



The Child Advocacy Clinic

By Despina Hartofilis '07

Imagine a child being slashed with a box cutter by his mother's boyfriend because he tried defending his mother. Imagine a child kneeling on raw rice, naked, between two dressers, with a fan blowing on her face and body. Imagine a parent who doesn't speak a word of English, entwined in the New York City Family Court system, trying to decipher what she needs to do in order to keep custody of her children. Imagine a mother who was too high on cocaine to realize she had gone into labor two weeks prior to the delivery of her baby. Now imagine being able to roll up your sleeves and help these children and their families.

Interviewing for the Child Advocacy Clinic was the best decision I made in law school. I don't mean this in a cliché way but in the most realistic way possible. There is only so much you can learn in a classroom environment through cases in a textbook. At some point, the learning experience should be taken outside the classroom where real, hands-on courtroom and client experiences can be gained. As a student in the Child Advocacy Clinic, you are afforded this opportunity. Through a student practitioner order, you are equipped to handle a case just as an attorney would. You perform every aspect of representation from interviewing clients and fact investigation to document drafting and trial preparation and appearance.

As part of the Child Advocacy Clinic you are not only given the opportunity to represent clients you treat as your own, but you are given rather special clients. Your clients are children; children that are often victims of abuse and neglect; children who, without your voice, may not be heard. These confused and scared

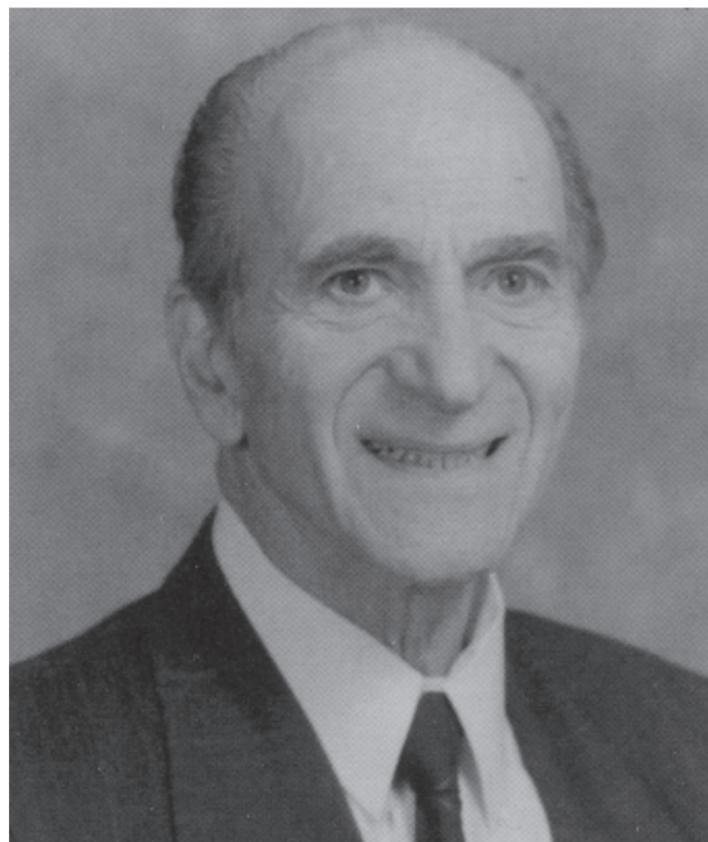
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Remembering The Honorable Edward D. Re

As told to Heidi Roll '09 by Professor Patrick J. Rohan

The Honorable Edward D. Re, Chief Judge of the Court of International Trade, passed away at the age of 85 in September, 2006. With Judge Re's passing, St. John's Law School, its faculty, students and alumni lost one of our stars. Of all of his titles—practicing lawyer, author, law professor, federal judge, chairman of the U.S. Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs and administrator of the Fulbright Scholars Program—Judge Re would gladly accentuate his time spent as a professor at St. John's University School of Law.

Judge Re was born in the Aeolian Islands located off the coast of Sicily. Though his family did not speak a word of English when he emigrated to the United States at the tender age of seven, his intellectual prowess rapidly overcame his language difficulties. In fact, during the course of his life Judge Re mastered English, Italian, French, and Spanish and could read historical Greek and Latin. After graduating from New Utrecht High School Judge Re attended St. John's University School of Commerce, where he graduated at the top of his class. Judge Re proceeded to St. John's Law School, where he again graduated first in his class and *summa cum laude*.



During his years at St. John's Judge Re, when able to escape his work law review, found time to earn pocket money by taking the subway to Broadway where played the drums in a professional orchestra that supplied the music for rehearsals of leading musical artists such as Sophie Tucker and Ethel Merman. This talent for music came in handy later in life, as he molded his twelve children into

a classical musical ensemble.

Graduating from Law School at the outbreak of World War II, Judge Re was temporarily kept out of Officers' Candidate School because of suspicions concerning his uncle's position admiral in the Italian Navy! Ultimately, however, such concerns were quelled and Judge Re served as an interpreter and Judge Advocate General overseas. On his return to

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An Unfortunate Turn of Events

By Anonymous

Like most prospective law students preparing for their first fall semester, I'll admit I was . . . well, scared shitless. So, as most do, I figured I'd read up on what exactly I was getting myself into (though for all intents and purposes it was probably too late). Touted as "a must read" for anyone contemplating—let alone entering—law school, I bought a used copy of Atticus Falcon's *Planet Law School II*. It compounded my fear ten-fold.

One of the more disturbing aspects of the book was the way in which Falcon portrayed the dreaded law school professor. Well,

I am pleased to say that, in all sincerity, I have been pleasantly surprised. Granted, I've had my share of particularly unpleasant Socratic sessions that seemed to last an eternity. I've been witness to only-human professor's blowing off some steam on what can only be considered a bad day. And I've had professors employ a teaching style that couldn't conflict more with my personal way of learning. Nevertheless, until recently, I had never walked out of a class feeling as if the professor was incapable, incompetent or unwilling to assist a student in any way possible.

However, it appears that
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Who is Charles Wankel?

By Peter Ryan '09

Why do I see this fuzzy grey beard everywhere I turn? On laptop screens throughout the building, I that stern looking patriarchal face stares back at me from a facebook webpage. He friended me, my girlfriend, several classmates, and many other law students. But just who is Charles Wankel?

In a reply to my facebook message asking just that, Professor Wankel of St. John's undergraduate School of Business states that he wants to network with people, particularly business students. He requires facebook in his classes,

and someday wants to be able to search through his friends for specific topics "such as sustainability" for his research.

Even at my ripe old age of 26, I feel a little old for facebook. Wankel, however, in such a young setting can't help but give off the aura of a stranger offering candy to children, or the 35 year old with greased hair and gold chains buying undergrads drinks at The Sly Fox.

Slanderous imagery aside, he would appear to just be a forward thinking professor, making the most of technology. I, personally, will be accepting his request. ■

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Response to "Student Apathy" by Jimmy O'Rourke

By Nicole Aratoon '09

It is not often that I have time to spend reading *The Forum*, but when I can, I do and I was very surprised at what I read in the Fall 2006 issue. In that issue of *The Forum* Jim O'Rourke proceeded to write a very telling story of the reason St John's Law students are so apathetic. The "piece," if you would like to call it that, was aptly entitled "Student Apathy" and was printed on pages 2 and 12.

Mr. O'Rourke's story starts with a modest description of his many responsibilities as the Student Bar Association Day Vice President. By complete inference I think I can determine that Mr. O'Rourke is not only a day student itching to graduate in 2008, but also does not hold down a 40-hour per week job, excluding overtime and deadlines.

It is clear from reading the remainder of this issue that Jim O'Rourke is well regarded at *The Forum*, as he is listed as the official mascot as well as was given space to publish an all-telling question and answer with himself. While I respect and envy Mr. O'Rourke for having the time to sit and write all about himself, I, on the other hand, sit here writing a response (instead of taking a lunch break today) because I find his accusations and reasoning for student apathy quite offensive.

Mr. O'Rourke stated that being busy and "overloaded with reading, jobs, familial obligations, activities, clinics, and/or externships" is "entirely insufficient as an explanation." I find this accusation appalling and resent the absence of mention to the evening students. I would like to propose the all too well known fact that most of the evening students are up before the sun every morning, spend 8+ hours at work or home with their children, and barely make it to class on time due to unforeseen deadlines or child emergencies.

In addition, an evening student's day does not end with class

at 10:30pm. Most evening students will then go home to make dinner and spend another two hours reading for the next day. Others choose to spend their weekend in the law library reading and outlining. Somehow it seems as though spending the few hours of spare time with your children, family, or spouse, doing laundry or keeping your house in running order is not a co-op, but rather a necessity. Making sure your children have clean clothes to wear and spending a few hours a week with your spouse should not take second seat to the "events/symposium/panel discussions" the school so graciously hosts for the students. I would like to note that this doesn't only apply to those students who attend the part-time night programs, but additionally to some students attending full-time.

As surprising as some may find it, many law students did not come to law school as an extension of their college years, but rather as an opportunity to further their already existing careers. Those in that position do not have the luxury to spend time attending a symposium on public interest career moves or a behind the scenes of top law firms. It is just not essential.

In addition, "Student Apathy" noted that more people attended Last Call on a Thursday night than an event in the Atrium on a weekday. I agree with the fact that if you offer students a place to have a drink they will all come, as we all know we all need to unwind; but it seems to be self-evident as to why this is. The Thursday night functions are not usually attended by evening students because we are in class, and I'm sure the SBA would not advocate skipping class to attend a bar function. Also, keep in mind that for most, but not all, Thursday is the last night of classes for the week, and, because of this, one may afford themselves the opportunity to spend an hour attending a St John's affair. I guarantee you that if SBA were to make Last Call get-togethers in the middle of the day they

would not draw the same audience as on a Thursday night; day students would not always skip class to go out drinking at 1pm, nor would night students take off early from work or hire a babysitter to attend. It is all a matter of convenience. The students working, attending school, caring for children, and contributing to household chores do not have the ability to consider a school function convenient.

An additional aspect of the article that truly struck a chord with me was Mr. O'Rourke's defense of Career Services. I will concede the fact that many students don't make an effort to get the help they need. However, in defense of those students, it is not easily accessible. Students are ingrained with the thoughts that you will not get anywhere unless you are on Law Review, and you will certainly not get anywhere if you don't land a summer associate position during OCI (on campus interviews).

For many of us this is blatantly untrue. Many already have a job that is on the correct path and the only thing standing in our way between paralegal and attorney is the attainment of our J.D. We have come to St John's to obtain that ticket that will allow us to excel. While others might not have the same great position, they don't have the vacation time to take off and meet with a career counselor to hear how to send out a mass mailing. It is simply not helpful.

During our second year we are privy to the Career Services Orientation—we get to choose 1 of 1 evening session—where we learn what the office offers and are told we must make a mandatory appointment with a counselor. If Career Services offered Saturday or late-night appointments evening students may be able to squeeze it in. Mr. O'Rourke, this what you call apathy, or rather a lack of working hours in the day? I choose the latter.

Mr. O'Rourke also suggested that it be made mandatory that students attend a certain number of

events over the course of the semester. I challenge you, Mr. O'Rourke, to find the time in the schedule of an evening student to attend talks and symposiums (unless of course you are running a campaign to promote weekend symposiums or events starting at 10pm after night classes). Evening students are then left with the option of either eating dinner while we read for the next day or attending an event. The school cannot force students to partake in events they have no interest in, nor can they be asked to forego other responsibilities and familial obligations to be a part of the SJU student mass.

As a final note in regard to the "most successful event of the year...because of the prospect of four hours of open-bar." While bearing in mind that the "open-bar" comes with the condition that you pay through your nose for the ticket that is not acknowledged at the door, this event is held on a Friday night, when finals are not lurking and at a time when you can make it after work. However, anyone who practices Orthodox Judaism is exempt because it is held during the Sabbath. Granted, there is no way to make everyone happy, and the evening students are definitely in the minority, but it is nevertheless unfair and offensive to accuse the St John's students of being apathetic as a result. In reality, if you were to look even slightly closer with open eyes Mr. O'Rourke, you would find that the cause of "apathy" in not attending one of the many events the school hosts is simply because of time constraints. Not everyone has the luxury to spend time enriching their knowledge, writing interviews with themselves, or even reading the newspaper.

All in all, I, along with other evening students, found "Student Apathy" by Jim O'Rourke to be offensive. Calling our lives a "cop-out" was radically bold of the author and warrants a published apology. ■

If you would like to reply to any article printed in this issue, or if you would like to write an opinion piece, The Forum encourages letters and submissions to TheForumSJU@gmail.com

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recently the tides have turned a bit—and it's a sentiment that seems to be slowly growing. As the unseasonably warm Fall 2006 semester ended and an even-balmier Spring 2007 semester commenced, a chill fell over the student body that I had yet to experience in my tenure at St. John's. The dissatisfaction was not a response to lower-than-expected grades—after all, it would be weeks until those were finally handed in—or a continued frustration over the commandeering of our cafeteria by undergraduate students. Instead, this disillusion struck at the core of our experience as law students in a place we've come, for better or worse, to call home: the environment and manner in which we are being educated.

While I'm not one for advancing drama, the barrage of complaints and grievances of the first few weeks of classes were different than those of past semesters. Though primarily grounded in the particularities of an over-critical, under-accountable Constitutional Law professor who seems unwilling to accept a poorly executed teaching plan—rather than student apathy and, dare I say, intellectual inferiority—as the primary reason for his discontent, the complaints evidenced a general impression by the student body of serious discord between the philosophy and approach of certain professors and what students had come to understand as basic respect and decency. The end result was an overarching sense of disenchantment with the way that a minority of classes were being conducted.

Moreover, the level of professionalism we are expected to emulate, or master in our professional responsibility class, seems to, on occasion, be as elusive as the fundamental principles some professors are astounded they couldn't adequately impart this past semester. What do I mean by a lack of professionalism?

Well, among other empirical treasures, certain members of the student body were particularly offended by one professor's tangential sermon—strife with ridicule and belittlement—regarding his assessment as to his previous class' intellectual inability, poor work ethic and—as is quite obvious—fortunate admission into the law program. What's more, a considerable percentage of the unfortunate students attending the sermon were, themselves, students of the previous class at issue; simply put, their current professor, who had yet to hand in the grades for that class, were forced

to endure 'foreshadowments' of their academic demise stemming from their performance on the final exam before it was even committed to paper through the Registrar. I suggest that professors that subscribe to such sentiment should redirect their animosity and disappointment to the St. John's University School of Law Admissions Department, as students—most of which regularly try their best—cannot be asked to do more. Maybe this professor possesses such intuition that the procedures of the admission department should be reconsidered.

While I do not pretend to speak for all students, or even the majority (or myself, to some degree), I do speak for the considerable minority that has voiced their opinion to any and all that would listen, including those of the administration (and on rare occasion the faculty member himself/herself). Unfortunately, there is only so much that the administration can do to both encourage the feedback of students while too respecting the autonomy and latitude of each respective professor. It is unfortunate that those two ideals have to be considered, at times, in conflict, but that should not preclude the student body from voicing its opinion . . .

An opinion that one can only imagine will not be warmly received. Though open debate and dialogue as to the above concerns would be the preferred approach, and would likely lead to the most meaningful results, one cannot be so naive as to think that even the most receptive of faculty members wouldn't be negatively affected by this article's content (an unintended result for sure), thus jeopardizing future student/faculty relations. Accordingly, the author has decided, albeit reluctantly, to remain anonymous for purposes of this letter.

I, on behalf of those that have inspired this letter, do not hold out much hope that this will substantially effect the recent issues that have resulted in discontent among the student body; that is not because of an anticipated reluctance on the part of the faculty, but rather a mature recognition that, really, what can be done? Well, just *this*. With the exception of anonymous faculty evaluations—the weight and impact of which is still as ambiguous as the final outcome of the alleged grading curve increase—the student body has little recourse; we hope this channel will be taken seriously.

I reiterate the sincere appreciation and affection that I, along with with many of my fellow stu-

dents, share for the vast majority of St. John's University School of Law professors. In fact, many of those with whom I have discussed recent student dissatisfaction have conceded that even the professors that are—in their eyes—most responsible for the recent disappointments have, or have had, many positive attributes as professors, as evidenced in an array of forums. Their contention is that a variety of factors—not the least of which include an impression of intellectual superiority, not-so-mild condescension, a maintained sense of aloof air and a consistent placement of energy and emphasis on activities outside of the classroom to the detriment of their students—prevent certain professors from being as effective and engaging as their capabilities and qualifications would allow (and—as we hope—they aspire to be).

However, as a parting word to professors that would be apt to respond with sentiments of "its law school, deal with it" or "its for your own good" or even "we're not here to baby you," I respectfully submit this:

It has been repeatedly im-

posed upon St. John's students that the true study of law, and the true development of our character as an attorney, is not achieved in the classroom, or later in the courtroom or office, but only by the continuing way in which we inform, present and conduct ourselves; this suggestion has been used to support everything from higher attendance rates at school functions to more scholarly work throughout the semester. Purportedly, that is what the essence of "a student of the law" is all about.

What then, is the essence of being a "professor of the law" all about? While I would never presume to know, I would hope that those that are professors, as well as those that aspire to be in the future, use that as their primary motivation. I fear that some professors may have temporarily lost sight of their true function: to educate students in a way that prospers our ability to realize their suggested goal, not inhibit or frustrate it. If our weight and success as "students of the law" is measured by our ability to realize what defines the model attorney, should professors not be considered and evaluated by their students in the same light? ■

Euphemistically Speaking

By Michael Catallo '09

Why do lawyers constantly rank at the bottom of polls for most likeable profession? Is it because lawyers are perceived to be hired guns by big corporations and firms used to seek out and destroy society? Perception is reality; the reality for lawyers is that they are not perceived well. If you happen to like lawyers and think they contribute positively to society, you are probably, in fact, a lawyer yourself. As a lawyer, society's worst crimes can easily be recharacterized with an adjustment or two into something more euphemistic in a nature: murder is simply involuntarily administered suicide; robbery is the transfer of property using creative business strategy; lying is presenting the truth from a different perspective.

Lawyers are perceived as manipulative and self-serving pimps; pimps whose words are their whores. This is the perception in society, but I believe lawyers can change this perception into something more positive.

First of all, the word "lawyer" presents a problem. Society does not like "lawyers." The word lawyer has a negative connotation attached to it; if you say that you are a lawyer, you almost always get an immediate negative response. I

propose that we attempt to redefine the title of lawyer; a lawyer should be known as facilitator of law, a crusader of truth, and a champion of the people. These characterizations sound much nicer than the word "lawyer." We need to use them.

"Yes, hello, my name is Michael and I'm a facilitator of the law. What do I do? Well, I am a liberator. I liberate words to find their true meaning, and I defend the truth. I engage in intelligent discussions with other well respected members of my profession in order to discover what the truth is. I am like an artist or poet who, through his or her craft, offers an interpretation, creative image, or beautiful painting that all of society can revel and revere in. I creatively create a cacophony of sounds that majestically, metaphorically, and magically transform into a great body of text that illuminates, educates, and creates inspiration, awe and jubilation among all who are serendipitous enough to breathe in the breadth and brilliance of my art. I am a facilitator of the law, a crusader of the truth, a champion of the people!"

In other words, I'm a high priced lawyer. ■

The Magic Pill

By David Pachner '09

It is ten o'clock at night and you have taken five bathroom breaks, four food breaks, and eight cigarette breaks" and you don't even smoke. Meanwhile, your classmate, who is also studying for finals, is sitting next to you on 2M but hasn't moved all day. He has memorized the UCC and the name, court and year of every case in the Contracts book. Ever wonder what his secret is?

Studies have shown that an increasing number of graduate students across the nation have been turning to the prescription medication Adderall as a study aid. Normally prescribed to treat Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) among children, Adderall has been popping up on college campuses for over a decade. Students have also been known to use the drug Ritalin, also commonly prescribed for ADD, but prefer Adderall.

Psychiatrists explain that the amphetamine in the Adderall works to increase the flow of dopamine and norepinephrine into the extraneuronal space, causing the brain to experience a more intense level of concentration, an increased ability to focus for extended periods of time and a heightened interest in performing certain tasks. What may be the largest benefit of Adderall use is the newfound ability to focus on and learn what would otherwise be considered uninteresting material. "It increases my alertness and ability to focus for extended periods of time, and it also allows me to stay up longer," said one student at Fairfield University in Connecticut. Such sentiments were echoed by a Columbia University student who admitted to *The New York Times*, "I don't think I could keep a 3.9 GPA without this stuff."

According to a recent report in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, approximately twenty-five percent of students have tried Adderall or Ritalin without prescriptions. However, many believe this number to be much higher.

"It's way more than that here," said an Indiana University student who admitted in a 2004 *The Daily Student* article that he sold Adderall to students in the past. "Just ask your friends. I bet five out of six have tried it at least to some degree. No joke."

Students at Columbia University argue that the competitive academic atmosphere breeds Adderall use. Andy, an economics major, said that he never took Adderall in high school because he believed that academic success was a result of simply studying harder. But after coming to Columbia, he changed his thinking. "The environment here is incredibly competitive," he said. "If you don't take them, you'll be at a disadvantage to everyone else."

Then there is Chul Yim, a graduate of the University of Nevada, who told *The Wall Street Journal* in a 2004 article that he was wrestling with the idea of using Adderall for the LSAT. "I really can't fail," Chul said, "because it's not just me that's failing. I fail for my

parents and my entire family. Even if it bumps my score up an extra point, it's worth it."

Even though Adderall is a controlled substance and requires a prescription, students admit that it is easy to obtain. In fact, a July 2005, Student Drug Research Survey of University of Maryland students found Adderall was the third easiest drug on campus to get after alcohol and marijuana. "I would be lying if I told you this stuff was hard to get," says Jake, a collateral analyst at a New York accounting firm and a 2005 graduate of Rutgers University. Jake bought most of his Adderall from students who had prescriptions for the medication.

"The market was huge," says Jake. "During sophomore year, people were paying like \$4 for 20 milligram pills. By the time I graduated, the price was up to \$6." According to Jake, it was usually well-known who the Adderall dealers were and where they were selling. "Kids set up in quiet corners of the library just like drug dealers on the streets have their corners. Some even had dealers working under them who were making a cut. One kid was like the Pablo Escobar of Adderall. He showed up in a brand new Infiniti one day and nobody doubted where that money came from. The funny thing is that his parents and the professors in the computer science department thought he was just a regular computer geek."

Adderall isn't a drug to be taken lightly. The DEA categorizes drugs into five schedules according to their addictiveness and abuse potential. Adderall is a schedule II drug, which makes it one of the most addictive in the field. Experts argue, though, that the problem is not that students are becoming addicted to Adderall, but that they are becoming dependent on it. Jackie Kurta, an Alcohol and Drug Specialist at UC Santa Barbara's Student Health Services, stated in a December, 2004 article posted on epilepsy.com that "[s]tudents start out taking study drugs one time to study. The drugs work so well that the students begin to lose confidence in their own abilities to study without them."

Short term side effects of Adderall may include changes in blood pressure, changes in heart rate, insomnia, and sexual impotence. Long term use can lead to psychosis, paranoia, and a mental condition similar to schizophrenia. Doctors point out that, since Adderall is an amphetamine, the symptoms are not unlike those experienced by speed addicts.

Studies have also shown that students on Adderall report that they feel a loss of creativity as a result of their use. However, many remain skeptical of these findings, citing examples of how the drug actually inspires creative thinking. According to those who knew him, Jack Kerouac, the famous author of the highly regarded novel *On the Road*, wrote the work on a single continuous role of teletype during a three week binge of Adderall's early equivalent, Benzedrine.

St. John's Approves Gay and Lesbian Student Organization

By Robert Wilson '08

The Gay and Lesbian Law Association (GALLA), chartered in 2006, is an organization of law students concerned with the issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons in society, the legal community, and at St. John's University School of Law in particular. GALLA was formed as a way to educate the law school community as to the law's treatment of homophobia, heterosexism, and other forms of discrimination confronting LGBT persons. It is the sole LGBT student group in existence at St. John's University.

Linsey M. Routledge, President and Founder of GALLA, hopes that the presence of an LGBT student group at the law school will help to attract more open LGBT students to the law school; Ms. Routledge believes that additional LGBT students

will not only contribute positively to the diversity of the student body, but will also help make the law school more attractive among the top law schools in New York City— all of which have long-standing LGBT student groups. Professor John Q. Barrett serves as the group's faculty advisor.

Ms. Routledge represented St. John's University School of Law and GALLA as a panelist speaker at the Second Annual Legal LGBT career fair for law students. During the Spring 2007 semester GALLA, along with the Federalist Society, will be co-sponsoring a debate on same-sex marriage. Events, meetings and membership are open to all law students, LGBT and non-LGBT alike. Please enroll in GALLA's TWEN course for information on upcoming events and developments related to the rights of LGBT persons. ■

In February 2005, the Canadian government suspended sales of Adderall XR, the time-release version of the medication, citing "20 international reports" of sudden deaths, heart-related deaths and strokes in children and adults. The Food and Drug Administration took note of the Canadian ban but said it would take no action. In fact, Adderall is one of the most commonly prescribed of all medications in this country. Dr. Robert Herman, a staff psychiatrist at the University of Maryland commented, "Students tell me it's really changed their lives for the better, that they are so much more focused and organized."

In addition to the side effects of the drug, there are also the legal consequences that come with its distribution and possession. An article about Adderall in Grinnell College's *Scarlet & Black Newsletter* lists the penalties:

(1) Classified by the DEA as a Substance II, the same legal category as cocaine and heroin. For first time possession of between five and 49 grams, the minimum federal sentence is five years.

(2) If death or serious injury occurs, the minimum sentence is 20 years.

(3) Individual first time offenders can be fined up to two million dollars.

(4) If a first-time offender possesses more than 49 grams, the minimum sentence is ten years and the maximum is life imprisonment.

Notwithstanding the drug's classification, many argue that its illegal use should be treated similarly to that of steroids, since it is more or less a "performance-enhancing drug." However, it is hard to come across records of college or law school students being nabbed for selling or purchasing Adderall. Dolores A. Danser, Chief of the Department of Public Safety at Dickinson College told the University's newspaper

that, despite the knowledge that Adderall abuse was a reality, during her one year at Dickinson there was not a single arrest or citation for the illegal sale of possession of amphetamines by either Public Safety or the local Police. In a June 13, 2005 internet blog, Andrew Perlman, associate professor of law at Suffolk University Law School, asked, "Should we start testing law students for illegal Ritalin and Adderall use? And if so, what should the punishment be for violators? Expulsion? Reprimand with a report to the relevant bar association regarding illegal drug use?" He offered students to respond with their comments.

For many students the issue is not that Adderall is illegal or potentially dangerous, but that it gives some an unfair advantage. Those who choose not to use Adderall say that it is more or less a form of "cheating." Angelica Gonzales, a civil engineering major at Columbia, told *The New York Times*, "It's cheating, and it really bothers me. I mean, everyone here is smart. They should be able to get by without the extra help." At the Rutgers University School of Business 2005 Commencement, where it is not uncommon for students to decorate their cap and gown with honor society pins and Greek letters, one girl sported "ADDERALL-FREE" in white paint on the top of her cap.

Given the surge of Adderall abuse on college campuses nationwide, it appears that the government has been slow to react. This trend will likely continue unless doctors recognize the risks that accompany such prolific prescription practice. For children or adults suffering from ADHD, Adderall has helped improve lives significantly. However, for those that choose to abuse the drug without prescription, Adderall poses a significant threat that can lead to permanent injury or even death. ■

SBA Approves New Student Organizations

By Robert Wilson '08

Last semester the SBA approved the creation of five new student organizations. In case you are not yet familiar with these newly-formed groups, a brief profile of each is provided below.

American Constitution Society

Although some have referred to it as the liberal counterpart to the Federalist Society, the American Constitution Society (ACS) describes itself as non-partisan and refrains from taking a position on specific issues or cases. Founded in 2001, ACS commits itself to fostering and encouraging a progressive view of the Constitution to ensure that fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice enjoy a central place in American law. The St. John's University School of Law chapter was founded by students Paula Clarity, Carlos Beato, Matt Heaton and Michael Krupen, with the support of Professors Mary Lyndon and Charles Bobis.

Interested students should visit the group's TWEN page and sign-up for more information and discussion.

Amnesty International

Probably the best-known international human rights

organization, Amnesty International has been in existence for over 40 years with membership in over 150 countries. The aim of the St. John's University School of Law chapter is to promote awareness of human rights issues, and to fight for universal standards of human rights through petitioning and action campaigns.

Professor Christopher Borgen is the faculty advisor for the chapter, which was founded by students Lauren Fraid, Matt Heaton, Katie Shepherd, Lauren Silver and Matthew Weir. The group held its first event—a movie screening and pizza study break—last semester.

Amnesty is planning a number of events for this semester, including a panel discussion in mid-March on the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. St. John's chapter members will also be involved in facilitating Amnesty USA's conference on terrorism, scheduled for February 16th and 17th, 2007

To learn more about Amnesty events this semester, and for opportunities to get involved, please register for the TWEN course online.

Education Law Society

The Education Law Society (ELS) was founded by students that attended the Fall 2006 Education Law Seminar with the encouragement of Professor Mitchell

H. Rubinstein, the group's faculty advisor.

ELS hopes to promote awareness about emerging legal issues in the area of education law. ELS sponsors events that provide students with an opportunity to learn about career opportunities in the field of education law and to network with attorneys who practice education law in various capacities.

To date ELS has scheduled two events for the Spring 2007 semester: Career Panel with New York area professionals in Education Law on Tuesday, February 6th, and a March 6th symposium discussing the Seattle-area school district cases heard by the Supreme Court this term.

You can also learn more about the Education Law Society from their TWEN page, or e-mail the group at lalsasju@gmail.com.

Multilingual Legal Advocates

Founded by first-year student Dawn Maruna, the Multilingual Legal Advocates pair up multilingual St. John's law students with volunteer opportunities, in both the private and public sectors, that require both legal and foreign language skills. While helping these volunteers gain practical experience, the group also encourages its membership to participate in language enrichment classes and

workshops. In addition, they plan on working in conjunction with the various cultural organizations at St. John's to co-sponsor and host on-campus events and provide support to all law students interested in improving their second languages with the aim of using those skills in the legal world.

The MLLA's faculty advisors are Professors Rosemary C. Salomone and Margaret N. Kniffin. To learn more about the group or to become an advocate, add yourself to their TWEN page, or email the group at mlla@stjohns.edu.

Russian-American Law Students Association

Joining the ranks of the School of Law's various-American Law Students Associations is RALSA, the Russian-American Law Students Association. Professor Ettie Ward is RALSA's faculty advisor. For more information on RALSA please email ralsasju@yahoo.com. ■

Also, students should check out the International Law Society, now under new management. Sign up for the TWEN page, or contact mandbel711@yahoo.com

State of the Union

By Jay Bartlett '09

Last Tuesday night, many Americans, this author included, watched President Bush deliver his annual State of the Union speech. While the disruption to the usual television schedule is regarded as an unwelcome dose of brain-stimulating boredom by the more parochial of individuals, I actually look forward to this annual event.

My anticipation is not because I particularly agree with President Bush and what he has to say; after all, I haven't fallen and hit my head on anything lately (at least to my knowledge). The real reason why I blew off my Property reading—or so I claim—is that the State of the Union is about as close as American politics gets to resembling the British House of Commons. If you've ever watched C-SPAN's coverage of the Prime Minister's Questions, then you know what I'm talking about.

If not, picture a room packed with nicely dressed folks who, frankly, had one too many at lunch. They all take turns asking the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, about different issues around the United Kingdom; the Prime Minister responds immediately with particular answers regarding the state of that union. House members, depending on their agreement, or lack thereof, with Blair's answers, will

applaud and cheer or hiss and boo. They will rankle Blair, the opposition leader, or the questioner endlessly. Hurling insults across the chamber is commonplace, as is language that isn't exactly "G-rated." Nevertheless, real issues affecting real Britons are debated in between the banter and catcalls; the candor of the officials in such a setting cannot be faked.

In all seriousness, the idea of an open, rapid-fire debate on the issues of the day is quite appealing. Tony Blair gives unrehearsed answers to queries coming from both parties. Despite—or maybe because of—the off-color character of many of the discussions, this is political debate at its highest level. Arguments and answers in that chamber are quite unrehearsed, and the public has an opportunity to understand their representatives' true grasp of the issues affecting them.

Here in the United States, much of what goes into the public Congressional Record is either typed statements never spoken aloud or short prepared speeches delivered to an empty legislative chamber. Rarely, especially in the House, is a real debate ever seen. This is unfortunate, for, as a result, Americans rarely get a chance to witness their elected leaders passionately debating even the most important of national issues.

The closest we get to an unrehearsed, unfiltered reaction is during the State of the Union when one party applauds or jeers at what the President has to say—and half of those times the feedback actually is quite rehearsed.

But every once in awhile, as was seen last Tuesday, there is a spontaneous response from one party's members that, frankly, resembles the excitement of the House chamber. It's these far-too-rare spur-of-the-moment displays of passion that make the State of the Union particularly interesting for me.

In this sense, it appears that we have something to learn from our British friends. I know there's a rich history of Congressional tradition in this country, and I don't mean to belittle that. However, debates in the halls of Congress may be more interesting, and even more enlightening, if they functioned in a manner similar to the process in London. I'm not saying that we have to exactly emulate the British—although it is amusing to see the Speaker wake up between naps and incoherently mutter something in his Scottish brogue. It just seems like there are certain advantages that we, as a nation, could garner from witnessing open dialogue between our elected leaders.

Relaxing some of the rules governing debate in the American Congress in order to allow more open, confrontational debate would inject fresh life into the lawmaking process. Voters would be able to more fully grasp their representatives' positions on important issues, and be better able to hold those members of Congress accountable if and when they renege on campaign promises.

And this is not to mention the entertainment value that confrontational debates typically provide an observer. The chance to see their lawmakers' "true colors" may lead to an increased attention rate among the public as to Washington "goings-on," thus dragging citizens' attention away from meaningless filth like *The OC* and *America's Next Top Anorexic Brainless Heroin-Addict-Looking Model*. Why watch staged drama when you can see the real thing?

Certainly the trouble that accompanies the engagement of actual discourse would be worthwhile for our lawmakers if, as a result, it produced a generation of citizens capable of holding an intelligent discussion about the important issues facing our society. Our governmental process must be about openness and clarity, not naivety and boredom. Don't you, my right honorable friends, agree? ■

The Most Unpredictable Super Bowl Ever

By Brian Smith '08

For those of you that have been living in a cave, or the Rittenburg Library, for the past few weeks, on Sunday, February 4th, the Chicago Bears will be playing the Indianapolis Colts in the Super Bowl. Still don't understand? DAAAAAA BEARS from the famous SNL sketch will be playing that football team from your Contracts textbooks that fled Baltimore in vans in the middle of the night to head to Indianapolis. Please recognize that this isn't just a football game—this will be the first Super Bowl in which one of the head coaches is African-American, and in which the winning coach is African-American; head coach Lovie Smith of the Bears will challenge head coach Tony Dungy of the Colts.

Still not intrigued? It's the greatest linebacker in the sport—the modern Monster of the Midway—Brian Urlacher versus the greatest quarterback in the sport—the modern Dan Marino (unless he wins the Super Bowl)—Peyton Manning; it's the Bears' vaunted defense against the Colts' high-powered offense; it's the Bears' two-headed running attack of Cedric Benson and Thomas Jones versus a once-suspect, but now powerful, Colts run defense; for Pete (Ryan)'s sake, it's Rex Grossman versus himself; it's about whether the DA and the judge in Cook County will allow Tank

Johnson to travel to Miami; it's about the commercials, the millions of dollars being bet on the coin toss and how many yards Devin Hester will get on his first kick return. Ladies and gentlemen, simply put, the greatest Sunday in sports, otherwise known as the Super Bowl, is truly about the beer, nachos, and pizza millions of households in the country will be consuming. Now that I've rambled on, I'll end this Smoke-on-the-Water-esque introduction—only in length, not in sheer awesomeness—and convey some useful substance.

Maybe Shane Ryan in his “Neo-Luddism in the NFL” column has caught onto something because, with the similarities of these two teams, it sure seems like the stars are aligned for this Super Bowl XLI match up. The Colts, with nine wins, were the last team in the NFL to lose a game. The Bears, with seven wins, were the second-to-last team in the NFL, and the last team in the NFC, to lose a game. The Colts sunk from the most dominant team in the NFL to an extraordinarily ordinary team after the loss of Bob Sanders, resulting in their defense allowing huge rushing games by multiple opponents and running backs (quick side note—Bob Sanders' real name is Demond Sanders; when he was younger, none of the kids in school could pronounce his name, so he told his mother that he wished he

had an easier name to pronounce. His mother then asked him what he thought of the name “Bob” and he's been Bob ever since). The flaw in the Colts' defense was exposed, and all but a few NFL experts were expecting the Colts to be literally run off the field in the first round against Larry Johnson and the Chiefs. Instead, Bob returned to the field, the Colts' defense came together and the rest is history. Super Bowl here they come.

Although the Bears still went a respectable 6-3 to end the season after their 7-0 start, most experts had given up on them. Rex Grossman, arguably the best quarterback in the NFC in the beginning of the season, put together more games with QB ratings of sub-40 than any quarterback in the NFL. Compounding problems, the Bears' stingy defense was ravished by injuries at the end of the season, including those to Charles “Peanut” Tillman and Nathan Vasher. Consequently, the Bears looked more like a run-of-the-mill NFL defense than a force to be reckoned with. In the playoffs, the return of Peanut and Vasher rejuvenated the Bears' defense, Rex stopped making mistakes (finally), and their running backs carried the offensive load. Super Bowl here they come (quick side note— as a Bears fan, they are currently without two of their best young Pro Bowlers— safety Mike Brown and defensive tackle Tommie Harris. If these two guys were playing, we might be talking about the best defense since the Super Bowl Shuffle Bears of '85).

OK, now it's time for some predictions. The reason I think this is the most unpredictable game in recent memory is not because I think the teams are unevenly matched— I really think they are very well matched if both are playing at their best. However, as the Colts' D, Peyton Manning's career record in the playoffs, the Bears' offense, and Rex Grossman have shown us, with these teams, ANYTHING can happen. Is it possible that the Bears force four turnovers, Peyton gets rattled and throws some picks, early-season Rex returns and throws a few bombs to Bernard Berrian, and “Da Bears” win their first Super Bowl since the 1985 season in stylish fashion? Absolutely. Is it possible that Peyton

Manning makes the most of his first chance at a Super Bowl, picks apart the occasionally vulnerable Bears defense, Rex gets too nervous and throws a few (or four or five) picks to Bob and company and the Colts win huge? Definitely. But, I truly believe both teams will bring their best to Miami, just like they've done so far in the playoffs.

Peyton will throw for 250+ yards with multiple TD passes to some combination of Wayne, Harrison, and Clark, the Bears' D will cause a few fumbles on hard hits that will make Dick Butkus proud, and Rex Grossman will play decently, not throwing more than 1 interception, but not throwing more than 2 TD passes, either. However, in the end, the Bears' ability to run with both Thomas Jones and Cedric Benson against a shoddy Colts' run defense that has performed over its heads in the playoffs for too long, coupled with the potential for amazing special teams plays from rookie Devin Hester (not to mention the Bears' defense's ability to cause fumbles) will be dispositive. The Bears will win 31-27 in a close game, leading to, well, pandemonium in Chicago (not to mention at my house in Rye), including a wave of children in Chicago being named Brian, Devin, Rex, Lance, and Lovie, and the 2006 version of DAAAAAA BEARS putting together a reenactment of the original Super Bowl Shuffle.

Oh wait, did any of you read my St. John's basketball column? Yeah, you know, the one that said that this year the Red Storm would turn the corner, definitely make the NIT and be on the bubble for the NCAA tournament? Yeah, the same article that, based on their current record, demonstrates that I am possibly incapable of being unbiased in analyzing the strengths and weakness of my favorite teams! (What's your excuse for writing a very similar column without that built-in bias, Andy Katz?) Yeah, if you read that article, disregard everything I just predicted, and read my Wayne's World-esque alternate ending; you decide which version to believe.

Both teams will still come to play in Miami. Peyton will throw for 250+ yards with multiple TDs, the Bears D will cause some fumbles, and Rex Grossman will play decently.

Continued next page



However, in the end, the Colts' ability to get a guaranteed three points from Adam Vinatieri every time they reach the 30 yard line (especially in the playoffs), their newfound ability to stop the run diminishing Benson and Jones' effectiveness and forcing the Bears to put the ball in a shaky Grossman's hands, and the great advantage of having the best quarterback in the NFL will prove to be the deciding factors. Peyton will lead his team to multiple fourth quarter scoring drives and a 27-20 come-from-behind victory, which in turn, will lead to pan-

demonium in Indianapolis (not to mention at the Gatorade, MasterCard, Sprint, and DirecTV headquarters), including a wave of children in Indianapolis being named Peyton, Marvin, Dwight, and Tony, or, alternatively, a wave of children changing their names to Bob, and the 2006 version of the Indianapolis Colts finally exorcising the demons that have haunted them in the playoffs.

Do I know that my predictions have accounted for both money lines— both the Bears and Colts covering (as of today, January 22 and the 6.5 point

spread), and both the over and the under? You bet. I'm not a journalist, and I don't know what my liability is, if anything, if I make just one prediction which causes any of you to lose a great deal of money, and I certainly don't have any time to research that right now. Therefore, with a crowd of law school students reading this, I'm not taking any chances.

Regardless, I hope you enjoy the game, and remember to go with prediction 2 and heads if you don't trust my bias. Or trust prediction 1 and tails if you don't think I'm biased, or

if the St. John's basketball team beats Notre Dame and Pitt before this column comes out, making me, and Andy Katz, geniuses again. But no matter what you do, get to know these players, because I *guarantee* you both Peyton Manning and Brian Urlacher will be leading the Colts and the Bears to Super Bowl Sunday again in the near future.

DAAAAAAAAAAAAA
BEARS!

B-Dawg Out ■

Neo-Luddism in the NFL, or Why the Chicago Bears Will Win the Super Bowl

By Visiting Writer Shane Ryan

In the late 1700s, outside the village of Lancaster, two British schoolchildren mocked a worker named Ned Ludd for his apparent stupidity. In a fit of rage the man pursued the lads to their home and gained entry by force. The wily youngsters managed to disappear, and Ludd, seeking an outlet for his fury, set upon the nearest object; a knitting machine. By incident's end the implement lay in ruin, and Mr. Ludd, somewhat becalmed, stalked away.

The event garnered local attention, and history, as always, enacted a gradual distortion. The misrepresentation culminated thirty years later after a group of disenchanted mill workers crowned Ludd a folk hero, interpreting his act as defiance against the burgeoning technological infrastructure. Though their version was apocryphal, it succeeded in spurring the momentum of the cause. For the three preceding years, the self-proclaimed 'Luddites' defended the working class by engaging in industrial sabotage, attacking factories and assaulting mill-owners. Eventually, the powers-that-be grew weary, hung a few of the instigators, and deported the rest to Australia.

Though the original incarnation dried up around 1815, philosophical strains have persisted in the succeeding 200 years. Luddite culprits usually act on an individual basis, the most famous and recent example being Ted Kaczynski, alias The Unabomber. However, the strength of the market, it

seemed, was too great for any kind of unified opposition. Nevertheless, this January the group phenomenon has experienced a resuscitation in the most unlikely of places: The National Football League.

It may seem bizarre to accuse the NFL of Neo-Luddism, but once we consider the symbolic evidence from this year's playoffs— derived by victorious nicknames— it becomes obvious that the organization is not merely against the industrial framework; no, the truth is much more severe. The NFL appears to have drifted into the far-left reaches of ecological extremism, dedicated to complete demolition of human structures and the restoration of animal supremacy. In turn, they've tipped their hand, and the act of Super Bowl prediction becomes mere formality.

Behold, the round-by-round corroboration!

AFC, Wild-Card Round:

Patriots defeat Jets: The Luddite manifesto could not have scripted it better— any man who loves his country must destroy manmade machines (in this case, airplanes).

Colts defeat Chiefs: Young horses— a species so long enslaved by man— usurp the very leaders who once rode upon their backs. What fitting imagery!

NFC, Wild-Card Round:

Seahawks defeat Cowboys: Birds topple humans; humans who have a history of poor treatment toward animals.

Eagles defeat Giants: Birds unseat the largest, most

powerful men in existence. The message from the NFL is clear: even the greatest of our species stand no chance against the animal kingdom.

AFC, Divisional Round:

Patriots defeat Chargers: Again, pure Luddism. A country-loving man must destroy all chargers, making it impossible to power any electronic devices, thereby stymying technology.

Colts defeat Ravens: Here we are confronted with two animal species; the difference is clearly made by a raven's similarity to an airplane. Both fly, after all, and the association renders them inferior.

NFC, Divisional Round:

Bears defeat Seahawks: As with the preceding example, a ground animal must triumph over its airborne counterpart, owing to the latter's resemblance to man-made flying machines.

Saints defeat Eagles: At first glance, this result appears to buck the trend. However, as noted by my good friend Brian Smith (the notorious B-Dawg), the eagle has come to represent America, the world's foremost industrial power. Surely, a Luddite group as subtle as the NFL could not tolerate this symbolism; the Eagles, as it were, had to land.

AFC Championship:

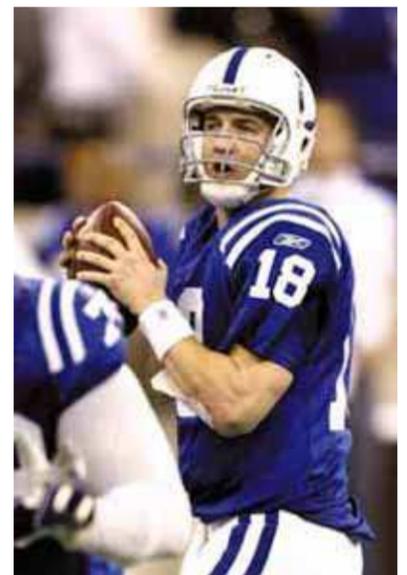
Colts defeat Patriots: Animals over man. Even the noblest of mankind are no match for immature equines.

NFC Championship:

Bears defeat Saints: Perhaps the strongest example. The bear-fierce, solitary symbol of nature triumphs over humanity's best. Even

canonization, the NFL asserts, is no retribution for the crimes of man.

The undeniable logic of the theory poses serious questions, the most pressing of



which concern the future. Will the NFL's propaganda ever spread beyond coy metaphor? Time will tell. There is one certainty, however, and it pertains to the impending match on February 4th. The playoff pattern seems to long for a return to nature, whose main precept is survival of the strong. The obvious conclusion, then, is that Chicago must emerge victorious. The only possibility of a colt defeating a bear is with a vicious, well-timed kick. Therefore— in the absence of Vinatieri heroics— I predict the following:

Bears 24 – Luddism began with Ned Ludd's act in 1779— simply add the digits.

Colts 17 – Luddism ended in York, where 17 instigators were tried and executed by the crown. ■

Jello Cups Remain Uneaten

By Jonathan Bartov '09

Graph by Heidi Roll '09

With thousands of hungry students scouring for a decent, convenient lunch-time meal, the Law School Cafeteria offers an attractive alternative. A strong adherence to routine by law students helps maintain the limited selection offered. Such items include the ever-popular grilled cheese—available with white American cheese upon request—frozen pizza, bulk Swedish fish and an assortment of mystery brand energy drinks. Some of the less popular, but still moderately enjoyable, items include some 3 Musketeers-flavored drink, shady labeled moist cake and cold french fries.

Not all items have been received with the same enthusiasm, however. The

success with Jello cups at local elementary schools.”

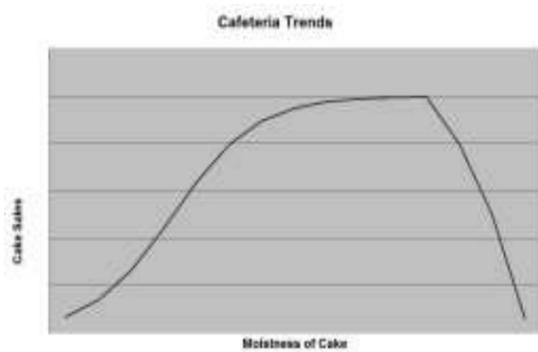
Fox proceeded to explain the rather inexplicable correlation between elementary school student lunch selections and those of law students. It turns out that the law school cafeteria selection is chosen based on the most profitable items at local elementary schools. Grilled cheese sandwiches are the number one requested item at both elementary and law schools, followed by moist cake and cold French fries respectively. “Those kids sure love their moist cake,”

exclaims Fox, as she displays a moist-versus-dry cake trend graph illustrating dry cake’s strong decline.

In response, a new wave of print advertisements, commencing in February, will aim to increase the awareness of the Jello cup item by highlighting some of its prominent features; the advertisement’s main selling point is the double layer of whip cream separating the gelatin squares. In addition, food services plans on

expanding the green Jello cup line to include red and orange, with holiday colors for Valentine’s Day and Easter soon to follow.

It looks like students are stuck with dessert for some time. This reporter encourages you to sample this low-fat snack alternative—despite his unwillingness to ever purchase this item.



“Those kids sure love their moist cake!”

Jello cups have had a terrible fourth quarter, with sales declining 50% and just two units sold. Unlike other new products, Jello cups have yet to really take off in the hearts and minds of the SJU students. However, food service manager Sarah Fox continues to be optimistic. “It’s true the Jello cups have not been producing as expected,” Fox admits. “But we have had tremendous

Playlists for the Sexually Frustrated

By Dianne Arrue '09

Light some candles. Put the dimmer on low (or throw a blanket over your light if you’re poor as I am. We’re going to be lawyers, mind you. We’ll get all the insurance money around when our apartment building burns to the ground). Now all you need is some nice, soothing music. Alone, with a significant other, or with three of your best and closest friends (and the two “randoms” from the bar), good music can make or break any sexual experience. Here are some suggestions:

For the Sensual Moments:

Let’s Get it On: Marvin Gaye
Love Song: Cure (or the 311 cover)
Underneath It All: No Doubt
Sweet Dreams: Eurythmics
Feel Like Making Love: Bad Company
Love Her Madly: The Doors
I Wanna Love You: Akon
Let Me Talk to You: Justin Timberlake

For the Outwardly Perverse and Perhaps Funny Times:

Push It: Salt ‘n’ Pepa
Just Put in your mouth: Akinyele
Love Shack: B-52s
Touch Myself: The Divynals
Stuck in the Middle With You: Steeler’s Wheel
Love is What I Got: Sublime
Tainted Love: Soft Cell
Fat Bottomed Girls: Queen

For the Chance Encounters where effort might matter if you want it again:

Closer: Nine Inch Nails
Sweet Dreams: Marilyn Manson (Such a good song, it needs to be mentioned twice)
My Hips Don’t Lie: Shakira
Caress Me Down: Sublime
Amber: 311
Please, Please, Please: Head Automatica
Light My Fire: The Doors
Foxy Lady: Jimi Hendrix

Why I Pulled the Fire Alarm

By Arlene Levitin '09

It was 3:08 p.m. and I had just left the writing room where I was taking my open-book Civil Procedure exam to use the bathroom. I was in a panic. I had left pages 38-52 of my 94 page outline in the trunk of my car—the chapter entitled “International Shoe: Minimum Contacts”—and there was no way I could sprint out to my car, retrieve it and make it back in time to answer both essays. So, I did what anyone would do.

I smoked 2 cigarettes in the bathroom and attempted to talk myself down from the ledge. Somewhere between drags, I realized, I should’ve listened to my ex-boyfriend and just pursued a career as an artist—aka housekeeper. And, as I manically paced in the handicapped stall, I saw my entire short-lived legal career flash before my eyes: I was going to be that student that faded to black after finals and just never came back.

As I mentally perused the local help wanted signs, I decided it would have been one thing never to start law school, but failing out in all its deranged glory was out of the question. So then psychotically convinced myself I needed a way to stop the exam. But no, the fire alarm wasn’t the first thing I thought of.

I contemplated faux-fainting. I ran the entire scene in my head: I’d walk into the room and just as the door was shutting I’d collapse into a pile of eye-liner and misplaced potential. Good, right? Well... then what finally occurred to me is what I had slowly been learning all semester: no one cares.

I realized I could drop dead during the final and that both proctors—coming in at a combined age of 492—would attempt to drag me out of the classroom despite their arthritis, herniated discs and cataracts. Giving them the benefit of the doubt, I imagined that my classmates would have mixed reactions, torn between feeling that there was now one less body to climb over on the way to the top and wondering if perhaps I would have secured the bottom percent of the class, thereby raising the curve to their benefit. It was hopeless.

I began to walk back to the room, but then I saw it. The fire alarm.

At first I figured it wasn’t worth it. Disrupting all of those other kids who were taking their first exam; the anxiety we had experienced as a group, nervously awaiting our first final and whatever doom would accompany and follow; the hours upon hours we had spent sitting in the dark in Professor Biblowit’s class, appreciating his dry humor, his stance, his slides, his infectious charm and, someday, even the

material; the twelve hour BAR/BRI review so many of us had suffered through, where in the span of one day we watched ourselves age while cramming for the entire course. This test signified so much more than just knowing service of process, the facts of the Burger King case or Rule 13 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. This test signified a journey we had taken together. How could I throw all that away just because a few pages of my outline were missing?

And then, I thought the single thing that makes me confident I belong here: *fuck them.*

The bells began ringing and from down the hall I saw the room where I was taking my exam. Nothing. The door didn’t open, people didn’t flood out, and nothing changed. I hurried back to the room where, to my surprise, everyone was still writing. One girl demanded that the proctor wheel himself to the main office and see what the trouble was, while another girl stood up and argued that we were all entitled to extra time because of the disruption; both girls were barely audible over the boy who insisted that our test would be thrown out and that the entire exam had been compromised.

I couldn’t believe it. There everyone was wading through panic, rambling on, or continuing their exam, but not a single person attempted to evacuate. Finally, minutes later, our proctors shook their canes at us and decided we should leave. They led us at their molasses speed out the door, and piled us into a stairwell (at least most of us that is—three people staged a sit in, refusing to leave their exams). But their efforts were for naught. Eventually even they had to leave, their outlines in hand, seemingly unphased by the diversion. I stayed only long enough to judge them, before I started for the parking lot.

As I walked back from my car, I will never forget the massive scene that was “The Firedrill.” Kids, who had never smoked a cigarette, chainsmoking at the prospect of what might happen. People in tee-shirts, who had never spoken to each other, shivering and huddling together for warmth. And then the front-rowers, obsessively studying their flashcards. All the while the proctors continued lecturing on about what life was like in the 1800s, despite the occasional body curled in a fetal position, sobbing, convinced of failure.

In the end, the test wasn’t compromised, and I learned a valuable lesson: morals...they’re completely overrated.



Witchcrafts

By Dianne Arrue '09

Aries (Eight of Cups): In the beginning of the week, you're going to want to take it easy with any unnecessary plans or stress. By Wednesday, just use your intuition and you'll rock any social situation. Money issues can be saved until the end of the weekend; enjoy yourself until then.

Taurus (Four of Swords, reversed): Don't allow yourself to get strained by other people's impatience. Your work will suffer and you'll be irritable by Saturday, when you should definitely go out with friends, even for a little while.

Gemini (Ace of Wands): This week, you'll be more energetic and be able to accomplish more than you'd even expect of yourself. Pay close attention to your interactions for ways to cut even more corners. Opportunities for [the rekindling of] romance abound.

Cancer (Two of Pentacles): You may feel like you trip into Monday, but the phrase whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger will definitely apply to you by Tuesday, when you'll be more productive and insightful in your professional and personal life. Hide your wallet this weekend.

Leo (King of Cups): Your entire horoscope for next week has an awesome vibe, to put it bluntly. Use school and studying as an excuse to be a bit antisocial in the middle of the week, so you can sort the many thoughts that have been on your mind lately. Once the weekend hits, you'll run into perfect romantic or financial opportunities not to pass up.

Virgo (Five of Wands): Carry out plans methodically and you'll be pleasantly surprised with the results. Later in the week, you'll want to be wary of an acquaintance or business associate that may give advice or information that's not in your best interest.

Libra (The Chariot): Make sure you finish the projects you've started before you jump into new ones; take advantage of post-it notes and save new ideas for later. Be daring in your choices this weekend; passion will be reciprocated; challenges will inspire you.

Scorpio (King of Cups): Avoid office politics in the beginning of the week and instead, devote your attention to more thoughtful conversation. Consider your values and goals, and begin devising more practical ways to make your dreams reality on Wednesday. Make a point of alleviating stress in healthy ways if you don't want to get sick soon.

Sagittarius (Ace of Cups, reversed): Responding quickly to unexpected situations will help you to avoid messes early this week. Though it may be disappointing, differences in opinion may be irreconcilable in love relationships. Take things lightly later in the week; it pays to appreciate the little things.

Capricorn (Ten of Pentacles): As difficult as it may be, keep plans flexible until Wednesday, as unexpected changes may upset your daily life, but not for long. Any changes will work towards your advantage. New goals will yield satisfying results.

Aquarius (The Fool): Your unique approach to new concepts will earn you recognition. Patience and discipline will do volumes when it comes to getting your work done. Expect the unexpected towards the end of this week; it will be appreciated and perhaps, entertaining drama.

Pisces (The Five of Swords): Don't take the most difficult path just because it seems to be the only one right now. Options will open up as the week progresses. You may be easily distracted as the week progresses and other interests have your attention. Avoid trash talking and unnecessary conflicts, because they will bite you in the ass.

2007 Book Reviews

By Tyrone Cumming

Swing

By Rupert Holmes

This page-turning historical thriller exhibits Holmes' finest storytelling since "The Pina Colada Song."

A Window Across the River

By Brian Morton

To the best of my knowledge, men don't have vaginas, so Brian Morton obviously borrowed somebody else's vagina and used it to write this book.

Justice in Robes

By Ronald Dworkin

Wha'eva, wha'eva, I'm a US Supreme Court Justice and I do what I WANT!

Wicked!

By Jilly Cooper

A British novelist writing about education and the class system: finally, an original idea!

White Noise

By Don DeLillo

An American novelist writing about the media and conspicuous (over) consumption: finally, an original idea!

Civil Procedure

By Stephen Yeazell

Personally, I'm not a fan of the subject matter. Let's leave it at that.

The Corrections

By Jonathan Franzen

I easily identified with every character in this awesome novel, especially the talking piece of crap.

Upheavals in Thought:

The Intelligence of Emotions

By Martha Craven Nussbaum

Does anybody else find it ironic that you need an LSAT score upwards of 168 in order to study with someone who believes that pretty much everybody has identical cognitive processes?

HAIKU CORNER

Rich Speidel

Parking spots fenced off for future dorm. Till then, kids squat in circling cars.

Aryeh Schnall

Came to this country to see what law school's about. Saw it. Count me out.

John D'Ambrosio

Third Degree Assault. Why did he have to drop her? I write a memo.

Crim Law Discussion. Getting out of hand like woah. Stop reading ahead.

Anonymous

Caustic bung-hole caps. Are all I will remember. From my Torts I class.

Professor Lyndon

Never answered my question: What is a but-for?

Rachel Corcoran

Put your hand down. Your insights are useless, and everyone hates you.

Has your professor, or a classmate said something absolutely ridiculous? Send your favorite moments from class (no matter how law-nerdy) to TheForumSJU@gmail.com

Judge Re, *continued from page 1*

civilian life, he was fortunate enough to be offered a teaching position at St. John's University School of Law; his acceptance would complete the nucleus of young law professors who would form the "Four Horsemen" at St. John's: Reverend Joseph T. Tinnelly, C.M., the young Dean (LL.B. St. John's, LL. M. Harvard and J.S.D. Columbia); Harold F. McNiece (LL. B. St. Johns, J.S.D. New York University) and Edward T. Fagan (LL. B. Michigan and J.S.D. New York University). These brilliant professors formed the core of the faculty that would lead the law school for the next quarter of a century. Thanks to their efforts, the law school engendered a love of learning in its student body and a national reputation for first-rate scholarship.

Judge Re's doctoral thesis at N.Y.U. on the subject of foreign confiscations was published by Oceana Press and soon became a nationally recognized treatise on the subject. Judge Re took on the role of Faculty Advisor to the Moot Court Program and quickly led his charges to fame and fortune as successful participants in the National Moot Court competition sponsored by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. In the process, he penned a volume on "Brief Writing and Oral Argument," which is currently in its ninth edition. His accomplishments soon caught the attention of master profes-

"I personally witnessed this affable law professor perform countless acts of kindness behind the scenes— never seeking publicity or praise."

sor Zecchioriah Chaffee of Harvard Law School—the intellectual successor of Dean Roscoe Pound. This, in turn led to an invitation to co-author what became the leading casebook on Equity (Chaffee and Re) and to Ed's classical work on Chaffee, "Freedom's Prophet." At about the same time, Judge Re co-authored a leading casebook on international law, Orfield and Re. At the same time, aspiring lawyers were treated to Judge Re's classes, which always featured spontaneity, brilliance, and, above all, decency. According to Professor Patrick J. Rohan, "He was always kind to students—even those who were unprepared—and gave out as many As and Bs as the then-prevailing "curve" would allow. I personally witnessed this affable law professor perform countless acts of kindness behind the scenes— never seeking publicity or praise."

The Camelot era began in 1960 with the election of President John F. Kennedy. President Kennedy asked Judge Re to come to Washington to head up the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission— an agency charged with compensating people across the whose assets had been confiscated by the axis powers. Judge Re took a leave of absence from St. John's, packed his children in a station wagon and headed south for Washington D.C. Judge Re taught at Georgetown Law Center on his spare time and worked as a member of the

U.S. Judicial Conference. Presidents Johnson and Carter also made use of Judge Re's services, appointing him Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Services and later as Chief Judge of the Court of International Trade; the latter position returned Judge Re and his family to New York, where he rejoined his colleagues at St. John's University School of Law as an adjunct professor.

Over the years, St. John's has honored Judge Re with an honorary Doctorate—one of twenty he had received world-wide—and conferred upon him the title of "University Professor." Judge Re was an inspirational mentor to many, include four Governors—Carey and Cuomo of New York, Dukemejan of California and Farrelley of the Virgin Islands— Ron Brown, the current Secretary of Commerce, and Congressman Charles Rangel of the House Ways and Means Committee. Three judges of New York Court of Appeals— Ciparick, Bellacosa and Titone—as well as three former presidents of the New York State Bar Association— Henry Miller, Justin Vigdor and Robert Astertag— also benefited from Judge Re's presence in the classroom.

Perhaps the greatest accolade Judge Re could have received is the admiration and respect he received from all of the Justices on the United States Supreme Court. With 175 law schools in the United States, you can imagine the virtual flood of invitations the Justices receive each year to speak at law school events. Professor Rohan commented: "Ed Re was so recog-

nized and respected that he could pick up the phone on any given day and call any one of the Justices. They, in turn, would not only welcome his call, but would agree to the St. John's affair

May the good Lord be as kind to him as Ed Re was to everyone he ever met or taught."

that formed the subject-matter of the phoned call." Six of the Justices have gladly appeared at St. John's University

School of Law within the past few years out of respect for Judge Re. While all of his accomplishments are far too numerous to catalog here, especially impressive was his formation of the "International Association of Jurists— Italy, U.S.A. and Switzerland."

"We all have been blessed at St. Johns in knowing and socializing with Ed and Peggy Re," remarked Professor Rohan. "Whenever I think of Ed I am reminded of the words of Rudyard Kipling in his classic poem entitled 'If.' That poem reads in part:

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,

Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch;

If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;

If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute

With sixty seconds' worth of distance run—

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,

And— which is more— you'll be a Man my son!

We are not likely to encounter another one like him. May the good Lord be as kind to him as Ed Re was to everyone he ever met or taught." ■

Child Advocacy, *continued from page 1*

children are often entangled in the middle of New York City's complex child welfare system; you may represent their only hope. Your job then, as a clinic student, is fairly straightforward: advocate on their behalf.

The child advocacy clinic trains you to effectively interview these children and ascertain their current situation. You learn which questions to ask, when to ask them and when to let them go. The children are your boss and dictate the manner in which you'll represent them. As a student, you will learn how to draft interview questions, motions and briefs. These documents do not merely receive a generic grade as most law school briefs do, but rather are filed in court and will have a direct impact on a decision that will affect the child's life. This may sound intimidating at first, but, because all student work is overseen by Professor Hughes and Clinical Teaching Fellow Dale Margolin to assure that these documents are

well prepared, the clinic provides a learning experience that is enjoyable and rewarding.

In addition, students of the clinic have the opportunity to work with consultants from St. John's Education, Psychology and Fine Arts departments regarding aspects of their case that may require expert advice and guidance. You may also be in contact with the child's teacher or guidance counselor and learn about their behavior in school. Such interaction with the children, parents, judges, attorneys, teachers, consultants, caseworkers and agencies involved in the case will heighten the social skills necessary to excel as an attorney.

In addition to being actively involved in your assigned cases, the clinic classroom environment allows you to hear about your fellow classmates' cases, the work they are doing and what they are experiencing. This collaborative effort broadens your knowledge of how the Family Court System works by introducing

you to aspects of the legal system that may not directly relate to your case. You are able to learn through your classmates experiences and share your mistakes and triumphs with one another.

As a class, divided into two groups, my classmates and I reached out to the Brooklyn and Suffolk County communities by teaching a Know-Your-Rights seminar to young people living in the foster care system. My group visited a foster care home for young mothers and their children. It was shocking to see how misinformed these young girls were regarding their rights. However, it was a great feeling to know that we could provide them with accurate information that could better their life.

Participating in the Child Advocacy Clinic opened up a world of opportunities for me beyond the one semester I was able to participate as a student. I was able to participate in a by-invitation-only NYC Family Court System Conference, attended by judges, attorneys, case workers, law guardians, professors and

leaders of non-profits in the child welfare field, focusing on the problems facing the Family Court. Attendees were asked to recommend proposals for reform of the Family Court. As a result of this conference, I am publishing an article on the Family Court System. I also had the opportunity to appear on a television show with Professor Hughes and Dr. Andrew Ferdinandi, our education consultant's faculty advisor, where I was interviewed regarding child protection matters and the representation of children in New York State Family Court.

The Child Advocacy Clinic is an invaluable experience which provides you with the essential lawyering skills that extend beyond the classroom. The results I have witnessed from just a single semester's involvement in the clinic has proven to be my most rewarding law school experience. Being able to positively impact a child's life provides an indescribable sense of achievement. ■

The Faces Behind Your Grades

By David Pachner '09

There is a legend that, in the old days there was no such thing as the Internet. It is rumored that students were not able to log on to www.sjulaw.com and download ten outlines in two minutes. Instead, they were forced to actually take notes in class and endure a painful process of transcribing these notes into organized and efficient outlines. Today, we pause to pay tribute to these souls. They selflessly gave their outlines so that future generations could benefit from the fruits of their labor.



FRANK CAVANAGH

Frank will begin as a first-year associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in the New York Office, most likely concentrating in the field of bankruptcy.

Advice for students:

Get the work done and go home. Don't spend ten hours in the library and study for four.

Take responsibility for your own success. There is nothing more frustrating than hearing students complain about why they haven't done well enough in school; nine times out of ten they blame it on someone else. "I didn't do well because that Professor is terrible. I didn't get a job because the Office of Career Services is terrible. I didn't eat today because Dean Simons didn't make me a sandwich." Take credit for your successes and failures and learn from each.



JEFF AMATO

Jeff is currently a litigation associate at Dewey Ballantine in New York, focusing on white collar and related complex civil litigation.

Advice for students:

One of the most important functions of law school is how it teaches students about the legal profession through its student run activities, e.g., publications, moot court, student bar, and mock trial. These opportunities are a rare chance for students to actually run essential organizations.

I am happy to know that my outlines have helped so many law students. If I would have known they would have been read by so many people, I probably would have proof read them a little better.



RICHARD SANTALESSA

Richard represents purchasers, sellers and owners of commercial real estate.

Advice for students:

Do all you can to ensure you do not run out of time on final exams. Quickly figure out your time allocation when the exam starts and then stick to your plan.

courtesy of www.olshanlaw.com



JANE BLACK

Jane will be graduating in 2007, interned for the United States Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of New York, and is a staff member on Law Review.

Advice for students:

You are in law school because you are just as smart and capable as anyone else. With hard work, you have the same chance to be successful.



JOE SCROPPO

Joe is currently the Director of Forensic Psychiatry at North Shore University Hospital and maintains a private mental health and law practice.

Advice for students:

Work hard and do as much as you can, but try not to make yourself crazy. As best I can tell, successful attorneys aren't necessarily the people with the best grades in law school, but rather the people who have a genuine interest in the law and who are willing to commit themselves to the work.

FEBRUARY 2007 - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
			8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Barbri Table , Location: Cafeteria 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Bankruptcy Law Society Event Location: Atrium	8:00 am – 3:00 pm Environmental Program Location: 2-13 & Solarium
5	6	7	8	9
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm OCS- LL Spring Recruitment Program Location: Cradle of Aviation 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Pieper Table Location: Cafeteria 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Liberty Mutual Table Location: Cafeteria 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm LALSA Panel , Location: Atrium & 2-13			8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Barbri Table Location: Cafeteria 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Phi Alpha Delta Candygram Table Location: Cafeteria 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm McKeever Chair Welcome Reception Location: P.D.R	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Bankruptcy Law Symposium Location: Solarium, 2-13, Atrium & PDR 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Phi Alpha Delta Candygram Table Location: Cafeteria
12	13	St. Valentine's Day 14	15	16
8:00 am – 5:00 pm Phi Alpha Delta Candygram Table Location: Cafeteria	8:00 am – 5:00 pm Pieper Table Location: Cafeteria 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Phi Alpha Delta Candygram Table Location: Cafeteria 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm Yearbook Photos Location: 2-13 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Environmental Law Reception Location: Solarium	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Barbri Table Location: Cafeteria 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Phi Alpha Delta Candygram Table Location: Cafeteria 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm Yearbook Photos Location: 2-13 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm OCS Web Job Searching Workshop Location: 1-15 5:45 pm – 10:00 pm Pieper Bar Review Course Location: 1-13	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Marketing Table Location: Cafeteria 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Dining Etiquette Dinner Location: P.D.R	BLSA Ski Retreat (February 16-18) Mock Trial Tournament Location: PDR, 2-13, & 2-15, 1-13, 2-12, 2-16, 2-20, 2-22, 2-25, LL-01
President's Day 19	20	21	22	23
No Classes	Legislative Monday Pieper Table Location: Cafeteria 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Phi Alpha Delta Bake Sale Location: Cafeteria	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Dean Ponoroff, Speaker Location: Atrium 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm PTAI Spring Internal Competition Location: 1-13, 1-15, 2-12, 2-13, 2-25, 3-44	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Barbri Table Location: Cafeteria 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Blood Drive Location: Solarium 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Visiting Jurist Series (Hon. Robert D. Sack) Location: Atrium & PDR	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm PTAI Spring Internal Competition Location: 1-13, 1-15, 2-12, 2-13, 2-16, 2-20, 2-21, 2-22, 2-25
26	27	28		
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm OCS Web Job Searching Workshop Location: 1-15	8:00 am – 5:00 pm Pieper Table Location: Cafeteria 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm ACS- Guest Speaker Location: Atrium 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm Admissions Open House Location: PDR, Solarium, 2-13	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Barbri Table Location: Cafeteria 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Catholic Law Student Association Panel Discussion Location: PDR		

If your organization would like an event to appear in the March or April calendars, please send the information to TheForumSJU@gmail.com