

Symposium debates merits of shortened work week

By Erica Siegel

Thank God it's...Thursday?

On October 30, UConn law students and faculty gathered together to hear presentations from panels of legal professionals about the implications of adopting a four-day work week in the U.S. Dean Jeremy Paul opened the symposium, welcoming panelists from across the U.S., Great Britain, and Canada.

Over the years, employers have implemented a variety of alternative work schedules, from the 4/10 schedule (extending hours and having Friday off), to alternating which employees get Friday off, to staggering work schedules. Utilizing alternative

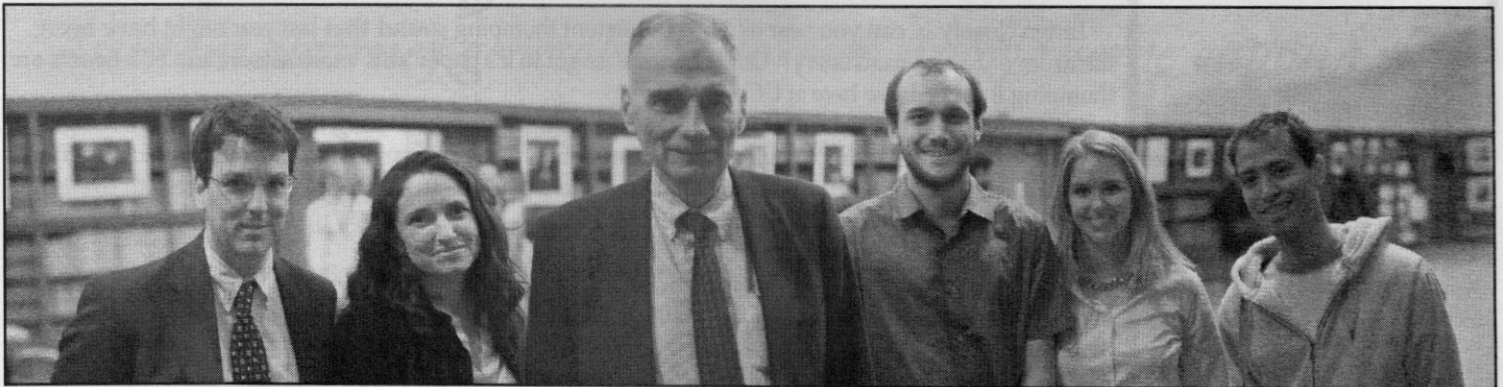


Michael Denis/ProSe

Law Review members - including president Drew Barber (center) - assembled panels.

See SYMPOSIUM, p. 5

Veteran politician Nader visits UConn Law



On November 30, 2009, over 100 students, faculty and community members gathered to listen to four-time presidential candidate Ralph Nader.

His talk, entitled "Law Schools, Law Firms and Corporations: Myths, Masters and Marauders," brought to the foreground such issues as corporate personhood, the maldistribution of lawyers and the need for growth in the field of public interest law.

"As power gets more and more concentrated in a few hands in our country ... it puts more and more strains on the law," Nader said.

After his talk, Nader milled around to answer questions, autograph books and pose for photos with members of the audience.

Words by Allison Silva / Photo by Michael Denis

Bridging the culture gap

Assistant attorney general discusses Islamic culture in talk.

page 3

Mooting madness

Annual Hastie competition reveals continued interest in moot court.

page 4

Taking over the District

Five students spend a semester learning the ropes in Washington.

page 6

Dean's Corner with Dean Jeremy Paul

By Jeremy Paul

Last week's sports pages contained an interesting item. Major League Baseball has long awarded the Cy Young award to the best pitcher in each league each season. This year's winners Zach Greinke and Tim Lincecum were notable because Greinke won only 16 games and Lincecum 15. In past years, competing pitchers with higher victory totals would have been shoo-in winners. Now, observers calculate a new number known as "wins against replacement" aimed at determining how many times a pitcher's team won a game that it would have lost had it placed an average pitcher on the mound. On this more complex measure,

Greinke and Lincecum were unrivalled, and hence experts cheered the awards.

Contrast this analytical progress with an alternative measure of success also released in the last couple of weeks. SuperLawyers, a print and electronic publication, released a new ranking of U.S. Law Schools. Our favorite school landed at 63. What accounted for this conclusion? The ranking is based entirely on the number of "superlawyers," a designation determined by the magazine, who have graduated from each school.

There might be grounds to question the soundness of the lawyer evaluations, but that's a quibble compared to the glaring flaw in Super-

Lawyers' methodology. The rankings make no adjustment for size of graduating class. A school that graduates 500 lawyers and places three as superlawyers is considered superior to one that has two superlawyers out of 50 graduates. Ironically, the magazine defends its approach noting that major league baseball crowns a home run king every year based on overall total without regard to number of at bats. This is pretty senseless since in most years great hitters will have the most at bats, while great law schools often have small classes.

I suppose we should find reason to cheer that another ranking has stepped in to complement U.S. News and World Report. There are

obvious strengths to rankings that focus on what graduates accomplish rather than the test scores of incoming students. But to publish a ranking that so brutishly rewards sheer law school size does a disservice to readers. And lest you think no one will pay any attention, at least one U.S. Law School is already touting its Superlawyer Ranking on its home page. It's a sad day indeed when more thought goes into refining baseball statistics than to measuring educational quality. Only time will tell if cooler heads in legal education will speak up and help steer the ranking-obsessed media toward the sort of sophisticated analysis that would make baseball gurus proud.

Pro Se

Volume IV
Issue 3
December 3, 2009

The student newspaper for the
University of Connecticut School
of Law.

Editor in Chief: Chris Wasil
Managing Editor: Kyle McCarthy
Executive Editors: Drew Schaffer
News Editor: Alexa Lindauer
Commentary Editor: Alan Merriman
Sports Editor: Melanie Dykas
Features Editor: Allison Silva
Photo Editor: Michael Denis

Contributors

Tim Cieslak
Brendan Horgan
Patrick R. Linsey
Karen Rabinovici
Jessica Schneider
Erica Siegel
Nick Valenta

A note from the Student Bar Association

Listen closely... can you hear it? That persistent thumping sound that last year might have been the drum of heavy machinery? Oh right, you've got it. It's paper and exam season, and 671 hearts are thumping in overdrive here at UConn Law.

It's a stressful time, these next few weeks. Deadlines are approaching and we're all wondering how the heck we are going to pull off that one exam or paper in particular. But looking back, I'd like to think that we've had some fun this semester. From catching up over burgers and beers to dressing up for the Fall Ball, we've shown up in remarkable numbers and I hope that you've enjoyed yourself as much as I have.

Sitting here writing in my hometown in Massachusetts, the still-recent Thanksgiving holiday has me thinking... not so much about the Halloween- or Fall Ball-scale events of the semester, but about those moments that we don't mark down on our calendars. An inside joke. A smile from a stranger. Dinner with a friend. Catching up with someone who's important to you.

These are the moments that fill the gaps in my life when I'm feeling stressed out or overworked. I know the tendency for us law students is to shut down and bunker up when this time of year comes around. But in the times when you are feeling the most stressed, I hope that you will take a moment to look over at your study buddy and remember that we're not just here to survive our time in law school, we're here to experience it. So fit in that coffee break. Take a five minute walk. Ease a little stress out of your shoulders.

Create a moment. I guarantee you - it's worth it.

Best to all this holiday season,

Mike Yedinak
VP/Social Chair
UConn Law SBA

Human Right Here invades Connecticut

Campaign hopes to stimulate dialogue about human rights issues

By Brendan Horgan

COMMENTARY

You may be wondering why a giant 30-foot banner of two smiling girls has adorned Chase Hall all semester. Why on Earth are those girls so excited?

The answer is Human Rights in the USA, a conference organized by The Human Rights Institute in association with the University of Connecticut School of Law, held on various University of Connecticut campuses at the end of October. Human Right Here is a campaign organized by the Human Rights Institute to stimulate dialogue

about human rights issues throughout the nation. Scholars, practitioners, and advocates from New England and beyond descended upon central Connecticut for several days of panels, discussions, and presentations.

I was lucky enough to attend a day of panel discussions—and the topics were enlightening and passionately presented. Human rights topics ranged from AIDS in American prisons, to subsistence level wages as a human right, to universal healthcare, to basic rights for immigrant populations in Connecticut. I was only privy to a small percentage of the total topics being discussed, but the

atmosphere was incredible, and it was great to see the progress that has been made in certain areas. However, it was also very difficult to see that there has been a lack of progress in others. It's truly humbling to watch an advocate press so hard for what they know is right, often dedicating their entire career to a single cause. So many of the rights that we often take for granted were forged on the backs of similarly dedicated people.

Fighting for human rights is about opening our eyes and dealing with issues that are often complicated, difficult and overlooked. Human Right Here is an organization that works to bring these issues to the

forefront of the University of Connecticut dialogue. I strongly urge you to learn more about their organization, and attend next year's conference in October. They offer fellowships, awards, and grants to students interested in working in the field of human rights.

Human Right Here was established in 2001 to emphasize UConn's commitment to human rights and to the students who are working to advance its cause. The annual conference is only a small piece of their mission.

Want to learn more about the initiative and to lend a hand? Visit <http://humanrightthere.org/>.

Saadi sheds light on Middle Eastern traditions

Assistant attorney general and former Army reserve captain visits

By Tim Cieslak

America's relationship with Middle Eastern countries is an obvious focal point in the modern world, but many Americans are confused as to the true nature of the Middle East. Thomas Saadi, Assistant Attorney General and Army Reserve Captain, recently gave a presentation to help UConn Law students clear up this confusion with an overview of Middle Eastern history, culture, religion, and language. He was raised Maronite, as a first-generation Arab-American, and his religious views proved to be an important bridge

between the Christian and Islamic beliefs.

Saadi also uses the same presentation as training for the United States military to help educate our troops about an increasingly important populous. The military encourages this type of cultural awareness training because our tumultuous relations can be improved by an understanding of common courtesies and beliefs, informing day-to-day military operations. This knowledge is something that transcends military training, knowledge that Saadi believes is entirely necessary for the current conflicts in the Middle East.

Confusions arise out of

ideals that are not themselves entirely foreign. Islamic law fundamentally consists of the Qu'ran and Hadith, which is the word of G-d and the actions and sayings of Muhammad respectively. To think of a legal system based on religion is an idea wholly foreign to our present day society, which places a strict emphasis on the separation of church and state. However, even our legal system can be traced to a general religious definition of right and wrong. The religion-based morality in the Middle East and the exceedingly diverse population causes some people to first identify with their

Islamic identity.

The Islamic identity is also a foreign concept, because Americans tend to define themselves territorially rather than by religion. Most country lines in the Middle East were drawn based on resource allocation, with no analysis of the sects of people and their history. These boundary lines combined with Muslim culture have complicated the identity of the Muslim individual. As foreigners in the Middle East, Americans are seeking to learn more about this identity concept to understand how to make a positive impact for the long term.

Annual Hastie competition draws a crowd

Eight competitors extended offers to join Moot Court Board

By Drew Schaffer

Was counsel effective? That decision was left to the discretion of this year's judges of the Hastie Moot Court Competition in more ways than one. This year's problem, written by Intramural Director Melissa Wong, addressed an ineffective assistance of counsel claim. The question, whether the Alabama state court's decision that the failure of a novice attorney to pursue or present evidence of a defendant's impaired mental capacity constituted a strategic decision instead of an ineffective assistance of counsel was based on an unreasonable determination of facts, was based on actual cases scheduled on the Supreme Court's docket this year.

"We hoped that students

would find this case relevant since the attorney in question had been admitted to the bar only three months before and received very little supervision from more senior partners despite the fact that this was a capital case," Wong said.

Though the turnout for the competition was smaller than it has been in previous years, the shortage in numbers did not result in a decrease in the quality of arguments presented by the participants.

Kaitlin Kaseta, the competition's Judging Director, praised the hard work of the competitors also mentioning that "all the judges were very impressed...with both the substance and style of arguments heard this year."

Each round of the competition brought different judges.

The initial rounds were judged by members of the Moot Court Board, whereas later rounds brought in the likes of Professors Bader, Becker, and Everett and the company of various local attorneys. "I did not have that much trouble finding people to judge the competition" said Kaseta. "In fact, when one of the judges for the final round canceled with the flu a few days before, another judge was gracious enough to step up and volunteer to fill in with only 48 hours notice."

After a very close and well executed final argument in UConn's William R. Davis courtroom before sitting Judges from various Connecticut courts, Michael Chase was crowned the 2009 Hastie Competition Champion. When asked about his strate-

gy, he responded "I took a sort of method-acting approach to the competition where I totally immersed myself in not just the position of the petitioner or respondent, but the role of the state's attorney, or defense counsel, before each argument. The challenge was investing so deeply in one position and switching sides the next night."

The Hastie Competition is one of two intra-scholastic competitions that occur each year, with the Loiselle Competition occurring in the spring. As a result of their exceptional performance, eight competitors were invited to join the Connecticut Moot Court Board. Congratulations to Jeffrey Chase, Michael Chase, John Duguay, Shanique Fenlator, Nate Gentile, Billy Mauke, James Moher, and Greg Rada.

California rape case poses questions closer to home

Professor believes attack can inform and educate students

By Karen Rabinovici

On Oct. 24 in a dimly lit alley outside Richmond High School in northern California, as many as ten people were involved in the gang rape of a 14-year-old student, while another estimated ten watched. The girl had left the homecoming dance early when she suffered the brutal attack for more than two hours. She was found unconscious nearby under a bench, and taken to the hospital in critical condition. She was released several days later.

This attack raised questions in the minds of the legal community, relating to the

liability of the school, the consequences for the offenders, and, particularly, potential consequences to those who watched without taking action. It was asked over and over again, "How could those people watch and not do anything about it?" According to UConn Criminal Law Professor Deborah Calloway, the tendency of people not to get involved derives in part from fear and in part from the notion that someone else will take care of the problem. Witnesses are worried about harm to themselves should they get involved, or they believe someone else will assume the responsibility of

getting help.

Can such bystanders be held liable? The general rule in criminal law is that bystanders are not liable for their failure to act, including failure to help a victim, unless they have a duty to act. However, it is sometimes possible to find a bystander liable as an accomplice. One can be liable as an accomplice for, at a minimum, encouraging the perpetrator or offering – even if not providing – assistance. This general rule raises a whole new slew of questions: What were the witnesses doing? Did any have a duty toward the victim? Did they offer assistance or resistance?

These are each difficult questions for the California legal system.

This terrible occurrence has relevance here at UConn Law. Professor Calloway said, "Beyond the legal aspects of this situation, I would hope that everyone in the law community as members of the wider community would consider what they would do if they witnessed an individual in need of help....Hearing about an incident like this should make us consider our moral responsibility to the victims of crime and perhaps make an aspiration to have the compassion and courage to at least call 911."

Academics weigh merits of four-day work week

from SYMPOSIUM, p. 1

work schedules has implications for both employees and employers, affecting everything from economics to family-work relations to the environment.

The first panel introduced how the four-day work week has been implemented and researched in the U.S. A set of researchers from Brigham Young University presented their research focused on an experiment in Utah where the governor mandated that all state employees would adopt an alternative work schedule. In reviewing the results of this experiment, the researchers found that 82% of the employees wanted to continue with their alternative schedule, energy consumption was reduced by 10.5%, and employees used fewer personal days, worked less overtime, and used less sick leave.

Despite the positive results of this experiment, another panelist, Robert Bird of UConn's School of Business, cautioned against relying too heavily on survey results; historically, the initial employee

response after the four-day work week has been implemented has been positive. However, attitudes decrease after the honeymoon period.

Two other panelists, Riva Poor and Zachary Henige, warned against over-generalizing the application of the four-day work week. They emphasized that alternative work scheduling needs to fit the sort of work for which it is being used. Henige, who works for Service Employees International Union, pointed out that many employees do not even have fixed schedules.

The next panel moved the discussion forward into reviewing some of the economic implications. Jennifer Hunt of McGill University explained that the benefits of the four-day work week include saving a day's commute and child care in addition to gaining leisure time. The costs, however, are longer work days, worker fatigue, loss of productivity, and management complications. She also pointed out, in comparing the

U.S. to European countries, that U.S. employees probably could not get the four-day work week if they wanted it unless it benefited employers, due to lack of unions and legislation.

Deborah Epstein Henry from Flex Time Lawyers addressed why law firms in particular have not moved toward alternative scheduling. She suggested that its primary reason is that firms revolve around billable hours. Until firms redesign themselves and the way they bill, the four-day work week will remain out of reach in that industry.

During lunch, the keynote speaker, Emily Graham of Kent Law School, took the discussion further when she addressed the question of why we focus on time and not the value of the work. With the kind of work now done in the U.S., billing for time has become less prevalent. She explained that the concept of work time versus leisure time makes employees equate leisure time with alienating them from their work. In the new economy the

focus will be on the product of labor, instead of the price of time.

The third and fourth panels discussed benefits and possible perils of the four-day work week. Some of these panelists discussed the likelihood that employers would use alternative scheduling to extract what is best for the business, not what is best for the employees. Employers in economic crises want to get more out of their employees for less, so it could be used as a tool to reduce hours and pay. Other panelists expanded on these principles and included information about how the four-day work week benefits those in higher income jobs, but perhaps not those in lower income jobs.

The symposium concluded after this lengthy debate, and while no absolute conclusions were reached, Dean Paul's comments from the beginning of the panel were realized: "All of us can be proud of working on something to make things better for the generation to come."

Budget crunch leads to continued hiring freeze

By Patrick R. Linsey

Several vacancies on the law school faculty remain open as a statewide hiring freeze precludes administrators from filling empty offices in Hosmer Hall with new professors.

UConn Law would like to add scholars in subjects including insurance, health care and constitutional law. But with Connecticut in a financial lurch, it is unclear when the state will revive UConn Law's hiring authority.

"We're not interviewing people," said Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Anne Dailey. "The Hiring Committee has been active in keeping up

to date with people in the fields that we're interested in so that when the hiring freeze is lifted we'll be in a position to move forward."

Gov. M. Jodi Rell first ordered in the hiring freeze in May of 2008. It prevents the law school from hiring new faculty even if it has the funds.

But these days, funds, like faculty, are in shorter supply. Paul said the law school's state funding dropped in 2008, though not nearly so much as some public universities elsewhere.

"I think the important part is that we have certainly not experienced anything like the kind of slash budget cuts that

you had in some other states," he said. "We're not California."

The legislature does not directly set the law school's state funding. Rather, the legislature makes a general appropriation for the University of Connecticut with its many undergraduate and graduate programs. The greater university then decides how much funding the law school receives.

"Once our budget has been set ... people at the law school have to find out what's an appropriate law school budget," said Dean Jeremy Paul. "That includes not simply the money that comes from the state, but also tuition revenues."

The law school also receives

money from its endowment.

Given lagging state tax revenues, the state legislature required many state employees – including UConn Law professors – to take three days of unpaid furlough leave in the 2010 fiscal year, which started in July. Professors will be furloughed an additional three days in fiscal year 2011.

Despite the unfilled positions, Dailey said the law school actually had an easier time scheduling classes for this academic year because several members of the faculty returned from visiting other law schools.

"I think in terms of our basic curriculum, we're very well covered this year," she said.

UConn Law inaugurates D.C. program

Five students embark on semester-long program in government

By Jessica Schneider

Your fellow students are wrapping up their studies as part of UConn Law's first semester inside the Beltway. For the past few months, they've gone inside the most revered institutions in the nation to watch as newly-appointed Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor posed tough questions to attorneys the first week of the October term, to listen to the SEC Inspector General describe his interviews with convicted Ponzi-schemer Bernard Madoff, and to probe EPA attorneys as they shape groundbreaking climate change rules. All made possible because of the recently launched Semester in D.C. program, headed by Professor Richard Parker.

Students Sonya Geiger, David Greco, Jonathan Schaefer, Jessica Schneider, and Anne Selinger arrived in the nation's capital on September 1 to begin a whirlwind semester of class, government visits, and work at agencies including the EPA, SEC, Department of Energy and the National Archives.

As 2L Schaefer quickly discovered, "the best way to learn how the law works within the government, and its agencies, is to be on the inside." Students have spent 30 hours a week at their externships, and two nights a week in class. The course of study has included an advanced Administrative Law class and weekly agency visits to speak with practicing attorneys.

The goal, as described by

Professor Parker, has been to "give students a great educational experience they can't get anywhere else, while opening new career horizons for them at the same time."

The program appears to be meeting, and exceeding, its goals. 3L Selinger has been inspired by her experiences in class, and at her agency, the Department of Energy.

"I've worked on the new administration's energy conservation programs and have learned so much about executive agencies and the legislative process," Selinger said.

"For anyone who hopes to work for the government, this is an amazing opportunity to get your foot in the door." 3L Greco agreed. "The program provides invaluable networking opportunities."

Professor Parker plans to continue this budding program in the fall of 2010. He will hold an informational session on campus early this spring, so look for the notice in your email inboxes, and plan on attending if you're interested in participating.

CORRECTION

In our September issue, we stated that the campus art piece "The Middle Path" was donated to the Law School by Robert Sindorf. In fact, this piece and others were purchased by the State of Connecticut as part of renovations to Starr Hall in 2002-2003. Such purchases are supported by the issuance of state bonds pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 4b-53(b).

The Threatdown reaches UConn Law

The five biggest problems facing our fair, state-run law school

By Patrick R. Linsey

(5) Fake words: Law students have to put up with all sorts of legal jargon. Do we really need to buy into vocab invented by liberal arts PhD candidates, as well? Apparently so, if you ask the folks who brought us our recent domestic violence "metanoia." Let's get one thing straight: "Metanoia" is not a word. How do I know this? Because when I type it into Microsoft Word, a little red underline appears beneath it. You could say by that standard many of the terms we learn in law school aren't real words. And you'd be right.

(4) Passwords: Law mail, Husky mail, TWEN, Lexis, Symplicity, Peoplesoft, computer lab login, NetID. But a sampling of the passwords it is apparently necessary for the modern law student to memorize. And this to train for an industry in which a client's darkest secrets are likely password-protected by the name of a senior partner's cocker spaniel, written on a post-it note his secretary stuck to his monitor just in case he forgets. What's that? I only have 73 days left to choose my WestLaw OnePass? Don't hold your breath, Barrett. Starting next semester, profs can send me course updates via carrier pigeon.

(3) Drink tickets: Apparently the only thing holding school-sponsored social events together is a ticketing system preventing law students from consuming more than two alcoholic beverages. Am I alone in thinking 99 percent of law students don't come to a library reopening or holiday reception at 5 p.m. on a Wednesday looking to get drunk on lukewarm beer and Australian chardonnay? And the remaining 1 percent are only going to make these receptions much more fun.

(2) Evening students: First they force the scheduling of otherwise worthwhile courses in three-hour chunks conflicting with primetime television and postseason baseball. Now they've caused UConn Law to drop in the rankings? This kid in my Legal Profession section said they spread swine flu.

(1) Graduation: Looking for a job in this market? You've got better odds finding a fun dental student at a grad school mixer. On top of which, apparently this whole student loan check thing starts working in reverse. Maybe I'll enroll in a sociology PhD program and organize next year's metanoia.

Commentary

Interior aesthetics leave much to be desired

By Chris Wasil

Sometimes I feel as though I attend two different law schools. I pull into the parking lot, and while marveling at the historic architecture that forms our campus, I am reminded of why I chose to attend UConn Law. Aesthetics certainly wasn't the only reason. It wasn't even half the reason. But it definitely had something to do with it. I can remember visiting other schools after seeing UConn and thinking, "This is it?" When I see the majestic exterior of Starr Hall or our newly refurbished library, I am happy with my decision and proud of what my school has to offer.

Then I walk inside. And sadly, there are places in some of our buildings that almost make me embarrassed of our school.

I recognize that when looking at the big picture, however that is defined, the following complaints will seem insignificant. But that doesn't make them unworthy of discussion. To begin with, is anyone ever not pissed off to have class in Knight 215? I cringe every time I think about those annoying wooden planks that get in the way of the chair legs in that room. Has anyone figured out how to control the temperature in Knight 205? I think it reached triple digits in there last week. And given the lack

of power outlets in the Starr basement classrooms, I'm surprised there haven't been any student fistfights. Or maybe there have been, who knows? Ever walk around the hallways near Truffles? Kinda scary down there.

It's not just us students who complain, either. I recently witnessed two professors take time during class to complain about some of their disappointments with our campus buildings. One criticized the fact that "storage" in Hosmer means cardboard boxes stacked in the hallways. The other professor poked fun at the do-it-yourself fold-out podium in Room 202 of the library. These complaints can all be summed up as: Sometimes our school just simply fails to accommodate our needs.

But the thing is, I'm not sure where I should direct my gripe. I don't blame the administration. I bet that they feel the same way I do. The University? Maybe they're to blame; they've spent millions of dollars improving the Storrs campus over the years while the law school still has tables older than me.

I love this school. I feel a tremendous amount of pride when I tell people I attend UConn Law. But all of us - students, professors, administration, staff, the cleaning crew - well, sometimes I feel like we deserve better.

Tort du Stade: Get rid of Joe for Buck's sake

By Melanie Dykas

Television sports announcers. On a local level, they become synonymous with the team. If you hear Michael Kay's voice, you know you're watching a Yankee game. Jerry Remy = Red Sox. Keith Hernandez = Mets. The late Harry Caray = Cubs. Bob Uecker = Brewers. We come to love them for all of their flaws, and when one passes on, the team wears their initials on their jerseys for the season.

On a national level, they are meant to inform, entertain and keep the fans engaged in the game. Some of the greatest moments in sports become inextricably linked with their calls. There are the classic announcers - Marv Albert, Bob Costas, John Madden - and then there is Joe Buck.

A man who, as far as I can tell, has nothing going for him other than the fact that he is his father's son. Yet, somehow, he has Emmys and a show on HBO. He is, by far, the most unenthusiastic announcer. After waiting 86 years, what did Sox Nation get? A very dull, nearly monotone "Red Sox fans have longed to hear it - the Boston Red Sox are World Champions." Doesn't exactly compare to "thaaaaaaankees win!!!" or "The Giants win

the pennant!!!"

Aside from never needing an exclamation point, Buck is biased, knowledgeable and completely irritating. He is smug and too eager to insert his own opinions and analysis into the game, which is not the play-by-play guy's job (that is left for Tim Carver, who I will leave alone because he's clearly slipping into senility). Some claim he's biased in favor of the Yankees, against the Phillies, in favor of the Cowboys, etc. The truth is that he is biased both in favor and against every team. His bias lies with whichever team is "hot" or popular at the moment. A prime example is that, according to Buck, the Phillies never really won a Series game in 2008; it was the Rays that lost them.

While there are numerous announcers who are the love-'em-or-hate-'em type (e.g., Dick Vitale), I have yet to come across a single person who doesn't exclaim "I hate that guy!" when they hear the name Joe Buck. And yet, not only does Fox continue to employ him for MLB games, including the World Series, they keep him on the airwaves year round with NFL games. If only Fox ratings would indicate how many viewers were watching the broadcasts on mute.

The Back Page

Ask McCarthy: Finding the inspiration to achieve

By Kyle McCarthy

Look, I'm a 3L and I'm struggling to muster up the energy and the interest to take on finals season with my usual gusto. How do I get my mojo back?

- S. Enoritis

Take one look at any of your favorite legal job sites and notice the utter lack of postings. If that doesn't spark your fire to notch killer grades and aid your chances of snagging one of those precious opportunities, then you are beyond hope. In that case, get out of the way of your classmates by spending all of your time downing brews at Half Door or Plan B.

I've never gone through this whole finals thing before. What should I expect?

- N. Ewbie

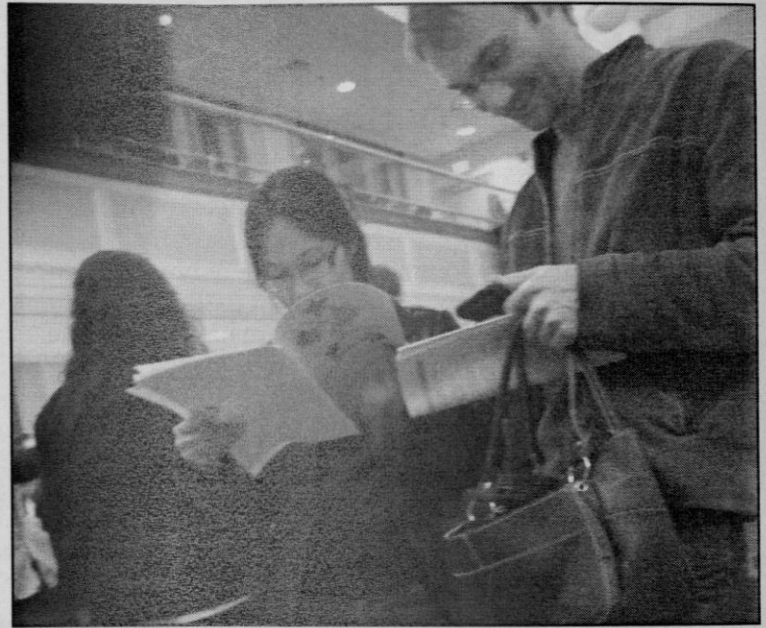
Remember Dante's *Inferno*? Picture that with exam software and proctors.

Have questions? McCarthy's got answers. E-mail your query to askmccarthy@gmail.com. Names are changed to protect the innocent.

Michael Denis/Pro Se

Members of the UConn Law community flooded West Hartford Town Hall on Nov. 20 to support the annual PILG Auction.

The auction raises thousands of dollars each year to support students who choose to work at non-profit agencies during the summer.



Good Eats: Trinity Restaurant

By Nick Valenta

Immediately upon sitting down at a Trinity Restaurant table, I was reminded of my childhood days—growing up in a family-run restaurant. The owner's three-year-old son handed us a menu while his mother uncorked the bottle of wine I had brought. The restaurant, though unassuming, is both honest and proud. One look in the kitchen and you can see a group of family members laboring together over the night's courses. Trinity has soul—something a lot of downtown "assembly-line" restaurants lack. The service is warm and the ambiance simple.

The backbone of the menu is Mediterranean bistro fare, but there is some eclectic flair brought about by the presence of items like cod cakes with a ginger-soy broth. If it is pizza

you desire, Trinity makes those too; though time did not permit us to sample that course.

The antipasti plate we started with was well-made: artichokes, goat cheese, salami, prosciutto, and olives. I appreciated the effort the chef put into the plate by using only quality meats, fresh artichokes, and creating his own goat cheese fromage fort to complete the dish. Fresh, warm rolls were brought out early and replenished as needed. The house-made butternut squash ravioli with sage and brown butter was classic bistro fare that was simple, satisfying, and well-made. The lamb osso buco was a stand-out dish, consisting of incredibly tender lamb served with blue gorgonzola polenta and jus. It was a perfect stick-to-your-ribs entrée for a crisp autumn's night. The scallops with truffled-mashed potatoes and

haricots verts was perfectly executed, though admittedly the actual quality of the scallops was lackluster. High quality fresh scallops should be sweet and tender while these left something to be desired. For dessert, we sampled their tiramisu and crème brûlée. Again, classic bistro fare perfectly executed.

To supplement its warm and cozy interior, Trinity has a large back room for private parties. On this night that room was packed for a function, while the front room was a nice mix of younger couples and senior citizens. It is hard to spot from the road, so be on the look out for a vintage "Sprite" sign. Currently, Trinity does not have a liquor license so take advantage of that fact and bring your favorite bottle of vino and some good company. You should not be disappointed.