

Voters reject chance to amend state constitution

By Alexa Lindauer

When Connecticut voters took to the polls on November 4, they were faced with a ballot question that appears once every 20 years: whether there should be a constitutional convention to amend or revise the state Constitution. Although a pre-election poll suggested that a convention would be approved, the initiative was handily rejected, 61 percent to 39 percent.

The state Constitution can

be amended through one of two processes; either through the more traditional legislative process or through a Constitutional Convention. Such a convention could have backed direct democracy measures that would allow voters to enact or change the state's laws or Constitution through direct ballot initiatives. This caught the attention of many upset by the recent Connecticut Supreme Court decision legalizing gay marriage on state constitutional grounds.

See CONVENTION, p. 5

Technical issues plague Spring registration

By Chris Wasil

The Blue Screen of Death. The Sad Mac. Abort. Retry. Fail.

Hundreds of UConn Law students were treated to a new flavor of tech snafu during registration last month, due to problems with the on-line course selection system.

On Oct. 28, University Information Technology Services shut down the PeopleSoft server in Storrs for emergency

maintenance, locking out 254 law students attempting to register their priority course selections. An unrelated error on Oct. 31 prevented 43 of these same students from enrolling in their remaining courses at their assigned time, a problem the Registrar's Office is still investigating.

UITS recognized problems with the server on the morning of Oct. 28 and temporarily shut it down to avoid more serious complications. Service

See REGISTRATION, p. 5

PILG Auction sends everyone home a winner

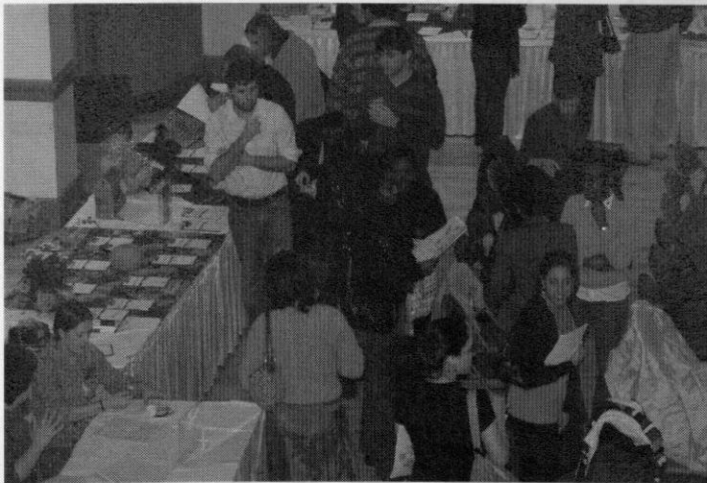


Photo courtesy of Peter Hitt

The silent auction tempts students and community members alike as the night raised more than \$22,000 for PILG endowments.

By Allison Silva

Going once. Going twice. Sold!

The PILG Auction practically sells itself after 15 years as the law school's largest event. Friday, Nov. 14, marked 16 years of successful bidding, auctioneering and merrymaking – and in the meantime raised more than \$22,000 to support UConn Law students in their public interest endeavors.

West Hartford Town Hall was decked out with pumpkins, confetti and autumnal

floral arrangements, a scene further enhanced by the sparkling personalities of our emcees and auctioneers.

Extraordinary emcees Emily Carroll, 3L, and Dallas Dodge, 3L, set the stage alight with their winsome presentation, appearing throughout the night to remind bidders to bid high and bid often.

Dean Jeremy Paul set the tone as the first auctioneer to grace the stage. He encouraged attendees to bid on engagements with fellow UConn Law celebrities Professors Stephen Utz, Kaaryn

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The Glass City calls

2L recounts her Election Day experience in Toledo, Ohio.

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Students join prof search

A committee searches for four new professors to fill faculty vacancies.

page 4

Wanted: Career helper

Nationwide search underway to find new Career Services director.

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Dean's Corner with Dean Jeremy Paul

By Jeremy Paul

Anyone launching a legal career who is not concerned about today's domestic and global economic conditions is not paying attention. But grounds for concern are not the same as reasons to panic, and for law students here and elsewhere, it's only a matter of time before economic storm clouds give way to exciting opportunities. The trick is to be ready to seize the moment. Consider the following measures to prepare.

First, take heart at what you have already accomplished. Admission to a top law school is a coveted prize you have earned, and in doing so demonstrated your ability to juggle the complexities of contemporary life while performing at a high academic

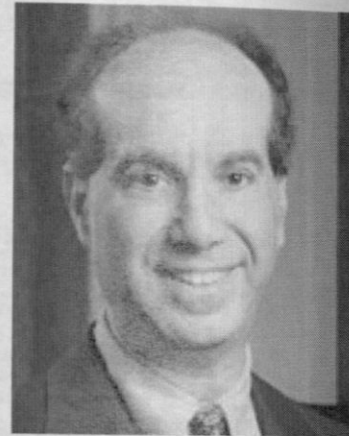
level. Such skills will remain in insatiable demand long into the foreseeable future. You should not lose sight of your strengths even as you work to improve your weaknesses.

Second, remember that you have friends here at the law school, and I don't mean only the students who sit nearby in Contracts. Everyone in our community is invested in your success. After all, how else can we succeed? So don't count only on the folks in Career Services, who are doing all they can to help you. Your professors, our entire staff, your fellow students in classes ahead of you, graduates of the school, and virtually everyone you meet on campus will have valuable ideas to offer on navigating a challenging climate. Don't be afraid to ask. You'll be pleasantly surprised at the cooperative spirit you will find.

Third, keep working on your writing. The one thing I hear most often from hiring attorneys is their general concern about the writing skills of today's law students.

Well-written cover letters and writing samples can move you to the head of the pack faster than you might imagine. Drafting and re-drafting, editing and re-editing are the norm for the world's greatest writers. You should spend as much time as you can on such skills. I promise your effort will be re-paid.

Fourth, consider how desperately the world needs good lawyers. When the Treasury Department got finished with the first round of shouting and realized it had to find a way to put the \$700 billion bailout into practice, it hired a New York law firm to handle the details. Lawyers are always needed to translate government policy ideas into workable practice. An era of change, such as the one we are entering, calls especially for legal skills. Run-down a list of the President-elect's professed agenda items and consider whether a new health care system, a new tax code, or new energy and environmental regulations can be written or implemented with-



out legal assistance. You'll see immediately how much you will be needed.

Finally, and above all, ask yourself how you can help people. The root of economic growth from farming to manufacturing to writing software starts by identifying human needs and seeking to fill them. As attorneys, you have so many ways you can offer services to make people's lives better. If you determine the way that brings you the greatest satisfaction, it won't be too long before the economic system offers you a way to earn a living by doing so.

Dailey leaves for Spring semester to teach at Yale

By Alan Merriman

Anne Dailey, Evangeline Starr Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs has accepted an opportunity to teach at Yale during the Spring 2009 semester.

"This invitation is a tribute to her teaching and scholarly skills and reminds us how fortunate we are to have her in such an important leadership position," Dean Jeremy Paul said.

Though Dean Dailey's absence will be for only a few months, colleagues said she will be missed. In her absence,

Darcy Kirk, who is currently the associate dean for library and technology, will fill the role of associate dean for academic affairs.

Kirk directs the law library, information systems and teaches Advanced Legal Research and Higher Education Law. A graduate of Vassar College, she received her law degree from Boston College. Dean Kirk also earned both her MLS and MBA from Simmons College. Before joining the law faculty in 1996, Kirk worked at Harvard University's Widener Library; she served in several positions at the Boston College

Law Library and served as the Associate Law Librarian for Public Services at Georgetown University Law Center.

Dean Paul is pleased Kirk was willing to step in.

"Dean Kirk is highly respected throughout our community and her deep administrative experience, intimate knowledge of law school operations, flair for strategic planning and above all her passion for the concerns of students make her the perfect person to render this additional service to the law school during Dean Dailey's absence," Paul said.

Pro Se

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Making history one door knock at a time 2L spends Election Day stumping for Obama in Ohio

COMMENTARY

By Ailla Wesstrom-Welz

Toledo has the feel of a city that once was.

The "Glass City" had been an industrious Ohio metropolis, boasting high employment rates and myriad manufacturing companies. Today, many of those companies have left and now Toledo is a city where the average per capita income is \$17,388, and nearly 18 percent of the city's population lives below the poverty line.

It was in this living relic of American industry that I joined my mother, fellow volunteers and labor union staffers to get out the vote for then Illinois Senator and Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama on Election Day, Nov. 4, 2008.

I joined a mix of working class union members from Ohio, Kentucky, California, Michigan, New York; members from both the sparring

Change to Win Coalition and AFL-CIO, all coming together for Obama. That day I stood on the shoulders of these union members who had worked for weeks prior to my arrival; registering voters and canvassing neighborhood after neighborhood to share Obama's message of change and hope with Toledo residents.

We met early on election morning in the United Auto Workers union hall and were given our various sections of "turf" - neighborhoods for which we were each responsible for getting out the vote. Before we left, organizers made motivational speeches to rally the crowd, but no one rallied. There were a couple of cheers and a bit of clapping, but mostly, there was an unspoken fear running through that room; a fear of what might happen if we lost. We knew we were standing on the precipice of history, and we were scared.

My mother and I were assigned three sections of turf

in East Toledo, a neighborhood of working class poor; white, black and Latino. Our job was to knock on all the doors on our list until we confirmed that each person had voted. The list consisted of either Obama supporters or people who had not been contacted yet and so their affiliation was unknown.

Because of this mix, you could never be certain how you would be greeted at the door. I had one man look straight into my eyes and say "I ain't voting no n**** for president;" another household burnt one of our Obama leaflets and posted the charred remnants to their fence post. On the other hand, we were also greeted by proud people who had already voted, children approaching us and asking if they could have some of our leaflets to own a piece of history, and people who we never thought would be Obama supporters but were.

Our goal was to knock on the doors of each sec-

tion of turf three times. By 6 p.m. we started our third and final sweep, but it was becoming clear we were not going to make it by the time the polls closed at 7:30. My entire body was aching from 10 straight hours of walking and I just wanted to stop, but suddenly I was scared again. We were running out of time and this was our last chance.

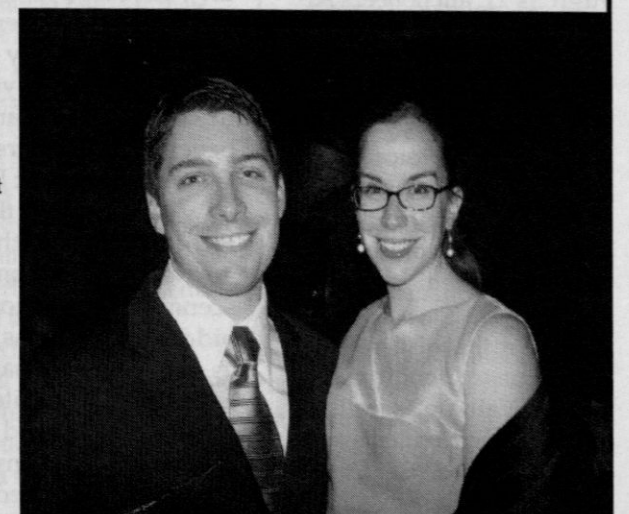
Even if we got one more person out to vote it would be worth it in a state where President Bush won by a mere 2 percentage points in 2004 - a state that has backed the winning candidate in every presidential election since 1964. We pushed on until time ran out, and then headed home to join our friends and watch the returns come in.

Toledo went blue on election night, as did Ohio and as did America. And I'm proud to say I had some part, albeit a small part, in turning "Yes We Can" into "Yes We Did."

Halloween and SBA Fall Ball 2008



(On the Left)
2Ls Allison Cantor (left) and Ailla Wesstrom-Welz party like it's 1989 as UConn Law celebrates Halloween at Arch Street Tavern.



(On the Right)
2L Justin Theriault and 3L Caitlin Sochacki are all about class at Fall Ball.

Faculty hiring committee examines applicants

Financial concerns may impact how many professors join the faculty

By Ken Kukish

Given the relatively large number of faculty changes in the past few years, I recently sat down with Professor Kurt Strasser, chairman of the faculty hiring committee, to gain some insight into the hiring process.

This year the committee is looking to fill four vacant positions that recently opened up as a result of the departures of Professor Paul Berman, Professor Laura Dickinson, Professor Thomas Baker, and the retirement of Professor Leonard Orland. The committee is looking to fill the open positions with a mix of lateral and entry-level applicants, with the exception of the director of the Insurance Law Center, which will

be filled by a very experienced applicant.

The committee expects to interview two to four people for each open position. A typical interview consists of the applicant flying in the night before, having dinner with a few professors, presenting a colloquium to the faculty the following day, meetings with the Dean and Dean of Academic Affairs, followed by a meeting with students and a campus tour.

While student involvement has always been a goal of the committee, it has become a priority this year. According to Professor Strasser, students serve as the best salespeople for the school, and it is important for each applicant to have some level of interaction with the student body. Although in

the past the process has been relatively informal, this year the committee has already organized a core group of students representing each major organization on campus. It is expected that this core group of students will meet with a majority of the applicants, allowing them to give the faculty committee a reasonable comparison between what they perceive to be the strengths and weaknesses of each applicant.

However, given the recent economic downturn, it is unclear how many offers the committee will be able to extend by the end of the academic year. According to Professor Strasser, the process is moving very slowly at the moment because of the economic uncertainties.

Key Points About This Year's Faculty Hiring Process

- Four vacant positions
- The school wants to examine both lateral and entry-level candidates
- Two to four applicants will be interviewed for each open position
- Economic woes could impact school's hiring ability

He expects that by January 1 the committee should have a much better idea of the budget, and then the process will begin in earnest.

Annual auction raises estimated \$22,500

from AUCTION, p. 1

Gustafson and Alexandra Lahav. He also presented an opportunity to lunch with West Hartford's Mayor Scott Slifka at Mayor Mike's Restaurant in Hartford.

The energy remained high as 2L auctioneers Alexandra Deeb, Jill Calaceto and Kaitlin Kaseta, Dean Anne Dailey and Professor Kurt Strasser, 2Ls Cara Tonucci and Jessica Braun, Professor Susan Schmeiser, and 3Ls Peter Hitt and Sarah Saadian presented items and mediated bidding wars.

Philanthropists won exotic trips to Honduras and Puerto Vallarta as well as domestic excitements such as the coveted "Get Out of

Proof Day" certificates for students on law journals and tickets to see Professor Patricia McCoy sing in the choir at the Hartford Symphony Christmas Concert.

The evening's atmosphere was convivial as faculty, staff, alumni, students and community members engaged in friendly competition while enjoying the delicious food and beverages. Members of the Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal spent the day artfully arranging the silent auction which became the scene for some serious bidder stake outs as well as friendly conversation about the array of items generously donated by local businesses. Many were especially impressed by the

offerings made by UConn Law's own busy students.

The night was a great success by all accounts. Members of the UConn Law community tirelessly volunteered hours of time to present one of the school's most exciting social and philanthropic events. Director of Special Projects Claudia Norsworthy was especially impressed by alumni attendance this year noting that a former student and his wife enjoyed their first night out on the town with their two young children.

Most importantly, the night generated an estimated \$22,500 to benefit the PILG endowment fund. The proceeds from the auction support the PILG Fellow-

ship program. Recipients of PILG Fellowships must demonstrate a dedication to public interest lawyering. The fellowships provide financial support for students who choose to take summer internships with public interest organizations and firms that typically do not have the funds to pay students for their work.

While many bidders beamed in the check out line, excited to claim their prizes, the biggest winners of the night were the students who intern in public interest law and will benefit from the night's revenue.

Pro Se Features Editor Alison Silva, 2L, was co-chairwoman of the 16th Annual Public Interest Law Auction.

Gay marriage debate intensified convention clamor

from CONVENTION, p. 1

While the Roman Catholic Church and the Family Institute of Connecticut advocated aggressively for a convention, the appearance of the question on this year's ballot was a coincidence. In Connecticut, a constitutional convention question must be placed on the ballot every 20 years. The last constitutional convention in Connecticut occurred in 1965, after the United States Supreme Court invalidated Connecticut's system of apportioning representatives in the General Assembly.

Had a constitutional convention been approved by a majority of voters, the General Assembly would have had the responsibility of funding it and selecting the means by which delegates were chosen. Any proposed amendments would have then been presented to state voters within two months of the convention's final meeting.

Whether a constitutional convention should be held

became a hot topic this fall, largely due to the Connecticut Supreme Court's decision in *Kerrigan v. State of Connecticut*. Some supporters saw a convention as an exercise in democracy while others tended to rally around topics of gay marriage, abortion and state spending. Opponents argued it would be excessively costly and dominated by special interests.

The Family Institute of Connecticut, a leading group against gay marriage, was a major proponent of a convention. The goal of the group's "Marriage Definition Initiative" was to "obtain a majority 'yes' vote for a Constitutional Convention in November 2008" and ultimately secure an amendment to the state Constitution defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell also supported the convention. While Rell has said she opposes gay marriage, instead supporting civil unions that grant many of the

legal benefits of marriage but not the name, the governor also said she considered the matter settled after the state Supreme Court handed down its decision in October.

On the other side of the debate stood a coalition of labor unions, the Connecticut chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, state Attorney General Richard Blumenthal and the Connecticut Citizen Action Group, amongst others.

The Connecticut Citizen Action Group pointed to the high cost of a convention while Connecticut is facing a budget deficit. The group argued proponents of the convention realize they can't win enough legislative races to ban gay marriage or a woman's right to have an abortion and are therefore pushing for a convention to create new avenues for such changes.

Blumenthal said a convention would be a "costly, open-ended free-for-all that could well be dominated by special

interests." A number of state legislators also opposed the convention. Direct ballot initiatives, employed by some states to pass laws and referenda and amend state constitutions, could have allowed state voters to enact legislation without approval by the General Assembly.

A poll by the Hartford Courant and UConn's Center for Survey Research and Analysis days before the election suggested the convention would pass, with 50 percent of voters polled in favor compared to 39 percent opposed. But the poll also found 55 percent opposed a ban on gay marriage, indicating voters may have been more motivated by alienation towards the government than by their opinions on a particular social topic.

Connecticut voters did pass a second ballot question, which will allow 17 year-olds to vote in a primary election if they will turn 18 by the date of the general election.

Students express communication concerns after technical failure

from REGISTRATION, p. 1

was restored later that afternoon, and students resumed their frantic clicking to win seats in their preferred courses.

Law School Registrar Lisa Rodino discovered the problem much in the same way students did.

"I knew when the clock went just a few seconds beyond 1 [p.m., the scheduled registration time,] and courses were still not being added that something was wrong," Rodino said.

UConn Law was not the only University department affected.

"The IT staff work in a world in which they can't consider all departments that may be affected before they make decisions," Rodino said. "They need to balance the needs of thousands of students."

As a preventive measure, Rodino has been added to an email list that would notify her immediately of such decisions in the future.

"This was something where, if I had known about [UITs's] decision prior to the server going down, I could have helped avoid a lot of the confusion that ultimately ensued," she said.

Three days later on Oct. 31, 43 students logged onto PeopleSoft to finish their registration only to find that their enrollment appointments were incorrectly listed. As these students began contacting the Registrar's Office, they were instructed to e-mail their course preferences immediately to Rodino. However, because of the delay, many courses had already been filled by students unaffected by the error.

The precise cause of this error is still unknown, but the issue only affected 2L day division students who had transferred from the evening

division. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Anne Dailey has been working with Rodino to see what, if anything, can be done for these students.

"We're going to make it as fair as we can," Rodino said. 2L Nick Valenta, one of the affected students, feels more communication from the Registrar's Office is necessary.

"An e-mail should have been sent out immediately," Valenta said. "I was lucky to have been on campus so I could speak in person to the Registrar's Office and get the classes I wanted."

Search for Rivera's replacement remains open

Nationwide job hunt will yield new director for Career Services

By Justin Theriault

As fall semester winds to a close, the search for a new director of Career Services is in full swing.

UConn Law has assembled a search committee to scour the country for potential replacements for former Career Services Director Maria Rivera, who left UConn Law this semester to return to her native Texas. The search committee is comprised of Associate Dean for Admissions Ellen Rutt and Professors John Bauer, Willajeanne McLean and Thomas Morawetz, as well as two 3L students, Nidhi Parikh and Sarah Saadian.

Selecting a new director of Career Services may be one of the most important decisions UConn Law makes in the next year, if not several years. A law school's career placement of students and alumni reflects greatly on its reputation.

In the last days of October, the Student Bar Association hosted two town hall-style forums in order to gather student input on what they would like to see from Career Services in the future. Students recommended creating an alumni directory, establishing ties with a greater number of public interest-related organizations and expanding the geographic reach of career

opportunities for UConn Law students.

Saadian, who is also secretary of the Student Bar Association, was optimistic about the future of Career Services, notably in the field of public interest.

"It's being taken very seriously by the committee. A large number of students are attracted to public interest," she said. "We know this is a type of student that is in need of greater attention and who we should expand our services to.

This is something that I'm particularly interested in, and all the candidates that we are moving forward to interview have extensive background in the public

interest field."

Saadian said experience, creativity and strong networking skills are high on the committee's list of desired qualities for the next director. She also said students do not need to worry about a rushed decision, adding that she has voiced the concern to the committee that a decision should not be made hastily for the sake of filling a spot.

"The committee agreed wholeheartedly," she said.

Interviews to fill Rivera's position began earlier this month and will continue into next semester.

Justin Theriault is a 2L-Day representative on the Student Bar Association.

Panel discusses university life ... as counsel

Education lawyers evaluate academic freedom and federal law

By Patricia Ryan

On Tuesday, November 11, members of the UConn Law community gathered in the Davis Courtroom to hear an exciting panel, "Perspectives of University and College Counsels," presented by the Education Law & Policy Group.

Lawyers working at UConn, the UConn Foundation, the University of Hartford, Wesleyan University, Western New England College, and Yale University explained their various roles within their institutions and with respect to the typical players involved: administrators, students, and faculty.

Afterwards, the panelists

took questions on the notion of academic freedom, the sources of law most relevant to their work, and how interested students might learn more about working in an academic setting. Areas of law highlighted in the discussion included the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The panelists talked about lawyering skills crucial to their work, including listening carefully, mediating disputes thoughtfully, seeking the opinions of colleagues, and, of course, spotting issues. Panelists noted with

approval that lawyers working in academia, because of the nature of their work, are typically collaborative and collegial. All the panelists seemed to gain satisfaction and fulfillment from the way in which they lawyer.

Congratulations to the Education Law and Policy Group for assembling an all-star panel to shed light on one of the many career paths future lawyers may take. The success of this event was all the more praiseworthy as the Education Law and Policy Society was formed just last April by Michael Pohorylo to enthusiastic interest.

Possible future projects include implementing a training or support piece for

parents/guardians involved in the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) process, partnering with the literacy program Everybody Wins! to pair UConn Law community volunteers with Hartford students for weekly readings, and a sports mentoring opportunity that would allow UConn Law students to mentor local schoolchildren through athletics.

Interested students and students with ideas for projects are always welcome. The opportunities in Education Law are many and the stakes truly could not be higher.

Patricia Ryan is a member of the Education Law & Policy Group.

Our View

Honor and Valor

At a minimum, Veteran's Day should remind those of us busy in our law school lives to think about the sacrifices made by the millions of Americans who have served this country – many overseas – and especially those who, in so doing, gave their lives. But for we who "support the troops but not the war," perhaps another reminder is necessary.

The culture of law trains zealous advocacy for one's position and not necessarily empathy or appreciation for those holding a different view. According to a Military Times survey last month, members of America's armed forces supported Republican presidential candidate John McCain nearly three-to-one. The Arizona senator stands with our state's troubled junior senator as one of the Iraq war's most ardent supporters.

But for those of us who

regard the war in Iraq as a grave mistake, let us not lose sight of two interests: When we withdraw from Iraq, and given the historic election of Democrat Barack Obama, that may be sooner rather than later, it is in the interest of all Americans that we do so in a way that preserves stability in the Middle East. And, as important, when our fighting men and women return home from Iraq and Afghanistan, we must accord them the respect their service and sacrifice deserve.

By this we mean more than just a personal respect. After Vietnam, this country's government – and really its society – failed returning veterans. In the near future, more must be done to help our veterans adjust to and ultimately thrive in civilian life.

And to UConn Law's veterans, be they students, faculty or staff: Thanks.

Tort du stade: Does the draft system turn losses into wins for bad teams?

COMMENTARY

By Melanie Dykas

Growing up, we always heard the old adage that "it's not whether you win or lose – it's how you play the game." As we grew older, many of us took a more Machiavellian approach: that it actually is whether you win or lose and how you play is an afterthought.

But while these days winning may be everything, the draft system in major league sports has raised the question of whether sometimes losing is in fact the more advantageous result. Given these sports' lack of minor-league farm systems, rookies have moved into more prominent roles in professional basketball and football. This dynamic has raised the question of whether struggling teams are purposely losing late-season games to win higher draft picks.

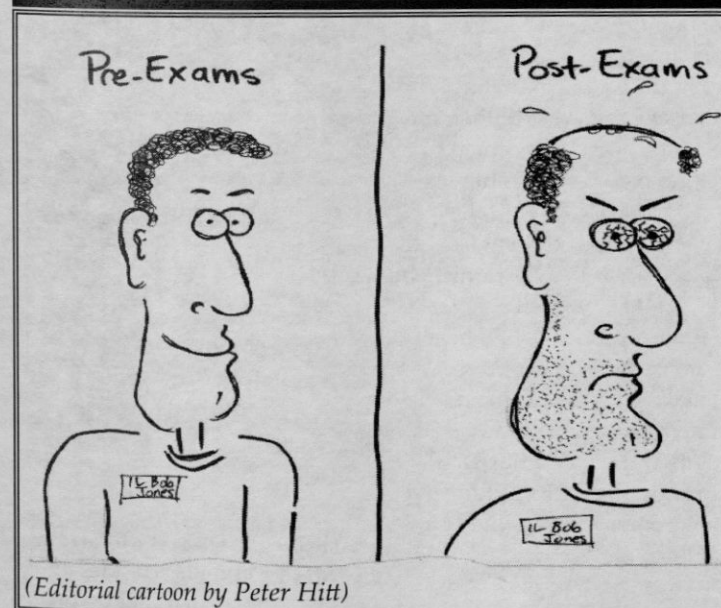
During the 2006 season, the Boston Celtics were accused of intentionally losing games to get a better shot at a top draft pick – especially since that was the year Greg Oden and Kevin Durant would enter the draft. The accusations flew as the team finished a 24-58 season. Nevertheless, the Celtics couldn't even win in the draft because the lottery handed them the fifth pick. They went out and acquired KG and UConn favorite Ray Allen instead.

Football does not have a lottery system in the draft, so the worse the team, the higher

its pick. In 2005, the Texans lost several questionable games down the stretch and were accused of intentionally losing in an effort to draft Reggie Bush. It's only natural for teams already eliminated from playoff contention to start planning for the draft, so I decided to run the numbers. As it turns out, over the past decade teams finishing 5-11 or worse actually have the highest winning percentage in weeks 15 and 16.

So maybe the players and coaches are not giving up. But I'm left to wonder if the fans should. Fans are lifers; they're in it for the long haul. I realize a fan always wants his or her team to win, but at some point, does a fan chalk up a season as a loss and look to the future? As an unabashed Kansas City Chiefs fan, I faced this dilemma last season. The final game was in the Meadowlands against the Jets and the only thing at stake was the fifth draft pick. When the Chiefs tied the game and we headed into OT, I found myself willing the Jets field goal good.

As this article goes to print, the NFL season is heading into week 12. Six teams have two wins or less and Detroit remains winless. The upcoming draft is not as strong as in recent years, so I would be surprised if any allegations emerge. And I would never advocate rooting against one's own team, especially not at this stage in the season. I would not, however, be surprised to find some stadiums a bit quieter during the season's final two weeks.



(Editorial cartoon by Peter Hitt)

The Back Page

Ask Sanetti: Two Davis partners, one relationship

By Dana Sanetti-Daniel

Recently, I became romantically involved with my Davis partner and now it is awkward. What should I do?

How is it awkward? What did you do to make it awkward? Davis is over. Sure, working together can sometimes create some tense or uncomfortable situations, but you don't have to work together anymore, so go for it. You are a first year law student: you have plenty of time to either figure out if it is going to work or to make a mess of everything. If it doesn't work out, by the time third year rolls around, it

will be so far in the past it will hardly matter. And you will have a funny story to tell about how you hooked up with your Davis partner and it blew up in your face.

Why is there a third year of law school? I feel like I learned everything I needed to know in the first two years.

Well, there are two parts to your question. You are right: the third year of law school can feel awfully tedious and, let's face it, useless. In fact, according to a 2005 survey by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Re-

search, third-year law school students do not work as hard as they did during their first and second year, as many as one-quarter of third-year students frequently come to class unprepared, and third-year students look similar to first and second-year students in areas such as critical thinking, effective writing, and work-related knowledge or skills. In response to such information, in June, 2008, Northwestern University School of Law announced that it would offer an accelerated two year J.D. program starting in 2009. So, why is there a third year of law school? I don't know.

But, I have to disagree

that you've learned everything you need to know in the first two years. Just because we have taken an employment law class, or federal income tax does not mean we are prepared to venture forth as competent employment or tax attorneys. I don't think we will ever really learn everything we need to know, even after doing this for years and years. Is the third year of law school really doing its job to further prepare us and making us better future attorneys? Again, I don't know. But I guess it can't hurt.

E-mail your queries to asksanetti@gmail.com.

Hoops teams seek national glory as season commences

By Drew Schaffer

Look out Jayhawks, the UCONN Huskies are back on the prowl and looking to dethrone you. The men's team, who were knocked out of the Big East quarterfinals by West Virginia last year, come into the 2008/2009 season ranked 2nd behind North Carolina and are packing a much greater punch than last season when their preseason rank was a meager 25th.

Led by 7'3" junior center Hasheem Thabeet (#34), who is projected to be the #5 draft pick in the 2009 NBA draft, the Huskies have dominated preseason play and started the regular season off on a posi-

tive note with a decisive 81-55 victory over Western Carolina at Gampel Pavilion on November 14. Junior Jerome Dyson (#11) has also been a force to be reckoned with, netting 18 points in the team's preseason win over UMASS-Lowell and 23 points in the season opener.

Perched atop the women's NCAA basketball polls are the UCONN women. Coming off of a loss to Stanford in last year's Final Four, the lady Huskies look as though they will have another incredible season. In Geno Auriemma's 24th season as head coach, he is blessed to have 3 players in contention for player of the year according to preseason polls. Those players are; 5'7"

senior Renee Montgomery (#20 guard), 6'4" junior Tina Charles (#31 center), and 6'0" sophomore Maya Moore (#23 forward).

In preseason play the Huskies handed it to their opponents, outscoring them by a margin of 203-86. In the season opener UCONN rallied in the second half to beat Georgia Tech 82-71 at the XL Center. In this game, Charles became the 31st player in UCONN history to amass over 1,000 career points. She also received help from Moore, who drained 20 points and earned her 12th career double-double, and Montgomery who tallied 15 points in the victory.

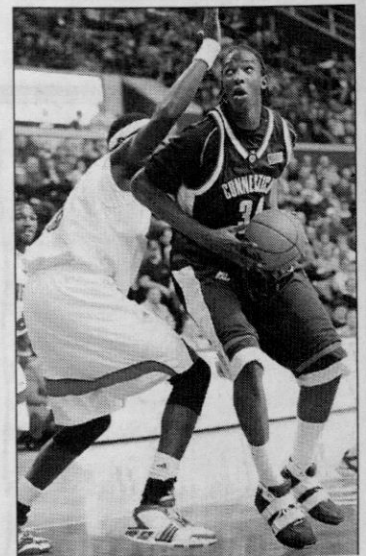


Photo courtesy of www.hasheemthabeetonline.org

Hasheem Thabeet will lead Coach Calhoun's Huskies as they seek a Final Four berth.