



RECORD Photo/Ben Lehrer
Timothy Jezec '01 and Mikhail Zeldovich '00 perform in "The Woman in Black," presented this week by the HLS Drama Society. See story on p. 10.

Students Take Protest Against Dwindling Diversity to Alumni

By Francesco Barbera

Last Friday, over 40 students protested declining minority enrollment at the Law School by leafletting hundreds of alumni attending a reception in Pound Hall. The leaflet questioned the Law School's commitment to diversity, citing statistics which point to a dramatic decline in minority enrollment in recent years.

According to the flyer, in the

last three years Latino enrollment is down 37 percent, African-American enrollment is down 30 percent, Native-American enrollment is down 25 percent and enrollment of women remains stagnant at 42 percent.

"Our goal tonight is to raise awareness of the drop in minority enrollment and to bring that message home to the alumni," said South Asian Law Students Association Co-President Rajeev

Goyle '00. "This is the opening salvo in a larger campaign for the Law School to honor its own commitment to admitting a diverse student body."

"We want this trend reversed," said Baxter Wasson '01, an organizer of the event. "We want the institution to make whatever changes are necessary, be it pre-admissions recruiting or post-

Please see **ALUMNI**, p. 6

Law School Interviewing Season Enters Home Stretch

By Suzanne Carter

Sally Donahue's first year as Office of Career Services (OCS) Director has almost run its course as the fall interviewing season comes to a close this week.

Donahue said she was repeatedly impressed throughout the first year at the "stunningly accomplished and talented student body" at HLS.

"I came into the year thinking it would be easier than it has

been to change some things," she said. Specifically, she wished she could have used mass e-mails to communicate with interviewing students, and said that she would like to "build connections" between alumni and students.

3Ls who interviewed both this year and last year noticed the improvement at OCS since Sally Donahue took over as OCS Director.

"OCS has been a lot better this year than last year," noted Mina Kim '00. "The computer sign-up

thing has made a lot of sense."

High marks were given to Donahue's empathy and sensitivity to student concerns.

"I thought Sally Donahue did a good job, particularly in one-on-one meetings," remarked Theodore Folkman '00.

"I've walked into Sally Donahue's office a number of times, and she's great," Kim enthused. "She's good about responding to student concerns

Please see **OCS**, p. 4



RECORD Photo/Dmitri Evseev
Students bring the decline in minority enrollment to the attention of alumni outside an alumni weekend event.

HLS Student Activists Gear Up for Change

By Ben Lehrer

As Berkeley students staged a massive walkout from their classes to protest California's ending of affirmative action, over 70 Harvard students gathered last week in Hauser Hall to show their support and to discuss the state of activism at Harvard.

The students listened as Prof. Duncan Kennedy spoke on the history of activism at HLS, and aired a number of complaints concerning the climate at the

Law School.

Ramesh Kumar '01, the event's principal organizer, said at the meeting's outset that he wanted to compile a list of things that students thought should change at the School. "And then," he said, "we have to go out and change them." Less than 24 hours later, many of these same students distributed flyers about declining minority student enrollment, and openly questioned HLS's commitment to diversity.

Please see **ACTIVISTS**, p. 7

Kerry Encourages Future Lawyers to "Commit to Public Service"

By Francesco Barbera

Articulating what observers described as an inspiring presidential agenda, Sen. John F. Kerry (D-Mass.) engaged over 200 law students in the Ames Courtroom on Monday evening with a speech entitled "Public Service, Citizenship and the Law." Addressing issues from childhood development to education and foreign policy, Kerry called on law students to become "citizen soldiers" in the struggle to rebuild community in America.

"Public service is an idea that has significantly diminished in our public consciousness," he said. "We ought to stop and think about that. We need to get people who come out of law school and business school to come out of the mainstream business of making money and commit themselves to public service."

Kerry, who graduated from Yale in 1966, spent four years in Vietnam serving as a Navy officer on a gunboat in the Mekong Delta. Upon his return, he became an active leader in the anti-war movement sweeping the country.

In his address, he spoke about the recent film "Saving Private Ryan," comparing Vietnam with World War II to illustrate how ideals of duty and service have shifted over time.

"Unlike in Vietnam, which was filled with divisiveness and where

Please see **KERRY**, p. 3

1Ls Clean Up Roxbury

By Alyssa Caples

Last Saturday, 1Ls ventured into Roxbury to clean up vacant lots with the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI), a community empowerment organization, as a part of the 1998 City Year Serv-a-thon. Organized by Jennifer Harvey '00 and Prof. Bruce Hay '88, the day brought together approximately 150 students from all different sections. In addition, several BSA members, Prof. Larry Lessig and spouses of some students also joined the effort.

The students cleaned up lots left vacant following arson and condemnation after the area became depressed as a result of red-lining and white flight. Overrun with weeds and trash, the lots are used as illegal dumping grounds, sites for drug traffick-

ing and general mischief. There are over 1300 vacant lots in the area, which the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative are trying to reclaim.

"We have the power of eminent domain over a 60-acre triangle in Roxbury and so far we have built about 100 houses in the neighborhood. We are also launching a beautification campaign to change attitudes in the area," said Trish Settles, Environmental Organizer for DSNI.

"We are already a thousand times better than we were when we first started. Ten years ago, we hauled away three hundred tons of trash, including refrigerators and autos."

On Saturday's visit, HLS students found a variety of different discarded items including a passport, beer, liquor bottles, a

Please see **HAY**, p. 7



RECORD Photo/John Bartlett
Senator Kerry is engaged by an enthusiastic student.

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Flashback

18 Years Ago

in the RECORD

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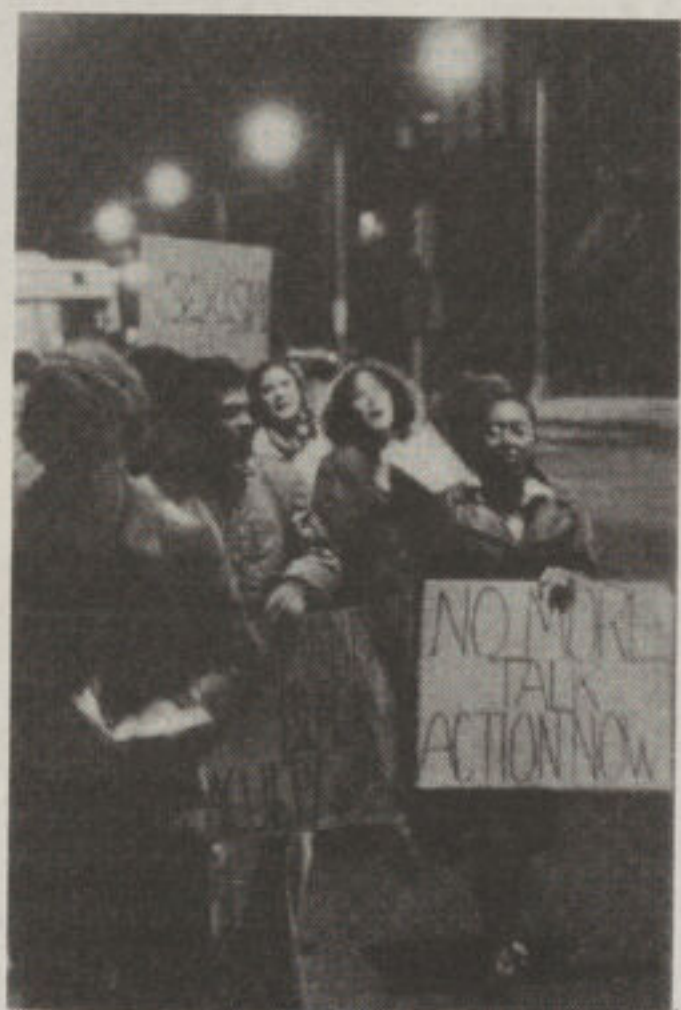
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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Students Demonstrate for Affirmative Action at HLS

By Dan Hershman

Approximately 30 people, most of them Harvard Law students, marched from Austin Hall to the Cambridge Forum in Harvard



Students marched from Austin Hall to 3 Church St. in support of affirmative action on Oct. 29.

Square on Oct. 29 to demonstrate their support for affirmative action and student power at HLS. The brief march, sponsored by the 15 group Coalition on Responsible Dean Selection, ended with a picketline demonstration in front of 3 Church Street, where the First Parish in Cambridge, The Lowell Institute, The M.I.T. Chaplains, and the United Ministry at Harvard and Radcliffe had jointly sponsored a discussion of "Should We Continue to Institutionalize Affirmative Action?"

The primary reason for the Coalition's march and protest prior to the Forum was that Dean Albert M. Sacks was one of the panel participants. Dr. Nancy Randolph, Harvard President Bok's special assistant on affirmative action, shared the spotlight. The Coalition stated in a flyer distributed at the Forum that "Dean Sacks is not qualified to speak on this subject, because Harvard Law School has not yet begun to institutionalize affirmative action." The Coalition, which considers faculty hiring to be relevant to the selection of a new Law School Dean, called "unjustified" the facts that in January there will be one third world person on the HLS faculty, that there is one tenured woman faculty

member present (with another on indefinite leave), and that HLS has no third world administrators.

Coalition spokesman Fritz Byers, 3L, said that these facts are probably sufficient evidence for the EEOC to find probable cause for bringing a successful discrimination suit against HLS. The Coalition proposed that HLS hire five women faculty for 1980-81 with tenure or tenure tracking and at least two third world faculty as well, "until the percentage of third

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Demonstrators Seek Affirmative Action

(Continued from Page 1)

world professors on the Law School faculty is at least equal to the percentage of third world people in the nation."

One to Four Blacks

Dean Sacks described how he has seen affirmative action affect HLS over the last 20 years. From about 1962 to 1964, he said, roughly one to four blacks were admitted in each class of 550. "At that time, a decision was made that a special effort to attract, recruit, and admit black students should be made," Sacks said. Since 1972, the level of black students at HLS has ranged from eight to 11 percent, with total minority enrollment ranging from 13 to 16 percent, he said. Women, similarly, in the early '60s made up three to five percent of each class, but their number has "been at or about 30 percent in the last few years," Sacks said.

Later, during the question period, Penny Marshall, 3L, President of BLSA, stated, "We are starting to understand where we stand," an apparent reference to growing perceptions of administrative hostility to affirmative action, felt to be especially borne out by news of the Kiltgaard report (see Record, Oct. 24, p. 10). Marshall noted a steady decrease of black 1Ls over the past four years, to which Sacks responded, "There has not been the same number of qualified blacks in each class."

Sacks stated that affirmative action had not succeeded in faculty hiring, a point the demonstrators had come to stress. While 10 or 11

years ago there were no black faculty members at HLS, in two months there will be only one. Once there were three, Sacks said, but that "number is now going down because of what people choose to do with their careers." (Prof. Derrick A. Bell will become Dean of the University of Oregon Law School in January.)

Nonetheless, Sacks said, the figure for tenured and tenure track black and women professors was "discouraging; hopefully it will change." The group of black lawyers who could be chosen as HLS faculty is small, "and only growing now," Sacks said. "We do have to look among a qualified group from whom we can employ," he stated.

Much of the criticism of the Law School directed at Sacks concerned what many have characterized as the "old boy network," a faculty dominated by white males that seems to always hire its own. "There's no way you can avoid in [faculty] recruitment your 'old habits,'" Sacks said, but he added, "we are changing the modes of recruitment somewhat. I can't say we do it all the time."

Room for Improvement

"The principal responsibility for affirmative action has to rest on faculty and administration. It depends where you are. From where we are there's plenty of room for improvement," Sacks said. He felt male students should share the blame for often being insensitive to women's problems at the Law School.

Nancy Wiegers, 3L, stated that the same comments about how the faculty wished it had more women have been made for 10 years. Sacks was challenged on whether women who weren't on *Law Review* could become professors. Sacks said there was "a variety of ways one can get on the faculty," but wouldn't say that *Review* experience would not always carry weight. He said he didn't know why so few women were on the *Review* at HLS (three new 2Ls this year).

Sacks refused to discuss whether Drew Days, an assistant attorney general — and a black, was being considered for a faculty appointment. Days has accepted a post at Yale Law School. "I'm not going to discuss an individual at a public forum," he said, but he later arranged to meet with students next Tuesday. He also urged students to speak with Prof. Richard Stewart, appointments chairman.

Throughout the evening Dr. Randolph urged that universities,

Harvard especially, take a more active role in affirmative action. Harvard has been a "cold and isolating place" to minorities, she said, but she hoped that would change. "I'm very excited to hear that the Law School is to become pro-active," she said, responding to Dean Sacks's pledge to recruit more minority students and faculty. ✽

Dershowitz Condemns Censorship

By Gabe Varges

Prof. Alan Dershowitz argued in a panel discussion Oct. 29 that government censorship has no place in a free society, under any guise. Defending his role in the *Deep Throat* pornography case which sparked wide controversy at Harvard last year, Dershowitz asserted that "the criteria for applying the First Amendment can surely not be quality. Bad arguments and bad, even obnoxious, books and films are those which most need protection."

Pornography was the subject of the discussion, sponsored last Wednesday evening by the Harvard George Washington Society. The other panelists were Joseph Sobran, Richard Brookhiser, and Jeffrey Hart, all editors of the *National Review*. Pornography has become a subject of considerable debate among the editors of that nationally-circulated journal of conservative opinion.

A "Dereliction"

Sobran and Brookhiser maintained that pornography is a "dereliction" which at best dehumanizes and demoralizes society. Hart, also a professor of English at Dartmouth, disagreed, arguing that "artistic expression, even at its worst, is of universal interest . . . Pornography is but a mode of . . . erotic art, albeit one of inferior quality."

Brookhiser argued that neither the showing last spring of the movie *Deep Throat* at Quincy House, a Harvard undergraduate dorm, nor Dershowitz's subsequent defense of the students who were arrested and charged with "disseminating obscene materials" had a proper place in a community of scholars. Dershowitz responded that, perhaps more than elsewhere, freedom of expression should be exercised and protected in such a community.

"It was probably insensitive to show a movie like *Deep Throat* in a Harvard dormitory, which is essentially a home," said Dershowitz, "but neither the University nor the state should have censored it." The students themselves, according to Dershowitz, should have been left alone to decide the issue.* Brook-

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Clinical Program and Legal Aid Mark Anniversaries

By Ben Lehrer

A panel of distinguished alumni focused on the future of legal education at an event last weekend commemorating the 85th anniversary of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau and the 25th anniversary of HLS's clinical program.

The discussion, entitled "Bridging the Gap Between the Academy and the Bar," featured a presentation by former American Bar Association President Robert MacCrate '48 on the role that clinical work plays in training better lawyers.

While serving as ABA president, MacCrate chaired a task force which produced a report entitled "Legal Education and Professional Development — An Educational Continuum." The report, dubbed the "MacCrate Report," argued that clinical education should be made a more extensive part of the traditional law school curriculum.

"Clinical Legal Education addresses the gap between traditional law school education and the needs of the practicing bar," said Anders Yang '94, the Coordinator of Externship Programs in the Office of Clinical Programs and one of the event's principle organizers. He said that clinical offerings, by providing students experience with actual clients and cases, complement the often theoretic classroom discussions of facts and rules.

Case Made for Mandatory Pro Bono

Carl (Tobey) Oxholm '78/79, the only full-time practitioner on Saturday's panel, came out the strongest in favor of clinical education. Oxholm said that the clinical program "added richness and depth to my legal education, and the experience has been priceless in my practice."

Oxholm linked clinical education with pro bono work. Citing statistics showing that only one in six attorneys nationwide do pro bono work, he recalled a study done at the University of Pennsylvania Law School which found that 75 percent of students who did 40 hours of pro bono work at law school continued to do at least that much after graduation.

Prof. Gary Bellow '60 makes a similar argument, comparing legal and medical education. "What we need are teaching hospitals for lawyers," he said. "Doctors

learn something of what it is to deal with the problems of a large segment of the population, and medical schools contribute services as well as education." According to Bellow, the Legal Services Center is built on the teaching hospital model.

Bellow's Brainchild

Harvard's clinical program largely arose from the efforts of Prof. Bellow, who first combined his Lawyering Process and Criminal Trial Advocacy courses with trial workshops and lectures on professional responsibility. The Law School formally established the Office of Clinical Programs in 1973.

"There are two strands to clinical education," said Bellow. "The first is a critique of general legal education, which does not adequately prepare lawyers for work in the field."

"The second is that clinical programs help students be better prepared to become self-teaching professionals," he said. "Clinicals allow students to work closely with mentors and develop valuable skills in actual practice situations and exposes them to levels of responsibility not usually provided to young associates."

Bellow added that skills developed through clinical work are readily transferable, an important consideration since

many lawyers change jobs after a few years. "Unless you develop skills in practice, you may find yourself locked in and hard to move," he said.

A number of the clinical programs are run out of the Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center in Jamaica Plain. Around 150 students each year are placed at the center.

"Working at the Center gave me an opportunity to do practical hands-on work in the community and apply some of the things we have been learning in class," said Wilbert Watts '99, who is currently a teaching and practice assistant for the Lawyering Process and Community Enterprise Project courses.

"It is quite a big time commitment," he said, "and while some people might think that their credits don't correlate with the amount of time they put in, the value of the experience goes beyond course credits."

Bureau Spry at 85

The Legal Aid Bureau, the oldest student-run legal services office in the country, consists of 54 students and six supervisors who provide legal services to low-income clients in the Boston community. Unlike the clinical program, the Bureau is student-run.

"Working with the Bureau gives you an

amazing litigation experience," said John Cranley '99, the Bureau's Outreach Director. "I've argued a dozen motions in court on my own. The Bureau lets you really see what it's like to be a trial lawyer, and you don't have to wait five or more years to get into court as in a law firm."

The Bureau has had its share of distinguished members, including former Supreme Court Justice William Brennan '31, famed civil rights lawyer Deval Patrick '82, and Prof. Laurence Tribe '66.

The Bureau was instrumental in getting the student-practice law passed in Massachusetts, which allows second- and third-year students to argue civil cases in court. This law has served as a model for similar laws in many states.

Cranley said that in addition to providing invaluable training, working with the Bureau jibes with its members' philosophies. "We represent poor clients who cannot afford legal representation any other way," he said. "In addition, we represent clients in very important issues, such as helping people maintain benefits, enforce court orders for single mothers, and help people from being evicted."

"Working for the Bureau lets me do things I wrote about in my essay when I said I wanted to go to law school in the first place," said Cranley.

Sen. Kerry Calls for Education Reform

Continued from **KERRY**, p. 1

we went over for one year at a time, soldiers in World War II went over for four or five years with a commitment to staying until the job was done. We have become a country that would be very hard pressed to find that kind of commitment today."

To address this problem, Kerry proposed a loan forgiveness program for graduates who devote a few years to working in public service. "We can't ask you to come out of school burdened with loans and suggest that you shouldn't have an opportunity to build your own future, but we can enable you to become citizen soldiers for four years by offering loan repayment."

Kerry graduated from Boston College Law School in 1976, then worked as an

Assistant District Attorney in Middlesex County. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1982 and became a senator in 1984.

Kerry stated that despite its economic prosperity, the U.S. has deep-seated problems "boiling under the surface of well-being." Citing a barrage of statistics, he underscored the crisis facing young people today.

"Every eight seconds a child drops out of school, every 10 seconds a child is neglected and abused, every 15 seconds a juvenile is arrested, every 34 seconds a child is born into poverty," he exhorted. "In the midst of the explosive growth of the last 50 years, child poverty went up 50 percent."

Kerry made it clear that the era of "throw-money-at-the-problem-liberal" so-

lutions to such problems is long gone. "The New Deal coalition is dead," he proclaimed.

As an alternative, Kerry spun a vision of local empowerment, in which community groups such as Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs, and faith-based ministries would be granted the resources and the flexibility to provide the support and sustenance that large government programs have failed to provide.

"People don't want another VISTA," he said. "We need to liberate local entities to do what they're already doing brilliantly. They need resources, they need to be free to make mistakes. We must allow these organizations the capacity to take control of their lives and their communities."

A vocal proponent of public school reform, Kerry extended his mantra of local empowerment to public schools.

"We need a revolution in our school system," he said. "We need to break the back of a bureaucracy that is the enemy of everybody. We need to liberate small schools to be what they want to be, to embrace competence and accountability, we need to make every school in America a charter school."

Kerry called for outright elimination of school boards which he described as "more interested in turf or politics than in children's education." He called for increases in teachers' salaries and more aggressive early intervention programs.

During the question-and-answer session following the speech, Kerry was asked about a possible presidential bid in 2000. "I've publicly said that I am thinking of running for president," he said. "I just went up to New Hampshire to dip my toes in the water ... and it was actually quite warm!"

Student response to the address was almost uniformly positive. Andrew Kratenstein '99, co-chair of the HLS Democrats, expressed enthusiasm for Kerry's presidential ambitions. "Kerry showed why he should be considered a real challenger for the Democratic nomination. He's eloquent, articulate, intellectual, plus he's a war hero. He's got a lot going for him."

"I may be naive and an easy person to sway, but I thought he was great," remarked Kevin Brough '01. "The fact that he had ideas and was willing to stake out a position and that he was able to say things like 'sure, some of these programs will be expensive' is pretty remarkable."

Long Distance Debate Not Dead

By Justin Herdman

Law Student Council (LSC) addressed plans to combat the University's monopoly on long-distance telephone service at Tuesday's meeting.

The Harvard Student Telephone Office (HSTO) is currently renegotiating its contract with MCI, the university's long-distance carrier. The LSC is unhappy with the narrow long-distance options currently available to students, a situation which is a result of the HSTO's need for debt retirement.

Rewiring is Root of the Problem

In the early 1990s, HSTO invested heavily in rewiring the Harvard campus. While the benefits of this project are to be found in voice mail and direct dialing services, HSTO was also faced with the daunting prospect of debt management. As the Office operates on a non-profit basis, it has been forced to pass along the debt retirement to students, most notably in the form of inflated long-distance rates.

LSC President Dan Fridman '99 defined the Council's displeasure in terms of the distribution of costs. "These are unfair costs, especially to out-of-state and international students. This is not an equitable way to pay for these im-

provements," Fridman said.

The administration is not unaware of student concerns. According to Aaron Hutman '01, HSTO has acknowledged the need for student input in this current round of bargaining.

"The Office already works with faculty and staff, but they've been encouraged to include students," Hutman said.

As a result of this desire, the Harvard Undergraduate Council would be forming a committee to influence the negotiations. Hutman said LSC planned to have a representative on that student subcommittee.

Marching in Lockstep Could be Key

Fridman hopes to create solidarity with the other University schools in order to effect changes in the telephone rates. "We want to have some collective, unified action," he said.

As a concession to the weight of cross-school coordination, the LSC has appointed Justin Cooper '01 as "outreach representative."

Cooper hopes that focusing on the telephone issue will galvanize Harvard's graduate students. "It seems like a perfect example of an issue where various student councils can come together," he said.

In fact, Cooper admits, the lack of such cohesion could have negative consequences.

If a torrent of individual complaints from the various graduate schools were advanced, "it would look bad, since it would be obvious that [we] hadn't talked to each other," said Cooper.

The LSC feels that the potential for change exists, especially since this issue promises to resonate outside of the Hark. "The more cooperation there is between various student councils, the stronger our case will be," Cooper said.

Those Free-riding Profs

While this non-adversarial approach will likely dominate the LSC's treatment of the telephone issue, the Council is exploring other options as well.

Fridman mentioned using the tremendous resources of HLS to subsidize student costs as an alternative. "Each school within the University has its own share" in the debt retirement, Fridman said. "So maybe each school could ante up and pay their own share."

Currently, the high costs only affect those students living on-campus. Others who regularly use the services but don't live on campus, such as professors, are given a free ride.

At the very least, the LSC is committed to keeping law students informed and involved. "We have encouraged all of our representatives to solicit student opinions," said Fridman.

Students Comment on Office of Career Services Under Donahue's Leadership

Continued from OCS, p.1

and giving really practical advice to people."

Paula Garvin also received praise from several 2Ls.

James Webber '00 called her "very

As Oriented As They Wanna Be

Nevertheless, many interviewing students criticized OCS on a number of fronts, including the orientation session OCS made mandatory for interviewing 2Ls and 3Ls.

"It was like 90 degrees in that room because you were sitting with five million other people, and it went on forever," Corby Boldissar '00 said of the orientation.

Folkman pointed out that the OCS session was mired in paperwork.

"One thing that I thought was sort of strange was they made this big deal about how they're switching to the Internet — which is fine, go Internet, whatever," Folkman noted.

"And then they said, well here, come pick up this big packet. It seems to me if you're going to do everything on the Internet, you wouldn't have to have these meetings, pass out all this paper, and so forth."

Additionally, Folkman found the emphasis on grades at the meeting to be "a little off-putting."

"The talk about grades I think got people a little worried," he said. "It's not like college, where you sort of had an idea of what good grades were and what bad grades were."

Donahue said she realized that some people felt she shouldn't have discussed grades at the orientation session, but she thought they might be helpful to students in evaluating their employment prospects.

"I'm hoping to raise the issue of the distribution of more information on how firms judge grades," she said. She suggested that one possibility would be to publish firms' internal grade guidelines.

Overall, Donahue realized that the orientation session faced a lot of student criticism, and she said she would organize it differently and make it shorter next year. But she is not in favor of abolishing such a session altogether, as some have suggested.

"I continue to be an optimist," Donahue said. "I believe it's better to talk to students than send them memos."

"One way of changing the culture here at HLS is by having orientation sessions and forums, providing opportunities for there to be face-to-face contact."

Donahue also noted that OCS was faced with the "operational constriction" of "mini-

mal staff for such an enormous program."

Finally, while she knew that she "went on way too long at those sessions," Donahue said that students should realize that handing out employer directories is a time-consuming process.

"While it took a long time to hand out the employer directories, it's likely that students would have had to wait that long to get their employer directories anyhow had we done it on a first-come, first-served basis" as had been the practice in the past.

Infirm Information

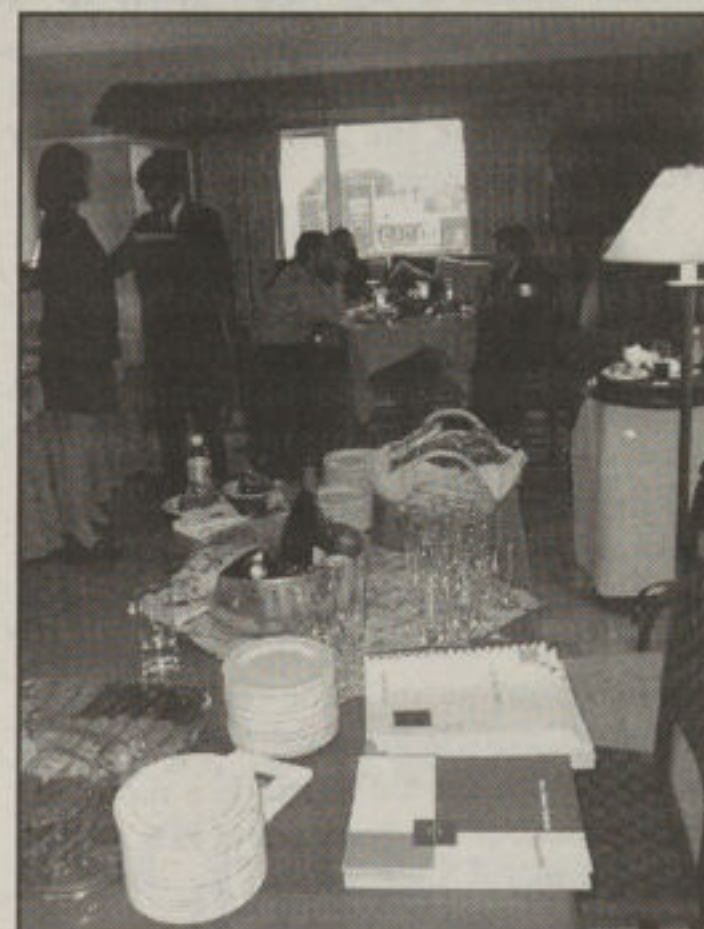
Additionally, many students were disappointed by the OCS promotion of the information.com Website at the information session.

"The information.com thing was ridiculous," Alderman said. "There had to be a more efficient way of distributing that information."

Donahue understood that she "lost a lot of people" during the information.com presentation. "I will not have the information.com presentation another year." Nevertheless, Donahue defended her decision to promote infirmation.com.

"It is very much the vision of Sheila Walsh '93 that that Website would have helped her and her classmates, and I just wanted students to know it was out there," Donahue said.

The Website itself was criticized for being too narrowly focused on New York law firms. According to Donahue, those firms were practically the only ones that submitted information to the site this year;



ing the first and second weeks of interviews."

"This really pisses me off, especially the long delay in receiving ding letters. Why don't these firms have the balls to just call me and tell me I'm not getting a callback?"

"Even an e-mail rejection would be faster. But the way things are going now," he continued, "it looks like I'm going to have to make two fly-outs to the West coast and back, one for the callbacks I currently have and another one for the callbacks I might be getting later."

The student said that he'd heard that West Coast firms take longer to make decisions, but wonders why OCS hasn't done anything about that. "They either need to schedule fly-out week later or make West Coast firms interview earlier in the interview season."

Donahue urged students with similar concerns to contact her. "It does help me to hear from students one-on-one so we can work through these problems," she said.

Donahue also said that she was familiar with the suggestion that West Coast firms interview earlier in the month. She noted that people have also encouraged her to consider scheduling small and mid-sized

law firms during the first two weeks of the on-campus interviewing season.

"I realize that there are many arguments for structuring timing differently, but there is such a distinct advantage to being in the first weeks. And while many students will target cities — say, San Francisco and Los Angeles — there are also an equal number whose interviews will span a great number of cities."

"The first two weeks of the on-campus interviewing process are characterized by minimal no-shows and cancellations," Donahue noted. "It's just not fair to give any one group the advantage of being scheduled for those two weeks year after year."

Why Not Prescreen?

"I talked to a recruiter who was kind of mad that Harvard didn't allow pre-screening," Boldissar recalled. "He said we're one of three or four schools that don't."

"I've said stupid things, I've thought interviews with New York firms had gone terribly, and then I'd get a callback on the spot. Some of these New York firms seem to use pre-screening to such an extent that they don't seem to care about the person."

"Then again," Boldissar said, "a lot of them have seemed predisposed against me from the beginning. A lot of times, I walk in the room, and I can just sort of feel I won't get an offer."

Another 2L who said he preferred to remain anonymous agreed.

Please see **PRESCREEN**, p. 5

Location, Location, Location

The bed was a lot more evident in the room at the Sheraton. I just felt like I was almost sitting facing it. It was really hard to disregard it. I think it was a four-poster, too. It was really obtrusive.

—Elizabeth Read

The Sheraton's a dump! It's a piece of crap. I can't believe people pay to sleep there, it's so disgusting. It's gross! Even the interviewer who interviewed me there said, "I can't believe I got stuck here, it's disgusting."

—Anonymous 3L

I enjoyed the Inn at Harvard's open area in the front. It's very pretty. I sat there quite a bit between interviews. [Reacting to interviewer's laughter] Hey, I'm serious!

Other than that, all the hotels are the same.

—Gil Seinfeld

The Sheraton is pretty crummy. It's pretty dingy, it's just not as nice. The Charles is definitely the best interview location.

—Mina Kim

The Lincoln's Inn is alright. All I wanted was a room to sit down in, and it had that.

The Sheraton was alright, too; I had a little trouble finding my way around in it, but it could have been just me.

—Sidney Moore

Some people said oh, the Sheraton is an old hotel. Whatever. I thought it was perfectly pleasant, though it's a little eerie to have 500 people trooping into the same hotel at the same time.

—Ted Folkman

The worst are the rooms up in Pound. They're awful. They're like cubbyholes, and those rooms are really warm. They should just use classrooms, but I'm not sure what the interviewers could do about it.

—James Webber

Law, Lies and Interviews

HLS students definitely lie. If you ask people what firms they're considering, they'll usually give you a list of very prestigious firms, and if you ask them if they've heard back, they haven't. It's posturing. I think it's worse second year than third year. It's more of an ego thing second year. By third year or even right after recruiting season second year, people come to the realization that everyone who goes to school here is going to get a job.

—Mina Kim

Yes, students lie, and then there are complete losers who put letters on their doors saying they got rejected. Please stop doing this!!! But yeah, Harvard kids lie, so of course they're going to lie about this.

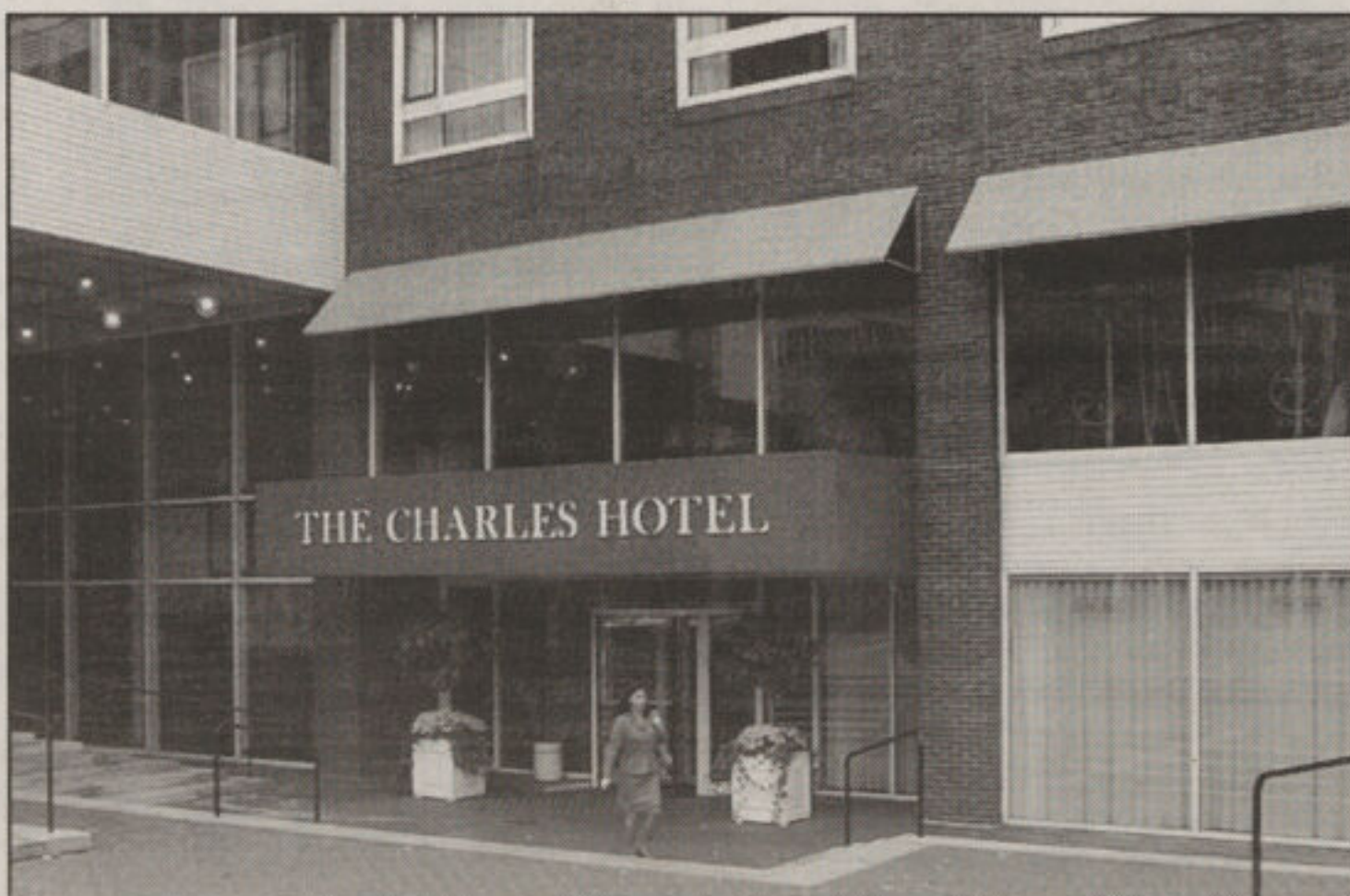
—Anonymous 3L

however, that infirmation.com plans to expand in the future.

West Coast Frustration

On a broader level, students interviewing with West Coast firms have been frustrated with the delay in receiving responses from on-campus interviewers.

"I'm interviewing exclusively on the West Coast, and firms there are being extremely delinquent about giving me replies," commented one 2L who wished to remain anonymous. "After three weeks of interviewing, I still haven't heard from 13 of the firms I interviewed with, and many of these are firms I interviewed with dur-



A Debate on the Merits of Prescreening

Continued from **PRESCREEN**, p.4

"One of the firms I was interviewing with had two sets of interviews going on at the same time for its Chicago office," the 2L said. "Since I had some time to kill before my interview I looked at the names on both lists. On the first there were at least three Law Review members and a bunch of other people who probably have better grades than I."

"Most my friends were on the second one," the 2L continued. "I guess we were assigned to the 'reject room' — not only did we have to talk to junior partners, but not one person that I've talked to off my list got a callback. I've only talked to one person from the other list, but he got a callback."

"Also, he said one of the interviewers he talked to was the hiring partner. It's a bit frustrating to think I was probably pre-screened. If I had known I wouldn't have even bothered showing up," the 2L concluded.

Asked whether he thought OCS should allow employers to prescreen, Boldissar responded that he was "of two minds about it."

"I guess the résumé is worth something, but I think grades are completely worthless," Boldissar said, "and I don't think I have really been judged on the merits unless I've been interviewed. But if the interview is a complete waste of my time, I'd like to know beforehand."

Donahue said that she could "see the point that we should allow employers to prescreen candidates," but she didn't feel totally comfortable with the idea, "having done some admissions work and knowing that the best attorneys aren't always the best students."

"The ability to be a rainmaker or really solve problems efficiently and be able to communicate those solutions to clients involves skills students can show to employers in an interview session," she said.

Donahue said that some students acquire these skills by spending time on journals, with clinical programs or other extracurricular activities which might leave less time for study and by proxy lower their GPAs.

"I prefer to still be enough of an idealist to think it's still possible for students to turn an interview around even if their grades are

stacked against them," Donahue said, noting that this was putting not only "pressure on interviewees" but also "faith in interviewers."

Donahue, who used to work in the admissions office, compared the prescreening policy with the admissions office's policy of not having arbitrary cut-offs. "In the admissions office, each applicant's file really gets read," she said.

Looking Towards the Future

Donahue hoped to use the next few months to gather student feedback about the on-campus interview process. She stressed repeatedly that she was "genuinely interested in hearing from students" and stated OCS was planning to distribute a survey to 2Ls and 3Ls who interviewed on campus.

She also noted that she hoped to expand OCS's visibility on the Internet. "Ideally,

we'd have a database that would connect everything," Donahue enthused, noting that she hoped to work with the Office of Public Interest Advising and the Office of Student Life Counseling in "streamlining career communication." The three offices plan this spring to release a combined Web calendar with career announcements.

Donahue is also planning to use a mass e-mail list to communicate with 1Ls interested in soliciting firms.

In general, students seem fairly happy with OCS.

"I found OCS very helpful. I know some people have had some criticisms, but that happened not to affect me," Moore said.

"I think OCS has done an outstanding job providing this service to students," said one 3L who wished to remain anonymous. "They have a lot of patience, and they work very hard. It's not a perfect office, but nothing in life is perfect."



Nightmare Interviews

First, I went into the hotel room, and the bed was all rumpled, and there was a tray containing half-eaten food on the bed.

I sat down, and the interviewer said, "I'm really sorry, but can I just take five minutes to take notes on the last person? I'll mix you all up otherwise."

I told him that was okay, and the room was quiet for a while. Then he asked me a question, and he was still typing, but I was unsure if he was typing about me or the last person. Maybe he just asked me a question so I'd feel comfortable.

Then he said "I'm really, really hungry. I've been doing these all day. Do you mind if I eat?" So he started eating bread and butter.

"I'm going to make a notation here that you're a female," he continued, "because from your name I'd think you'd be a male." So I pointed out I went to Wellesley and that three of my activities had the word "woman" in their names.

"Oh," he said, "I guess I didn't read your résumé." (Incidentally, I've had four interviewers tell me, "I thought you'd be male!")

Then he said "I really think you should come to xxx," calling the firm by another firm's name!

"Oops," he remarked, "I used to work there."

I haven't heard from them yet.

—Jess Alderman

I walked into my interview with Shearman and Sterling and sat down. The woman interviewer looked at my résumé. She said, "Oh, I see you went to Binghamton University. I went to Binghamton, too, but I didn't get into Harvard."

I replied, "Oh. Well, you know, Binghamton has been getting a better reputation in recent years."

"What?" she asked. "Because of people like you?"

"Well, I meant because of past graduates doing well and giving the school a better name."

It was all downhill from there. But then I went home and read the Vault Reports write-up on Shearman and Sterling and decided I didn't want to work there anyway.

—Alex Macris

I had one interview with Cravath which was awful. The guy talked about himself for thirty minutes straight. He asked me like two questions.

Then there was the time I lost my shoe at an interview dinner. I took my heels off because my feet hurt, and I had to ask for them across from the table.

—Mina Kim

My worst interview was the very first one. I think it was the quality of the interviewer. He just was a very dull, very boring guy. I tried to be effusive, but it was as if the members of the summer committee were drawing straws and he unfortunately got the straw indicating that he had to interview at HLS. He made his displeasure noticeable.

—Daniel Abebe

The interviews that I feel the worst about are when I immediately sense that I have no possible rapport with the person who's interviewing me. I feel uncomfortable as soon as I walk in the room. I'm pretty good at predicting when I'll get a callback, but I never get callbacks from these.

—Elizabeth Read

I was interviewing at a firm that I read in the Insider's Guide was friendly to families, and I asked how they earned that reputation. The guy interviewing me kind of freaked out and said I'd have to talk to women. He indicated the firm had some problems in the past. He kept stressing it was different for him than it would be for a woman. He pointed out that "You know, I don't give birth."

—Anonymous 2L

This poor guy was a tax attorney, and he was dreadfully, dreadfully boring. All we talked about was his good old school days, and how he decided back then that he was meant for a little house out in the suburbs with a white picket fence, two kids, and a dog. It was a little Cleverly. Fortunately they didn't call me back, so it worked out for the best.

—Theodore Folkman

I haven't had any nightmare interviewers per se, but some are duller than a butter knife.

—James Webber

Advice for Future Interviewees

I have a friend who's a partner at one of the top law firms in New York City. I gave her my résumé to see what she thought of it.

"Where are the journals?" she asked. "We like journals."

So my 2L year, I had to subcite to get a journal on my résumé. Quite humiliating, but I did it.

So, I would advise 1Ls to do a journal.

—Alex Macris

Don't over-interview — don't let it become an ego thing. People get way too wrapped up into it. People have this list of firms that they think are prestigious, and they base their legal career on it, but most of it is random, kind of like grades are. There's no way to predict how you'll do.

—Mina Kim

Talk to 3Ls about the process before you go crazy. They've been through it before, and usually they're very willing to talk about their experiences — even if some are rather bored-looking.

—Anonymous 3L

In choosing a firm, you shouldn't just go through the Vault Reports and interview with the "Top 50," especially with respect to New York firms. You should do a little more research to figure out which is the right firm for you.

—Steven Matays

Don't just interview in San Francisco, even if it's really where you want to be. Really put the time into researching places so you don't end up doing countless interviews where you're not really interested in the firms at all.

—Jess Alderman

Get comfortable with the idea of wearing a suit and tie to class because otherwise you'll spend a lot of time running between campus and your dorm room or apartment. I still haven't learned to wear my suit to class.

In a more serious vein, interviewing in multiple cities makes the process significantly less tidy — it complicates it so much. You lose your focus. It may not seem like it, but interviewing in three cities is a lot of a cities and a big hassle.

—Gil Seinfeld

Hospitality Suites and Cocktail Receptions

I am a big fan of hospitality suites. I think they're essential. Go in and get the coke, settle your stomach, find out if your interviewer is corporate or litigation, and then you'll know what to expect.

As for receptions, I like being given dinners more than just hors d'œuvres. Dinners fill you up.

—Alex Macris

I usually put my coat in the hospitality suite if I have one, and usually afterward I'll be so parched that I have a drink of water.

I try to avoid food; one time I ate something at one of them and spilled food on my jacket.

Today I went to one and when I went back to the hospitality suite, everyone was having a powwow. One of the attorneys asked me to sit down, and I felt really awkward not doing it. I felt trapped there. So I had to sit down in this circle.

—Elizabeth Read

I go to a lot of hospitality suites, and they show me that some people have no social skills. I'm kind of uncomfortable if people aren't talking. I mean, it's not like I want to go into a hospitality suite and talk about the firm, but I'd like to have a nice pleasant conversation about things. The other day I went to Wachtell and Fried Frank hospitality suites, and both of them were stone cold. No one was saying anything.

—Corby Boldissar

I think hospitality suites are nice, but unfortunately the 2Ls are too timid to eat in front of people, so the food goes to waste. I was interviewing with one woman who was at the Sheraton, but her firm's hospitality suite was at the Charles. I headed over there after the interview to talk to some people and take advantage of the free food. People should eat more at those hospitality suites.

—Anonymous 3L

Hospitality suites are absurd. Everyone's so nauseous before they go to the interviews; no one's going to eat any of that food. I have yet to see anyone eat any food in a hospitality suite.

—Gil Seinfeld



Briefs

Louisiana Sodomy Law Challenged

Gay men and lesbians who must break a state law to have sex went to court Monday to overturn Louisiana's sodomy law, saying it is unconstitutional and legitimizes hatred of homosexuals.

At the start of a long-awaited civil trial challenging the law, a lawyer claimed state legislators are afraid to repeal it because they would be labeled "pro gay."

But the lawmakers have ended up perpetuating anti-homosexual discrimination and violence, said John Rawls, the attorney who filed the lawsuit on behalf of seven homosexuals and the Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians.

"This law is maintained by the Louisiana Legislature strictly as a measure of bigotry," Rawls said.

Louisiana is one of 13 states that make consensual oral and anal sex between heterosexual or homosexual couples a crime, even if the sex takes place behind closed doors in a home. Six other states have sodomy laws banning such sex between homosexual couples only.

About 2,000 heterosexuals and homosexuals were arrested for violating the law between 1988 and 1994, Rawls said. However, he said homosexuals risk being targeted more because legal intercourse is not one of their sexual options.

The law has not been enforced since the lawsuit was filed in 1994 and a judge halted prosecution of sodomy cases. The injunction also prevented a nationwide boycott of Louisiana by gay groups.

The injunction will no longer be valid if Civil Judge Carolyn Gill-Jefferson finds that the law is constitutional.

In 1986, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Georgia's sodomy law, saying bans against such conduct have ancient roots. That decision prompted gay rights advocates to file lawsuits in state courts saying sodomy laws violate state constitutions.

Sodomy laws in 31 states have been overturned or legislated out of existence since 1972, Rawls said.

—Associated Press

Without Fanfare, Janus Closes

The Sony-Loews Janus Cinema went out of business this past weekend, meeting with a demise as quiet as its reputation. The theater had its final viewing this Saturday evening, with the showing of the PG-13-rated film *Without Limits*.

The one-screen theater has been a part of the Cambridge community since 1975, changing owners in 1986 to become a Sony-Loews theater. The Hunneman Commercial Management Corporation owns the space that the theater occupied, located in the basement of the Galleria mall on JFK Street.

Hunneman Senior Area Manager Christine A. George said the theater's lease expired, and Sony-Loews didn't want to renew.

Reasons for the closing are, as yet, difficult to determine. However, Kristin Sudholz, head of the Harvard Square Business Association, speculated that the theater was losing money for the movie-house chain, which is based in New York City.

Competition with the Brattle Theater and a five-screen Sony-Loews theater on Church Street were probably other important factors behind the decision to let the lease expire.

The theater joins the popular ice cream shop Scoops and Beans on the list of Harvard Square businesses that have closed this fall. Sudholz said she has no concerns about a trend developing.

—The Harvard Crimson

Protestors End Sit-In at UT-Austin

About 40 students who staged a 25-hour sit-in at the University of Texas declared victory Friday when administrators agreed to discuss the school's lack of affirmative action.

"We won this thing," student leader Jay Reed said. "We did not intend to have a sit-in. They provoked us into this situation by disrespecting us."

The students camped out on the first-floor hallway of the college tower Thursday afternoon after President Larry Faulkner refused to meet with them at a rally of about 200 students. Officials did not remove the students, but took such measures as locking the bathrooms for a while.

Protesters contend the university has not done enough to attract minority students after a federal appeals court ruling in 1996 ended the use of affirmative action in admissions and scholarship decisions.

On Friday, Faulkner agreed to demands that he publish the school's views on affirmative action and hold four town hall meetings.

Four white law school applicants sued the university, and the U.S. Supreme Court let stand the appeals court ruling banning race from being considered in law school admissions. Attorney General Dan Morales interpreted the ruling to include financial aid and scholarships — not just admissions — at Texas public universities, which have since have reported declines in black and Hispanic enrollment.

—Associated Press

Study: Women's Genes Spread More

NEW YORK (AP) - When it comes to genes, women seem to get around more than men. A new study suggests that women have done better than men at spreading their genes around the globe. For the most part, researchers say, the explanation is fairly mundane: women through history moved to their mates' communities to start families.

Over thousands of years, these short migrations apparently enabled women's genes to get around more than men's, researcher Mark Seielstad said.

Seielstad, a fellow in the program for population genetics at the Harvard School of Public Health, did the work with L. Luca Cavalli-Sforza and Eric Minch at the Stanford University School of Medicine. Their findings were published in the November issue of the journal *Nature Genetics*.

Seielstad said he and colleagues weren't surprised by the result, because the idea of women moving to their husbands' community is so common across cultures.

—Associated Press

Concern Over Declining Minority Enrollment



RECORD Photo/Francesco Barbera

Some alumni expressed surprise at the dropping minority enrollment at HLS.

Continued from *ALUMNI*, p. 1

admission outreach, to increase applications and enrollment of minority students."

The figures struck a chord with alumni, several of whom stopped for a long while to discuss the issue with leaflets. "If these numbers are accurate, it's shocking," commented J. Walter Frieberg III '68, a practicing attorney in Boston. "If I thought for a moment that they are the product of disregard about the importance of diversity, I would be horrified and embarrassed by my school."

In an interview on Monday, Dean Clark '72 stated that the figures cited on the leaflet do not tell the full story. "I would express the problem in two words: declining pool," he said, referring to the nationwide drop in minority law school applications. "If you look at Harvard in comparison to other law schools, our enrollment figures are pretty much in the middle."

Joyce Curll, Associate Dean and Director of Admissions, also cited the national trend. She added that annual fluctuations might explain the steep drop as well. "The number of students that enter in any year can easily differ as a result of a variety of factors, for example, the number of students who defer."

But organizers of Friday's event insisted that declining applications do not explain away the problem. "Even if there has been a decline in applications proportional to the enrollment, it's still alarming," said Wasson. "The admissions office can do much more to control its applicant pool through recruitment efforts and the kind of information you target to different groups."

"If you don't make a proactive effort to engage applicants who have the impression that this is a hostile environment, then it's no surprise that your numbers are going to decline," noted Black Law Student Association President T. J. Stevenson '00. "Talented students are going to choose the place where they feel welcome and where they can get a quality education. Harvard is not the only place where you can get a quality education."

Keith Roberts '68, a practicing attorney in New York who has served as a mentor to minority students at Ivy League schools, echoed the need for outreach efforts: "A lot of students simply don't believe that they can get in to a place like

Harvard, or if they do get in, they don't think it will be a friendly place for them. That's not just black people but people from all immigrant groups and basically anyone from a non-white or non-WASP background."

Curll underscored the Law School's commitment to diversity and said that claims that the Admissions Office is unresponsive to the issue are "patently untrue." She noted, however, that minority recruitment efforts are constrained by its limited resources. "It takes administrative efforts to make these kinds of things happen. We have constraints in terms of time, as well as the number of people we have. We would always do more if we had more resources."

Whether such resources will be forthcoming remains to be seen. Significant obstacles remain to be overcome, not the least of which is the Law School's traditional complacency regarding the need for outreach efforts.

"It's a fair observation that Harvard and the other elite schools have not had to beat the bush as much to get applicants, so we don't have well-developed habits in that area," Clark said.

"It may well be that we have to up the level of activity and get more aggressive about it. But I'm pragmatic. I want to know what's going to work, not just what is symbolic."

Friday's event was peaceful, but was punctuated by brief moments of tension. The first flyer of the evening was handed to Scott G. Nichols, the Law School's Dean for Development. Nichols was seen shortly afterwards racing out of Pound Hall toward Clark's office.

One alumnus who claimed to have been in the first class admitting female students stated baldly that admitting women was "the worst thing that's ever happened to the Law School."

Jay Munir '01 said that such points of view underscore the importance of the students' efforts. "If we don't work to correct this decline in minorities, then we risk returning to that time when there was just one point of view on diversity issues: apathy."

As a follow-up to Friday's demonstration, Goyle and Stevenson requested data from the Admissions Office. Citing a policy against releasing data without being given an opportunity to explain it, the Admissions Office has scheduled a meeting for Thursday to present the data.

The RECORD would like to thank RUSSELL KEYES and the Building Operations Staff for their help with the newspaper archives. Their commitment to HLS students is truly unparalleled.

Kennedy Predicts Wave of Student Activism

Continued from **ACTIVISTS**, p. 1

The meeting was the brainchild of Kumar and a small group of students committed to student activism. Last spring, these students put together an activist training workshop that was run by the Midwest Academy. This year, the group has held meetings as well as engaged in threaded discussions over the internet on many of the subjects broached at the Thursday meeting.

A large number of student groups were represented at the meeting, as well as students from other graduate schools and from Harvard College interested in forging activist links across campus boundaries.

Dunc Provides Spunk

Kennedy painted a deterministic picture of activism at the Law School. "There is a strong pattern to this history," he said. "It goes up, then it goes down, up and down in endless waves."

According to Kennedy, waves almost never begin within the memory of the previous wave. Once an activist period dies down, a new one will not begin until its participants have graduated and been replaced by a new group of fault-finders.

Based on this pattern, Kennedy predicted that the tide is about to rise. "The last wave was over by 1994," he said. "It is almost inevitable that a new wave will start."

Kennedy focused on the protests over faculty diversity that erupted in 1992 after a compromise between the "left" and "right" wings of the faculty over new hires resulted in the appointment of four white men.

"Students were outraged that the symbol of left and right faculty reconciliation was these four white men," he said. The students mobilized, and soon afterwards Anne-Marie Slaughter '85 and Elizabeth Warren were hired, tipping the faculty's gender balance in favor of diversity.

"This would not have happened without active student involvement," Kennedy said. He also called the recent hiring of Prof. Lani Guinier a product of student agitation.

Kennedy recounted four student sit-ins



on the Dean's Office in the '80s. At a pro-diversity sit-in organized by a coalition of campus groups, 12 students occupied the office while hundreds of students sat outside in support.

"The majority of students sympathized with the protesters," said Kennedy, "but were relieved that they didn't have to sit-

in themselves." This theme recurred in the recent meeting: a great many students feel disgruntled about certain aspects of HLS life, but lack the know-how or the motivation to take matters into their own hands.

"Student sentiment is often diffuse and unorganized," said Kennedy, adding that the waves of activism rise when such sentiment is successfully channeled into concrete action.

Kennedy said that both large-scale and small-scale movements have resulted in important changes at the Law School. "The institution is profoundly vulnerable to student rebellion," he said. "You have to find your issues and then make things happen."

Diversity Rears Its Head Again

After Kennedy's speech, students spoke either on behalf of campus organizations or as individuals about issues of concern. The vast majority touched on the perceived lack of diversity at the Law School.

Marisia Parra '99, the president of La Alianza, started the trend, pointing out that Latino enrollment had declined by over 30 percent since she came to Harvard in 1996. She also decried the lack of a single Latino faculty member.

"We have met with Dean Clark [72] and faculty members on the hiring committee, but there is no indication that there will be a resolution of this issue anytime soon," she said.

T. J. Stevenson '00, the President of the Black Law Students Association, noted a similar decline in African American enrollment over the last two years, from 65 students in 1996 to 44 in 1998. Stevenson

considered the hiring of Prof. Guinier "a step in the right direction," but urged students to maintain pressure to ensure that she is "only the first and not the last woman of color appointed to the faculty."

Amelie von Briesen '01 told the group that she was organizing a petition urging the administration to celebrate 45 years of women at HLS by setting a goal of having women comprise 45 percent of entering classes by 2001. She noted that women comprise nearly 52 percent of the country's population but only 42 percent of the class of 2001.

Students at the meeting also expressed concern about holes in the curriculum, particularly in the environmental field; about reforming the Low Income Protection Plan and public interest summer funding to make public interest jobs more feasible; and about the need to work with other law school students to compile and distribute more meaningful information about internal practices of law firms.

From Talk to Action

While the meeting discussed general issues of Law School culture and the career search, the statistics for minority student enrollment galvanized the group to take immediate action.

"There was a general feeling of outrage at the decline," said Kumar. Students are likely to take further action in order to prod the administration to tackle the issue. "We want the administration to 'fess up to the fact that diversity is a priority," said Kumar.

"I think the next wave has commenced," said Rajeev Goyle '00, quoting Kennedy. "It's up to us to see that it continues and that we work on the salient issues. We want to bring more diversity into the student body and change the culture of the Law School to make this a more vibrant institution, one that people feel happy about, that students feel is more responsive to their needs, and that fulfills students' educational and occupational expectations."

Prof. Hay '88 Expands 1L Student Horizons

Continued from **HAY**, p. 1

child's drawing, a rubber snake, a coil of chain-link fence, and a sofa. One team of students found a stripped-down automobile and called the police to report their finding. "There was a car sitting there and it looked like the airbag was gone and the seats and doors were gone," said Cameron Cohen '01. "When we were cleaning up

the lot, we started finding car doors and seats and things. One of the neighbors called the police and the neighborhood initiative called also. Three squad cars came by because they thought that the car was in the process of being stripped down, so it was interesting."

Many students saw the event as a chance to escape the rigors of HLS life and give back to the community. "I think community service is important, and I think it's a good opportunity for 1Ls to come together. We probably all did a lot of service before we came here, and it's good to continue it. It's important to get out of Cambridge and put down our books and do something to help other people," said Priti Seksaria '01.

"The law profession is such a reactionary profession and I think it's important to take preventative measures," agreed Zarifa Brown '01. "It's important to show people that we're there. If they feel that people in positions of power care and will help them build up their neighborhoods, this will help build their sense of community."

The service project is just one of the many activities that Hay has sponsored for the students of Section 2, to whom he teaches Civil Procedure and LRA. Since the beginning of the school year,

Prof. Hay has sponsored a barbecue, a happy hour and an outing at Jillian's in Boston.

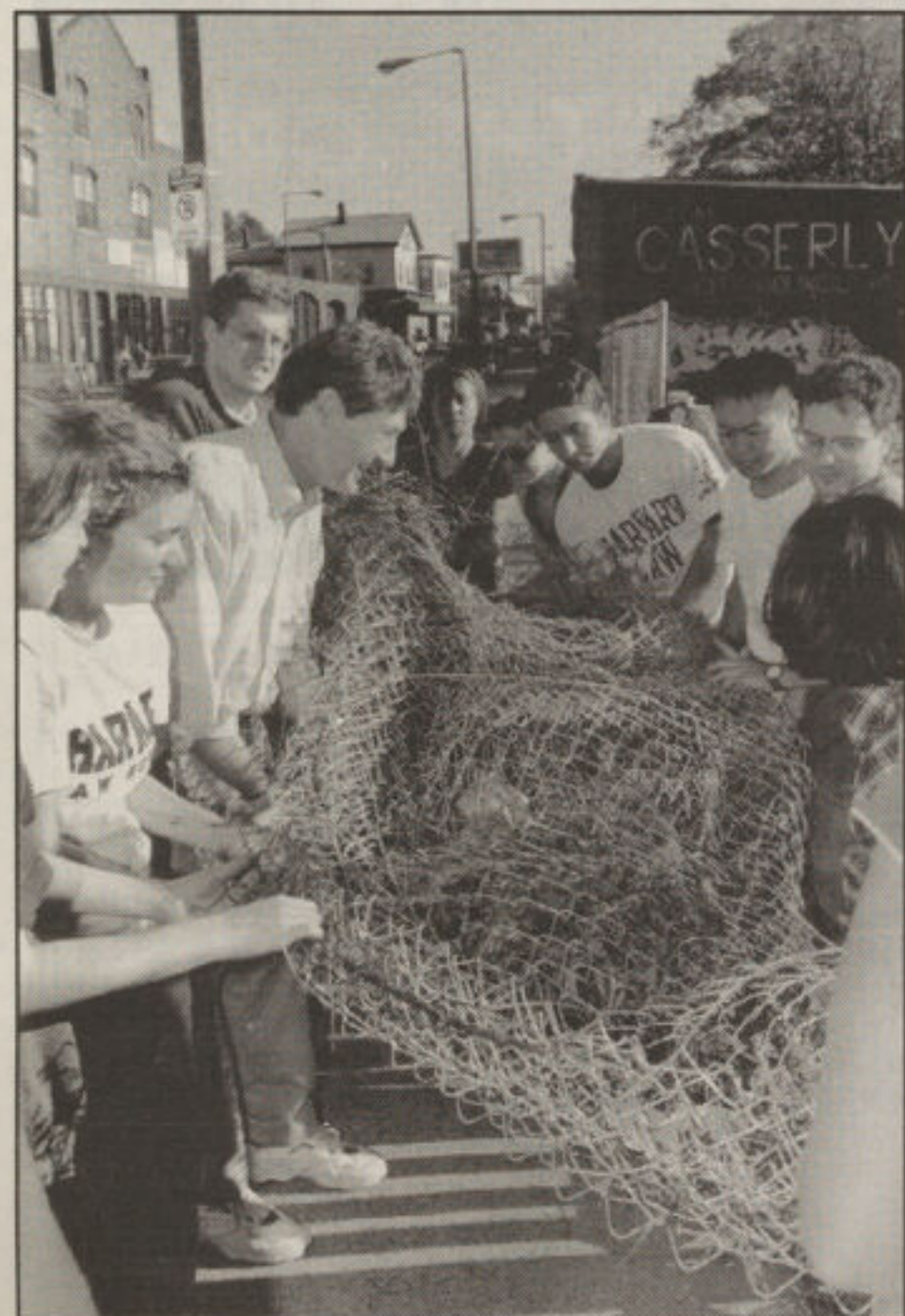
"I had a wonderful 1L experience. The teachers I had really went out of their way to make it a wonderful year for us, and I guess that I'm using that as my model. People seem a bit alienated at times [at HLS], and I thought that fostering a bit of cohesion might reduce that. I wanted to get people to know each other in the section. And, it's also partly for me. It's nice to get to know who your students are," Hay said.

Even students in other sections appreciated the opportunity. "I'm here mostly to meet and work alongside people who would do this sort of thing. The sections are so big and A-groups are so small. This is a nice chance to meet other people," said John Bartlett '01.

This latest event was the brainchild of Jennifer Harvey's. "I knew that I wanted to help out people in a disadvantaged

neighborhood. After talking to Profs. Mary Ann Glendon and Duncan Kennedy, I became interested in the Dudley Street Initiative. Because they are so involved with rebuilding the community, a lot of the issues the students will deal with in Property class are being played out here, so it seemed like a nice way to get real exposure to subjects they are studying and help people out at the same time," said Harvey.

Later in the day, the group was joined by Dean Clark '72, who came to congratulate the group of students and celebrate their efforts. "There is a lot of volunteering going on [at HLS]. I get nice letters of appreciation for the work done through the Legal Aid Bureau and other projects like the group that helps Cambridge-area residents prepare their tax returns, so there's always been a tradition of service. This event is unusual in that it's not related to being a lawyer. It's good stuff. I hope it's repeated and grows," said Dean Clark.



Dean Clark '72 pitches in to clean up Roxbury.

Intruder Contaminates Dresser

By RECORD Staff

An intruder removed the underwear from a Story Hall resident's dresser and then urinated inside the drawer Tuesday, Oct. 20, according to the Harvard University Police Department (HUPD).

The situation is under investigation, said HUPD spokesperson Peggy McNamara.

No one has yet been charged with the biological vandalism, but the resident

did point to one possible suspect.

"Five or six days prior, the reporting person came upon a suspicious person, and she gave us a description of that suspect after the incident," said McNamara, adding that detectives are working with the victim to gather evidence against the suspect.

McNamara said she was uncertain as to whether the victim was furnished with counseling or a new dresser.

"I'm not sure about the furniture, but I know the locks were changed on her door," McNamara said.

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Question Minority Decline

Activism? At HLS? Just when you thought that everyone who cared about anything (other than their future salary) left HLS four years ago with Derek Bell, the newly formed Law School Coalition for Diversity has sparked activists into action.

Touting some pretty startling stats, the Coalition spent this past weekend questioning HLS's commitment to diversity. And if raising awareness was their primary goal, they were by all counts successful. Their issue was sound; their stats were accurate. And scary. Minority enrollment at the Law School has witnessed a precipitous decline over the past three years.

For minority students, of course, this comes as no surprise. For the past three years Lambda members have lamented the decline in openly gay students. The class of 1996 boasted over 30 openly gay law students — the class of 2001 has about 6. Any administrative argument that this change in numbers is a mere coincidence stretches the boundaries of credulity.

On paper, of course, HLS remains committed to maintaining a diverse student body. Realistically, however, the admissions office does little to attain that body. Minority students raised a litany of complaints with the office this past Thursday, seriously questioning its commitment to work with BLSA, La Alianza, Lambda and NALSA in order to recruit minority prospects.

Of course, the admissions office might not be to blame — there may be some benign reason why Latino student enrollment has declined 37 percent over the past three years. And if so, then Dean Clark and Joyce Curll owe it to the Law School community to provide that explanation. The RECORD would be more than happy to provide the space.

Ultimately though, the Law School's current problems must be viewed in a larger context. Surely, for instance, a school without any Latino or openly gay profs will have trouble recruiting Latino and openly gay students.

So we urge the administration, in wake of this weekend's protests, to renew their commitment to diversity and to reverse the recent trend in minority enrollment. And we urge the student body to challenge the administration on this issue. As Duncan Kennedy and the Coalition for Diversity recognized this past weekend, this is a pivotal time for all to get involved. If not, HLS will surely continue on the path it is currently on, and the class of 2005 may very well bear an eerie resemblance to the class of 1955.

—Seth Persily

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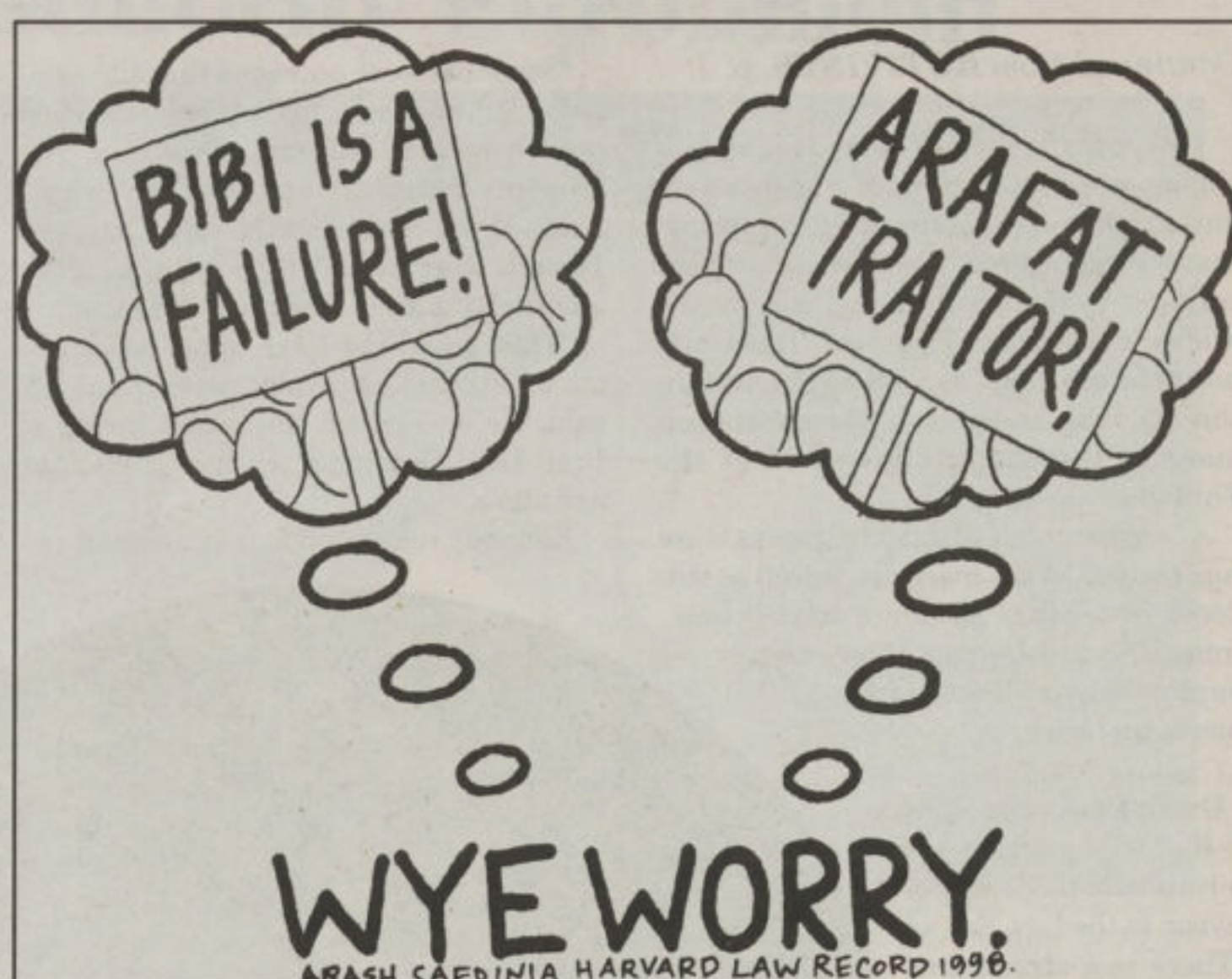
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—First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

• Letters •



Something on Your Mind?

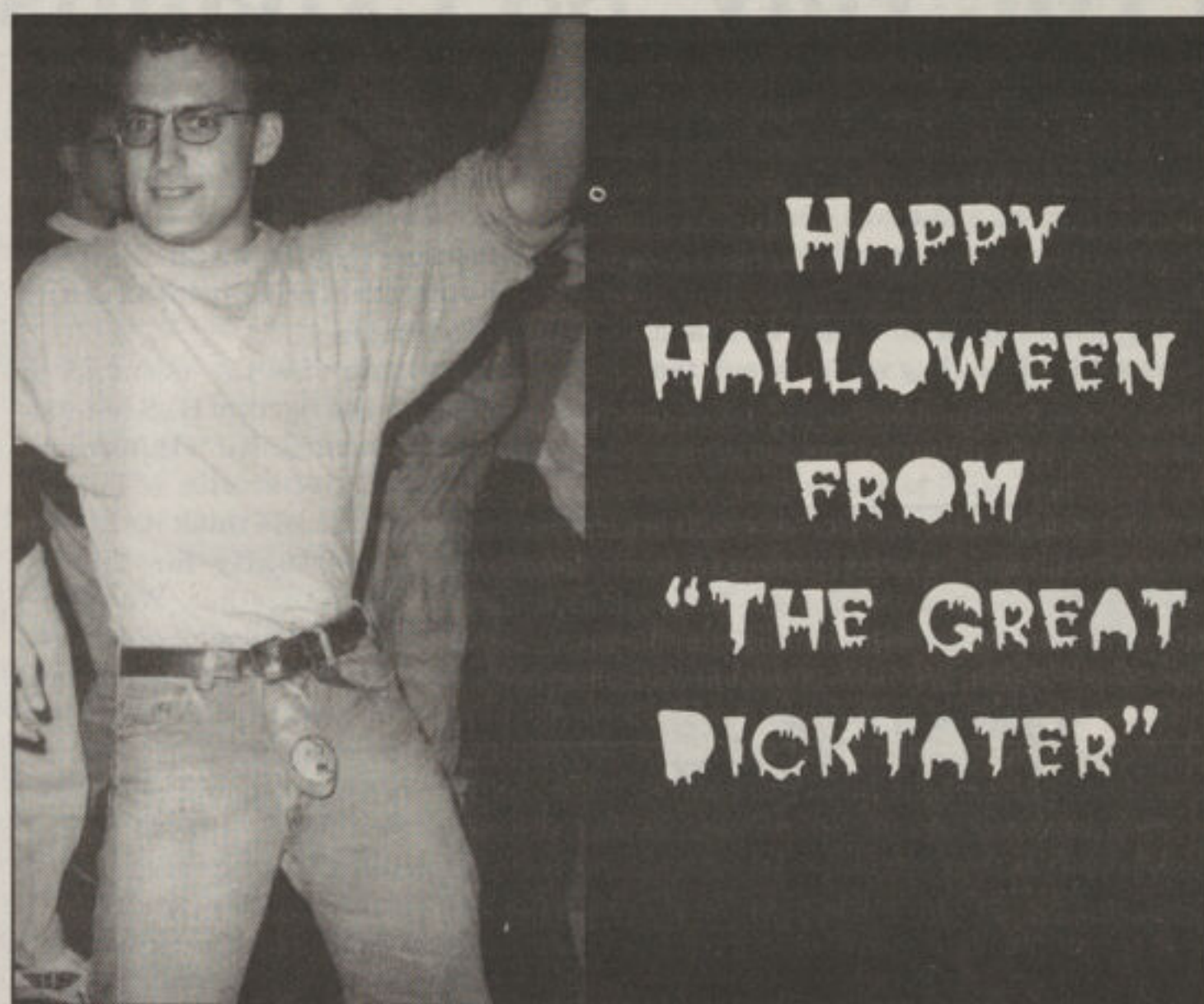
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Of Bulldozers and Butterflies

By Alexander Boldizar '99
Staff Columnist

TROPES, TOOLS, TIES, TRADES AND TALK

I am not interviewing this year. Last year at this time I was playing in a sandbox. But two years ago I was a Two-L. A Two-L in a suit. A tool in a tie. Talking myself from a trade school into a trade. Trading myself for a job. Itinerant student traveling from hotel stall to hotel stall. Talking, talking, talking. "Harvard Law student — enters the interview room — the sound of lawyers." A line of this sort in a column two years ago almost cost me a job.

Talking and ties. I hate ties. They make me talk. That is what ties are for. Talking. Ties. Time. Every time I walked to the Charles Hotel I was so awfully aware of that noose around my neck. At the end of the noose, weighing me down, hung the ponderous and sagging knowledge that were I to become engaged in a fisticuffs with a brigand, police officer or editor, I would have my own portable loop pre-tethered around my neck, a dog leash by which the deteriorated could hold me, harness me, hang me...

I had to slaughter some sheep once. An unpleasant experience. They fight back, until you place your foot on their neck. Then they gently give up, let you quietly slit their throats without a struggle...

But we have an advantage over sheep. In the civilized world of the Charles Hotel those who take us are our own kind, and when we bleat, they bleat back. The rule for those walking the dark hallways of the Charles is imminently civilized: no fisticuffs, no Chinese-Long-Knife-Eight-Directional-Night-Battle, no Samson's jawbone piling the Philistines up in piles; the tie prohibits all corporeal contumacy, all somatic struggle, by providing the opponent with the grab-long-handle, yank, and cause-eyeballs-to-bulge-out-of-head countermove. The tie has replaced the jawbone of an ass with the jawbone of the lawyer.

It is amazing, with Philistines every-

where in ascendance, that the jawbone is still the weapon of choice. But no, it is no longer merely a weapon, it is now a multi-purpose tool, like one of those adjustable power pliers. Like lawyers. Like rhetoric.

I like rhetoric. As Hayden White says, it provides a logic of narrative composition, a logic of tropes. Rhetoric I understand, but Law Professors I do not. Like vulgar Marxists, proselytizing atheists and benumbed rationalists, Law Professors insist on implying that when they discover a contradiction in an argument they have destroyed the argument. "There you said 'A', here you are saying 'not-A'," as if here were there, as if life and law were a letter, clause or sentence rather than an entire library. As if life were logical rather than tropological. Grammar can only comprehend sentences, not discourses; like grammar, the simple logic of identity and contradiction is always authoritarian, always implies some idealized absolute truth legislated by those with power, a truth based on some odd substitutability of the part for the whole.

Even this fetishization of consistency at the Law School, however, is always only quietly implied, itself violating the rules of logical deduction. Even this fetish, as life itself, is more enthymemic than syllogistic. Or perhaps it too is "merely" a rhetorical device, for in choosing the form they have already determined a semantic domain in which to produce, not find but produce, meaning and truth. Ah, Law Professors, what shall we do with them?

Talk. We talk with them in the domain of their choosing, a domain of literal language in which only the unproblematic aspects of life can be represented, thereby shaping the nature of what we can say before we can open our mouths to say it. Thus they mold our mouths square, that round metaphors would not fit out of them, they trim our ears triangular and

sharp-edged that amorphous metaphors could find no entry past the prickly points. Nothing meaningful can be said without a metaphor; that is why the metaphor has been outlawed by Descartes and Law Professors. Kant said that "the source of all error is metaphor." Sure. But it is also the source of all truth.

I'm trying to remember, wishing I had interviewed this year. To see what kind of language the lawyers who loiter in the Charles, the salesmen, the persuaders, use. Do they follow Aristotle's rhetorical suggestions? With a tie on both sides of the interview table, there must have been talk. Desperate, battling talk, talk that clanged, shattered the room with the sound of lawyers, causing the eyes to bulge in mutual tie-tightening, occasionally breaking through the doors to slip into the ears of waiting students.

But is talk, particularly disembodied talk, enough to persuade? With different beliefs, aims, the only common object, and thus the medium of all persuasion, is happiness. Socratic happiness. Today, this would seem to mean not being called on in class. But there was a time when the tools of the rhetorician included Strength, Excellence of Stature ("exceeding the generality in height, substance, and breadth, in such a ratio as not, by reason of that excess, to render one's motions more tardy"), Gymnastic excellence, Comeliness, Health, *et cetera*.

Was there happiness in that interview room? Was there proportionality? Enthymems there surely were, Aristotle calls them "the very body of proof," but were there bodies, or just disembodies? For what is a proof without a body, without Excellence of Stature, without Comeliness? Law Professors would have us believe that A is A regardless of whether he who says



"A" is ugly or beautiful, whether he has Gymnastic Excellence or not, turning consistency into something abstract. But there are three aspects to rhetoric, to law: the character of the speaker, the disposition of the hearer and the thing itself which is said.

When was it that we forgot that As don't float around by themselves? Oh, woe is me, how often have I sat in class while the Professor asked, wearing the gray face of an arithmetician, whether defendant should be liable for some silly thing or another, wishing but unable to say: "it depends on whether or not she was pretty." Was there happiness in that room? Was there beauty? Was there truth? Was there talk of slick cats in hot butter, of frying pans, of balloon salesmen at acupuncture conventions, of lonely socks tumbling in never-ending dryers? Error and truth.

In the real world outside HLS, even the skewed pseudo-reality of the Charles, there remains at least the possibility of metaphor. But inside, there can be no metaphor, no depth, no truth, no error nor beauty. All that can exist in a Restatement of Law, in a Law School, is nonsense, McDonald's pickles lying flat, thin and tasteless on processed dyed meat between the cotton buns of "policy," a crystal mirror Tron world of surfaces along which meaning flows effortlessly in two dimensions. Only two dimensions exist, and of these, only one axis — forward or back — seems relevant.

"Forward or back, which way shall I go," I wonder, staring at a beautiful bent-over female behind, a hand gently covering the forward and back. It is a beautiful world, a world of many dimensions; why do we insist on naturalizing, mechanizing, almost mineralizing it? And why do we talk so much? (To be continued...)

Fenno

It was 3 a.m., and Fenno sighed to himself as he tiptoed furtively across campus. Fenno was in a rotten mood; it had been years since the last time he'd been unable to finish off his night with that crucial last Scorpion Bowl at the Kong. But no, tonight there would be no lovely bowl of strange pink goodness to help him dream sweet dreams. For tonight, Fenno had work to do.

Fenno slunk into one of the giant, frigid Austin classrooms and tried not to look up at the dead white men with funny wigs who seemed to stare at him with cold, accusing eyes. Taking one last look around to make sure that no one could see him, Fenno reached into his pocket and pulled out a few crumpled pieces of paper and a chewed-up pen with an Eastern Airlines logo faintly visible on its side. His hand shook as the reality of what he was doing finally hit him full force.

Fenno had sworn off writing years before, after one desperate day spent trying to take notes in Dickie Parker's Con Law class. As Fenno uncapped the pen and held it in his grubby hand, he repeated to himself once again the mantra that he'd been muttering all day: "It's a matter of principle. It'll only happen this once. I can stop writing any time."

Fenno still felt dirty. But now the die was cast, and it was too late to stop. He put the pen to paper and began scribbling, the muscles in his hand creaking with the unfamiliarity of the motion. Slowly, ago-

nizingly, the words came out:

"Dear University Health Services,

"I was intrigued to learn from a recent mailing in my Harkbox that my student body funds help finance abortions here at Harvard. First, let me say that I fully support this practice, and will not be requesting a refund. The way I see it, basic laws of Darwinian selection suggest that the less reproduction that happens at HLS, the better.

"So, keep up the good work. However, I'd like to suggest that you start taking a more proactive approach and broaden the scope of your services. To that end, I am including a small donation, in the hope that you will expand the abortion alternatives available to HLS students.

"For starters, I know that many people both on and off his team would be delighted if you could abort Jay Webber's flag football season. This simple measure might not only prevent serious injury to other players, but also the likely 'psychiatric emergency' that his teammates will soon suffer.

"Similarly, aborting Doug Roberson's access to the beer taps at Lincoln's Inn would not only result in significant health benefits, but also in a savings to the Inn of thousands of dollars. And while it's a little more ambitious, the abortion of Brian Fitzpatrick's entire law school career would make tremendous sense from a preventative medicine standpoint.

"Also, I realize that you are generally unwilling to perform traditional abortions after the third trimester of pregnancy. However, if and when we find out who the bastard is that's been sending hate mail to members of Lambda, I hope you'll consider making an exception.

"Yours sincerely..."

Fenno paused, trying to remember what his signature looked like. Suddenly, with-

out an instant's warning, the classroom doors burst open and in walked a maintenance man. Fenno panicked and quickly stuffed the incriminating evidence of actual work-like behavior into his pockets. Then he looked up and noticed that the custodian was none other than Bruce Hay.

Fenno's amazement overcame his shame, and he had to ask: "What the hell are you doing here?"

Hay looked at him, waved his arms wildly in his trademark style, danced a quick Irish jig, and answered, "I've gotten into this whole clean-up thing. It's so much more rewarding than my regular job, God knows. Of course, I was supposed to have help tonight. Bob Clark said he would clean up with me, but then he only

showed up for 15 minutes, and most of that time was spent staging photos so that he could take credit for all the clean rooms at the Law School tomorrow. But that's okay. I like to clean. Anything to be more a part of the HLS community. Say, want to come to a slumber party at my house tomorrow?"

Fenno laughed contemptuously. "No thanks, Brucie. I'd rather go tell Duncan Kennedy that for the first time in 20 years, someone's actually listened to what he has to say."

Hay's face drained of all color as he realized the import of what Fenno had just said. Fenno smiled and waved as he walked out, cheerfully calling behind him, "don't forget the Tidy Bowl."

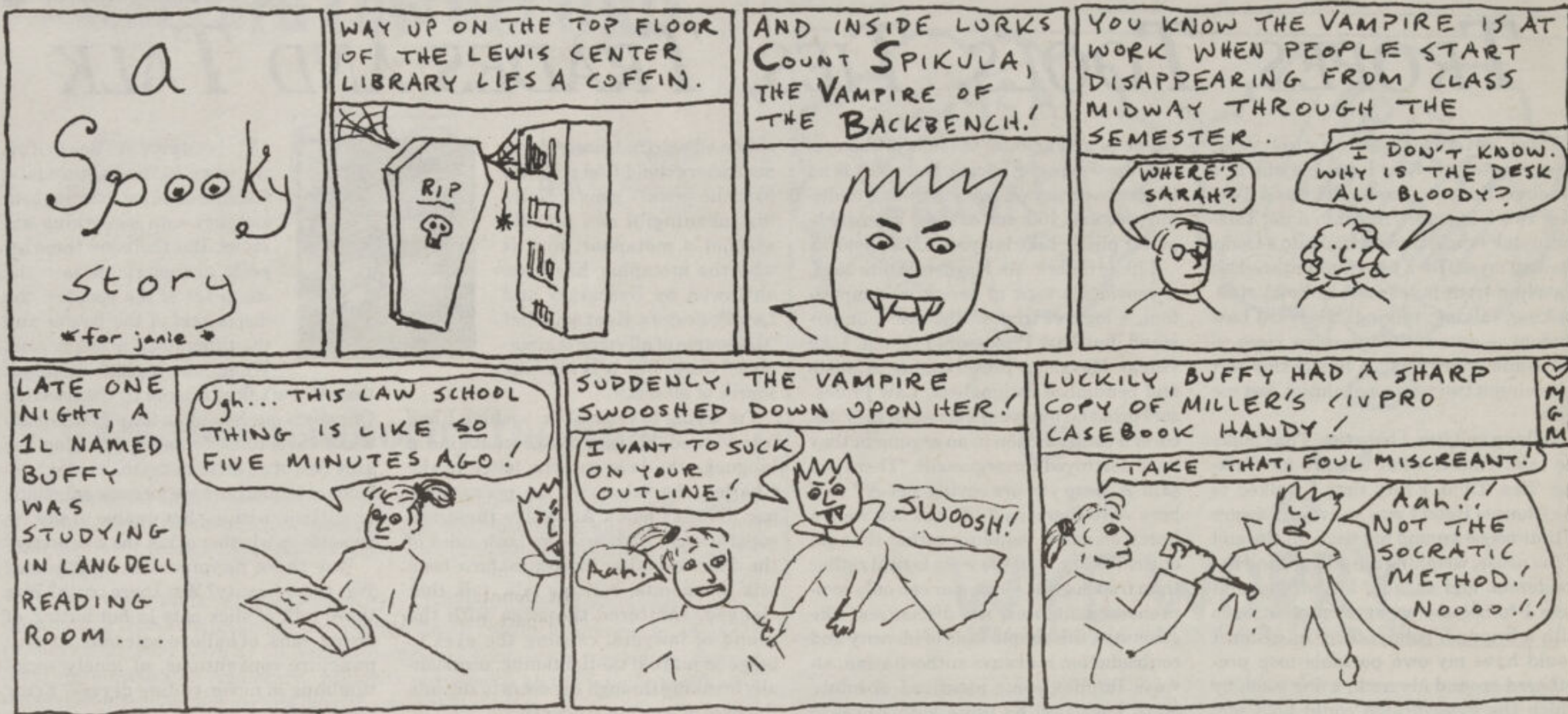
Quote of the Week

"I'm not sure about the furniture, but I know the locks were changed on her door."

— Peggy McNamara, HUPD spokesperson, on the biological vandalism incident in Story Hall.

Spike

By Margie McWilliams



RECORD Personality Quiz

This quiz, like law and economics, was devised by a team of highly untrained psychotics working around the clock in order to stir up controversy. The RECORD invites students, faculty, administration, alumni, and anyone else with too much time on their hands to take a few minutes and answer the following questions. Enjoy!

Ghosts of my Past

If I wasn't at HLS, I'd be

- A) Enrolled at Harvard Business School.
- B) Whiling away at some office job trying to figure out what to do with my life.
- C) Staggering around the red light district in Amsterdam.

At your confirmation hearing, a senator asks you about past marijuana use. Your answer is

- A) I have never touched the stuff in my life.
- B) I used it for medicinal purposes.
- C) I was Charlie Nesson's research assistant.

My high school class voted me

- A) Most likely to succeed.
- B) Class snob.
- C) Don't tell Joyce Curll, but I never finished high school.

Personal Beliefs

I believe that pre-marital sex is

- A) A cardinal sin.
- B) A prerequisite to elected office.
- C) Best with LL.Ms, professors, and the employees at Three Aces.

I am inspired by:

- A) Oliver Wendell Holmes.
- B) David Rosenberg.
- C) Monica Lewinsky.

If I was on a cruise and a lawyer fell overboard, I'd

- A) Jump into the freezing waters and attempt a daring rescue.
- B) Wonder if this will open up a space for me at Wachtell.
- C) Play that Celine Dion song to attract sharks.

The Law School

My classmates are

- A) Like a Park Avenue jewelry store: filled with the best and the brightest.
- B) Like a box of chocolates: filled with nuts.
- C) Like post office employees in a state where concealed weapons are legal.

Since becoming a HLS student, my sex life has been

- A) Hypothetical.
- B) Like Clarence Thomas's: questioned by uppity white men.
- C) Condemned by the ASPCA.

My view of legal education is that it is

- A) A grand opportunity to expand my intellectual horizons.
- B) A quick and painless path to a six-figure salary.
- C) Like receiving a lower GI with a hot branding iron.

The RECORD is useful

- A) As a forum for students, faculty and alumni to share their views on interesting and topical issues.
- B) For getting through those slow Friday classes.
- C) For padding my Wonderbra.

LL.Ms are

- A) An important part of the multi-cultural mix at the Law School.
- B) A malcontent group of smokers and garlic-nibblers.
- C) My source for carnal pleasures.

I find the faculty at HLS to be

- A) Intellectually stimulating and responsive to student needs.
- B) Not too much of a distraction from my solitaire game.
- C) My source for carnal fantasies.

I enjoy the Hark because

- A) I can have tasty and nutritious meals in the company of my friends and colleagues.
- B) It affords me an opportunity to laugh at those pathetic Bar/Bri people who couldn't get real legal jobs.
- C) It reminds me of my time spent in Sing Sing.

I've Seen the Future

On graduation day, I plan to

- A) Bid a fond farewell to my beloved friends in my class and in the faculty.
- B) Get drunk and lucky on top of the Story sculpture and have the funky reference librarian watch.
- C) Check back into the mental institution.

In 20 years, I hope to be

- A) Sitting in a corner office of a posh New York corporate law firm.
- B) Doing something where I'll never have to read another case again.
- C) Starring in my own UPN sitcom with Jackie.

My ultimate goals

- A) Money and power.
- B) A happy home and family, along with a couple of dogs and a Filipino nanny.
- C) Preventing people who answered #1 from achieving their goals.

On my deathbed, I will

- A) Bequeath my entire estate to my beloved law school.
- B) Look back on my sexual escapades, white collar criminal endeavors, and crazed alcohol binges with a mix of pride and remorse.
- C) Ask the Grim Reaper if that's a real scythe or if he is just happy to see me.

Scoring:

- 1 for each A
- 0 for each B
- 1 for each C

Score:

-17 to -7: You are one helluva tool. Lighten up! There's more to life than law review, work, or whatever it is that has done to your personality what the RECORD has done to serious journalism.

-6 to 6: Too much sitting on the fence will turn you into a serious nebbish if you're not careful. Time to take the bull by the horns and the squirrel by the nuts: dye your hair, pierce your nipples, and take up streaking before it's too late.

7 to 17: Normally the admissions office screens out people like you, so kudos for pulling the wool over their eyes. Your wacky character could cause problems in the real world, so consider getting an S.J.D. or entering academia. If you're already there, then take a moment and thank the lord for tenure.

HLS Thespians Transform Ropes-Gray Room for Play

By RECORD Staff

The Ropes-Gray room has undergone a remarkable transformation thanks to the crafty hands of the HLS Drama Society preparing for its latest play, *The Woman in Black*.

Director Robert Gifford '99 and technical wizard Kirk Damman '99 have brought to life a spooky theater design previously unheard of at HLS. "Not even the annual spring parody has been so ambitious," said producer Jennifer Smith '00. Using pipes, chains and black curtain, the Drama Society has created a claustrophobic theater-within-a-theater in a room most students go into only to attend luncheons, to register, or to donate blood.

In the play, an uptight lawyer named Kipps is trying to unburden a terrible secret. Unable to overcome his fear and tell

the story to family and friends, he hires an actor. Together, they re-enact Kipps's experience, hoping to relieve his pain and exorcise his ghost — the woman in black.

The dark and eerie setting supports strong performances by actors Tim Jezek '01, Mikhail Zeldovich '00, and Bibi Hidalgo of the Kennedy School. The actors' performances are further enhanced by special effects including an indoor fog machine and recorded sound effects provided by Alex Rabb '00.

The show opens Thursday, October 29. Show times are 8 pm Thursday and Friday, and 7 pm Saturday, October 31. Tickets are on sale at the Hark or may be reserved by calling 493-9060, and are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. For those who want to help enhance the mood on Halloween night, the Drama Society is offering tickets at half price for those who show up in costume.

RECORD Horoscope

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

It's a happy time for romance and love, neither of which you've experienced since that naaaasty incident with you-know-who on the fourth floor of Hauser. Don't worry, the secretaries only saw you from behind, where you look like every other pasty white kid at the Law School.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

Your passion deepens until you realize that the object of your affection is gone this week. That's right, it's fly-out week, and Jeremy Horowitz has traveled to Tahiti with that *other* significant other. Oh well, there's always "Eight is Enough" on PAX to keep your mind occupied.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

All those chores that really need to get done will be accomplished like clockwork. Hire attractive, personable actor to interview as you? Check. Get Peter Murray's permission to cheat on evidence exam? Check. Prepare Sunny von Bulow costume for Halloween and go haunt Dersh? Check.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

Take time alone and treat yourself to something that will make you feel extra special. How about a milkshake, a Big Mac, and some down time with Ronald McDonald? Avoid the coffee unless you've got your asbestos undies on.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

It's time for a few practical steps to improve your image. I recommend scoring some chronic from you-know-who on the fourth floor of Hauser.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

There will probably be a strong urge to immerse yourself in creative pursuits. Go to Bob Slate's, get yourself some chalk, and cover the campus with messages condemning admissions for not accepting anyone from Delaware this year.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

The more you depend on your reserves, the stronger you are. Break out that hidden fifth of Johnny Walker and spend an evening throwing dried goose turds into the fourth floor windows of Hauser.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

There will be great news about money, and possibly a new, lucrative job offer. How will you earn said job? By wowing employers with your extensive repartee of incomplete sentences. Remember, potential employers love one-word sentences, and fourth nipples drive them batty.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

It will be an effortless and pleasurable week for you. You'll pay for it next week, though, so you better stock up on Maalox and penicillin now.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

Hey good lookin', wherever you are, you will be surrounded by friendship and luck. Unexpected money is coming your way. Positive vibes continue at home. Naturally, unexpected money and positive vibes fall into your lap because you are sooo fiine.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

You need to travel in order to check out an opportunity to increase your income. Fly-out week, schmy-out week — I'm talking about your entry into the Sixth Annual Arnold Jackson Mimiery Contest in Pasadena. What you talkin' bout, Willis?

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

Plan your entertainment and include others from the sideline. These people on the sideline have been watching you for a while; they have been emboldened by the release of "Lolita" and a recent expedition to an Iowa hog farm, if you get my drift.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your closest relationships are stable for now, but your inner voice may be prompting you to take time alone for self-renewal. And honey, nothing renews oneself more than a mental health day highlighted by a trip to the fourth floor of Hauser.

Can You Spare a Razor Blade?

By Dusan Stojkovic '00
RECORD Columnist

THIS SO-CALLED BEAUTIFUL LIFE



From the nostalgic prepubescent sappiness of *Un Sac de Billes* to the ethereal poignancy of *Nuit et Brouillard*, European artists have long grappled with the problems inherent in tackling the Holocaust on a human level.

Add to the long list of artistic attempts in this vein Roberto Benigni's latest film, *La Vita È Bella* (Life Is Beautiful). This deeply personal, audacious and affecting motion picture, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival in May and has been garnished with eight Donatellos (Italian Oscars), is a major departure for the Italian actor/director.

Set in wartime Tuscany, the film follows the travails of Guido Orefice, a young, idealistic Jewish man who hopelessly falls in love with Dora, a *bourgeois shiksa* schoolteacher portrayed by Nicoletta Braschi, the staple leading actress in all of Benigni's films. Braschi's work here is especially laudable for its understated simplicity.

In the first part of the film, Benigni, whose own (non-Jewish) father was detained in a labor camp during World War II, stays true to his accustomed form of slapstick routines, which he has most prominently employed in the gangster farce *Johnny Stecchino*.

Veteran cinematographer Tonino Delli Colli does a particularly good job in this first half of the movie, carefully setting the scene for the fantasy-like courtship between Guido and Dora (there is a magnificently filmed rainy scene) while contrasting their love with the impending menace of fascism, embodied in Dora's fiancé and in the headmistress at her school. Like these characters, all visual symbols of fascism are depicted as flat, two-dimensional. Contributing to this effect is the fact that the entire picture was

filmed in a slightly off-technicolor grain.

The fantasy ends in short-lived idyll, with Dora leaving her fascist fiancé for Guido and the birth of the couple's son, Giosué. Soon thereafter, the entire family is transported into a Nazi labor camp, the setting for the second part of the movie,

which ends up being less neatly produced but far more moving than the first and culminates in a bittersweetly ambivalent ending. (Newsflash: this ain't no Hollywood joint...)

Separated from Dora in the labor camp, Guido attempts to lead Giosué to believe that their detention is part of a game. To keep up the charade which does not even fool Giosué, the protagonist concocts a complex fable, the moral of which is that intolerance is ridiculous — to the point of depression.

Benigni uses humor as a visceral way of first denying and later processing the atrocities of the Holocaust. The viewer's inevitable initial shock at the notion that anything about the Holocaust could be funny is quickly overcome by Vincenzo Cerami and Benigni's exquisitely sharp writing. The translation does the original justice, although a Snow White riddle loses much bite.

Indeed, the riddle games played between Guido and Doctor Lessing, portrayed by Horst Buchholz, include some of the best writing in recent film history and provide an ingenious transition between the two parts of the film. In the arguably starkest scene of the film, Guido reminds Lessing (not to be confused with Prof. Lessig, who is busy lecturing on Microsoft), who pretends not to recognize him, of a riddle the good Doctor had posed to him before joining the Nazis:

"If you say my name I will disappear."
"Silence."



Courtesy Gustav Freedman

A posthumous portrait of TLC Beatrice Founder Reginald Lewis '68 was unveiled at the Law School on October 24 as part of the 30th reunion of Lewis's law school class. The portrait, which hangs in Austin East, was painted by the renowned African-American artist Vincent Smith. It was one of Lewis's last wishes for his portrait to be painted by Smith, a long-time friend and one of his favorite artists.

From left: Mrs. Carolyn Fugett (mother of Lewis); Vincent Smith, artist; Christina Lewis (daughter of Lewis); and Loida Lewis (wife of Lewis) stand beside the portrait of Reginald Lewis.

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Across the Wire



News from the Around the World

Fungus Newest Weapon in War Against Drugs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Agricultural scientists are working on a project that some government officials and members of Congress expect to be the "silver bullet" in the prolonged search for a way to eradicate narcotics plants.

Acting without the Clinton administration's blessing, Congress approved as part of the overall budget package \$23 million for further research into what are known as "mycoherbicides," soil-borne fungi capable of eradicating plants that provide the raw material for cocaine, heroin and marijuana.

The Clinton administration is far from unanimous about the innovation. Skeptics say that more testing must be done and that winning the support of governments of drug-producing South American countries - Colombia, Peru and Bolivia - will not be easy. None have been briefed extensively, and none have taken a public position on the question.

The anti-drug fungi legislation was guided through the Congress chiefly by Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, and Rep. Bill McCollum, R-Fla. In addition to mycoherbicide research, the legislation promotes alternative crops to wean farmers from narcotics plants.

"These micro-organisms have the potential to cripple drug crops before they are even harvested," DeWine said.

McCollum said the new crop eradication technology is much safer than traditional strategies. "All of the indications are that this has the potential for making a big difference in the drug war," he said. "This could be the silver bullet."

The U.S. government has spent billions of dollars over the years without much success in trying to slay the drug dragon. The "just say no" campaign of the 1980s has been followed by a government-sponsored media ad blitz warning people of drugs' dangers. Chemical sprays and interdiction efforts have been used to cut supply. Still, experts estimate the United States has 6.7 million drug addicts.

The bureaucratic landscape is littered with proposed solutions to drugs that have always seemed to fall short. At one point, an international crackdown on money laundering was thought to be the answer. It was not.

Officials believe South American countries can be persuaded to go along with the program only if farmers have plausible alternatives to narcotics growing. Chocolate, derived from cacao trees, is be-

ing touted as a promising alternative, because it would be suitable for South American small farmers, and the global chocolate market is expected to be tight in coming years.

Experiments being carried out by Agriculture Department scientists focus on isolating the mycoherbicides that narcotics plants produce naturally. If, for example, a coca plant is doused with the fungi, it wilts. Decades must pass before the area is again suitable for growing coca.

In addition, beans, corn or other crops grown nearby are unaffected. The same technologies can be applied to eradicate plants used for marijuana and heroin.

Advocates and skeptics agree that the

program will go nowhere without the support of the drug-producing countries.

Unless political groundwork is properly laid, farmers' unions or environmental groups in the three countries could come out in opposition, nullifying the possibility of national cooperation. American officials expect biological warfare charges.

The costs of drug addiction are obvious: 14,218 drug-related deaths in 1995, and the price to society each year is \$67 billion, the Office of National Drug Control Policy estimates.

President Clinton has set a goal of a 50 percent reduction in drug addiction in 10 years, but advocates of the new crop eradication technologies believe that goal is too modest.

10th Circuit to Review Immunity Deals Soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — For years, federal prosecutors used a simple strategy to crack criminal rings: Find the guy who will talk, offer a deal and get him to testify against the others.

But now the practice, which some defense lawyers equate with bribery, is in limbo while a federal court decides whether such deals will remain legal.

"When prosecutors dangle a 'Get Out of Jail Early' card, it is the equivalent of handing someone cold cash," said Debra Soltis, a Washington defense lawyer who represents accused drug dealers and the like in federal court. "I think it's just using common sense to say that it's a bribe and that it is outrageous."

The initial ruling, issued by a three-judge panel from the Denver-based 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, "was a bucket of ice water for prosecutors," said John Shepard Wiley Jr., a University of California, Los Angeles law professor who routinely fashioned such bargains as a federal prosecutor in Los Angeles.

But soon after it was issued, the full appeals court decided that it should review the decision, meaning the panel's ruling is not yet in force. The full 12-member court will review the decision sometime next month.

While many legal experts predict the panel's ruling will be reversed, the debate it provoked rages on.

"If it stands, and I can't believe that it will, the whole judicial system would come to a screeching halt," said one prosecutor who asked not to be identified.

Prosecutors strike hundreds — if not thousands — of such deals every year. Typically, a bit player agrees to testify against his or her fellow criminals in return for lenient treatment in court.

The three-judge panel's stern opinion took issue with both the moral and legal underpinning of plea deals, and essentially made criminals of the prosecutors who offer them.

Broadly read, a federal bribery law

makes it a crime for anyone to offer "anything of value" in return for testimony. Prosecutors say the law was not intended to cover them.

The three judges cited the Bible and the Magna Carta to rebut prosecutors' arguments. "One of the very oldest principles of our legal heritage is that the king is subject to the law," they wrote.

The July 1 decision, if it had been allowed to take effect, would have been binding law in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah and Wyoming.

For now, prosecutors are going forward as if the ruling did not exist, but defense lawyers in several states have cited it to argue that their clients were fingered illegally.

"If it's a federal crime to offer something for testimony in Colorado, then it's going to be a federal crime in Maryland or Virginia or California," said Larry Pozner, president-elect of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

The lawyer for Timothy McVeigh, convicted in the Oklahoma City bombing, argued that the ruling could help his client win a new trial, since a friend testified against McVeigh in return for leniency. He made the argument as he sought a delay in the appeal of McVeigh's conviction; that delay request was rejected.

The appeals court's decision concerned a case involving a drug ring operating between Kansas and California. One member of the ring agreed to testify in return for the promise he would not be prosecuted for some crimes and the hope a judge would look kindly on his cooperation when sentencing him.

The three-judge panel's rationale, if adopted nationwide, could affect any eventual prosecution in the Monica Lewinsky investigation.

President Clinton or others could argue the former White House intern got an illegal quid pro quo, since Ms. Lewinsky won immunity from prosecution for herself and her mother before she agreed to go before a grand jury.

Judge Allows Government's Videos of Gates Into Trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — Calling Microsoft's billionaire chairman the most significant witness in the government's antitrust case, a judge ruled Tuesday that government lawyers can show all 20 hours of videotaped interviews with Bill Gates.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson said Gates, Microsoft's famously aggressive top executive, was so important that "a witness of equivalent significance in this case doesn't immediately come to mind."

The videotapes of Gates jousting with government lawyers during three days of pretrial depositions last summer could be shown as early as Thursday.

On Wednesday, Microsoft was expected to question an executive with America Online, David Colburn. AOL, the nation's largest Internet provider with 13 million customers, agreed in 1996 to distribute Microsoft Internet software over a rival's product.

Government attorneys spent most of Tuesday questioning the chief executive officer at Netscape Communications Corp. about a June 1995 meeting he attended. The Justice Department claims that Microsoft illegally offered to divide the market for Internet software with Netscape at that meeting.

The most important priority at the meeting, according to the e-mail sent the next day by Microsoft's Dan Rosen and introduced as evidence by the government, was to "establish Microsoft ownership of the Internet client (browser) plat-

form for Win95." Rosen represented Microsoft at the meeting.

Netscape's chief executive officer, James Barksdale, testified earlier in the trial that Microsoft proposed that "a line be drawn" to separate its Internet browser for Windows 95 from software that Netscape could sell for other types of computers.

"What Microsoft intended to do if we rejected the proposal was to, in essence, crush us in the marketplace," Netscape cofounder Marc Andreessen said in deposition testimony made public Tuesday.

"By virtue of its market weight and force and power and greater size, through a sustained assault, Microsoft felt, I believe, that they would be able to in fact render us irrelevant," Andreessen said.

Microsoft's lawyer, John Warden, has argued that Netscape either "imagined" or "concocted" the alleged offer, suggesting that Netscape believed it could help the government prosecute Microsoft.

Gates, Microsoft's co-founder and top executive, is not scheduled to testify in person at the antitrust trial involving his company, but gave hours of testimony to the government in a deposition last summer.

Microsoft has accused the government of trying to demonize its leader by planning to show the videotaped excerpts.

The government also sought Tuesday to show that Microsoft refused to share important technical information about its

Please see GATES, p. 13

Sniper Kills New York Abortion Provider

AMHERST, N.Y. (AP)—A sniper killed a doctor who performs abortions, firing through the physician's kitchen window—the first fatality among five sniper attacks on upstate New York or Canadian abortion providers in the last four years.

Dr. Barnett Slepian, 51, a target of anti-abortion protesters since the 1980s, was gunned down Friday night. The killing came days after authorities warned abortion providers in the region about possible violence because the four earlier attacks happened within a few weeks of Nov. 11, Veterans Day.

"There's some type of connection on the date. We don't know what it is," Inspector David Bowen of the Hamilton-Wentworth (Ont.) police said Saturday.

Bowen is part of a Canadian-American task force that has investigated the shootings since November 1997. Task force spokesman Keith McCaskill said the shooter or shooters had not contacted authorities following any of the attacks.

Slepian's wife told police the shooting happened minutes after the couple returned home from synagogue. The Slepian's four sons, ages 7 to 15, also were home at the time.

Before Slepian, three Canadian doctors and a doctor near Rochester, N.Y., were shot and wounded since 1994. In each case, the doctors were fired upon with a high-powered rifle through windows in their homes. Canadian and American authorities issued safety tips to doctors on Tuesday.

"They were told to stay away from windows that weren't covered with curtains or blinds and to be aware of their surroundings and anything suspicious at their clinics," said Frank Olesko, Amherst's assistant police chief.

Slepian's killer shot through a window

with raised blinds from behind a backyard fence. A helicopter search was fruitless. The gunman remained at large Saturday.

On a list of doctors who perform abortions, clinic workers and others compiled posted on a Web site, Slepian's name had a line through it. The list names abortion providers it says are working, wounded or have been killed.

The Web site, which has rantings against homosexuality and the government, includes photos of aborted fetuses and has links to the Army of God. Letters signed by the shadowy Army of God claimed responsibility for the 1997 bombings of a gay bar in Atlanta and an abortion clinic, and the this year's fatal Birmingham abortion clinic bombing.

FBI officials in Buffalo and Amherst police declined to comment when asked about the Website.

Abortion supporters and foes alike condemned the attack.

"For anyone to take it upon himself to be judge, jury and executioner is nothing but sheer evil," said Karen Swallow Prior, formerly of the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue and now the Right-to-Life Party candidate for lieutenant governor.

Gov. George Pataki said the killer should face the death penalty.

"It's beyond a tragedy—it's really an act of terrorism and, in my mind, a cold-blooded assassination," Pataki said in Buffalo.

Ant-abortion protesters had targeted Slepian before. Activists claimed victory when Slepian temporarily closed his Amherst office in 1992 in response to a protest by Operation Rescue in the Buffalo area.

Slepian closed the office to avoid inconveniencing other doctors in his building,

he said at the time, promising to continue performing abortions at a clinic in Buffalo.

"He was one of the few physicians in this area with the integrity to stand up for what he believed in," said Marilyn Buckham of GYN Womenservices, a Buffalo clinic. "Those who picket the doctors and clinics—the anti-choice extremists—contribute to this environment of hate and hostility."

Slepian had promised not to let frequent confrontations with protesters deter him.

"He said, 'They're not going to scare me. They're not going to threaten me,'" said Harvey Rogers, a lawyer who represented Slepian after the doctor faced charges following a 1988 clash with protesters in front of his home.

In that case, protesters taunted Slepian, calling him "murderer," during the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, as his family opened gifts.

One of the protesters claimed the doctor attacked him with a baseball bat. A misdemeanor assault charge against Slepian was settled in March 1989. The doctor paid about \$400 for repairs to a

van and for part of the man's medical bills.

President Clinton said Saturday that he is "outraged" by Slepian's slaying and that the Justice Department is working with local authorities to track down his killer.

"The nation cannot tolerate violence directed at those providing a constitutionally protected medical service," Clinton said in a statement. "No matter where we stand on the issue of abortion, all Americans must stand together in condemning this tragic and brutal act."

The FBI, federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Erie County Sheriffs, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and New York State Police were investigating.

Neighbors lamented the loss of a friendly guy who always built elaborate Halloween displays.

"He said, 'I'm very busy this weekend,'" Suby Shastri said of Slepian's plans to set up fake tombstones, eerie light displays and spooky sound effects.

"This is sad," Shastri said. "To kill someone to prove a point. He has a family, too. Killing someone doesn't solve a problem."

U.S., EU Strengthens Personal Data Privacy

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP)—The European Union is toughening rules protecting the privacy of personal data of its 370 million citizens, threatening a trade skirmish with American companies that buy and sell such information.

Electronic trade and U.S. companies marketing personal data faced new obstacles Monday after EU regulations went into effect to improve and extend protections of private data in the group's 15 nations.

Personal data information is an increasingly popular commercial tool in the United States where a hands-off approach offers limited privacy protection. In Europe, it is a tiny industry, controlled by stricter rules.

"The U.S. approach does not mesh with the EU law," said a U.S. diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The two sides are holding discussions to try to defuse the issue. And EU officials said Monday that member nations supported efforts to try to reach a compromise with Washington by year-end.

The American diplomat said if the negotiations proved fruitless and the EU rules hurt U.S. businesses, Washington intended to file a complaint at the World Trade Organization.

The dispute raises questions about what would happen to international banking and credit card businesses and

Internet commerce if the trans-Atlantic data laws fail to dovetail.

Personal data including addresses, ages, buying habits and income brackets are bought and sold by list brokers in the EU as well as in the United States. Brokers sell the lists to companies looking for specific demographic groups for their products.

The issue underlines the differences between the United States and Europe over how privacy is protected.

The basic principle of EU rules is that data should be transferred to a non-EU country only if it will be adequately protected there, too. American regulations would not provide such protections.

European consumer organizations are concerned about any compromise that would be reached with Washington.

"The solution proposed by business and the U.S. administration would not give European consumers the rights they have under (EU rules) when their data is exported to the United States," said Jim Murray, the director of the European consumers group BEUC.

The regulations have already been adopted in Greece and Portugal and are being implemented in Britain, Sweden and Italy along with additional rules. They will gradually be put into effect in the other EU nations.

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Netscape Claims Microsoft Threatened Mac Development

Continued from GATES, p. 12

Windows operating system, which Netscape needed to refine its browser.

"Everybody is totally dependent on Microsoft for these things," Barksdale testified. "They were playing games with us. ... It wasn't right."

In the case, one of the most significant business trials this century, one important allegation is whether Microsoft illegally wields its industry influence to stifle competition.

Barksdale testified that Apple Computer Inc. agreed in August 1997 to distribute a version of Microsoft's Internet software for its Macintosh computers,

rather than Netscape's.

The government on Tuesday showed handwritten notes from Apple's chief financial officer, Fred D. Anderson, explaining that Microsoft had threatened not to develop its bundle of business software for the Macintosh, which Apple considered vital.

"Apple needed to ensure that Microsoft would continue to provide MS Office for Mac, or we were dead," Anderson wrote. "They were threatening to abandon Mac. Trading card was making Internet Explorer default browser."

Barksdale testified Tuesday that Apple's decision "irritated the stew out of me. I was very angry with them."

By Darren Schlanger '00
RECORD Columnist

THE DEATH OF SLANG

The mainstream inculcation of a politically correct ideological paradigm has negated the effectiveness of modern day American vernacular as a creative conduit of meaning. The force of slang lies in the placement of traditionally denotative words within a context lacking in viable alternatives for similar expression. No series of words can well describe the phenomenon of "tripping" (either as surviving a hallucination or as overreacting to an otherwise normal situation) or being "fired up" (as in, "I was so fired up when Scott Brosius hit a three-run homer off Trevor Hoffman in the World Series!"). Slang terms work because they supplant their literal intent and accomplish poetically what conventional

English usage does not. But when slang terms are forged in the smithy of crafted artifice they invariably lack the linguistic ingenuity and expressive transcendence of their more dynamic and entropic counterparts. Yet the contemporary sensibility that champions cultural nicety over artistic integrity has sired the emergence of much ill-constructed vernacular phraseology. A few examples will explain.

Growing up, every kid had some peculiar friend who couldn't have a bowl of cereal without getting bellicose diarrhea and gas. We were told that they were allergic to milk, that dairy products eviscerated their bowels like a Lomotil overdose. Now, these same weird kids who ordered cheeseless pizza and drank a

glass of water with fresh-baked cookies are called "lactose intolerant," to denote their internal inability to generate the enzyme needed to break down the lactose found in dairy products. Yet "lactose intolerant" in no way adequately captures this physiological phenomenon; indeed, it obfuscates its intended significance. People are not intolerant of lactose. They don't declare: "I hate that conniving lactose because it controls the media and the banks." Or "I will never allow that colored lactose into my exclusively white country club." Or "I refuse to hire all lactose because it adheres to a sexual norm



contrary to the Bible." People don't discriminate against lactose, don't lynch lactose, don't construct orderly concentration camps to facilitate its ultimate demise. It does not represent a conscious choice to discriminate against lactose when someone's giz-zards assimilate dairy products in a noisome fashion. Yet today we brusquely accept this politically correct label for people who fart and shit and stink at an ungodly aptitude when exposed to dairy products. Rather than worrying about what sounds nicest at the expense of both aesthetics and accuracy, people must derive slang terminology that rivals the innovation of our cleverest linguistic progenitors and does not enfeeble the parts of its sum.

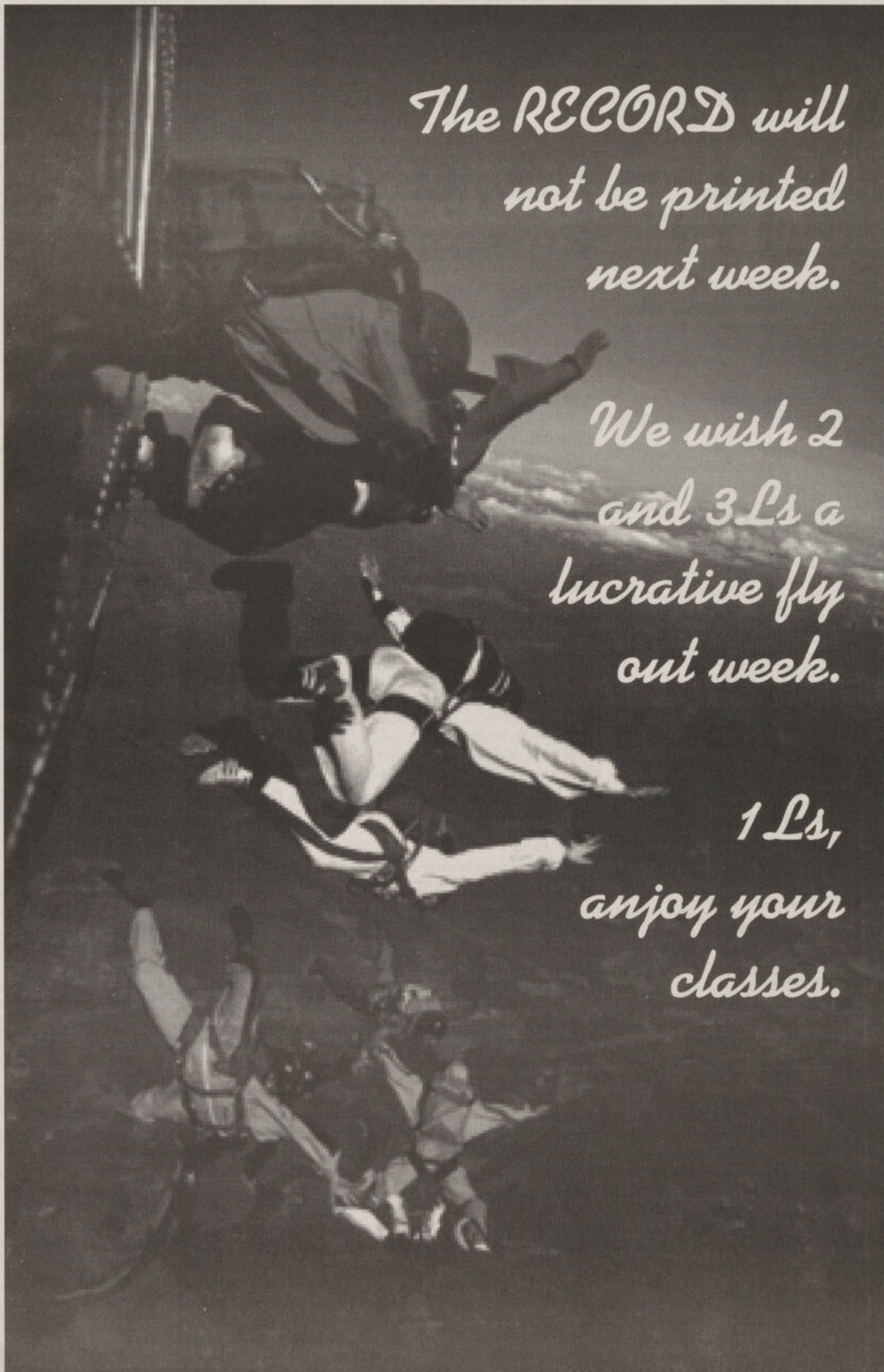
Another term ensconced in modern American vernacular that has failed to accurately depict its intended subjects and has molded inclusion well beyond its anticipated coverage is that of "Attention Deficit Disorder" or "ADD." Today, those who suffer from a short attention span are said to suffer from ADD and are prescribed Ritalin to channel their meandering focus. While some people are correctly diagnosed with this disorder, most justify either the laziness or boredom that prevents them from buckling down by resorting to artificial syndromes. Once, these people of an ilk I personally relate to were said to have "ants in the pants" or to be unable to "sit still;" now, we condone their lack of attention span with a fancy pseudo-scientific construction. In an era of over-prescribing and over-syndroming we blame a genetic predisposition to impetuosity that mandates mild speed prescriptions rather than relying on more plausible explanations like a modern media machine that floods brain receptors with instantly gratifying stimuli. Indeed, people with the discipline to sustain long-term focus are the ones who really suffer from a disorder in today's world. This reckless extension of ADD beyond its targeted parameters will likely beget inclusion of day dreamers and renaissance men and women who refuse to concentrate in one academic or social discipline. DaVinci had ADD. Benjamin Franklin needed Ritalin. Bo Jackson is a basket case for his failure to focus on one sport exclusively.

The same phenomenon has occurred with the term "learning disability." Dyslexia, autism, and the like are significant disorders that befit the label "learning disabilities." A student who gets a B on a Physics exam or who doesn't grasp Linear Algebra or who needs extra time to break 1300 on the SATs does not qualify. Charlie Babbit was learning disabled; Dan Quayle is not. Again, overuse of a vernacular term to include sheer stupidity defeats the very purpose of its original construction.

"Sex Offender" is a Nineties way of saying "pedophile," "rapist," or "necrophiliac." These latter words better describe the illicit behaviors that they represent, whereas "sex offender" merely diverts the proper attention from the individual's reprehensible actions with a nice candy shell.

"Road rage" serves to excuse those fools with the self control of weaning puppies who cannot quell their vehicular frustrations.

"Spousal Abuse" is an overly palatable proxy for "wife beating." A "hummer" is a "hummer" is a "hummer" and not "sexual relations." Until individuals make a concerted effort to employ more accurate though less politically sensitive jargon, whitewashed slang will continue to pervade the modern vernacular and usurp their prevailing predecessors from parlance.



Rude Awakening

By Elizabeth Falk '00
RECORD Columnist

LIVING WITH THE H-BOMB

Last week, I asked a friend of mine how he took advantage of the extraordinarily (albeit, short-lived) good-looking population along the river at Head of the Charles. "Well, you know, went out, saw some cuties, dropped the H-bomb — you know the rest."

Yeah, I know the rest. The infamous H-bomb, where men somehow "work" it into a conversation that they go to Harvard Law for the purposes of advancing their position and value as a hook-up/date/boyfriend/whatever their whim is for the evening, depending on to whom they are talking. Sounded like a great idea to me, so I went out in Boston one night and tried it.

Cute guy approaches. Seems reasonably intelligent (can string a sentence together when wasted.) "So, what do you do?" (Okay, no more wishy-washy mumbling about law school somewhere in Boston.) "I go to Harvard Law. What about you?"

Silence.

Then, "Harvard Law? But weren't you just dancing on the bar two minutes ago?"

The look in his eyes is a combination of shock, betrayal and intimidation. Shock that he has misjudged a book by its cover: betrayal because his own primal instinct to seek out the feeblest and weakest prey has finally failed him. As for the intimidation —

"Wait, let me see your school I.D."

My I.D.? Are you kidding me? He hands it back to me with raised eyebrows and turns to leave. "Wait, where are you going?"

"Um, I don't date girls who are smarter than me. Sorry."

Yep, the H-bomb works for women — so well that mass destruction of any flirta-

tious conversation is sure to ensue upon deployment. My male friends from the Law School scoff at this phenomenon, telling me that it shouldn't matter. "Oh sure, you're gonna get that kind of reaction from Those Guys. But the type of men you seriously look for aren't Those Guys. We're not Those Guys. You can't expect us to believe that HLS men don't look for intelligence in a woman as the primary consideration" (well, okay, maybe a close second).

They're right, of course. Or, are they? Sure, this isn't a place where Jan Brady would have to fail a couple of quizzes to get studly football quarterback Jay Webber to notice her. Harvard law guys are generally not scared of smart women. Unfortunately, intelligence isn't really what the H-Bomb is all about. (If it was, then any old Science Center techie grad student could use it with grand results.)

Instead, the H-Bomb at its core is a perception of success, ambition and drive. For men, it displays that they are serious contenders in a lucrative professional field, individuals to be reckoned with, fully in command of their future. That's extremely attractive to most women. But what of the reverse? Are the men here truly inspired by an environment where women are fighting like dogs to obtain the rewards that historically gravitated to the Y chromosome alone?

Or, deep down, does the power of tradition reign? Do phrases like "paternity leave" and "part-time" enthuse or horrify them? Could they happily and easily marry a woman who made more money than they did? What happens when "I don't date women smarter than me" changes to "I don't date women who are

more successful than me?" Who's following that random Boston guy to the outer corners of the bar?

The female H-Bomb, when exposed honestly, works its magic on Harvard and non-Harvard men alike. It's far too easy to point to the Boston bar boy and decry his honesty regarding his insecurities, framing him as the "other" while congratulating oneself on a liberated stance because of a preference for dating intelligent women. I've had one too many conversations with men here who claim to want smart, ambitious wives belittle day care in the same breath, or sadly shake their head when describing the children of a female partner in a law firm as "neglected." Truly embracing the female H-Bomb would require a resolution of these dichotomies against standards of convention. According to my last tally, convention is winning by a landslide.

All relationships are about compromise. But after interview season, I look around and still see women doing most of the compromising. Conversations about work and family are still largely one-way streets. The female H-bomb, with all the challenges it presents to modern society, is still unfeminine in character. To marry men like you HLS guys, most of us HLS women will have to change. Sure, we'll still be smart. But once that fuse is extinguished, we've lost a vital part of ourselves.

Where does this leave the ambitious Harvard woman? I'm not exactly sure. I already ended one five-year relationship by dropping the ultimate H-Bomb: deciding to leave California to attend HLS. "If



you think you'll ever find anyone who will deal with your ambition problem better than me, you're wrong" was the response I got. These words sure made the relationship easier to leave, but ten times harder to get over last year when I realized that he may actually be right.

Regardless, I can't ever give in. Last year Alan Dershowitz gave section IVa an important piece of advice during a dinner at his home: "Don't ever settle" he said. "Don't settle for a job, a lover nor a partner. You've worked too hard to get where you are." Until recently, I never realized how difficult this advice is to follow. Women are accustomed to compromise: our grandmothers and mothers made significant sacrifices of their own lives to follow the men that they love. It is because of their spirit that I feel an equal need to hold my ground. Even though the odds may indicate that I will end up alone, I'm holding out for that man who not only "deals with" the H-bomb, but who embraces it as a welcome signal of my passion and energy despite the complications it presents for his own life. And "hold out" in this case isn't just about marriage; it's about treating my personage and talents with enormous respect in the present day, never settling for any relationship that isn't ready for me on my terms. Life is simply too short. In the words of Paula Cole:

"I am walking on the bridge
I am alone, on the water,
And I'm scared as hell
But I know there's something better
Yes I know there's something better."

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We look forward to meeting you at the reception on Monday, November 16

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