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Continental Hotel on January 10, 2007, Antonin Scalia told the audience that the U.S. Supreme Court would sit on the Supreme Court? If so, “good luck” Associate Justice Scalia, famous for his sharp wit and sharper pen, held the audience rapt attention of the capacity crowd sharp and Fall 2007 graduates. Do you harbor dreams of one day sitting on the Supreme Court? If so, “good luck” Associate Justice Scalia, famous for his sharp wit and sharper pen, held the audience rapt attention of the capacity crowd. Do you harbor dreams of one day sitting on the Supreme Court? If so, “good luck” Associate Justice Scalia, famous for his sharp wit and sharper pen, held the audience rapt attention of the capacity crowd. Do you harbor dreams of one day sitting on the Supreme Court? If so, “good luck” Associate Justice Scalia, famous for his sharp wit and sharper pen, held the audience rapt attention of the capacity crowd.

**Justice Scalia speaks to clinic crowd**

By Paul Deegan  
**Staff Writer**

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**C-M offers advocacy opportunities**

By Emily Honsa  
**Staff Writer**

C-M’s moot court and trial team are excellent opportunities to get practical experience in a competitive environment. Becoming a member of either team, however, is not so easy. To join C-M’s trial team, sponsored and coached by Reminger and Reminger, Co., LPA, students are asked to prepare either an opening argument or closing statement based on a hypothetical case and deliver either statement in front of a panel of judges composed of previous team members and practicing litigators.

Eight members are chosen to participate on the team, and practices require a large commitment of time and energy, said Laura Frament, a trial team member. Practices are held all day Saturday and Sunday during the semester and require outside preparation, Frament added. Because of the time commitment, Frament advises interested students to be realistic. “During law school, we only have a finite amount of time to participate in organizations and activities outside the classroom,” said Frament. “It would be better for a new student to already know that litigation is the arena of law that they would like to be in.” Frament also noted that if a student is granted a place on the team and does not put in equal effort, then the team can suffer. Trial team competitions involve going through the entire process of an actual trial - from opening statements to closing arguments. The team occasionally participates in scrimmages, which allow them to test their skills against.

**C-M searches for new professors**

By Joanna Evans  
**Staff Writer**

The faculty appointments committee is engaged in serious negotiations with two faculty candidates and is close to filling vacancies that were created by the retirement of Professor Stephen J. Werber and the departure of Dean Linda Ammons.

The committee screened hundreds of resumes that were submitted en mass through the American Association of Law Schools. Candidates who did well in the half-hour screening interviews were then invited to participate in a full day of interviews with other faculty members and students. “We brought in an unprecedented number of candidates and the amount of work was just breathtaking,” said professor Jim Wilson, chair of the faculty appointments committee.

The consideration of lateral candidates, people who are already teaching in the industry, was a new approach for C-M. Other law schools had been successful with this approach in the past. “I think that it will help our academic reputation and standing if we now started going out and finding good people. By doing this, we are saying that we are competitive and that we’re no longer at the bottom of the food chain,” Wilson said.

In selecting the candidates who would go on to half-hour screening interviews, the committee considered a wide variety of factors in order to maintain the rich, diverse, multicultural environment that is C-M. “In the faculty hiring process, we want to ensure that the faculty is reflective of the community that we serve, not only in gender, not only in academic areas, but also in race, ethnicity, and in terms of ideological perspectives,” Dean Geoffrey Mears said.

“We want to make sure that as many different perspectives as possible are brought into the faculty community and therefore the classroom,” Mears said. Professor Bryan Ray, who recently joined C-M’s faculty in 2006, indicated that it was this rich and diverse faculty environment that attracted him to C-M. C-M has a really interesting and well-respected mix of faculty doing different things in different fields, and diversity was important to me,” Ray said.

Faculty members were very much engaged in the process, and students are often asked to become involved but sometimes find difficulty in doing so, Wilson said. “I understand why students can’t make it. There’s often not

If you are planning on taking the Ohio Bar Exam in July 2007, you must complete one hour of substance abuse instruction. The seminar includes causes, prevention, detection and treatment alternatives for substance abuse. C-M is sponsoring a free seminar on March 24, 2007, which is available for Spring, Summer and Fall 2007 graduates.

**Substance Abuse Seminars**

Information provided by Marcie J. Rechner

**Student opposes smoking ban**

The new smoking ban took effect in early December. In a letter to the editor, one C-M student sounds off on why this law is unconstitutional and should be disobeyed.

**Alumni take on outdoor sports**

Two Gavel alumni have included water adventure sports in their professional lives. The Gavel learns about their alternative experiences and adventures on the Great Lakes.

**Grade delays cause concern**

An earlier spring semester caused students to start class without having fall grades. The Gavel talks with the administration about student concerns and possible solutions.
Law faculty makes plans for C-M’s future

By Geoffrey Mearns

Last year, the law faculty and administration engaged in some strategic planning. During that process, we received input from our students, our alumni, and some community leaders. As a result of that process, we articulated six ways in which the law school wanted to improve in order to fulfill our institutional mission.

Although that process was valuable, the strategic plan we produced last year was not complete in two important respects. First, we did not prioritize our goals. Second, we did not articulate specific tactics that we would need to implement in order to accomplish those goals.

During this current academic year, we are engaged in a collaborative process that will address these two deficiencies. That process began last fall with a session to review and, if necessary, revise our strategic goals. During that session, we re-examined those goals in order of their institutional priority.

We are presently having a series of planning sessions devoted to each of the strategic goals. The purpose of these sessions is to identify the specific tactics we need to implement in order to attain the strategic goal.

At this stage in the process, the plan includes six strategic goals. They are listed here in order of priority, but they are all important.

1. We will continue to improve our graduates’ first-time bar passage rate on the Ohio State Bar Exam.

2. We will enhance the quality of and attain a more diverse student body, and we will expand the professional opportunities available to them.

3. We will improve the scholarly productivity and reputation of our faculty.

4. We will develop a signature program or a small number of “centers of excellence” at the law school.

5. We will strengthen our curriculum and expand our teaching strategies to maximize the educational experience for our students in order to prepare them to practice law in the 21st century.

6. We will expand our long-standing commitment to public service.

When it is complete, this plan will guide the direction and administration of the law school for the next five years.

Accordingly, we have selected strategic goals that are capable of being achieved within that time frame. In that regard, we set six goals, so that we can focus our efforts and resources on the most important objectives.

I share this information with you for two principal reasons. First, I want you to know that the faculty and the administration are actively engaged in a planning process that will extend this law school’s legacy of excellence and opportunity. We are quite proud of what our faculty, our graduates, and our students have achieved. Indeed, the recent bar results demonstrate that we have met a concerted community commitment to solve a problem we can achieve a common goal. But in order to maintain and expand our impact and our reputation, we must improve in many other respects too.

Second, we want your input. If you have thoughts about these goals or suggestions for specific tactics that can help us achieve them, please speak to me, or practice law with any member of our faculty or administration.

I look forward to your input. And, I look forward to working with you to make this very good law school even better.

The Dean’s Column

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Students, administration deal with grading delay

By Kevin Shannon

The first week of this semester, students could be overheard asking each other one question: Did you get your grade in Professor X’s class yet? The fact that this semester began a week earlier than spring semester last year had the unfortunate effect of students starting classes without receiving some, or in some cases all, of their grades from the previous semester. This was a common complaint among students during the first few weeks of this term.

According to SBA President Scott Kuboff and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Phyllis Crocker, the reason for grades being delayed was the shortened Christmas break, and the spring semester starting a week earlier this year.

The decision to start the semester a week early was made to give C-M students a chance to take the six-day Preliminary starting a week earlier this year.

grades being delayed was the shortened Christmas break, and the spring semester starting a week earlier this year.

According to Kuboff, the benefits of the schedule change, which allows students to attend PMBR, outweighs the grading problems.

The change is in everyone’s best interests, and first and second-year students will appreciate the benefits once they begin to prepare for the bar exam, Kuboff said.

“You can have all the grades in the world posted online, but [grades] do not mean anything unless you pass the bar exam,” Kuboff added.

He also acknowledged several complaints that SBA had received from the student body but noted that all the complaints had come from first and second-year students.

The SBA is taking the complaints seriously, but students must exercise some patience and realize that grading cannot be done all at once, Kuboff said.

He also noted that the faculty and administration are doing everything they can to address the concerns of students.

According to Crocker, who oversees the grading process to ensure that professors’ grades fit within the school’s grading curve guidelines, each professor has 21 days depending on which week the exam was administered to submit grades. If a professor has not submitted the grades by the deadline, Crocker and the student records officer follow up with the professor and do everything they can to expedite the process, Crocker said.

When alerted to the fact that some students had received grades after the semester began despite their professors turning in the grades in much sooner, Crocker explained that there is a strict time period established for grading period for professors might be an option. According to Crocker, it is grading period is actually pretty short compared to other schools.

Three weeks seemed like the minimum time necessary to ensure that professors could grade their exams without changing the types of exams that professors could administer, Crocker said. She explained that the school did not want to dictate the types of exam a professor could give, and all she could do was press upon the faculty the need to get grades in on time.

Crocker acknowledged how tough it is for students to start a new semester without receiving grades in every course especially for first-year students who start the second half of a course without knowing whether he or she actually passed the first semester.

When asked if she had considered forcing professors of two semester courses to submit their grades soon enough to post them before the semester began, she stated that she had considered it.

Crocker explained that in theory it is a good idea; however, it would mean that all first-year courses would have to be tested during the first week of exam period.

Despite Dean Crocker’s sympathy for the student body’s concerns, she made it clear that she did not anticipate any change in the grading period.

Students: Gain practical experience

Continued from page 1–

or have completed advanced brief writing, and they must enroll in the moot court tryout course.

Participants in the course write a brief specifically for the competition and argue it in front of a panel. Second-year students are also chosen based on their performance and realize that grading cannot be done all at once, Kuboff said.

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Students: Gain practical experience

Continued from page 1–

opponents.

To new team members, the scrimmages can be an eye-opener. Techniques and the opposition uses can be surprising and often take the opposition by surprise.

Trial team members are currently preparing for the American Association for Justice’s regional competition in Columbus, Ohio.

To become a member of the moot court team, 1L students must submit their legal writing as part of the inner link walkway, and construction of new CSU classrooms along the small classrooms above the Dean’s suite.

April 2007: Preparation work for new entrance set to begin. The areas that will be affected include some student offices and the Dean’s suite.

May 2007: Major construction work will begin after finals to the new entrance, repositioning of the inner link walkway, and construction of new CSU classrooms along current inner link walkway. The areas that will be affected also include clinic offices and

the small classrooms above the Dean’s suite.

August 2007: Construction will conclude on the university classrooms and the repositioning of the inner link.

December 2007: All construction will conclude.

*Information provided by Victoria Plata and is subject to change.

Students: Gain practical experience

Continued from page 1–

the world’s best notices, they’re all juggling schedules, and students have things going on in the afternoon. But, student participation is really important. Students are usually accurate in their assessments, particularly when it comes to the teaching aspect – whether the candidate will seem like a good person, accessible, direct, competent,” Wilson said.

Meams also stressed the importance of student involvement in the faculty hiring process.

“The extent that the students don’t come to those forums, it does not send the best message to those candidates. It suggests that the students don’t care, and I don’t think that that’s the case. I think that students very much care about the quality of the instruction and the quality of their instructors. By not participating, I think that it sends an unfortunate message,” Meams said.

“One thing we said about the students to every candidate after every interview was that last year, the students collectively raised over $30,000 toward the Iris S. Wolstein scholarship fund. I told every candidate to know our students and so grateful to them,” Wilson said.

Hiring: C-M looks to build on faculty diversity

Continued from page 1–

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Students: Gain practical experience

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“One thing we said about the students to every candidate after every interview was that last year, the students collectively raised over $30,000 toward the Iris S. Wolstein scholarship fund. I told every candidate to know our students and so grateful to them,” Wilson said.

Five candidates were brought forward by the committee as finalists. Two offers are now being negotiated with decisions anticipated to come in the next few weeks.
### Advice for managing six classes

By Karen Mika

It can be a struggle to get everything done while still attempting to maintain some quality of life.

Of course, as a law student, quality of life is often something that gets the least amount of priority.

Unfortunately, that’s kind of the way that it has to be if you want to do well in law school and succeed in the profession.

That’s not to say that you shouldn’t take any time for family or hobbies, but try very hard not to fall behind in reading because of nights out that might be a luxury.

In terms of prioritizing the work for classes, there are a couple of things that should be remembered:

1. Never fall behind.
2. Pay special attention to classes that might require extra preparation (such as a class where you know you will be called on soon).
3. Don’t try to do a writing assignment in the days or hours before it is due, and
4. Try not to learn by way of marathon sleepless sessions.

The best thing to do is to set aside time for a series of classes for each day, and, like with an exam, try not to go over that time period.

It is almost impossible to retain information in law school by cramming it in. It is also almost impossible to master knowledge when you have fallen behind by a few hundred pages and are trying to catch up.

In order to retain knowledge, it must be obtained incrementally. If done in this way, there should also be at least some time left over for hobbies and a personal life.

There gets to be a certain point where the brain will not absorb any more information, and that would be the time to take a break and do something else.

That being said, the break should also be metered so that you can return to your schedule refreshed.

In terms of time management, most people who work fulltime and attend night classes seem to be best at balancing hours in a day to best achieve their goals.

This appears to be not only the motivation of these individuals, but because of the limitation of available hours and the scheduling of those hours. So, the best way to go about prioritizing while getting everything done seems to be by way of scheduling your time evenly and sticking to it.
How do free trade agreements affect Ohio?

By Bradley Hull

**Conservative Gavel Columnist**

Current U.S. FTAs substantially benefit Ohio. Milton Friedman, the 20th Century's highly respected economist, once said “for over 200 years there has been virtual unanimity among economists... that international free trade is in the best interests of trading countries and of the world.” All credible economic data supports Friedman’s statement. As will be shown, in Ohio in 2002, nearly 200,000 high-paying, stable manufacturing jobs depended on exporting, and foreign companies employed approximately 200,000 workers, while international trade directly caused only 13,093 manufacturing job losses.

In the NAFTA era, which began in 1994, Ohio manufacturers’ dependence on exporting outweighs the job losses they endure from increased foreign imports. In 2002, Census Bureau data showed that 20.5 percent of the jobs of all Ohio’s roughly 900,000 manufacturing workers depended on exporting. By contrast, of those 191,000 manufacturing jobs lost from 1999-2003, a smaller percentage, 18.2, were directly traceable to international trade, as conceded by left-leaning Policy Matters Ohio. Further, one would expect manufacturers’ exporting dependence to continue to rise, as in a mostly pre-NAFTA Ohio, the state’s share of export-related manufacturing jobs increased from 31.6 percent to 38.5 percent from 1991-1994, as found by BLS’ data on foreign markets to exports, current U.S. FTAs greatly aid Ohio manufacturers. The Buckeye State’s 28 percent increase in export shipments of merchandise from 2001-2005 was the fifth largest of all U.S. states. Ohio’s 2005 $34.8 billion total ranked seventh largest. Though the Census Bureau allocates exports to states based on “their transportation origin” in making this determination, its conclusions demonstrate both Ohio’s booming export and transportation industries.

Export-related jobs, in addition to enjoying greater stability in a globalizing economy, are higher-paying. Jobs that depend on trade generally pay 13 percent to 18 percent more than the average U.S. wage, according to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. Given these benefits, future federal legislation aimed at creating quality jobs for Americans must recognize the value of exporting. Ohioans greatly benefit from “in-sourcing.” Lured by American openness to international trade, Bureau of Economic Analysis data shows that foreign-controlled companies employed 203,600 workers in Ohio in 2004. This included 95,000 in the manufacturing sector, or 11.5 percent of its total workforce. Honda alone employed over 16,000 Ohioans in 2004. Restriction of current U.S. FTAs would jeopardize these jobs, regardless of whether the employers are headquartered in a U.S. FTA partner nation, by impairing newfound U.S. hostility to foreign companies and dollars.

Further, trade benefits Ohio. Businessman Solomon Polacheck and a Columbia University study recently found that free trade substantially reduces global violence. Further, world leaders from Koizaman to President Bush have noted that free trade greatly reduces global poverty. Thus, due to FTAs fewer Ohioans are killed in war, and fewer Ohio tax dollars need be spent for strife or aid. In a curious attempt to refute “virtual unanimity” among economists, opponents often cite substantial Ohio manufacturing job losses, without qualifying those losses by citing studies which both substantially outweigh the negative local effects of FTAs. Opponents often then cite the same PMO study’s estimate that 45,734 Ohio 1995-2003 job losses were “trade-related,” but fail to mention the 203,600 Ohioans employed by foreign companies, largely because of U.S. FTAs.

Current FTAs bring stability and good-paying jobs to Ohio’s exporter-manufacturers. Those Ohio manufacturers that do not substantially export will continue to cut payroll for reasons mostly unrelated to international trade. Before clamoring for substantial reform, the “globalization-pushback” crowd should heed Friedman’s admonitions and current economic statistics regarding FTAs’ actual effects.

**Liberal rebuttal...**

I cannot begin to comprehend why you argue “[i]n the NAFTA era ... Ohio manufacturers’ dependence on exporting far outweighs the job losses they endure from increased foreign imports.” Clearly you don’t even know the issue. Viewed against one another the terms ‘dependence on exporting’ and ‘loss endured by increased foreign imports’ cannot account for the trade imbalance caused by Ohio in current FTAs. Perhaps you meant to write that FTAs bring about a net economic gain to Ohio by causing a greater increase in valuable export-related jobs than they do a loss from outsourced jobs and increased imports. But you didn’t write that – because that wouldn’t be true. Your argument fails because you weigh the worth of existing exporting jobs against those lost due to FTAs. You groundlessly presuppose that FTAs created these exporting jobs or in some fashion perpetuate their presence in Ohio. Don’t try to make us feel ok about what we’ve lost by reminding us of what we still have left. That’s like stealing my car and telling me not to worry – you kindly left me my bike.

Next time at least frame the issue in its proper terms before you contort statistical data to defend a losing position.

By Joseph Dunson

**Liberal Gavel Columnist**

Current free trade agreements (FTAs) have damaged Ohio’s economy by displacing thousands of high paying manufacturing jobs overseas. Policy Matters Ohio analyzed numbers from the Department of Labor’s Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA) to find that “the program certified 45,734 Ohioans as being eligible to apply for trade adjustment assistance between 1995 and 2003.” The TAA numbers do not account for all FTA-related job losses though. To track such losses, The Economic Policy Institute (the real EPI) used an input-output economic model, which tracks both the diminution in U.S exports and the increase in imports.

EPI found that “[t]he U.S. trade deficit from 1994 to 2000 removed more than 135,000 jobs and job opportunities from Ohio’s economy, nearly 100,000 of which were from the high-paid manufacturing sector.” Such great losses continue to weigh heavily on Ohio’s families in communities across the state. “Outsourced” workers seldom find commensurate substitute employment, and many local businesses have been forced to make layoffs or close their doors because people in their towns simply don’t have the same money to spend.

Opponents of FTAs further offend tens of thousands of Ohioans who find reprehensible the glaring human rights violations and nightmarish public health conditions abroad in many “free trade zones,” where native labor is exploited by U.S. companies with impunity. The FTA “side agreements” framed to ensure some basic level of protection go unenforced at the expense of powerless workers in countries like Mexico, where workers are horribly underpaid and forced to live in squalor among the clusters of maquiladoras spread out along the U.S. border.

FTAs undermine classic nation building nation building models in developing countries by removing the capital generated by native labor driven production- never allowing the laborers to reap the harvest they’ve sown. This creates a modern day sharecropping scenario in which native economies have little hope for infrastructure development and diversified private native ownership of industry. In his 2004 book Myths of Free Trade, Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown illuminated many FTA realities, and he criticized the west’s treatment of developing nations. “Western lending institutions—led by the IMF and the World Bank—have pushed privatization and deregulation, the so-called Washington consensus, on developing nations. . . .They have forced developing nations to move away from sustainable agriculture to commodity exports, such as coffee and chocolate, which are consumed mostly in wealthy nations.” Senator Brown noted the unfortunate irony in this approach. “The countries that these bankers represent—France, Japan, the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Belgium—had developed their economies very differently; they in fact had protected their industries.”

Current FTAs fail Ohio’s workers and workers abroad. FTAs exacerbate the disparity in wealth between the ultra rich and ultra poor in developing countries, and they drag down our economy at home. While FTAs push down the price of goods they do so at the cost of people. Which is worth more to Ohioans?

**Conservative rebuttal...**

No credible facts support your argument. Nearly all the world’s economists reject Brown’s and EPI-staffer Scott’s conclusions of FTA-caused net domestic harm. You disingenuously ignore Ohio’s trade-related in-sourcing and increased exporting, which both substantially outweigh the negative local effects of FTAs. EPI’s findings are laughable. Notably, unions provide EPI five times more funding than corporations. Its ridiculous study included hypothetical jobs that never actually existed in Ohio, but might have been created, as “trade-related losses”. Further, even if EPI’s fraudulent findings were correct, the foreign in-sourcing of nearly 200,000 jobs to Ohio by 2000 still trumps its conclusion. You cite zero (0) statistics to demonstrate FTA-caused net Third World harm. Instead, you rely exclusively on “Corporations are Evil!”-insipred conspiracy theories. This myth is debunked by the “inconvenient truth” that free trade greatly reduces global poverty. In agreement are, among others, nearly all economists, Koizaman, Australia’s government and a recent U.K.-Israeli study. Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz, a rare dissenter, actually argues that even free trade (U.S. elimination of domestic subsidies) would further reduce global poverty.

Your anti-trade argument roughly translates to “Let wars wage, Third World kids starve and all Ohio exporters suffer to delay comparatively few union layoffs!” Touching.
Thanks Senate

SBA President

Determine whether it should be permanently in place. This policy will be reevaluated to determine whether it should be permanently implemented.

The Gavel: Opinion

Faceing gender dilemmas in the legal field

By Margan Keramat

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Most students here are aware that C-M was one of the first law schools in the country to admit women. The first generation of female C-M graduates, and really the first generation of women attorneys anywhere in the country, faced the challenge of breaking down the “old boys” club phenomenon. The question that faces both female and males in the profession today is whether or not that sign has been completely taken down.

It would be a gross overstatement to say that women today face the same challenges that women two or three generations ago faced. Change in the field is a slow process. Female advancement in many fields is due in large part to legislation that prevents discrimination in the workplace. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects individuals against employment discrimination on the basis of sex, as well as race, color, national origin, and religion.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 requires equal pay for equal work. Women now comprise 40 to 50 percent of law school graduates though this number is not reflected in the upper legal hierarchy. However, the number of women attaining positions of power is on the rise.

According to a 2006 study by NALP, the Association for Legal Career Professionals, the number of females in large firms rose by 1.48 percent from 2005. Nationally, 16.3 percent of partners are women, while 44.3 percent of associates are women.

While legislation prevents employers from discriminating in the hiring process, women still face challenges in larger firms due in part by demanding billable-hours systems and having a lack of flexibility for the job.

Women also face the challenge of being labeled a “bitch” for being too aggressive or a push over for not being aggressive enough. But, women don’t face these dilemmas alone. Law firms face the challenge of balancing the business of the law with the needs of employees. When women make the choice to take maternity leave, firms have to deal with that absence.

Above that, men face societal scrutiny for not being their family’s provider. And as societal norms change, and men are “allowed” to be more sensitive, they still face scrutiny for not being “manly” enough.

There’s no easy answer to the question of how firms can change their business environments to become more conducive in dealing with society’s gradual change in perception of gender roles.

Perhaps this is why the billable hours system where the focus is directed on the quantity rather than the quality of hours produced is so hard to get away from. The system doesn’t necessarily produce quality work. And, perhaps, law firms perceptions of what makes an individual valuable to their firm will have to move to equality and balance in law firms in the future.

The Gavel: Opinion

Letter To The Editor

Student criticizes new smoking ban

By Chuck Northcutt, 2L

SBA President thanks senate task forces

By Scott Kuboff

SBA President

On behalf of my fellow SBA Officers – Meredith Danch, Chan Carlson, Nick Hanna, and Jaime Umerley – I want to assure you that we are dedicated to making the spring semester just as successful as the fall semester.

As many of you are aware, our SBA passed Resolution 1022206-4, which called for a 24-hour Exam Policy. On Thursday, Nov. 30, 2006, the C-M faculty approved an amended version of the SBA policy.

Specifically, the faculty approved a 23-hour exam policy that would allow a student to reschedule one exam in the event that he or she has a final exam scheduled at 6:00PM and then one the following morning at 9:00AM. However, this policy is temporary. After the 2007 spring semester, this policy will be reevaluated to determine whether it should be permanently implemented.

This is a good step in the right direction, and I would like to thank SBA Treasurer Nick Hanna for his hard work with this initiative as well as the faculty for their continued support of C-M students.

This year, Barrister’s Hall will be held on March 3, 2007, at the Hyatt at the Arcade, Downtown Cleveland, and beginning at 6:30pm.

Barrister’s Hall is traditionally a formal affair where students have the opportunity to socialize and network with friends, faculty, and alumni. I would like to thank SBA Vice President of Programming, Meredith Danch and the SBA Programming committee for their hard work in planning the Ball.

In addition to the dinner and dancing, your SBA will be auctioning off two Bar/Brit courses for the SBA Student Scholarship Drive. I would like to thank Ryan Feola and Bar/Brit for their continued support of the students of C-M.

Moreover, this year’s Barrister’s Hall will mark the first time a student will be awarded with the Stephen J. Werber College Integrity Award.

The Stephen J. Werber Collegiate Integrity Award was created in honor of Professor Werber and will be given to one student who has exhibited high character, collegiality, and an outstanding commitment to C-M and the surrounding community.

The student will be chosen from nominations sent to the SBA Executive Committee. I would like to thank Dean Mearns for accepting our invitation to serve on the selection committee.

Finally, your SBA has created a Web site to facilitate communication and keep you better informed.

The Web site address is:

http://www.law.csuohio.edu/student/sba/index.html

I would like to thank Nick Hanna for his work in getting the site launched.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.
Fear and Loathing in Beantown:
The recent terror debacle in Boston

By Kurt Fawver

GAVEL COLUMNIST

In a society steeped in anxiosity. Ours is a culture that prays for safety and security but secretly yearns for the release of every harmless panic terror has become our official national pastime. Ours is a culture that prays for safety and security but secretly yearns for the release of every harmless panic.

Since the middle of January, Turner Broadcast Casting, a marketing campaign for the Cartoon Network show "Aqua Teen Hunger Force." As part of this promotion, over 30 small light boards depicting an "Aqua Teen" character were placed around the city, as well as in other metropolitan areas. The cartoon character, a Mooninite, which resembles an alien from a 1980s video game such as Space Invaders, was shown with his middle finger in the air. People who reported them said they were "menacing" or "sinister." Anyone who's seen "Aqua Teen" knows that the Mooninite is not menacing. They do not hold guns or knives. They don't frown or scowl or have evil eyes, set in narrow slits. They just look like square heads and appendages, more or less. So, this scared people? An anthropomorphically square scared people? Are you kidding? Perhaps it was the middle finger in the air that really kicked off the fanboy rage. I know how terrified of that which is different. I don't even hatefags.com. Disgusting but true. At least it's one thing that I don't hate. And, subsequently, the DOMA doesn't define marriage.

I think DOMA supporters should take a page from the great social conservative thinker, the Rev. Fred Phelps. You know Fred; he's the guy who leads his merry band of pranksters to military funerals to scream at the families of fallen heroes that their sons or daughters deserved to die because America tolerates homosexuals.

Fred even has his own Web page: www.god-hatesfags.com. Disgusting but true. At least it's honest. You don't have to try to guess where he's coming from. DOMA supporters could follow in his footsteps.

May I humbly suggest that supporters re-name DOMA to something that sounds like a delay in grading poses for students. Many of this year's 1L students are sitting in classes they do not even know they passed and can't bring themselves to think about what's gonna happen. Turn your back on DOMA. Turn your back on the base.

Unfortunately, I mean, it could add a whole new chapter to the book about the base. Kind of like what they used to do to African Americans. Just to get votes.

Now we all know that the GOP got a bloody nose in the most recent elections because they needed to freshen up their message a bit. I think it's time for a new marketing campaign. How's this one: tell us the truth. Now, when it comes to DOMA, that's going to mean a lot of talking.

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