Searching for Steinglass’ Successor

By Eric W. Doeh

On May 5, 2004, Dean Steven Steinglass officially announced his resignation as dean of C-M. Steinglass, who has been dean for the past eight years, said July 1, 2005 will be his last day in office. When asked about his resignation, Steinglass said, “I believe the time has come for the law school to begin the transition to new leadership and for me to begin my transition to a new stage in my career.”

As a result of Steinglass’ resignation, C-M has begun an aggressive search for a new dean. C-M’s Dean Search Committee, formed by the Cleveland State University Faculty Senate, has the responsibility of providing Chin Y. Kao, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, with the names of the final three candidates for the position by the end of December. Kao and CSU President Michael Schwartz will See DEAN SEARCH, page 4

New pass/fail option offers more choices

By Alex Hastie

During the spring semester of 2004, C-M faculty amended the pass/fail grading option. After extensive lobbying efforts by the Student Bar Association (SBA), the C-M faculty made a substantial, student-friendly change in the grading policy. Anyone with a “pass” can substitute a grade with a “C” weeks after grades have posted. This is one of the most liberal policies at the school. It’s also a great example of the SBA exercising positive change on the students here at Marshall,” said SBA President Edward Hassle. “This shows that by representing the student body’s concerns and working with the faculty, good things can happen for the students.”

The change in policy was due largely to last year’s SBA President Sasha Markovic, who proposed the idea to the faculty. “I’m just proud of the fact that we were able to get it done and I think it’s a fair policy for students in the future,” said Markovic. The new pass/fail option provides that 2L and 3Ls are eligible; two courses can be taken on a pass/fail basis, only elective courses can be taken pass/fail, required course grades cannot be substituted; only one class per semester can be taken pass/fail. The deadline for using the option is two weeks after final grades are posted.

“I think the new rules are an improvement. I was always worried that a teacher would look down on someone who was pass/fail. So I never thought to use it,” said Katie Davidson, 2L.

A student using the pass/fail option must record a C or better in the elective class to pass. This counts towards graduation requirements, but a “pass” grade will not affect the student’s GPA. While lobbying for a new pass/fail policy, Markovic cited Western Reserve School of Law’s (CWRU) pass/fail option as a model. However, the option at CWRU is different from the new enacted policy at C-M.

The greatest difference is that at CWRU, students must notify the school of their desire to take a class pass/fail within the semester. Then, at the end of the semester, the registrar notifies the student of the grade and the student has three options to choose from: keep the grade earned, have the grade reported as passing (if the grade is a C or higher) or elect to receive no credit, with no record of registration.

C-M’s pass/fail option is more generous than CWRU’s. “Being able to keep your grade if you do well is the best part of the new policy. You never know how you’re going to do in a class, this way you don’t have to make a decision that you might regret,” said Emily Pankow, 2L.
September 2004

SBA election, part deux

CSU committe orders new executive election after lengthy appeal

By Jason Smith

Staff Writer

Choosing the incoming C-M IL class presented Assistant Dean of Admissions Melody Stewart with a dilemma: how to shrink the size of the incoming 1L class while choosing from a larger and more talented applicant pool. The result was a record-breaking 1L class that raised the bar for C-M admissions in nearly every academic category, while at the same time increasing the number of seats potentially available for the 2004-2005 admissions department to better forecast those on the 200-plus wait-list.

Reflecting a national trend, the law school received a record-setting 1,912 applications for the incoming 1L class, an increase of over 300 applicants from the previous year. The resulting class rose the median LSAT scores for C-M's incoming 1Ls by nearly a full point to 153. The 75th percentile LSAT score rose by two points to 156, while the 25th percentile LSAT rose by one point to 151. The undergraduate advanced degree, GPA's also rose in all categories.

Furthermore, nine percent of the class has already received their juris doctor's degree.

According to Stewart, the increased number of incoming student's academic records were driven by the law school's continuing policy of only admitting 250 students per year. Last year's 1L class matriculated a record-setting 278 students, an overenrollment of time and also could not be present in any high traffic areas of the school during the ban.

Billups and Hyndman appealed the election committee's findings to the hearing in front of the full senate. During the May 1, 2004 hearing, Billups and Hyndman argued that the proper procedures were not followed, the facts were not interpreted correctly and that the sanctions were inappropriate.

After hearing the arguments, a quorum of the full senate affirmed the election committee's decision in its entirety.

Sasha Markovic, 2003-2004 SBA President, said, "I will vehemently defend the committee's actions to the very end; one would be misinformed if they think there was any impropriety. Because this was an SBA election, the SBA bylaws contain governing procedure for complaints, the proper procedure was followed and the decision was made in order to ensure fairness to students, the candidates and the election." After the decision of the full senate, Billups and Hyndman appealed to the CSU Student Life Committee of the Faculty Senate, who subsequently ordered a new SBA executive election for all four executive positions. DeSantis has reportedly appealed and Haste said that he plans on appealing the committee's decision.

Haste said he is unsure why the new election will encompass all four positions. "It is ridiculous that Nick [DeSantis] and John [Storey] are up for reelection. Why they are being punished for an honest mistake of another person and their own knowledge is beyond me," said Haste.

Currently, the SBA is planning a new election, which will last for six weeks. Candidacy for the new election will not be limited to students who run in the contested election. Furthermore, because students who were eligible to vote in the April election have since graduated, it is expected that IL's will be allowed to vote in the upcoming election.

1L class "smarter and smaller"

By Mike Brown

Staff Writer

CSU committe orders new executive election after lengthy appeal

The Dean's Column

By Steven H. Steinglass

I welcome you all to the beginning of CSU's 108th school year of educating some of the finest lawyers, judges, business persons, government officials and community leaders in America. We look forward to finding your names among them one day.

I encourage you to prepare for your future career by working hard in classes, becoming acquainted with professors, seeking help if you need it and using the "culture" of law school as a classroom for learning the benefits of involvement in your communities and the nation.

By using the "culture of law school," I mean that the law school is a microcosm for your future as attorneys. Opportunities for preparing yourself for some of the finest lawyers, judges, business persons, government officials and community leaders in America are possible.

There are perhaps 40 student organizations: They are organized around cultural identity, such as the Black Law Students Association; the Hispanic Law Students Association and the Justinian Forum; around mutual political and philosophical concerns, such as the Association for Environmental Law and Sustainability; the Women's Law Students Association, the National Lawyers Guild and the Federalist Society; around career interests such as the Student Public Interest Law Organization, the Criminal Law Society and the ABA Law School Student Division.

There are also the "basic" organizations that most law schools have: the Student Bar Association; the school newspaper, the Gavel; the Moot Court Program; the CSU Law Review; and the Journal of Law and Health. Getting involved is the beginning of your career as an active and engaged lawyer.

Our lectures series and special events are another opportunity to envision yourself as an actual attorney-in-training. Each lecture supplements your classroom experiences and exposes you to some of the finest minds in America. Moreover, each event brings about 30 local attorneys and judges to the law school, making the classroom a fine place to network and introduce yourself to the legal community of Cleveland.

The C-M Law Alumni Association offers first-year students the opportunity to learn about the profession through its Alumni Mentoring Program. Many of the relationships forged between attorney-mentor and student-mentee are maintained throughout law school and beyond.

When you take advantage of the fullness of the law school's community resources, your legal education will not only be more expansive but also more enriching and stimulating.

The Gavel writers garnish recognition atABA competition

By Eric Doeh

Managing/News Editor

Jason Smith, '03, and Joshua Dolesh, '03, won national awards for Gavel articles written during the 2003-2004 school year, in a competition sponsored by the American Bar Association. As part of its annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, the ABA Law Student Division honored the top law school newspapers in the country.

Both Smith and Dolesh outperformed entrants from more than 100 schools nationwide, including entrants from schools such as Georgetown University Law Center, William and Mary Law School, among others.

Smith's article, "Where the Rubber Meets the Reader," won in the Best Humorous Article category, while Dolesh's article, "Dude's vs. God," won in the Best Editorial category.

"Coming into law school, I probably would have thought some things crazy if they had told me that I would win an award for an article dedicated completely to condoms," said Dolesh. "I just happened to rather win an award for a slightly more scholarly piece, I still take great pride in this award."
Introducing the new fall line-up

New additions to the C-M faculty answer questions about life inside and outside of law school

By Amanda M. Paar and Benjamin Zober

Mark Sundahl—Assistant Professor

Q: What one piece of advice would you give to your students?

A: Distinguish yourself from the pack. This need not mean that you get the highest grades in your classes. Publications, internships and experience abroad can set you apart from competitors in the job market.

Q: What classes would you most like to teach, either in the curriculum or one yet to be created?

A: International business transactions and space law.

Q: What do you enjoy doing when not teaching or practicing law?

A: Exploring my new home—the Buckeye State!

Q: Would you rather be able to fly or stop time?

A: That’s easy... fly!

Q: If you could be another person for one day, who would you be?

A: Sir Richard Branson: playboy billionaire, friend to kings and chairman of the Virgin Group.

Michael Bordon—Assistant Professor

Q: What one piece of advice would you give your students?

A: Do not be afraid to apply yourself fully to the many challenges that law school presents. It takes a lot of courage to give it your all, but the alternative is much worse than the pain involved in trying your hardest.

Q: What did you like most about law school?

A: There is not much I didn’t like about law school. I suppose that, at times, law school to me was a dangerous thing, the best thing I’ve ever heard uttered by a lawyer was when Don Stein glass said, “I’d like to offer you a faculty position at Cleveland-Marshall.”

Na gire Naffine—Baker & Hostetler Professor

Q: What do you like to do when you are not teaching or practicing law?

A: I like to play the flute and guitar, sing, cycle and walk.

Q: What was your least favorite class in law school?

A: Criminology, because it was clearly about people and their behavior.

Q: What do you know now that you wish you knew as a student?

A: That the more you work, the more something becomes interesting to you.

Q: If you could be another person for one day, who would you be?

A: The Dalai Lama.

Q: What one piece of advice would you give to law students?

A: Enjoy the acquisition of knowledge.

Q: Would you rather have the power to fly or stop time?

A: Fly.

A: Do you have a guilty pleasure?

A: Chocolate.

Q: What is your favorite appellate district?

A: As an Australian, I will have to refer to my own state, South Australia.

Q: What is your favorite legal term to use in conversation?

A: Personality.

Q: Please describe yourself in three words.

A: Engaged, interested and hedonistic.

Eric Tucker—Scholar-in-Residence

Q: What do you like to do when you are not teaching or practicing law?

A: Kayaking, the local music scene, places like the Beachland Ballroom.

Q: What was your favorite class in law school?

A: Labor and employment law.

Q: What was your least favorite class in law school?

A: Civil procedure.

Q: If you could be another person for one day, who would you be?

A: Doc Watson.

Q: What one piece of advice would you give to law students?

A: "Don’t just try to learn the rules, know the social processes and broader factors.

Q: Would you rather have the power to fly or stop time?

A: Fly.

Q: Do you have a guilty pleasure?

A: Enjoying my subbasical.

Q: If you are at a party and people begin telling lawyer jokes or complaining about lawyers, do you pretend to have a different career, and if so, what do you claim to be?

A: Don’t look at me, I only train them.

JACKSON: C-M policies questioned after admitting convicted felon

Continued from page 1—aware of Jackson’s prior criminal record. Citing FERPA, the Family Educational Records Privacy Act, Gary Williams, assistant dean for student affairs, said the problem is that the administration is not allowed to reveal what they knew or did not know about Jackson’s application, and that certain financial penalties could be levied against the school if they did.

"We don’t run criminal background checks on our students," said Associate Dean Linda Ammons. Part 15 (d) of the C-M admissions application asks, however, "Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation or juvenile offense?"

According to Brian Johnson, CSU spokesperson, in considering the admission of applicants who have been convicted of crimes, "the law school looks at all the circumstances concerning the conviction and the applicant’s subsequent conduct."

In light of the Jackson affair, has C-M considered making changes to its admission policy? "We are always reviewing how we can do better in the admissions process," said Ammons. When questioned on the issue about the law school’s policy on admitting previously convicted felons, Dean Ammons said, "We would not knowingly admit a dangerous felon."

According to Melody J. Stewart, assistant dean of admissions, if a student matriculates and incorrect information is discovered on the student’s application, the associate dean determines whether the Honor Code has been violated. Sanctions that can be imposed include a permanent record of disciplinary action on the transcript or revocation/cancellation of the admissions decision.

Did Jackson falsify his admissions application? SBA President Edward Hunte III is skeptical. "Why would he? It makes his very slim chance of admittance to the bar go straight to zero."

Hunte said that he’d like to see Jackson waive his privacy rights of his admissions records to clarify the issue.

Jeff Kelleher, Jackson’s defense attorney, stated that he expects that he “will advise [Jackson] against releasing the information... and I’m not so sure any vindication awaits him.” Kelleher said that he was “rather wary of stoking the fire of publicity” at this point.

According to filings at the federal court, Joseph Schmitz of the U.S. Attorney’s Office filed a motion to extend time for returning an indictment until Oct. 15. As this motion was filed a week after the case was bound to a grand jury, there is some speculation that additional charges will be filed when the indictment is returned.

According to sources, Jackson’s closest friends still visit him. One student has reportedly gone to the prosecutor's office to return money received from Jackson in connection with a student organization fundraiser.

"By no stretch of the imagination is Mr. Jackson representative of this student body," said Ammons. "There are 800-plus students at C-M, hard-working, law-abiding good people trying to better their lives. It’s unfortunate that Mr. Jackson chose the path that he did; it affects the college; but we have to move on."
Do what fits you best

Students must find customized study methods
By Karin Mika

Legal Writing

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

A: Different people have different learning styles and are able to "muster" information in varying increments. One of the disapprovals about law school (and maybe about learning in general) is that an outline is this thing with definite rules, and once you write it down on paper it’s permanent and unchangeable — even if it’s later discovered to be incorrect.

An outline is no more than a coming together of an individual’s thoughts rather than this creation (looking something like Gilbert’s) that has every conceivable correct answer to a test question. To that end, the answer to your question is that it’s best to do both — every once in a while, take a step back and organize each individual to put some organization to what he/she has learned. It is also good to organize an individual’s methods of thinking about that creation (looking something like Gilbert’s) that has every conceivable correct answer to a test question.

Legal

DEAN SEARCH: Committee reveals desired criteria

Continued from page 1 — make the final selection as to who will serve as C-M’s new dean.

Prof. Phyllis Crocker, chair of the search committee, said, “The committee is looking for someone who will be a leader and will take us to greater places.”

Crocker said the committee is not necessarily looking for a candidate who is a legal academic. The successful candidate may come from the academic, public, private or non-profit sectors, said Crocker.

Nick DeSantis, the student representative on the search committee, said that the “right candidate should be someone who can adequately address and respond to the needs of students.”

If the committee finds a successful candidate would be someone who can identify students’ concerns, promote C-M nationally and raise C-M’s ranking.

DeSantis’s primary role on the search committee is to serve as a facilitator. He will be responsible for introducing the final three candidates in November, when students will have an opportunity to ask questions to the candidates.

According to Crocker, the committee is also looking for a candidate with effective fund-raising skills and one who will increase scholarships, especially since state funding and budget cuts have had a substantial impact on C-M’s budget.

According to Crocker, the preferred candidate would be someone who will be committed to promoting excellence in teaching, support of faculty research and someone who will sustain and increase diversity among students.

Prof. Stephen Lazarus, a member of the faculty senate, said the search committee is looking both within and outside of the C-M community.

In its quest to attract applicants, C-M has advertised many of its strengths, including its alumni involvement. "To be successful, a law school must enlist the support of its alumni and its legal community, and this law school is blessed with loyal and active alumni with a supportive community," said Steinglass.

The search committee has also advertised C-M’s new initiatives: "smaller and stronger." Approved by CSU Board of Trustees, this new initiative is part of C-M’s Bar Exam Plan that will result in the law school becoming smaller and academically stronger, while retaining its commitment to part-time legal education, opportunity and diversity.

DeSantis said that he hopes this commitment for a smaller and stronger student body is one the new dean will continue. Steinglass said that C-M’s smaller and stronger initiative would improve C-M’s reputation and national ranking.

By Vincent Lombardo ’81

Leading by experience

Alumnus urges first-year students to take advantage of the Mentor Program

Let me begin this column with a brilliant and original observation: law school can be stressful, maddening and even frightening. What to do? You can benefit from having a mentor, even if you are not stressed, mad or frightened.

Most dictionaries define a mentor as an advisor, counselor or teacher, and a good mentor is all of these things and more: he or she is also a friend. The March 1995 issue of the ABA Journal contained an excellent article on mentoring which stated that there are three components to being a good mentor.

First, the mentor is a teacher, the "information professional." Second, the mentor is a "connector," a person who helps make the necessary connections for the student along his or her career path. Finally, the mentor is a friend, someone who manages the heart and spirit of the mentor-student relationship.

All law students can benefit from having a mentor. If you are finding law school difficult, a mentor can advise you on how to avoid the mine fields ahead and on how to live up to your potential. But even if you are breathing through, a mentor can help: he or she is your link to life after law school.

The job market is horrendous, even for students on the Law Review. All law students can use a boost in finding a job: an additional letter of reference, a phone call to a potential employer singing your praises, an extra tip on how to interview with a demanding and difficult lawyer, information about an employer that may make you decide not to apply for the job constant reminder that you can make it. Your mentor survived, why can’t you?

The C-M Law Alumni Association has sponsored the Mentor Program since 1991, and even though some 150 students sign up for the program each year, I am always amazed that more do not.

If you have not signed up for the Mentor Program, I urge you to do so. But bear in mind, the mentor-student relationship does not just thrive on its own. Like all other relationships, it requires work. Over the years, many students have told me that they signed up for the Mentor Program and never spoke to their mentors.

However, just as many attorneys have told me the same thing about their students. The mentor-student relationship exists for the benefit of the student — for your benefit. Therefore, the onus is on you both to sign up for the program and to maintain the relationship.

The Mentor Program is C-M’s most underutilized resource. I hope you will take advantage of this program. You will be glad you did.

Vincent Lombardo ’81 is the Vice-President of the C-M Alumni Association.

This column originally appeared in The Gavel in 1997 and is reprinted with the permission of the author.

Your mentor is a constant reminder that you can make it. Your mentor survived, why can’t you?
American Bar Association - Law Student Division (ABA/LSD)
The ABA is a voluntary membership association of attorneys. C-M students are eligible for membership in the Law Student Division of the ABA. The ABA/LSD memberships offer many benefits such as the Student Lawyer magazine, low cost health insurance, discounted rental from Hertz and free or low cost publications that will help you in law school and in planning your legal career.

Perhaps the most valuable benefit offered by the ABA/LSD is an opportunity to participate in one or more of the specialized ABA sections. The ABA/LSD may allow you to vote as a voting counsel member of a section, a position that may take a practicing attorney years to acquire.

Asian Pacific Islander Law Student Association (APILSA)
APILSA is dedicated to the promotion of understanding between Asian American law students and the local, national and international law communities. We welcome members from all backgrounds and nationalities who are interested in the various cultures of the Asian continent and Pacific Islands. Our organization is planning a gavel ceremony for the fall semester that includes networking and pre-bono opportunities. Also, in keeping with the spirit of sharing, we will offer events open to the public. For more information, please check our website.

Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
BLSA is a national organization with chapters across the country. The C-M chapter of BLSA sponsors and co-sponsors various educational and social events throughout the year. We also sponsor "an End of Semester Course Review" and we also sponsor various networking and career building opportunities throughout the year.

Our biggest social event is the BLSA Scholarship Banquet, which is held every year in April. Although BLSA’s primary purpose is to provide assistance in preparation and retention of African American law students, BLSA membership is open to all students.

Business Law Association

The purpose of the Business Law Association is to promote the interests of students, faculty and staff. Our organization is comprised of students interested in all aspects of business and commercial litigation, taxation and corporate law. The BLSA's purpose is to promote the intellectual and political roots of capitalism and to advance the cause of global capitalism and free enterprise.

Criminal Law Society

The Criminal Law Society consists of students and recent graduates who are interested in the professional law fraternity. The Criminal Law Society is a fairly new organization and has sponsored guest speakers as well as the ride-along program with the Cleveland Police Department.

Delta Theta Phi

Delta Theta Phi Fraternity is an international professional law fraternity with over 100,000 members. Delta Theta Phi bridges the gap between law school and the successful practice of law. Through Delta Theta Phi, scholarships, mentorship benefits are derived for both students and alumni. Many attorneys who utilize Delta Theta Phi look to the Fraternity first when hiring. In general, the Fraternity provides a framework for its student members to substantially further their range of personal and professional opportunities.

Electronic Frontier Foundation

The C-M EFF encourages awareness of both current, forthcoming and proposed communications and information technology and the impact such technology has upon civil liberties, political organization, political action and access to information. The organization promotes the interests of civil liberties, state sovereignty and national security.

Electronic Frontier Foundation

The purpose of the Business Law Association is to promote the interests of students, faculty and staff. Our organization is comprised of students interested in all aspects of business and commercial litigation, taxation and corporate law. The BLSA's purpose is to promote the intellectual and political roots of capitalism and to advance the cause of global capitalism and free enterprise.

Legal Writing, Research and Oral Advocacy

Legal Writing, Research and Oral Advocacy is an educational program designed to help students develop the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in law school and to become successful attorneys. The program is open to all students, and is particularly beneficial for those interested in criminal law, business law, and civil litigation.

Phi Delta Phi

Phi Delta Phi is an international professional law fraternity that was founded in 1888. It is dedicated to the promotion of education, work, and friendship in the legal profession.Phi Delta Phi is comprised of chapters at law schools across the country.

Oregon Law Review

The Oregon Law Review is a student-edited journal published by the law students of the University of Oregon School of Law. The Oregon Law Review is devoted to the advancement of legal scholarship, and is an opportunity for students to publish their work in the field of law.

Student Organizations Guide

Get your nose out of those books and add some balance to your legal education by becoming a member of a student organization.

Two or three member teams travel to various competitions around the country to compete against other most court teams. Each team receives a hypothetical record, as an appellate brief and attend a competition where team members argue orally against other law schools' teams. The LSA provides the opportunity to compete in one competition per academic year. Students in Moot Court can earn up to eight credit hours while developing critical practical skills such as legal writing, research and oral advocacy. Moot Court builds confidence and friendships that last throughout law school and beyond.

Moot Court Night, scheduled for Wed. Nov. 3, is one of the final practice rounds for two of our teams in preparation for the National Regional VI competition, in which we have a student to experience appellate advocacy.

Students have opportunities to join Moot Court in the spring semester of their first and second years.

Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA)
The Ohio State Bar Association provides many benefits to the member student. Members receive the OSBA weekly publication of recent Ohio court decisions, the Ohio Student Lawyer Journal and the student newsletter.

Students also have the opportunity to attend local conferences on various current issues in the legal field. The OSBA provides members with valuable connections and opportunities that will help them throughout law school and their legal careers.

Student Bar Association (SBA)
The SBA is the student governing body of the college. Four officers are elected each spring and each class of students has its own senators. 13 elections for both day and evening students will be held soon after classes start.

The SBA’s primary responsibilities are to represent the interests of the student body, oversee student organizations and maintain programs and opportunities.

Student Public Interest Law Organization (SPILO)
SPILO is an organization of students, faculty and staff that recognizes the inequities that exist in our legal system and is dedicated to developing a more just society. SPILO serves as a resource center for students seeking employment or volunteer opportunities that focus on public service.

The group sponsors summer internships in public interest law, volunteer activities, guest speakers, workshops and conferences.

Women's Law Students Association (WLSA)
The Women's Law Students Association provides a forum for discussion and debate to promote an awareness of women's and societal issues.

WLSA participates in fundraising and community service activities for recognized women's issue organizations in the Greater Cleveland area. WLSA sponsors the annual Moot Trial and Silent Auction (a fundraiser which generates thousands of dollars for student scholarships each year), which are both held in the spring.

WLSA is a member of the National Association of Women Law Students and is open to all students.
It is not fatal to be attractive

From day one, children are told that "beauty is on the inside" and that "you can become whoever you want to be," but is this truly real? Is success dependent in some way on a person's looks? Start small: the grocery store - an attractive woman who is trying to lift a case of bottled water will likely be offered help even if she does not seem to be struggling. Some of you are probably saying, "Chivalry isn't dead; this is why the help to be extended to the attractive woman." But seriously, how many guys would be running to help Janet Reno do anything?

Consider this: the mall—a handsome gentleman is browsing through a rack of ties when a female customer remarks how nice the tie will look on him. Would the woman have given the same piece of unsolicited fashion advice had Zell Miller been the man holding the same tie?

It happens all the time. Attractive people know that their good looks can often be used to help them talk to the audience. Once a fashion consultant shows up in the morning to put on make-up and, to the standards of society. This encompasses the process by which people are judged. The belief is that the quickest and easiest way to "know" a person is to simply assess them based on outward appearances.

First, they said that chivalry was dead. Is being decent and respectful dead too? Maybe the reality is that rudeness is overrunning politeness as the norm of society. Recently, Vice President Dick Cheney said "Fuck yourself" on the Senate floor and directed it personally to Sen. Patrick Leahy. When Cheney was interviewed about his remark, he said, "I felt better after I said it." Similarly, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Orrin Hatch referred to a proposal of a fellow senator as a "dumb-ass" idea. Years ago it would have been unheard of for such a remark to have been uttered in such a professional setting by such esteemed leaders.

Things have changed.

Room 237 seems to be constantly occupied during school hours. Class schedules are only five minutes apart, which undoubtedly gives both professors and students little time to settle in before the next class begins. During the second week of the semester, room 237 was filled with students who all witnessed an incident that could only be described as disgraceful and disrespectful. Due to the short break between classes, students in the next class were waiting outside for several minutes before the previous class ended.

The lecturing professor had three to four minutes left in his class when another professor, a colleague of his, barged into the classroom, did not say "excuse me," but rudely and loudly asked if the professor was "done." It was apparent that the lecturing professor was surprised by this inappropriate display. However, he kindly addressed his colleague as "Professor" and reminded him that he had several minutes left until his class ended. The interrupting professor remained standing at the door, as if he was expecting the lecturing professor to conclude at that very moment.

This unfortunate incident reflects very poorly on C-M as a whole. It is especially disappointing because the lecturing professor is a visiting professor.

What type of welcome is it when a senior professor finds it acceptable to rudely enter a fellow professor's classroom, before his class is over, in the middle of his lecture, in front of his entire class and, quite frankly, order him out of the classroom? Being a third-year student at C-M, such acts of disrespect are not the norm. Nevertheless, this visiting professor undoubtedly does not underestimate the professional and disrespectful behavior. The reason is, you are attractive and have confidence in that, because as we all know, attitude is everything.

with someone who is not good-looking.

Many might deem this as "shallow," but how many times have you seen a gorgeous girl with an unattractive guy and asked yourself, "What is she doing with him?" Instantly, the next presupposition is, "Oh, he must have money." What about the possibility of him being a genuinely decent and attractive person?

The point is this, while many people hate to acknowledge it as true, good looks will give a person an edge on the competition in many aspects of life. This does not mean that a person has to be the next supermodel or Adonis. However, if you do not deem yourself a supermodel or Adonis, whether by society's standard or your own (like a contestant on "The Swan"), take steps to make yourself more marketable.

Splughe on a new suit, get a new hairstyle, take a few extra minutes in the morning to put on make-up or shave, but most importantly, remember that you are attractive and have confidence in that, because as we all know, attitude is everything.
I don't know much, but I do know some things

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

Considering I'm a four-week-old 1L, it would probably be arrogant to say that I know anything about 1L law school. So, here are some things that I think about law school.

I think orientation didn't need to be a week long, we didn't need to have legal writing for only two hours each day and that the ethics session needed to deal more with ethics and less with politics.

I think parking at CSU is totally inadequate unless you get to school either really early or too late for classes. And traffic coming into and going out of Cleveland sinking too (literally).

I think the law school needs to install more restrooms. With as little sleep as we're all getting, it would be great to have somewhere to go and take a quick power nap between classes or before spending the rest of the evening in the library.

I think the law library is one of the nicest libraries I've ever been in. And I think I love the homeless guys in the library; it's nice to see someone who isn't a law student around here, if just to remind me that there is life outside of law school.

I think I already hate the Ohio Room. And I hate when it seems like everyone is doing the same thing at the project at the same time — most of the time the people in my section get along pretty well. But I've almost seen fights over volumes of Ohio Jurisprudence or the Ohio Revised Code.

I think I already hate the Bluebook. I also hate legal encyclopedias, legal dictionaries, digests, digests, digests and anything else provided in "hard copy." On the other hand, I love Lexis and WestLaw, if for no other reason than it allows me access to all the necessary facts to prove the case.

I think that there are a lot of other things that I think, but they will have to wait until the next issue.

Open Mike

3L sounds off on recent events

By Michael Luby

STAFF WRITER

And so it begins ... the countdown. With less than nine months before graduation as though the two years I have spent here have become almost transparent. It became readily identifiable that at some point during our law school careers, the safety net that is C-M would officially disappear. For a time, the paramount issue was whether we would be back to Jack's or a third-floor kitchen bar on a Tuesday night. Without the blanket of another year in waiting, however, it begins, and I would like to welcome back some old and welcome the new.

It appears the latest presidential sound is taking place right here at home with C-M's SBA elections. Without the necessary facts to truly form an opinion, it does seem odd that with only two viable tickets eligible for the throne anyway, wouldn't a simple run validate the process all over again. This said, doesn't the loss of last year's graduates only create more poison for the process? Maybe it's not obvious, but I would venture to guess that what became a "situation" last year is ultimately going to only hurt the student body. At Gore would be proud.

Speaking of presidential races, would it not be nice to make me mention of some of the fascinating possibilities certain media outlets have been heralding recently. Specifically, with Gallup headed by someone who kind of makes the Kennedy's look like the Barrymores, it seems unlikely that this trendy circuit court judge will fly, monotony and a couple of former secretaries. Isn't this just another example of the Hollywood type rescue it would receive if it were to return to Earth, it got nothing short of a California Governor's welcome straight out of the likes of T2.

Perhaps, the Chicago Sun has reported that police Sgt. Tom Donegan has just been found dead in his apartment. I wonder if the police and NBC/Today and the numbers supporting the Bush camp would seem hardly surprising. You would think that in police headquarters' headquarters, there is a balanced number of dems to reps. The reality, however, is that Gallup, and several other polls, have greatly overstated Republican voters at numbers between five to ten percent. If level orange doesn't work, well try ... For nearly two months over the course of this summer, I came across various articles spelling out the wonders of the NASA Genesis sun-probe thingies. After rampant discussions about the Hollywood type rescue it would receive if it were to return to Earth, it got nothing short of a California Governor's welcome straight out of the likes of T2.
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