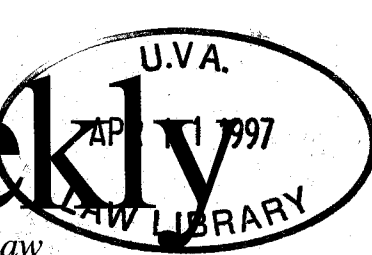


Virginia Law Weekly

The Newspaper of the University of Virginia School of Law



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Subscriptions Available

"Freedom of religion, freedom of the press; freedom of persons under the protection of the habeas corpus; and trial by juries impartially selected, — these principles form the bright constellation which has gone before us, and guided our steps through an age of revelation and reformation."

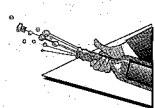
THOMAS JEFFERSON

Around North Grounds



The final round of the 68th annual William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition will be held tomorrow, April 12, 1997, at 4 p.m. in Caplin Auditorium. Arguing for the Petitioner will be Andrew Brown and Daniel Krainin, against Mike Gill and Melissa Roberts for the Respondent. Presiding over the rounds are three distinguished federal judges: The Honorable Alice M. Batchelder, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; The Honorable Peter Beer, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana; and The Honorable Walter K. Stapleton, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. All members of the Law School community are invited to attend.

The *Law Weekly* is looking for an Associate Production Editor to join the 1997-98 staff immediately. Experience with Pagemaker preferred, but not required. Job would require four to five hours of work Wednesday afternoon or evening. Those interested should contact Erik Bartenhagen, Harry Singh, or drop a note in the *Law Weekly* mailbox.



Congratulations to Dean Emery for giving birth to a nine-pound baby girl on Sunday, April 6. Additionally, she has promised to continue to answer e-mail and even meet with some students if it is needed. ANG hopes that all students, especially those interested in practicing public interest law, appreciate Dean Emery's dedication and commitment to the Public Service Center's continued success.

Attention all CIOs! The deadline to renew your status is April 21. Go over to Newcomb Hall West to fill out the forms. Questions? Contact Catherine Zanga at 243-2400.



Thumbs up to all of the law students, faculty, staff and friends who ran in the Charlottesville 10-Miler this past weekend. A special note goes out to those who both played in the softball tournament and ran the race. Word has it you were none too shabby in either event.

Doug Parker would like to thank those of you who have expressed your concern and sympathy to him since his wife Donna's death. He has been greatly comforted being around so many generous, caring people.

The Student Legal Forum presents its 1997 Ola B. Smith Lecture by author John Grisham. Mr. Grisham will speak at Caplin Auditorium on Thursday, April 17, at 4 p.m. No autographs or booksignings, please!

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Spotlight on Sexual Assault

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Black Alumni Weekend Links Past, Present Law 'Hoos

BLSA, Foundation Welcome Graduates to Harrison Law Grounds

by Nancy Exume

It was a time devoted to reminiscing about past experiences, paying homage to elders, and setting the path for the future. This past weekend the Black Law Students Association, with the aid of the Law School Foundation, hosted its Black Alumni Weekend entitled, "Building Bridges: A Link to the Past, Present, and Future."

While the construction workers were at work remaking the face of the Law School, the connection to African-American alumni was strengthened through a weekend of social events, panel discussions, and workshops that placed African-Americans and the law at the center. The goal of the weekend was to reconnect African-American Law School graduates to their alma mater, with the long-term goal of establishing tighter bonds between these alumni and present law students, as well as with each other.

Dennis Duffy '82, a former professor at the Law School, remarked that students can be busy, and that the burden of the work to maintain student ties with the alumni rests on the Law School and on "us, the alumni."

Dean Scott echoed Duffy's remarks, commenting to the audience of alumni, faculty, and students, "We need you. These students need you, and the students who will enroll here next year need you."

After a welcome reception hosted Fri-

day by William Harmon, Vice President for Student Affairs for the University, and his wife, Dean Beverly Harmon, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at the Law School, the program began on Saturday with a welcome by first-year Raquel Whiting, who organized the event.

Scott participated throughout the day in the events by providing alumni with a

minority recruitment. (see Task Force Article p.1). The Law School will begin to make a more aggressive recruiting effort to address the national trend of declining enrollment which has resulted in a 26% reduction in African-American applicants in the admission process, stated Scott.

The future of affirmative action was

one topic discussed in a workshop session. Panelists included Professor Alex Johnson, who discussed how to maintain a diverse group of law students in light of the Hopwood decision. Johnson pointed out that it was "the best Blacks," meaning the most privileged, who were benefiting from affirmative action.

He said that too much importance is placed on LSAT scores, and suggested that they should not be used as an entitlement, but as a cut-off. He noted that LSAT scores are used as a predictor of academic success in law school, even though they are accurate only 60% of the time. Johnson recommended that different factors be considered in the admissions process.

Earlier, Scott had explained that in light of the national decline in law school applications, the public law schools are taking the biggest hit: they are being avoided because of decisions like Hopwood. He and the panelists explained the difficulty in conveying to applicants and observers that minority students have not been accepted simply because of their color.

In another panel discussion, alumni discussed the question of whether justice exists for blacks in the criminal system.

Margaret Cain '84, a Charlottesville criminal defense attorney, framed the issue this way: "You have to start with fairness in order to end with fairness." She and other panelists discussed different aspects of the process that may engender unfairness; for example, Cain related an anecdote about how a judge's reaction to her made a negative impression on the jury, to her client's detriment.

Another panel discussed juries and their role in the criminal justice system. Judge Bernard Goodwyn '86, who sits on the General District Court in Chesapeake, Virginia, remarked that juries are "grab bags" that can come up with bizarre decisions.

"You can't explain juries," added Goodwyn. "They're kind of like law school exams," he continued, drawing chuckles from the audience.

Goodwyn also said that he understands judges better, because he now is in the position where he has to balance the interest of both the plaintiff, defendant, and the society at large. He echoed statements made by other panelists that all judges—as well as all other actors in the legal system—bring their life experiences with them to the bench. He pointed out that economic, racial, and cultural differences play a role in leading to the perception of unfairness in the justice system.

The highlight of the day was the luncheon in which former U.Va. Law professor Samuel Thompson was honored.

see ALUMNI, page 8



photo by Raquel Whiting
BLSA President Alaina Selby addresses Alumni Weekend participants on Saturday.

report on the status of the Law School's efforts in maintaining an African-American presence at the Law School. Scott addressed the declined enrollment of African-American students, and reported the recommendations of the Task Force formed last fall to address the issue of

Scott Accepts Diversity Task Force Recommendations

by Curtis J. Romig

In response to a decline in the diversity of the student population of the Law School, Dean Scott appointed the Task Force to Address Recruiting Issues for Minorities and Women this fall. The Task Force was chaired by Beverly Harmon, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, and undertook a systematic review of our peer institutions, from their admissions processes, to their efforts to recruit diverse student bodies. From the study, the Task Force drafted a list of recommendations and presented them to Scott: several preliminary recommendations in the fall, and a more complete list this March.

Scott stated that he "appointed the Task Force to take the time to ask, how can we do better?"

"In a nutshell, their conclusion was that we need to be significantly more aggressive in recruiting a diverse student body," stated Scott, who added that he had "fundamentally accepted all of the Task Force's recommendations."

Several of those recommendations were implemented for the current recruiting cycle. Those included: the identification and solicitation of minority candidates through the use of a direct mailing based on data received from the Law School Admission Council (LSAC), the identification and solicitation of female candidates through the use of direct mailing based on data received from the LSAC, sending a minority student with Dean Stokes to an LSAC Forum in Los Angeles, expediting the file review process at the staff level in order to make affirmative admissions in a more timely fashion to compete with our peer groups, and encouraging the faculty's Admissions Committee to expedite file review and to internalize more fully our policy to admit a more diverse student body.

Of these, Scott felt that the Law School especially needed to expedite its entire admissions process.

"We have not been anywhere near our

peer institutions in getting our admissions out. One of the problems last year...was that many of the students we accepted received their acceptance letters after, or not in time to attend, Admitted Students Weekend," Scott noted. Adding that the Law School "really sells itself as an institution," Scott hopes that increasing the size of Admitted Students Weekend would lead to an overall increased yield in the admissions process.

A second group of recommendations will be implemented immediately, but Scott feels that it is unlikely that they will affect this year's admissions process. They are: the creation of a diversity brochure, the increase of scholarship funds available to all students, increasing the budget of the Admitted Students Weekend, and making a fund available to student organizations to subsidize their efforts to recruit admitted students.

The diversity brochure will not be available until next fall, but \$200,000 from the Capital Campaign has been committed by Scott to increase the available Financial Aid for this year's incoming class. Of the \$77 million raised in the Capital Campaign so far, \$16 to \$17 million dollars are marked for Financial Aid.

Scott explained the inability to commit all of that to Financial Aid immediately by noting the "lag between promise and payment in campaigns of this nature," and adding that "we will not have that money in our hands for another four or five years."

The increased funds for Financial Aid should "make the Law School more attractive to all admitted students," added Scott.

A third set of the Task Force's recommendations will be implemented in the next recruiting cycle, including: the creation of a new full time Special Assistant to the Dean who will be assigned to the Admissions Office, the expansion of the

see DIVERSITY, page 8



photo by Galina Smith

Drumming Up Business

In a desperate attempt to drum up interest in the Federalist Society, 3L Paul Dans poses as an aspiring Law 'Hoo at the bustling Activities Fair.

Prospectives Invade Withers

Admitted Students Weekend a Huge Success

by Fred Bowyer

The Law School played host to over 160 prospective law students, along with friends and family members, April 3-5 for this year's Admitted Students Weekend. A series of events at and around the Law School gave the visiting students an introduction to life and the law at U.Va.

The weekend began Thursday evening with a gathering in Caplin Auditorium for introductory remarks by Dean Scott and the organizers of Admitted Students Weekend, Angela Bernardi and Stan Panikowski. This was followed by a reception outside Caplin which allowed prospective students to speak with faculty members and student leaders about the Law School. The visiting students then had a chance to sample the social life of Virginia Law students on Thursday night at various parties sponsored by first-year sections, and later at Sloan's for Bar Review.

Friday's events began with a presentation by Dean Scott in Caplin Auditorium, followed by a reception on the lawn outside Clay Hall, which offered bagels

and another chance to talk to faculty members. Two of the events that drew the most interest from the prospective students were the seminars given by the Financial Aid and Career Services staffs. In the first event, Dean Stokes outlined the process of receiving aid from the Law School to help defer the cost of attendance. Afterwards, the Career Services workshop matched Deans Turnbull, Emery and Hopson with a panel of current students and helped present the current job search process to the prospectives.

Students got the chance to visit Professor Klarman's Constitutional Law class on Friday afternoon. James Gunner, an admitted student from Harvard, said: "I enjoyed Professor Klarman's class, it gave me an opportunity to start preparing my group outlines for next year. You never can start too soon."

Also on Friday afternoon was the Student Activities Fair, at which representatives of several of the Law School's organizations spoke to the visiting students outside the new Clay Hall entrance.

see PROSPECTIVES, page 6

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Editorial Policy

The Virginia Law Weekly publishes letters and columns of interest to the Law School and the legal community at large. Views expressed in such submissions are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the Law Weekly or the Editorial Board. Letters from organizations must bear the name, signature, and title of the person authorizing the submission. All letters and columns must bear a handwritten signature and be submitted by 5 pm on the Monday before publication, in hardcopy and on disk, in accordance with the submission guidelines posted on the door to the Law Weekly office in Rooms SL277 & SL279. Letters over 500 words and columns over 750 words may not be accepted. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, and clarity. Although every effort is made to publish all materials meeting our guidelines, we regret that not all submissions received can be published.

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SBA Notebook

by Ann Ayers

The Yankees stink. If Roberto Alomar should have spit in anyone's face, it should have been Jeff Maier. Instead, Jeff got a seat next to the Mayor...only in New York! Now that I have your attention, because either you are a fool or you are a fan of one of the other 27 teams in the Majors, I would like to talk about our new Law Grounds.

Last semester, several students involved in the SBA, the building committees, and the recycling program approached the faculty and Administration to ask if they would help us organize the new space in a way that makes it easier for students to take care of it. The first effort on this front is Building Pride Day to be celebrated in connection with the Spring Picnic, Thursday, April 17th. (That's "Building Pride" as in cultivating pride and having pride in the Law Grounds Facilities—just explaining the double entendre to Yankees Fans.) During Building Pride Day, SBA representatives, faculty and staff will be in Clay Hall encouraging you to

stop and pick up a construction bulletin, a list of the things you can do to help, a chocolate (compliments of the Law Foundation), and a suggestion form for your ideas. The SBA will be giving away lottery tickets to win the right to name one of the goldfish in the pond, U.Va. stationery or a T-shirt, a construction hat, and many other prizes. The actual lottery will be held at the Picnic on Thursday afternoon. Most important, there will be a Thank You card at the table for the housekeeping staff. We would like to have as many students sign it as possible.

The primary goal of this event is to get us to clean up our acts. How? By putting paper in the trash cans, taking expired postings down, not putting our feet on the walls near the phones in the lounge and the computer lab, the list goes on and on—but you get the idea.

The second goal is to get student input about how to better organize our new space. For example, we might want to designate bulletin boards for specific things like "housing" or "ride

shares." We also need to make a user-friendly centralized calendar that will inform students of upcoming events as well as help student groups not to plan conflicting events.

Next year the SBA plans to continue to work to achieve these goals—April 17th is just the beginning of Building Pride. We hope to have the participation of student groups, perhaps committed to keeping a certain part of the School clean, and we will talk about these issues with the incoming first years. Additionally, we are conducting a study to see if it is indeed bad-mannered Bronx Bomber fans causing most of the problems.

Moving into a new space always poses these types of challenges and I feel fortunate not only to have the space, but to be here at a time when we can set the standards for how it will be treated and used.

We hope that you will participate in Building Pride Day, and give us your ideas. And, the next time you see someone spill his or her drink, tell them to clean it up, so Dean Scott doesn't have to.

SFF Pledge Drive Seeks 100% Participation

To The Editor:

Today, Friday, April 11, Student Funded Fellowships closes down its annual spring pledge drive campaign. In these final hours, SFF once again asks the U.Va. Law School student body for its help.

The pledge drive remains the largest source of fund-raising for SFF and ultimately carries with it the financial security and fiscal welfare of a significant minority of the student body. Who are these students? Rising second- and third-years who commit themselves to serving in the public interest during the summer in either low-paying or unpaid internships. Each year, generous contributions from the student body, faculty, and administration fund a handful of dedicated and financially needy Virginia Law students committed to the non-traditional career track. Last summer, 44 students received grants from SFF, and the summer of 1997 will see 46 students receive grants.

But in the final days of Pledge Drive 1997, the dollars have been slower to

trickle in than in recent years. Put simply, for U.Va.'s public interest community, the summer of 1998 hangs in the balance. Although large individual contributions are always welcome, the truest indication of a pledge drive's success lies in the rate of student participation. Whereas other law schools of U.Va.'s ilk witness student participation rates near 40 percent, at the outset of this year's third and final week, a mere 8.5 percent of the Law School had pledged. Yes, SFF remains committed to our initial pledge drive goal of \$60,000 for the 1997 campaign, but we will happily settle for a shortfall in total dollars if accompanied by a windfall in total participation.

That's why a last-ditch effort to petition the classes of 1997, 1998, and 1999 for support has taken the form of outright, brazen solicitation. Today, those students not yet able to make it to the SFF table in Withers Hall will find yellow pledge cards placed in their mailboxes. We hope that you will take the time to consider the significance of pledging, fill out the relevant informa-

tion on the card, and return it to the SFF mailbox in Slaughter Hall. It is unnecessary to remit payment now (just provide a billing address if graduating and a law firm address if available), and all pledges are tax deductible.

Remember, any amount you can give will have an impact. The Law School Foundation and Dean Scott are personally matching one dollar for every two dollars pledged, and law firms usually consider matching pledges. Most importantly, your pledge to SFF reaffirms our school's commitment to public service, something that often is lost in the hustle and bustle to pay off loans and worry about one's own immediate financial security and sacrifice.

If you have already risen to the task and pledged to SFF, we, the co-directors of Pledge Drive 1997, thank you on behalf of all past and future grant recipients. And if you have been greeted today by our yellow pledge card, we hope that you too will do your part.

MARK CHURCHILL, 2L
CHRISTOPHER POHL, 3L

Grades Should Be Adjusted

To The Editor:

Congratulations to the Faculty Curriculum Committee ("FCC") for adopting the B+ mean and for recognizing that the B mean was placing U.Va. Law students at a competitive disadvantage with students from other law schools. It should be noted that our law students were not merely suffering from the B mean when compared with students from other top ten law schools, but also against students who are not in upper echelon schools. During a recent interview I had, an attorney express his concern with U.Va.'s B mean. He told me that while some attorneys on hiring committees realize "a B- from U.Va. Law is better than a B- at the University of Connecticut," many more merely look at the grade without searching for a "B mean" statement on the transcript.

In adopting this policy, the FCC

concluded that U.Va. Law students "will bemoan the B mean no more!" Of course, this is not the case. What the FCC actually determined is that the law classes of 1998 and 1999 will continue to suffer the negative effect of the B mean in employment and clerkships, but that future classes will not be made to suffer. As a first-year, I do not appreciate the half-step the FCC is taking, nor that they are comfortable with having current first and second-years suffer from a policy they now admit hurts them. Fortunately, if the FCC is truly concerned about the ability of U.Va.'s law students to compete for jobs and clerkships at the same level as all other law students, there is a solution.

The FCC should immediately re-adjust the grades of all students who will continue to attend the Law School in the fall to conform with the new policy. This would entail

moving every grade a student has attained up one-third, and readjusting A+ grades from a 4.0 to a 4.3. If employers fail to note our current B mean transcript statement, they will certainly fail to note a "this student was on a B mean his/her first year, but in his/her second and third years was on a B+ mean scale" notification. In addition, current G.P.A.s judged on a new 3.3 scale will universally appear lower (a student with a current 3.28 G.P.A. will seem "below average"). I realize a retroactive shifting to a B+ mean is self-serving, but it makes a great deal of sense, would be easy to implement, and most importantly, is fair. Going down in history as U.Va. Law's last class to suffer the B mean is a distinction that I—and I am certain my fellow first years—would just as soon avoid.

CHAD MARLOW, 1L

New B+ Mean is "Insidious" Grade Inflation

To the Editor:

Regarding the new mean: as a first year and out-of-stater, I have yet to grasp fully the richness of U.Va.'s traditions—the Honor System, the founding by Jefferson, the pride that Virginians feel for "The University," etc. Nevertheless, I am dismayed that at this incomparable institution, the Law School would discard the B mean essentially "because Harvard does it."

Grade inflation plays an insidious role in American education by masking declining academic standards with the veneer of merit. Its harm is symbolic, but symbolism matters, as many of us know. Undoubtedly its superficial appeal proves irresistible to lesser schools that value institutional rank over institutional pride. I would hardly have imagined, however, that the University of Virginia would

succumb to similar pressures.

The Law School would have been better served by coupling the retention of the B mean with redoubled efforts by both students and administrators to inform employers of our grading policy. Mere expediency does not excuse the abandonment of principles, especially not at "The University."

PETER SERREZE, 1L

Admitted Students Weekend a Success

To the Editor:

I would like to thank the Law School community for all of the help and support given to make our 1997 Admitted Students Weekend a success. In particular, I would like to thank Angela Bernardi and

Stan Panikowski who, in conjunction with the First Year Council, were the real heroes behind the Weekend. They were able to engender the spirit and enthusiasm necessary to get our students involved in hosting admitted students, man-

ning the Hotline which is so crucial to our admissions process, and taking care of the hundreds of little details needing attention. Thanks to all!

KAREN J. ANDERSON
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN

Is There a Place for the Small-town Virginia Lawyer at U.Va. Law?

Tuition Expected to Rise \$2,000 for Incoming Virginia Residents

by Jennifer Murphy
Virginia residents who enroll at Virginia Law School next year will face a cost increase of almost \$2,000 if the Board of Visitors approves the increase at its meeting this weekend. The tuition hike will not have as severe an affect on currently enrolled students or non-Virginia residents. (See chart).

In-state tuition at Virginia Law has been spiraling upward since 1995, when the Law School and Board of Visitors decided to bring in-state tuition closer to tuition for out-of-state students because the Law School was receiving relatively little funding from state appropriations. In 1994-1995, the Law School received 7.6 percent of its budget from the state, which worked out to \$3,028 from the state for every in-state resident at Virginia Law, according to Elaine Hadden, Associate Dean (for Administration). That same year, in-state students paid about \$9,200 less in tuition than their out-of-state counterparts. Since 1994-1995, state appropriations have dropped to 4 percent of the School's budget, or \$1,900 per Virginia student.

The Board of Visitors "looked at the difference between resident and non-resident tuition and thought, 'We're not getting any government money,' so they moved to close the gap in a three-year, three-step procedure," said Dean Jerome Stokes. "Their goal was to narrow the difference gradually."

The three-step move to raise in-

state tuition began in the 1995-1996 academic year, Dean Stokes said, with the 1997-1998 year being the final stage. Next year, in-state first-years will pay \$13,954 to attend Virginia. Current Virginia first-years, who make up 53 percent of their class, pay \$12,030.

The tuition increases will have a smaller effect on currently enrolled students because Financial Aid has created a separate tuition schedule for current in-state 1Ls, 2Ls, and 3Ls. (See the chart.) All out-of-staters will pay \$19,870, a \$692 increase over last year.

Students had mixed reactions to the proposed increases. Second-year Bill Charron, who pays in-state tuition, noted that the proposed \$424 tuition hike for Virginia residents is almost double the \$240 increase that he paid last year, whereas the out-of-state tuition increase of \$692 is only about one-third greater than the \$484 increase from last year.

"But we're all fake in-state students anyway," he said. Charron, like

many Virginia law students, achieved Virginia resident status by living in Northern Virginia while working in Washington, D.C., for two years before enrolling at Virginia The Law School does not keep records of how

big difference than what I'd pay if I wasn't a resident that [the increase is] not such a big deal."

Although Virginia is one of the least expensive schools among the nation's top ten, many in-state students still expect to graduate with significant debt. "We're already paying so much, and the repayment is so far in the future that two or three hundred here or there is kind of a drop in the bucket," said second-year Holly Royce, a Virginia resident originally from Houston.

Dean Stokes was quick to note that in-state tuition at Virginia is still about \$2,500 less than what Michigan residents pay to attend law school at the University of Michigan. (See chart).

However, second-year Don Bowman said that for true Virginia residents who want to keep their careers in the state, the comparison needs to be made between Virginia and William & Mary, where in-state tuition for last year was \$6,674. "Virginia is pricing itself out of the market for the true Virginia lawyer who doesn't want

to work in Charlotte, Atlanta, or New York," Bowman said. "It's impossible to pay this bill and go back and work in a small town, like I want to."

Bowman turned down a scholarship offer at W&M to attend Virginia, but said the decision would have been a lot harder if he had faced \$14,000 in tuition at Virginia.

For some out-of-state students, the tuition increase confirms Virginia's position as a national law school. "I have no problem with in-state students paying less," said first-year Karen Randolph, a Missouri resident who plans to return there after she graduates. "But you can't have it both ways—you can't proclaim to be a national law school and give such a huge break to those within the state."

Several students thought that the benefits of being affiliated with the University outweighed the drawbacks of receiving relatively sparse financial support from the Commonwealth.

"Americans like the idea of good public schools, and being part of the University of Virginia says something, even if in name only," said Charron.

"Long-term, [the tuition increases are] in the best interest of the school," said third-year Rob Kelner, an in-state student. "But thank God I matriculated in 1994 not 1997."

Dean Stokes said he expects the Board of Visitors to approve the proposed tuition rates, although he noted that last year the Board did make some minor changes to the Law School's proposal. He would make no prediction as to tuition rates for the 1998-1999 academic year.

Tuition and Fees		
School Year	In-State	Out-of-State
1994-95	\$8,206	\$17,426
1995-96	1L: \$10,290 2L: \$8,790 3L: \$8,790	\$18,694
1996-97	1L: \$12,030 2L: \$10,530 3L: \$9,030	\$19,178
1997-98 (Proposed)	1L: \$13,954 2L: \$12,454 3L: \$10,954	\$19,870

Top Ten Public Law Schools		
School	In-State	Out-of-State
Virginia	\$13,954	\$19,870
Cal-Berkeley	\$10,800	\$19,791
Michigan	\$16,498	\$22,498

Source: University of Virginia Financial Aid Office, California-Berkeley (Boalt Hall) Admissions Office

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Perspectives on the Gender Gap in American Politics

by Ben Fox

On Wednesday, April 2, the Federalist Society and The Virginia Law Women jointly hosted a discussion entitled "The Gender Gap in American Politics." This program pitted U.Va. Professor Pamela Karlan against Anita Blair, Esq., a member of Washington D.C.'s Women's Independent Forum and a frequent guest on CNN's *Crossfire*. Karlan and Blair offered competing explanations for the greater support women give to more liberal candidates and political causes.

Blair began the program by tracing the historical development of women's social and political power. She noted that for centuries women remained in the home as a necessity, because of the vast amount of domestic chores and due to frequent, unplanned pregnancies.

"As housework became more automated and pregnancy became more controllable," Blair explained, "women have become much more socially and politically powerful."

She pointed to a number of statistics to illustrate women's heightened status: females make up 51.8% of the adult voting population, vote in higher percentages than men, and obtain more than half of the undergraduate degrees awarded.

"However," Blair continued, "women are still having children," and this fact makes them economically and occupationally insecure. This insecurity, "particularly acute among single mothers," leads women to be attracted to the politics of the left because of its support for programs like the Family Medical Leave Act.

Blair asserted that while such programs may appear to be an adequate solution to women's economic insecurity, they are only short-term and problematic fixes. As Blair explained, "the vast majority of Americans want freedom and flexibility in their lives," and thus the market will be forced to accommodate the same concerns that these government programs respond to. Consequently, she claims, women's insecurities and failure to look to the market

are the chief causes of the gender gap in politics.

Professor Karlan began her presentation by offering a few possible hypotheses for the gender gap that was "over 17% in last year's Presidential election" and "between eight and nine percent in the Congressional election." First, she said that the most important reason women vote Democratic is economic.

"Women," she stated, "tend to be disproportionately poor." According to Karlan this is because higher wage jobs demand more of an investment in human capital, an area in which many women cannot keep pace with men due to pregnancy-related career interruptions. Then, she noted that the campaigns run by the Presidential candidates may simply appeal to different sexes. Karlan said that since the tone of the Republican political commercials have consistently been more aggressive and dictatorial, tones women tend to disfavor, these campaigns alienate women.

These two presentations preceded a debate during which the speakers addressed each other's arguments. Professor Karlan began by saying that Ms. Blair's assumption about the American market responding with self-instituted freedom and flexibility in the workplace is invalid in today's "increasingly globalized market." Blair followed by noting that the political gender gap has as much to do with "male defection from the Democratic party as female defection to it."

The presentation concluded with a brief question and answer session. Blair answered a number of questions concerning how she expected the market to cure the underlying problems of women, primarily their wealth disparity. Blair said that one of the major problems is unwed mothers, a moral problem that the market cannot be expected to remedy. Moreover, she said that trends such as "assortative mating," the practice by which upper income men couple with upper income women rather than a mixture of the two, also adds to the

see GAP, page 8

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SPOTLIGHT: SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Take Back the Night: Empowerment, Education and Prevention

by Christina Thomas

We have seen the signs for it. We have heard it is going on. But what, exactly, is "Take Back the Night" and why are people talking about it? Charlottesville's Take Back The Night event is this Thursday, April 17, at 6:30 p.m. and will include a march from City Hall to the Rotunda, followed by a candlelight vigil and Speak Out. The purpose of the event is to protest violence against women and to promote awareness of the attitudes, beliefs, and behavior which perpetuate this violence.

Thursday's march is part of a national tradition that began in 1978 with a rally at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where incidents of violence against women made it unsafe for women to walk safely across campus. In protest, a large group of women vowed to "take back the

night." Around the same time in New York, women, in an attempt to reclaim public space, marched through the red light district in protest. They too were "taking back the night."

"Basically, the event is about women asserting their right to be on the planet—and marching is a visible thing to do," says Claire Kaplan, Sexual Assault Education Coordinator at the U.Va. Women's Center. The rally at U.Va. is usually fairly well attended, "but every extra person really helps," continued Kaplan. Last year, about 100 people attended the event, "but it was kind of like a snowball," said Kaplan, "by the end of the event, there were far more people than at the beginning." This year, supporters are hoping that the numbers will grow and that the Law School will contribute to that growth.

Tamara Bedic, a second-year law student, commented that last year, "some of the fraternities were yelling things and throwing things at us."

This type of behavior hopefully will not occur this year, because there have been steps taken to include the fraternities and sororities in the event. Speakers have visited every house, in an attempt not only to drum up support, but also to educate students unfamiliar with the event.

Unlike some cities, including Washington D.C., Charlottesville encourages both men and women to participate in the event. "We want as many of the men and women of U.Va., Charlottesville, and Albemarle communities to help women reclaim the streets," noted Kaplan, "because it's harder for us to reach critical mass unless we include men. It would be

a radical act to not include them here."

The march begins at Charlottesville City Hall, heads down Main Street, and winds around Mad Bowl to the steps of the Rotunda for the Speak Out.

This year's events will include steel drums, music performed by folk singers John McCutcheon and Wendy Repass, and speakers at the candlelight vigil, which will honor victims of rape and domestic violence, and will provide an opportunity for people to talk and hear about the issues.

"It's all about empowerment, education, and the prevention of sexual assault," says Cindy Lamm of SARA.

Cassandra Pascarella, a second-year law student, noted, "it's interesting that the event is called 'Take Back the Night,' because it seems as though be-

ing allowed to walk freely at night would be the assertion of a new right for women," and not an old right that we are reclaiming.

If you think the Law School is far removed from violence against women, think again. On March 18, the spouse of a graduate student was attacked at Copeley housing.

At some point in our legal careers, many of us will represent either a victim or perpetrator of sexual assault, and Take Back the Night is a great way not only to familiarize yourself with the issues, but also to gain a deeper understanding of how both men and women view sexual assault. While The Domestic Violence Project and Virginia Law Women are working on the event, they encourage all student organizations to participate.

Re-Examining Our Definitions of Consent and Force

Tragic incidents of sexual assault have occurred elsewhere, and despite our denials, Virginia is not immune to the problem. Take Back the Night, which will be held on Thursday, April 17, is an event designed to focus attention on sexual assault issues and to direct this community's attention to assault's underlying causes both here and elsewhere.

Because of society's subjective and often stilted views of what "force" and "consent" mean in the context of assault, accused rapists in America are too often "acquitted if the incident is...not 'extraordinary' enough." Catharine A. McKinnon, Sexual Harrassment of Working Women, 219. Even in the most egregious circumstances, there is always the defense that the encounter was consensual.

The defense of Daniel Silva, one of six Massachusetts men indicted for a pool-table gang rape of a "kicking, screaming" 20-year-old was "that he honestly and reasonably believed the victim to be consenting to sexual inter-

course," despite the fact that four men restrained her in turn. *Commonwealth v. Vieira*, 401 Mass. 828. "Consent" has been broadly defined to encompass seemingly innocent events preceding the rape—entering a classmate's dorm room to study for an accounting test may imply consent to sex not only with him, but his two buddies as well. *Hardy*



Tamara Bedic, a second-year law student, is a Law Weekly guest columnist.

v. State of Georgia, 159 Ga. App. 854, 285 S.E.2d 547.

More importantly, however, societal views regarding sexual violence can directly affect the decision-making of juries in assault cases. Juries, according to Chicago Law School professors Harry Kalven and Hans Zeisel, may be unduly influenced by their perceptions of the victim's "moral charac-

ter" in deciding cases. The standard rape myths surface: a virtuous woman either cannot get raped (she would have fought to the death) or avoids situations that would expose her to assault. The level of force that juries find tolerable (precluding a guilty verdict) varies with the degree of sexual violence in society. A community that eroticizes women's subordination, humiliation and anguish through pornography, prostitution, sexual harassment, unchecked domestic violence, or misogynistic lyrics jades jurors to ever higher levels of brutality.

The environment at the University of Virginia, while more subtle, shows the same tendencies. We silence our colleagues until they silence themselves. We have deliberately omitted rape from the curriculum in particular sections of Criminal Law. We received and distributed e-mail last year listing 70 reasons why women should be gagged ("If she can't speak, she can't cry Rape!"). And we've had seven re-

ported sexual assaults or rapes (six acquaintance, one gang rape) so far this academic year.

Some of these incidents receive fleeting attention before receding from our collective Cavalier consciousness. On March 18, at 12:55 p.m. a 5'8" to 5'9" assailant, wearing a stocking cap and white shoes, attacked a graduate student as she cleaned the front passenger seat of her car. According to Virginia police reports, the assault occurred by Copeley Housing at the Seymour Road parking lot. Copeley Hill is half a mile from the Law School.

The Monday, April 7 issue of the *Daily Progress* featured a front page story of a drug-induced sexual assault by a 21-year-old Commerce student. Police report that the victim invited Keith Guerrini to a sorority function on January 24. He fixed her a drink. When she began feeling ill and asked to be taken home, he complied. It was at her home that the alleged sexual assault occurred. Mentally aware of what was

happening, the 19-year old was too drugged to defend herself.

This is our academic community—the environment in which we study, grow, define ourselves, and make choices. But this is also an atmosphere where Phi Kappa Sigma hires strippers to enliven the final night of dry rush (*Washington Post*, Oct. 11, 1991), and in which joggers are assaulted on Alderman Road (Virginia police report, 1996) and in the U-4 lot on Wertland (Virginia police report, 1994). In such a place women circumscribe their potential, their activities, and their minds. Questionnaires given to Virginia students reflect a pervasive tendency among women to limit their movements due to a nagging fear of assault.

As hard as it is to confront one's fears, now is not the time for self-imposed limits or the psychological distancing that says "it can't happen to me." It is time to expand beyond the denial and the stereotypes.

It is indeed time to Take Back the Night.

'Hoos In The News

U.Va. Law Grad Hits the Links with Tiger Woods

U.Va. Law is proud of its many graduates who achieve great things both in and out of the legal world.

John Merchant ('58), according to *The Ottawa Citizen* of Tuesday, April 8, was "the first black graduate of the University of Virginia Law School" and former attorney of Tiger Woods.

Tiger Woods has made history, not only by overcoming barriers to play the game, but also by being the first African-American with a shot at winning the Masters tournament this Sunday.

There are several impediments to the growth of minority participation in golf. There are few golf courses in the inner city, so accessibility is an issue. In addition, golf requires a substantial financial outlay. The greens fee at Birdwood is \$15 for students during the week, but on weekends the price jumps to \$22, and that includes neither equipment nor a golf cart. Then there is the awareness issue. Until Tiger Woods became a sports hero, there were few professional golfers who could serve as role models for minority children.

On Tuesday, baseball will honor the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking baseball's color barrier, but golf has a much different history.

In the 61 year history of the Masters, only four African-Americans, including Woods, have competed, and none has ever finished in the top ten. Not until 1961 did the PGA strike its "Caucasian only" rules. In 1975, the first African-American was invited to participate in the Masters and in 1990, the Augusta National Golf Club, where the Masters is played, had its first black member.

John Merchant is also founder of the National Minority Golf Foundation and the first African-American to serve on the executive committee of the USGA.

"It was 37 years before the child of a black graduate graduated from Virginia, and that was my daughter," said Merchant.

"The point is things go slowly and sometimes take too long. But there finally is evidence in golf, however slowly. We're moving in the right direction...the problem is it's just too slow."

In *The Wall Street Journal* of Monday, April 7, **Professor George M. Cohen** was quoted in an article entitled, "Judge in Liggett Case Is Criticized For Readiness to Clear Settlements." The article discussed a settlement agreement involving the Liggett Group, which is the smallest of the five major U.S. tobacco companies. In the case, presiding Judge Braxton L. Kittrell, Jr. gave preliminary approval to an unusual settlement which would resolve all smokers' claims against the Liggett Group and wouldn't allow individuals to pursue any separate claims against the company. The pact was announced along with Liggett's settlement of suits brought by 22 state attorney generals.

Cohen, who believes that federal courts are in a better position to handle class actions national in scope, said, "the problem is that you have an Alabama judge who is making a determination that could affect millions of people, most of whom are not Alabama residents."

Entries compiled by Christina Thomas, Associate Features Editor for Announcements.

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Reflections on Women Lawyers—And a Fishy Semester

Many people want to know where I found the “boobie” quote for my editorial on the deans’ portraits. The book is Mona Harrington’s *Women Lawyers*, a fascinating survey of the myriad issues facing women in law schools, law firms, and the professional world. It is important, provocative reading for every law student, particularly at this moment, on the heels of the excellent Women’s Roundtable organized by Marylou Brown, and a few weeks before we put on charcoal gray and troop off to summer associate positions across the country.

Although the book is lengthy, it is possible to read only the “good parts” without missing the whole point. Focus on the chapters about “Rules” and “Professors” (especially the bit on Harvard Law’s own “portraits revolution” in 1988).

I was less convinced by Harrington’s ruminations on “Fathers” and “Bodies” (sometimes a smoke...). But pay attention to the last section, which enumerates practical strategies for women. Thankfully, Harrington is sensitive to the reality of the workplace and does not always counsel women to “confront prejudice at its source” (imagine storming into the hiring partner’s office to say, “I was disgusted with that sexist joke you told at dinner! Hey—we still on for golf?”).

One criticism is that for such an

ambitious author, Harrington certainly misses good opportunities to draw in, or at least mention, the parallel experiences of men of color. It is disappointing that she misses so many beats on this score, when otherwise the composition is quite compelling.

Ahem. And now some thoughts on the discussion of sexism and racism in our own Law School (you knew this was coming). I’m writing because many people have specifically asked me how I



Helen Wan, a second-year law student, is the Law Weekly Associate Columns Editor.

feel about the “controversy I started.” The question itself is a little perplexing.

It was perplexing that I quite literally became the “face” of the controversy, a facebook picture (a woman of color) to blame for this mess, yet many of my most vociferous critics never even read my editorial. One admitted, “Well, I didn’t read it myself, but my friends told me basically what it was about.” ‘Nuff said.

In Greenberry’s one day, I stood in line next to a table of first years, the *Law Weekly* open before them, who were telling each other, “What these minority

extremists need to understand is...” I listened to five minutes of their discussion before introducing myself as the very extremist in question (picture that wonderful scene in *Annie Hall*, where Woody Allen introduces Marshall McLuhan to a dolt in the movie line who had been pontificating about him).

I was surprised to find that I am a “reverse racist,” a “crazy left-wing liberal” who “makes it impossible for a moderate position to exist.” Also, I learned that I am a “white male hater.” (This was distressing news to my boyfriend, who’s as white as they come. He promises to try and look less Nordic in the future.) A college friend still in Massachusetts sniffed, “Some left-wing liberal you are. Do people know you used to work for the CIA, for God’s sake?”

I was disappointed that basic assumptions were misunderstood, leading to the breakdown of useful debate. Unfortunately, so much time was wasted on unnecessary “counterpoints” that little was left for the actual point, the iconography of law. (Much ink has been spilled since, but no clarification was quite so eloquent as Trevor Peterson’s in the Libel Show.)

For instance, one alumnus wrote in to say, “They were fine men, of high character, greatly respected, unbiased, and a

credit to the School.” Contrast (or compare) this to my article: “[T]hese portraits...commemorate some highly respected and accomplished figures in this School’s illustrious history.”

The writer continued, in the “eureka” style of one illuminating a great point, “[W]hen a black [a black *what*, he did not specify] becomes dean, I am sure his portrait will appear along with the portraits of those who have preceded him.” Compare this to my article: “If the Law School had a black dean, his portrait would be up there, too.”

Indeed, on several counts, my critics and I appear to be in heated agreement.

Most perplexing of all has been the argument that we should not be discussing pictures on a wall when there are “other battles” and “bigger fish to fry,” as if to suggest that I am arguing aesthetics. As if to suggest that it is shortsighted to point out environmental sexism and racism in law schools, because it distracts students from their feverish last-minute appeals for death row inmates and ongoing Bosnia relief efforts.

Well, in case it has eluded you, we aren’t a big fish-frying bunch. To paraphrase my favorite Gershwin tune, fish are *not* jumpin’ in this here Law School. Reynolds Wilson got it right when he said that once in a while it is “an immense

relief” to see a debate like this go on. Amen. *Where* have these secret fishfries (of big, bad fish) been taking place?

The truth is, before Nina McAdoo (Wonder Twin power, activate!) wrote about her law school experience, and Gary Gansle called a meeting to air concerns over “Dead White Male Hall,” and I published my editorial, and Ann Coyle pointed out the offensive invites, and Hyung Ahn called out the judge, before all of this happened, no one had been frying *any* fish or picking *any* battles, wisely or not. In fact, no recent issue at this Law School ever amounted to so much as a respectable clambake.

So it has been extremely refreshing to see the different reactions play out. Somewhere along the way, the appearance of caring simply went out of style. For better or for worse (better, I think), the willingness to voice an opinion has returned to North Grounds. Admittedly, some recent editorials have been more meaningful and informed than others, but overall, some misunderstanding here and there has been a small price to pay for getting people thinking and talking (especially when people do so in that order).

Good luck on exams, everyone. Have a great summer. Read this book. And thanks to all who brought something to the clambake.

The Honor System: Secession and a Modest Proposal

TO: Ned Cox, L.S. Honor Rep.

FROM: Thomas H. Lipscomb

RE: Secession, and a Modest Proposal

Well, Ned, my boy, the secession movement is dead, strangled in its crib by tradition. I am glad to see that no one got hurt. I fully expected to hear that you had been found face down in Chris Green Lake with your tongue cut out and a giant “7” carved into your back.

We lost, and we lost *big*. Did you get a look at those stickers the Unionists were passing out? Like Lee at Appomattox, you were outnumbered and overwhelmed by a well-heeled and determined foe, and now you must surrender your sword.

When I read about the results of the Honorplebiscite in last week’s *Law Weekly*, I wanted to go sit down on that seal in the middle of Clay Hall, douse myself with gasoline, and set myself on fire. (Let’s see



Thomas Lipscomb, a second-year law student, is a Law Weekly columnist.

Bill Bergen clean *that* up!) It didn’t work out, of course—the Exxon cashier refused to sell the gas to me because I didn’t have a “proper container.”

So, rather than immolate myself (I know you are disappointed), I’ll pitch you my idea for reforming the Honor Code.


The idea, of course, is to replace the current single sanction with a dual sanction. Now, Ned, I know what you’re thinking: “The Honor Committee would never go for a repeal of the single sanction! They would rather watch as their intestines were devoured by speed-crazed hyenas!” But I believe that the Honor Committee has never approved a multiple sanction system because no one has ever proposed a palatable alternative to expulsion. Let me tell you, brother, I have an alternative sanction that is not only palatable, but downright *tasty*: public humiliation.

Here’s the way it would work: if an honor jury were to decide to convict, it would then decide whether the student should be expelled or should merely do penance. If the jury opted for the latter sentence, then the defendant’s name and photograph, as well as a description of his offense, would be printed in the school newspapers (including the *Law Weekly*). The ad also would announce when and where the student is to perform his public *auto de fe*.

At the *auto de fe*, which I envision taking place at the lower end of the Lawn, near the statue of Homer, the penitent would don a clown nose and pointed hat covered with vulgar sayings. He would then be placed in stocks, where he would remain from dawn

until dusk. Baskets of rotten fruit would be provided for passersby, should they wish to throw something at the offender. So that the Law School also feels that it is part of the “community of trust,” I also propose that the Law School set up its own stocks on the Law School grounds; law students would then be able to shame their colleagues caught lying, cheating, or stealing without having to go all the way to Central Grounds. Hell, with a little luck, Dean Scott might be able to convince Hunton & Williams to *pay* for it!

I am sure that the Honor Committee would like my proposal, Ned. Please get back to me, and we’ll talk it over. Keep hope alive.

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photo by Galina Smith

“I can’t decide between West and BarBri yet, but I know I like Sloan’s!”

PROSPECTIVES

continued from page 1

“The beautiful weather provided a perfect backdrop for showcasing our new Law Grounds. The admitted students were very impressed both with our new facilities and with the splendor of spring in Charlottesville,” stated Admitted Students Weekend organizer Stan Panikowski.

After the Student Activities Fair, prospective students and their hosts were treated to a free lunch at Cafe North. Later that afternoon housing tours were arranged to give students the opportunity to visit available housing.

Many prospective students also attended a Multicultural/Diversity Panel held on Friday afternoon in Withers. Students representing different minority groups at the Law School shared their experiences and offered their perspectives on the status of minorities at the Law School. Prospective students focused many of their questions on the Law School’s continuing commitment to recruiting a diverse student body and the degree of integration of social life at the Law School. Several of the participating minority student groups organized their own activities for interested students throughout the weekend.

Friday evening the students heard from the Chief Judge of the Fourth

Circuit, the Honorable J. Harvey Wilkinson III, an alumnus of the Law School. After his speech Wilkinson joined the visitors as well as faculty members, alumni and hosts for dinner. Wilkinson spent time with visitors, discussing judicial clerkships and the atmosphere of collegiality at the Law School. Friday night the prospective students engaged in more socializing, with parties thrown by BARBRI, the SBA, and BLSA.

Several of the visiting students also gathered for “Bagels with Thomas Jefferson,” sharing breakfast on the steps of the Rotunda before a guided tour of Thomas Jefferson’s architectural centerpiece and the Lawn.

First-year Pierce Moser, who attended some of the weekend’s events, had high praise for Admitted Students Weekend organizers Angela Bernardi and Stan Panikowski: “They worked their butts off for the last few months preparing for this, and it benefits all of us.”

Stan Panikowski also had great things to say about the whole weekend: “I was extremely happy that the entire Law School community rallied around this event. The enthusiastic commitment of student hosts, student leaders, and members of the faculty and administration was truly gratifying.”

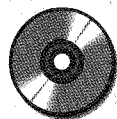
New Ear Candy From Matthew Sweet

Matthew Sweet has had one of the more interesting careers in alternative music. After releasing two mediocre albums in the late 1980s, featuring plenty of synthesizer and, Heaven help us, drum machines, Sweet stepped into the Calvin and Hobbes transmogrifier, and emerged as a guitar virtuoso. His extraordinary 1991 CD *Girlfriend* was the first evidence of the metamorphosis. Featuring as many as five guitar tracks per song, and eschewing all electronic effects (unless, of course, a guitar could be run through them), *Girlfriend* was a superb album; the title track is probably still Sweet's best-known song.

Since *Girlfriend*, Matthew Sweet has been putting out CDs every couple of years, and along the way has established himself as a consummate studio musician. Sweet can certainly put on a good show in concert; he's one of the best live performers I've seen. But he seems at home in the studio. Sweet writes all of his songs singlehandedly, and in the studio he can lay down the bass guitar track, at least one rhythm guitar track, and all the vocals, while a

top-notch crew of studio musicians fills in the rest. Indeed, Sweet has parodied his tendency to wear many hats as a musician: the video for "Sick of Myself", from 1995's *100% Fun*, has shots of Sweet playing every single instrument in the song except the blistering guitar solo.

Matthew Sweet's musical style has shown some variation over the CDs since *Girlfriend*. My personal favorite



Music Review by Dave Laser

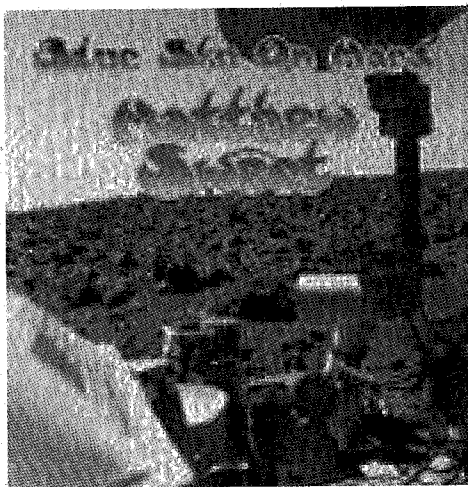
is still his 1993 CD *Altered Beast*, with its heavier guitar stomp and darker lyrics. But Sweet backed away from that sound with *100% Fun*, and that trend towards a lighter musical style continues with his new release, *Blue Sky On Mars*.

I have to admit that some alarm bells went off when I picked up *Blue Sky On Mars* and saw that it had been produced by Brendan O'Brien. After all, O'Brien is the producer who has

presided over Pearl Jam's three-albums-and-counting slide into Pearl Scam status. However, my fears that this might be a Matthew Sweet Lite release were mostly allayed by listening to the entire CD. That's not to say that there haven't been some changes since Sweet's last album. Gone from *Blue Sky On Mars* is redoubtable guitarist Richard Lloyd, formerly of Television, and at one time a stalwart of both Matthew Sweet's studio work and his touring band. Gone, too, for the most part, are the ripping lead guitar parts that Lloyd used to play, and the guitar solos that merited their own mention in the lyric sheet. Instead, *Blue Sky On Mars* has a stripped-down studio lineup, with Sweet playing all guitar parts and contributing all vocals, while O'Brien himself plays piano and synthesizer as necessary, and a drummer rounds out the cast.

For long-time fans of Matthew Sweet, the change in songwriting style and studio lineup is apparent after lis-

tening through *Blue Sky On Mars*. The fundamentals haven't really changed, like the chugging power chords that anchor Sweet's songs, or the animated drumming. And a good number of the



songs wouldn't be out of place on any of Sweet's prior CDs. The charming "Back to You," for instance, reminds me of "I've Been Waiting" from *Girlfriend*, while "Over It" starts off the hypothetical second side of the CD with

a bang. "Behind the Smile," "All Over My Head," and "Heaven and Earth" are more of what we expect from Matthew Sweet, and all merit high marks.

But when the synthesizers kick in, they really kick in. They don't ruin every song in which they appear: "Where You Get Love," the first single, works well, as does "Into Your Drug." But the synthesizers certainly don't add anything to "Make Believe" or "Come to California," for instance. And I'm pretty sure I've heard the synth part to "Missing Time" on The Weather Channel. Nonetheless, I would say that *Blue Sky On Mars* is probably the most consistently listenable of Matthew Sweet's CDs. If I had to find fault with Sweet's earlier work, it would be that every CD included several mopey and introspective tracks.

Blue Sky On Mars finds Sweet's songwriting on a middle ground: there aren't any songs that you automatically skip past, but there aren't as many tracks that grab hold of you the way his previous work has.

Pita Inn: There's Hummus Among Us

If you read this column with any regularity, you probably have seen my complaints about the dearth of non-American/Italian/Chinese restaurants in Charlottesville. If you know me personally, you also may have heard me complain about the lack of good, cheap, non-slice/sandwich food. Given this perspective, you can imagine my excitement when Pita Inn, specializing in Middle-Eastern food, opened on the Corner last spring. Admittedly, I was a bit put off by the generic name and unfinished looking interior (there is a huge stone hearth in the middle of the restaurant that could be a focal point of the dining area, but instead looks out of place), but one taste of its fresh falafel and I was hooked.

Pita Inn is self-described as "the fresh choice," maintaining the traditional flavors of Middle Eastern food, while reducing calories and fat. So what exactly does that mean, in this city of bagels, late-night sandwiches,

and pizza by the slice? Nine vegetarian (vegan even) appetizers, six salads, an array of vegetarian pitas and pitas from the grill, rotisserie chicken, combo plates, pita pizza, and subs. Most items are between \$3 and \$4, with the most expensive items being around \$7.

Sunday night was my obliging companion M's first foray into Medi-



C'ville Dining in a Nutshell by Ann Coyle

terranean food. I dare say that he rather enjoyed it (but I wouldn't guarantee that he'll go back of his own volition). Being a novice, he let me choose the appetizers, stuffed grape leaves and tabouli. The tabouli was fresh and tangy. In the traditional manner, Pita Inn mixes chopped fresh parsley, tomatoes, and onions with bulgur wheat, lemon juice, and olive oil. The generous portion was

accompanied by pitas for dipping and scooping.

M said "tastes great!" which was promptly followed by "these are good too!" when he tried a grape leaf. Filled with parsley, chopped tomatoes, and rice, stuffed grape leaves are soaked in olive oil and lemon juice. I was impressed. The grape leaves were tender, not tough and chewy, and there were only traces of olive oil.

As entrées (something of a misnomer), I had falafel and M opted for a chicken gyro. The falafel will keep me coming back. Most take-out places pre-fry falafel (fried balls of ground chick peas and Mediterranean spices, which taste better than I just described them) and then toss them in the microwave when you order. Not so at Pita Inn. You have to wait while they scoop a fresh ball and pop it in the fryer. But it's worth it. The falafel balls are light (is that an oxymoron with ground chick peas?) and not at all greasy. Wrapped in a large pita with shredded lettuce,

tomatoes, and your choice of tahini (sesame paste), hummus (another ground chick pea concoction, this time mixed with tahini, garlic and lemon juice), baba ghanouj (a variation on hummus, using roasted eggplant instead of chick peas), or a variety of sauces, this can't be beat. I had yogurt sauce, hot sauce, and baba on mine and was in heaven.

M's comment on the chicken gyro, roasted chicken wrapped in a pita with lettuce, tomatoes, and yogurt sauce, was "this is frickin' delicious!" Gotta love that Southern enthusiasm.

Our desserts were the disappointment of the meal. We had walnut and pistachio baklava (one of each, not combined). Although the portions were generous and the nutty centers imbued with honey, the phyllo dough tops were dense and chewy, not light and flaky as I expected. I hoped to try the knebeh, but they were out.

The decor, not surprisingly, does not overwhelm. You order deli-style and the tables and booths are "wood

grained." The women's room is similar to the one at Brown's laundromat, which is to say, akin to the old green bathrooms in Withers, not the sparkling new ones in Slaughter. But there are benefits to the informal style. Pita Inn has a fair amount of outdoor seating. It also has self-serve drink machines, which means that you can help yourself to seconds (at least we did). The portions are tremendous. Also, the people behind the counter were extremely friendly.

It's interesting how easy it is to be critical of expensive restaurants and forgiving of cheap ones. But given that for five bucks, you can get a huge amount of really good, fresh, healthy food, I am more than willing to forgive plastic silverware and silk flowers. It seems ironic that I would encourage people to head to the core of the U.Va. bastion of tradition (i.e., the Corner) to eat "interesting" or "ethnic" food, but in fact Pita Inn is a great place to go for Middle Eastern fare.

When We Were Kings: Ali's Genius

On October 30, 1974, Muhammad Ali fought George Foreman in Zaire to regain the title of Heavyweight Champion of the World. That is what the documentary film *When We Were Kings* is about. But it is also about much more.

It is about the charisma and class of a man who was, and continues to be, a cultural icon. It is also about race, multiculturalism, globalism. It is about history, society, politics. But above all, it is about achieving dignity by standing for something.

Kings begins on what some would consider a confrontational note, with clips of Ali saying "Damn America!" and "I was a slave 400 years ago." It shows the children of Africa, and it features the socio-political musings of Spike Lee.

But it also shows us Ali, walking down a corridor, doing what Ali did so well, talking the talk in ritual preparation for walking the walk. Talking about Foreman in rhymed couplets: "We gonna get it on/Cuz we don't get along." Putting it into historical context: "Nixon resigns...and I kick Foreman's behind."

Ali is fast and funny, charming and challenging like few other twentieth-century heroes. We get to see him in his early days, when he was Cassius Clay, talking loud about how pretty he is, defeating competitors like Sonny Liston and Floyd Patterson. We see him accepting the position of role model, warning kids to stay off dope (and to stay away from sugar—"We got to whip tooth decay.") We see him take Africa by storm, the people following him through the streets, chanting his name.

We also see the spectacle that surrounded the pilgrimage, most notably a concert featuring James Brown, The Spinners, and B.B. King. The music adds texture and mood to the film, and is important as a symbol of culture and as a spark for social commentary. But it is no substitute for segments that focus on Ali. It is those segments that have the most impact, and are the most anticipated.

When his image and voice return to the screen, we are immediately engaged, attentive, intrigued. And Ali does not disappoint: he entertains, makes us smile and laugh.

But Ali is more than just an entertainer/athlete/celebrity. He is a man of



Movie Review by Bobby Hart

ideas, and convictions. We know the events that brought him here: representation of his country in the 1960 Olympics, followed by the heavyweight championship; membership in the Nation of Islam; refusal to fight in the Vietnam War for religious reasons (it is said that Ali explained to friends, "No Vietcong ever called me Nigger"); a federal court conviction for draft resistance; subsequent stripping of his boxing title; and a bar from the sport until 1971.

And a good portion of *Kings* presents the sort of political thought and rhetoric that informed these events. Ali praises the African people as smarter than Americans. There are references to how black Americans have been made to be too much like white Americans. There are conversations about the per-

ceived expendability of the "unnecessary" black person in America.

While such notions are often brushed aside in modern society, they demand special consideration when presented here, precisely because they are associated with Ali. The defense mechanisms that we in the American majority so often employ when confronted for allowing (and participating in) prejudice and discrimination are no longer available. "He's bitter." "He's just whining." "He's making excuses so that he doesn't actually have to try." "He's making it up to get attention." None of them apply. The man must be serious.

Which is not to say that one must agree with Ali. Just that one must carefully consider what he stands for.

Nor is it to suggest that Ali is a saint. For instance, at one point in the film he candidly suggests that his fighting in Zaire, a country notable to this day for its ruthless dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, is largely about money.

Nonetheless, it is at all times clear that it is also about something more.

As Ali prepares to fight the devastating Foreman (the seven to one favorite), his fear is easily discernible beneath the facade of unwavering confidence. But he chooses to fight, and he predicts victory, and he never backs away.

And the fight, in the end, serves as the perfect allegory for Ali's life. A person, working against the odds, knowledgeable of the personal consequences of defeat, makes the difficult decision to stand for something, body, soul, and mind. And in so doing he is a winner, regardless of what others may say or do to him.

The film, in showing us this great American, is a winner too.

Around North Grounds (continued from page 1)



Thumbs down to the Administration for not allowing student tables to be set up in Slaughter. SFF donations are way down this year—could it be because so few students visit the far end of the hall in Withers?

The Honor Committee will be holding try-outs for positions as Honor Counsel. The try-out process includes a written test on Monday, April 14, so interested students should drop a note in Ned Cox's or Jenna Jones' box as soon as possible.

The Arts & Entertainment Society presents: "Censorship: An Artist's Perspective." Professor Gregg Stull, Chair of the Theatre Department at Mary Washington College will be discussing such issues as the Maplethorpe/Serrano controversies complete with slides. Room TBA, Monday, April 14th, 4:15 p.m.

Support Live Music (and first-years Jeff Francer, Ben Hadley and Bill Mann) by going to see them at Pavilion 11 in Newcomb Hall tonight at 7:30. They are opening for comedian Mitch Vitale, who will go on at 8 p.m.

Congratulations to Virginia Law Women's Professor of the Year Barbara Armacost! All are invited to the Annual VLW Banquet on Sunday, April 13, at 11:30 a.m. at the Boar's Head Inn, but you must put a check for \$20.75 in Linda Way's box by 5 p.m. today.

Come to a Native American Pow Wow. The U.Va. Native American Student Union will hold a Pow Wow on Saturday and Sunday April 12 and 13, at the Colonnades Field. Grounds open at 11 a.m. and will be held rain or shine.

Charlottesville's first annual AIDS Walk will be held Sunday April 12. Please help out. The fund-raiser has been created because local AIDS/HIV Services has lost its federal funding due to a rule requiring 1500 new cases of HIV/AIDS per year to be reported in the requesting area. There were only 1491 new cases in the Charlottesville area last year. Registration begins at 11 a.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church on Alderman Road. For more information, call 979-7714.

Christmas in April is Saturday, April 12. Volunteer alone or as a group to help others by becoming a carpenter or a painter for a day. You'll meet great new people, do a good deed, and have an amazing time! See the board in Slaughter for details.

This weekend (April 11-13) is the Young Feminist Summit at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, D.C. For more information, call (202) 331-0066 ext. 362 or e-mail conference@now.org.

ANG is compiled and written by Christina Thomas. Submissions should be placed in the manilla envelope on the bulletin board outside the Law Weekly offices, SL 277-79, by Tuesday at 9 a.m. for inclusion in that Friday's issue.

VANGUARD

OF DEMOCRACY

U.Va. Softballers Take Home the Hardware

By any measure, last weekend's Fourteenth Annual Virginia Law Softball Invitational was an unqualified success. A record number of teams attended, a record number of kegs were consumed, and U.Va. squads captured both championships.

Eager to track the progress of the home teams, VANGUARD sought contributions from a member of each of the six Virginia squads. Their articles follow:

Champion Co-Rec Gold

For the third consecutive year, the gritty yet graceful Co-Rec Gold squad, led by co-captains Debbie Owen and Debbie Goldklang, won the championship. Josh Martin pitched flawlessly, allowing a mere fifteen runs over the course of six games. Bobby Kennedy, who fought back from what one teammate referred to as "a big-time whiff," provided a much needed powerful bat. And not to be upstaged by the strikeout king, Dave Turk and Chris Travers also contributed home runs.

The hero of Co-Rec Gold, however, was third-year trash-talker Erin Lang. Trailing powerful William and Mary by one run in the bottom of the seventh, Lang watched from the on-deck circle as the W&M pitcher foolishly pitched around Martin, bringing her to the plate. Undeterred, Lang roped a line drive over the third baseman's glove, scoring Sheila Brodbeck (and apparently somebody else as well) to win the game.

Boosted by Lang's heroics, and buoyed by the consistent play of Dan Johnson, Andrew Rudge, Billy Palmer and Brodbeck, as well as the consistent smoking of first-year Brian Barrett, Team Gold emerged from the tournament undefeated in six games.

Special congratulations to Debbie Owen and Erin Kelly, three-year members of Co-Rec Gold, who capped off glorious careers.

Runner-Up Co-Rec Blue

After sweeping its first three games Saturday, a sleepy Co-Rec Blue lost a close contest Sunday morning against William and Mary.

The team responded by tearing

through the loser's bracket—punctuating the run with a payback victory over W&M—to force an all-U.Va. final in the Co-Rec division. Unfortunately, the team could not overcome the U.Va. Gold squad, and had to settle for the runner-up trophy.

The team was led by the steady gloves of captains Ashby Hackney and Robyn Clark, as well as infielders Colin Carnahan and Bill Hagedorn. Stephanie Swenton, Ned Cox, Jason Krikorian, Bill Barrett and Hackney anchored the offense.

Co-Rec Orange

There are few places that free beer and pizza, inspiring coaching, and spirited cheerleading led by third-year Mario Springer can't take a team. Unfortunately, one of those places is the second day of the tournament. Despite winning its first two games on Saturday, Co-Rec Orange, led by co-captains Cliona Jennings and Brad Moyers, lost its final two games in heartbreaking fashion.

On Saturday morning, inspired by the bats of Wesley Fields and Brian Flagler and the slick fielding of Cathy Curran, Orange sent Akron packing and sent North Carolina back to Tobacco Road, no doubt to be joined there later by Orange pitcher Craig Morgan.

The dream of a tournament title died quickly in the afternoon, however. Despite the strong efforts of Stephanie Brauner, Jason Dunn, Mark Churchill, Valerie Wagner and Paul Navarro, the team lost first to U.Va.'s Blue squad, and later to Connecticut in the bottom of the last inning.

Champion Regular Blue

In the regular division, U.Va. Blue captured the championship by defeating last year's champion, Missouri, in the final game. Combining a solid offense with a smothering defense, Blue marched through the likes of Campbell, Dayton, Texas, Detroit and Missouri (twice) to bring home the crown.

Captain Pat Cornelius emphasized that the victory shouldn't overshadow the fun-loving U.Va. fashion in which

the championship was won.

"I realize that our limited practice schedule, excessive drinking, and low intensity could have hurt our chances of winning," Cornelius explained. "But when we were able to overcome the fog of our hangovers and win our first game on Sunday, I knew we were a team of destiny."

U.Va. Blue specialized in defense, with pitcher and tournament MVP Matt Davis leading the way by limiting opposing batters to only twenty-four runs in six games. Up the middle, second baseman Jim White and shortstop Mike Zahn turned numerous double plays.

Offensively, Adam Braun, Steve Slazinski, Tim Osterhaus, and the platoon of Arnold Evans and Andy Johnson provided much of the run support, while Duncan Spears and Russ Singer provided key base hits, humor and leadership.

Regular Gold

A fan watching U.Va. Gold's games this weekend might not have been sure if they were watching softball or a version of human pinball. Bottom line: Many, many runs were scored.

Regular Gold finished the Tournament with a 5-2 record, beating Regent (13-6), Syracuse (15-0), Miami (14-6), St. Louis (23-4), and Dickinson (13-8). Unfortunately, the squad dropped close contests to Catholic (10-8) and Detroit (13-11).

Highlights from Gold's offensive explosion included Riche McKnight's team-sparking headfirst dive into home plate at 8 a.m. Sunday morning, Creighton Drury's clutch grand slam against Catholic Saturday afternoon, and the great fan support we had that Saturday, which was awesome to behold.

Regular Orange

Although Regular Orange did not reach its ultimate goal of winning the tournament, no team gave more effort in the pursuit of victory.

Orange got off to a fast start on Saturday, beating Syracuse in extra

innings and later George Mason. The squad was powered by home runs from Dexter Gould, Andrew Lohmann, Nate Van Duzer and captain Rob McGlarry.

But on Sunday morning, Orange dropped heartbreakers to both Michigan and Dickinson. Orange went down fighting, as key defensive plays from infielders Todd Tidgewell, Pete Kenny, and Vince Polsinelli, as well as outfielder Parker Hobson, saved runs and kept the games close.

Tournament Highs and Lows

In typical fashion, VG offers some high points and low points from the Tournament, with some gratuitous name-dropping to boot. Some high points:

1. *The Field Marshals*. All armed with cell phones and virtually none armed with a working knowledge of softball, trusty field marshals like third-years John McLaughlin, Cara Maggioni, Andrew Brown, and John Russ made sure the Tournament ran smoothly, and, with the possible exception of A.B., did so with a smile.

2. *Supportive Fans*. Special thanks to Professor G. E. White and students

Dave Laser, Will Perkins, Anissa Crumley and Tom Tompkins, who, among others, braved the inclement weather to support the U.Va. teams.

3. *Tournament Directors Bob Blackwell and Paula Collins*. Without them, VG would have no material for this column, because the Tournament would never have happened.

And some low points:

1. *The Injury Count*. In total, the tournament yielded one broken arm (Conner Van Duzer), one gangrenous leg (Dan Johnson), and eleven bruised egos (the members of Regular Gold).

2. *Second-Year N.R.* Speaking of big egos, this volunteer umpire, upon learning that he would not be calling balls and strikes but would be on the basepaths, promptly stormed off the field, leaving third-year C.D. to officiate by herself. By the way, C.D. did an excellent job.

VANGUARD OF DEMOCRACY is an independent column of the North Grounds Softball League and does not necessarily represent the views of the Editors of the Virginia Law Weekly.

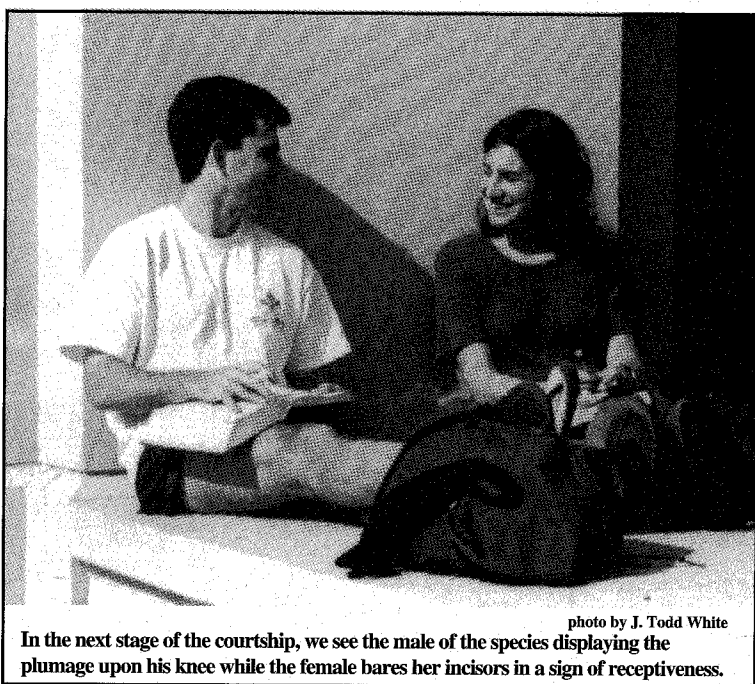


photo by J. Todd White
In the next stage of the courtship, we see the male of the species displaying the plumage upon his knee while the female bares her incisors in a sign of receptiveness.

DIVERSITY

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current Special Assistant to the Dean's Admissions duties from part time to full time, increasing the travel budget of the Admissions Office, and increasing the pool of scholarship funds available to selected students based on need and merit.

The Task Force discovered that "2.6 professionals (size of current staff in the Admissions Office: two full time, one part time) is impermissibly low in today's world if we are to compete with our private peer institutions, whose staffs are all larger," commented Scott.

The addition of two employees must be approved by the University Administration, but Scott did not anticipate any problems.

"We hope to have both of these positions filled by the time classes resume," added Scott.

The increased travel budget will allow the Law School Admissions Office to take a more pro-active role in recruiting students and admitted students.

Scott explained, "we will be visiting historically black colleges and attempting to establish a presence in the large Asian-American community in Northern Virginia. As with most recruiting, it will

involve the building of relationships (with the members of these communities), not just showing up and glad-handing someone on the spur of the moment."

The Task Force also made several long term recommendations that will be implemented over the next several years: impaneling a group to undertake a systematic review of the entire Admissions Office to determine if file review can be accomplished in a more efficient manner, having that group addressing the faculty's role in the Admissions process, analyzing the effect of the increase in the size of the Admissions staff, and increasing the application fee from \$40 to \$55 for the applicants of the Class of 2002.

Scott stated that it is "a good time for us to study the whole process by which we run the admissions program. All of our peer institutions do it differently."

Scott concluded by stressing the importance of increasing the diversity of the student body, "We are committed to this, it is a significant commitment, and that it is a long term commitment. I want the community to understand that it is a collective responsibility we all share."

ALUMNI

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Mr. Thompson is currently the Dean of the University of Miami School of Law. While at the University of Virginia, Dean Thompson taught courses in tax and business entities, and influenced 10 to 12 African-American students to become tax attorneys.

Glen Carrington '80 presented the honors to Dean Thompson. In his introduction of Thompson, Carrington described how the former professor served as a role model to him by demanding the best of him and by taking the time to mentor him.

"Not too many people pull you along the way and then carry through," remarked Carrington, who is currently a partner at Arthur Anderson in Washington, DC.

Despite this year's weekend's success, in the past there was difficulty getting African-American alumni to return to the Law School. In some cases, alumni schedules would not allow it. In other instances, the Law School experiences of the alumni soured them on the idea of attending.

Debra R. Sandifer '81, spoke of the isolation that she sometimes felt as a Law School student, despite her circle

of friends. She added that whether the alumni had good or bad experiences while they were here was "all the more reason to cast your lot."

The alumni weekend was not well attended when it last was held in 1995. In 1996, the BLSA Policy Council voted not to hold the event, choosing instead to work on better planning that would lead to greater participation for this year's alumni weekend. It seems to have worked.

Judge Charles H. Toliver, IV '75, who sits on the Superior Court of Delaware, commented on the "good turnout, compared to the last one I attended."

Current students were noticeably missing from this year's events, however.

"Where were the third-years?" asked third-year and former BLSA President Sidney Williams, commenting on the absence of African-American students.

Despite the absence of many current African-American students, Black Alumni Weekend was a great success, and many of those who attended hope that it will continue to grow.

Sandifer challenged each alumnus to "bring four or five others to join us" for the next alumni reunion.

GAP

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inability of lower income women to enter the middle class.

Because the audience was composed of divergent political groups—the VLW and the Federalist Society—reactions to the speakers varied.

First-year VLW member Alix Rosenthal said Blair "seemed unable to characterize women as autonomous individuals, rather defining them through their relationship to men." Rosenthal continued "she suggested that single mothers on welfare were 'married to the government' because they had no men in their lives."

On a more positive note, first-year Federalist Society member Bill Janis said that he found Pam Karlan's presentation "fascinating," and that he would "definitely take a class with her in the future." Janis did point out that the debate appeared by the end to more closely resemble a "violent agreement." Both speakers had reached a consensus on the political gender gap and the economic insecurity topics, at least at the base level. The only area of conflict was whether women involved in the "gap" were making appropriate choices.

The Docket

April

- 11 SFF Pledge Drive ends, Withers Hall, 9am-3pm
- Peer Advisor applications due, 5pm
- Last day to interview for an SBA Committee Chair
- Live Music at the Pavillion in Newcomb Hall, 7:30pm
- 12 Aids Walk '97 11am, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Alderman Road
- Native American Pow Wow featuring singing, dancing, arts and crafts and food, 11am, Colonnades Field

- Women's Lacrosse v. Duke, UHall Turf Field, 2pm
- 13 Native American Pow Wow featuring singing, dancing, arts and crafts and food, 11am, Colonnades Field
- VLW Professor of the Year Banquet, Boar's Head Inn, 11:30am
- 14 Information Session, Career Services On-Line system, 3 & 4:30pm
- Honor Committee try-out written test, Forestry Building, 5pm
- 15 Russel Baker, Pulitzer Prize winning author and journalist will hold a fo-

- rum entitled, *Tax Evasion*, Miller Center, 2201 Ivy Road, 11:00am
- Information Session, Career Services On-Line system 4:30pm
- 16 Women's Lacrosse v. Loyola, UHall Turf Field, 3pm
- Panel Presentation, *Making the Most of Your Summer and Your First Years of Practice*, Revercomb Courtroom, SL 278, 4:15pm
- 17 SBA Picnic/U.Va. Law Building Pride Day

- Information Session, Career Services On-Line system 4:30pm
- Take Back the Night March, Downtown Mall
- 18 Allen Murray, bureau chief Washington bureau of the Wall Street Journal will speak on social security, Miller Center, 2201 Ivy Road, 11am
- Information Session, Career Services On-Line system 3pm
- 21 Deadline to renew your CIO status, Newcomb Hall West
- 22 Passover begins

- 24 Thursday Happy Hour
- 25 Last Day of Classes
- Deadline for submissions for the John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics, to Professor George Triantis
- 26 Exam period begins
- Please submit entries for The Docket to Christina Thomas, Associate Features Editor for Announcements, at the Virginia Law Weekly, by Tuesday 5pm for the following Friday's issue.