All I Ever Needed to Know About OCI
I Learned Doing My Laundry

By Bria LaSalle

A
fter three months of struggling with the Combo-matic 6200, hating the Combo-matic 6200, and finally learning to live with the Combo-matic 6200, I realize what it had taught me a few things.

It’s an all-in-one washer-dryer. And, after two glasses of the Wine of Slightly Forced Metaphors, I can apply its lessons to OCI. Stick with me here.

The Splendide Combo-matic 6200 is a space-saving solution for those who wish to launder their clothes in venues that do not lend themselves to a regular dryer vent. I believe they are most commonly found on large boats and RVs, but that didn’t stop the folks who appointed our furnished apartment this summer from thinking this, too, was a good spot for a feat of Italian engineering.

My initial thrill at having laundry capabilities within the apartment wore off when I discovered the practical limitations imposed by its diminutive size. A “full” load consists of a bath towel, five socks, and a bikini, or the equivalent thereof. The drying function, which sounds suspiciously like a hair dryer when running, is very nearly hamstrung by any attempts to sneak an extra pair of jeans in the mix. At least it takes a long time to do a load.

Perspective, Perspective, Perspective

Throughout the summer, I fielded many curious inquiries from folks at my fiancé’s and my firms regarding my impressions of living in downtown Los Angeles. Tales of our escapades with the Combo-matic 6200 became part of the stock joke pool that watered my responses. Admittedly, hijinks ensued often with our laundry. The thing literally boiled a load of delicates. Boiled! But in the end, it was easy to make jokes about this tragic laundry situation because it wasn’t actually tragic. Poor us, forced to sift our nice clothes into tiny piles across the polished concrete floor of our swank downtown pad. Despite its many quirks, the Splendide gracefully accommodated our need to do laundry with minimal attention in random snippets of spare time.

OCI, too, is much less onerous than people make it out to be. I lost track last year of how many times I overheard someone lament their strenuous toil at the Holiday Inn. Is it an endurance sprint? Surely, one that requires a wellspring of pep. But compared to any other method of finding a job, it’s utterly doable and almost excessively convenient. It is, in fact, something people are doing for you, not to you.

Filters Make All the Difference

Countless damp, lint-covered mini-loads of laundry often left me cursing at the Combo-matic 6200’s entire filter-less premise. Everything — laundry, cars, brains — generates more output than necessary; finding a way to cull the garbage and corral it for future disposal is highly necessary.

Keep your filter in place and in check when: you enter an interview room, attend a reception, field phone calls from recruiters, and even into the summer. A pleasant conversation can quickly sour when one party lets their filter fall to pieces and their verbal diarrhea takes over. The filter is that bit of editing that lets the thing you mean to say shine through, free from the clingy lint of crazy that plagues us all when we’re nervous.

You say: Tell me about your firm culture. You mean: Help me get a clearer

CONTINUED on Page 15

On the Inside:
- Callback Lunch Tips, p. 5
- Kickin’ It Old School, p. 8
- OCI R(G)ad Lib, p. 19
How to Succeed at OCI
Without Really Trying

By Mike Murphy

Doing well in OCI isn’t necessary to be successful in the legal industry, but it sure seems that way when you’re standing at a hotel door holding a leather-bound tablet and a writing sample. It’s hot, stuffy and the panic is contagious – but at least the food is pretty good.

Just three months ago you were trying to redefine your vocabulary so that “consideration” stood for contractual reciprocity rather than interpersonal thoughtfulness. Now you’re being asked to determine what sort of law you want to practice and where you want to practice it, and to provide an evaluative projection of your strengths and weaknesses in a profession you’ve never practiced.

Consider it an extension of the Socratic method, only as it applies to your future. Like my Contracts professor said early on in my first semester: “By the end of your time here you will be able to make the most ridiculous arguments, unprepared, with a completely straight face.” So you might feel like you’re a liar, a fraud or a fool. That’s normal. You are, after all, interviewing to be a lawyer.

Ha ha! I kid. But the reality is that OCI isn’t about your qualifications as an attorney. It’s about your personality. Seriously. If you relax and be yourself and the firm doesn’t extend you a callback or an offer, then – pay attention here – you probably shouldn’t work there anyway.

Being rejected by a law firm is a bit like being dumped – it’s hard not to consider it a reflection of your personal inadequacies, but you gain little from that point of view. Best to use the rejection as motivation and move on to where you’re wanted.

The talk of “a game of numbers” and “best fit” seems like pandering to your wounded ego, but there’s truth to it – first-year associates can be good or bad but generally not much better or worse than each other. The firms are looking for meshing personalities and people they want to work with – not just the best resume or grade point.

Speaking of personalities: keep yours positive. If you must look at OCI as a competition, at least be respectful. Last year I was at a door waiting for an interview that was running late, and a student I knew stepped in front of me and slid her resume under the door. “I’ll put a good word in for you,” I said somewhat snarkily and unfairly. It was a small slight, but raindrops cause tidal waves when you put this many overachieving Type-A personalities in such a small space with inadequate air conditioning.

When you do get a call-back from a firm, remember that a lot of other students weren’t so lucky. Some markets call back a lot of people; some don’t. Your number of callbacks is really not that indicative of your chances of finding gainful legal employment. Some friends of mine had one callback and received one offer; others had several callbacks and no offers. Besides, you only need one job.

Nevertheless, be cool when you get invited back. Celebrate your good fortune on the down-low – like the way Willie “Mays” Hayes celebrated joining the team in Major League. Your less fortunate friends will thank you for it.

Don’t feel guilty mentioning your “journal experience” even though, in a real sense, you haven’t done anything for your journal yet. You will. Citation
By Liz Seger

Congratulations! You’ve nearly survived Early Interview Week, and some of those letters in your mailbox are not dings. In fact, some of those guys in suits liked you so much that they want to see more of you. They want to buy you things. They want to take you to dinner, give you big glasses of wine, and put you to bed in fancy hotels, hoping that the sheer luxury of it all will cloud your brain and keep you from asking the tough questions.

So it’s time to ask yourself: Are you gonna be their patsy?

Sure, eat the steak, and drink the cab sav from hundred-year-old vines. But couldn’t you use a little perspective? Odds are you’re looking in whatever Big City it is for a reason, either because your girlfriend is finishing that master’s in French Lit, or because you promised your mom you’d interview close to home. Sleep on the couch. It will help you keep your head, and you can raise some money for Student Funded Fellowships in the process.

Top Five Reasons to Participate In the L-STAR Program

5. You’re going to see the insides of plenty of hotel rooms while you’re doing document review in Minnesota for six weeks on that Big Tobacco case in a couple of years. Hold on to real life for as long as you can.

4. So, that hottie who sits in front of you in evidence is interviewing in Denver, too? What a coincidence. Maybe you could propose sharing a room. Hey, it’s for charity!

3. When the auction rolls around, and those ghoulish SFF types are screaming at you to do your share, you can tell them you already gave. Okay, that won’t actually work. You’re still going to end up spending $1500 to play Parcheesi with Pottow. But, see, you’ll be too drunk to care about it then, or to remember that you did this now, so just do it, and let the good karma roll.

2. You never know. The SFF application that gets turned down next spring for lack of funding may very well be yours. Yeah, you got the flybacks, you’ve bought a new suit and we’re all very proud. Shut up. But buy yourself a little insurance, okay?

1. Picture it: You, in a perfect black suit, shiny new shoes. You turn down your buddy’s couch (his roommate has a cat,

CONTINUED on Page 15
Jones Day is pleased to participate in on-campus interviews at the University of Michigan Law School on Wednesday, August 27. We look forward to introducing you to the Firm and our representatives.

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Dining for Dollars:
A Lesson in Callback Lunch Etiquette

Submitted by the Michigan Law Culinary Club

One of the best and worst things about callbacks is the lunch that some firms will take you on after your formal interviews. It’s great because they aren’t asking you “interview” questions anymore, and it feels more relaxed and informal. Yet this lunch is still part of the interview, and is thus still nerve racking; since the questions aren’t as canned, they may seem more difficult to answer. And if you’re insecure about ordering food or proper etiquette, it just adds another level of stress to an already stressful process. Never fear, Culinary Club has some advice to help calm those butterflies in your stomach.

Interviewers are looking to see if you are smart, confident, and well spoken. At lunch, they’re figuring out if you’re someone they’d enjoy having an office next to. So relax and stop worrying about giving the “right” answers. You’ll be more confident and well spoken if you just enjoy the conversation and be yourself, instead of trying to guess who the interviewer wants you to be. This increases the likelihood of your getting an offer from a firm where you’ll like your coworkers and actually end up being happy.

As far as etiquette goes, there’s no need to stress about that either. You probably automatically do most of the basics: not chewing with your mouth open or talking through your food, not putting your elbows on the table, not eating before others have been served, etc. Courtesy and common sense will carry you through the rest. For instance, if you end up without a bread plate, you wouldn’t turn to the person next to you and say “excuse me, you’re using my bread plate?” You find the plate that’s not being used, and politely ask to have it passed to you. It’s also important to be polite to the wait staff, because interviewers are going to be watching for how you might treat staff at the office.

For those of you who really like rules, here’s a couple that might go beyond the basics your parents taught you:

Turn off your cell phone, if you haven’t done so already.

Don’t place your napkin in your lap until everyone is seated, and ask for a new one if you drop it.

CONTINUED on Page 17

Summertime Blues:
The Downside of the Firm Life

Anonymous 3L

The Summer Associate life is one that legends are made of. Students boast of thousand dollar meals, weekends on yachts, gifts of grandeur and you still get paid! Who wouldn’t love it?

You’d be surprised. Many law students do OCI bidding on firms without having a strong sense of what they want in their future careers. Sometimes it’s a simple matter of picking the wrong firm, while other times it’s failing to acknowledge that firm life as a whole might potentially ruin your life.

If summer programs are any reflection of law firms’ general approach to business, then the legal community is much further from consensus than I had previously thought. Beyond the fact that all my friends seemed to be consistently ‘wined and dined,’ the nature of the spoiling and the quality of the work varied in many ways, leading to very disparate summer experiences.

Call me spoiled or unappreciative, but I did not like being a summer associate. For one, I got fat. (At the sake of revealing my identity I won’t tell you how fat and hopefully I will be just blend in as one of many pudge walking around Hutchins when we get back.) Although the meals start out as a treat, sitting in stuffy restaurants day after day eating three course meals fully aware that I’d have to unbutton my pants for the rest of the day got pretty gross. Then there were the breakfasts, the happy hours - glorious as this may all seem on paper, I soon found myself hating the thought of the next meal.

Beyond the abuse my body took, my time was completely taken hostage. All the loads of fun activities can quickly become a chore. Even if an activity might have seemed fun when a committee was thinking of ways to entertain their summers, as the season wore on the events themselves often became reasons to think of imaginative excuses for avoiding them. I often found myself getting home around eleven or twelve only to have to be right back at the office bright and early in the morning again.

The process of getting assignments definitely varied from firm to firm. I heard some friends say that they were shocked at how well-tailored the assignments were to their personalities and others
Diversity is different people and perspectives united for a common purpose.

Put your individuality to work for us.
Expert Advice:
A Three-Part Test for Getting Your Dream Job

According to Carol Kanarek, ’79, a renowned consultant on the New York City job market, there are three “tests” a student must pass in order to find employment in the Big Apple or any other major legal market. They are: 1) interest, 2) aptitude, and 3) geography.

The Interest Test

To demonstrate interest in a particular law firm, a student must show general interest in one or more of the firm’s core practices. Indicating that you have an interest solely in one of the firm’s smaller practice areas will not get you hired. Ms. Kanarek advised students not to be too specific about the practice area they desire. Instead, get an offer from the firm first and then talk about practice areas. As a corollary, do not give an interviewer the impression that you are more interested in the firm’s pro bono work than in its day-to-day practice.

How does one find out what type of law a firm really practices? A useful resource tool is the NALP Directory of Legal Employers which can be found at www.nalpdirectory.com. This resource will tell you the number of lawyers in each of the firm’s practice areas. If, for example, you want to practice real estate law in a five hundred lawyer firm, how many of those attorneys do that type of work? Also, look at the firm’s website.

By no means should that be your only avenue of research because many firms say that they practice every type of law. Another valuable resource is American Lawyer, available in the OCS Library and online at www.americanlawyer.com. This magazine publishes reports on different practice areas and ranks law firms, too. This issue also contains a listing of firms with the top corporate practices. Previous issues provide a wealth of information, such as the Litigation Boutique of the year and the four runners-up.

The Aptitude Test

Showing your aptitude involves more than just your GPA. There are a number of factors that can help you demonstrate aptitude. Among them are: your undergraduate institution and your major, the classes you’re taking or planning to take in law school, and moot court or law journal experience. The latter two are strong indicators of your ability to research and write. Additionally, receiving Honors in Legal Practice sends the same message. Moreover, there are a number of intangible factors that can help you.

They are: demonstrating a high level of energy, the ability to work long hours and multitask, exhibiting professional maturity and stellar organizational skills. Excellent Legal Practice skills of research, writing, and analysis are big plusses, too. Make sure you volunteer examples of these intangible skills when interviewing. The ability to project a high level of energy and confidence should not be overlooked. Employers constantly tell the OCS staff that these two qualities can be the deciding factors when making difficult decisions about which students to invite for callback interviews. Don’t change your personality into something you’re not, but be able to “sell yourself.” Stay in “sell mode” until you have an offer. OCS is happy to work with students in order to develop and demonstrate these qualities.

The Geography Test

How do you demonstrate a commitment to a particular city? It’s easy if you grew up there, went to school there, or worked there for some time. If not, there are ways to make you a more viable candidate. One suggestion Ms. Kanarek makes is to mention your friends or significant other who are working in the city. Talk about fellow students who have worked for that particular firm or in that particular city. If it’s true, volunteer that you are interviewing in that city only.

Interviewing in more than two cities makes you look flaky and undirected. In addition, consider joining the state or city bar association where you want to practice. The cost to law students for joining this type of bar association is usually $25 or less. Being a member of a particular bar association is something you can note on your resume and bring up in an interview. Similarly, if you know what city you want to practice in and sign up for that state’s bar exam, you’ve demonstrated a strong commitment to that area.

Got some invaluable callback advice for this year’s OCI participants?
Write for the RG!

Had a crazy interview experience you want to share?
It’s never too early to write for the RG!

Trying to keep the madness at bay?
Submit your creative rantings to RG!

RG@UMICH.EDU
http://students.law.umich.edu/RG
A surprise hit when it was introduced late last year as a regular column, Kicking It Old School is back, reaching deep, deep into the archives to reprint work from RGs long past in order that today's student might gain a little institutional perspective. Though it was initially difficult to come up with a legal bygone era: the Eighties. If you think we dealt with interviews, coursework, and corrective fluid simultaneously - thankfully this (really quite lengthy) gem from a very bygone era: the Eighties. If you think we have it bad, it was just a score of years ago that Early Interview Week actually occurred after school had already begun, and was significantly longer than a week. We balk at trying to change cages at the kennel. And now you're expected to stick that monstrous title on your resume! Do not despair. A number of alternatives are available to you.

1. Change your name completely. Sure, your folks will be pissed off, but, hey, they're the ones who cursed you with the name Emil Alfred Rinderspracher. As for replacing, stick to names that sound rugged and hard-working. Douglas Firr. Susan Rivers. Jack Strong. If you're really crafty, you may wish to adopt a last name closely identified with your favorite law firm, David Cravath, or one of its large clients, Joan Beatrice. In any event, remember to remain consistent - 'Name' shouldn't be one of the harder questions on your law school final.

2. Use a nickname. The latest rage in this area seems to be in home appliances. Robert 'The Toaster Oven' Morse and Scott 'The Matching Washer and Dryer Long are possibilities. It is important, however, to include only flattering nicknames. Steve 'Nosepicker' Coleman might be inappropriate, and only those nicknames that are truly concise, James 'The Who Puts Farm From Cow Dung' rednickson being bad wordy.

3. Add 'III' to your name. Power, privilege and money are the stuff of which an attorney's wet dreams are made. A 'III' positioned after your name lends it an air of aristocratic arrogance causing interviewers to drool at the prospect of adding it to their letterhead. Moreover, a 'III' suggests an association with 'old money' and who would jump at the chance of having Thurston Howell III

Autumn is a most spectacular time of year. The countryside, ablaze in brilliant colour, patiently awaits the inevitable onset of a season of cold and lifelessness. Fall is Mother Nature's was of flashing us a quick glimpse under her skirt before beating a hasty retreat indoors for the evening. Beauty on the edge of darkness.

Autumn is also a time for interviewing. Representatives from law firms journey forth to the nation's law schools in search of warm-blooded research tools. Like the Autumn tree, the interviewing law student covers himself in coloured brilliance, his ego a flowering vine. Quite unlike the tree, however, the law student does so in an effort to secure for himself a life long position in a season of cold and lifelessness, the legal profession.

A little volition can be a dangerous thing.

Interviewing, successful interviewing, requires a mastery of certain basic skills. One must learn to feign attention, interest, and, on occasion, appreciation for thoroughly insipid legal humor. "I said torts, not tarts!" Ha, ha, ha. One must school the bladder to accept twenty cups of 'office interview' coffee before forcing the mouth to make embarrassing inquiries as to the location of the restrooms. One must grow to love grey, pin-striped cloth. But, most importantly, successful interviewing requires a certain flair for self-evaluation, the measuring of self-worth on paper, a resume.

The resume is, quite simply, your ticket to the monkey cage. Good ones get you in and bad ones keep you out. Personal interviews, whether on campus or at the law firm's office, have little bearing upon one's employment chances. Campus interviews are a cattle call of trumpeting penguins, each playing the same tune and looking like the last. Office interviews are a parade before glassy-eyed partners and harried associates. In the end, the law firm's hiring decision rests almost exclusively upon the strength of an applicant's resume. Frightening, isn't it?

Unfortunately, the law school placement office furnishes us with very little information regarding creative resume construction. Their manual is sorely lacking in 'how to's' and the sample resumes attached thereto are enough to bring tears to your eyes. There is a 'knowledge gap' in the all-important area of resume-making. This article is the filler.

Warning: This author assumes no responsibility for your unhappiness if, upon landing that 'dream' offer from Wall Street as a result of following the prescription below, you discover that all is not sweetness and joy in the legal profession.

YOUR NAME

So, when you were younger your name alone would prompt your classmates to chase you and push you into the mud, members of the opposite sex still giggle upon introduction, and your dog keeps trying to change cages at the kennel. And now you're expected to stick that monstrous title on your resume! Do not despair. A number of alternatives are available to you.

1. Change your name completely. Sure, your folks will be pissed off, but, hey, they're the ones who cursed you with the name Emil Alfred Rinderspracher. As for replacing, stick to names that sound rugged and hard-working. Douglas Firr. Susan Rivers. Jack Strong. If you're really crafty, you may wish to adopt a last name closely identified with your favorite law firm, David Cravath, or one of its large clients, Joan Beatrice. In any event, remember to remain consistent - 'Name' shouldn't be one of the harder questions on your law school final.

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as a client?

YOUR ADDRESS

A person's home is his castle, granted, but not everyone's castle is located on Pig's Knuckle Lane. [We don't get that joke either – Eds.] Your address says more about you than you might think and it should be closely examined for appropriateness. 1401 Breezy Meadow Road is perfect. 500 Industrial Loop Access is not. If there is a problem, you have two options: move to a new address or get a post office box. The latter might be the cheaper alternative.

EDUCATION

The 'meat and potatoes' portion of your resume is the section on educational background. This is where you make the startling revelation that you do indeed have an undergraduate degree and you are currently enrolled in law school. You can, however, fashion this otherwise boring factual information to your advantage.

1. Preface with 'The' all educational institutions. This procedure serves to add an air of exclusivity to the school. After all, you are not attending just ANY University of Michigan Law School but THE University of Michigan Law School. The average interviewing attorney, an alumnus who bleeds maize and blue, who doesn't see the resemblance between Bo Schembechler and Grandpa of The Munsters' fame, and whose eyes tear at the mention of Hutchins Hall, will greatly appreciate the compliment.

2. Fancy up the name of your undergraduate college. It is important that resume items jump out at the reader. Your degree from Iowa State University could just as well read 'stirred mud for four years.' But, a notation that reads "The Wharton School of Animal Husbandry" of Iowa State University is an eye-opener. [We at the RG would like to issue a much belated apology to any Iowa State fans out there. Go . . . er . . . Cyclones! – Eds.]

3. Include your grade point average. Shysters we may become, but proficient at the game of 'shells' we'll never be. It serves you know good to try and hide an 'average' GPA. They're going to discover your numbers eventually anyway and, if you let on like it's some sort of deep personal secret, they'll eat you alive. The best course is to include your grades on your resume and adopt a ye-h-I-know-that-my-grades-are-not-in-the-top-ten-percent-you-asshole-but-who-the-[redacted]-are-you attitude. It enables you to leave the interview sans chest wound.

HONORS

This category serves to distinguish your educational performance from that of your roommate. It is imperative, therefore, that you include some quasi-honorable thing on your resume.

1. Spruce up the awards you have won. If you got the top grade in torts and received, as a prize, a thoroughly useless book written by a Michigan faculty member, do not note this on your resume as 'Book Award, Torts' but instead refer to it as the 'American Jurisprudence Award of Merit.' It sounds more impressive and the typical interviewer isn't going to know it from a hill of beans anyway. Similarly, a case club certificate, dispensed by your drunken senior judge after seventeen tosses of his last quarter, should be added to your resume as 'The Bates Certificate of Merit.' Packaging is where it's at these days.

2. Invent Awards you've never heard of but believe you deserve. If you didn't soil your pants the very first time J.J. White called on you, then consider yourself a member of the honorary fraternity of Phi Gamma Beta and stick that sucker on your resume. If Kamisar let you complete a sentence without interruption, then call yourself a member of Kappa Lambda. Your resume is limited only by your imagination.

PUBLICATIONS

Law Firms are very keen on individuals who have legal writing experience. God knows why, however, as the kind of writing they'll expect from you as an associate is more like a Twinkies wrapper than a scholarly note.

1. List the publications you 'read.' Resumes are designed to be scanned and not studied and rarely do law firms give them more than a passing glance. A list of publications that you regularly 'read' and not necessarily 'write for' might slide by on the fringes. Be careful, however, to avoid greed and list too many magazines. If you list Michigan Law Review, Playboy, Newsweek and Soybean Digest together, you run the risk of sparking an interest you would otherwise like to deflect.

2. Join the 'Res Gestae' and never do anything. This technique was perfected by a third-year student who shall remain nameless. Hey, it all looks the same on your resume, right? [The more things change . . . – Eds.]

EXPERIENCE

This category, along with 'Interests' below, serves as the fodder for interview conversation. It affords the student [the chance] to demonstrate to the interviewer that his background qualifies him as a 'well-rounded' individual. Unfortunately, law firms have little or no interest in 'well-rounded' persons, apart from those rotund senior partners who drum up business of lunches, and the unwary student is left wasting valuable resume space explaining his construction jobs held during the past five summers.

1. Avoid specific description. Attorneys are bored to death with tasks not involving research and writing. Moreover, any mention of manual labor scares the bejeebers out of 'em. All that is important is to list the job title, making it sound like you commanded an army, and the briefest of descriptions. Along with the 'brief' requirement sits a 'tasteful' one; don't make an effort to describe work experience than an interviewer might find gross or unsettling. If you spent five years emptying portable toilets with a five-inch

CONTINUED on Page 13
You Are Completely Employable, Honest.
Max Mosley v. News Group Newspapers Ltd

By Rooks

This article almost didn’t happen. Though it may not seem like we at the RG have any standards of decency or restraint left, we do actually pride ourselves on bringing y’all a tasteful, entertaining, and quality publication. (Though clearly not in that order.) As such, there was no small amount of incredibly mild e-discussion over the course of this summer about whether it was appropriate to include Between the Briefs in the OCI issue. Obviously it’s here; the consensus was that we’re not ashamed of having a sex column, and I’m certainly not ashamed to write one, so there was no point in pretending a false modesty. (Not like anyone would believe us anyway.) Besides, we had to wade through some fairly high raunch factor content from the RG’s sordid past to even pick a number of the articles found in this OCI issue.

Turns out the Res Gestae, while never quite a one-handed read, was nonetheless by turns both relentlessly crass and shamelessly torrid at varying points in our near 60-year history. We’re talking Dare Parties, the “Naked Mile,” and tell-all name-naming gossip columns here.

If that last one doesn’t strike you as particularly scandalous, think about the first, and quite possibly last, time you went to Rick’s/Necto/Scorekeepers. Now imagine that an entirely sober person noted what you did and who you did it with. Picture that person then publishing your (mis)deed(s) and partner(s) with incisive commentary and biting critique to the law school community at large, just in case anyone missed that particular Bar Night. As far as I’m concerned, the mid-nineties were a frightening time to be at MLaw. But then so were the seventies. And the thirties. (The law school used to have a publication called the Michigan Raw Review – I could not have made that up even if I tried, and I’m a bit ashamed that people old enough to be my great-grand parents came up with it first. I’ve now seen professors’ heads cut-and-pasted in ways I never wanted to imagine.)

The much more daunting task, then, was figuring out a topic that was even remotely thematic while simultaneously giving y’all the same Between the Briefs you’ve come to know and love. After mulling it over, I chose and subsequently abandoned several article topics; nothing seemed quite right:

“Crime against nature” law in Michigan (and, shamefully, six other states) as analogous to prostituting oneself to The Man? Angry letter to the Editor waiting to happen.

Whether John Edwards’ heretofore unknown inability to keep it in his pants is more damaging to the reputation of lawyers, politicians, or ever-popular lawyer politicians? Moot.

A “No Other Warranties Express or Implied” vs. “Between the Briefs” point/counterpoint? Ok, this was sorely tempting. I mean, is OCI really like something as connotatively romantic as ‘dating’? Or is it more like one of those drunken hookups you hope won’t be a one-night stand? You know, the ones after which you can’t remember if you performed well, but figure you probably did if they call you back? Of course, Nate already hit most of the high points on this subject, and on the facing page, no less.

As you can read, it seemed, for quite some time, that there was no readily fertile earth yet to till.

Thank goodness for Above the Law.

The nice folks over at ATL, beyond keeping many of us amused and informed (and voting our Dean hottest in the country), have made it a habit to report on the various deeds and misdeeds, sexual and otherwise, that often bring both summer associates and full-fledged attorneys low. Of course, writing an article on how not to receive an offer or call back is just as passe as anything else mentioned thus far in this column, even sexed up Color Me Bad-style, and a downer to boot.

But if Bing Crosby ever taught me anything - well, beside the fact that golf can indeed be deadly - it was that we ought to “accentuate the positive.” (We’re in law school, so “[eliminating] the negative” is pretty much a lost cause. I’ll take what I can get.) Thus, in the spirit of keeping everyone a wee bit saner this Early Interview Week, I’d like all of us 2Ls to focus not on the horrific mistakes we might make in interviews, or the daunting prospect of zero fly-backs, or the possible ignominy of summer shenanigans, but on the people who do crazy things and Still Have. Jobs.

What of all those people on ATL whose near unprintable sexual exploits didn’t cost them employment? What of the silver latex lining to the dark underbelly of legal sexuality? Basically, what of Max Mosley?

Max Mosley is a British barrister who specialized in patent and trademark law before his car racing hobby eventually led to his becoming head of the FIA, the governing organization for Formula One Racing.

Max Mosley is also the son of some really prominent British Fascists (I use that in the actual sense of the term, not in the Ann Coulter sense of the term) who,
No Other Warranties, Expressed or Implied:

30 First Dates:  
The Opening of Law School Dating Season

By Nate Kurtis

We've all been there; when the relationship that started so well comes to a calamitous conclusion. Yet, such heartaches are inevitable as we enter Law School Dating Season. Like swallows returning to San Juan Capistrano, law students flock back to campus, deck out in their finest of feathers, and leave their nests again in search of that one law firm to call their very own. We should all live to the fullest, since it will probably be the closest most of us get to actually dating while in law school.

I realize that this seems odd. After all, as law students, we are the future sugar mommas and daddies (collectively: sugar parents) of the world. You would think we would have no trouble finding dates; indeed, that we should be fighting the hotties off with sticks! Sadly, this is not always the case. But I digress (and, if you find yourself surprised by this fact, you should read this column more often).

EIW is really just like dating; there you sit, dressed in your nicest clothes, while you try desperately, to appear interesting to the party seated across from you. In the middle of all that small talk, somewhere between discussing your extracurricular activities and your opinion of what type of vegetable you'd be, it happens. Your eyes meet across a copy of your transcript and, suddenly, you know. You can feel it in your heart that this is the one. This is the firm for you!

Better still, they seem interested in you too—why else would they care about your favorite rule of civil procedure?

They invite you out for dinner, or for drinks. They introduce you to their friends. They both booze you and schmooze you. Finally, should things go very well, they invite you back to their place so you can "get to know them better." Afterwards, when they tell you they will call you later, you leave on cloud nine.

But they don't call. At first you rationalize that it is too soon; that they are just playing hard to get, trying to keep from seeming desperate. As the weeks pass, those weakly constructed arguments give way to panic. Maybe they didn't like you after all! There was that time when you threw-up on the hiring partner. No, that couldn't be it; certainly everyone thought that was charming; ah, look at the little 2L who can't hold his liquor. Then there was that time you admitted that you weren't interested in intellectual property, even though they are an IP boutique. No, that can't be it either; everyone appreciates honesty.

It's at that point, when you are drawing a blank on reasons they didn't like you, that you decide that you'll call them. You aren't being desperate, you aren't pressuring them, you just want to see how they're doing. That's when the wheels come off. That's when you find out that they've offered your best friend behind your back!

That's ok, that's fine, you don't need them! You'll find another firm. A better firm. You and that firm will live happily ever after!

As with normal dating, until you find your "one," all of your law firm relationships are destined to end in heartbreak. Since the rest of this issue covers the other aspects of EIW dating, I will spend what little space I have left helping you deal with the inevitable rejection. There are, it seems, five steps to getting over any rejection. Step One: denial. "The firm didn't ding me. In fact, they could be calling with an offer right now. Or now. Or... now!..." Step Two:

anger. "How could they ding me! I was the best!@#$% person they interviewed!" Step Three: bargaining. "If you hire me, you don't have to pay me. And, you like my tie, you can have it!" Step Four: baking. In a medium bowl, beat sugar, eggs, and vanilla until light. Mix in chocolate chips. Step Five: bake for ten minutes in a preheated oven.

I advise you to move through the first four steps as quickly as possible since you have twelve more interviews to get through today. The fifth step will come in handy when you offer your other interviewers cookies!

Of course, there are the lucky few for whom OCI is no big deal. They see it, rightly, as just another phase of campus life. They realize that there are many law firms in the sea, and that if nothing comes of these interviews it is not the end of the world. Of course all those people are in business school. The rest of us are too busy baking to notice.

Nate Kurtis, a 3L and then some, is the most recent former Editor-in-Chief of Res Gestae. Comments on this piece may be sent to nkurtis@umich.edu.

Got an analogy you've been dying to use?
Write for the RG!
Is your life a veritable cornucopia of similes and metaphors?
You oughta write for the RG!
Desperately need a captive audience?
No seriously, write for the RG.

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Baker Hostetler Interviews

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Legal
Resumes
CONTINUED from Page 9

vacuum cleaner, lie. Tell them you were in the Peace Corps. Maybe.

INTERESTS

Placing a list of personal interests on your resume most clearly benefits the interviewer. After he asks you why you chose to become an attorney, a question he'd asked you twice before, and you respond, for the third time, "I feel a deep desire to protect the rights of individuals and save the world from injustice," he can nervously glance down at your 'Interests' and ask, "So, you like to water-ski, huh?"

1. Lists interests that are conventional. Like lemmings attorneys gravitate toward likes. Consequently, interests like golf, tennis, sailing and polo are most likely to elicit a favorable response. 'Listening to Pink Floyd in the dark' will have them frowning and 'Third world revolutionary movements' will get you dinged before you get out the door. Lawyers like to surround themselves with others who think and act like they do.

REFERENCES

Always end your resume with a blurb statement to the effect that references are available upon request. Nobody ever asks for them. It's kind of like a period at the end of a sentence.

And so it goes. Happy hunting.

This article by John C. Wendlandt was originally published 9/17/86. Is there some facet of Michigan Law's past you'd like to know more about? Let us know at rg@umich.edu - we'll give perspective to pretty much any retrospective.

Sexual Misadventures

CONTINUED from Page 10

after World War II, were understandably vastly unpopular people in England.

So when Max Mosley was secretly video taped yelling in German while engaging in a BDSM scene with five sex workers in various guard and prison uniforms, one might've been able to surmise that this whole situation wasn't going to go anywhere good.

Before anyone leaps to any conclusions, and though I realize the subject is a historically fraught one, there are some factors to be taken into account. First, Guard/prisoner role-play, though not exactly what one might call a common sexual proclivity, is by no means unheard of, especially among BDSM practitioners. (And don't go thinking that BDSM folks are just generally kinky, and thus shouldn't count; I've not yet heard of Socratic Professor/ill-prepared law student porn, so clearly there's a line somewhere.)

Second, Mosley happens to belong to a group of people known for a love of impact play. No, not patent attorneys - I'm talking about the British. In fact, a survey publicized in a recent article about the Virgin1 T.V. show, The British Suck In Bed (feel free to Coogle that ... I wouldn't believe me either without seeing it for myself), asserted that, while Brit sex "lasts an average of five minutes," they, of all the countries surveyed, have the greatest fondness for spanking/whipping.

So the whole kinky sex with multiple professionals angle possibly wouldn't have been a particularly big deal were it not for the fact that, when the story was printed by the tabloid News of the World, who also aired the video for a short time, the paper suggested that the entire affair had Nazi overtones. Though many in the racing world and beyond called for Mosley's resignation on the basis of these allegations, he held his ground and vehemently denied rumors of what would basically amount to a fascism fetish. (For those who enjoyed the Name That Fetish saga from our last issue: despite fascism having Latin root, fasces, I'm going with fascophilia 'til someone says otherwise.)

Mosley then sued the paper for violating his privacy and eventually won his case, Max Mosley v. News Group Newspapers Ltd, this past July; the court asserted that the violation of Mosley's privacy in regards to his "consensual sexual activities," however "unconventional," did not serve the public interest.

Though no punitive damages were awarded (the penalty of Mosley's ginormous legal fees plus the comparatively minor compensatory award notwithstanding), there's quite a bit of concern in England regarding the chilling affect this ruling could have on "investigative journalism." (That's what the kids are calling it these days.) But if you take nothing else from this article, get this Mosley's still got a job, and, though it is unpaid, a pretty sweet one at that.

So deep calming breaths, fellow 2Ls. Even the Minnesota teacher and coach who was sued for sexual harassment due to an unhealthy tendency to ding-dong ditch sex toys on a woman's doorstep got his suit dropped and his job back.

Do yourself a favor and, when you're hyperventilating into your Potbellies brown paper bag during the five minutes you have between interview twenty-six and interview if-someone-doesn't-let-me-out-of-this-hotel-soon-I'm-going-to-completely-lose-my-[insert expletive or body part here], remember that if Max Mosley can get (or keep) a job, so can you.

Got questions or suggestions for the RG's sex columnist? E-mail her at rg@umich.edu, or, for greater anonymity, pendaflex your queries in the dead of night. Don't worry; she won't judge.
Please join Amisha Shrimanker '07, Tony Frasca '07 and our 2008 Summer Associates in the MILBANK Hospitality Suite on Thursday, August 28th

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CONTINUED from Page 3

and you have a perfect black suit. After two days of interviews, lunches, wine receptions, and more interviews at Very Big Firm, you’re on top of the world. You aced it. As you ride the elevator up to your suite with a view of the river, you have the uncanny sense that someone somewhere is already making the nameplate for your office door.

And you’re right. They loved you. You decide to unwind, celebrate. You empty all of the tiny bottles in the minibar directly into the ice bucket, making the world’s biggest Long Island iced tea. As you polish it off, you notice that your Very Fine Hotel offers a selection of Very Fine Adult Movies, which, in your compromised state, get billed to the room. Thoroughly relaxed, you sleep like a baby and fly home in the morning. Three weeks later, the ding letter arrives. A bill for the movies is tucked inside. You have the uncanny sense that someone somewhere is burning the nameplate that would’ve been on your office door. And you’re right.

So, stay with Mom. Stay at your buddy’s place, where the porn is free. Fill out that L-STAR voucher form, and turn it in. Send a IL to the public defender’s office and win yourself a few more brownie points with Somebody Out There. Just remember to pack a lint brush.

This article was originally printed in the 9/14/04 issue of the Res Gestae. It was edited to reflect the changes that have been made to the L-STAR program since the article’s original publication.

If you’d like more information about L-STAR and how you can help SFF, check out the Office of Career Services Bulletin Board on the second floor of Hutchins Hall.

Laundry

CONTINUED from Page 1

picture on what distinguishes you from the other 18 people I’ve spoken with.

They hear (pick one): (a) I can’t think of anything else to say so I’m going to start quoting the career services website. (b) Is the environment in your firm one I can stomach for a few years or will I die a little bit inside with each passing month? (c) We keep getting close to the delicate subject of my grades and I’d like to toss the ball to you for a while.

I get it, I do – OCI will likely bring about the job that truly launches the post-professional degree lives for many of us, and that’s pretty heavy. It’s easy to let your excitement, your nerves, and your desire for callbacks aplenty take over. Still, I remember walking away from more than a few brief hotel hallway exchanges last year with a distinct “yikes” feeling.

When Life Gives You Lemons, Don’t Squirt Them in Your Eye

In the end, I saved myself a lot of grief and got a lot more laundry done by using a little sense and trying a few new approaches to the machine’s settings until I found something that worked. The same can be said for OCI. Relax. Dump any notion of having a canned set of responses to their questions and have a real conversation with your interviewers. React and respond to their cues in the same way you would with anyone you just met.

And if you ever find yourself toe to toe with the 6200, put in a third of what you think belongs there, set it to permanent press, and come back to dry, clean clothes three hours later.

Bria LaSalle is a former Editor-in-Chief of Res Gestae. This article was originally published in the 2006 OCI Issue.

Without Trying

CONTINUED from Page 2

checking is a rite of passage for law students; it’s the closest approximation to hazing that we have here. I’ve done so much cite checking that my brain is warped into an OCD-esque frenzy. Here’s how much: take the blue book, and look at page 302, table T.6. The last sentence before the table. The quotation in that sentence ends before the period. That’s a typographical error. (It’s fixed in the latest edition, page 335.)

That’s what you have to look forward to, journal editors. You will become so acquainted with the editing that you’ll find typos everywhere. But don’t sweat it. Unless, of course, you just joined a journal because you knew firms liked to see it on a resume, feel that you’ve gained all the benefit you’ll get from the journal already, and plan on tanking your journal responsibilities. In that case, sweat it.

Lastly, have fun. Your second year is a lot of work, and it hasn’t started yet. The same section-mates that you could barely stand seeing every day last year become all too scarce this year; and you’ll miss them. Use these days – and the ones all next year – to live it up.

Mike Murphy is a former Editor-in-Chief of Res Gestae. This piece was originally published in the August 29, 2005 issue.

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- **One firm emphasis.** Gibson Dunn operates as one firm and emphasizes sharing expertise and personnel among offices and practice areas. Multi-office project teams are common. The firm has grown over the years by hiring one quality attorney at a time, not by acquiring other firms.

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- **Organic Growth.** Gibson Dunn is not the result of mergers with other firms. We pride ourselves in maintaining our strong firm culture and hire our attorneys one at a time.

- **Retreats with all attorneys from all offices -- domestic and international.** Speakers and entertainers at the last Gibson Dunn all-firm retreat included, among others, Lance Armstrong, Paul Rusesabagina, Cherie Booth Blair, Bob Woodward, Stephen Colbert and Jennifer Hudson.

- **Sensible hiring policy.** We are serious about our work, but we do not take ourselves too seriously. We are looking for summer associates and new lawyers with the same perspective.

We are interviewing for all U.S. offices on Wednesday, August 27 and Thursday, August 28. We hope we will have an opportunity to speak with all interested students during our visit.

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Summer Blues
CONTINUED from Page 5

bemoaning that there was nothing that suited them at all. Beyond that, the expectations and quality of assignments varied greatly too. At some firms, friends handed in sub-par assignments noting that they knew they would get an offer no matter what, while at others people toiled away until late at night, and often brought work home for final editing.

A running joke at my firm this summer, one that I heard from both attorneys and staff, was that it was obvious that I was not an associate because there was still life in my eyes. Other variations of this joke noted that it still looked like I had my soul or that I had not been worn down in defeat yet. Although I can appreciate the humor of the joke, the underlying mess age was highly disturbing and seemed to be consistently felt among the people at my law firm.

Does this mean you should cancel all your OCI bids and start your career search from scratch? Not necessarily, but I wish I had done more work when determining where I was bidding, which call backs to entertain and what offers to accept. If you've been looking at Vault, stop. Delete those statistics from your mind and start talking to people who worked in the markets that you're going into. Although you might love New York, you could well find that it's not worth enduring the break-breaking pace at law firms there. DC might be your favorite place, but it also might lack the type of corporate work you're looking for.

The main misconception I had about law firms was thinking that culture was actually something that mattered. Instead, the particular practice group I was in and the size of the law firm were, I realize now, the two most determinative factors in preferring one firm over others. It may not be the same thing for you, but doing the research early can ensure that you're not the one writing a snippy article about not liking law firms come next fall.

Having said all that, I've realized and accepted that firm life is still for me. I like the intensity and the profile of the work. I like being a part of a world that it takes a certain level of madness to enter, so take this critique for what you will. Of course, the real question might be whether I'd still be doing this job if it weren't for the prospect of making six figures; I suppose that's an answer I'll leave for when I'm an alum.

Agree? Disagree? Hate it when 3Ls get the last word? Send us a feisty response letter at rg@umich.edu about this or pretty much any other topic - we probably have it coming.

Callback Etiquette
CONTINUED from Page 5

Don't order anything that is messy, smelly, or requires eating with your hands. Also avoid ordering the most expensive thing on the menu or anything you have never had before - this is not the time to learn you have an allergy.

Bread is on the left and drinks are on the right. The mnemonic for this is that your left hand makes a 'b', while your right hand makes a 'd'.

Don't put soiled silverware on the table - balance it on the plate.

Indicate that you're done by placing your silverware at the four o'clock position and your napkin on the right hand side of the table setting.

This is a 'd' - revolutionary, we know. Now try it with the other hand. Magic!

Don't request a doggy bag, and try not to leave a huge amount of food on your plate.

If this advice is insufficient to allay your fears, Culinary Club and the Office of Career Services will be presenting a lunch panel on call back etiquette on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 12:20 in Room 218. Current 3Ls will talk about their call back experiences, and we will be available to answer any questions you might have. If you can't make it, don't worry. If you got the call back, the firm is already highly interested in you; they're recruiting you as much as you're trying to get a job with them. Just remember to relax and enjoy the lunch - after all, it's going to be better than hallway pizza.

The Michigan Law Culinary Club presidents, Michaela Tarr and Liz Crouse, will be keeping the law student body sated all year with delicious recipes and savory restaurant reviews. Get 'em while they're hot at rg@umich.edu.
The On-Campus Interview

(A second year law student wearing a suit runs color somewhere between midnight and navy into Room 200. She heads reactionary political leaning over to the interview noun ending in “board.” Already standing there is a adjective combining arrogance and desperation third-year.)

3L: (clenching the as if it was a rare item) So... Did the reactionary political leaning noun ending in “board” you too?

2L: Not really. I have a “Paul” or “Baker” Jewish surname Jewish surname & in a alleged post-Bar Night activity Irish surname & in a small unit of time. (looking at sheet and seeing that her is in room with)

Michigan Law expatriate

3L: (while all of the available interview slots) Yeah, I’ve heard their statistic of no relevance to a summer associate per partner is really high.

2L: (seeing the thing created on The First Day come on and instantly getting sweaty plural body part)

Is my showing?

choose one: bra, zit, utter incompetence

3L: common white lie

2L: (approaching the cubicle) Hi, I’m first name.

Interviewer: Nice to you. I’m short-form of William or Richard. Please verb short-form of Firm’s name? command commonly directed toward a dog cute short-form of Firm’s name

2L: Well, I’m interested in largest practice area listed on the NALP form and I have a fictional relative

in trendy west coast city

Interviewer: So... I see that you’re writing a form of legal masturbation. What is it about?

2L: I’m applying the Learned body part Test to situations of legal possibility that never actualizes. I’ll probably be published right around month after interviews end.

Interviewer: I see you used to work as a choose one: paralegal, govtl. dr. ne, personal asst. to astrologer

2L: Right. It was my experience there that forceful synonym of “focused”

Interviewer: And you’re proficient in obscure language? simple question in foreign language

2L: best guess at affirmative response in that language

Interviewer: (puzzled look) How can you say that about my lose female relative?
Vintage RG: Oct. 9, 1995
The OCI R(G)ad Lib

your resume says that _______ is a hobby of yours. What else do you do in your free time?

2L: (feeling _______) Sometimes I go out with my _________.

Interviewer: Yeah? We used to go to _________ when I went here way back in _________. (looking at watch) Well, I’m trying to stay on schedule.

What can I tell you about ________?

2L: (phony pensive look) What is the atmosphere like for ________?

Interviewer: Well, I could have you talk to ________, but I really have _________.

In closing then, what three words best ______ yourself?

2L: ________, and hirsute.

Interviewer: We’ll be in touch with you in about ________.

2L: (faking a ________)

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text

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