With the joke on them, wry attorneys look for quick outs

By Sonja Lechowick

Q: What's wrong with lawyer jokes?
A: Lawyers don't think they're funny and other people don't think they're jokes.

The jokes are either lawyer jokes or another one like it. In fact, one thing's for sure — they're going to tell you a lawyer joke.

Chances are you've heard this joke or another one like it. In fact, chances are that you've heard more lawyer jokes since you started law school than you ever heard in a classroom. This is so that every person, whether you know them or not, is compelled to tell you their most offensive lawyer joke when they find out you're in law school? It could be a random lawyer joke.

One thing's for sure — they're going to tell you a lawyer joke.

"What's going on here?" you ask. "I'm a nice person. Why are all these people out to get me?"

We can only speculate as to the answer of this question. But see LAWYER JOKES, page 6

Kapur pans Hindu Right

Group uses wolf-in-sheep's-clothing tactics to advance agenda, says prof

By Moira Arsenault

The Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Review, in an Oct. 6 lecture to a capacity crowd in room audience, visiting professor Ratna Kapur described the Hindu Right, a group she sees as espousing liberal concepts of equality.

Kapur said this group is actually seeking to denigrate, and ultimately subjugate, non-Hindus.

Further, a recent ruling by Indian courts confirmed that a particular Hindu Right political scheme, seen by many as espousing religious enmity, was not endorsing religion but describing a subculture.

Kapur, who is director of the Centre for Feminist Legal Research in New Delhi, India, posited that this development in relation to the U.S. right-wing and fundamentalist groups around.

See KAPUR, page 6

CSU forces law review to hire in-state printer at twice the cost

By Ann Vaughn

An in-state printer will charge an estimated double the price per issue to produce the Cleveland-Marshall Law Review this year, its editor said.

"The Cleveland-Marshall faculty council has a minimum of $16,000 extra tuition or state funds must be found by C-M to keep publishing the law review," said Professor Kevin F. O'Neill, chairman of the Cleveland-Marshall faculty lecture series.

O'Neill argued that using an out-of-state printer who specializes in high-quality printed product is too expensive.

"We need to find a way to get a good-quality product at a reasonable price," O'Neill said.

More than 50 faculty members, students and administrators attended the forum Sept. 29 to hear O'Neill discuss how the Cleveland-Marshall faculty council is handling the rising costs of producing the law review.

See INMATES, page 6

ANNUAL GUIDE TO STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS INSIDE

THE GAVEL

VOLUME 48, ISSUE 2 • OCTOBER 1999

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT CLEVELAND-MARSHALL COLLEGE OF LAW

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See INMATES, page 6
Oklahoma bombing revisited

Foes in Nichols case say media blitz hurt fairness

By Monica Claridy

In the first Cleveland-Marshall criminal justice forum of the year, on Oct. 13 a panel of criminal justice professionals shared their experiences in the high-profile Terry Nichols case with an overflowing audience in the moot court room.

Nichols was indicted along with Timothy McVeigh for conspiracy and murder in the April 19, 1995 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, which killed 168 people. Nichols was convicted of conspiracy and sentenced to life; McVeigh was convicted of murder and given the death penalty.

Those on the panel were Geoffrey S. Means, an assistant prosecutor, Adam Thurschwell, a member of the defense team and Edward Killam, the chief defense investigator.

Means, a partner with Thompson Hine & Flory, said one of his biggest tasks in the Nichols case was preventing the defense, especially in a high profile case, from letting the media coverage skew their testimony.

"Most fact witnesses — those who will be put on the stand — had also been exposed to a constant amount of publicity," Means said. He said he was constantly engaged in preparing the witnesses, and was "faced with very unusual challenges of dealing with witnesses not used to testifying, especially in a high profile capital case."

Thurschwell, who is currently an assistant professor at C-M, emphasized the role of the media in such trials.

"Media scrutiny presents a problem in the moot court room. We presented a problem in any criminal case," he said, "since defense attorneys would prefer jurors to have a good image of your client."

Although the defendant's character is irrelevant during the jury trial, Thurschwell said, character becomes doubly important during the sentencing phase, when the jury takes everything into consideration. He advised defense lawyers to "keep your head low and don't comment" to the media because you don't want to say anything that will damage your client.

Killam, chief defense investigator and founder and president of Alliance Services, Inc., saw advantages to working on the Nichols case.

"We went second, after Timothy McVeigh," Killam said. Defense counsel decided early on that, unlike McVeigh's trial, it would not include the media in its defense strategies. "Because of this," he said, "we were able to distance ourselves from the McVeigh case."

But this strategy had its drawbacks. "When it was our turn to investigate and interview witnesses," Killam said, "we spent a great deal of time explaining that we were not representing McVeigh, but the other guy — Terry Nichols."

Another disadvantage was using a government travel agency for the defense team's court-authorized travel, Killam said. "In making travel arrangements, they often explained who they were visiting, why, when and where," which the FBI appeared to be using to track our investigation," he noted.

"We never felt we were operating with any degree of confidentiality because the federal government always scrutinized what we did," Killam said.

Asked if there was anything he would have done differently, Thurschwell responded, "We may have hammered too hard on points the jury already agreed with us on, which wasted time and caused some confusion for the jury."

Does aristocracy guide democracy?

The irony of a Pulitzer Prize winner — a member of the Harvard elite — speaking to predominantly working-class Midwestern students about the historical role of aristocracy in this nation was not lost on many listeners.

The revolutionary-era republican notions of the origins of democracy live on. Just ask any custodial worker who's seen "Good Will Hunting."

The teams representing Cleveland-Marshall at the National Moot Court Competition, Region VI, will present their arguments addressing the advisability of a criminal suspect's custodial confession and the admissibility of a self-inculpatory accomplice statement.

A wine and cheese reception will be held in the atrium following the event.
THE GAVEL'S Annual Guide to Student Organizations

- American Bar Association

The ABA is a voluntary membership association of attorneys and law students. It's the most active law student lobbying group in the country. Cleveland-Marshall students are eligible for membership in the ABA's Law Student Division. The ABA offers numerous benefits, such as Student Lawyer magazine, low-cost health insurance, discount car rental from Hertz and free or inexpensive publications that will help you in law school and planning your legal career. Contact the Student Bar Association for membership information.

- Asian-Pacific Islanders Law Students Association

As a group, Asian and Pacific Americans represent the fastest growing population in the U.S. The APLISA population has only recently entered into the legal profession in significant numbers. The Asian Pacific Islander Law Students Association (APILSA) was formed to address this growing segment of the membership. The membership offers many opportunities to meet and network with business law attorneys. Association social give students an opportunity to meet with students with interests similar to their own.

- Christian Legal Society

The Christian Legal Society is a group for students interested in discussing the interaction of law with Christianity and integrating it into their way of life. All law students are encouraged to attend meetings and share their perspective of the law as it relates to Christian beliefs.

- Cleveland State Law Review

Law reviews are the scholarly journals of the legal profession. Four times each year, the "Cleveland State Law Review" publishes articles of both local and national significance. Students are invited to join the Law Review as associate members at the end of their first year of legal studies by ranking in the top 10 percent of their class. Successfully completing a summer writing competition following their first year, During the first semester, associate members assist the editorial board in publishing the law review and produce a comprehensive note on a topic of their choice.

- Coalition on Equal Rights

The goal of the Coalition on Equal Rights is to provide a safe place where all students, regardless of their sexual orientation, can come together to discuss, promote and address issues concerning basic human rights.

- Criminal Law Society

The Criminal Law Society (CLS) consists of students and recent graduates interested in both prosecutorial and defense aspects of the criminal justice system.

- Environmental Law Association

The Environmental Law Association provides students an opportunity to meet fellow students with an interest in environmental law. Activities will include social functions and hosting guest speakers as part of its "Career Day" in the spring.

- Federalist Society

The Federalist Society is a conservative and libertarian group founded on the following principles: that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is essential and that it is the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, not what it should be. The Federalist Society seeks to promote these ideas by inviting speakers from across the country to come to C-M. Students who find themselfs at places of interest to the faculty and administration will find the Federalist Society to be beneficial. In addition, for only $5 students will receive a quarterly newsletter subscription to the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy, which is one of the three most widely circulated law reviews in the country.

- Hispanic Law Students Association

The Hispanic Law Students Association (HLSA) creates and maintains a network between practitioners and C-M students, and serves as a voice for the concerns and opinions of the Hispanics in educational communities. One of the group's projects involves mentoring program for young Hispanic and Latino people.

- International Law Students Association

The International Law Students Association (ILSA) promotes an understanding and recognition of the principles of international law. It exists to educate students in the principles and purposes of international law, as well as international legal organizations and institutions.

- Women's Law Students Association

The Women's Law Students Association (WLSA) was formerly the C-M Chapter of the Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

- Jewish Law Students Association

The Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA) in conjunction with the CWRU Hilltop, this organization sends mailings to students interested in the range of Jewish activities in the area. Contact the Hilltop to be added to its mailing list and check postings for C-M meetings.

- Journal of Law and Health

The "Journal of Law and Health" is a law review devoted to publishing timely and informed articles on the law and the law. Two issues of the Journal are published each year. After the completion of their first year, students ranking in the top 20 percent of their class are automatically extended invitations to join the Journal as associate members. Students may also join the Journal staff upon successful completion in the annual Summer Writing Competition.

- Delta Theta Phi

As an international professional law fraternity, Delta Theta Phi provides students with an opportunity to network with alumni through social functions, participate in charitable events and build relationships with fellow law students.

- Student Bar Association

The Student Bar Association is the voice of the student body, represents student groups, organizes and socializes, and coordinates events, programs and activities through the year. Four officers are elected in the spring semester; senators are elected or appointed in the fall.

- Student Public Interest Law Organization

The Student Public Interest Law Organization (SPILO) addresses issues regarding community service and pro bono work and endeavors to provide students with exposure to work experience and careers in the public interest and nonprofit area.

- Goddess of Justice

The Goddess of Justice is an organization whose focus is primarily the art of gratitude. The Goddess of Justice is a forum for international artists and jurists and judges of Italian-American descent in Cuyahoga County. The student organization was developed to work in conjunction with the bar association to promote and foster understanding of the roles of Italian-Americans in matters involving social justice issues. Members are invited to attend and participate in all functions of the bar association. The chapter works to elevate and maintain the standards of integrity and honor among the student body, while promoting legal, cultural and social activities.

- Moot Court

The Moot Court Board is a program designed to develop and refine brief writing and oral advocacy skills. Students participate in interscholastic competitions, which are judged on the quality of written briefs and oral arguments. Any student may become a member of the Moot Court board by completing advanced brief writing and successfully competing in a regional or intramural competition. To compete in the competition, students must enroll in advanced brief writing in the fall semester. Between 12 and 18 individuals are invited to join the board. The board selects members through a first-year intramural competition which is part of the legal writing program. Qualified first-year students compete in a regional as second-year students with the advice and assistance of the board.

- Student Public Interest Law Organization (SPILO)

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- Women's Law Students Association

The Women's Law Students Association (WLSA) strives to promote awareness of women's issues and societal issues and sponsors the annual Mock Trial, a silent auction with Delta Theta Phi and guest speakers.
So you want to be a judge, eh?

Law students who aspire to a career in the judiciary should first learn the law, then the lay of the land.

By Ralph Perk Jr.

place your name on the ballot and receive the most votes, a plurality, in your race. To get your name on the ballot, you will need to have a specified number of voters sign your petition. And then take your campaign to the people. Keep in mind that there are numerous restrictions placed on candidates seeking judicial office. A thorough and complete knowledge of the Code of Professional Responsibility and the Code of Judicial Conduct is required.

There are also opportunities to serve as a judge on the federal bench, a lifetime appointment. It may be helpful as you read the next sentence to imagine yourself floating on a cloud surrounded by choirs singing glorious hymns. For you become a federal judge, you will need to be recommended by the appropriate congressional representative and appointed by the president of the United States.

In preparation for a career in the judiciary, I recommend that you obtain as much experience in the courtroom as possible — especially trials (bench and jury) and civil motion practice. I also recommend that you become active in your bar associations as well as selected civic and political organizations. And, above all, develop a reputation as a lawyer such that the appointing authority and the voters will be proud to select you in the highest tradition for the bench. As Francis Bacon noted in 1615, "If we do not maintain Justice, Justice will not maintain us."

And when you become a judge remember the words of Judge Shearman in the 1928 Marshall v. Taggart opinion: "Justices come and go, but justice itself should endure."

So you want to be a judge, eh?

By Karin Mika

- Why is cynicism and negativity so pervasive in law school, especially from professors?
- Cynicism and negativity stems more from recognizing reality rather than as a reflection of true demeanor, feelings about students or feelings about one’s self for that matter.

The law, in many instances, is not a very hospitable profession. In many instances, it is not a very hospitable profession because it is not the time, weak-spirited or non-assertive personality. People need to know that before they invest three years worth of time and money.

In addition, unlike most undergraduate institutions that allow you to do what you want as long as you pay your tuition, you really care what happens to you.

We know that the profession is primarily a writing profession and the best remaining students do not have as strong a writing background as will be expected. We know that, in order for you to compete for jobs with individuals from more prestigious schools, we will have to teach you exceptional lawyering skills.

Combat law school’s lows with intellectual fortitude

By Karin Mika

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Legal Writing

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INMATES: O'Neill invokes First Amendment to free last words

Continued from page 1 —
early article on the subject.

The Southern Ohio Correc-
tional Facility at Lucarsville, where
all Ohio executions are conducted
initiated a regulation May 1997
that prohibits prisoners from pub-
licly speaking their last words im-
media. The regulation is designed to
destroy the victim's family from poten-
tially offensive statements made by pris-

Under the regulation, pris-
ciners can write a statement to be read
aloud by the warden after a pris-
ner's execution, but the warden
can reject a part of a prisoner's state-

O'Neill views this regulation as a vi-

Continued from page 1 -
the globe claiming secaularism for them.
Church and state are not as free
as we think because "God" seems to oc-
cupy a more central role these days,
said Formal religion is in cahoots with
government. Her examples:
New York Mayor Rudolph Denti's
recent funding cuts for the Brooklin Museum of Art after a nontraditional portrayal of a
denous theme, the current con-

KAPUR: Secularism used to push propaganda

Continued from page 1 -
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LAWYER JOKES: Outmaneuvering wiseacres

Continued from page 1 —
since I don't see any of this law-

thing having to do with conflict is not generally favored. More-

over, there is always a winning

and losing side, and people pre-

Outmaneuvering wiseacres is easy. If a party has lost a case, they will

as a cost, and whether it is nec-

cessary or not, people do not like to

pay the high price.

In a mirror reaction, Clevel-

and Heights Magistrate Georgeann Schmidt agrees with Polott. But where Polott tells an

Agendas require an explanation of their strategies. To get to true secularism, she urged, there must be

more contesting and challeng-

ing of views and less acceptance of propositions at face value.

Kapur predicted an uphil

dimensioning and elimi-

nating minorities.

For example, by de-

crying the treatment of

Muslim women by Muslim men, the Hindu Right proclaims its sup-

port for women's rights but subtly condemns Hindu religion and culture, she said. And the group promotes equality for Hindu women by making them equal to Hindu women — but not to men.

Kapur said that fully

understanding religious and

in each segment the right
declares that the warden will have
control over the court refuses to accept that the ex-

Amendment law forbids this type of

adequate control, according to O'Neill. If the court does not recog-
nize the right of a prisoner to make such a statement, complica-
tion of the regulation is un-

LAW REVIEW: CSU forces C-M to hire Ohio printer

Continued from page 1 —
affected by this change, accord-

ing to Vicky Plaza, C-M’s di-

rector of budgeting, but "fiscal

To Rhino the printer cannot be used.

"It is difficult to spread the

money to the cost," she said, ad-

hocracy is located separately within a fis-

cal year.

Charles Harp of the CSU

purchasing department puts to-
gether the specifications for
each issue. "Contracts are

awarded to the lowest bidder

unless we can prove the quality is

less than what we expect, but qua-

ty has nothing to do with economics," Harp said. He said

that proper use of state funds is

important for the school, but ac-
cepts that his hands are tied be-
cause a lower cost out-of-state

printer cannot be used.

Unless either the statute or its

local interpretation are

changed, C-M must continue to

search for the funds to cover

these extra printing costs.
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**A ‘remarkable’ Gavel staffer**

**Gavel staff**

What does 3L Gary Norman, a Gavel staff writer for two years and Cleveland-Marshall’s only blind student, have in common with Cleveland’s Gateway sports facilities?

The Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners is proud of both — its creation, Gateway, for being accessible to the disabled, and Gary for being named one of “20 Remarkable People in 20 Remarkable Years” by the commissioners’ Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities.

In 1979 the commissioners appointed representatives to advise them on issues facing people with disabilities. The resulting committee is comprised of advocates with disabilities, rehabilitation professionals and able-bodied citizens committed to helping disabled people achieve their chosen level of success.

“A man is not to be measured by the amount of gold he beholds,” Norman told the committee, “but rather by the number of good friends he can call upon in times of both joy and sadness.”

In addition to his duties as a Gavel columnist, Norman is a representative of the Student Bar Association, serves on several C-M committees and works in a legal clinic that assists the unemployed. Always impressed by his ability to bring such a unique perspective to the paper (see his article on aging, page 10), the staff of the Gavel is proud to extend our congratulations to Gary for receiving this extraordinary honor and recognition.

Why read the Gavel? Funny photos of professors. For starters. Also, it was selected by the ABA this year as the No. 2 law-school newspaper in the country. (No. 1: Harvard.) We accept.

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**C-M, CSU should split**

When I consider the remarkable disparity that exists between the two ends of the Cleveland State-Cleveland-Marshall campus, the first thought that leaps to mind is metaphor: *A Tale of Two Cities*. After spending more than two years as a student here — and in the process trying to mind my own business, stay out of trouble and quietly progress toward graduation — my disgust has reached a pinnacle. It’s time for Cleveland-Marshall to part company with its parent school.

CSU itself is not renowned for much, and the recent actions of the administration concerning the horridly botched PeopleSoft conversion are perfectly indicative of how CSU management has allowed the school to become a laughing stock. Cleveland State is not reputed to be a “good” school and it shouldn’t be, because it hasn’t earned a positive reputation. It is not sufficient after the fact to point fingers at consultants, success rates or poorly alleged performance. Where was the oversight of PeopleSoft? Who was managing the project? And most importantly, who among the administrative team would be held accountable? Someone should be fired, and lame attempts to pin the blame on third parties should be rejected. This was a textbook failure in management oversight.

Go almost anywhere on this campus as a student and you’ll encounter indifference at best, but more likely outright hostility from university employees. This attitude problem flows directly from mismanagement at the top. CSU deserves to be flotsam on the sea of mediocrity precisely because there is no visible commitment from anyone in a leadership position to make the necessary changes. A sense of pride, of mission, of purpose must originate with the leadership for any organization to be successful. Without improving the overall sense of purpose of the university, CSU will never be well regarded; more importantly, its students will never be able to point with pride to their alma mater. Students should come first.

In sharp contrast to CSU, C-M has been steadily improving its reputation both academically and within the legal community. I was uncertain what to expect when I enrolled here, but I’ve been consistently impressed with the dedication of the law administration, faculty and staff. While I’m sure at one time it was necessary for the law school to join with CSU, I’m also convinced the necessity of such a marriage has long since passed. As law students we gain nothing from this relationship, other than to have our diploma tainted by association with CSU. C-M’s leadership should begin regaining the school’s independence. If you think I’m wrong, ask yourselves why you refer to your school as “Marshall” and not CSU.

Rossmatlack is a staff writer and a hospital administrator.

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**My own private ‘T’dunno’**

By Michael Cheselka

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It’s a phrase they’ll have heard for the past two months. It echoes through all our heads: “We are here to teach you to think like a lawyer.” The lure of this secret society beckons with all its tradition, history and respect. Most students struggle to redefine thought processes that functioned faithfully, if as factory-installed, for a lifetime. I noticed the first clues of this mental metamorphosis while reading an article in the morning paper.

A suburban Chicago high school basketball player, suspended from his team after two alcohol-related criminal violations, sued for reinstatement under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Our pre-lawyered brains reel at the thought, whirling in willy-nilly directions. How dare that student insult all the seriously disabled men and women who pulled on braces, or struggled in a wheelchair just to go outside for the morning paper? It doesn’t seem that most people pulling into handicapped parking spaces are just fat? And why don’t this kid’s parents just move — never mind — they just use “time out” nowadays.

There’s more. The kid wants $100,000 in compensatory damages! Seems there’s no settlement money for good people anymore. The weirder you are, the more you make. Look at all the people on “Jerry Springer”: a hundred years ago their relatives would have bricked them up in the attic and told everyone they were dead in the war. Not anymore. But the bigger picture beckons. Local school boards are waiting this case out with bated breath, wondering whether there can ever be codes of conduct or minimum standards again. Coaches assert that earning a varsity letter is a privilege, not a right. The kid’s mother says school officials will either make her son an example or leader. What ever happened to leading by example? How can a 17-year-old sit around the house and discuss his felony convictions with his father, only to not have his old man yank him off the team for disgracing the family name? Then the lawyer-ly details jump out. The suit was brought in the U.S. District Court, so a federal question is at issue. The act doesn’t define the parameters of “disability.” Is basketball a “major activity” covered by the act? Does it have to be your own physical handicap? Mental handicap? Does a lazy or abusive spouse create entitlement? Employers are subject to the act; are student athletes eligible?

If a door is legally left open, are we justified in criticizing those who walk through it? And is this kind of legislation inevitable when single-issue litmus tests, like abortion and crime control, are used to elect representatives? The possibilities seem endless.

Not having the answers and developing enough follow-up questions to warrant a second cup of coffee is a great place to be. Being part of the solution is the only legitimate exemption to being part of the problem. So teach me to think like a lawyer. Please.

Cheselka, a first-year, is a politics and public relations consultant in Cleveland.
Trumpeting of good grades is overblown

By Monica Clardy

Millions of women are victims of domestic violence every year. You may be counted among them, but don't let anyone make you feel as if you are a statistic. Perhaps your partner doesn’t hit or threaten you. Maybe you’ve never had to visit a hospital emergency room after an assault. You may still be a victim.

You see, domestic violence isn’t just about physical abuse, but control. Such control may manifest itself in mental, emotional, economic, and psychological coercion of the victim. A few signs your partner is abusing you follow. Does your partner:

- Constantly criticize you and your abilities as a woman? Become overly protective or excessively jealous?
- Threaten to hurt you or your family?
- Make you feel unsafe?
- Prevent you from seeing family or friends?
- Lash out with one of your partner’s friends, members or himself?
- Prevent you from getting a job or going to school?

If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these questions, you are probably a victim — that’s the bad news. The good news is you are not alone and help is at hand.

Talk to clergy or a friend or family member to be sure of your situation. If your relationship is found harmful and you want the abuse to stop, there are shelters, support and advocacy groups, and law enforcement agencies to assist you.

Fortunately, Ohio is a “zero tolerance” state requiring schools to take action. An arrest warrant will be issued for the offender and once arrested, he will spend some time in jail. Time in jail can help prevent a repeat offense.

It will also give you time to get to a safe place and, hopefully, gain control of your life again.

I wish I could say leaving an abusive relationship is as simple as getting out of the violence. Quite often, terminating the relationship only escalates the abuse. There is criminal and civil protection orders you can seek, but the best way to stop a violent relationship is to not get into one that may seem evil, but when you think about it, your partner exhibited signs of abuse long before the relationship reached this point. You just chose to ignore them.

Don’t ignore them anymore. Clarity is a 41 staff writer.

Letters to the Mail

Do you take issue with an opinion in this edition? Do you have a special perspective that would help shed light on the subject? Let us know. Drop off your hard copy and disk at the office door, LB 23, or write to first place.
America gets older, but wiser too

By Gary C. Norman
STAFF WRITER

The myriad issues confronting this nation include a reexamination of the changing roles of the elderly. America has virtually an ever-growing resource in the persons of elderly years. Transforming the outmoded ideas of retirement is one way for this country to utilize the skills and talents of the elderly population, especially now that Congress has raised the retirement threshold to 70 years of age.

One plan to use the elderly's knowledge base could involve paying retirees for contributions to the community as part of their Social Security payments. After all, why should community service be viewed only as a part of the punishment scheme or as a way for the young to gain work experience? I just imagine the sheer quantity of good works this nation's government could encourage through an incentive-based public retirement plan.

Old age is not a stage of life that should be disregarded in the quest for eternal youth. The ancient riddle of the Sphinx recognizes that all life stages — youth, maturity and old age — are combined within eternity to make a full existence. Other societies respect their wise, aged members by appreciating the stabilizing and significant role the elderly play in community governance. Probably the most well-known denigration of the elderly occurred in the 1930s with Franklin Roosevelt's Court-packing plan. In suggesting that old age prevented Supreme Court justices from faithfully executing their duties, FDR allowed America to question that even the wisest in the land were expendable.

More recently, retired Sen. Bob Dole raised America's fears of old age when attempting to run for the Oval Office. Somehow the media latched onto his age in an effort to prove he was not qualified to govern. We forget that the Constitution specifies age minima for officeholders — not maxima.

Although the new civil rights–based Age Discrimination Enforcement Act is intended to shield the elderly from invidious discrimination, it may be ineffective because of the focus on youth in America's culture. This is a sad commentary on current American values. This great republic should cherish and promote all of its citizens at every stage of life — from the womb to the tomb.

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By Eileen Sutker
STAFF EDITOR

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Breaking and entering: Now how's that for 'character and fitness'?

By Jennifer Cunningham

STAFF WRITER

One of the most important qualities a lawyer can have is honesty. At least this is what the Supreme Court of Ohio wants us to believe.

Anyone who's been forced to expose her entire life history for the Ohio bar exam registration's character questionnaire will attest that it is an invasion of privacy roughly equivalent to interrogation by the KGB.

Therefore, as a matter of principle, I have decided to take the New York state bar exam instead. That plus the fact that I never filled out the darn thing for Ohio.

Nevertheless, I'm beginning to believe my decision to break from the pack was wise. This conviction was driven home to me last week by a startling personal discovery: I have become quite the accomplished felon.

No, I'm not abandoning the law for a career in money laundering or extortion, although I admit the idea has been tempting at times. I have, however, mastered the fine art of breaking and entering a dwelling. OK, so it was only my own apartment, but I doubt that would make any difference to the bar review board. Judging from the thoroughness of the character questionnaire, the mere fact that I've dived with the forces of the dark side would be enough to permanently ban me from any legal career in Ohio.

My descent into the under-world began the other night when I foolishly neglected to bring along my keys to the basement laundry room. I returned to my apartment to discover that I was locked out, and that trying to kick the door in, kung fu-style, only works in the movies and makes unsightly scuff marks on the paint.

Of course, in keeping with the tenets of Murphy's law, the apartment manager was nowhere to be found. I called the emergency maintenance number, only to be greeted by a cheerful recording requesting that I call back between business hours.

Just as I was preparing to spend the night on the laundry-room floor with the spiders, dust bunnies and other critters I'd rather not think about, I ran into a neighbor who furnished me with two indispensable tools of the burglar's trade — a screwdriver and a credit card.

A neighbor furnished me with two indispensable tools of the burglar's trade — a screwdriver and a credit card.

Agency & partnership

By Eileen Sukter

STAFF EDITOR

ACROSS
1. Primitive economy.
7. Clearly visible.
15. Task product.
26. Sonar's cousin?
31. — juidicata.
59. — day; diminish costs.
59. — day.
64. Filthy-; money.
65. — judicata.
68. Money for services.
76. Robin Hood's men.
82. Round vowel.
84. Not the master.
86. Not the master.

DOWN
1. Sent out to get money back.
2. Stay away from.
5. Sequence; "novel.
6. See 57A
7. Who acts for you.
8. Marked on invoices.
9. See 59A.
11. As you sow, so shall you.
12. Pay a wage.
13. See 34A.
14. Essential for 1A.
23. Surveyed.
27. Fall abbrev.
30. Connects the parts.
31. Pink-checkered complexion.
36. Day after Fri.
37. See 59A.
38. To change into a gas.
41. See 59A.
43. After partner and lord.
44. Detour's partner.
45. Yang's partner.
46. Continent near North America.
47. Dorothy's Aunt.
48. Master's control base.
49. Fuss.
52. — down; diminish costs.
54. Meaning the exact opposite.
56. See 34A.
57. Shortest for Am. Law Inst.
58. Bathroom roll.
59. — , 34A, 14D, 9D, q 37A.
60. Undergraduate source.
61. Most violent sin.
62. Sonar's cousin.
64. Created by culpability.
67. Shared by trace and trust.
69. Money for services.
70. So long.
71. Santa Fe is its capital.
72. Direct current's opposite.
73. One tenth of a liter.
74. Bar beverage.
75. Fifth letter.
76.Robin Hood's men.
77. Snake's partner.
81. Not part of a frolic.
83. Cup shaped vowel.
85. Squeaky vowel.

The Gavel • Sidebar

Crossword answers

A 1L's Perspective

By Nancy Biddell

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Remember how we sit in our assigned places so the teachers could put a last name to our faces.

We learned how to find books on our library tour, now they just have strange names like CIS and AM JUR.

In our classes we've learning lots of new stuff, now to find time for homework can really tough.

We have no real math class that we must attend we will learn about damages when we get to the end.

OVERHEARD

Here's how 3L Aaron Reid taught "strict liability" to his nephews one day while he was babysitting. After separating the squabbling brothers for the 20th time, he pulled the older boy aside and said, "If I hear your little brother cry again, you are in trouble!"

"But that's not fair!" the older boy replied. Aaron answered: "Fairness has nothing to do with it!"

Aaron based the "lecture" his nephew received on a similar story told by professor Stephen Gard.

Next issue: An exercise program featuring 30 pounds of law books!
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