Selling Our Souls?
Michigan Grads Earning Top Salaries

By Katie Walton

For many U-M law students, graduation marks the transition from chasing paper to rolling in it — at least according to one national survey, which reported that U-M grads have some of the highest starting salaries in the nation.

The survey, published in the January 2008 issue of National Jurist magazine, ranked the nation’s law schools according to their graduates’ average starting salaries. The result? Michigan grads tied with those from four other schools for first place, with an average starting salary of $135,000.

That’s good news for those looking to pay off loans, purchase a house, or, well, just brag to their friends from lower-ranked schools (kidding). But what does the National Jurist survey really mean, and what does it say about U-M students? The RG set off to find out.

According to Susan Guindi, Assistant Dean of Career Services, the survey accurately reflects the average starting salary for graduates of the Class of 2006. Since then, U-M’s starting salary range has been $135,000 to $160,000, where Guindi expects it to remain for at least the next year.

Sure, it can’t buy happiness, but it CAN buy a lot of other stuff!

Such high starting salaries can be attributed to general trends in the legal industry, Guindi said. Put bluntly, big law firms in most major markets report average starting salaries of around $160,000, and Michigan sends most of its grads to firms in these cities.

“Most of our students go to New York,” Guindi said. “Typically, New York had the highest paid salaries, but now it tends to be equal in the other big markets where we send our students.”

More interesting than what the survey says about U-M, however, may be what it says about other schools. For example, New York University and University of Pennsylvania grads make $125,000. In addition, the survey reports that Harvard graduates only make an average of $110,000 upon graduation. Georgetown and Notre Dame come in at $105,000. And, for some reason, Yale and Stanford aren’t even listed.

Without the inclusion of all of the high profile schools, it’s hard to evaluate where Michigan really stands. But some of the disparity between the salaries of Michigan grads and other top grads -- from Harvard, for example -- can partially be explained by one thing: clerkships.

According to Guindi, Harvard and Michigan have similar percentages of

CONTINUED on Page 7

On The Inside:
- Juan Luis Tienda, p. 4
- SFF Spread!, pp. 8 - 9
- Davidson Hoops, p. 12
- Butch Carpenter, p. 5
- Origins Photos, pp. 10 - 11
- Sex Questions, p. 14
Editorial Farewell:

To: The Law School Community.

Gentle Readers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for reading this paper these last two years! It has been my great honor to bring these pages to you during my time as the Editor-in-Chief. That said, I do not think it wise for any institution to remain under the same leadership for too long, lest it become stodgy or stale. That is why, effective the day this issue runs, I am stepping down as Editor-in-Chief of Res Gestae.

I leave this paper, and its history, in exceptional hands! Taking over as the new Editor-in-Chief will be Alysha Rooks, who, in addition to providing important guidance to the law school community this year, has gone above and beyond in recruiting writers and driving content. Joining Alysha as the new Managing Editor will be Sumeera Younis, who has already supplied both her support and her unique perspective to the RG the past two years. Our own Austin Rice-Stitt will continue as the Executive Editor, and he will continue to bring his exemplary skills and experience to the Board.

Three years. Don’t they go by in a blink?

Of course, my three years here, and my two working on this paper, would not have been what they were without the help of so very many people. Any attempt to list them all will inevitably miss; but, I must try nevertheless.

To my fellow Editorial Board members: Bria LaSalle and Liz Polizzi, who were instrumental in continuing this paper after the previous Editorial Board graduated en masse, and Austin Rice-Stitt and Alysha Rooks, without whom none of this year’s issues would have been possible...

To Tara Perry of Michigan Business Services, who repeatedly did the impossible: transforming the electronic words and pictures we would compile into the physical newspaper enjoyed by the law school...

To Dean Evan Caminker, Dean David Baum, and Dean Christine Gregory for supplying, what must at times have seemed ceaseless, information and quotes for articles, and for providing indispensable support to this publication throughout the years...

To the Law School Student Senate for their financial support, and for the milk and cookies on layout Sundays...

To Jack Atkinson for his sage academic guidance, and for the ever-popular grade curves...

To everyone who ever contributed an article, an op-ed, an editorial, a letter to the editor, an ad, an announcement, a photo, a tip, or a quote...

To the Security Guards of the Law School, Larry Cornish and Millard Patrick, for their diligence and their tolerance...

To Mike Murphy and Matt Nolan for that second chance after violating every publishing policy of the paper...

To Dean Sarah Zearfoss for admitting me (if only you’d know what you were getting yourself into)...

To all my friends and family, you are irreplaceable...

And, finally, to all of you, whoever you are, who have ever picked up a copy of the RG –you are the reason this paper exists...

Thank You!

-Nate Kurtis
Editor-in-Chief, Res Gestae
2006 – 2008

“A powerful agent is the right word. Whenever we come upon one of those intensely right words in a book or newspaper the resulting effect is physical as well as spiritual, and electrically prompt.” -Mark Twain
Congratulations To Champions Marcus Bach-Arms And Dario Borghesan

Photos by Matt Weiser
Juan Luis Tienda, 23 Years Later

By Erin Opperman

It was the 23rd time the Latino Law Students Association (LLSA) had put on the Juan Luis Tienda banquet, which was to provide scholarships to first year law students who show dedication to promoting social justice, yet for this first year law student, if I hadn't known better, I would’ve thought that Juan Luis passed away only a few months ago. Kristen Rodriguez and Betsy Martinez, the Co-Chairs of the Banquet known on campus as JLT, put together an amazing slide-show of pictures from Juan Luis’ life as they narrated who Juan Luis was and what he stood for. As the music played, members of Juan Luis’ family, who were sitting in the front of the room, teared up, and smiled, as they must have been pleasantly remembering what an amazing young man he was. President of the predecessor organization to LLSA, Juan Luis worked before and during law school to further the interests of Latinos. During both summers of Law School, he worked with the Michigan Migrant Legal Assistance Project where he provided legal and social services to agricultural workers. His dedication to helping migrant workers stemmed from his own experience as a young boy, working from dawn to dusk with his family and other farm-workers, while living under the typical harsh conditions of migrant farm-workers. After Juan Luis tragically passed away the summer before his last year of school, his friends and family established the scholarship as a tribute to him and with the ultimate purpose of creating an opportunity to keep his spirit and passions alive. There are three diversity banquets held on campus each year, all with a purpose of keeping alive the spirit of someone who was an impetus for social change, so after I, along with Lara Bueso, received this year’s award, I tried to determine where I could see Juan Luis’ spirit in the law school and community and wondered what he would think he if were still here....

A few months ago, I was privy to a group email from a panicked immigrant rights leader in Detroit who explained that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids were taking place at an alarming rate in the Detroit Metro area. The email said that there were people who were afraid to leave their homes, and it wanted to know if there was anyone who could help. Well, as a first year law student, I was not one of those people (at least in the immediate sense), and I soon re-immersed myself in Con Law, the raids crowded from my mind by Plessy and Griswold. That changed two weeks ago when we at the Michigan Labor and Immigration Law Association (MILLA) received another similar email, but this time about a high number of raids taking place right here in Ann Arbor. About doors broken down in Ann Arbor. About residents beaten in Ann Arbor. And about families ripped apart in Ann Arbor.

Walking to school past the frat houses it is easy to forget that the city is home to many working families who have no affiliation with the University. But presently immigrants are being beaten, arrested, and detained by ICE, and there is more and more evidence pointing towards the involvement of the local police. Police who are being paid with our, well not so much my, but Ann Arbor residents’ tax money, who are supposed to create a safe neighborhood for the people of this city, and not play sidekick to the Department of Homeland Security.

I attended the second of several “town hall” meetings held in an Ypsilanti church with ten other law students from MILLA, who, along with the various groups represented at the meeting, formed the Washtenaw County Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights. There were about 75 people who attended the meeting, with a purpose of planning a response to the recent immigration raids in our city and county. We listened to several people get up and tell stories of their own or their family members’ forceful and callous arrests and removal from their homes. One woman spoke of her husband being beaten in front of her young children, and a teenage girl spoke of the local police watching her from cars outside her home, waiting to pass off any information to ICE. A woman bravely stood in front of the church holding her two children’s hands explaining through her tears that she just wanted a better life for her kids and that El Salvador, where they were from, was destitute and violent, nowhere she would ever return. Unfortunately she wasn’t able to come here legally, like most immigrants who would do so if they could, because of the quota system this country uses for immigration; the chances of someone coming here legally are increasingly slim. But there were about 75 people of us saying “we will do something to help you”.

There were law students, undergraduate students, local Democratic leaders, various church organizations, and residents of Ann Arbor, who heard about what was happening and wanted to help. A group of four had gone to Detroit several days earlier to try and post bond for a Washtenaw Country resident that had been detained, but they were unsuccessful. The Coalition plans to invite members of the Department of Homeland Security to meet with us and explain the violence in their tactics, and the alleged pressure on local law enforcement to use local resources for federal business. The coalition also pushed for a city council meeting, which was held Monday, April 7, to discuss the brutal tactics being used and the possible involvement of our police force. Moreover, members of the coalition are scrambling to raise money for bonds, train people on how to post bonds for detained immigrants, educate immigrants on their rights, create a network of attorneys who can help in emergency situations, and spread the word that this is happening in our city.

Immigrants will always face unique

CONTINUED on Page 15
The 30th Annual Butch Carpenter Banquet

Submitted by The Black Law Students' Alliance

The Black Law Students’ Alliance (BLSA) and the University of Michigan Law School community celebrated the 30th Annual Alden J. “Butch” Carpenter Memorial Scholarship Banquet on Saturday evening, April 5th at Four Points Sheraton Ann Arbor. The banquet is an institution at the law school, honoring the memory of one of Michigan Law’s brightest stars.

Alden J. “Butch” Carpenter entered the University of Michigan Law School in 1977, with a passionate goal in mind and heart; he desired to become an advocate for the urban community by using his professional skills in business and law for its benefit and edification. His untimely passing on February 2, 1978 left the entire University community stunned and deeply saddened. On February 21, 1978, the BLSA membership, recognizing the importance of Butch’s chosen life work, voted unanimously to honor his memory and vision by establishing the Alden J. “Butch” Carpenter Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Each year the Fund awards scholarships to three outstanding first-year BLSA member law students who have demonstrated a commitment to communities in need of advocates and support. This year, we acknowledged the following students for their commitment:

- Award Recipient: Ibert Schultz
- 1st Runner-Up: Barry Talley
- 2nd Runner-Up: Lillian Wafford

The banquet was attended by numerous law firm supporters, alumni, student organizations and friends of the law school. BLSA would like to thank all of those in attendance and all of those who aided in making the 30th Annual Alden J. “Butch” Carpenter Banquet a huge success!

Alumni Funded Fellowships:

Submitted by Brian Ferry and Scott Wilcox

3 Ls—wondering what you will do next year, now that you have attended your last SFF Auction in Hutchins Hall? Fear not. Motivated by the success of Student Funded Fellowships (SFF), which recently celebrated its 30th anniversary, a group of alumni and soon-to-be alumni has formed a new organization, Alumni Funded Fellowships (AFF). AFF is an alumni-driven fundraising initiative of the Law School that will augment SFF’s efforts to provide additional grants to Michigan law students who accept unpaid or low-paying summer public interest jobs.

How will AFF raise money?

As our first fundraiser, we are planning a live auction in New York City during Spring Break 2009. The event will allow Michigan alumni and any interested students and faculty to gather together in midtown Manhattan in support of public interest fellowships, while enjoying live music and bidding on a variety of big-ticket items. Over the long term, we also hope to plan a benefit show in New York City, which would feature award-winning stars of the stage and screen. While AFF’s initial events are planned for New York City, AFF expects eventually to host events in other cities as well.

How can you help?

If you are interested in getting involved with AFF, we would like to hear from you! Our executive committee includes Brian Ferry ’08, Carolyn Grunst ’08, Mitch Holzrichter ’08, Chris Lee ’09, Grace Lee ’08, and Scott Wilcox ’08. We are inviting students, faculty, and alumni to help AFF to plan, execute, and publicize fundraising events.

If you would like to get involved or if you have any questions, please email us at contactaff@umich.edu. We look forward to your support in the next year as we work together to increase public interest funding at Michigan Law!

It’s Spring!

Photo by Adriel Sanders
Review:

By George Bishop

It would be easier to dismiss Gus Van Sant's new movie, Paranoid Park, as another in a long line of scintillated youth narratives. The film, though, never takes an introspective turn, as so many others do, in an attempt to make sense of Alex (the protagonist) and those indecipherable teenage years. Instead, Van Sant skims the surface of Alex's psyche, leaving us not with a distilled portrait of a troubled teen, but with leftover, documentary-style glimpses of a boy wrestling with an emotional trauma that never rises to the top.

Paranoid Park revolves around the death of a security guard that happens near the titular skate park. Alex's involvement is slowly revealed as the film hypnotically circles the event, spiraling and meandering across the days leading up to and following the killing. The story unfolds through bits of narration spliced between long scenes of students walking through their high school halls and super 8 shots of ecstatic skateboarders. This narration comes from Alex's journal and is delivered uncomfortably, as if he were reading a book report in front of the class. The tension and unease of the voiceover creates a palpable disconnect between the audience and the protagonist, making Van Sant's unflinching, voyeuristic shots of Alex doing nothing in particular seem that much more significant and intimate.

Paranoid Park's elliptical narrative is the product of a mind attempting to grapple with events beyond its capacity. The distance between the audience and

Credit Van Sant as well for being able to cull such a subtle performance from a young amateur.

Unlike Elephant, Van Sant's last foray into the teenage world, Paranoid Park does not culminate in a final act. The looping narrative takes much of the mystery and anticipation out of the story. What this effect adds, however, is much greater. What could have been a simple whodunit with skateboards flick is, in the hands of Gus Van Sant, turned into a play of lost innocence and psychic turmoil told not through probing moments of introspection but by a stylistic, sprawling and circuitous journey across a young boy's mind.

Reading Room Renovations Continue
The reasons for this are varied, Guindi said. Some students want to pay off their loans before clerking, while others want to gain practice experience.

“For a lot of students, a large firm is a good start,” Guindi said. “They can pay down their debt, and it’s relatively easy to get a job.”

However, Guindi and other administrators are quick to point out that—despite the appeal of a high average salary—a significant number of U-M grads do not go the corporate route right after graduation. In fact, according to Mary Ann Sarosi, U-M Law’s Assistant Dean for Public Service, approximately 12 percent of last year’s graduating class pursued public service work (a number that does not include clerkships). The only school that sent a higher percentage of its students to the public interest sector was the University of California at Berkeley, Sarosi said.

“It’s not as high as it could be,” Sarosi acknowledged. “But we offer very good support in our office, and admit students with very diverse interests. Some schools are looking for corporate lawyers, but we do a good job of getting a broad range of students.”

That’s a view shared by Admissions Dean Sarah Zearfoss. According to Zearfoss, the law school’s admissions office pays special attention to applicants who indicate a dedication to government and public interest work.

“When people have an actual history of commitment in a particular field and express an interest in continuing in that realm, I take that very seriously,” Zearfoss wrote. “And the two career arenas where we’re likely to see that commitment and intention are in public interest and in government.”

One student who exhibited an early interest in the public sector was 3L Kate Pomper. Upon graduating this spring, Pomper will be working for Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), a public interest law and policy nonprofit in Chicago.

“Public interest law provides an opportunity to contribute to improving our communities and the lives of others, work that is exciting and rewarding, and in my opinion, some of the most creative and interesting legal work that there is to be done,” Pomper wrote in an email. “Public interest law also offers the chance to get fantastic experience from day 1 on the job, from writing motions and briefs and appearing in court to negotiating with opposing parties, and the opportunity to learn from some incredibly skilled and talented lawyers.”

But the fact remains that the vast majority—typically 74 percent—of Michigan grads enter the private sector. And more than 60 percent of those enter law firms with more than 500 attorneys—the firms most likely to pay top salaries.

Since Michigan students graduate with an average of $90,000 in debt, according to Katherine Gottschalk, Assistant Dean of Financial Aid, it’s not difficult to see why many would be attracted to high-paying firm jobs. But Gottschalk said part of her job is to minimize the impact that debt has on students’ job choices.

Michigan Law’s Loan Repayment Assistant Program is designed to help her do this. Under the program, which funds more than 100 students each year, the law school will pay some or all of the monthly debt payments of students who take jobs at the low end of the income spectrum.

“We know that many students take on significant debt,” Gottschalk said. “We don’t want this to limit their job choices.”

Third-year law student Erin Dougherty said she was determined not to let the prospect of a large salary deter her from a commitment to public service. Dougherty will spend the next year clerking for Chief Justice Dana Fabe on the Alaska Supreme Court. After that, she intends to work in a civic legal aid program.

Dougherty acknowledged in an e-mail that the idea of a firm salary is appealing. However, she noted that, “for me though other factors—like family leave policies and other quality of life issues—are important considerations. I think it all comes down to the life you want and the lifestyle that you feel entitled to.”

Ultimately, Dougherty said she wants to focus on poverty law and federal American Indian law in the rural American West, and “I personally value my time too much to not spend it working on the issues that I believe are important.”

However, until pay structures at public interest organizations change, Sarosi said students like Dougherty are likely to be the exception, and most students are going to continue to pursue firm salaries.

“We as a society need to place a higher emphasis on those fields,” Sarosi said. “We need to be paying more and not asking people just to work there out of the goodness of their hearts.”

Note: This article was written using the data from the paper copy of the January 2008 issue of National Jurist magazine. Since that magazine was published, National Jurist has updated its data and reported that Columbia University students have the highest average salary upon graduation. In the new version, Michigan is tied with four other schools for second place. To see the updated table go to http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/cypress/nationaljurist0108/index.php?startid=30.
A Day in the Life of 916 Oakland...

Rise and shine, it's breakfast time!!!

Our landlord's worthless, so someone has to clean the yard.

If we can't beat him in checkers...

...Damn it!

3L study-time

Ghost-riding the whip, before...

...going for an afternoon drive.
SFF Photo Spread:

...Or: One Good Way To Blow $40.00

Winners of the SFF Photo Spread:
Daniel Cohen, Serge Grossman,
Ryan Babiuch, Grant Riedesel,
and Brian Ferry

Photos by Cassandra Adams

Trying not to pull a hammy...

...before a brisk run, and...

...some competitive relays.

Snuggling up for a bedtime story.

Phew! It's been a long day. Goodnight!
The 4th Annual Origins Cultural Show

Photos By
Brian Pascal
Hosted By APALSA On Thursday, March 27

PALSA hosted the 4th Annual Origins Cultural Show at the Michigan Union Ballroom on March 27, 2008. The show's purpose was to celebrate Asian Pacific American culture and heritage, to award students through the 1L Public Interest Fellowship, and generally to raise awareness for APALSA by providing an entertaining, exciting show. To these ends, the show featured a lively student karaoke competition with faculty judges, a piano performance by one of APALSA's members, and two student-led traditional dances: a Chinese fan dance and an Indian dance.

The 1L Public Interest Fellowship gave out awards to Frances Kim, Rebecca Oyama, and Ivy Cheng, recognizing these recipients for their dedication and commitment to legal issues affecting Asian Americans. The show was a success and APALSA looks forward to continuing to build on that success next year.
A Witness to Davidson Hoops

By Austin Rice-Stitt

(The Davidson College men’s basketball team, the Wildcats, were the “Cinderella story” of this year’s NCAA Tournament, advancing to the Elite Eight with three consecutive wins over higher-ranked teams. The author, a Davidson grad, relates stories from his 12 years as a fan of Davidson basketball.)

A senior in high school in the spring of 1996, I was frustrated that sporting my new Davidson hat was not earning me much-needed respect around Northwest Arkansas. I looked forward to the national attention that the school was sure to receive (and the local renown that would accrue to me) when the men's basketball team made the upcoming NCAA Tournament. The Wildcats were 14-0 in the Southern Conference, and all they had left was to win the SoCon Tournament and collect the automatic bid to the NCAA's. Instead, the Wildcats suffered a heartbreaking loss in the Championship Game, and the automatic bid went to Western Carolina. Not even an endorsement from Dick Vitale (“[if I . . . had a vote . . . Davidson would be a part of this tournament”) could land the 'Cats the first at-large bid in the history of the SoCon.

When I entered Davidson in the fall of 96, I was still hopeful that my reputation would one day be enhanced by the basketball team. I say without technically lying that during my freshman year I attended a quasi-sorority (“Eating House”) function with a basketball player, a cheerleader (his date), and a soon-to-be cheerleader who didn’t have a background in dance or cheer or really athletics of any kind but who knew some cheerleaders and decided to get involved (my date). That evening, unfortunately, did not lead to my inclusion in other basketball player and cheerleader-related social events.

In '97, the 'Cats finished tied for first in the SoCon's Northern Division. The postseason came to an end, however, with a loss to the Chattanooga Mocs (it used to be “Moccasins” but that was mean) in the semifinals of the SoCon Tournament.

The Chattanooga Mocs went on to win the SoCon Tournament, and they entered the 1997 NCAA Tournament with a 14 seed. The Mocs scored a huge upset in the first round, beating 3rd seeded Georgia. Two days later we watched live in Charlotte as the Mocs got what we so badly wanted, earning a trip to the Sweet 16 with a win over Illinois. (On that same day we watched blissfully as the 10 seed Providence, led by the righteous play of God Shammgod, advanced to the Sweet 16 at the expense of the 2nd ranked Blue Devils of Duke.) Suddenly everyone knew where Chattanooga is (Tennessee).

The next season, '97 - '98, the 'Cats finally got a taste of the NCAA's after a 12 year hiatus. That year I happened to live next door to Davor Halbauer, a shooting guard from Croatia. Davor thought himself pretty cool but in a hilarious way so that you could never dislike him for it. Davor's roommate was Adam, and though I'm sure that they had many good times together, Adam and Davor's bad times were much more prominent. On one occasion the two had a fight (something about socks on the floor) that escalated when Davor locked Adam out of the room and then played very loudly through the locked door Jewel's "Foolish Games" ("You took your coat off and stood in the rain/ You were always crazy like that"). Davor sounded heartfelt when he sang the chorus in a thick Croatian accent: "These foolish games are tearing (tearing!) tearing me apart!"

(Down that same hall, though not a witness to Davor's rendition of Foolish Games, lived Bill Monroe. Bill Monroe delivered the most unbelievable performance that I ever saw on Davidson's court, even though he wasn't on the basketball team. That season there was a promotion at halftime of home games where contestants got a chance to win a new SUV. To win you had to make, without any rebounding help, a lay-up, a free throw, a three-pointer, and a half court shot in 30 seconds. Needless to say, we were all practicing. To become a contestant you had to write your name on a sheet of paper and get that sheet of paper from your seating area onto the Wildcat at center court. This was done by fashioning that piece of paper into a paper airplane (sophisticated but unpredictable) or just wadding it up (surprisingly effective). From the center of the court a promotioneer chose at random two papers, and on this day one of them was Bill Monroe's. So Bill gets up there and, as the clock starts, he sinks his free throw, then grabs the rebound and adds the lay-up. He runs back to the three-point-line, pulls up, and nails the three. Then he gets the ball, runs to half court, and without even getting the traditional running start, he lets fly a 47-foot shot that, without touching the backboard or rim, falls perfectly through the net with a full 15 seconds left on the clock. We stormed the court.)

The '98 season's excitement continued as Davor, his psyche mended, and the rest of the Wildcats earned the SoCon's automatic NCAA Tournament bid, overcoming Appalachian St. in the Championship Game. Davidson drew a 14 seed in the NCAA's and got matched up with the Michigan Wolverines. This was, ahem, a few years ago, and Michigan was a 3 seed coming off a Big 10 Tournament Championship. Davidson fought hard but Michigan was too much and went on to win 80-61. (Michigan then lost the next game to 6 seed UCLA, who then lost to 2 seed Kentucky. Kentucky advanced to the Final Four after knocking off Duke, the disappointed 1 seed.)

The Davidson/App. St. rivalry continued to blossom during the '98-'99
In '06 - '07, Stephen Curry's freshman year, the 'Cats dominated the SoCon, going 17-1 in the regular season and winning the SoCon Tournament. This time the 'Cats got a 14 seed to the NCAAs and played against 3rd seeded Maryland. Once again the 'Cats were winning at halftime, forcing me to skip Prof. Katz's Property class in order to watch the second half, but the 'Cats lost the lead late, and Maryland won 82-70.

The 'Cats finally broke through in 2008, and now I can no longer complain that I am unpopular because of the basketball team. After going 20-0 in the SoCon, the 'Cats went on to win the SoCon Tournament and earn the automatic NCAAA bid. In the first round of the NCAAs, the 10th seeded 'Cats were down 11 in the second half to 7th seeded Gonzaga, and it looked like Davidson would add another to a growing list of "almosts." Then Stephen Curry scored 14 points in five minutes (he had 40 in the game), and the 'Cats won their first NCAA Tournament game since '69.

Against Georgetown in the next round Davidson was down 16 in the second half. But Curry came to life again, scoring 25 in the second half, and the 'Cats came away with a 74-70 win over the 2nd seeded Hoyas..

I knew it was all for me when I realized that the 'Cats Sweet 16 game would be in Detroit.

LeBron James, who just happened to be in town for a game against the Pistons,
“Between the Briefs”

By Rooks

I have to tell y’all, law school (or really, the RG) is totally impeding my ability to read the news with any degree of enjoyment. (Cue sad music) Whereas before, if a friend sent me an article about wombat rapists, picnic-table banging, or castration as a sentence reducer, I could easily delight in the vagaries of the Wonderful World of Sex and the Law; now, I’m plagued by two recurring complaints.

Foremost, when an article cites a law or ordinance, the author never provides a name (or, dare I ask it, cite) for the law under which the alleged deviant is being charged. To all the journalists and would-be journalists out there, please, please, please NAME THE LAW in order to (cough) save me time when I’m close to my deadline (cough) inform the public.

Secondly, I can’t forward anything any more, as people are feeling way too free to ask me questions. (Ok, ok, that’s not a bad thing; I just like to complain. Ask away.)

Did you hear about the wombat rape case?
- I Can’t Believe I Just Said ‘Wombat Rape’ in a Sentence

ICBIJSWRS,
I hadn’t actually, but you can better believe I looked it up. Apparently a New Zealand man called his local police, claiming he was actively being raped by an unnamed wombat (let’s call him Willy) and needed help.

Well, I’ll say.

However, shortly thereafter he called back, saying that he was retracting his complaint of rape against Willy the Wombat as it had “pulled out.” (Someone needs to tell that wombat that the withdrawal method is not a valid form of birth control.) Rape isn’t unknown in the animal kingdom (mallard ducks are pretty egregious), so I’m not saying dude couldn’t have been raped by a marsupial with freaky teeth, but given that he stated that his only ill effect was a change in accent (to Australian), it seems unlikely. The police agreed, and he was sentenced to community service for his false report.

-Rooks

Ok, so this article about a rapist who opted for castration to shorten his sentence says that “castration results in [ . . . ] erection problems.” Has FoxNews completely lost it from an understatement perspective, or do they know something I don’t know?
-Never Trusted Fox Anyway

NTFA,
No, they actually haven’t completely lost it (well, in that regard, anyway). Assuming that it wasn’t chemical castration (like, say, a shot of Depo Provera), the most likely physical castration procedure would be removing the testicles. Though this decreases certain hormone levels rapidly and permanently, if physical castration of the testicles is performed after a man has reached puberty, he’s still, technically, capable of erection.

-Rooks

Who’s more screwed up: the guy who has sex with picnic tables, or the neighbor who only turns the guy in after getting it on video?
- My Money’s on the Neighbor

MMN,
Mine too. It’s one thing to (inadvertently, I’m sure) overhear or spy on the neighbors in flagrante delicto. That’s probably going to happen to everyone at some point in their lives. (Apparently, in some sections of the Lawyer’s Club, that point is now.) But there’s no way taking a camera to it (nonconsensually) is a cool thing to do, no matter how many hits the neighbor thought s/he could get on YouTube. Especially not, as the article implies, multiple times. (Was the neighbor building an archive?) Further,

CONTINUED on Next Page
Realizing that Krafft-Ebing was going to let me down here, and not wanting to mislead folks, I outsourced part of my column this week. If you’re my friend (or hell, even good acquaintance), you get used to receiving awfully questionable emails, so when I dropped my Greek-speaking buddy a line asking what one might call a guy who has sex with metal picnic tables using the umbrella stand hole buck nekkid in his backyard, he (barely) took pause before, an excellent sport ’til the end, he translated like a pro.

The problem, of course, is that we really have no idea what turned Mr. Price on. If it was the metal, then he’s likely got metalophilia. If it was the naked where others might see, then he’s more in line with a specific brand of exhibitionism known as autoagonistophilia. If it was the picnic table itself, on the other hand...

“Love of picnics, which I must construe as love of eating in open spaces, would likely be constructed as agorastophilia: agora -- open space; sitio -- eating. Love of tables, by similar (if less complicated) logic, would then be trapezophilia. Of course trapeza is also the term given to monastic refectories, which lends another curious spiral to the whole concept, but it is likely the best that I can do. A picnic table fetish would be termed something like trapezaporositophilia (or maybe agoratrapesitzophilia), and a metal picnic table fetish would probably be a metalagoropitotrapezaphilia.”

Wow. Does it matter that it was the umbrella stand aperture?

“As for the umbrella stand fetish, it is difficult because any attempt at retrofitting this would be pure gibberish. Umbrella is derived from the Latin umbra meaning shade, shadow, or spirit (as in Hades). It is actually a diminutive thereof, literally meaning little shade. The equivalent term in Greek would be skia, but the meaning . . . I think . . . would be lost in translation. And there really is no term in Greek for ‘stand’ that means anything along the lines of bin. The closest I can get is keeper, but keeper in terms of a person who does the keeping . . . although it can be used to express keeper of things. That word is fulax. So the best I can do on lover of umbrella stand is skiafulacaphilia [...] In reality, though, that would give you something with the meaning of lover of the keeper of the spirits of the dead, of shadows, or of evil spirits, among other things which would amount to [lots of Greek] Eurynome, or Cerberus, or Charon [even more Greek], among many other persons, spirits, or beings. Unfortunately, there is no backing into this one.”

Have I mentioned yet that my friends are completely and entirely awesome? Greek speaking buddy, I salute you.

-Rooks
Law School Events

Wednesday, April 9

Donate a Days Pay to Student Funded Fellowships! (SFF) – Stop by the tables in front of HH100 and give back to SFF (or just help out your fellow students) by donating a day’s pay! 11:00 – 1:20; 100 HH.

Practicing Law With Web 2.0 Clients (IPSA) – Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati lawyers (including YouTube’s lead attorneys in the lawsuits brought by Viacom and the Premier League alleging copyright infringement on the YouTube website) will discuss their “Web 2.0” technology practice, which includes copyright, DMCA, CDA, First Amendment, and other Internet-related issues. Brief panel discussion followed by Q&A session– bring your tough questions! Speakers will be accepting resumes for Summer Associate positions. Taco bar lunch will be served. 12:20 – 1:20 PM; 218 HH.

Thursday, April 10

Tax Law Society Meeting - Life of a Tax Attorney (TLS) – Lunch meeting with Ms. Margaret Manzo, tax associate, and Prof. Phillip Adams, senior partner, at the Skadden, Arps New York office. 12:20 – 1:20 PM; 150 HH.

LSSS Meeting (LSSS) – Weekly LSSS meeting! 12:20 – 1:20 PM; 236 HH.

Donate a Days Pay to Student Funded Fellowships! (SFF) – Stop by the tables in front of HH100 and give back to SFF (or just help out your fellow students) by donating a day’s pay! 11:00 – 1:20; 100 HH.

Friday, April 11

Judicial Clerkship Roundtable for 2Ls/3Ls (OCS) – A student-led roundtable talk with 3Ls who applied for clerkships last season. 2Ls–bring your questions about application strategies, how to make a list of judges, choosing a writing sample, interview and acceptance protocol, etc. Pizza will be served. 3Ls, please volunteer by contacting Robin at rakaplan@umich.edu; 2Ls–please RSVP to sindling@umich.edu. 12:20 – 1:20 PM; 120 HH.

Tuesday, April 15

Semester Study Abroad Opportunity – a University College London (UCL) Fall 2009 (Intl & Comp Law) – Mrs. Pamela Celentano, Deputy Director, International Programmes, University College London Faculty of Laws, will conduct an information meeting regarding study abroad at University College London for fall 2009 or subsequent fall terms. 12:20 – 1:20 PM; 116 HH.

Bulletin Board Applications for 08-09 Duel (LSSS) - If your organization plans on utilizing a board, you must fill out and return an application via e-mail to the LSSS Secretary no later than 5:00pm Thursday, April 17th. 5:00 PM; LSSS office.

Spring/Summer and Fall 2008 Registration and Drop/Add Calendar

Application Process for the Clinic Programs occurs before Round One

The link to the Live Client Clinic Programs Application: http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/registration/registration/Pages/LiveClient.aspx

The application deadline: Friday, March 21 at 5:00 PM

Early Registration Period uses the Law School’s Priority Registration System (PRS) to temporarily reserve law classes

Round One for selecting seminars and practice/simulation courses:
Begins Monday, March 31 at 8:00 AM
Ends Friday, April 4 at 5:00 PM
Round One results e-mailed to students on Friday, April 11.

Round Two for selecting upper-class courses. Students can select open seminars and practice/simulation courses and/or add their name to the bottom of a waitlist for closed seminars and practice/simulation courses:
Begins Monday, April 14 at 8:00 AM
Ends Friday, April 18 at 5:00 PM
Round Two results e-mailed to students on Friday, May 2.

Students must have financial holds removed by: Monday, April 21

If you have a financial hold (a negative service indicator) on your student record when the PRS data is loaded into M-Pathways, your temporarily reserved law classes will not load, your class schedule will bounce out, and you will not be “officially” enrolled at the Law School or University!

Drop/Add Period uses the University’s Wolverine Access System

Law School appointments begin Monday, May 19 @ 8:00 AM and end Wednesday, September 10 @ 5:00 PM.

Spring/Summer 2008:

Law School Drop/Add begins Tuesday, May 19 at 8:00 AM
Students can add their name to the bottom of a waitlist for open or closed seminars and practice/simulation courses through Monday, September 1. Starting Tuesday, September 2, students will have to e-mail Amy Bishop (abishop@umich.edu) to have their name added to the bottom of a waitlist.

Fall 2008:

ALL Law School Drop/Add activity ends Wednesday, September 10 at 5:00 PM
As always, we will be available for questions during business hours in Room 300 Hutchins Hall or you can contact us by email at lawrecords@umich.edu.