Large And Taking Charge:
A Class of 2007 Profile

By Erick Ong

Hutchins Hall echoes with the throngs of people talking about the Rule Against Perpetuities, or here’s a Tort, there’s a Tort, and about the intricacies of Bargains. Yes, the Law School welcomes in another class of law students to its hallowed grounds.

Sarah Zearfoss, the Assistant Dean of Admissions at the University of Michigan Law School, and one of the many reasons why we chose to attend this prestigious institution of law, was kind enough to sit with me and give the RG the “4-1-1” about the class of 2007.

RG: What goals did the Admissions Office have for this past year’s class and did it meet them?

Z: Every year we seek to enroll a group of students which are not only high in academic caliber, but we try to enroll students that will enrich the law school and bring their own unique qualities and are interesting people. I think we accomplished that this year and this year’s group in particular seem to be a strong group not only academically but are a great bunch of people as well.

Every applicant we accept has something of interest which could benefit the law school. We also try to achieve a good balance of males and females and this year we came very close with a 54:46 split.

RG: In last year’s class we had artists, performers, musicians, PhD students, Olympic contestants, and professional sports players. I see that this year’s applicants have very similar numbers statistically to last year’s. Can you tell us about some particularly interesting enrollees?

Z: I rather not single people out as it makes other students feel less unique, as each admitted student is interesting in his/her own way. Having said that, this year we admitted people who were llama farmers and have met the Dalai Lama.

RG: I noticed that the median and mean age of our applicants has increased this year.

Z: Yes. In prior years our mean age and median age has been 24 and 23, respectively. The mean age this year has increased to 24.2 and the median age to 24.

Traditionally most of our students come straight to law school after finishing their undergraduate degree, however, this year 66% of our students have taken one or more years off after completing their undergraduate degree.

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Student Org Fair Should Last All Year Long

The student organization fair is coming. It’s a chance for every student organization at M-Law to pass out free candy and information about themselves, and collect e-mail addresses. Unfortunately, it seems to many students that their exposure to those campus organizations diminishes significantly after the fair – that some organizations keep to themselves, don’t hold many (or any) meetings, and generally don’t solicit membership throughout the year.

For any student who has anything better (or mandatory) to do that afternoon, this seems unfair.

But is it true? The perception is, realistically, probably the reality. As the year progresses, it does seem that the number of student organizations at M-Law dwindles. Certain organizations are more active than others; that’s for certain. A higher profile might not mean a more active membership, and it’s each organization’s prerogative to do (or not do) what it wants.

Further, some organizations are driven by one (or two) committed individuals who may have busy days, weeks, months or semesters. It’s completely understandable if a student organization isn’t as active as it could be – but it’s a shame if that organization is dormant not for lack of interest, but lack of exposure.

Student organizations should make a concerted effort to remain open-ranked; allowing people to join well beyond the one-day student organization fair. Perhaps a second student organization fair would do the trick; allowing students a second crack to see what organizations are out there - and which ones are in need of self-starting member. Or perhaps LSSS should require each student organization to hold at least two open meetings a semester, to attract new students, in order for that organization to receive funding. Or, perhaps, it’s simply a responsibility for people in positions of authority in student organizations to be always looking for new members. Putting announcements in the student publication of the law school isn’t a bad idea; and can easily be done with an e-mail to rg@umich.edu. We’re happy to help.

The sense of community and congeniality among M-Law students is one of the school’s selling points; it’s the reason why many of us, the RG staff included, are here and are happy to be here. Student organizations are an important part of that community, and the plethora of student organizations gives students dozens of options to spend their limited free time. We’d like to see those options stay open more than one day.
Come for the Football, Stay for the Food: Ann Arbor’s Edible Delights Revealed

By Karen Lockman

The cafeteria food may still look delectable to the first year students, but as the year continues, students are bound to desire a change in their daily cuisine.

Though one might be tempted to frequent the familiar Jimmy Johns, Subway or Wendy’s, Ann Arbor is home to an array of unique hidden treasures that should not be passed over during students’ 3 years at Michigan Law School.

Cheap Eats

Many students agree with 2L Josh Kweller that “Big Ten Burrito is hands-down the best Mexican food in Ann Arbor.” Kweller, a particularly zealous fan states: “The anniversary of the day they opened last year should be a local holiday.”

For “the best wings in town, bar none,” 3L Jeremy Dyme recommends Fraser’s. “It is a total dive bar on Packard near Stadium.”

Dyme also enjoys the 50-year-old Ann Arbor hamburger joint Blimpy Burger’s, which prides itself on being “cheaper than food.”

“Where else can you get a five-patty burger?” says Dyme. 3L Len Gray adds, “and three clogged arteries?”

For healthier options, students can try a Chipati from the Pizza House or Pizza Bobs, or head to Mr. Greek’s Coney Island for a fantastic Greek Salad.

Though it is a little ways off the beaten path, one should not leave Ann Arbor without enjoying a sandwich from the famous Zingerman’s Delicatessen. Any sandwich on their homemade grilled challah is simply divine.

It’s Easy to be a Vegetarian Here

Not surprisingly, Ann Arbor is also an excellent place for vegetarian fare. “Raja Rani is a great place for vegetarian food,” says 2L Pamela Grewal. “Indian food tends to be heavily vegetarian so you can go in and have tons of different things to choose from.” Other popular Indian restaurants near campus include Madras Masala and Shalimar.

2L Jason Sanderson, also a vegetarian, adds that “both Big Ten Burrito and Red Hot Lovers are cheap and close to the law school and have great vegetarian options.”

He warns however, that “Earthen Jar is dirty. There’s been hair in my food there 2 or 3 times. Just nasty!”

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An M-Law Welcome to New Students
From LSSS

By Jay Surdukowski

Along with the cool scent of fall comes a quickness in the blood for all that is happening: starting a new life, finding a job, working on a note, planning activities, leaving Rick's without great gouts of beer on your pants...

We in the Law School Student Senate (LSSS) are eager for this new year and have been at work even through the summer on making it a good one. Student organization funding, facilities issues (like recycling bins, wireless access, and the snack bar) and course selection, among other things, kept us busy in recent months. Here's a quick preview of what's to come in student life and some words of advice (by no means authoritative, as I am barely more than a 1L myself, but they are heartfelt).

The Social

LSSS will soon set a social calendar. After intense discussions in the spring over the student constitution at which our meetings were packed to standing room only, we look forward to working on the social side of the house this week. Old favorites like the Prom, the Halloween Party and Bar Month will certainly continue. But we might also plan some new things, including some family friendly events.

The Political

Already LSSS has been talking about making the callback season better, grading issues, the schedule, student allocations, e-mail delivery, and the law school's participation in University intramurals, to name a few. Also conversations started during the spring election continue: the law school's commitment to public service, and diversity in faculty hiring. Over the course of the next month or so, LSSS will fund student organizations, appoint folks to several dozen law school committees, and run elections for six new members. And something very new: the Deans will now meet with us periodically. Deans Caminker and Johnson visited a packed meeting in April and committed to appear from time to time for better communication.

This LSSS takes its role as the student voice seriously.

Some Words of Advice

If you have come here to do rebellious lawyering, to give your work a shoulder to shoulder and not from behind the mammoth mahogany desk, don't give up. We need you.

If you have come here after seeing massacre sites in Rwanda, where they've left bodies where they fell to mummify as eternal reminders; if you have seen young people with broken faces and missing limbs, if you have come to put perpetrators in jail, or to fight for the prevention of genocide, don't give up. We need you.

If you have come to learn a craft, so that you can return to rural America to be a country lawyer by day and a state senator by night, and someday maybe governor, don't give up. We need you.

If you have come here to learn the language of power, to use law to bring equality to whole parts of our society who cannot marry, serve openly in the military, or enjoy other rights; if you have come here frustrated by appalling state hatred: governors, senators and presidents who condemn you in the words of law for who you love—if you are here to do something about it, don't give up. We need you.

We are lemmings, almost all of us. We jump off the cliff into Lexus-driving Lawyerdom. It doesn't have to be this way. We are a kind community, we have a good foundation as the friendliest of the "top ten." Fellow students and true friends will support you if you want to be a litigator in Alaska this summer, if you want to work with a professor, or if you want to go to Cambodia or Bosnia-Herzegovina or Geneva.

Have the courage of your conviction. Leave yourself open to growth, and not just the growth of the wallet. Remember your why for choosing this life in the law. I suspect 350 people did not write I "heart" Big Law in their admission essay. And if that is the path you truly want, then by all means go for the gold. But stay true to your love of choir, or playwriting, or Faulkner novels, or painting, or social justice—especially your sense of justice. Don't lose your humanity. We need you.

My last bit of advice is personal. Stay open to who may come into your life here. This is a new community, a fresh start. Follow your affections wherever they lead. The people make the place. There are some heartstopping, bright, and kind people at this law school—people who may change you forever. Find time for them. An English poet wrote, "What happens in the heart happens."

What will happen to you?

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Thirty Minutes with Professor Friedman

By Matt Nolan

Richard D. Friedman is the Ralph W. Aigler Professor of Law. He earned a B. A. and a J. D. from Harvard, where he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review, and a D.Phil in modern history from Oxford University. His research focuses principally on evidence and Supreme Court History. He took some time to talk to the RG last week.

Q: Can you tell us how you ended up at Michigan?

A: Well, after clerkship I practiced law in New York for three years and then I went to teaching and I stayed teaching in NYC at Cardozo Law School. I was there for five years. It was a good place—very good college. Then Michigan made me a visiting offer and it's one of the best law schools in the country, so I came out here with great delight.

Q: Had you grown up in Michigan? Where were you originally?

A: I grew up on Long Island, so when I was in New York it was close to home.

Q: So you had been a New York lifer? Had you been a New York lifer?

A: Well, yeah, except for nine years of life for school—college, law school, and two years of graduate school at Oxford. I enjoyed it very much.

So, I came out as a visitor, hoping that the school would make me an offer. I remember feeling like a ball player in the minor leagues getting called up for a look-over and hoping that I can stay. J.J. White was the chair of the Personnel Committee that year.

On November 20th, the faculty made me an offer. I knew coming out it was a great law school. What I had to resolve in my mind is whether I would like living in Ann Arbor. That took me about two weeks. I decided it was a good place to be. Then, before I got my offer, I met my wife. So, I told the dean, “If you make me an offer, I will accept.” That was my hard bargaining.

Q: Did you meet her here or back in New York?

A: We were fixed up here. She's a tow nie. Her father was on the History faculty and she was a graduate student at the time. She was babysitting for a then-colleague of mine. His wife had graduated recently from the program my wife was in.

Q: And the rest is history.

A: Yeah, at the time they made me the offer, I had a pretty good idea I was getting married.

Q: So, it sounds like early on you had a pretty good idea that you wanted to teach law. Was there a certain point when that became clear to you?

A: Actually, it’s hard for me to remember. I’m sure I had some inclination early in law school. I know when I was with a law firm, I never got terribly racked up in whether I was going to be made a partner or not. I mean, I always wanted to do well, get good reviews, but I think I thought I would be out of there before a partnership decision was made. The firm was very generous with me. They made a deal in which I could work half-time and do my own academic work at the same time. I was sufficiently enjoying the litigation and felt that I had enough to learn to try that for a while. Then I think litigation just swallowed up my time, because in litigation there’s always something to be done now. And I didn’t have time to pursue my academic pursuits, so after several months they said, “You know what? We’re going to give you the back-pay—you’re working full-time.” After a little bit more time, I was eager to leave. I thoroughly enjoyed the firm. The work was good and challenging. I knew that the move to academics was one I wanted to make and I was eager to do it. I felt I had gotten to the point where I would just be better off making the switch than waiting.

Q: You’re teaching Civil Procedure this fall. What are your favorite and least favorite things about teaching first-years?

A: The favorite thing is easy: The eagerness and enthusiasm of the students. It’s not hard to get them to prepare, to be there, to participate. All of that becomes harder with the upperclassmen. What goes along with that is that, also, it is fun seeing people come into something brand new and, by the end of the term, see that they’re really beginning to deal with issues in a very orderly way. And that, for me, is pretty exciting. It’s a much more excited and intense

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interesting relationship. The least favorite, I suppose, is just dealing with the tension that generates. Particularly as I teach a fall term course, as I am doing now, you give a mid-term. That's their first real law school exam and it basically offers itself as a lightning rod for a lot of their tensions and anxieties. I do this willingly because I think it is a good thing to do. The atmosphere sometimes gets a little over-wrought. The aspect of being a first-year teacher that generates the most work, aside from grading midterms, is writing clerkship recommendations. Students tend to go to their first-year teachers more than others. I am such a big advocate of derking that a lot of students come to me. It is enormously time-consuming, but I enjoy it. I enjoy it because I think it is a good thing to do and I think it is good for students. I enjoy chatting with students about them and how they're doing, what interesting stuff they are doing, and trying to package that for the judge. That's actually quite gratifying.

Q: Now, you taught quite a few different courses here at the law school. Which of those have been the one you enjoyed the most? Or are there different courses which you enjoy?

A: Asking, "Which is your favorite course?" is a little bit like asking, "Which is your favorite kid?" There are things I enjoy more about one course than about another. The three mainline courses that I am teaching this year are Civil Procedure, Evidence, and Constitutional Law. There are things I enjoy about each of them. Civil Procedure is a quintessential lawyer's course. You get to look at the whole of litigation, so there's this feel of being in litigation. I enjoy the analytical aspects of it. I also enjoy the fact that students tend to find it a better course than they anticipated. They come in with very low expectations, which always mystifies me a little bit, because most of them want to be litigators, so what do they expect? Some of them, after a while, really like it and find that it makes sense. They enjoy thinking about these situations. Evidence, in a way, is the most fun to teach because it transcends a lot of different substantive areas.

Also, I deal with a lot of little problems—we never spend very long on one particular problem. It's just all sorts of different settings. If you don't like this one, something different will come along soon. It draws from an enormous range of intellectual disciplines and orientations. It uses philosophy, logic, sociology, history, and actually a little bit of math. There's a lot of courtroom stuff—psychology is a sizable element. Constitutional Law, of course, you know, we're dealing with some of the base issues that face the nation and the government. I teach a course that's historically oriented because I think it is the best way to go. I think it is important for students to learn constitutional history. It helps put things into context. I also enjoy dealing with current-day matters. Issues dealing with separation of powers, structure of government. I find them fascinating and very important. There are also questions of individual liberty and the overarching themes of the democratic process. All very important. Very exciting.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: I've been teaching since 1982. A little over twenty years.

Q: You have to have some pretty good stories from classes and from students. Can you share a couple of those with us?

A: Well, all right. There was a time I was teaching in the summer. It must have been near the end of the laundry cycle, because the only pair of clean underwear I had on was a pair of boxer shorts with little hearts and cupids on it that had been given to me some years before by a girlfriend. So, I wore them, that day, with a pair of lightweight cotton slacks. I noticed that I could see little hearts peering through the slacks, but I made the calculation that they probably couldn't be seen from a distance. I thought nothing more about it, until probably a year and a half later. I was speaking to a niece of mine who had recently graduated from Cornell. She told me that a friend of hers, who had been a student of mine, mentioned that there was one time that I was wearing underwear with hearts that were showing through my slacks. So, I realized they were visible, but the worst part of it was...I knew the student quite well. She was not in that summer class. So clearly, the story had gotten all around. I later spoke at the graduation of that class and I was able to refer to that event. People found it very amusing. There was actually something else that happened with that class. I went to a party one Friday night, this is 1990, I believe. My wife is some years younger than I am, so at the time she was in her 20s. As we left the party she was very pleased to tell me that she had been asked out by one of the students. I don't think whoever asked her had made the association, but I was able to report on this in class the following Monday and we had a good time. They found that amusing.

Another story: I had a student who's a big Yankees fan and I've bet against the Yankees all my life. In 2000 I bet on the World Series with this student. We bet a head shave. He thought it wasn't fair because he had more to lose than me. He also figured he should be okay, given the odds because the Yankees were the favorites. As events went down, I thought maybe I could make something good come out of this, so I auctioned off the right to shave my head and we raised $600 for SFF for the public shaving done with Cheez Whiz. Because I had seen a guy with a bald head and asked him how to shave it. He said with a Mach 3 razor and Cheez Whiz. So that's what we did and it worked pretty well. I will shave my head again to raise money. The number I've come up with is $1400. If any group or combination of groups can raise that money for SFF, I will do it.

Q: I heard you are in the middle of a pretty big, important treatise. Can you talk a little about that—where that is going and what your research is like?

A: I've got two big projects. The treatise that you mentioned is called the

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New Wigmore Treatise on Evidence. The great treatise on evidence, which dominated the law on evidence for the first three-quarters of the twentieth century was Wigmore. It went through four editions. By now it is very dated. Once the Federal Rules of Evidence were adopted in 1975, they really became the dominant force in evidence law. The Wigmore Treatise is still a very important one. I was asked several years ago to become General Editor of the Treatise and I said I didn't want to become General Editor of a fifth edition, which would simply be like dusting-off a museum piece. I said I'd become General Editor of a new treatise. So, we call it the New Wigmore Treatise. We're doing it from scratch. A few volumes are out on my editorship. I took the portions on hearsay for myself. I've written a lot of pages. I probably have a thousand pages written. Still getting it into publishable form. My other big academic project is totally removed from the Treatise. I have been designated to write the volume on the Hughes Court, that is from 1930-1941 in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the United States Supreme Court. This is a project funded with money left to the government by Justice Holmes at his death. It is a multi-volume history of the Supreme Court. I actually wrote my doctoral dissertation on Hughes as Chief Justice.

Unfortunately, I haven't had time to get to this yet, which bothers me. It's a very exciting project since the 1930s was a period of great constitutional transformation. It is the story of what happened. Why did the Court transform? Was it change in personnel? Was it outside identities? It was not political pressure. It was in large part personnel. That's a big project which excites me.

Q: Last year you were involved in a pretty important Supreme Court case as well.

A: Yes. As a result of working on hearsay and of teaching the course, I had to think very hard about the right of criminal defendants to confront the witnesses against them. I became convinced that understanding this right was the key to understanding the law of hearsay as it is and how it should be. I became convinced that the Supreme Court had gotten it way wrong. The Court had interpreted the Confrontation Right as quite broad, as covering even hearsay, but it was rather incipient that a statement could be admitted even though it was hearsay, if it was deemed reliable. And almost anything could be deemed reliable. I came to the conclusion that the right is about testimonial statements. It's a complex thing, but basically, it is saying that, if someone makes a testimonial statement against you, you have a right to confront that person. It is basically to say, "Do it in front of me, where I can cross-examine you." So, I perceive the right as much narrower, limited to statements that are testimonial in nature. By 'testimonial', I roughly mean, statements made in anticipation of litigation. Within that category, the right is absolute.

A year ago March, I was very excited to see that a 1997 alumnus of the Law School, named Jeffrey Fisher, had filed a petition for certiorari for Crawford v. Washington. The first I heard about it was when he sent me the petition in which he asked the Court to reject the then-prevailing theory and adopt the testimonial approach. I put in an amicus brief. We got Jeff out here to do a moot court on the case. We explored the argument. Then, he asked me to be second chair, so I was at counsel table during the argument. It was phenomenally exciting. Sure enough, in March of this year, they issued the opinion and by a 7-2 vote they adopted the testimonial approach. Big transformation of the law and it is having a significant impact in some cases. What will happen we'll see. I think a lot of lower courts are interpreting this too narrowly. There'll be more Supreme Court cases to determine exactly what the parameters are. It's kept me quite busy.

Q: How long do you hope to teach? How long would you like to be able to do this?

A: I don't have an ending time. I assume that, at some time not far past 70, I would teach less. I see John Reed still teaching in his mid-80s and if I'm up to it, why not? My dad who died this spring (I'm glad to say it was after Crawford) sold life insurance into his 90s. And played tennis. If I could do that, it would be great. As I get into old age, if I can pick the times that I want to teach that
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would be good. It just depends on my appetite and ability to do it.

Q: Is there a finishing point in your work? Or will it always be evolving something new?

A: Well, I have these two big projects that I really want to do. The one is the Treatise. The other is the Supreme Court History. I really want to finish both. The problem is that I keep interrupting myself with other small, medium, and even big projects that I find interesting. I seem always to manage to find things that I find interesting. It’s not as if I say, “Yeah, there’s an endpoint and I want to stop.” Frankly, I anticipate that working off the interesting. It’s not as if I say, “Yeah, there’s an endpoint and I want to stop.”

That’s a shame because sometimes there are people who would rather do something that earns less income. That sounds preachy but at least I feel I’m in a position to say it, having turned away from a big firm New York City practice.

Q: I see the poster on the wall from the New York City Marathon of 1982. Is running still a hobby? If not, what types of things do you do when you’re not at the law school?

A: My sister put that poster together. Yeah, those are pictures of me running. I try to run every day of the weekend and occasionally the week, if I can. I ran that in 1982 and decided I never had to do it again. Then I did it in 1993 with my niece just to keep her company. I have no desire to do it again. I’ve run a few half-marathons since and will probably do some more of those, but I run to stay in shape. I think of tennis as a hobby, but this summer I hardly got to play at all. Most of my summer was spent watching my kids play softball, t-ball, baseball, and tennis. My daughter is actually getting to be quite a good tennis player. Three kids. I don’t know if that counts as a hobby. But now with a dog as well.

Q: How old are your kids?

A: My oldest will be 12 in December. My son will be 7 in November. My youngest one will be 5 on September 17.

Q: These ages keep you busy.

A: Yeah. And it doesn’t get any less so as they get older. Time-consuming in an exciting and gratifying way. I enjoy it all. It just doesn’t leave a lot of time to do other things I might want to do. That’s okay because I’ve done them before. I go to a lot fewer concerts than I used to.

Q: So, you used to go to a lot of concerts? Who is your favorite band?

A: Not that kind of concerts. I go to classical music concerts. I really enjoy classical music and Ann Arbor is a great place for it. I enjoy other kinds as well, though. The third kid did in me. It is basically, go home, spend time with the kids, put them to sleep, then try to get ready for class the next day and fall asleep.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: A good, rare steak ranks near the top of the list. It’s got to be very rare. I also enjoy all sorts of seafood and shellfish. I’m Reform Jewish—don’t keep Kosher.

Q: Do you have a favorite restaurant in Ann Arbor?

A: My favorite one in the Ann Arbor area is probably The Common Grill in Chelsea. My wife and I just went to it and I think the food is very good.

Q: Do you have a favorite drink? Or did you at one time?

A: I drink so little... probably the bloody mary. But I drink so little most law students would think it’s shameful. I go up to free open bars and ask for seltzer mixed with cranberry juice and the bartender looks at me weird.

Q: Anything else you’d like to say to the student body at the law school?

A: I’ve been here now for 17 years and I’ve thoroughly enjoyed it. I’ll be enjoying it for many more years to come, I hope. It’s not only a very good student body, but it’s a very nice student body. The students, as well as everybody else, are very civil and good-natured. It just makes for a wonderful environment to do serious work.

Q: Thanks for sitting down with us.

A: Good luck.
Law Students Hit the Streets for Kerry

From Tom Griffin

A group of law students are leading a large-scale effort to organize Ann Arbor's 14,000-student graduate community into an effective field operation for the Kerry-Edwards campaign.

So far, their efforts are paying off.

Volunteer Recruitment 101

The Coalition to Swing Michigan, so named to emphasize the importance of Michigan's role in the upcoming presidential election, is only one month old—but more than 300 graduate students have joined the group already. This success can be explained, in part, by the unusual degree of interest in this year's election.

"There is an incredible amount of resentment against Bush on this campus," said Alex Donn, the group's founder. "We're trying to translate that anger into something productive."

The Coalition's success in identifying volunteers can also be explained by its diverse network of graduate student contacts. With representatives in each of the University's major graduate programs, the group is able to keep track of countless orientation schedules, mandatory meetings, and other rich recruiting opportunities.

Jenna Hunter, the Coalition's contact at the School of Public Health, believes that to succeed, the group needs contacts in every corner of the graduate community. "There's so much going on all the time that we're always looking for people to help us identify good ways to recruit volunteers."

Because students are constantly moving in and out of Ann Arbor - and within the City itself - these areas are notoriously difficult to organize. Just figuring out who lives in each house is hard work, but it can be rewarding.

Adil Haq, a volunteer and graduate student in the South Asian Studies program, who has participated in the Coalition's Sunday door-to-door voter registration and identification program, argues that the program is a fun way to make a difference.

"At first I was a little hesitant, approaching people in their post-Saturday-night, hangover stage, but then I realized how motivated people on this campus are," said Haq. "From frat brothers scrubbing down their beer-washed floors to people milling about in front of the Church of Latter Day Saints, people at Michigan are charged and ready to send Bush packing down to Crawford."

Members of Swing Michigan canvas various neighborhoods in the Central Campus area, prowling in pairs for unregistered Democrats and potential program volunteers. Armed with sign-up sheets and stacks of voter registration forms, they knock on doors, looking for participants and potential voters.

"I think this program is a great idea because there are a lot of people at this school who come from states where they think their votes don't count, but here voting is imperative," said former New York resident and newly-minted first-year law student Fiza Quraishi. "One of the first things I did when I came to Michigan was register to vote and sign up with Swing Michigan."

This past Sunday the group sent out a record number of volunteers into the streets of Ann Arbor, hoping to lock up Michigan for Senator Kerry in November. Twenty volunteers met on the steps of Rackham, were treated to a brief training on Michigan's complicated voter registration rules, and hit the streets in pairs. In addition, an identical program was run from the Michigan Union later in the day.

Inspired by the high level of volunteer energy, the Coalition is recruiting new members more actively than ever. "We're going to keep building this network right up until Election Day," said Donn. "If you're reading this and you want to get involved, email me at adonn@umich.edu or stop by Dominick's on a Thursday night."
First Year Students: Don’t Panic!
Use These Lifestyle Tips

By Jana Kraschnewski
(with a little help from my friends)

I am by no means the law school guru, but I do have some experience. As a 2L, I am slightly less confused than I was as a 1L, so here’s some advice I wish I’d known (take it for what it’s worth, which probably isn’t much). It worked for me, but may not be your style.

Don’t stress. (Nobody fails unless they really are clueless.)

Grades are important to employers, but don’t let your As and Bs define you.

Four nights a week at Rick’s is doable. Five and you may have a problem.

Do the bulk of your studying the way you did in undergrad. Whatever worked for you then will probably work for you now.

You’ll just have to do a lot more of it.

Take some time for yourself every day. Whether it’s working out or watching TV, do something you enjoy. There is time for it—really.

Do not take yourself too seriously. Nobody likes Creepy Suit Guy or Freak-Out Study Girl.

Professors’ old exams are on file in sub-2, sometimes with model answers. They can be very helpful.

If you take a cushion from one of the over-stuffed chairs in sub-2 and ride it like a sled down the big concrete wall, they kick you out of the library for the day. Therefore, it is best to do it close to midnight, when the library closes.

Form a study group, even if you do little more than socialize a few hours every week. These are your go-to people when you have a question you think is unworthy of the professor’s attention. And it’s good to talk with people who know exactly what you’re going through.

Anything covered in cheese was last night’s unpopular Lawyer’s Club entree. It probably won’t taste any better, even if it looks better.

“Don’t forget to live. This time can be a lot of fun if you let it.”

Seriously, don’t stress.

Not all study guides are created equal. Here are some that helped me (listed by author or publisher):

- Con. Law: Erwin Chemerinsky (black book)
- Civ. Pro: Glannon is good for learning the rules and Friedenthal gives an in-depth look.
- Property: Emmanuel’s (big yellow-orange book)
- Crim: This really depends on your prof. Some seem to teach from a study guide. This will become clear as the semester goes on.
- Contracts: Marvin Chirelstein (it has a sailboat on the cover)
- Torts: Gilberts

Do not miss the LSSS Halloween Party. It is a thing of beauty.

Do your own outline but also ask a 2L or 3L for theirs. They’ll usually be glad to help and you’ll see if you are missing anything.

Do not hook up with a section-mate if you don’t want everyone in your class to know within 24 hours.

You had a life before law school. Don’t forget about family and friends just because you’re here.

The snack-bar under the Reading Room has really good egg-sandwiches. Egg and ham on a bagel, egg and sausage on a muffin, egg and cheese on toast, you name it. Think McDonald’s, only better.

No, really. Don’t stress.

Raise your hand in class if you’ve got something to say, but don’t do it too often, and certainly don’t volunteer more than once a class. You don’t want your classmates to hate you. (My own rule is once a week.)

Make friends and enjoy yourself. Law school is a step in a process, but also three years of your life. Don’t forget to live. This time can be a lot of fun if you let it.

Jana Kraschnewski is a 2L. E-mail Jana at jkrasch@umich.edu
Got A Fly-Back?
Voucher It, and Fund a Fellowship

By Liz Seger

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

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

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

Here’s how: When you’re scheduling your flybacks, tell your contact at the firm that you won’t be needing a hotel room for the night, and that you’d rather have them make a donation to the SFF program. They won’t say no. According to Brendan Gears, SFF maven, many firms already participate (a list of firms will be coming your way on the law school listserv shortly) and no firm has ever said no when asked. It’s cheaper for them than footing the bill for an actual hotel room (not to mention your mini-bar raids), and at this point in the process they’re still trying to convince you that they have an active pro bono program, so they won’t want to look uncharitable. Trust us, they’ll bite. Once you have the firm’s okay, fill out the SFF voucher form (available at the Office of Career Services) and submit it to SFF, who will shake down the firm on your behalf.

SFF gets $75 every time you and your comrades do this, and it all adds up. Last year they raked in over $6000 from the voucher program alone, and let’s face it, every penny SFF can get from non-auction sources helps us keep more of Prof. Simpson’s clothes on his body (where, arguably, they belong). Plus, a lot of very deserving public service interns - your classmates - get to eat something other than ramen noodles and sleep somewhere other than in their cars next summer. Win-win.

Not enough to convince you?

Top Five Reasons to Participate In the SFF Voucher Program

1. Picture it: You, in a perfect black suit, shiny new shoes. You turn down your buddy’s couch (his roommate has a cat, and you have a perfect black suit). After two days of interviews, lunches, wine receptions, and more interviews at Very Big Firm, you’re on top of the world. You aced it. As you ride the elevator up to your suite with a view of the river, you have the uncanny sense that someone somewhere is already making the nameplate for your office door.

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

So, stay with Mom. Stay at your buddy’s place, where the porn is free. Fill out that SFF voucher form, and turn it in. Send a 1L to the public defender’s office and win yourself a few more brownie points with Somebody Out There. Just remember to pack a lint brush.

•

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OCI: It's Not Just for Breakfast Anymore

By Matthew J. Nolan

So for those 1Ls who don’t know, EIW stands for Early Interview Week, August 30-September 2. While you were all moving in and drinking 12 hours a day, most of the 2Ls and quite a few 3Ls spent all day every day interviewing in 20-minute blocks. Sounds great for job prospects, right?

Well, yes. Unfortunately, there were drawbacks as well. For instance, I would guess that roughly 50% of people I’ve talked to had their #1 firm’s interview first on Monday morning. Seeing as it has been two weeks since then with few people receiving that call back, roughly 50% of us are now really excited about #2.

I found the whole thing pretty comical, which probably helped me keep some levity during my 5-7 interviews/day. I know one person who had 7 in one MORNING. The first thing I noticed upon arriving was the facilities. With hundreds of law students in interviews they had to find a place to fit us all...and that place was the Holiday Inn.

That’s right, kids – interviews with beds propped against the walls, and one giant waiting room full of circular tables pushed too closely together to “ease our tensions” between interviews. This “relaxation” room ended up being mostly a pressure-cooker, which prompted some to rent rooms in surrounding hotels or just find other places to be between interviews.

Some things were great about OCI, however. Having internet access was something I didn’t expect, and was a much-appreciated resource. Thanks, Career Services! In addition, free food showed up randomly throughout the week in the waiting room, and the hospitality suites provided by the firms made up for what wasn’t there.

Interviews themselves varied: I had one interview where 15 of the 20 minutes was spent convincing an associate that I really wanted to practice law. Another I spent discussing a beer the interviewer’s little sister (yes, his little sister) had with U of M President Mary Sue Coleman (I was on the committee that hired her). One interviewer informed me, without prompting, that she had, “never missed a home hockey game in four years of undergrad at Michigan.” That’s an intense fan.

The benefits of OCI were many: I learned a lot about the type of firm I want to work for, consequently changing my previous ordering of them drastically. I learned that interviewers frequently go out drinking the night before interviewing while we’re cramming last-second info about their partner/associate ratios and “quality of life” rankings.

I learned that different firms definitely have different personalities, and that for me that’s going to be most important in selecting one. And finally, I learned that there is an extremely kick-ass lunch place called “Zoup!” between Blockbuster and Kroger on Plymouth road that has excellent soup, sandwiches, and salads.

Considering it’s going to lead to the vast majority of us getting ridiculously high paying jobs next summer and beyond, I’d say the four days of pressure, learning and fun were worth it. Most law schools don’t have an interview week beyond, I’d say the four days of pressure, learning and fun were worth it. Most law schools don’t have an interview week.
A Survey of Summer Music Releases

By Steven Boender, MBA2

Ah, summer. The weather is warm, the beach is open, and millions of young people suddenly boost their disposable income with jobs, internships, research assistantships, and shoplifting from sidewalk sales. Not yet completely insane, the record companies take great care in providing a slough of releases for the kids to snap up. Here's an alphabetical listing of some of the more notable releases of the past few months. While some of these came out prior to actual "summer," our school year ends pretty early and I wanted to give them their due props. Records marked with an asterisk are particularly good.

Album Leaf – In a Safe Place

Mellow atmospheric instrumentals recorded in Iceland with assistance from the dudes in Sigur Ros. Initially I thought of it merely as background music, but there's enough going on to warrant more active listening.

* Battles – EP C & Tras

Take the drummer from Helmet, a guitar player from Don Caballero, and New York avant-garde composer Tyondai Braxton, and you get the soundtrack for a chaotic edition of This American Life.

Beastie Boys – To the 5 Boroughs

The Beastie Boys are no longer boys, no longer beastie, and quite frankly, no longer fun. "Open Letter to NYC" is great, as is the lead single, "Cha-Cha-Check it out." However, the rest is quite forgettable. What was I talking about?

Ben Kweller – On My Own

More Weezer-esque power pop from former grunge wunderkind. Not terribly innovative but a great party record for people who like their beer cold and their dancing strictly at weddings.

Franz Ferdinand – Franz Ferdinand

For once the NME hype machine gets one right. This record is about as fun as it gets, and makes even the most reserved of us want to dance our blazers off. Supposedly they got some radio airplay this summer. Another reason to celebrate the breakup of Creed.

The Ghost – This Pen is a Weapon

Aside from the awesome play on words in the title, I was kind of disappointed, considering their debut was one of the better releases of 2002. I was really disappointed, actually. Now I'm angry.

The Good Life – Album of the Year

"The first time that I met her I was throwing up in the ladies' room stall. She asked me if I needed anything; I said I think I spilled my drink." This side project of Cursive's Tim Kasher allows him to explore his quieter side, and this record actually makes you wish this was his full-time project. Pretty music, sad lyrics, and a voice that perfectly matches both.

Guided by Voices – Half Smiles of the Decomposed

The final album by Robert Pollard and his full-time band, I can't help but agree that it's time to give up the GBV ghost. The past few albums have been more hit-or-miss than their earlier work, though they're still putting down some of the best straight-ahead rock of anyone out there.

The Hives – Tyrannosaurus Hives

The Hives' U.S. debut, Veni Vidi Vicious, took the world by storm with a Rick James backhand of 60s-influenced punk. However, the initial shock of their sound has long been replaced with boredom as the myriad clones in their wake have watered down the sound to the point of annoyance. I just listened to the whole CD from start to finish and can't recall one memorable moment. Now I know what "nonplussed" means.

Kid 606 – Who Still Kill Sound?

This is what kids way cooler (but less employable) than you are dancing to at dawn.

*Magnetic Fields – I

Stephen Merritt's proper follow-up to the gargantuan 69 Love Songs brings 14 more doses of scathing wit and hummable melodies. "So you - quote - love - unquote me, well stranger things have come to be." How can you not love this dude?

McLusky – The Difference Between Me & You is that I'm Not on Fire

The kid in me likes the creepy title, but the adult in me likes the ear-splitting guitars and Steve Albini production. They offer a few mellower songs on this one, and for some strange reason, the relative calm only makes Andy Falkous seem more sinister while he sings, "our old singer is a sex criminal."

*Modest Mouse – Good News for People Who Love Bad News

Possibly the most unlikely summer jam ever. The rest of the world finally discovered what the hordes of devoted MM fans have known for years; the band finally discovered just how good they could be if they brought in just a bit more pop sensibility. Everyone wins...except whatever crappy mall-punk band got bumped out of MTV's "buzz bin" because of these guys.

Morrissey – You Are the Quarry


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Saved By the Bell: Reflections on (Finally) Growing Up

By Mike Murphy

This realization hit me as I sat in a suit on a bench near a Holiday Inn trying to tell someone about my desire to litigate: my days of earning a glorious academic letter, being the Outstanding Chemistry Student and editing the school paper at North Farmington High School were rapidly receding towards a decade in the past. I was on-campus interviewing at the time, and for some reason, mid-answer, I realized that OCI really is not unlike a high school reunion. Everyone’s dressed up, nobody’s seen each other for a while, everyone’s vaguely uncomfortable, there’s lots of free food, everyone’s lying about their past to make it sound better — there’s lots of free food, everyone’s lying about their past to make it sound better — and making up excuses and rationalizations for the unabashedly embarrassing parts of their resume.

I graduated high school in 1996, which means that at my ten-year high school reunion, I’ll be... um... just getting out of here. That fifth year of undergrad for a journalism degree? Well, that’s the product of a program that stresses practice over coursework, so it behooved me to hang around in a free on-campus apartment and take a half load of classes so I could complete my year-long research thesis on the sociological aspects of winning the Stanley Cup four straight seasons in a row in NHL 2001 on the Play station. The thesis has not yet been completed. It is a work in progress.

Those two years spent producing web sites? That’s “media experience.” I had to “taste the real world” before I felt compelled to “come back to the grind.” That last summer where I backpacked through Europe and slept on my friends’ couches? I was a “freelance writer,” damn it, which is certainly a noble profession! See? It’s “easy” when you have no problem being “full” of “crap.” (I have no problem being full of crap).

Ten years since high school? I admit it’s easy to forget since it seems like we haven’t strayed that far. I was showing my orientation group around the school, and I showed them the classrooms. Then the cafeteria. (Okay, snack bar). Then the lockers, which, conveniently, are big enough to be stuffed into. Then the bike racks, perfect for fighting at 3 o’clock high. And talked about the prom. And the talent show. The comparisons are so easy nobody bothers anymore, and it’s thrice-tread territory.

The worst may have been the IL. I just met who was born in 1983. Crap. I remember 1983. I distinctly remember 1984, when I was a young kid living in Detroit and the Tigers won the world series. Baseball and I have since had what you might call the classic “abusive relationship;” despite what it does to me (labor strikes, tied All-Star Game, the Yankees), I still cannot possibly stay mad at it (I think we call that the “loving respite”). I feel this feeling of being old is probably only going to get worse with each passing year. But I can’t be getting — that-old right? I mean, it’s not like I have chronic injuries and gray hair! No. I do.

I mean, hell, I wore a suit! For four straight days! Man, it’s a stretch if I wear pants for more than four straight hours! Ask any my past or present roommates, or anyone who’s been over to my apartment. (Okay, that came out all wrong. Let’s just move on).

My buddy Dan has been telling this story for a week now, and I feel it’s really indicative of the OCI experience. It was late in the day and late in the week, and Dan’s brain was completely fried. He got to an interview and had real trouble, of all things, paying attention to what the interviewer was saying. I know this seems like the entire point of the interview and of the process. It is. But boy, it’s not as easy as it sounds! So, the interviewer, who was from Washington D.C. (that’s important to the story) said:

“Are you interviewing anywhere other than DC?”

Dan said, “Yes, a little in Chicago.”

That’s not a good thing to say, but, it worked. The interviewer said, “Oh, really? Where in Chicago?

Dan, not hearing him at all, said, “Washington D.C.”

The interviewer, blessedly, gave him the benefit of the doubt. “What?” the interviewer said.


After pausing for an interminable length, the interviewer said “Okay... uh... so what did you do last summer?”

And that was pretty much how my interviews went, too. Try as I did to convince them of my future worth to their organization, it was really hard to avoid sounding like a complete doofus.

But maybe that’s a good thing! Think about it. Really, my goal — and all of the goals of the people sitting around the Holiday Inn in suits bought on credit and with catered cookies digesting in their stomachs — is to convince the firms that of all the bright young lawyer-types they spoke to that day and many other days, that I’m some sort of mega-nerd. A genetically engineered mutated alpha nerd. A nerd among nerds. A workhorse whose non-billable hours, like spending time with his family and pro bono work for kids with cancer and going to the bathroom are really, honestly less valuable to him than the ones in which

Continued on Page 19
Pro-Life Students Should Organize

Submitted by Jon Siegler

To the editors:

A few days before coming here I was leafing through the Bulletin. There I was taken aback to discover that the forty or fifty student organizations include a pro-choice group but no counterpart. What a relief then during orientation to hear abortion specifically mentioned at least three times as an issue about which there remains controversy, about which people could disagree vehemently, about which people may try to persuade each other.

But while perhaps everyone within the law school community realizes that there is still a dispute, we are allowing an unfortunate inference to the outsider. For the prospective law student researching the school, or for a Michigan student from some other school who is just lost down by the bulletin boards, it is possible to wonder whether there is a pro-choice consensus here. So there needs to be some formal student organization opposing abortion rights.

If there aren’t twenty convinced students, there should be twenty students interested in advocating such an (at least locally) under-represented position just for the sake of it. But one would think that the Catholic Law Club, the Christian Legal Society, the Muslim Law Students Association, or the Republican National Lawyers Association might include some anti-abortionists among their members. Perhaps some of these people would use their organization experience to help start up the new group.

What Would Jesus Do? Vote Democrat

Submitted by Nicolas Jampol

In the past few months, I’ve noticed that Republicans have been frequently invoking the name(s) of God and Jesus Christ when discussing the upcoming political elections. In the U.S. Senate race in Illinois, Alan Keyes recently suggested that Jesus Christ would not vote for his Democratic challenger, Barack Obama, due to Obama’s views on abortion. Jerry Falwell called voting for President Bush the “responsibility” of evangelical Christians and Pat Robertson claimed God told him Bush would win the election in a blowout.

This frequent invocation by Republicans begs the question... how would Jesus vote in this presidential election? Luckily for you, I have this information: Although he disagrees with some of the party’s platform, Jesus Christ is a registered Democrat.

Although I am not a Biblical scholar, I distinctly remember the New Testament legacy of Jesus is the desire to understand, the true legacy of Jesus is the desire to understand, accept, and help others in the face of any danger. According to Church doctrine, He gave His life for the sins of others. The least we can do is tolerate others regardless of their political, sexual, or religious beliefs (unlike Jesus’ enemies two thousand years ago).

It seems that Republicans these days are focusing more on a couple narrow contemporary political views of the Christian faith and ignoring the broad principles of Christ. At a recent conference in Texas, political author James C. Moore commented that “if ever there was a bleeding-heart liberal, it was Jesus Christ. I think the carpenter from Galilee was the original Democrat.”

While Republicans argue for lower taxes and defend a preemptive strike policy against other nations, Democrats raise taxes to fund social programs and aspire to global understanding. The true enemy of Jesus is the desire to understand, accept, and help others in the face of any danger. According to Church doctrine, He gave His life for the sins of others. The least we can do is pay higher taxes to help fund social programs for those less fortunate. The least we can do is tolerate others regardless of their political, sexual, or religious beliefs (unlike Jesus’ enemies two thousand years ago).

But we need to get back to the main issue here. In the upcoming presidential election, what would Jesus do? Well, I will tell you...

Just like with Pat Robertson, God spoke to me. He said: “Vote for Kerry.”

“I make no representations, explicit or implied, as to the voter registration status of Jesus Christ.”

Nicholas Jampol is a 2L. E-mail comments about this article to rg@umich.edu.
Shoot to Kill: The First Week
From a Trigger Happy 1L's Perspective

From Abby Rubinson

After careful evaluation for a full week, I've come to the thankful, comforting conclusion that our class is living up to its reputation as collegiate and non-competitive. Somehow, the prevailing conversation topic of 1L's seems to suggest otherwise, as the armed and dangerous have become the common denominator among just about everyone I've talked to. Already I was mildly concerned when I came to visit last year and the faculty kept insisting how friendly the students were - so friendly that they would even share notes with each other if someone became too sick to attend class. Personally, that raised some red flags for me.

I thought sympathy for the ailing should be a given. I've come to expect common congeniality, too. Apparently, though, I was being slightly presumptuous, since such humanity is said to pervade other law schools and other lands. Fortunately for us, it looks like the worst of it here really is just localized to one notable species. Embodying the very traits we're supposed to possess as aspiring lawyers, these self-proclaimed self-starters have become easy targets on the commiserating front - that species overpopulating the front row.

So here we are, a week into classes. And if you're anything like me, you're still playing mind games with yourself, trying to figure out whether you're talking too much or not enough in class. As if we don't have enough to think about deciphering what exactly the judge's opinion affirms, we've also been handed the dilemma of balancing solid class participation and not being vilified by the rest of the section.

And what I have realized in the process, though, is we truly have to appreciate the gunners. If it weren't for those eager, go-go-gadget arms taking the early initiative, the rest of us would be at a serious loss for what to talk about. Sure, we've all had the urge to try to morph law school vocabulary into humor. It'll happen. But tying the possession of your beer to private property just doesn't trigger the same resonating laughter as imitating the awkward duels that have transpired every time a professor poses a question. Those of us lacking the confident, on-the-spot gunning edge have been bonding over this behavior ever since the mouths started going in mock class. So you see - we should be grateful. The gunners may infuriate us mid-class, but, at the very least, they take the pressure off whenever we speak up, since we're allowed the relative comfort of pal ing by comparison.

Admittedly, it's semi-third grade to mock people in order to be funny. But in the budding days of our law school years, there are few things better to bond over than collectively making fun of each other. I suppose we could debate the idiocy behind connecting two buildings and then pretending one is six stories higher than the other - but the people we see every day are inherently more fodder-generating.

But this is law school; not life. No hard feelings. Fire away! And, of course, I'm not trying to discount myself from this population. After all, I wrote an article for the school paper, didn't I? Well, in my defense, I plead guilty. Precedent of hypocrisy and dull humor upheld.

Abby Rubinson is a 1L. E-mail comments about this article to rg@umich.edu.
Ann Arbor Knows Ice Cream

If you haven’t noticed yet, Ann Arbor has a plethora of ice cream choices. Stucchi’s is locally owned and offers enormous portions of both ice cream and frozen yogurt.

If you want a less gluttonous serving, order a junior scoop. And be sure not to pass up the opportunity for a free ice cream cone on your birthday.

Don’t be scared off by the “Teriyaki Frozen Yogurt” sign in front of Rod’s Diner. Rod’s Diner is home to the famous “collider” in which you can choose from mix-ins ranging from cinnamon toast crunch to snickers pieces, and add as many as you’d like to an overflowing cup of soft-serve frozen yogurt.

While long-time Ann Arborites reminisce about the days when the tiny eatery was actually owned and managed by Rod and his wife, the colliders themselves have not lost their flavor.

If you still are not satisfied or prefer a more traditional treat, head next door to Pizza Bob’s for the best milkshakes in town.

For Bigger Groups

For birthday parties, try Grizzly Peak or Miki Japanese Restaurant. Grizzly Peak brews its own beer and has excellent beer samplers. They have long tables and a wide variety of food to accommodate your friends’ diverse tastes.

Professor Omri Ben-Shahar has been rumored, on occasion, to join in on the sake-bomb birthday toasts at Miki.

Late Night Munchies

After a long night at the bar, students can stop by the New York Pizza Depot (“NYPD”) for a slice a mouthwatering BBQ chicken pizza or rehash the night over a “Hippie Hash” at the Fleetwood Diner. Other popular late-night fare includes In and Out Pizza, Cottage Inn Pizza, Pizza House and Bell’s Pizza. Notice a theme here?

Finer Dining on Your Student Loans

For those of you with more sophisticated tastes, Main Street offers a number of finer dining experiences. Enjoy a fabulous martini and distinctive tapas for a memorable evening at Café Felix. This is a fun place for a group or for a date, but you should be sure to bring someone you like- they have incredibly slow service. Other excellent places to bring a date (or your parents) include the Pacific Rim, Palio and the Prickly Pear. Only try the Chop House if you are already dating a corporate lawyer- and they are paying.

For a romantic after dinner treat, 2L Jennifer Klem suggests La Dolce Vita “because there’s nothing like a dirty martini and a good cigar.” Who can argue with that?
RG: In prior years the Admissions Office had aimed for class sizes of around 350-360 students. Last year the aim was for 380 and this year around 375. Are larger class sizes a sign of the future?

Z: No, next year we are aiming for a class size of about 350-360 students.

RG: Why is that? Is it because the economy is showing signs of picking up and less people are applying to law school?

Z: No, we still expect well over 5,000 applicants next year, but the administration and faculty have decided they wanted to enroll a class size more in line with what we had in the years prior to the last two.

RG: The University of Michigan has consistently increased its total applications, yield, and attracted better candidates in the past few years. Can we expect this trend to continue?

Z: I hope so, every year that I have been here, the number of applicants to the University of Michigan has increased. This is a testament to the faculty, administration, staff and students here at the University of Michigan that is it such an attractive place to study law. I do get questions regarding our high admittance rate. Although we accept more of our applicants than say a Stanford or Yale, it is because our classes are much larger than theirs are, and truth be told, schools from the Coasts have a larger pool that they can draw from. The University of Michigan Law School does not have the pull of a large city (such as New York, Los Angeles, or Chicago) that attracts people, and the weather... is the weather, but I am proud to say that when compared to our analogous schools such as Duke, University of Virginia, and Cornell, our applicant pool is larger.

RG: What can we expect from our Admissions Department in the future?

Nothing very different than what we try to accomplish every year. The staff in the Admission Department tries hard to assemble and enroll students which can carry on the great tradition and reputation that the UMLS has earned and to represent the school well. The Law School’s faculty, through its recommendations, has also played a great role in achieving our goals of bringing in students which are strong not only academically, but are good all-around people. With that said, I wish to welcome the Class of 2007 to the University of Michigan Law School. May your time here be one of great challenges, rewards, and experiences.

OCI, from Page 12

Me: Like physically?

HPG: No, like verbally. How would you tear me down?

Me: Umm, I wouldn't. Seeing that you're INTERVIEWING me for a JOB and all.

1) (Note: this story had the most submissions for it BY FAR, and hence is the undisputed #1 OCI story of the year):

"In my Latham interview, the guy started writing negative things about me on the back of my resume, then he'd hold it up to me so that I could see it (in other words, the back of the resume was closer to me than the front was to him, so I could read it). The notes he wrote, in big lettering, were ‘Cheesball.’ ‘Self-Agrandizing.”

And on that note...happy fly-backs!

Matt Nolan is the Executive Editor of Res Gestae. Questions? Comments? Phone numbers? Send 'em all to mjnolan@umich.edu.

RG

MUSIC, from Page 13

Muse - Absolution

If I read one more review of these guys that mentions Radiohead I'm going to...damn.

PJ Harvey - Uh Huh Her

Another soul-searching exercise from one of rock's prettiest/scariest/strongest women. Recorded at her home, it lacks the polish of her last one, and there aren't any Thom Yorke duets, but in a world nearly devoid of female musical role models, PJ Harvey is more necessary than ever. Britney needs to quit marrying dudes and start listening to Polly Jean.

Athlete - Vehicles and Animals

Like Coldplay, but 50% more boring. I'm really mad I paid for this.

*The Streets - A Grand Don't Come For Free

Who'd have thought that the successor to Jay-Z's throne of hip hop would be a skinny white guy from the UK? I defy you to find a better hip hop record than this released in the past 5 years.

Trans Am

D.C. instrumental band tries to go political on their latest effort. However, the instrumental nature of their music means that it's hard to get a message across besides the album cover art. The cut-and-pasted George Bush track is funny the first time and scary after that. When the apocalypse arrives, this is what CNN will play in the background.

*Wilco

More ink has been spilled because of this than any other record in the past year. If you like Wilco, you already have it. If you don't like Wilco or don't know who they are then this probably isn't the best point of entry. I think it's brilliant.
he can, in six-minute increments, bill to someone else. Someone who will stab somebody in front of his own momma to win a motion for summary judgment. The evil demonic meta-nerd. That’s me. That’s what I tried to sell!

Of course it didn’t work. After all, I cried once when I saw a fallen nest filled dead baby birds outside my apartment. And there’s no crying in corporate litigation. Especially among the mega-nerds.

I can work for a firm; I just can’t live for a firm. I’ll always be the kid who came here looking to solve the world’s problems. And I’ll always be looking to solve them. Somehow.

On a side note, I love it when people here call other people here “nerds.” it’s like saying “Hey, pot. It’s the kettle! Tough luck against Notre Dame, huh?”

Seriously, if you dropped any average Joe M-Law student into “Saved By the Bell,” you’re either Jessie from the infamous speed-taking episode or Screech from... okay, from every episode.

And, as has been said before here (I think), maybe that’s all law school is; the TV-Sitcom version of high school, where twenty- and thirty-something actors play the roles of teenagers. I still have zits, I still carry my lunch to school sometimes, and I definitely have pictures hanging in my locker.

I’ve yet to give or receive any atomic wedgies or purple nurples... but the year’s only a week old.

See you around, Jessies and Schreeches. Try to keep your hearts and your heads in the respective right places. Got me?

Mike Murphy is the Editor-in-Chief of Res Gestae. He is a Sagittarius and wants to be a lawyer (or something) when he grows up. E-mail Mike at murphym@umich.edu
Michigan Law Announcements

Irish Law Students Association

Watch for our first meeting (okay, bar night) Coming Soon!

bjgeary@umich.edu

NOAM CHOMSKY

Illegal But Legitimate: A Dubious Doctrine For the Times, Academic Freedom Lecture

Thursday, October 28
4 - 5 p.m.
100 HH

Coalition to Swing Michigan Gathering

Thursday Nights 8 p.m. - Close

Dominick’s
adonn@umich.edu

Annual Environmental Law Society Canoe Float

September 18 and 19

Sign-up sheet will be posted on the ELS activity board in the basement of Hutchins

2004 DETROIT AIDS WALK

Sunday, September 19

Send Your Student Organization Announcements to rg@umich.edu

GO TO www.aidswalkdetroit.org