.

Despite his unhappiness, it took him years to build up the courage to change career paths. He was afraid of disappointing his father and was hesitant to leave the comfortable practice he had become accustomed to and diving into a new job.

After leaving his psychology practice in 1989, Dr. Phil co-founded Courthouse Sciences, Inc. Courtroom Sciences is a company that assists the legal profession by conducting mock trials, behavioral analysis, jury selection and mediation.

It was through this endeavor that Dr. Phil met Oprah Winfrey. Oprah hired Courthouse Sciences to help defend the lawsuit brought against her by cattlemen who claimed she defamed the beef industry on one of her shows. Dr. Phil and Oprah became close friends. She often invited him to be on her show and later assisted him in obtaining his talk show.

Based on his book published in 2000, Life Strategies: Doing What Works, Doing What Matters, Dr. Phil discussed his “Life Laws.” He said these ten concepts should not be anything shocking to people; rather, they are concepts that are so simple they are oftentimes ignored. And ignoring them can cause major consequences, he said.

Dr. Phil said that if a person seriously thinks about his “Life Laws” and then applies the strategies to his own life, he will be a happier person within a month.

Dr. Phil specified a method of reflecting upon the major parts of one’s life. First, he said that every person has ten defining moments in their life. These moments change the way the person thinks and affect his outlook on life forever.

Second, Dr. Phil said that every person makes seven critical decisions. These decisions change the person’s life in a major way. They reflect an important crossroads and help define one’s self.

Finally, Dr. Phil said that there are five pivotal people in every person’s life. These people help structure who the individual truly is. Dr. Phil said it is crucial to realize these pivotal people are not all required to impact a person’s life in a positive way. He said it is a very real and likely possibility that at least one of the five pivotal people is someone who has or had a detrimental effect on the person’s life. Nonetheless, he said, the good must come with the bad, and every person must take his negative experiences into account when assessing his life.

Dr. Phil said that if an individual reflects upon these three-tiered model of defining moments, critical choices and pivotal people, his life can be changing. He can “begin to see how his choices and the reactions of other have shaped his self-concept and caused him to be the person he is today.”

He said the model forces an individual to confront the good with the bad and only then can he reach his “authentic self.”

Life Law #1: You either get it, or you don’t.

Strategy: Become one of those who gets it.

Life Law #2: You create your own experience.

Strategy: Acknowledge and accept accountability for your life.

Life Law #3: People do what works.

Strategy: Identify the payoffs that drive your behavior and that of others.

Life Law #4: You cannot change what you do not acknowledge.

Strategy: Get real with yourself about your life and everybody in it.

Life Law #5: Life rewards action.

Strategy: Make careful decisions and then pull the trigger.

Life Law #6: There is no reality, only perception.

Strategy: Identify the filters through which you view the world.

Life Law #7: Life is managed; it is not cured.

Strategy: Learn to take charge of your life.

Life Law #8: We teach people how to treat us.

Strategy: Own, rather than complain about, how people treat you.

Life Law #9: There is power in forgiveness.

Strategy: Open your eyes to what anger and resentment are doing to you.

Life Law #10: You have to name it before you can claim it.

Strategy: Get clear about what you want and take your turn.

C-M Moot Courters place second at Regionals, advance to finals in New York

This past weekend in Detroit, Michigan, two teams from C-M competed in the Regional Moot Court Tournament. The team of Siegmund Fuchs, Brendan Doyle and Dean Williams placed second in the region and will continue to argue in New York at Nationals.

Both teams made the quarter-final rounds. The team of Susan Taylor, Bryan Kostra and Jennifer Seme argued in a different round. The team of Susan Taylor, Bryan Doyle and Dean Williams was defeated in the semi-finals by the team of Kostra and Jennifer Seme.

C-M PROFESSOR IN THE NEWS

Professor and Associate Dean Linda L. Ammons is a world-known class photographer. Her photographs have been displayed in shows throughout the country and her work is now on display at CU’s Second Cleveland Juried Biennial Exhibition at the University art gallery until Dec. 13.

REMEMBRAND TO 1L’s

Students in the lounge and moot court review suite on the ground floor recently reported an alarm to the authorities and likely prevented a theft. Students, faculty and staff here on campus are encouraged individuals noticing questionable activity report it to CSU police. The students, faculty and staff here on the weekends are asked to report any alarms heard in the technology classrooms to the CSU police department at 2060.

There is a new book on the shelves about the law world. The book is titled “Tort Reform: State and Local Accountability for Injuries to Patients.”

The C-M Office of Career Planning and Development recently distributed a copy of the book to its students.

Notes in Brief

RECENT EVENTS

President of the national Bar Association, Dr. Phil McGraw, spoke about his theories on life, relationships and success at the CSU Convocation Center.

Dr. Phil’s “Laws of Life”

Dr. Phil McGraw spoke about his theories on life, relationships and success at the CSU Convocation Center.

He said the model forces an individual to confront the good with the bad and only then can he reach his “authentic self.”

Life Law #1: You either get it, or you don’t.

Strategy: Become one of those who gets it.

Life Law #2: You create your own experience.

Strategy: Acknowledge and accept accountability for your life.

Life Law #3: People do what works.

Strategy: Identify the payoffs that drive your behavior and that of others.

Life Law #4: You cannot change what you do not acknowledge.

Strategy: Get real with yourself about your life and everybody in it.

Life Law #5: Life rewards action.

Strategy: Make careful decisions and then pull the trigger.

Life Law #6: There is no reality, only perception.

Strategy: Identify the filters through which you view the world.

Life Law #7: Life is managed; it is not cured.

Strategy: Learn to take charge of your life.

Life Law #8: We teach people how to treat us.

Strategy: Own, rather than complain about, how people treat you.

Life Law #9: There is power in forgiveness.

Strategy: Open your eyes to what anger and resentment are doing to you.

Life Law #10: You have to name it before you can claim it.

Strategy: Get clear about what you want and take your turn.

C-M Moot Courters place second at Regionals, advance to finals in New York

This past weekend in Detroit, Michigan, two teams from C-M competed in the Regional Moot Court Tournament. The team of Siegmund Fuchs, Brendan Doyle and Dean Williams placed second in the region and will continue to argue in New York at Nationals.

Both teams made the quarter-final rounds. The team of Susan Taylor, Bryan Kostra and Jennifer Seme argued in a different round. The team of Susan Taylor, Bryan Doyle and Dean Williams was defeated in the semi-finals by the team of Kostra and Jennifer Seme.

C-M PROFESSOR IN THE NEWS

Professor and Associate Dean Linda L. Ammons is a world-known class photographer. Her photographs have been displayed in shows throughout the country and her work is now on display at CU’s Second Cleveland Juried Biennial Exhibition at the University art gallery until Dec. 13.
Making sacrifices: no one can have it all

By Karin Mika
LEGAL WRITING PROFESSOR

Q: Is it really possible for a female to have it all? A: Quite frankly, it’s not possible for anyone to have it all in any aspect of life. The only people who appear to have it all are only able to do so because of the support staff they may have taking care of domestic matters.

Traditionally, that meant a male having a wife who took care of the children and all of the household matters. But in any instance, time is no longer as firmly drawn, in the majority of cases, it is still the female who subordinates her career for the good of the family. In rare instances, a working couple may have nannies and other domestic help, but that takes some cash and is often emotionally unsatisfactory.

Hillary and Bill Clinton might be the best example of a couple where each seemingly reached a pinnacle of success while part of a family unit (albeit not always a stable one). But if you look at Hillary’s background, you will see that she gave up a promising career in Chicago to be with Bill in Arkansas, and then gave up the career she had established in Arkansas to follow Bill to Washington, D.C. It was only when Bill was doing active duty or his goals that she could, more-or-less, pick up where she left off with her career plans.

Unfortunately, until males can have babies, this is probably how things will go in the field of law in the great majority of instances. This is far from a male-bashing statement… it’s just that on numerous occasions, I have seen career-zealous females do an about face on what they considered important. It’s hard. Things don’t get done as designed, but they do get done. It’s about integrating everything. It’s about realizing that there are no two separate worlds of work and career. It’s just one world, with diapers, deadlines, sleepless nights and chubby cheeks all woven together.

Most of us can’t help loving the family part, and probably a lot of us find it easy to love the legal profession too. The mother of tens knows that she can’t do both. You don’t divide up your love, you multiply it. I asked my wife’s feedback, and she said: “no, that’s impossible. I have all kinds of time for that little cat. It’s just that I don’t have time for that little cat.”

For many, this is the only solution. It’s hard. Things don’t get done as designed, but they do get done. It’s not about reducing anything, it’s about integrating everything. It’s really true.

By Peter Traska ‘02

Juggling work and family

Adjunct Prof. Peter Traska balances work, family and teaching.

During my first year at C-M, I enhanced upon Profs. Gorovitz-Robertson and O’Neill at the Barristers’ Ball. Robertson was then my property instructor, and Prof. O’Neill I knew only through his favorable reputation. I supposed I would say something clever: “Well, I think I’m your favorite prof. And you, too, Prof. Robertson.” We all laughed. Then it occurred to me that they had valuable experience that I wanted to know about. I knew them both to be very accomplished professionals as well as devoted family-types. I asked them how.

They both said it’s hard. They said plenty more, and I wish I could remember more of the particulars. I do remember specifically how warmly they spoke of family and work too. I had all kinds of time for the little chat because I was unaccompanied at that Barristers’. I lamented that I was, who knows how far away from settling down. There was no guarantee that I would ever have the happy dilemma of career and family. Prof. Robertson said, “It can happen fast.”

I started my current job on Fri. May 24, 2002. I graduated from law school the following day. On Wed., May 29, my then girlfriend of one year, Michelle, and I learned that we had a baby on the way.

I don’t feel it was so much that we made some snap decision as that the choices were, for us, obvious. My property professor told me it could happen fast, but nobody ever said anything about five days. Instant life.

We were married on the 22nd of June by our friend and 2002 graduate John Rogers, who just got re-elected Mayor of Mentor on the Lake. The whole thing cost us about eighty bucks, which we didn’t really have.

Alexandra Rose was born in January, and as yet unnamed Baby number two is due this January. It’s a little early, we get a nice tax break, and probably an audit. We’re now figuring out how to get both of us past the bar exam. Now I understand why nations and really big companies make “five year” plans.

Kierkegaard and Jack Palance’s character in “City Slickers” seem to have taken different paths to the same theory of happiness. The good life, the big secret, is singular: to will one thing. When you lose sight of your one thing, you get bad results.

As for me and my house, that certainly rings true. Our “one thing” is everything. Having it all. To have and hold each other and the legal world and the world of small children close together. The first time I ever heard of the “Tele-babbies” was on her Property final in the spring of 2000, and her past exams read like Little Golden Books. But I don’t think it’s that she’d rather be writing children’s literature.

People who are called to the learned professions and to family life shoulder a load like Atlas’, but with two worlds to keep up. So of course professional moms and dads would look to reduce those two worlds into one at every opportunity just to ease the load, right?

The old joke: a mother of one says to a mother of ten, “I don’t think I could divide my love ten ways.” The mother of ten says, “You don’t divide it, you multiply it.” It’s not about reducing anything; it’s about integrating everything.

To think that there are no two separate worlds of work and career. It’s just one world, with diapers, deadlines, sleepless nights and chubby cheeks all woven together.

People who are called to the learned professions and to family life shoulder a load like Atlas’, but with two worlds to keep up. So of course professional moms and dads would look to reduce those two worlds into one at every opportunity just to ease the load, right?

By Peter Traska who is a do-good hoodoo who can’t seem to find the time to pick up a telephone to call his wife to find out what the game plan is for the evening with regards to dinner and their 10-and-half-month-old daughter.

If he keeps it up for too much longer he won’t have to worry about juggling work and home responsibilities. He’ll be back living in a small efficiency with a smell rat, eating ramen noodles and popcorn for dinner.

RESULTS: Breaking down and analyzing C-M’s Bar passage rate

Continued from page 1—
time students who cannot devote sufficient time to studying for the bar should consider not taking the exam until they can adequately prepare. Also, Dougherty said students whose jobs do not require bar passage should consider not taking the exam.

Another area of concern is the bar exam passage rate of students with low high school GPA’s. Gartenberg summed up the problem stating, “We do well in law school and you will do well on the exam.”

During the past seven years, students with GPA’s over 3.0 have a bar passage rate of 90.9 percent. However, during the same time period, students with a GPA below 3.0 have a bar passage rate of 48.3 percent. Gartenberg said the real concern lies with students who fall in the bottom quarter of their class. Over the past seven years, these students pass the bar exam at a rate of 30 percent.

Gartenberg said the administration has considered many options to try to improve the passage rates for students in the bottom of their class. One such option is to require students falling within the bottom quarter of their class to take some sort of bar review course. However, the American Bar Association does not allow law schools to require bar review courses for graduation or offer bar review courses for credit. Therefore, any offered program must be voluntary. “Such (volun-
tary) programs do not often help those whom they are designated to help; rather, usually the best students attend the voluntary programs,” said Gartenberg.

Prof. Patricia Falk is the chair of the faculty committee responsible for bringing proposals on improving C-M’s bar passage rate to the faculty. A possible proposal may include encouraging closed-book exams.

Clare 1A’s ’03, agrees that closed-book exams may be beneficial to students. Taft, successful in passing the July 2003 bar exam, said, “I was definitely more prepared and was more successful on the bar exam topics that coincided with my closed-book exams at C- M. The bar exam is closed book, so it might make sense to take a closed book exam in law school, especially for the bar exam subjects.”

Legal Writing

By Peter Traska ʻ02

babies simply because nothing else in the world is as Godly. Also, for each of us to chase down professional ambitions is like settling grudges carrying over from previous lives. And when it seems that these two great purposes are working against each other, that’s when all I can do is remember the advice of the sages. It’s hard. Things don’t get done as designed, but they do get done.

Anyone who has ever taken an exam of Professor Robertson’s has gotten the idea that she takes every opportunity to bring the time to pick up a telephone to call his wife to find out what the game plan is for the evening with regards to dinner and their 10-and-half-month-old daughter.

If he keeps it up for too much longer he won’t have to worry about juggling work and home responsibilities. He’ll be back living in a small efficiency with a smell cat, eating ramen noodles and popcorn for dinner.

RESULTS: Breaking down and analyzing C-M’s Bar passage rate

Continued from page 1—
time students who cannot devote sufficient time to studying for the bar should consider not taking the exam until they can adequately prepare. Also, Dougherty said students whose jobs do not require bar passage should consider not taking the exam.

Another area of concern is the bar exam passage rate of students with low high school GPA’s. Gartenberg summed up the problem stating, “We do well in law school and you will do well on the exam.”

During the past seven years, students with GPA’s over 3.0 have a bar passage rate of 90.9 percent. However, during the same time period, students with a GPA below 3.0 have a bar passage rate of 48.3 percent. Gartenberg said the real concern lies with students who fall in the bottom quarter of their class. Over the past seven years, these students pass the bar exam at a rate of 30 percent.

Gartenberg said the administration has considered many options to try to improve the passage rates for students in the bottom of their class. One such option is to require students falling within the bottom quarter of their class to take some sort of bar review course. However, the American Bar Association does not allow law schools to require bar review courses for graduation or offer bar review courses for credit. Therefore, any offered program must be voluntary. “Such (voluntary) programs do not often help those whom they are designated to help; rather, usually the best students attend the voluntary programs,” said Gartenberg.

Prof. Patricia Falk is the chair of the faculty committee responsible for bringing proposals on improving C-M’s bar passage rate to the faculty. A possible proposal may include encouraging closed-book exams.

Clare 1A’s ’03, agrees that closed-book exams may be beneficial to students. Taft, successful in passing the July 2003 bar exam, said, “I was definitely more prepared and was more successful on the bar exam topics that coincided with my closed-book exams at C-M. The bar exam is closed book, so it might make sense to take a closed book exam in law school, especially for the bar exam subjects.”

Legal Writing

By Peter Traska ʻ02

babies simply because nothing else in the world is as Godly. Also, for each of us to chase down professional ambitions is like settling grudges carrying over from previous lives. And when it seems that these two great purposes are working against each other, that’s when all I can do is remember the advice of the sages. It’s hard. Things don’t get done as designed, but they do get done.

Anyone who has ever taken an exam of Professor Robertson’s has gotten the idea that she takes every opportunity to bring
Workplace values need reworking

Americans are overworked; Prof. Hoke suggests legal intervention

Continued from page 1--

Continued from page 1--

continued from page 1--

Continued from page 1--

M.P.R.E., a wolf in a sheep’s clothing

By Stephen Bittence

On Nov. 7, I took the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam for the first time, and, hopefully, only time. Yet, I am not confident that I passed the test and would not be surprised if I had to retake it in March. I have asked many of my friends who took the test, and they all agree it was challenging. This is surprising when the common rumor is that the test is easy.

Before taking the exam, I had heard from both students and faculty that the test is easy. After experi- encing the test, these people are either very smart or just confused. It is my guess that people are more honest about the difficulty of a test just after it is over and before they find out the results.

One may pass the test and have fared their memory is are more likely to say the test was easy. While this may explain why the rumor the test is easy, I cannot think of any reason why a faculty member would tell a student something; it is just irresponsible.

To prepare for the test, I took a legal profession, attended the Bar-Bri review session, reviewed the Bar-Bri outline, completed 75 sample problems and studied the rules. Each source, however, has some deficiencies. I did well in the legal profession course, but it focused on the rules that governed lawyers and did not cover the Code of Judicial Conduct, which is on the test. The Bar-Bri review ses- sion was very superficial and merely served as a refresher course. The Bar-Bri outline was helpful and pro- vided a means to help work out the sample problems that I did not answer correctly. While this seemed like an appropriate amount of preparation, there were at least fifteen questions on the test that I had to guess the answer after narrowing down to two possible answers.

The test has 50 questions and lasts for two hours and five minutes. It is a multiple-choice test that is offered three times per year. A typical ques- tion has a two to three paragraph fact pattern followed by four possible answers. In Ohio, a passing score is the performance of all test takers. The test has 50 questions and lasts for two hours and five minutes. It is a multiple-choice test that is offered three times per year. A typical ques- tion has a two to three paragraph fact pattern followed by four possible answers. In Ohio, a passing score is

On the most basic level, however, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.

While for many of us, the simplest way to address the tension we are currently facing between family and work involves achieving the perspective necessary to deter- mine between our wants and our needs. While it is true that the single paycheck faces obstacles that did not previously exist in meeting the growing needs of today’s family, I believe we collectively take stock of the costs and benefits of our individual lifestyles.
Blame on night students for low bar pass rate unappreciated

By Jay Crook

Recently, the professors of night classes were shown to have a lower "talk" regard, including the bar passage rate at C-M. Their performance, in comparison to the other law schools of the same ranking, is firmly entrenched near the bottom of the rankings. This was one of the reasons cited by the professors in their classes, the view of the administration is clear and can be summed up in one single sentence. "It’s all your fault, night students."

That’s right, it’s your fault, and if you go to law school, it’s your fault too. The statistics don’t lie, we have a lower percentage pass rate than the day students. Don’t try to deny it night students, our bar passage rate is dragging the rest of the school down. The focus on night students is particularly interesting, as there is a family of glancing issues to consider, like the monetary discrepancy in the passage rates of students above and below the 3.0 GPA cutoff.

More even confusing is the advice that was given. This advice ranged from the obvious "you need to ensure you have time to study" to the insulting "you could just take the bar exam if you don’t need it to get a job." The answer is simple...no one knows about the school. Evidence of this is clear and can be summed up in one sentence. "It’s all your fault, night students."

One would venture to guess that C-M should consider making some changes in order to attract the current rankings. This change would not only directly increase their student body, but would also affect several other rankings. Even if this meant increasing the tuition for the remaining students, the ends might justifiably be meant. By accepting fewer students, it would follow that the quality of education would be better. This would lead to higher bar passage rates, which would lead to better jobs upon graduation, which would lead to a better overall reputation for C-M.
Seeking fictitious remedies

Pain and suffering, stemming from life at C-M, sparks students' mock suit

By Josh Dolese

GAVEL COLUMNIST

Over the years, one of the main goals of law school is to teach the up and coming lawyer who to sue and why. Well, maybe C-M is doing their job too well. What follows is a prayer for $500,000 for various claims related to my experience at law school.

As they stem from the same transaction, occurrence or set of circumstances (i.e. my experiences at C-M), I believe they are connected as cumulative claims and I must bring them all for fear that I may waive my right to bring these claims at a later date.

Please note: this article is for educational purposes only. If you too are planning on bringing suit, I highly recommend you consult a licensed, practicing attorney.

The list of lawsuits follows:

1. Personal injury for every time I have hit my knee on the unconcerned professor's stool.
2. Quiet Killer: I will never forgo a庭咖啡 in December, he will make sure the students are passed out in December, he will make sure the students are passed out in December.
3. The Undergrad Cool Guy: his clothes are clearly too cool for high banana.
4. The Professor's Pet: his students are clueless by the day. I know he is clueless by the day.
5. The Undergrad Cool Guy: his clothes are clearly too cool for high banana.
6. The Professor's Pet: his students are clueless by the day.
Ohio DVD Video Home Study Bar Review Program

ONLY

$1,599!

- FREE PLI Multistate Bar Review course (a $295 value), eliminates the need to pay extra for supplemental MBE workshops.
- FREE bonus Strategies & Tactics for the MBE Workbook (a $43 value).

Classroom sessions available for Summer 2004 in Cleveland.

Our program includes everything you need to pass the Ohio Bar Exam, **PLUS**:

**FIRST YEAR REVIEW Volume, featuring outlines for:**
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Real Property
- Torts

**UPPER LEVEL REVIEW Volume, featuring outlines for:**
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Procedure
- Evidence

**Complete MPRE REVIEW program featuring:**
- DVD Video Lecture
- Comprehensive Lecture Outline
- Released MPRE Questions with Explanatory Answers

*These black letter law outlines are designed to help you understand the key concepts in your first year courses.*

**How to enroll:**
- Visit our website at www.DVDBarReview.com
- Call our office toll-free at 866-BAR-PREP

Already signed up with another bar review course? No problem. We will credit any deposit made to another full-service bar review course (up to $100) with proof of payment.

**We Turn Law Students Into Lawyers.**