Special Elections Issue

The Candidates Speak Out
Gavel Decides Not To Endorse

SBA Elections — May 14 & 15

The elections for officers of the Student Bar Association will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 14 and 15. Voting will take place in the Student Lounge. Although the Gavel has decided, for reasons stated below, not to endorse, we urge all law students to vote, and in doing so, to make an informed choice. There are many candidates running, some of whom are well qualified to devote the time and effort necessary to effectively carry out existing and new programs, to address student problems, and to spend student money wisely. SBA and the purpose it serves can be of value to all of us. Whether this will be so may depend on the choices you make on May 14 and 15.

The month of May has arrived and, as in years past, that means SBA elections. This year, the following people are running for office: For President — Kreig Brusnohan, Henry Hilow, and Sheila Ramerman; for Vice-President — Fred Carman, Diane Germano, Larry Mase, and Scott Wilson; for Secretary — Rob Lash and Liz Levitt; and for Treasurer — Paul Colavechio, Mike Greber, Mark Mostrangelo, Rich Pignatiello, and Mark Weller.

SBA elections should be of great significance to all law students. The persons elected will control a budget somewhere in the neighborhood of $25,000. The persons elected will decide how that money is spent. That is, they will decide how many happy hours are held. They will decide how many speakers are brought in, and who those speakers will be. They will decide whether or not to have a book exchange or a Community Education Program. They could go on and on, but suffice it is to say that all of us should be concerned with who we decide to have spend our money.

We feel that there are several qualifications which a candidate, no matter what position he or she is running for, should possess to be an SBA officer. A candidate should have a strong willingness to poll students to find out what programs or events they want to have. A candidate should realize that he/she will have to put in at least 15 hours a week, and probably much more during some weeks. Any less and the job is not being done.

Ability to get along well and work well with others is certainly important. Programs will fail if an officer cannot bring people together to do the job. Past involvement in SBA activities and a knowledge of the workings of this University should also be considered.

It is up to the students to decide how they want their SBA to function. Social activities are fine, and certainly offer a welcome relief from the throes of academia, but SBA can be an effective voice for students in matters such as Placement, Late Grades, Community Relations, etc. Whether or not SBA truly depends on who we elect.

The qualifications mentioned should be considered. In addition, each person who votes should consider, individually, those criteria which he or she feels are necessary for each position. It's up to us to decide how the SBA will be run.

Personality alone isn't enough. By the same token, extensive experience in student government is not a must. In short, a variety of factors as mentioned must come into play.

Soren Kierkegaard once wrote something to the effect that the very act of not deciding is in fact an affirmative decision in itself. This reflects the tortuous process Gavel editors and staff found themselves involved in when it was ultimately agreed that the paper would make no SBA endorsements this year.

Our final course chosen was not one easily arrived at; indeed, Gavel editors spent the better part of 10 days conducting fairly penetrating interviews with the 14 candidates, measuring judgements, and trying to form editorial policy. In the end — and after some candidates were actually chosen — it was decided that it would ultimately be more responsible not to make positive recommendations than to do so.
The Candidates Speak Out

None of these goals are earth-shattering, but by the same token, I'm not going to make any promises that I cannot keep. Accomplishing these goals, along with the continuation of present SBA services, including happy hours and orientation, will result in an SBA that truly is fulfilling its purpose. I feel that I have the experience to attain these goals. My prior experience in the SBA includes service as: Senator, Speakers Committee Chairman (Julian Bond and Sam Ervin were the two major speakers this year), Book Exchange Co-ordinator for part of Fall quarter and Spring quarter and bartending at happy hours. I have also been involved in the CSU Student Government and served as Chairman of the student Senate at my undergraduate school, George Mason University. I relate this prior service to students only to reassure you that if elected, I will fulfill my duties and obligations to you to the best of my ability. In order for the SBA to function most effectively and efficiently, experience is crucial. The SBA exists for your benefit and if I'm elected, I assure you that its services will always be at your disposal.

Sheila Ramerman

The SBA is supposedly an organization that every law student at Cleveland-Marshall belongs to. In reality, however, few students actually feel a part of this organization. Once intended as an organization whereby all law students are members with a small group of students who control every facet of its organization, the SBA has lost sight of its goal to serve the entire student body. This is where my candidacy focuses; to nurture a new spirit where everyone feels a part of the SBA. Membership in the SBA should not be a hollow title but a vibrant and active participation in an organization of all law students.

The time has come for change. In recent years, the SBA has bred its own candidates and have had their selections rubber stamped by an apathetic student body. The SBA presidency is not a right of inheritance.

The SBA exists for the benefit of all the students, and not for a select group. If elected, I promise to make the SBA an organization that focuses on the needs and interests of the entire student body. To make the SBA the organization it was intended to be, and what we want it to be, on election day, I hope you will endorse my candidacy.

Henry Hilow

Let me introduce myself as a candidate for President of the SBA. While my name has not been in the forefront, I can assure you that I have consistently given my time and efforts to help organize and promote a variety of SBA-sponsored activities, from happy hours to orientation, during my two years at C-M. Having been involved with the SBA, I see an urgent need for a change of focus. As you know, the SBA is known primarily as a social activities, and I would like to have the most emphasis placed on other needs of the student body.

The SBA should be aiding C-M students in their roles as students and as potential lawyers who will soon be actively involved in the community outside C-M. The SBA, for instance, should be working with the administration to solve the problems of late grades and scheduling foul-ups. These problems have been consistently complained of and have not as yet been solved. While I have no answers to these problems as yet, I can say that as President I would do my utmost to see to it that these answers would be found. I would like to see the SBA work closely with the Placement Office to ensure that C-M students have access to as much information as possible about job opportunities in the Cleveland area. I have been told that the Cleveland Bar Association has a complete listing of all law firms in the area and the type of work they do. Certainly the SBA could organize and publish this list and make it available to all C-M students.

Other projects which are of potential value to students are job seminars and resume clinics. While these have been organized by various organizations in the past, I would like to see them offered on a more frequent basis.

As future attorneys, C-M students must be able to function effectively in the legal community and in the community-at-large. For this reason, I strongly believe that the SBA should offer programs which will encourage involvement of C-M students in the community. For example, the Community Legal Education Program could have been an excellent vehicle for achieving this end. Unfortunately, it was shelved when the Cleveland Board of Education phased out its Adult Education Program. This program should be re-established next year, and I see no reason why the other community sponsors could not be found. Another example of community involvement is Law Day, which is sponsored by several Cleveland law firms each year. I would like to see many C-M students involved in this program next year, and publicity and encouragement by the SBA would be an excellent means of achieving this end. Community Legal Education and Law Day are

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President
Kreig Brusnahan

If someone were to ask me what the purpose of the SBA is, I would tell them that it exists to do everything possible to make law school life a little more enjoyable and easier to handle. I have many ideas on how to accomplish this purpose if you give me the opportunity to do so. My primary goals if elected SBA President are:

1.) An increase in the number of nationally known speakers appearing at Cleveland-Marshall.

2.) Taking a survey to determine what activities you want your SBA money spent on and what social events are most appealing to you.

3.) A consistently operated book exchange, run on a quarterly basis with a paid student co-ordinator and, hopefully, greater participation in this program.

4.) Keeping the SBA office open a minimum of 40 hours per week, during day and evening hours, so that the opportunity exists for you to utilize the SBA and the services it provides.

5.) Greater input by the student body into administration policies and procedures, with particular emphasis on the problem of late grades.
Sheila Ramerman
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just two examples of the types of community activities I would like to see next year. In addition, I would like to see a student liaison between C-M and the Bar Association.

To achieve the objective I have mentioned, I realize that participation by C-M students would be essential. Apathy is the accepted norm at C-M, with the exception of a small core of dedicated students. One effective remedy I see is to make sure that SBA Senators earn their titles by devoting their time to SBA-sponsored activities and by encouraging their friends to do so as well. SBA Senators must take a more active and constructive role in student government if the SBA is to continue to be a viable and effective organization. Communication is another remedy for apathy. To facilitate communication and enhance accessibility, I would set up frequent office hours and stick to them. I would encourage the other SBA officers to do the same.

I have outlined the basic goals I believe the SBA, through its officers, should strive to attain, and I guarantee that I would make a full commitment of my time and efforts to see to it that they would be met. If you agree with the goals I have outlined, I urge you to give me your support in the upcoming election.

Vice-President
Fred Carmen
The Student Bar Association is, in theory, that body within the law school which represents all the students. It is an organization that should respond to the needs and wants of its constituency. Yet despite these ideals, for too long, the SBA has been more of a private social club than a democratic organization. My candidacy stands for a return of SBA to the students. I hope to encourage participation in this body and I intend to listen to the students' views on the social and academic decisions that will affect them.

The changes which I would like to see instituted are really not very radical. Rather they are of the type which the law student has a right to expect but seldom gets. Here are some of the programs which SBA should take the lead in providing:

- More frequent social activities. (Other than a Happy Hour every two weeks, SBA planned activities are few and far between.)
- Guest lecturers who the students really want to hear. (Who decides on what speakers will appear at Cleveland-Marshall and why doesn’t anyone ever ask the students who they’d be interested in hearing?)
- Institution of a system whereby faculty members will be penalized for turning grades in more than 4 weeks after the final exam week. If students are not given the option of turning in papers or taking tests later than scheduled, why should professors be allowed to get away with excessive tardiness?
- A general policy of open forum. Everyone should feel welcome at SBA meetings and everyone should feel that his or her idea has as much chance of being implemented as that of an SBA member.

In short, then, I am advocating a program that should have been going on right along. I’m advocating student control over and participation in a student organization. I am advocating a body that can accomplish its objectives by virtue of having attainable goals. And most importantly, I am advocating the right of all students to help decide how the important questions should be resolved. If you agree with these principles then I’d appreciate your vote for Vice-President of the Student Bar Association.

CLEVELAND MARSHALL FIRST
ANNUAL PLACEMENT FAIR

DATE ______________ MAY 21st
TIME ______________ 4-7:30
PLACE __________ THE ATRIUM, MOOT COURT

TENTATIVE EVENTS SCHEDULED
FASHION SHOW, OR "WHAT THE BEST
DRESSED APPLICANT OR ATTORNEY
WILL WEAR" (SHOWS AT 4 & 6 pm)

ALL ASPECTS OF INTERVIEWING: HOW
TO WRITE A RESUME/HOW TO WRITE A
COVER LETTER/WHAT'S IT LIKE TO
WORK FOR A SMALL LAW FIRM...A
MEDIUM SIZED LAW FIRM... A LARGE
LAW FIRM... SOLO PRACTITIONER/LAW
RELATED WORK/JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS.

Diane Gerboc
As a second year law student who does not live and breathe law school (yes, it can be done!), I would like to see SBA offer more activities that are fun, that students are interested in and can afford, and that can give them a break from their studies. We all spend more than enough time here. With my help SBA can be run more effectively, efficiently and with greater support from the student body.

Larry Mase
As a second year student and SBA senator I have been troubled by several problems that seriously concern the law school student body at Cleveland-Marshall. These problems are (1) Student apathy, (2) Job Placement, (3) Access to the dean, (4) Course selections and (5) Grade Deadlines.

(1) Student Apathy. The lack of student involvement in law school programs and activities over the past two years has been staggering. We as students are not taking advantage of the opportunities to benefit from the programs and guest speakers that are presented at the law school. Most importantly we are denying ourselves the opportunity to work together and benefit
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Larry Mase
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from each others experience. We need more people involved, from all classes, both day and evening. I propose to get more students involved, and with the help of strong committees create programs that will be of interest to the student body not only for educational purposes, but for entertainment as well. Voice your opinion and become involved.

(2) Law School Placement. Job placement of our graduates has had a history of being poor. This of all services provided by the administration is one of the most important to students and one in need of the most improvement. We need more job and job offers. Our graduates are qualified applicants and have attended a damn good school. They by no means should have a rough time finding a good job. I intend to work with the placement office in attempts to broaden our reach into the job market for new and better job opportunities.

(3) Access to the Dean. Many complaints have been raised by students concerning the extremely limited offering of courses both in the 2d and 3d quarters of this year. Many students have been forced to take classes that they didn’t want (because nothing else was offered) or were precluded from taking classes in the 3d. quarter that had a prerequisites requirement that was only offered in the first quarter. Other students have been forced to go to night school when they were day students, and night students who work full time have been forced to jeopardize their jobs by attending day classes in order to get a course. Apparently, the course selections have not been made in the students’ best interests. I propose to organize a student course selection committee that would make recommendations to the scheduling office as to what courses should be offered each quarter based on student need. I strongly feel that this will remedy the problems that we have experienced in course selections.

(5) Grade Deadlines. "They’re always late," "Don’t expect them for two months," "Who cares?" I for one have heard these remarks all too often! Late grades have been one of the biggest problems at the law school. What makes it worse, is that it keeps on continuing. We as students are taught by our professors to follow rules of procedure, we are expected to be prepared for class and have our work done on time. But when grades are due, some of these same professors who expect so much, blatantly violate rules that are set up for them. Deadlines are set for a purpose—to be met. I have previously talked with the Dean about the problem and was told that little could be done about it. I don’t believe this and intend to pursue this matter to its fullest extent in order to find a way to have the deadlines met and enforced.

In conclusion, I have voiced my opinions and intentions on some of the issues that are of importance to us as law students. If elected I can promise no greater than to do my best to represent the student body and their needs. We need changes in the law school, but this cannot be done by myself or any other candidate alone. The key is student support and involvement.

Scott Wilson

Cleveland-Marshall is on the move. The academic reputation is improving daily and, even though we students have a heavy work load, there is still some opportunity for students to socialize in the law school setting. But when a school is growing and developing as quickly as C-M, it is easy to feel lost in the shuffle.

As Vice-President, I would like to see more students involved in greatly expanded and varied social programs, as well as more students involved in increasing the academic reputation of the school. After all, this law school is the central force of our lives for the time we are here.

The SBA, through the student body, should be able to work actively in achieving these goals. Confidence and pride in our law school should be the utmost concern to each and every one of us.

Promises are easy for any candidate for SBA office to make. I am sure my opponents will make many of them, but promises and the implementation of ideas are only as good as the person in office. I believe any good idea should be examined and, if possible, carried into action. As we all know, keeping promises, once elected, is difficult. Therefore, my ideas for next year are cast only in rough form, so they can be molded into realistic, worthwhile programs.

One idea is the formation of a student committee, through which students may pass along grievances and feedback to the faculty and administration. Another idea is the formation of a group to assist our muchmaligned placement office, with the hope of generally improving the quality and efficiency of their services.

Socially, successful programs such as the happy hour and the Indians’ opener should continue. My goal here is to assist the president in developing and planning an expansion of social programs to involve more of the students.

The V-P has three functions. First and foremost is a duty to the students of C-M. Second is to assist in the management of SBA functions, such as the book sale and the bar review raffle. Third is a duty to assist the president and other officials of the SBA.

As V-P, I would not be a part of any clique. I would constantly be available to the students to act as a conduit between them and their student government.

My constant availability is well known, as is my hard work and dedication, all qualities I believe are necessary to perform the duties of Vice-President, a job for which I feel I am well-suited.

Perform a death-defying act. Give Heart Fund.

American Heart Association
Secretary

Rob Lash

It is in my best interest, as well as in the interest of the school that I seek the position of Secretary of the SBA. The interaction between the SBA and the student body has been heretofore limited to a select group of people. I feel it is time that the "other" students became involved with the SBA, and that the SBA involve itself with the rest of the school since it is the student body as a whole that the SBA purports to represent. As of next year I will be a third-year day student, and I have been around long enough to know that a change is necessary. My qualifications are that I have been able to handle two years of law school, as well as two clerking jobs simultaneously, and still lead a semi-normal life. Therefore, I know I can effectively perform the duties of Secretary.

Liz Levitt

My name is Liz Levitt and I am running for the position of Student Bar Association Secretary. I am a first year day student and have recently been elected to the position of Vice-President of my legal fraternity. My motivation for seeking the position of secretary is based upon my desire to become more actively involved in maintaining the standards that have been set by our school and its students, and to assist in improving elements of our studies and school life requiring or having the potential to be improved.

Among the many duties performed by the present SBA secretary, a key program that has been instituted is continuous correspondence with other American Bar Association's sixth circuit schools; law schools in the states of Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio. Good relationships have been established with these schools. I hope to be able to maintain these ties, and strengthen them, as reciprocity of ideas has proven to be beneficial to all the schools involved. In addition, maintaining ties established with the National American Bar Association has proven, and can continue to prove, to be a benefit to us all.

In conjunction with the Bar Association of Greater Cleveland, the present officers attempted to obtain and correlate information regarding local law firms; i.e. their addresses, employees, employees' positions, etc. This information was then to have been printed in a booklet that would be distributed to all Marshall students thus familiarizing us all with who's who in the legal community and, more explicitly, who's doing the hiring. I feel this type of information could only prove to be a benefit to every student and anticipate successful results in re-establishing this program.

Treasurer

Paul Colavecchio

In conclusion, I would like to say that I have both the desire and the time to devote to successfully fulfill the requirements of the position of SBA secretary and would hope to be given the opportunity to do so.

Mark Mastrangelo

I am a first year day student. I am running for the position of Student Bar Association Treasurer. Before admitted to Cleveland-Marshall, I was employed by the State Auditor as a management analyst of governmental accounting systems and as a state examiner. In addition to my job with the State Auditor, I have participated in numerous fund raising activities for political and social causes.

My primary motivation for running for SBA Treasurer is to improve the financial management of the SBA. It is important to maintain good fiscal management of the numerous activities which the SBA sponsors, since this benefits all the students at Cleveland-Marshall.

In addition to improving the financial management of the SBA, I would like to increase and improve upon the fund raising activities of the SBA. Increased Continued on page 7
Mark Mastrangelo
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Fund raising activities would supplement the SBA's allocated income from the University which could improve the quantity and quality of SBA activities. Two activities which could be improved are the student book sale and the bar review raffle—of which the results have yet to be announced.

I believe that good fiscal management and the introduction of new fund raising adventures will enhance the ability of the SBA to provide better activities and services for the Cleveland-Marshall students.

Richard Pignatiello

Every year come election time people come from out of the woodwork and suddenly want to get involved. They promise us everything but a new kitchen sink. I'd like to know where these people are the other 50 weeks of the year.

If what you hope to read is a long list of promises that start with "if I'm elected" then I'm sorry to disappoint you. I do not consider myself a politician. Why then am I running for treasurer? To make it short and to the point; because I'm genuinely interested in what goes on around here, and whether I'm elected or not I will continue to do what I can to make Cleveland-Marshall a better place.

Mark Weller

Why Me

For the past 2 years, I have taken a back seat approach to school organizations. I feel this has both positive and negative implications for me. On the negative side, I feel that I might have missed out by not participating as a viable input on a system that has been very helpful to me as a student from out of state. On the positive side, I feel that I have formed no predispositions or biases to any of my fellow students involved with SBA and thus feel that I could work effectively with the people selected to fill the various offices.

Qualifications

Excellent general business background. Currently pursuing combined JD/MBA degrees with graduation anticipated in December of 1981. Much knowledge and experience in fundamentals of organizational design; held offices of treasurer, secretary, & president of various youth groups in secondary school years. Get along well with most people and feel that I could do a good job given the opportunity. Strong willingness to participate.

What I Plan To Do

Be active and attend meetings regularly. Get more students involved with SBA activities and secure a larger budget for SBA from the university.

Mike Greber

As of press time, the Gavel editors had not received a statement of candidacy from Mike Greber.

Sergeant-At-Arms

Joe Zone

The Gavel has decided to make one endorsement, that being in the race for SBA Sergeant-At-Arms. The Gavel heartily endorses Joe Zone for Sergeant-At-Arms. This is a newly created position, and Joe Zone is overwhelmingly the most qualified, for several reasons.

First, Joe Zone is the only candidate entered in the race. Second, Joe certainly has the physical attributes necessary to, as one campaign poster puts it, take care of "law school bimbos." Third, the continued health and well-being of the Gavel staff depends on this endorsement. The Gavel encourages everyone to vote for Joe Zone for SBA Sergeant-At-Arms.
Street Law
Mock Trial Competition

By Ted Barone

David Roth of the Free Clinic, Joseph Nahra - Candidate for Congress, Jose Garcia-Associate Director of Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers, Judge Leo Spellacy-Administrative Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, James Hardiman of the NAACP, and Saul Stillman of Ohio Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals will be among the 48 judges of Cleveland-Marshall’s Street Law Program’s Fourth Annual Areawide Mock Trial competition which begins on May 12th. The Competition will be held at Cleveland-Marshall Moot Courtroom 101.

Magnificat High School will oppose Shaw High School in the first round at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 12th, while Cleveland Heights faces West Tech at 1:30 p.m. on that same day. Two trial rounds are scheduled per day for the weeks of May 12-15 and May 19-22.

The sixteen teams from Cleveland and suburban school systems will litigate a housing discrimination case. The case is being tried in a number of urban centers across the nation where law students are teaching young people law under the auspices of the National Street Law Institute of Georgetown University.

Through Cleveland-Marshall’s Street Law Program, four hundred students have been involved in the year long course in practical law. The program is supported by foundations which include Gerson, Sherwick, Leitch, A.H.S., and Fox as well as Eaton Manufacturing and the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial of Washington, D.C.

There will be a reception for the participants on May 22nd at 3 p.m. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, daughter of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy, will present a trophy to the winners. Mr. Timothy Hagan, County Democratic Party Chairman who is running for County Commissioner and has been a long time friend of the R.F. Kennedy Memorial will present a bust of Robert F. Kennedy to the Street Law Program of Cleveland-Marshall at that ceremony.

Street Law Interviews

Students interested in participating in Street Law next year or in knowing more about the program are invited to interview with program director Elisabeth Dreyfuss. Interviews will be held during the week beginning May 26 or by special arrangement. Sign up sheets are in the legal clinic with Judy Kozial. Second and third year students are eligible.