Renovations to Destroy Locker Monstrosity: Computer Lab To Move Deep Underground

By Matt Nolan

Thank you Dean Caminker, first for letting me impersonate you (albeit poorly) in the Mr. Wolverine competition, and also for letting me graduate (hopefully). Most importantly, though; all of us here at M-Law owe our dean a big thank you for making Hutchins a better place for students in the 21st century.

The ongoing fundraising efforts to 'complete the quad,' drastically changing the operation of the law school's buildings, are impressive in their own right (if you haven't the plans, you can at http://www.law.umich.edu/campaign/why/building.htm), but even an optimistic timeline would have those buildings completed well after all current and admitted students have graduated. This was the impetus behind the recently announced, more limited, set of changes scheduled for this summer, to be ready for next fall.

Socializing, napping (on what will with any luck be more comfortable couches), and overall “lounge-ness” should be vastly improved by this move. Now if we can only find a way to get Coca-Cola products back in....

It's either the Law School after long-term renovations, an ant farm, or your lower intestine. From http://www.law.umich.edu/campaign/why/building.htm.

The renovations will move the lounge to 200HH, replacing the computer lab that is currently housed there. This lounge is larger, and will have “gasp” windows!

"But what's happening to the computer lab?" you ask. The current computer lab will move into the underground library, making it easier to work on papers and whatnot with the research help and resources available there. This could create problems for those who need to print last minute notes or papers since the lab will be much further from the classrooms, but installing a few printers in the new lounge (which we highly...
**Community Mourns**

**Loss of Student**

First-year student Jeffrey Druchniak, of Livonia, MI, died early Monday morning in Ann Arbor. He was 27.

“Jeff will obviously be missed by all of us here at the Law School,” said Dean Evan Caminker in an e-mail to the law school community. “My heartfelt condolences go out to his family, and to those of you within our family who came to know him during his time at the school.”

Representatives from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) were at the law school last week to speak with students. Students are encouraged to visit CAPS in Room 3100 of the Michigan Union, or to call (734) 764-8312 with their concerns. Deans David Baum and Charlotte Johnson, and Diane Natranowicz, the Director of the Lawyers Club, are also available to meet with students.

The Res Gestae extends its thoughts and prayers to Jeff Druchniak’s family, friends and classmates. We encourage any member of the law school community wishing to share thoughts or feelings to e-mail rg@umich.edu.

**LOCKER, from Page 1**

recommend) would solve this problem. For its part, the new computer lab promises to be much “improved from what we currently provide in 200 HH.” The other part of this proposal, the first classroom renovation in quite some time, will change 138 HH into something more akin to 116 HH. Score!

Finally, the lockers are going to be moved. This is a bit sad for me – the idea of them being where they have been for so long creates somewhat of a mental connection with generations of M-Law students past, and that is a loss. However, there will still be lockers and they will be largely upgraded to newer units, a net gain for students. I’m apprehensive about traffic flow in the hallways with added lockers, but trust that we can figure out a way to get along.

Ultimately, the details of these changes matter much less than their existence. What they show is that our Dean is genuinely concerned with the student experience at Michigan Law School; not something all law schools, especially those that are considered our ‘peers,’ can boast. We have not clamored for these changes. There has been no student revolt or loss of top talent because of their absence. Rather, this is an affirmative and unprovoked move in a pro-student direction which should be welcomed by all of us with a collective “thank you.”

**Got a Story? We’re Listening.**

The Res Gestae considers submissions from any member of the Law School Community.

E-mail us at rg@umich.edu
On Honors, Hiring, and Defending the Public:
A Half-Hour with Prof. Brensike

By Michelle Sharpe

Eve L. Brensike, ’01, joined the Law School as a visiting assistant professor teaching criminal law and procedure in 2004. She earned her B.A., magna cum laude, from Brown University, and, before entering law school, worked as a criminal investigator for the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., as well as a property subrogation paralegal for White and Williams in Philadelphia. She earned her J.D., summa cum laude, from the University of Michigan Law School, where she was an articles editor on the Michigan Law Review as well as a board member on the Henry M. Campbell Moot Court Board. During law school, Brensike clerked for Judge Stephen Reinhardt on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and worked in both the trial and appellate divisions of the Maryland Office of the Public Defender.

How did you end up back at Michigan?

I was sitting in my office in the appellate division of the public defender’s office two summers ago when Yale Kamisar called me. I think his exact words were, “I’m retiring, and I want you to come and teach my class.” I was, of course, incredibly honored. And here I am...

My editor wanted me to ask how you graduated from Michigan summa cum laude. Maybe because he’s a third year.

I studied a lot. I don’t know what else to say. I really enjoyed law school, and I was fortunate that my hard work paid off.

And your favorite class?

Oh, criminal procedure.

Yeah, go figure.

Expected answer, I know.

“I think that there are more innocent people who get charged with crimes than people realize. In my experience, 5-10% of my clients were not guilty. They flat-out got the wrong person. That’s a scarily high percentage where we’re talking about a criminal justice system. An additional 50-60% aren’t guilty of all the crimes that they’re charged with. Over-charging is a huge problem.”

-Prof. Eve Brensike

Least favorite class?

My least favorite class was probably contracts, which, I know will probably get me in trouble with Omri Ben-Shahar, Bruce Frier, Phil Soper, and various other people on the faculty. But what can I say? Section 2-207 of the UCC just didn’t do it for me. I loved criminal law.

I’ve talked with a lot of the administration and faculty who went here as law students. But how do you find it different from when you went here as a law student?

The laptop usage.

I’ve heard that.

No, it’s really true. When I was a law student here, everyone handwrote their exams. If you wanted to type your exam, you could, but you would have to bring your own typewriter. You weren’t allowed to use a laptop.

When did you graduate?

2001. They didn’t have blocking software, so if you wanted to type an exam, you had to bring an actual typewriter and go into one of the cubicles in Room 200. There would be 10-15 people on typewriters in those rooms. It was chaotic. People never went in there during exams.

So what was it like to take over Yale Kamisar’s class?

You know it’s funny, because most classes are known by subject. But, at Michigan, the investigations half of the criminal procedure course is known as “Kamisar’s class.” Needless to say, they’re incredibly big shoes to fill. I never could replace him. That would be impossible. All I can contribute are the experiences that I’ve had. I put my all into the class and hope the students get something out of it in return.

Did you ever think about teaching before Kamisar called you?

I think I always knew that I would wind up teaching someday, but I didn’t know when. I certainly didn’t anticipate that it would be as soon as it turned out to be. It seemed like the natural next step for me, but Yale Kamisar’s phone call was the catalyst.

Which do you think is harder – being a public defender or a law professor?

They are totally different. Being a public defender is incredibly taxing and requires a lot of physical stamina

CONTINUED on Page 4
because you are running from courtroom to courtroom all the time. It is also emotionally difficult, because you are dealing with people’s lives and their freedom on a day-to-day basis. Teaching is taxing in a different way. I didn’t realize before I came just how much work goes into preparing for each and every class. It is very time consuming to think carefully about how to craft questions and engage everyone in the class in ways that keep students interested and require them to think and to learn. So, it’s a different type of challenge. I just don’t think I can compare them.

You’ve been known to easily recall details from cases. Do you know how you do that? Do you ever know you do that?

I’ve always had a knack for remembering details. It’s been very helpful in practice. Some people have the ability naturally and others train themselves to do it. If you’re a public defender, you have to use these cases every day in trial. You just develop a familiarity with them. The repetition alone ingrains the case names in your head. Did I have this ability in law school? Hmm, I don’t know. You’d have to ask one of my professors.

I’ll talk to Kamisar. And with that, you learn all of your students’ names before class and you don’t use a seating chart. How and why?

How is easy. There’s the facebook. I put the facebook pictures on cards and learn them before class. It’s funny, because the hardest thing about it is translating your 1L picture into your 3L face. I’ve had students who were bald in their pictures who come into class with hair. And I think, “No fair -- that’s cheating.” Why do I do it? Well, there are two answers. First, I think it’s important to learn students’ names. It makes the learning environment for everyone better. And it’s part of my job to get to know the students as best I can. Second, I think that it would be hard for me to pick the names up in class while trying to remember my question, think about the student’s answer, and craft a follow-up question. It is easier for me if I know the names already, because it is one less thing to think about during class.

I’ve also heard that you tell your classes to take one indigent defendant’s case, no matter what kind of legal career they end up pursuing. Everyone should try to take one case as a criminal defense lawyer. What’s the inspiration for your directive?

That’s easy. The inspiration is Yale Kamisar. He did the same. Interestingly, I think I would do it even if he hadn’t. As a public defender, one of the things I talk to my class about is the crisis we have in this country with respect to indigent defense representation. Public defenders are so overloaded. And here I have a pool of people coming through Michigan law school who are bright, dynamic, and interesting and who seem interested in criminal law. Many of them will take firm jobs. But I think that it’s incredibly rewarding to represent an indigent defendant, an actual person. In firms, you often don’t have an actual person who is your client -- a person for whom you’re expected to fight. That’s a powerful experience. That’s a lawyer’s experience. I think that everyone would learn a lot about the system and about themselves if they represented one indigent defendant. It’s not such a hard thing for each person to take one case. And if every person took one, we wouldn’t have the crisis of counsel that we have in this country.

Can you elaborate on the crisis of counsel?

Sure. The statistics are scary. Although the ABA has concluded that no person can effectively handle more than 400 cases per year, those numbers are routinely exceeded in public defender offices around the country. In Baltimore City, for example, PDs who I worked with were handling almost 1,200 cases a year. And that’s not unique. Virginia doesn’t even have enough funding for computers for each lawyer. It’s a huge, huge problem. It’s not politically popular to fund indigent defense, so it’s a problem that is not likely to have an easy solution.

Does the prosecutor’s office have more funding usually than the public defender’s office?

Depends on where you are. A lot of jurisdictions are trying to get pay parity between prosecutors and public defenders. Historically, prosecutors were paid more than public defenders. That’s starting to equal out in a number of jurisdictions. But, if you think about the police force as an investigative arm of the prosecution, there’s absolutely no comparison between the two sides. Defenders don’t have state-funded investigation units like that.

I was applying to the D.C. PD office and the application said that they accept a lot of interns to do investigative work because the police don’t usually provide more than the police report. Is that your experience?

Depends on the individual character of the officer, but officers never investigate for defenders. Usually, as a defender, you will see the investigating officer in court and only in court. You may have an opportunity to speak with a police officer prior to trial, but they’re somewhat reticent to speak with the defense attorney. Typically, all you get is the report. At least until cross-examination.
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How would you say no to a firm, $2,400 a week, $125,000 a year?

I really think that students should think more carefully about their professional choices. The firm route is an easy route to take. It doesn't necessarily mean that it's the right route for everyone. What you should be trying to figure out in law school is what type of job will be most fulfilling for you. If that is a firm job, great. But you need to make an informed decision, and having a diverse set of summer experiences that expose you to various areas and types of law allows you to do that. You have two summers of law school, and your loans are deferred while you're in school so you don't have to make the loan payments now. You should use your summers to do different things that you might not have an opportunity to do down the line. Who knows? You might find something that makes you happier than being at a firm. I know way too many lawyers who didn't think about these things in law school and now, five years out, are miserable. They never actually made decisions; they just followed the path that was laid out before them, and they are paying the price now.

Fill in the blank question: During his tenure on the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Rehnquist [blanked] criminal defendants' rights?

Diluted? Destroyed? There're various words you could use. In the Rehnquist court era, the Court took a lot of steps to cut back on criminal defendants' rights. There was the War on Drugs followed by the War on Terrorism. The Rehnquist Court gave a great deal of discretion to the State to fight these "wars," oftentimes at the cost of individual liberties.

What do you mean by that, "great deal of discretion"?

Well, I think courts are more willing to give police officers latitude to stop, search, and interrogate whomever they want, partly because the consequences of error are so much higher in the War on Terrorism. For example, in one Maryland case, an officer stopped two black men driving on I-95 in a white van. The stop was ostensibly for speeding, but the officers wound up tearing up their van in search of drugs. Before 9-11, the highest court in Maryland took that case, and the questions at oral argument suggested that the court was very concerned with the procedures that the officers had used and the lack of particularized suspicion that they had to justify their search. The court's decision came down after September 11th and was filled with references to the idea that there could have been a bomb in the van. The court did not want to handicap the police from being able to pursue terrorists. But that case had nothing to do with terrorism.

Best argument for why a Michigan grad should become a public defender?

Greatest job in the world! Why would you not want to become a public defender?

Money, hours, stress.

Okay, so there are a couple of reasons. Not everyone's meant to be a public defender. But, it's amazing to see how we treat the poor, underrepresented segment of our society. Most people who go through Michigan Law School grew up in middle-class or relatively affluent worlds. There's a whole world out there of people who could never make it to graduate school, because they never had opportunities like the people here had. It's eye-opening to see, and it's such a large segment of society. I didn't grow up in a rich house, far from it. My mom's a single mother, I have four siblings. But when I became a criminal investigator and went into southeast DC and started walking around, it was unbelievable to me that so much of society lived in these circumstances and that I could have lived as many years of my life as I had without having seen it. It gives you perspective on our system, our values, and our society. I drove past the Supreme Court every day on my drive to work, and it would say "Equal Justice Under Law," and I would laugh. We don't have equal justice. We can

aspire to have it. I hope that some day we will. But one of the virtues of being in the public defender's office is that you are a part of the fight to get there.

Your best argument for why a Michigan grad should become a public prosecutor?

We need good prosecutors. We need prosecutors who are smart and prosecutors who are willing to look objectively at a case and question the police officers' investigation. Not because I think all police are bad, but because police officers are fallible humans just like anyone else. They are overworked, and when they get to a crime scene, they will immediately focus their investigation on a suspect and pursue that person. They are sometimes wrong, and the prosecutors often don't consider that possibility. Officers often act on their intuitions. One of the reasons we have prosecutors is to check those intuitions. We need more good prosecutors who know that they have discretion for a reason, and I think there's a lot of value in being one of those prosecutors.

Ignoring the relatively simple answer of constitutional right to counsel, how can you defend someone you know is guilty? Say, for example, someone who confesses to you that he did abuse his wife, and you still have to defend him?

There are many answers to this question. First, I think that there are more innocent people who get charged with crimes than people realize. In my experience, 5-10% of my clients were not guilty. They flat-out got the wrong person. That's a scarly high percentage where we're talking about a criminal justice system. An additional 50-60% aren't guilty of all the crimes they're charged with. Overcharging is a huge problem. So you spit on a police officer. Admittedly, that is a bad thing, but is it resisting arrest, assault on a police officer, failing to obey a lawful order, and disorderly conduct? Assault on a police officer carries a potential sentence of
Editorial: Lawopen is Not a Toy

A s of tomorrow, the lawopen listserv will turn 15 months old. The Res Gestae feels rather paternal towards lawopen since LSSS cited our Oct. 12, 2004 editorial, “Two Lists Should Solve Student Spam” in its decision to create an open law student e-mail list. Like any proud parents, we took a look at our 15-month-old’s language and cognitive development. We mostly like what we see.

Unfortunately, lawopen is only as useful as its members make it. As such, we urge responsible lawopen use. At its best, the listserv is a near-instant forum for valuable, if random, student information. Students have used lawopen to ask their peers where they can buy cashier’s checks, borrow crucial pieces for Halloween or Mr. Wolverine costumes, or find good body shops. Students have used lawopen to share bad experiences with local shipping stores, ask for feedback on professors before they register for classes, and learn first-day reading assignments.

Traffic on lawopen is sometimes thick, but a “digest” option — directions for setting this option are included in every lawopen e-mail — can reduce all listserv messages into a single daily e-mail. There are some complaints that the digest edition is difficult to read, and we urge the LSSS to investigate this to help lawopen be all that it can be.

Much of the time, lawopen is a forum for interesting news stories, websites, and spirited discussions. Debate through e-mail allows students to air legal interests which are not often covered in class. It also provides an effective personality filter; students who are overly critical of their peers (e.g. those who engage in “jackassery”) are exposed to the law school community for who they are. The converse is also true; law students who are funny, interesting, or helpful are revealed to a wider audience.

Thank you, lawopen, for 3,517 e-mails (mostly unread).

At its worst, lawopen is a glorified classified section and a forum for student-produced outline begging. Many students use lawopen as a ticket, ride, and bookselling board. They shouldn’t. People sending “for sale” requests to lawopen are the Viagra Spammers of the law school community and should be shunned accordingly.

At its inception, lawopen was intended as a forum for free debate and helpful communication, with any sort of normative transgressions enforced by public condemnation. We offer this reminder in the hopes that it helps foster more responsible lawopen postings, or at least provides fodder for a “What does the RG think its doing telling me what I can or can’t post?” thread.

The law school already has an online classified section, and its own student-run used book store, Booktrader. These resources, unfortunately, lack the convenience and direct spam e-mail capability of a lawopen post. The classified ad section requires students to log-in, which restricts its ease of use. It should be open for public viewing (who cares if a business student is willing to give a law student money - we should get used to it), and only limit postings to logged-in users. Booktrader should be open more often, or open the space for more valuable use.

On the particular point of outline begging: student-produced outlines do exist and can be helpful as study aids (not so much as study replacements). However, using lawopen to short circuit the old methods of obtaining outlines - joining groups or being nice to other students - is simply annoying to most people on the list. In the past, students in pursuit of outlines had to develop transferable networking skills or perform monotonous cite-checking to earn their aids. We ask the law school community to make friends with each other, both in general and as a means of outline acquirement. Resist the urge to confess your frustration with your course work to an entire listserv.

Taken together, the good of lawopen far outweighs the bad. Most students use lawopen responsibly, and it remains an entertaining and informative tool for facilitating student communication. If you’ve opted out of lawopen, we urge you to opt back in, both in your hearts and in your inboxes. At least sign up for the digest edition. After all, where else could you ask for a VHS copy of last week’s episode of “West Wing” and receive four offers to borrow one in 47 seconds or less?
The King of Spain Never Rushes

By Adam Dubinsky, Mr. Wolverine, 2005

I’m doing fine, actually. I appreciate the supportive looks and sympathy, and I do not begrudge you the concerned conversations in suppressed whispers you have in the halls of Hutchins as I pass. I am no longer Mr. Wolverine, but you know what? I’m fine with that. Heck, I think it’s a blessing. It’s a relief.

My passage into obscurity has released me from the iron shackles of social obligation. Hypothetically, were my peers still inviting me to the various parties and fetes I’ve been hearing about after the fact, I would finally feel comfortable politely declining. Since that’s not the case, however, my social calendar is as clear as the approaching spring. I can return to this sober business of legal studies without even the distraction of my girlfriend, who unceremoniously dumped me a week after I lost the crown.

Two weeks ago, that would have been an invitation to solicit dates, but I know it simply does not matter now. If a nubile IL casts her gaze in my direction, it is only to giggle over my thinning J. Alfred Prufrock hair. These days, all everyone can talk about is Josh Deahl’s beautiful, bald (i.e., shaved) pate. He deserves it—fueling the fire of law school’s lusty loins with sex appeal wrung from a Professor Friedman impression could only be accomplished by the true Mr. Wolverine. Who would bother to dwell on the fading memory of the cheap parlor tricks characterizing my victorious performance, such as wearing a propeller-beanie, when it is so easy to be dazzled by even a fraction of the fresh antics of my Patron Professor, Jim Krier.

We all fell in love with Jeremy Schwartz as he rode Yaz Chubin’s old bike on stage to deliver her a rose. Our hearts tripled the pace of their beats when Paul Mata’s flawless Professor Evans impression brought us back to the trauma of fiddling with a microphone while on call in EO. We could not help but cheer for Chris White’s unrestrained “Go Blue Braveheart.” And as for Andrew Vouziers’ mastery of Dean Croley… let me just say that the last time I was that aroused was while taking Civ Pro from the Adonis of Academic Affairs himself.

It’s good to be King.
Attractive Nuisance:
Introducing the Poetry of Ranier Maria Rilke

By Jay Surdukowski

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926) is this week’s poet, the earliest I have written on thus far. He belongs in a series on contemporary poetry because he is one of the fathers of modernism and a true poet’s poet.

Archaic Torso of Apollo

We cannot know his legendary head with eyes like ripening fruit. And yet his torso is still suffused with brilliance from inside, like a lamp, in which his gaze, now turned to low,
glooms in all its power. Otherwise the curved breast could not dazzle you so, nor could a smile run through the placid hips and thighs to that dark center where procreation flared.

Otherwise this stone would seem defaced beneath the translucent cascade of the shoulders and would not glisten like a wild beast’s fur:

would not, from all the borders of itself, burst like a star; for here there is no place that does not see you. You must change your life.

Rilke’s biography is well rehearsed and I won’t delve deeper than the superficial and the curious. It is true that Rilke was dressed in a little girl’s clothes for the first years of his life. This to compensate for a daughter of his mother that died. He was not a happy kid and was forced into military school. But, his parents did encourage poetry and the world is grateful. His kiddie cross-dressing did not affect his sexuality in any marked way. His lifelong love was a woman aptly named Salome, even though she was 14 years his senior and married to someone else. Over the course of his life, he had many other female lovers and a brief marital interlude with a pupil of Rodin.

Rilke was remarkably well-connected and completed his most famous books - Sonnets to Orpheus and the Duino Elegies - while staying in the stately castles of friends. One such acquaintance was Princess Marie von Thurn und Taxis-Hohenlohe. It is her castle at Duino that gave its name to the poems started there.

His work is almost universally admired by poets, other writers, and thoughtful people. Boris Pasternak was enamoured and exchanged letters with Rilke the year he died. My favorite philosopher (save Kant), the earnest Ludwig Wittgenstein was another admirer. Rilke captured so much of the anxiety of the fin de siècle and the First World War Years that it is not surprising he would be a poignant voice for thinkers and writers.

This poem is one of Rilke’s most famous, and has been translated from the German many times. The Stephen Mitchell treatment, published in 1995, is regarded as the best, and this is the one I share with you.

The work is part of a series of “thing” poems in which Rilke sought to be in touch with the profound quiet in objects, taking inspiration from the mastery of Rodin’s sculptures. He meditated long and hard and sought to find something of the eternal in things. Objects are not dead in his oeuvre; quite the contrary. His subject here is a bust of Apollo that somehow enchants the speaker, despite the fact of missing limbs and head.

This poem has haunted me for years, especially the last year and a half. It is a poem that forcefully argues for life, for flesh, for vitality. We imagine the sickly, thoughtful Rilke contemplating the sculpture in a grimy European museum in a time of religious, moral, and sexual crisis. You have the thin and pale Rilke nosing his way among the still art—the artifacts and artifice of the generations—maybe sad, maybe wistful, maybe detached from life. And suddenly here is this image of the body’s power, throbbing in spite of all odds, in spite of imperfection. The poet’s body is territorically weak; Apollo’s form is strong, the body of a god, “burst[jing] like a star,” hurling hard “from all the borders of itself.” It is the body of a lover. A body that provokes the devastating and brutally honest imperative of the final line: “You must change your life.”

Jay Surdukowski is a 3L. E-mail comments about this article to jay at darko@uminich.edu.
Rogue Wave Hits High Tide with  
Descended Like Vultures

By Andrea Hunt

It’s got to be hard to avoid being compared to The Shins when you’ve signed with Sub Pop for your second album and your first album was a low-fi tour de force. But Zach Rogue, (nee Schwartz), will just have to get used to it. For his band, Rogue Wave, the comparisons to The Shins are abundant and well-founded. Zach’s wispy, layered vocals fill the void left by James Mercer since 2003, when The Shins released their most recent album, Chutes Too Narrow. And Rogue Wave’s sometimes cheerful, sometimes introspective melodies support the notion that the band has come to take The Shins’ place, or at least supplement their efforts.

The influence is most apparent in “Are You On My Side,” which, even from its opening coos, is pure Shins, while “Catform” and “You” echo the mournful air of The Shins’ “Sphagnum Esplanade.” Furthermore, Rogue Wave seem to have no qualms about borrowing liberally from The Shins’ lyrics: compare “Bird on a Wire”’s line: “You’re a bird on a wire and you’re wrestling” to “You cannot wrestle a dove” from The Shins’ “Gone For Good.” Imitation is the sincerest form of wrestling. It’s a joke. I was seeing if you were paying attention.

Finally, the cover art for Rogue Wave’s latest album, Descended Like Vultures, even looks a little like Chutes Too Narrow—maybe if the monkey on the cover of Chutes had dressed as a monster for Halloween.

But to describe Rogue Wave merely as another Shins is to ignore half of their songs. In fact, the best or the worst thing about Descended Like Vultures is the album’s split personality. Descended’s opener, “Bird on a Wire,” is a fun, catchy, mellow little waltz. By contrast, “10:1,” the album’s first single, is energetic to the point of inducing a little anxiety. Don’t listen to it when you’re on Ritalin, or during finals. The whole point of making “10:1” the album’s first single may have been to show that Rogue Wave isn’t just another shoe-gazing Sub Pop band—they’ve got an edgy side. The problem is they seem to be faking it. The screechy guitar riffs and liberally filtered vocals don’t mesh with anything else on the album.

The album’s schizophrenia, or maybe just “10:1”’s incompatibility, further manifests itself in “California,” and “Temporary,” folksy, peaceful songs that feature only acoustic guitars and a hint of strings, without any of “10:1”’s anxiety or over-production. In fact, these songs are as relaxing as “10:1” is nerve-racking. “Publish My Love” and “Medicine Ball” are guitar and drums driven, but the airy vocals allow them to retain the mellow quality that make Rogue Wave’s sound somewhat cohesive.

All of this leads to the conclusion that Rogue Wave are on an existential journey, searching for their niche in the indie music scene. Are they the next coming of The Shins? Why would a person change his last name to Rogue? Can Rogue Wave really be very indie considering that “Publish My Love” is featured on The O.C. Mix 5?

The answers to these questions are beyond the scope of this review, but if you’d like to accompany Rogue Wave on the journey to find themselves, you’re in luck. They’ll be in Detroit March 6th at the Magic Stick, with Nada Surf. That means you have just enough time to buy (download?) Descended Like Vultures, judge them for yourself, then tell them what you think.

Res Gestae • February 7, 2006
3L Joshua Deahl Captures Crown at Mr. Wolverine, Fri., Jan. 27
How to Get Better Grades in Law School
Just by Talking Real Smart-Like

By Mike Murphy

These are the grade-coming-back days, the days in which law students find it most difficult to remain residually human. Most law students have one grade that haunts their transcript for the rest of their days (or, at least, until they're out of school for 2-3 years and nobody gives the least crap what their grades were). Some of you may have just received that grade. Some of us have more than one of them.

Don’t despair. Grades are by no means indicative of your worth as a law student or a human being. Panic, desperation and self-loathing rarely translate into anything positive, except possibly quality rock music. But you’re in law school, not rock school, and in the midst of that vocational error you have time to turn it around.

But how? Your grades are generally based on two factors: exams and class participation. Exams are grades you earn mano-a-mano battling your professor’s wicked fact patterns on the frozen tundra of EBB (unless you cheat, in which case it’s more of a ménage à trois). Class participation, however, is a grade (or adjustment) that you earn in the presence of your peers during class time. Unless, of course, you have relations with the professor. Professors say they consider quality, not quantity when they make class participation-based (and, I’m assuming, relations-based) grading decisions.

What that means is, don’t talk more in class because your grades last semester sucked, since you may run a real risk of social condemnation. Law school class discussion generally follows the Socratic method, a dialectical system which teaches through participation and observation of a two-person conversation. (It took most of my remaining brain cells to compose that sentence.) The essence of this observation, through which most students learn the material, is necessarily critical. Thus in law school today exists a phenomenon in which students who participate in class overzealously become social pariahs, called “gunners” by their fellow students. (If you don’t know what a gunner is, see the classic statement about poker: “If you can’t spot the sucker in your first half hour at the table, then you ARE the sucker.”)

“Gunners” will argue that they are merely maximizing the utility of their law school experience by maintaining a high level of engagement in class discussion. Their critics will argue that gunners decrease the total utility of the class period making statements that do not contribute to class discussion and by asking questions that are more appropriate for office hours. Thus, the total utility of the 55-minute class period is decreased.

The irony of the gunner vs. everyone else argument is that each side is right. Total utility of a class session may be diminished by a monopolization of Socratic debate, but the utility of a class session increases for those who do participate. Whatever social condemnation other students heap upon them is counterbalanced by the real fact that frequent participants get a large benefit out of a class period.

I am speaking of no one law student in particular, of course. Nor do I mean to suggest that people should talk less in class. I'd say the worst feeling in the world for students and faculty is to sit through “the silence of death.” It’s that awful quiet that happens when the class is turned over to the students for discussion and the only sounds are the perpetual beeping of backing-up construction machinery next door. (Seriously, how long can you back up a truck? Are they driving up and down State Street backwards? What the hell are they doing over there?).

I’m suggesting, rather, that students who contribute to class discussion formulate a thought that has a beginning, a middle (you could call this the “point”) and an end. The end is important; most of the worst verbal gaffes I’ve made here came at the end of long, disjointed statements. My experience in moot court made me realize how easy it is to quickly talk myself into a corner; at least in class I can stop talking.

If a complete thought is impossible since the idea itself is in a mental protozoan state, no problem! I propose that students merely speak without an air of authority, prefacing their statement with “I’m not sure about this, but” or “I wonder if” or, best of all, phrasing their contributions in the form of a question. (This makes class like Jeopardy! but much more expensive.) A question is, of course, a scarier statement to make than a poorly-reasoned but confidently-asserted argument. Asking a question seems to imply that you don’t understand the material, which is as much of a faux pas in law school as criticizing your professor in front of your class.

If you feel that gunners are ruining your law school experience, stop cursing the darkness and light a candle. Talk. If you don’t like gunners, your silence isn’t just acquiescence; it’s encouragement. If you think the guy on the left side of the room makes ridiculous points, challenge him in one-on-one hardcore Socratic Action. (That came out wrong). There cannot possibly be enough time for one or two people to dominate class discussion if most of the class attempts to participate. Empowerment is only a hand-raise away. Your grades might still suck, but at least you’ll enjoy law school more.

I’m now off to beat up my nerdy gunner self by the bike racks, take my own lunch money and give myself a wedgie.

Mike Murphy is a 3L with his hand up in class. Again. E-mail Mike at murphym@umich.edu.
The Last Chance... to do What?

By Matt Nolan

As I was sitting home over winter break, attempting to let life sink in and evaluate where things are, I spent some time thinking about what I wanted to do with my final (and 14th) semester on campus in Ann Arbor. I made a list of things I wanted to do in order to really take advantage of living on a college campus and having free time.

I realize, though, that there is no consensus as to what “taking advantage of being on a college campus” really is.

For some people, being on a college campus signifies freedom from authority. We set our own schedules, have a plethora of free time and can go out for drinks on most nights with little to no negative consequence. If a Michigan basketball game means not getting Securities Regulation reading done, then that’s what happens because “the real world” won’t let you do that. Maximizing this period of freedom is essential.

For others, the intellectual experience of the University and law school themselves are to be cherished. Having the ability to show up to class with 100 brilliant people, interesting issues, and nothing on the line (except grades) is a rare opportunity. To be able to think critically about how the world works and how it should work with this group of people and great minds at the lectern is something that won’t always be available. So giving it your best all of the time you are here, especially at the end, is critically important.

A third way to approach a final semester would be to get involved with all of the things you always wanted to do but hadn’t gotten around to yet or never thought could fit into the equation, now that time is about to be gone. Activities that fit this mindset would be joining a new student organization, doing something with an old one that had always been pushed to the back burner, attending more law school events, taking professors out for lunch, or volunteering for admissions, and so on. It’s a lot easier to do this while on campus than afterward, so making sure there was “nothing you missed” on campus could also be the right way to spend a final semester.

Michael Crichton wrote, “I am certain there is too much certainty in the world.” There are no right or wrong answers for what to do with the time we have here in law school, but the one imperative that we all have is to think about the consequences that naturally flow from those decisions and accept them.

What about the free time component? Rather than spending it studying extra, going out more, or joining student organizations, why not use the time to clean up contact lists, get in touch with old friends, or reconnect with old interests and solidify relationships? Did you love skateboarding in high school but gave it up out of necessity for college and law school? Start up again! How about investing extra family time before the demands of work and new cities will, for many, put strains on those relationships, too?

For those of us who aren’t engaged or married, what about dating? I’ve never seriously thought about when I’d like to be married and have children but have always pretty much assumed the former would be roughly in the second half of my twenties and the latter either then or in my early thirties. The time window for that to happen is shrinking rapidly, and the vast majority of us will have work demands that leave less time for dating than we have now. Should that be what we’re thinking of before leaving campus? Should it not?

After thinking about this a bit now that January has come to an end, I’ve come up with the following conclusion: there is no right answer. Personally, I want to be able to look at my seven years at Michigan and be able to say I didn’t hold anything back, but that’s obviously impossible. By choosing to be involved with many organizations, I chose on some level not to give 100% to classes. By choosing to attend football games, I chose on some level to limit my weekend dating life.

Michael Crichton wrote, “I am certain there is too much certainty in the world.” There are no right or wrong answers for what to do with the time we have here in law school, but the one imperative that we all have is to think about the consequences that naturally flow from those decisions and accept them. You can’t complain about your situation if you’re not willing to make the tradeoffs necessary to change it, because every benefit has a cost. I have no sympathy for the person who chooses to take weekend trips three times a month and then complains about not having money, or the person who never spends a dime but complains about not having enough fun.

Life is a balancing act. Figuring out what your priorities are is a big part of keeping it balanced. My priorities will be different from yours, but understanding them and coming to terms with them will make both of us enjoy the little time we have left, here and in the rest of life, that much more.

Matt Nolan is a 3L who spends altogether too much time focusing on thoughts like this and much too little learning. Transnational Law, but hopes that choice will serve him well in the end. E-mail Matt at mjnolan@umich.edu.
50 Ways to Leave Your Landlord

By Nate Kurtis

It has been said that careful planning, hard work, and constant effort can make time in the future; but procrastination makes time right now! Yet, there are a few matters in which procrastination will get you in trouble. One stellar example is in the search for off campus housing. If you've dawdled until now, it's too late! All the apartments in Ann Arbor are rented by this point – at least probably. I didn't actually look into this; but it makes sense. We all know how competitive the apartment race can be; and your fellow law students are über competitive already:

Law Student 1: I'm not competitive.
Law Student 2: I'm more uncompetitive than you.
Law Student 1: Well, I'm the most uncompetitive!

But, those of you out in the cold are not out of luck. There are always other options. Best Buy is currently miming a spedal on Large Side-by-Side Refrigerators with Bottom-Mount Freezers. At first blush, $1,499.99 might seem steep. But you have to consider that, for the price, you get more than just a refrigerator: you also get the refrigerator box!

Measuring 25 cubic feet, the box is actually larger than most Ann Arbor apartments. It is both better insulated and more portable; and, for roughly the same cost as one full month's rent at those other apartments, you get the box forever!

When I sent a request to lawopen for student's landlord experiences, I expected some real dirt on the Ann Arbor landlords. I hoped those, combined with the landlords' own views, would make for a juicy article. I had visions of refereeing - Judge Mills Lane style - a celebrity death match of epic proportions. [And, if GoogleFight.com is any indication, landlords would beat landlord 30,200,000 to 14,500,000].

The responses blew even my expectations out of the water. No sooner had I sent my request than my inbox was flooded with requests for hockey tickets. Sorting through them all, I did find a few student replies. But, those e-mails weren't mad. Why, those e-mails were glad! All the Whos down in Whoville, the tall and the small, were singing! Without any presents at all!

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"I had a break-in once because there were no locks on the windows. When I called the landlord, they accused us of stashing our own stuff.... [One of their] chief complaints was that we didn't call them right away, but called the police first. I couldn't believe it."
Jordon Seidel, 2L
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"I have the best landlord ever," writes Erin Conlon, '05. "He's great; he even got me an industrial grade garbage disposal and checks the house during breaks. I love him!" Angela Tyler, 1L, shared similar sentiments: "I have a really wonderful landlord by the name of John Wessinger. He keeps the houses in EXCELLENT condition...., fixes any problem ASAP, and seems to genuinely care about his tenants...." Sarah Molenkamp, 1L, is "very happy" with her current landlord, Oppenheimer; and Winston Collier, 3L, has "had a great experience with the Nob Hill complex."

Not all the responses were so rosy. Before moving into her current apartment, Molenkamp "took legal action against [her] summer sublet landlords.... They [had] entered without permission and stole[n] stuff from [her]."
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Heather Freiburger, 2L, rented a house with "real heating issues" from an independent landlord. It wasn't much of an issue in August, but when Ann Arbor — and the apartment- started to get colder, she brought the situation to the attention of her landlord and was advised to "stay elsewhere for the night." The situation only got worse, and she was ultimately forced to break her lease. Those who think Freiburger a wimp for complaining about a little cold should know that one of her housemates "had a goldfish die because the bowl froze over."

"I had a break-in once because there were no locks on the windows," reports Jordon Seidel, 2L. "When I called the landlord, they accused us of stashing our own stuff. [One of their] chief complaints was that we didn't call them right away, but called the police first. I couldn't believe it."

Conlon recalls serious problems with a house rented from Copi Properties. When she moved in, she found "the carpets were soggy and dirty, there were broken windows in the kitchen and back door, there was black mold from the kitchen down into the basement, and the prior tenants had written and painted graffiti all over the walls." Her landlord did nothing about these issues, but offered to compensate her and her roommates if they would take care of the situation themselves. Even the outside of their house was a mess. The lawn was piled with garbage, which was cleared away to reveal broken bottles. Once the bottles were removed, it turned out there was no lawn at all, simply a dirt hole that "created muddy conditions for the inside of the house. Since it was September, we knew that we wouldn't be able to get real grass to grow so we went to Lowe's, bought plastic lining and Astroturf, and laid out our own yard."

CONTINUED on Next Page
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Yet, despite the assorted instances of Astroturf and dead fish, the great weight of the responses were practically glowing. I find it difficult to believe that only four students in the entire law school have had issues with their landlords. Now granted, a survey on lawopen is anything but scientific, and those students who have frozen solid or are busy fighting rats for their suppers probably didn’t have time to reply to my e-mail. But that alone doesn’t explain the generally positive taint of the majority of respondents. What is going on here? This is Ann Arbor, not Pleasantville! Were you afraid you’d be outted to your landlords? Do you honestly think we at the RG have that kind of circulation?

If the tenants’ responses were a surprise, what I got from the landlords was downright shocking. “Tenants are becoming more serious and responsible,” said Zack Mintzias of the Madison Property Company, capturing the general sentiment of landlord responses. Mintzias noted that most of his tenants were respectful of their apartments and explained that, generally, “each tenant should treat the property as if it was their own home, minus the landlord’s responsibilities of maintenance.”

On the issue of the current later-showing-date debate in the Ann Arbor City Council, Mintzias holds that the proposal “will not work. It is best to keep the current market free and let landlords and renters work it out.” He observed that fault here lies as much with the renters. Other landlords agree, saying there are students inquiring about apartments on the first day of school – the gunners of the housing search, if you will – and ultimately it is a student-driven timeline. Landlords argue that if lease signings are held back until November, and everyone tries to view houses and sign leases at once, it will only be worse – with all the current housing search issues simply compressed in time.

Since law school students are practically charmed when it comes to finding landlords, it seems silly to offer advice on what they should be looking for when renting, but in the interest of completeness: “The most important things that anyone wants in a landlord are someone who is reliable, easily available, and friendly,” recommends Ben Schweigert, 1L, whose own landlord, Peter, is all of those things. Mintzias agrees, suggesting that before a student signs a lease, they should be familiar with their prospective landlord’s reliability and accessibility.

The University Housing Information Office offers still more advice. They suggest that before even looking at apartments you list specifically what you are looking for – your personal deal breakers. “Money, location and space requirements are the most common for students, but your personal ‘absolutes’ should reflect whatever is important to you.” Once you know the features you want, familiarize yourself with the area. “Get a sense of how far things are from your classroom buildings, the library, the campus recreation buildings and anywhere else you’ll be visiting often.” Make sure to visit more than one place before making a decision, and even when you’ve found a location you like, ask questions and get to know your prospective landlords before signing anything.

As I said, these tips are surely useless to the law school community who, it seems, have managed to rent from the greatest landlords on earth. Though I guess, viewed pragmatically, my landlord is pretty good too. She has yet to evict me, so she can’t be all bad.

Nate Kurtis is a 1L who feels very sorry for his landlord. Questions, comments, and suggestions on how to repair large holes in the wall can be sent to nkurtis@umich.edu. No other warranties expressed or implied.

Same Wine,
Different Place

The University of Michigan Museum of Art hosted this semester’s Faculty/Student Wine and Cheese social on Friday, Feb. 3.
2006 Honda Civic Si: Return of the King

By Steve Boender

Honda began selling the latest installment of its gazillion-selling Civic model a few months ago. This new generation of the Civic replaces the disappointing previous incarnation that, although it sold in characteristically high volume, was seen as a disappointment. With this latest installment, Honda is making a statement: we're back. Winning both Motor Trend Car of the Year and Car of the Year at the recent North American International Auto Show in Detroit, it's safe to say that Honda has made that statement with authority.

The Civic Si has always been the cool kid in the Civic family (which offers a coupe, sedan, and sedan hybrid along with the Si). The Si always has a bit more horsepower, better handling, and various other high-performance touches. The old Civic Si, like its pedestrian Civic brethren, was a disappointment. It came in an ill-received hatchback form, offered only 160 hp, and suffered from “wishy-washy” handling.

With its current generation Si, Honda not only makes up for these shortcomings but also raises the bar for its competition to heights that must have their small-car competitors like Nissan and Toyota scratching their heads wondering what to do next (while small-car also-rans like Ford and GM simply do what they always do: cut production).

The vital statistics on the 2006 Si: it sports a 2.0-liter naturally aspirated 4-cylinder engine mated to a short-throw 6-speed transmission, helical-type limited slip differential, performance-tuned suspension, 17” aluminum wheels, racing-inspired seats with red piping and the “Si” logo, and a rear decklid spoiler. While all of these features fall into the “nice-to-have” category, two standouts are the engine and the limited slip differential, which is a device in the driveline which enables high-speed cornering with minimal loss of traction. Most vehicles, aside from top-of-the-line performance cars, do not have them.

From the moment you start the Si, you can tell you are in a car that was built to be driven. From the low rumble of the tuned intake and exhaust to the large tachometer with its 8,200 RPM (!!) redline, the car simply begs the driver to hit the highway.

In normal day-to-day driving, the Si is fairly refined. The exhaust is a bit louder than a normal car and the ride a bit stiffer owing to the performance-tuned suspension, but the Si is pretty mild mannered overall: the 6-speed shifts smoothly, wind noise is minimal and visibility is high.

The interior is well-designed with all controls within easy reach of the driver. The 350-watt, 7-speaker sound-system and accompanying subwoofer provide decent sound quality and plenty of bass. But, if you wanted a well-designed, refined, and affordable car, you would have bought the regular Civic coupe. The Si is built to be driven hard.

Remember that scene in The Jerk when Navin Johnson suddenly realizes that his check is for $250,000 instead of just $250? That’s the sort of realization that hits the driver when the engine reaches 6,200 RPM. At that point, the VTEC (Variable Valve Timing and Lift Electronic Control System) kicks in and the car gets much louder, and much faster. A regular highway on-ramp becomes the exit from pit road at Laguna Seca, and the ordinary driver transforms into Michael Schumacher (or Danica Patrick). This performance isn’t limited to the sensory realm. In track testing, the Si handles the slalom at 70 mph, which is BMW M3 territory, and finishes the quarter-mile in 15.1 seconds, a solid time for a car in this price range.

Handling is superior to the competition as well, with minimal body roll and just a tinge of understeer – overall the chassis provides solid balance, and although the steering is a tad numb, the driver gets plenty of feedback to alter the course accordingly. Oh yeah, and for the environmentalists among us, the Si gets an EPA-estimated fuel economy of 22/31 (city/highway) miles per gallon and Low Emission Vehicle status. For performance and features usually found on high-end vehicles, one may expect to pay a significant premium but this isn’t the case. The Civic Si lists at just under $20,000, an insanely good value.

In addition, the owner has little to fear by way of depreciation, as a 1999 Civic Si in decent condition still sells for near its
BRENSIKE, from Page 5

ten years in prison in Maryland. I don’t think ten years in prison is a fair or just
punishment for that act. So it’s easy to fight for the innocent or the overcharged.
As for the “truly guilty,” first of all, it is important to remember that you often
don’t know who is and who isn’t guilty. Guilty people don’t come in wearing
gamers. And it isn’t your job to pre-
judge your clients. Moreover, there are
often mental health or substance abuse
problems that explain clients’ behavior.
It doesn’t justify their actions, but it is a
mitigating factor.

I also truly believe that good people
sometimes do bad things. When a
client tells me, “Yeah, I broke into that
store and stole that stuff, but I lost my
job last week. I have no money. And I
have four kids at home,” it is easy to
understand why he did what he did. It
doesn’t make it “right,” but it does make
it understandable. Look, I don’t know
who I would be if I had been born to a
crack whore mom in Southeast D.C. Who
would I have grown up to become? What
life would I be living now if the gang was
my only support network as a kid? It’s
easy to fight for people who’ve never had
anyone to fight for them. It’s empowering
to be a voice for someone who has spent
his or her whole life oppressed.

What happens after, after they have
served the jail time, and they come back
and commit another crime? You must see
a lot of the same people over and over
again. How do you deal with that?

Is there a recidivism problem? Certainly.
Why? In part, because our penal system
doesn’t do that great a job. When someone
is arrested for stealing 46 razors, you
look at that report and know there’s an
addiction problem. People steal razors
because they can sell them on the street
to buy drugs. When you lock that person
up for three months, yes, you’ll de-tox the
person. But when you dump that person
back into the very same community with
no additional support, is it surprising that
he goes back to drugs? I think the system
has given up on rehabilitation in a lot of
ways, in part because mental health and
substance abuse are such huge problems,
and the system doesn’t know how to deal
with them. We need better programs, both
in prison and in our communities. It won’t
fix the problem, but it is a start.

Do you want to stay at Michigan?
Do you have any idea what you want
to do?

The big question. I came to Michigan
last January for an 18-month position. I’ve
spent the last six months or so going “on
the market” for a tenure-track teaching
position. It has been an unbelievably
grueling process.

Did you have any idea what it would
be like?

No. It’s beyond your wildest imagination
how insanely bizarre this process is.

What do you have to do? We don’t have
to put this in the article.

No, this should go in the article. There
are a lot of people here who think they want
to go into teaching, right? And it would be
helpful for them to know about the process.
In July of the year before you want to start
teaching, you submit an application to
the American Association of Law Schools
(AALS). The application consists of a
C.V. and your answers to twenty-some
questions about your publication record,
teaching experience, teaching interests,
and academic background. The AALS
sends your application materials off to
law schools around the country at the end
of the summer. The personnel committee
at each law school then reads through
the applications to make the first cut. In
October or November of each year, there
is a conference in Washington D.C.

Every law school sends a group of
interviewers to this conference. For two
days, they interview candidates in a series
of half-hour interviews. If a school wants
to interview you at this conference, they
will call you sometime between August
and the date of the conference to schedule
an interview. It is a little crazy, because
you can wind up having over twenty
interviews in two days if you are fortunate

KING, from Page 7

quivering chin and spindly fingers, but
as former poet laureate of the United
States Stanley Kunitz, (from Worcester!)
wrote, “Whatever you choose to claim/
off me is always yours/ Nothing is truly
mine/ except my name./ I only borrowed
this dust.” My name is Adam David
Dubinsky, Mr. Wolverine, 2005.

Now sincerely: Thank you for a fantastic
year (e-mail me at duby@umich.edu if
you’d like a copy of the slideshow). After
all of my life’s roaming, I can honestly say
there is no place quite like our law school,
and few places as wonderful.
ACROSS

1. Insect stage
6. MD trail
9. Tennyson's trod
14. Lacks sense
15. Spanish cry
16. Auras of glory
17. Columbus ship
18. Marriage promise
19. Poems
20. Uproot
22. Carlton song
23. Maiden name indicator
24. Idea (freebie)
26. Shrub
30. Personality journeys
34. "Duly _"
35. Do you?
36. Tibetan gazelle
37. Knowledgeably
38. Gambian language
39. Addition
40. Triton's domain
41. _ by me
42. Mumesons
43. Ones who essay
45. Texas murder defense
46. Whimper
47. Naval Acad. student
48. Famous twins
51. Make stand out
57. Scientist's favorite dish
58. Neither
59. Played with plectrum
60. Congress action
61. Hottie
62. 120 degrees apart
63. Indian wrap
64. Type of bunny
65. German city

DOWN

1. Wind or bag
2. Computer lingo
3. Tired dog
4. Against
5. Erudite
6. Bright stars
7. Coagulate
8. Stepped on scale again
9. Furthermore
10. Double-edged sword
11. NC 28660
12. MDs
13. 65 across without "n"
21. Pod insider
25. Portal
26. Mediterranean herb
27. Time and loading, e.g.
28. Condemned Titan
29. Meadow
30. Acquires
31. Ice house
32. Puppy, e.g.
33. Chic
35. One year olds
38. Boil
39. Bar
41. Igneous rock
42. Donna or Calvin
44. Court punishment
45. Nothing
47. _ gras
48. Poet's opens
49. 11 down actor
50. Celebrity
52. Seized
53. Autos
54. Purple flower
55. Diet
56. Garden

Answer Key on Page 20
CIVIC, from Page 16

1999 invoice price, depreciating a mere $1,500 in 7 years. It's hard to ask for better value retention than that. Add to that Honda's legendary reputation for quality and the Civic Si appeals as strongly to the pragmatist in all of us as it does to our secret desire to be a Speed Racer.

With its exhilarating performance, top-shelf quality, and too-good-to-be-true value, it is hard to find fault in the Si; but I'll do my best. For one, the drive-by-wire accelerator (translation: instead of a cable connecting the gas pedal to the throttle, a computer senses pedal position and sends electronic instructions to the throttle) tends to lag on RPMs such that when you let off the accelerator between shifts, the engine stays at a high RPM for a few seconds.

Additionally, the rear decklid spoiler oversells the whole boy-racer thing, and cheapens the car's otherwise innovative and attractive appearance. Finally, the iPod integration, designed by stereo manufacturer Alpine, is crap. The sound quality is poor, menu navigation is clunky, and setting up your iPod and PC to work with the car is a process only Rube Goldberg could love.

These minor complaints aside, the Civic Si is a true return to Honda's high-performance heritage. It offers reasonable fuel economy in an affordable package without relegating itself to cookie-cutter small-car boredom. It may not have the bling or creature comforts of the $40,000+ Japanese and German performance sedans many of us will be buying in the next few years, but as far as performance and fun-to-drive-ness go, the 2006 Civic Si is alone at the top; and, it will leave you about $20,000 left over for student loan payments.
EMALSA Presents
A Grammy Watching Party
Watch the
48th Annual Grammy Awards!
Wed. Feb. 8
7:00pm
Conor O’Neills, Main Street
For more info contact rshenk@umich.edu

Bar Month Continues at Leopold’s, Thurs. Feb. 9
and Studio 4 Thurs. Feb. 16
Don’t forget to take the MeetSheet Quiz by Feb. 7:
Results can be purchased for $1 at Leopold’s on Feb. 9.

The Henry M. Campbell Moot Court Competition
will be holding
Quarterfinal Rounds of Oral Arguments
Feb. 8, 9, 10
The arguments will begin at 6 pm each night.
All are welcome to attend!
Competitors, please remember to check your schedules on C-Tools! Good luck!

The Irish Law Students Association invites you to:
Legal Careers & Internships:
Working
For the
Government
featuring
GARY BRESNEHAN
Wayne County (Detroit)
Prosecutor’s Office
Hon. DAN O’BRIEN
Michigan Circuit Court
Thurs., Feb. 16
12:15 p.m.
150 HH

UMLS American Constitution Society Presents
The Debate Over Intelligent Design In the Classroom
Eric Rothschild & Stephen Harvey
of Pepper Hamilton, LLP in Philadelphia served as lead counsel for the plaintiffs last fall in the Dover, Pa., intelligent design case and will speak to the law school community.
Thurs., Feb. 9,
12:20, 150 HH
Food will be provided.