Software bugs create a stink

CSU's conversion to PeopleSoft disarms unsuspecting law students

By Kevin Butler and Eileen Sutker

Problems with PeopleSoft, Cleveland State's new university-wide software package, have not passed by Cleveland-Marshall, and some law students are still reeling from the financial aid and records disasters that have plagued CSU since it introduced the software to students last fall.

While the CSU administration and trustees stood by their decision to implement the software and committed even more funds to it, administrators at C-M have worked to avert several major glitches which have had far-reaching consequences to law students.

Students have complained mostly about their financial aid. Though the university bursar received loan checks from various lending institutions on time, problems with PeopleSoft prevented CSU from printing students' overage checks once the loans were applied to their account balances.

Check's in the mail

For many law students, especially full-time day students without jobs, that overage money is essential to pay for daily living expenses.

According to Jayne Geneva, C-M's director of career planning, one law student awaiting her check admitted during orientation that she could not buy copies of her class materials because of her financial aid problems.

PeopleSoft, page 2

With new theme, BLSA welcomes first-year students at reception

By Timothy Gardner Jr.

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Black Law Students Association's third-annual reception to welcome 1Ls was held Sept. 10 in the garden area of the law school.

BLSA centered the event around its theme for the year, "Looking Back to the Past for Guidance to Build a Unified Bridge to the Next Millennium."

Judge Janet Burney of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas discussed the need for 1Ls to seek help with problems and to study consistently.

Dean Steinglass encouraged the students to maintain a spirit of unity.

"You have each other," Steinglass said. "The power of having each other is vastly important."

Fred White and Errol Ashby, both members of the Cleveland Civil Rights Bar Association, welcomed the first-year students.

See PEOPLESOFT, page 2

Former judge discourages myths about mediation work

In a speech to C-M, Markus equates mediation with 'testing no' rather than 'getting to yes'

By Eileen Sutker

STAFF EDITOR

Retired Judge Richard M. Markus presented the 1999 Distinguished Jurist Lecture on Sept. 15 to an overflow audience in the moot court room. Markus is now a visiting professor at Cleveland-Marshall but served as a judge on the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas for four years and on the Ohio Court of Appeals, Eighth Appellate District, for almost nine years.

Markus spoke on "Fundamental Misconceptions About Mediation Advocacy." He referred to mediation as "testing no" rather than "getting to yes" and explained that mediation advocacy is unlike trial advocacy because lawyers need skills of compromise. Mediation is not merely a form of negotiation, he said. He discouraged the myth that mediation requires little or no preparation by attorneys by noting that opening statements need to sway a hostile audience. He also argued that mediation does not necessarily fail if no settlement occurs - a major goal of mediation can be to narrow the issues for litigation. He reiterated that advocacy skills can and should be taught in a wide variety of scenarios, and posited that mediation advocacy as a teachable discipline is developmentally where trial advocacy stood about 10 years ago.

Questions generally revealed the audience members' diversity of mediation experience, but when asked about the use of mandatory mediation, Markus quipped, "I have trouble with mandatory anything." He closed by saying, "Mediation does not satisfy lawyers - it satisfies clients."

Markus retired in 1998 as senior litigation partner from the law firm of Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur. As president of Private Judicial Services, Inc., he provided mediation services before joining the faculty at C-M.

FAMILY MATTERS

Dennis Butler '68 gives guidance to young lawyers who'll be pulled from one side by their work, from the other by their loved ones.

HOW TERRORISTS GET OFF EASY

President Clinton's latest blunder is his biggest - he let PALN members go free.

DEGRADING

Tired of this school's capricious grading system? So was Ann Vaughn - so she devised her own (capricious) system.
Admissions, SBA revise orientation

By Linda Griffin

STAFF EDITOR

Student Bar Association President Matt Hite remembers the initial orientation of students.

"When I first came out of orientation two years ago, I thought, 'What did I do to deserve this?'" he said.

This year, the admissions department and the SBA joined forces to make the transition into law school less stressful for ILs. The two groups revised the peer advisor program and implemented a new orientation process in general.

SBA Rep. Genesis Brown and Mary Dale, a student working in admissions, formed a committee whose primary purpose was to design a more formal orientation schedule.

On the night I met my peer advisor, I set like I was in a herd of cattle, and I didn't like that feeling," Dale said.

"I compared that orientation experience to the Army, where she previously served."

If orientation was more organized and professional, people might get more out of it.

In early June Margaret McNally, assistant dean of admissions, and student recruiter Rebecca Zim proposed a plan with the consent of this committee for ILs to receive adequate information as they began the rigors of law school. The committee also selected peer advisors and scheduled peer advisor training sessions.

On Friday, Aug. 16, 1999, approximately 25 peer advisors were ready to greet the 251 incoming students. Full-time day students and part-time evenings students were greeted with similar peer advisors. Following the address to the class, a peer advisor led her or his group of seven students around the school for a tour covering the student services center, gradeboard, lockers and mailboxes.

Students also received information about the SBA book sale, the bookstore and various other CSU locations — information once gained by trial and error.

On Friday, Aug. 20, the peer advisors made a year-long commitment to the lawyers-in-training at a picnic honoring ILs. "Their program was well put together but, looking back, the events should have been spaced out more throughout the week," Dale said. "The incoming students were hit with everything the first night."

In a telephonic interview, McNally said she was satisfied with the SBA and student support.

"We would like more peer advisors," she said, "and next year we'll recruit in the spring and start training earlier."

Deanne Dominguez 1967-1999

By Michele McKee, Troy Prince and Roger Bundy

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

The evening of June 3, 1999, was the first time the best friend of Deanne Dominguez had ever seen her classes. We were just settling into the summer when fate, God — whoever you believe — intervened. Some of us headed to Becky's as we had done many times. Deanne Dominguez stayed for less than an hour; she wanted to see her daughter and she wanted to work early for work.

On her way home to Mentor that night, an extremely drunk man with a suspended license (he was convicted of drunk driving three times before), entered state Route 2 going the wrong way. He hit Deanne head on at over 65 mph. Both were killed instantly.

Ultimately, there are some sorrow worse than seem sorely inadequate to express. Deanne had a wonderful future ahead of her. She infected everyone around her with an unflagging love for life, always joking, ready to offer a supportive word. She was also a dedicated student who stood out in her classes. Her death is a great loss to all of us. She earned a long-distance marriage to her husband Horacio on Long Island and shared a home with her four-year-old daughter Kayla and law-in-school in Mentor. She was a clerk for Cleveland lawyer R. Jack Clapp and an equinepractice in- structor at Lake Erie College, where she received a bachelor's degree in 1991.

Contributions in memory of Deanne are being accepted for a trust set up for Deanne's daughter. Contributions may be made to the Cleveland-Marshall Law Student Association, 11141 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106.

Darrell Tyburski 1965-1999

By Eileen Sudler

STAFF EDITOR

Alumnus Darrell Tyburski, C-M '95, died Aug. 24, 1999, when his car went out of control on the westbound Shoreway and crashed near Edgewood Park. He was 33, husband to Janet and the father of three daughters.

Tyburski made a mark in the few short years he practiced criminal defense for Al Giovanni & Associates. Jeff Kelleher, C-M '75, was co-counsel in Tyburski's first defense, a felon like this one.

"He was nicely," Kelleher said. "He was what I want to do." An impressive number of judges and attorneys attended his services, a testament to his passion at trial.

Tyburski was born in New York City in true hardship but played football throughout high school on Long Island and in college at East Stroudsburg University, where he was a 320-pound star tackle.

He played semi-professional ball and was a corrections officer before his uncle, an attorney in Canton, suggested he attend C-M.

Professor Steven Werber, who coached Tyburski on the moot court team, said he understood the team concept well.

"His heart was bigger than his size," Werber said, "and he was huge."

PEOPLE SOFT: Pricey conversion proving costly to students

Continued from Page 1 -

she had just 70 cents in her pocket and had eaten only two cups of oatmeal in two days.

Another student who spoke on the condition of anonymity said she never received the telephone call the Gavel placed to her home because her phone service was cut off for nonpayment.

The vast majority of students have received their overage checks by this week.

"Responding to rumors of impropriety at the university level, law financial aid Director Catherine R. Buzanski said she was confident federally granted student loan money could not be shuffled into interest-bearing accounts by the computer system between the time CSU received the loan checks and the date the overage checks were cut."

CSU finally advanced $300,000 to receive a tuition invoice for more than $12,000 owed. Elkins said he was assured a resolution by the end of September.

CSU President Clare A. Van Immensern released a statement to students over the summer responding to several Plain Dealer articles detailing the problems with PeopleSoft. In it, she pledged to do "whatever it takes to provide you with superior service."

Among the remedial measures she instituted was a special student services center designed to operate during the fall registration period.

"This center will act as a resource for you if problems concerning financial aid and/or billing should occur during the regular registration process," she wrote.

Students were not so lucky. One law student said she tried five times to correct her address at the registrar's office. But because her bursar account would not accept changes made by the registrar, to this day the university has two separate addresses for her.

Kay Benjamin, whose office maintains student records at C-M, reported in an e-mail to students that she became frustrated when they walked handwritten corrections to the CSU records department, watched the corrections being entered and received printed-Outs that were still wrong.

Grade flip-flopping

When law students' spring grades and class ranks were not tabulated correctly by midsummer, Benjamin ran the numbers by hand. Despite her efforts, she said, some graduating students lost prestigious clerkship opportunities and at least one lost a job opportunity with a major law firm because CSU did not send a timely transcript to the potential employer.

Benjamin said she trouble adjusting student grades and class ranks were not Y2K-compliant - at least for now, staying with the California-based company but has made nothing official.

CSU is not alone. Ohio State University spent close to $30 million more than what it projected the program's conversion would cost. The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that universities across the nation are facing the same problems with PeopleSoft implementation.

In light of the alternative — to return to antiquated systems that are not Y2K-compliant — CSU and most other universities are, at least for now, staying with the promise of a brighter future.
Dear PMBR:

I graduated from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. The next day, I drove to Oklahoma City to begin your 6-day “Early Bird” workshop. The first day’s exam was in criminal law. Of the six Multistate areas, I had not reviewed criminal law because I had spent the last year and a half clerking for the Prosecuting Attorney’s Office. Criminal law would be a breeze, right? WRONG! I only scored 40% correct! That afternoon, Steven Palmer explained to us that the old common law of crimes, which is totally useless in the “real world”, is what they test on the Multistate. My real life knowledge of criminal law was actually causing me to miss questions!

By the time my Bar/Bri course began, I was working PMBR practice questions and starting to memorize the ton of information that we had to learn. While those who did not take PMBR were hearing the lectures on Multistate subjects for the first time, I was actually reviewing what I had already learned from the “Early Bird” workshop.

I definitely believe that PMBR was the reason for my score of 170 on the Multistate. I have never been skilled at taking multiple choice tests, but the PMBR professors taught me how to avoid the traps that the bar examiners set for the unwary. At the bar exam itself, you could tell by the looks on people’s faces whether or not they had taken PMBR. While most people were in a state of panic, those of us who had taken either the 3 or 6 day workshops were pleasantly surprised to learn that the actual Multistate exam was easier than our practice questions!

I wholeheartedly recommend PMBR to everyone who hates standardized tests as much as I do. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
David A. Bailey
Family advocacy

Before the people who wait for you in your office come those who wait for you at home. By Dennis F. Butler

A sad fact about C’s: law school grading is truer to life than any other scheme

By Karin Mika

• Do you think the grading guidelines are fair?

Frankly, I’m probably not in a position to answer this since the grading of legal writing isn’t at all the same as grading the exams in other classes. I suppose the guidelines seem more fair to those receiving an A as opposed to those receiving a C. The bottom line, whether any of us likes it or not, is that in a large sampling of people, there will be a couple of exceptional individuals, and a whole lot of average performers. And yes, the percentages reflected within the grading guidelines probably do accurately reflect how many people will be average performers within a large group. The problem, of course, is that a C no longer seems to mean average, but seems to be a condemnation for deficient. 

Employing to employees that law school is a more accurate way of grading than was undergraduate school is a more accurate way of grading than was undergraduate school in other classes. I suppose this is the same as grading the exams in other classes. 

If it is generally known that the top 10-20 percent of the class get decent job offers, your hope is there for the rest of the class that seem to get “marked for life” below that?

One of the sail facts about the field of law is that many of the high-paying firms rarely look beyond class rank (and first-year class rank at that) when hiring an associate. That being said, you can’t just crawl into a hole and die if you aren’t one of the chosen few. A friend has said to me, “Cream always rises to the top.” In law and in life there is an inordinate amount of room for good, hard-working, quality individuals who see opportunity, grasp it and make the most of it. In fact, those people often wind up more satisfied than the chosen few. Keep in mind, however, opportunity doesn’t often come to your door, itself, and issue you a personal invitation. I have little sympathy for those who believe that success will simply happen and then blame someone or something else when it doesn’t.

Whatever happened to the murder mystery you were working on a couple of years ago?

To bring people up to speed, a couple of years back I started writing a book with Jerry Chattman—an adjunct at Cleveland-Marshall and managing partner of Chattman, Gaines & Stern. It started out as a joint effort, but before too long it was clear that I was writing a law school satire and he was writing a pulp murder mystery. Members of the Marshall community may recognize some of the characters, but of course we categorically deny that we based any of the book on real people or events.

At a school strangely resembling C-M. In the end, the book turned out to be something in between a satire and a pulp murder mystery. Members of the Marshall community may believe they recognize some of the characters, but of course we categorically deny that we based any of the book on real people or events.

The cover photo is a wonderful picture of the Cleveland skyline taken by our own Ralph Perkins, Jr., Cleveland municipal court judge. If all goes well, or even moderately well, we hope to produce a series of books featuring many of the same characters. Mika is the assistant director of legal writing at C-M.

Marino's Haircutting

The Difference... Personal Service

Student Discounts:

Haircuts & Products

Appointments Not Always Necessary

4181 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 861-6044

Mon.-Fri.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Mon.-Fri.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The gavel

Page 4

September 1999

D O I PRACTICE LAW to support my family or do I have a family to support my practice? Sounds like a strange and unrealistic question, of course, but by the time you learn to respect one another the proper response may come too late for you. You may have already passed the point where, by your absence, your family has suffered irreparable harm and the relationship is permanently damaged.

The determination to revolution that is required to be a seasoned and prosperous lawyer sometimes blinds the choices we make in life, but it's admirable that you work hard and maintain high standards in your representations, but excessive work can lead to an imbalanced, exhausted and alienated existence. If your family doesn't have warm and affectionate memories of you, it is possible your clients will remember and cherish your devotion? Unlikely at best.

The excessive ambitions of poor law students can lead to economic prosperity in an otherwise unspectacular and staid career. If you finally acquire this wealth, with whom do you enjoy it? You won't be able to take it with you to wherever death leads you. As an old lesson of life — to be controlled by balance and good timing. To do this, you must be aware of the pitfalls common to professionals and consistently monitor your progress and ego to ensure your timing. What, after all, does it profit a lawyer if he shall gain the victory for his client and lose his own family? If you stay alert, you can avoid that unfortunate outcome. A few suggestions on what to watch for:

• Be patient. Don't try to become independently wealthy in the first years of your practice. An early concentration on wealth will pull you too far from your family. Furthermore, be aware that the first years are where you will actually learn how to be a real attorney. This takes time and is essential to your later success; don't blow it by following fortune easily.

• Rejuvenate yourself. Remember that being a lawyer does not exempt you from physical and mental exhaustion. Take the time to rest and renew yourself. All too often attorneys will use alcohol to relax and relieve themselves of their burdens. We all know what this does to our families, not to mention ourselves.

• Observe your elders. Watch how the older, sure-footed and respected lawyers gear themselves in their practices. Examine how they work for the benefit of, not in opposition to, their families. Too frequently young lawyers will associate only with their contemporaries, which is of little benefit since their contemporaries are struggling with the same problems they face and can teach them very little. Most established lawyers, on the other hand, will give you their direction free of charge.

• Invoke providence. Keep in touch with your god. Benjamin Franklin interrupted the Constitutional Convention to seek God’s help and pose the question, “If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?” They trusted in God, and see how we have been blessed as a nation, so too will it follow in your career and family choices.

To paraphrase Gen. George Patton in conclusion, the object of a lawyer is to control his law practice and not let his law practice control him. Most lawyers who have reached greatness in law have also reached greatness as human beings, as fathers and mothers. This is, above nothing else in life, our ultimate goal.

• About Dennis Butler: Butler, 59, is a 1958 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and a 1968 graduate of Cleveland-Marshall. The son of the late John B. Butler, a noted criminal defense attorney, Dennis has been in private practice as a defense attorney in Cleveland for 30 years. He lives in Lakewood with his wife and the youngest four of his six children.

The author with his oldest son in 1978.
The City Club of Cleveland is a perennial stop for political candidates like Jesse Jackson, above. Since 1912 the club has been a landmark of free speech and debate in downtown Cleveland.

Law students might be interested in joining the City Club for its newly formed "New Leaders" program, which aims to promote the idea of leadership under 40, for students in social and networking purposes. For example, the next meeting will be a Great Lakes Theater Festival dinner, where the festival's artistic director, James Bundy, will speak. The group meets approximately once a month.

Upcoming Fall Forum speakers include Daniel Ashbel, consul general of Israel, along with Hasin Abiel Rahman, chief representative of the FLO and Palestinian Authority in Washington, who will both speak on "The Future of Israeli/Palestinian Relations" on Oct. 22. Ohio Gov. Bob Taft and the federal appeals Judge Nathaniel Jones on Nov. 5. Akezin Kazhegeldin, former prime minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on Nov. 20; and Pat Schroeder, former Democratic congresswoman from Colorado, on Dec. 17.

Information on the City Club's membership benefits and the "New Leaders" program is available at (216) 621-0082, or by sending e-mail to amler@cityclub.org.

How we brought an unyielding school district to its knees

By Ann Vaughn CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Not long ago I battled the Lorain County school system over its busing policy. Every year elementary school children walked along the shoulder of State Route 58 for approximately two miles to get to school. Regardless of the weather conditions, they walked this treacherous four-lane road while cars whizzed by at high speeds. As one of those drivers, I nearly had a heart attack when a child's book bag crossed the line demarcating the shoulder from the actual road and almost touched my car. The bag belonged to a small-fifth or sixth-year-old who was totally oblivious to the danger as he continued to swing his bag along the road, accepting his being hit by cars and not comprehending why these children weren't provided with transportation. This particular incident compelled me to do something about the situation.

The majority of these children resided in the nearby housing projects. From the director of the Metropolitan Housing Authority I learned that these children were not provided with busing as a matter of school policy. While he was sympathetic to their plight, he said there was nothing he could do.

The school principal revealed that the absentee rate for these children was incredibly high and that the often-cited policy was from the school district, which provides children with transportation only if they live more than two miles from school. My odometer read 1.9 miles when I drove the distance from the corner home in the projects to the school.

I learned that many of the parents, particularly the single mothers, chose to keep their children home when the weather was uncomfortable with walking along a state route. Many parents also related stories of how their children had close encounters with speeding cars or near accidents.

Community leaders told me that others had tried to change this busing policy for years, and that I should just save my energy and not bother.

Nevertheless, another like-minded individual and I were willing to work for change. So we brought the issue to a candidates' forum for those running for the school board. Individual candidates perceived to support such a busing policy existed. They did, however, admit it was a bad thing, and dutifully promised to work hard to change the situation once elected.

We circulated a petition among the registered voters of the housing community. When we noticed that schoolchildren walking to school were in danger of being struck by passing cars, we did something about it and won their safety development, since a petition signed by voters naturally carries more weight at election time. Parents received the phone number to the school district's transportation department and superintendent's office and were encouraged to call to question the busing policy. They flooded phone lines, forcing the school district to confront the issue.

Perhaps the most enlightening aspect was bringing the issue to the school board. Individually, candidates perceived that this was a busing policy issue. They did, however, admit it was a bad thing, and dutifully promised to work hard to change the situation once elected.

We circulated a petition among the registered voters of the housing community.

Blank threats were my response. One unsympathetic board member wanted to know why we were making a fuss since he walked five miles to school uphill both ways every day when he was a child. Another board member stated that some children in the housing developments did receive busing if they were enrolled in the school's advanced academic program. Unfortunately, siblings not enrolled in the same program had to walk. According to the superintendent, it was all a matter of money.

Perhaps the most outrageous argument was that the school board did not know what to do with the old crossing guard who helped children cross the state route for over 20 years. The greater goal of ensuring the safety of the children was weighed over the goal of ensuring the employment of one lone crossing guard. And these were my taxpayer dollars at work.

This dead end led to a few calls to our state representatives, and a detailed look at the Ohio Revised Code. In the code, an exception to the school busing transport rule is granted when the main route to school is along a state route. Another call to the superintendent to inform him of the exception and discussing words like "discrimination," "tort" and "class action," suddenly led to money to buy another school bus. After three months, all the children from the projects finally were bused to school. Social justice can be achieved even if in small steps.
Clintons's gravest act yet

By Ross Matlack

I F ALL THE EXAMPLES AVAILABLE TO US of the poor decision-making skills of the current legal community, the Oval Office, President Clinton's decision to grant clemency to convicted terrorists will forever prove to be the most mind-boggling. Forget about the womanizing, the illegal drug use and all the other well publicized blunders made by this administration. Convicted terrorists were just freed by the president.

These were not innocent men wrongly convicted—they were self-described soldiers in a self-described war of independence. The Armed Forces for National Liberation (FALN) took credit for a series of bombings and other crimes during the 1970s and 1980s. The heart of the case was to secure the independence of Puerto Rico from the United States, and its members routinely used violence in pursuit of that goal. The only thing these terrorists accomplished was the killing and maiming of the innocent. Randomly chosen by men with depraved hearts, their victims never stood a chance. They died as they walked down the street, shopped with their families or enjoyed a quiet cup of coffee. To FALN, independence meant killing the innocent.

The men and women of FALN were and are citizens of the United States. Their acts of cowardice rank with McVeigh, Nichols and the Ku Klux Klan—Americans who have perpetrated acts of senseless violence against other Americans. There was no chance of success for FALN because no one in Puerto Rico supported their cause. According to an anti-independence site, www.puertoricogov.com, the large majority of Puerto Ricans has historically favored maintaining an association with the United States, while fewer than 5 percent have voted in favor of independence over the past 30 years. FALN's campaign of terror was impotent from the start and never held any support to change the status quo.

Numerous members of Congress and cabinet departments, the attorneys general of a majority of states and the various heads of law enforcement agencies all recommended against this grant of clemency. The delegates to the House of Representatives from Puerto Rico wrote to the president and specifically requested that these individuals not be released. The families of the victims made similar appeals. The result: Clinton granted clemency to the terrorists. The White House denies that this act has any link to Hillary's political run for the Senate in New York, which has large Puerto Rican voter turnout.

In the early 1830s, President Andrew Jackson was determined to prevent the first secession crisis from developing into a full-fledged civil war. During that period he coined the oft-quoted phrase, "Our federal union must be preserved." Jackson was once asked what he would do if he were to personally confront a leader of a secessionist movement in South Carolina; he replied that he would hang all of them from the nearest tree. He would not tolerate violent acts of secession. Nearly 170 years later, he would be shocked that President Clinton calls himself a Democrat. Terry Jones, for example, whose group killed 29 people in an embassy in 1998, describes his group as an Islamic fundamentalist. This man, whose followers are on very thin ice had it told the Klansmen that they were free to demonstrate at some later point in time, when their audience would be present.

I don't mean to suggest that lawyers should not speak out on, or bring test cases to, or bring test cases to, the courts. But this privilege of law, access to the courts, must come with settled law. It must come with living up to the oath we all take when we become lawyers. The oath of the Constitution (the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution) is to protect the constitutional rights of our fellow citizens. There is no place for a lawyer to gain personal gain, public notoriety, or personal popularity at the expense of one of our fellow citizens. The White House denies that this act has any link to Hillary's political run for the Senate in New York, which has large Puerto Rican voter turnout.

Another casualty of the Ku Klux Klan: good lawyering

By Kevin Francis O'Neill

Young lawyers looking for an example of how not to behave need only examine the recent brouhaha surrounding the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.

These ugly events were triggered when the city granted to advance the cause of the Ku Klux Klan's visit to Cleveland. Lawyers for two of the combatants—the Police Patrolmen's Association and the NAACP—made ill-considered public statements that displayed a complete disregard (and a likely ignorance) of controlling precedent. Even worse, the Patrolmen's Association filed a lawsuit against the City of Cleveland that reflected the same disregard (and the same likely ignorance) of black-letter law. Witnessing such behavior, anyone who cares about our profession could only wince.
Where short brunettes get A's: my new points-based grading system

By Jennifer Cunningham

Devising my own grading system was one of the first things I did at Cleveland-Marshall. I encountered a number of professors during my first year at Cleveland-Marshall, but I'd like to propose an alternative grading system. I'll begin by describing the system I employed if we abandoned law schools entirely.

The system would be especially fair if short, dark-haired women always got A's. Rules for awarding points will be posted, so everyone's on notice. This system also eliminates professor idiosyncracies which make it impossible to tell if they actually graded the exams or merely threw them down the basement stairs.

A final rule: in borderline cases, professors may still grade the exams. On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

The highest scorer gets the high A, and so on, in a bell curve. This system would be especially fair if short, dark-haired women always got A's.

No professor has ever raised anyone's grade in the history of the legal profession. But assuming you can corner one, a professor is an easier target than, say, Jones Day.

Anyway, the professor delivered a "defense of the system" speech. He said that the academic standards committee and law firms demand an "objective" process for detecting the "smartest" students (that is, top 10 percenters). Bottom 90 percenters suffer for three or four more years to discover we'd be happier and more gainfully employed if we didn't follow the decades-long tradition of students who want to practice law and tried professional school.

Okay, those weren't his words exactly, but you understand. Anyway, when he finished he said he'd administered something astonishing. After one particularly long night of grading, he threw the graded bluebooks into piles in proportion to the preferred curve. When he compared the random grades to the "real" grades, they were identical!

So much for objectivity. Therefore, I propose the following "objective" system: Everyone starts with 500 points per class. You gain and lose points in various ways. For example, if you say something stupid in class, you lose 10 points, unless it's so stupid it's funny — then you gain 20 points. Unpreparedness costs 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 points if you're not. Heights are measured before finals. You lose a point per inch, unless you're from New Jersey or Indiana, cultural disadvantage earns points. Finally, 3Ls and 4Ls get 50 points free, because hey, anyone who sticks around that long deserves it.

The highest scorer gets the high A, and so on, in a bell curve. This system would be especially fair if short, dark-haired women always got A's.

Rules for awarding points will be posted, so everyone's on notice. This system also eliminates professor idiosyncracies which make it impossible to tell if they actually graded the exams or merely threw them down the basement stairs.

A final rule: in borderline cases, professors may still grade the exams. On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

On that note, I need to study.

Unpreparedness costs you 15 points if you're caught, but earns 30 if you're not.

On that note, I need to study.
We hope you had a restful summer! As the new school year begins, don't forget to enroll in our program while early enrollment discounts are in effect. Most jurisdictions (states) are currently offering between $100- to $150-off their normal tuition rates. However, you'll have to hurry as the sale ends on October 31st.

The BAR/BRI table will be setting up shortly, so don't delay! By the way, you can also contact the Michigan-Ohio Regional Office to have an enrollment card and other information sent to you. The Michigan-Ohio Regional Office's telephone number is (800) 937-2778.

**First Year Students**

Enroll in BAR/BRI for $100 and you will receive the following benefits:

- BAR/BRI's First Year Review Book with comprehensive outlines for Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Criminal Law, Real Property, and Torts.
- Easy to use First Year software available exclusively from the internet.
- Practice essays and true/false questions for your final exams.

**Upper Level Students**

Enroll in BAR/BRI for $100 and you will receive the following benefits:


---

**BAR/BRI**

Successfully Preparing Over 700,000 Students To Pass the Bar Exam

Don't Try To Pass Without Us