From One Valpo to Another: 2007 Valparaiso School of Law Argentina and Chile Program

BY ERIC GETTEMY
Executive Editor

Buenos Aires, Argentina, Santiago, Chile and Vina del Mar/Valparaiso, Chile. I am hard pressed to think of three other places I would rather spend six weeks in the summer. On June 7th, four law students, myself included, embarked on the inaugural journey. Kathryn Shelley, Pamela Hart, and Andrew Boyle were my compatriots as we were led by program director, Professor Mark Adams, and former Valpo Human Rights Professor, Elizabeth Bruch.

We had the opportunity to visit and attend class at four separate universities. The Universidad de Valparaiso is located within the city limits of Valparaiso, Chile. Valpo, in South American form, is located on the coast of Chile, situated in the foothills of the Andes mountains, not to mention it is in the midst of the Chilean wine country. We had the opportunity to visit a winery while staying in Valparaiso called Indomita. It was certainly a memorable experience.

In Santiago, Chile, we studied at the Universidad de Los Andes. Conspicuously located in the Andes mountains, this was by far my favorite classroom experience of the trip.

We also spent a considerable amount of time in the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The program centered on International Human Rights and International Labor Law. Although, we spent several classes with visiting professors discussing the Chilean/Argentine constitution, criminal law and procedure, and the judicial systems.

The trip started in Buenos Aires, also home to arguably the best soccer team in the world, Boca Juniors. We visited that stadium while in Buenos Aires, invited across the United States.

In mid-June, Professor Santiago LeGarre, a professor at the Catholic University in Buenos Aires, invited us to his family's ranch for an Argentine barbeque. He also invited his students, so we were able to speak with our Argentine peers. This was without a doubt a highlight of the trip for me.

The following week we held class, and usually in the afternoons we visited a human rights non-governmental organization or advocacy. We also visited a demonstration by the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo. The mothers who demonstrate all have children who disappeared during the military dictatorship between 1971 and 1990.

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Financial Hope for Public-Sector Attorneys

BY ERIC DITTON
Guest Writer

Students who have aspirations of becoming a prosecutor, public defender, or a public-interest attorney representing indigent clients, but are concerned about being able to afford to do so, may have fewer worries in the future.

In the legal profession, it is common knowledge that public sector attorneys are underpaid. According to an Equal Justice Works report released in 2006, the average starting salary for public-interest lawyers was $36,000; beginning public defenders started at a median salary of $43,000; and newly hired prosecutors started at just $44,000. These low salaries, coupled with law student loan debt, make the prospect of being a public sector attorney almost nonexistent for potentially thousands of graduating law students across the United States.

However, these options may reopen to graduating law students. Student members of the ABA recently lobbied on Capitol Hill asking lawmakers to seriously address the issue of low salaries for public sector attorneys and the lawmakers listened. Less than a month after the representatives of the Law Student Division of the ABA lobbied Congress, the House passed a measure designed to provide loan repayment assistance for public sector attorneys. There are two loan repayment assistance programs proposed. (LRAP).

The first bill, The John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act of 2007, would provide up to $60,000 in loan repayment assistance to law school graduates who agree to work for at least three years as local or state prosecutors or for three...
NEWS

A Summer Abroad: Cambridge 2007

BY ANDREW FREIHEIT
Guest Writer

This summer 22 of our fellow classmates made the trip to London and Cambridge to take classes from Professors Ed Gaffney, Dave Myers and Derrick Carter. Little did we know, we were in for so much more. Upon arriving, there was no time wasted in kicking off the summer’s events as Professor Gaffney took the group to Shakespeare’s Globe Theater to see a showing of Othello, which would become a main theme for the summer. This was only the beginning and the pace was set for a whirl wind week through the streets of London. Professor Gaffney was able to take the students through the British Parliament a number of days throughout the week, as well as to various English courts. He also introduced us to many renowned legal and political figures as we ventured through the city, including barristers, corporate attorneys, a British Lord, experts on the Israel/Palestine conflict, and even a Nobel Prize nominee.

As the week drew to an end, so did our time in London, and the group made the trek to Cambridge. Classes in Cambridge included Comparative Criminal Procedure taught by Professor Cartér, and Comparative Entertainment Law taught by Professor Myers. Professor Carter was able to make the experience very engaging, holding simulations for different countries demonstrating their methods of criminal procedure. Professor Myers made Entertainment Law very exciting as well, teaching the material with examples of many of our favorite actors, musicians and famous personalities.

In addition to the two classes, the group was afforded a great learning experience when Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia joined us for a day. He and Professor Gaffney engaged in a debate over the religious clause of the first amendment illustrating their differing, yet equally brilliant views of the law. 2L Jeffrey Lehman found the day very rewarding stating, “The opportunity to not only listen to, but interact with a Supreme Court justice was a once in a lifetime opportunity.”

After Justice Scalia’s visit, we were given the rest of the week off and an excellent chance to travel Europe. Some students stayed in the United Kingdom, while others traveled to Amsterdam, France, and Spain. This provided an excellent break from the grey weather and pub food of Britain, as students flocked to sunny beaches and authentic European cuisine.

Possibly the greatest experience of the summer was getting to know professors as more than just instructors. 2L Christin Eberst noted, “It was great to get and spend time with our teachers outside of class, and get acquainted with them on a much more personal level.”

Although the weather, food and exchange rate left a lot to be desired, there was no trading unique experiences and cultural immersion of the summer. Additionally, the extra time allotted to travel made it a summer to remember, and one that the group would highly recommend for classes to come. “The Cambridge program is not only a great addition to the Valpo Law curriculum, but is also an excellent addition to each law student’s personal profile.” - 2L Jeffrey Lehman.

Andrew is a 2L and can be reached at andrew.freihheit@valpo.edu.

Dr. King’s niece to speak at law school

VALPARAISO, Ind. – A civil rights leader who is the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will discuss spiritual and societal issues related to abortion during a visit to Valparaiso University School of Law on Sept. 19.

Alveda King, founder of the faith-based civil rights organization King for America, will present her talk at 4 p.m. at the School of Law on campus. It is free and open to the public.

King also serves as African-American outreach director for Gospel of Life and is a prominent anti-abortion speaker. She has served in the Georgia State House of Representatives and is a former college professor.

The law student organization Jus Vitae is sponsoring King’s talk, as well as a Sept. 26 presentation by James W. Sedlak, vice president of American Life League.

Sedlak’s presentation at 4 p.m. in the School of Law also is free and open to the public. A former research physicist and manager at IBM for 30 years, Sedlak is the author of “Parent Power” and has written and lectured widely on issues related to abortion throughout the United States and overseas.

Boat Cruise Basics

1. 2 and 3Ls. Come join us September 29th for the S.B.A./P.A.D. BOAT CRUISE.

Buses will leave the Law School at 930, and the cruise will leave Navy Pier in Chicago at 1230.

The cruise lasts for two hours with music and beverages, as well as beautiful views of the city and a great evening.

Tickets for the whole evening are $35 for you and the same cost for one guest.

Once the buses get us back to the Law School, sober rides will be provided from there. Hope to see you there!
Law School Named One Of Nation’s Best Values

VALPARAISO, Ind. — Valparaiso University’s School of Law, known for a highly personal manner of teaching and learning, has achieved recognition for also delivering outstanding value in preparing its students for success in the legal profession.

Valparaiso recently was one of 62 law schools in the United States selected to PreLaw Magazine’s list of the schools offering the best value for law students. The magazine selected the top programs based on measures of affordability (tuition under $30,000 for private law schools or $25,000 for public law schools), a bar passage rate higher than the state’s average and an employment rate of 85 percent or greater.

Jay Conison, dean of Valparaiso’s School of Law, said the school focuses on helping students become successful practicing attorneys through a rigorous education that includes an outstanding legal research and writing program, several clinics that offer practical legal experience and high-quality faculty who are excellent teachers.

“A constant refrain that I hear about our young graduates, from those who employ them, is that they are enormously productive and highly valued colleagues,” Conison said. “In the education business, there is nothing more gratifying than hearing your alumni are respected and admired. Being recognized as a ‘Best Value’ law school in this particular study, one that focuses on what really matters – educational quality, is gratifying.”

Valparaiso’s bar passage rate is 88 percent, six points above the state average, and more than 86 percent of its students have obtained employment within nine months of graduation. Approximately 90 percent of Valparaiso law students receive financial aid.

More information about Valparaiso’s School of Law is available online at www.valpo.edu/law.
INTerviewing Tips – Part 1
The Initial Interview

BY NATALIE KIJURNA
Career Services

The on-campus interviewing season is upon us and whether you interview with an employer here at Valpo or interview at a firm, government agency, or some other entity now or in the future, here are some tips to help you avoid the mistakes that may cost you a job:

1. Make sure that your resume does not have confusing career paths, gaps in work history or spelling errors. Charles Gillis, a hiring manager of an 11 member law firm in the Dallas-Fort Worth area states, “Most hiring managers won't waste partner time setting up an interview unless they have a reasonable expectation that the interview will go well. We have to be confident that you fit our criteria before we are willing to endorse you for further evaluation.”

2. Know what the firm does before you apply. Points are scored for knowing who they are, what they do and why they are the best. Know why you want to work at a firm and ask yourself what you know about the firm. If you don’t know why you want to work at a firm, the interviewer won’t know why they want to hire you.

3. Do not draw attention to a weakness in your cover letter. “Promote your good points and your relevance to the job you want,” says Gillis. Let the firm or agency know why you would be a good fit and what your long-term plans may be.

4. Always find out the names of the interviewers and research them. The firm or agency has most likely researched you by going on the internet.

5. Be very comfortable promoting yourself. Think up a 2 minute infomercial about yourself that you can use when asked certain questions. Practice it out loud. **Kimm Walton, author of “Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams” stated, “The purpose of creating an infomercial about yourself is that you’ve got to have a pitch about you that you feel comfortable saying. It’s got to be short, and it has to say the most crucial things about you—the things you want employers to know about you, whether they ask you questions that elicit those assets or not.”

6. Be on time. Bring extra copies of resumes, references, transcripts and writing samples.

7. Get business cards made up and hand them out to your interviewers. Many students have been surprised at an employer’s pleasure in receiving a business card from a student.

8. Make eye contact with every interviewer and always elaborate on your answers...never give just a “yes” or “no” answer. Make sure that the interview is not one-sided, either the interviewer talking the entire time or you talking the entire time.

9. Dress appropriately. Keep in mind that the interviewer is assuming that this is your personal best. This is the best you'll look and the best you'll act. There is no second shot. It is best to dress conservatively and while there has been much controversy over what women should wear in an interview (skirt vs. pants) it is our experience that being conservative in what you wear will never hurt an interview. Men should wear dark business suits with a white shirt and dark tie. Plain undershirts should be worn and the dress shirt should be long-sleeved. Shoes must be polished. No visible piercings or tattoos and be clean-shaven. Light on cologne and no smoking before the interview. Be alert, smile, ask pointed questions that could be asked in an interview (even if your interview is 2 hours later...interviewers can smell it!). Women should wear their hair back if it is long, preferably wear a skirt suit and make sure your shoes are polished.

Tip: When purchasing a suit, sit down in it to see how comfortable you are...if it rides up, is too tight, or is not comfortable, no matter how nice the suit, PASS IT UP! Always wear nylons, minimal make-up and minimal jewelry. Pierced ears are okay, not anything else! No visible tattoos! Minimal perfume. No smoking!

10. Be prepared to discuss EVERYTHING on your resume. If you cannot talk about it, take it off your resume. If you think the employer won’t ask about it, they will! Be able to explain smoothly your gaps in employment, your less then stellar GPA, the organizations you’re involved in, any publications, interests, etc.

11. Be ready to answer questions from left field...the interviewers are testing your ability to come up with an answer quickly without hesitation. Questions such as “Who is your favorite historical figure?” or “Who is your favorite author and why?” or “Who do you admire most?” are typical questions that could be asked in an interview.

12. ALWAYS have questions for the interviewer. Typically, at the end of an interview, the interviewer will ask if you have any questions. Never tell them that they’ve answered everything.

13. Make sure to get a business card from everyone that you interviewed with so you can send a thank you. Thank you’s should typically be sent no more than a day or two after the interview. It should be very short, mentioning some point of conversation that you and the interviewer hit on. However, BEWARE, that you don't have any typos in the thank you letter.

Whatever you do, make sure that you put your best foot forward when you’re in the interview. Be alert, smile, ask pointed questions, research the firm/agency you’re interviewing with and make sure the interviewer knows the most important things about you and why they should hire you. Interviewing can be stressful, but with the right attitude and preparation, interviews will turn into job offers!

**Kimm Walton, author of “Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams” will be hosting a program on Professional Development Day, October 4, 2007 in Tabor at 1:15 p.m. See you there!
BAR/BRI v. PMBR: What’s the difference?

BY KRISTEN THOMPSON
Editor-in-Chief

Do you know the difference between PMBR and BAR/BRI? Most people will be surprised to know that they are not competing bar prep entities. PMBR is meant to be a supplemental program to BAR/BRI.

This column is meant as a crash course on what both PMBR and BAR/BRI provide.

PMBR

PMBR prepares students for the Multi-state Bar Exam (“MBE”), a significant portion of the bar that requires strategic training. PMBR helps students master the MBE format. The PMBR is a specialized supplemental review course that prepares students exclusively for the MBE with extensive diagnostic and practice tests, plus strategies and techniques from experts faculty and a comprehensive suite of home study materials. The PMBR course takes a question-based approach to bar exam prep. Every tip, technique, strategy, highlight, and analysis is based on questions like those students will be faced with on exam day.

The MBE consists of 200 questions over a six-hour period—less than 2 minutes per question—covering: Contracts, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and Procedure, Evidence, Property, Remedies, and Torts. Every state except Louisiana and Washington has adopted the MBE as part of its exam. The required score varies from state to state, but the test is identical nationwide.

The rest of the test includes the Multi-State Essay Exam (“MEE”), some states create their own essays; the Multi-State Performance Test (“MPT”); State Specific Multiple Choice Exam and the Multi-State Professional Responsibility Exam (“MPRE”) which is offered in March, August and November each year.

1L and 2L students can enroll for PMBR for $100 and receive materials to use now for law school exams.

3L students can enroll for PMBR with a $200 deposit and choose the Comprehensive Program which includes a 6-day foundation course that starts before BAR/BRI and a 3-day final review course that takes place at the end of your BAR/BRI course.

The 6-day course is broken up into two sessions. The first session consists of a 50-question MBE-style test on a multi-state topic. The second session reviews each question from the practice test. The course provides tips, strategies and techniques to improve performance on the MBE. Each day covers a separate MBE topic.

The 3-day final review course is broken up as follows. Day 1 is a trial run MBE, it is a simulated Multi-state Bar Examination administered under test-like conditions. The exam is updates annually and includes the most highly represented and most challenging areas of the law. Days 2 and 3 is an accelerated intensive MBE review, this is a substantive review that analyzes the previous day’s exam and highlights the fine-line distinctions of the relevant points of law.

Although the Comprehensive Program is the most recommended and best value, the courses are offered separately so a student can take either the 6-day or the 3-day course.

It is also important to note that ABA members receive a $100 discount. For prices see your student PMBR reps, look for their tables in the Atrium.

BAR/BRI

Only BAR/BRI provides an MPRE review course that is comprehensive and includes an outline of all relevant areas of legal ethics, flow charts and graphs, exam tips and techniques, a mini review and downloadable software. BAR/BRI also provides students with a comprehensive lecture from MPRE experts and approximately 300 review and practice questions with analytical answers designed to illustrate the format and complexity of the MPRE.

1L students can sign-up early with a $100 deposit to lock in their prices for when they take the Bar Review course. Students receive a First Year Review Volume (Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Real Property and Torts) and can attend Substantive Review Lectures (look for notices closer to finals). Study charts and software are also available to purchase.


For 3L students, the BAR/BRI Bar Review course usually starts the day after Memorial Day, but is unique to each state. Keep in mind that you will probably be taking your review course in the state in which you are taking the bar. The course is approximately 7 weeks and classes usually take place in the morning giving you the afternoon for self-study.

Each BAR/BRI class runs approximately 3.5 hours and includes a ten minute break every hour. Students enrolled in morning classes typically attend class from 9:00-12:30. Evening courses are scheduled from 6:00 - 9:30. Some classes may be shorter or longer but most will last the entire 3.5 hours. BAR/BRI also offers an iPod study to those students who cannot attend the classes.

During the course of the BAR/BRI Bar Review, students study for all parts of their state’s bar exam. BAR/BRI provides in-depth classes on topics covered in the MBE, essay exam and Multi-state Performance Test (“MPT”). Students are also given comprehensive study materials to use throughout the course which give the students outlines and questions to answer for the next class. Included in the price are MBE, MPT and essay workshops. To help students, BAR/BRI includes a suggested study schedule and the final two weeks before the Bar are focused on a final review which includes answering questions on assorted topics under timed conditions.

For prices see your student BAR/BRI reps, look for their tables in the Atrium.

So what’s the difference?

PMBR provides two short in-depth study course limited to just the MBE while BAR/BRI provides a comprehensive, longer review course covering the MBE, MPT and the essay exam. BAR/BRI also provides study materials and a short review course on the MPRE. So, a good idea would be to sign up for both bar prep courses. The more practice you have the better prepared you will be for the Bar. They are not in competition, it’s not an either or situation. PMBR is meant as a supplement to your BAR/BRI Bar Review course.

Kristen is a 3L and can be reached at kristen.thompson@valpo.edu.
Welcome to Valparaiso University School of Law

BY J. SEBASTIAN SMELKO
SBA President

Welcome to Valparaiso University School of Law! Exciting new things are happening at our school this year; I would like to provide you with a quick highlight.

The Student Advisor Program was developed primarily to assist new law students with an acclimatization process to the rigors of law school. This mentoring, focused on the quality of student life outside the classroom and was purely student driven with the great support of our Administration. Overall we sent out approximately 243 letters and or email contacts to our new incoming class. With a success rate of 83% for the inaugural year, this is impressive. 74 upper-class advisors have 3 students. In the future, it is hoped that our students will continue to build upon this solid foundation. This student-developed program can only be called a success when our students continue to lead and coordinate it. Thank you to all who are involved.

Additionally, on September 15, Valparaiso Law students will participate in the VU Day of Caring. Again, this is a great opportunity to put our school's inner mission of "Law as a Calling" into action and effect positive change. The event will be held on Saturday, September 15th, 2007 at 8:00 am. This will be a great day consisting of only a few hours of your time (2 - 4 hrs) to interact with your fellow students, the faculty, and the greater Valparaiso University family while giving back to the community that you live in. The activities you can participate in include: Spring Cleaning & Painting at the Family House; Fencing the Tricycle Path at Hilltop Center; Painting at the St. Agnes Center; or Raking Leaves at The Caring Place. We encourage attendance and participation.

Next, on September 21, is the 16th annual BLSA 1L-dinner. This year the dinner is at Avalon Manor, and everyone both members and non-members of BLSA are welcomed to attend. We strongly encourage you to partake in this professional event that includes a wonderful dinner, and this year's dinner is honoring the Class of 2010 and distinguished alumnus, Vanita M. Banks who is the General Counsel for All State Insurance Co. and President of the National Bar Association. If you would like to purchase a ticket for this great event, please see the officers of BLSA.

The next weekend is full of activities for our Valparaiso University Law family. On September 28, our annual Cardozo Cup takes place at Kirchoff Park in Valparaiso. This is a wonderful time to further cultivate those relationships within your particular class. While this event can be competitive for some, we all come together for some fun and excitement on a Friday afternoon. We encourage all students, administration, faculty, staff, and alumni to attend and participate in this Valparaiso Law tradition.

The following day, Saturday September 29, is the annual PAD and Student Bar Association's Boat Cruise in Chicago. This is a wonderful chance to go to Chicago for a night on the town and on Lake Michigan with your fellow colleagues. For more information please contact, valpo-pad@yahoo.com.

Finally, we have several philanthropic projects we are currently organizing. Your elected members of the Student Bar Association are very excited about the activities and projects we will have this year. Remember though, it is up to you to make them a success. As our students go, so goes our School of Law. Only with participation from all levels within our school can we continue to move forward. Have a wonderful Fall semester and if you ever have any questions or concerns, please contact your Student Bar Association Representatives at sba@valpo.edu.

SBA Minutes: What you need to know

Your SBA Members:
J. Sebastian Smelko, 3L—President
Laura Wishart, 2L—Vice-President
Ian Lucas, 3L—Treasurer
E.B. Newberry, 3L—Secretary
Bailey Cunningham, 3L
Gaby Guzman, 3L
Jordan Gwiazdon, 3L
Anthony Nwaneri, 3L
Sherwin Tsai, 3L
Megan Krol, 3L
Paul Kulwinski, 2L
Justin Staublin, 2L
Kelly Kruger, 2L
Erica Harder, 2L

SBA Minutes:
Date: 8/26/07

- VU law has 5 new professors coming in this year.
- Phase one of construction is now complete.
- Phase 2 is in process.
- Phase 3 is not yet settled.
- Admissions had a huge success this year – non-final numbers: full time 189 part time 27.

Organizations' Events Dates –
- PAD rush picnic – Sept 6, MLSA
- Prof. Lewis (October 26)
- PAD rush picnic – Sept 6, MLSA
- Prof. Lewis (October 26)
- VU day of caring – Sept 15, BLSA 1L dinner Sept 21, Cardozo Cup 28th, PAD boat cruise Sept 29th, Professional development day – Oct 4, 5, 6.
- Oct 9 – Indianapolis bar event.
- Law week the 11-15 of Feb.
- Barristers Ball the 16th of Feb.
- Hopefully mid-September will be the 1L elections.
- IL Elections. Election Commissioner-must be 3L – election commission should be appointed collectively. Should be a 3L and the commissioner should appoint people to help them out. Jordan Gwiazdon is the election commissioner.

VU Day of Caring September 15 - Starts at 8:30 breakfast served at the Christopher Center. Trying to get more professors involved. Only VU students. Email the vudayofcaring@valpo.com if you are interested in helping and they will tell you where you are needed. Family House, Carriage Place, Hilltop, St. Agnes – each have projects with basic activities to help these groups out. Everyone should be a part of it. It is highly encouraged that SBA members help out.

Social Committee – The Cardozo cup and the Halloween party (10/26) coming up in the near future. Need to get Old Town reserved for the Halloween party and also need to double check that Cardozo is reserved. Cardozo Cup (September 28), Halloween Event (October 26)

2007-2008 Class Gift- The last year’s steering committee donated $1000 to the flat screen for the SBA. Should provide a plaque announcing that they donated the flat screen.

Student Concerns – questions raised about bowling. Brandeis Bowling was a great activity that should go on again. There are many people interested and we don’t want it to die.

Old Business – Laura brought up the idea of a student leader dinner. Would like to tentatively look into having a student leader dinner. May want to do it Spring semester.
Laura Wishart, Vice-President - Putting know about doing a concert.

Student concern regarding the lack of lockers in the school. Also, we need to encourage more enforcement of student talking in the library. Student talking is excessive and it is something we need to encourage our colleagues to abide by.

Laura Wishart, Vice-President - Putting together something for law week wanted to know about doing a concert.

Ian Lucas, Treasurer - Next week is the beginning of the budget meetings - committee has been compiled. Dino Pollack, Isabella Bebokowski, Jeff Spietz, Allison Horton, Jessica Warren and Joshua Facet. We need to vote on them to verify. Bailey motions to approve the committee, Laura seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

ABA - Talked to Kelly Kruger about philanthropy and having a powder puff tournament doing a class wide shirt to support the girls of your grade and having the money raised from the shirts go for the book drive.

Agenda and Discussion of items: Bowling League - Sherwin Tsiu attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of organizing the Brandeis Bowling league. It is a non-alcoholic event with a large number of participants. The winners from last year are requesting their prize and this year we should also offer a prize as an initiative for this activity. Laura suggests that we should fully support this event. Last year both semesters were won by the same team. Bailey motions to approve the $100 purchase of shirts for the winners of Brandeis bowling league. Sherwin will be doing this again this year. Motion passes.

Boat Cruise - Emily Orsinger and Andrew Freihet - sets a ticket price and SBA picks up the extra cost. The boat increased the price. The average cost per person was $75. Need 250 people to get 2 decks. Need to sell 250 tickets. Currently there is no one else on the boat. Laura asked about the issue with the deposit and SBA not getting the $2000 deposit back. EB Newberry raised the issue of ticket pricing. Discussed the issue. Issues regarding people bringing friends. We also don’t want to charge students more for bringing non-student spouse boyfriend or girlfriend. Students should be put on an honor system too. Bailey moves that we keep the price the same at $35/student and 1 guest and $80 over that + $1. Laura seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Price will stay at $35 and students will be required to pay $80 for anyone over their date. Students will be put on an honor basis to respect the amount of money students pay for this event from their fees and are asked not to violate the system as it is being put in place.

Bailey moves to give PAD $2000 for their down payment this week. Megan seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Non-funded Events - Last Sunday when we left, Sebastian was under the understanding that something was going to go on at Martinis on Friday. He was under the impression that it was just students getting together. Not an SBA related event. When we put our name on an event we are constitutionally bound by everything. EB asked where this leaves bowling. Sebastian suggests that it’s ok because it is a bowling league, not a drinking league, so it’s different than the party at Martinis.

Students are allowed to hang signs about parties. Even if they are SBA reps advertising for a party - there is no issue. SBA reps are allowed to promote parties. There are large liability issues. Just avoid e-mail and everything is fine. A student acting himself cannot send out a school-wide e-mail.

There is an alcohol policy that was accepted by the SBA a long time ago. Are we bound by this? If we are bound by this, should it be added to the Constitution?

Recap of Meeting with the Dean and with Director of Student Services/Student Advisor Program - Paul wanted to give an update. There is an effort extended to the LLMs and trying to let them know they are in SBA, etc.

Paul had a meeting with the Dean and the GLBT organization. There is going to be an effort to extend safe zones to students with faculty - providing students an outlet in a confidential setting that are battling issues. This will be a program rolled out soon on campus letting them know that they can have places to talk with people. Paul hopes that is something the SBA office would be willing to participate in. Need to get the information to students, so those students looking for a more confidential place to discuss issues could do so. Justin was asking whether students could, in their official club like capacity, march in a parade. Paul suggested that Dean Conison should be asked before participating as the law school.

Updates on Cardozo Cup - Park is reserved, fun pack has been reserved, the shelter has been reserved. The price is the same at about $155. Bailey asked about the issue with the noise - as far as whether we could have an announcer. Erica was going to contact the Athletic Department to get official umpires. Paul suggested to make sure that the umpires are over 21. Jordan and Justin will be figuring out the rules.

Supplement Yard Sale - EB had idea to sell old supplements to incoming students. Having a yard sale to sell supplements by putting envelopes with the names of the selling students. This is something that we want to get going. Laura suggested just setting up tables and letting everyone man their own tables. Going to hold Tabor and allow students the opportunity to come in and take care of it. Sebastian confirmed that EB is allowed to send e-mails regarding the supplement sale.

Elections for 1Ls - Nomination forms are going out. Jordan is in charge of this. Jordan needs a couple of volunteers to help with this. Election is Tuesday, Sept 18. Campaigning is the 10-17.

James Saqui-pictures/internet - Student organizations were told to go to James about having webpages. Student orgs that want photos should contact James.

Red Cross Blood Drives Tuesday, October 30, 2007 and Wednesday, April 2, 2008 both from 1pm-6pm. Red Cross separate room to do donor interviews - Jury Room; SBA Office - They will be in the student lounge area.

New Business -

Drivers. We need to get all possible drivers to register with the VUPD in advance so that there is no problem like what we had at Kickoff. Issues came up regarding different drivers. There is a mini-bus where we could have a driver for about $300. Ian thinks he charges $60 an hour. Need to get better information on this and possibly get him to provide rides away from the event. The vicinity around the law school is known for being bad when it comes to PI’s and this is something that to work on.

Student Concerns: Do we have unlimited printing? If we do, then why is being kept secret? Bailey wants to know if we can make an announcement regarding the unlimited printing.

Megan - Concerns regarding the lockers students have suggested various topics. Comment stricken. Megan also raised the cost of parking permits. There are students vetoing the parking permits. We don’t use the parking structure and should not be charged for the increased cost. Megan also brought up the topic of the vagueness of SBA members and taking a stance on different issues.

If you would like to know more about the SBA email sba@valpo.edu.

HOPE

continued from page 1

years as local, state, or federal public defenders. Eligible attorneys would receive loan repayments of up to $10,000 a year and would have the option to renew their participation in the program for another three years. Along with this, there could be loan repayment for civil legal assistance lawyers at $6,000 per year to a maximum of $40,000.

The second proposed bill would completely forgive the balance of any eligible federal loans for attorneys who have worked in the public sector for ten years and made punctual student loan payments during that time. Craig Linder, Student Debt Crisis: Lawmakers Take Action, 36 Student Lawyer 18 (September 2007). While there is no tentative date as to when Congress will make a final decision on either of these proposed bills, they could be decided upon as early as next year.

Even with these bills presented to both houses of Congress, the ABA urges students to take a proactive role to help improve loan repayment options for public sector lawyers. Students can go to www.abanet.org/lsd/legislation to write a letter to their Congress member about debt repayment or to organize a meeting to discuss their concerns with their lawmakers.

The cited source of my information is the September 2007 edition of Student Lawyer magazine, but the article can also be found at http://www.abanet.org/lsd/studentlawyer/sept07/debt.shtml.

Eric is a 1L and can be reached at eric.ditto@valpo.edu.
Moot Court: Gearing Up for Swygert Competition

BY NICK OTIS
Chief Justice, Moot Court

USL’s Moot Court Society is gearing up for its annual Luther M. Swygert Moot Court Competition. As most everyone around the USL campus is aware, the 2007 Moot Intraschool Competition will be especially exciting because United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia will be judging the final round of the Competition. In addition to Justice Scalia, Judge Daniel Manion of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals and Judge Rebecca Pallmeyer of the Northern District of Illinois will be judging the final round.

The Competition is named in honor of the late Judge Luther M. Swygert. His wife, Mrs. Gertrude Swygert, and son, Michael I. Swygert established an endowment for the creation of an annual competition to celebrate Judge Swygert’s memory and special relationship with USL. Judge Swygert had a tremendous career in public service, most notably serving as a judge on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals from 1961 to 1987. Additionally, his son, Michael is a 1967 graduate of USL. Michael Swygert ranked first in his class (in case anyone is curious, that is two spots ahead of another 1967 USL grad, Dean Berner) and was Editor-in-Chief of the first Valparaiso University Law Review. Over the years the Swygert family has been very close to USL and the Moot Court Society and we appreciate their continued support.

The competing Moot Court members will prepare their briefs and engage in intense oral arguments. This year’s society has 32 competing members from which four finalists will be selected to argue in the Final Round. The Swygert Competition format is very similar to college basketball’s March Madness. 32 competitors are cut to the Sweet Sixteen, Final Eight, and then the Final Four. The rounds of 32 and 16 are judged by the Executive Board members, while the Final Eight is judged by USL professors. Clearly, the final round is the most difficult. The final four competitors will be arguing complicated constitutional law issues in front of a panel of the best legal minds in the country.

The final round of the Swygert Competition is an excellent opportunity to see Moot Court in action and to learn about the Society. 1L’s and 2L’s who have an interest in trying out for Moot Court in the Spring of 2008 are strongly encouraged to attend this event as the Final Round provides a very accurate portrayal of oral arguments in an appellate court. I further encourage the rest of the USL community to attend to show support for USL’s Moot Court oralists and to welcome judges who have traveled across the nation to visit Valpo Law.

The Swygert Competition Final Round will be held on Thursday, October 18 at 3:00 p.m. on the main campus at the Neils Science Center. Ticket availability will be limited, so watch for upcoming announcements. This is a great event for both the Moot Court Society and USL. It is definitely an event you don’t want to miss!

If you have any questions about the Swygert Competition or the Society in general, please drop by the Moot Court office or ask any member of the Executive Board.

This year’s Executive Board Members are: Nick Otis, Alger Boswell, Nina Mariano, Cori Ross, Izabela Bekoski, and Dan Jacobs.

Nick Otis
Chief Justice, Moot Court

Jessup International Moot Court Team competes in Annual Intramural Competition

BY SHERWIN TSAI
Jessup Intramural Competition Chair

When the Jessup International Moot Court Team came back from a three-month summer break, they had little time to get settled in.

On August 29, the incoming members of the Jessup International Moot Court Team competed in its Annual Intramural Competition, judged by Professors D.A. Jeremy Telman, Susan Stuart, Geneva Brown, and Ivan Bodensteiner.

Members participating in the competition included second-year students Asrar Ahmed, Laura Brackey, Emily Byrum, Justin Curtis, Christin Eberst, Andrew Freiheit, Jeffrey Marden, Hema Muthiah, Chip Owens, Bob Prince, Juan Roman-Lagunas, Brianna Schroeder, Heather Seals, Makhosazana Sibanda, Hellen Vouthouns, and David Wright. Because the Intramural Competition was scheduled for the first week of school, preparation for the team’s fall semester competition began even before the members returned to Valparaiso. Over the summer, members worked diligently on summer research assignments and the briefs for the competition while also taking summer classes, working, and even traveling abroad.

The fact pattern was from the International Court of Justice. It was a case involving a fictitious nation bringing suit against a fictitious supranational body for denying it membership into the Union. Competing members were randomly divided in half with the Applicants representing the State of Adaria and the Respondents representing the member states of the Rotian Union.

Most members of the team confronted the challenge of having little or no experience in international law. Members had ten minutes to present their case before the panel of judges, including time for rebuttal and surrebuttal.

Honorable mention goes to Justin Curtis who was awarded Best Oralist, David Wright who was awarded Best Memorial, and Bob Prince who was awarded Best Overall Participant. In addition to competing in the prestigious Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, where the 2005-2006 team won Best Memorial, the team will also be competing in the ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law, where last year’s team advanced to the finals in Geneva, Switzerland and was awarded Best Memorial. Additionally, the team hopes to expand its competition portfolio by adding two additional competitions this year, the Niagara International Moot Court Competition in Washington D.C. and the Susan J. Ferrell Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition in Miami, Florida.

Anyone who wants to learn more about these international competitions or the team in general can email the Captain of the team, Ezra Hurwitz, at Ezra.Hurwitz@valpo.edu. Tryouts for next year will be held in April, so stay tuned for more information!

Sherwin is a 3L and can be reached at sherwin.tsai@valpo.edu
What's the big deal about Miranda?

BY AMY RIEDERER
Columnist

Ev·eryone has heard the phrase “take the fifth” and most Americans know it means a person has the right not to incriminate herself. Some Americans even know that “fifth” stands for the Fifth Amendment that grants this and other rights. So why did the Supreme Court mandate “Miranda warnings” in custodial situations if Fifth Amendment rights are common knowledge?

The short answer is that while Americans know they have rights, few could state what the exact rights are and when exactly they can be invoked. Even in the age of television and police dramas where anyone off the street could “read you your rights,” thousands of cases arise every year where the accused contends she either didn’t know or didn’t understand her rights. Moreover, popular programs such as Law and Order and The Closer center on the cops getting the confession and T.V. suspects rarely invoke the rights that are read or spoken to them.

Many scholars argue that the very purpose of interrogation is to disjoin the suspect’s thinking to compel a confession. This conclusion is logical considering it is the job of police to find and apprehend the criminal. It is an integral part of our justice and adversarial system that each party uses all legal means to achieve the desired objective. As a result, tools like fear, deprivation, and embarrassment are important to police interrogation, but also an obstacle to a suspect’s clear assessment of the situation.

“But if they did it and they confess, why shouldn’t that confession be used against them?” opponents scream from the mountaintops. The answer is that every American possesses rights regardless of guilt or innocence. Unlike the well-known mantra “ignorance of the law is not an excuse,” which absolutely applies to crimes, personal and civil rights are unalienable; they are ours by virtue of the Constitution and arguably natural law. Thus, these rights should be afforded special consideration to protect citizens.

Opponents of Miranda say it hampers police investigation. The truth is that the Miranda threshold is very low and does little to aid suspects but to jog their memory. If one didn’t understand her rights before arrest, sadly it is unlikely a (deliberately) quick and condensed recitation of these rights will suddenly impart knowledge. Furthermore, police have wide latitude with how to phrase the recitation of rights, and have no obligation to inform a person of them at all if there is an emergency, or if the person is not a suspect. Even if a person confesses without being Mirandized, another subsequent confession obtained after being Mirandized, if only because the person thought they’d “let the cat out of the bag,” is admissible at trial. If that isn’t enough latitude for law enforcement, falsely obtained and suppressed confessions can still be used for impeachment at trial.

The threshold requirements are so low, in fact, that some scholars contend that it is to the police’s advantage to violate Miranda because of the loopholes and exceptions. The relatively low risk of suppression is outweighed by the possibility that, if the suspect is read her rights, she will invoke them and the police will have to deal with their mortal enemy: the defense lawyer.

Despite forty-one years of Miranda requirements, opponents still argue that Miranda should be overturned. Proponents held their breath in 1999 when the Fourth Circuit held an act of Congress (making “voluntariness” the only requirement for an admissible confession) to overrule Miranda. In 2000, however, the Supreme Court clearly stated that Miranda rights are a “constitutional decision of the court” and cannot be overruled by Congress, regardless of previous Court statements that Miranda rights are only “prophylactic.” Regardless of whether the decision in Miranda was constitutionally mandated or judicially created, it is good policy, it is now entrenched in American culture, and it should not be disturbed.

Amy is a 2L and can be reached at amy. riederer@valpo.edu.

BY JEFFREY MARDEN
Columnist

Y ou have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be provided for you. Although we all have heard these words either in the media or (for the unfortunate souls) in person, how many actually know where they originated?

In 1966, Ernesto Miranda was arrested for rape, and confessed to attempted rape and robbery when questioned by police. At trial, based solely on his confession, he was convicted of rape, kidnapping, and robbery, and sentenced to 20-30 years in prison. The case was appealed all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court which ultimately overturned the decision. In the 5-4 opinion, Chief Justice Earl Warren held that no confession could be admissible (based on the 5th Amendment’s self-incrimination and the 6th Amendment’s right to counsel clauses) unless a suspect was made aware of his rights and waived them.

The effects of Miranda were dramatic, as the courts were flooded with criminals who had confessed and now wished to repeal those confessions, seeing an opportunity to evade conviction. Since the decision, the clearance rates of crimes have vastly decreased, and proponents argue the decline is based on the police abandoning the unconstitutionally coercive questioning techniques. However, this explanation is not statistically supported.

Coerced confessions were statistically nonexistent during Miranda due to increasing judicial oversight and police professionalism, because coercive questioning methods were substantially decreasing in the 1930s and 1940s, and had diminished considerably by the 1950s. Moreover, when the Supreme Court began issuing more detailed rules for police interrogation in the 1960s, the problem was already fading into the past. In fact, Chief Justice Warren’s majority opinion in Miranda, while citing the Wickersham Report and other accounts of police abuses, acknowledged that such abuses were “undoubtedly the exception now” and that “the modern practice of incustody interrogation is psychologically rather than physically oriented.”

In addition to the lack of consistency with which unconstitutional interrogation techniques were used, the warning itself does not prevent coerced confessions. Justice Harlan’s point in his Miranda dissent has never been effectively answered. He wrote: “The new rules are not designed to guard against police brutality or other unmistakably banned forms of coercion. Those who use third-degree tactics and deny them in court are equally able and destined to lie as skillfully about warnings and waivers.”

The main criticism of Miranda is that the ruling arbitrarily handicaps the police in their efforts to ensure our safety. There have been numerous cases in which a guilty man has been released because he did not confess. The only reason why he did not confess is because the police stopped him from doing so until they were able to inform him that he did not have to confess. Once warned, few people would confess (the recidivists know the system from cycling through it and the innocent people believe that justice will be served and they will be vindicated). Despite few benefits, the social cost of maintaining Miranda is enormous. Are you willing to put your and your family’s safety in jeopardy to allow a criminal to return to the streets based on a technicality that serves no purpose?

[On a side note, the conclusion of Miranda’s case is demonstrative of irony in our society. After the Court overruled his conviction, he was retried and convicted on the robbery charge, serving eleven years. Miranda was released in 1972, and sold signed copies of “Miranda Warning” cards to police; however, he was stabbed to death by an illegal Mexican immigrant in a bar in 1976. Although the cops arrested a suspect, he exercised his right to remain silent, and the case was never solved. Now that is justice.]

Jeff is a 2L and can be reached at jeffrey. marden@valpo.edu
Welcome Class of 2010

Incoming Class Statistics

Full-Time Students: 190
Part-Time Students: 28

Median High LSAT: 151
LSAT Range: 139-165
75th Percentile: 154
25th Percentile: 150

Median GPA: 3.47
GPA Range: 2.40-4.00
75th Percentile: 3.67
25th Percentile: 3.22

Average Age: 25
Age Range: 21-55

Male: 49%
Female: 51%

States / Countries Represented
Alabama
Arizona (6)
California (5)
Colorado
Florida (3)
Georgia
Iowa
Illinois (36)
Indiana (93)
Kentucky (3)
Massachusetts (2)
Maryland (2)
Michigan (5)
Minnesota
Missouri (2)
Mississippi
Montana
North Carolina (2)
Nebraska
New Jersey (4)
New Mexico
New York (3)
Ohio (7)
Oregon
Pennsylvania (4)
South Carolina
Tennessee (4)
Texas (6)
Utah (2)
Virginia
Wisconsin (15)
West Virginia (2)
Wyoming
Canada (2)

States / Countries Represented

Germany
Guam
Nigeria
Philippines
Saudi Arabia
Taiwan

Religious Denominations
Agnostic
Baptist
Buddhist
Christian
Christian Reformed
Latter Day Saints
Eastern Orthodox
Episcopal
Greek Orthodox
Islam
Jewish
Lutheran
Methodist
Orthodox
Penecostal
Presbyterian
Protestant
Roman Catholic

Ethnicity
Asian
Black/African American
Caucasian
Chicano
Hispanic
Multi Racial

Majors Represented
Accounting (2)
Anthropology (3)
Area Not Listed (16)
Biochemistry
Biography (3)
Business Administration (10)
Business Management (4)
Business/Commerce (4)
Civil Engineering (2)
Classics
Communications (6)
Criminal Justice (13)
Criminology (3)
Database Management
Economics (7)

Education
Engineering
English (7)
Family Relations/Child Development
Film Production
Finance (6)
Geography
History (17)
Humanities (2)
Industrial Relations
Interdisciplinary Studies (4)
International Relations (2)

Journalism (4)
Liberal Arts (6)
Marketing (6)
Mathematics (4)
Mechanical Engineering (2)
Music
Natural Sciences
Nursing
Philosophy (5)
Physical Education
Political Science (36)
Pre-law (3)
Psychology (13)
Public Affairs/Services/Admin (3)
Recreation and Leisure Service
Religion/Religious Studies
Sales/Realt
Secondary Education
Social Sciences (6)
Sociology (5)
Spanish (2)

Graduate / Masters Degrees Represented (15)
MA (6)
MS

MBA (3)
MFA
Other (5)
Dual Degree Students (30)
MALS (7)
MSICP (5)
MA PSY (5)
MSSA (8)
MBA (14)
CMHC

Undergraduate Universities Represented
ALABAMA A&M
ALMA COLLEGE
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
ANDERSON UNIVERSITY (2)
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY (5)
BALDWIN WALLACE COLLEGE
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY (2)
BARRY UNIVERSITY
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
BETHEL COLLEGE-INDIANA
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
BRADLEY UNIVERSITY
BROWN UNIVERSITY
BUTLER UNIVERSITY (2)
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY - FULLERTON
CALUMET COLLEGE OF SAINT JOSEPH
CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
COLGATE UNIVERSITY
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SC GENERAL STUDY NY
DAVID LIBSCOMB UNIVERSITY
DE PAUL UNIVERSITY
DENISON UNIVERSITY
DEPAUW UNIVERSITY (5)
EARLHAM COLLEGE
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
ECKERD COLLEGE
EVANGEL UNIVERSITY
FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
GRINNELL COLLEGE
HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY
HIRAM COLLEGE
ILLINOIS COLLEGE
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY (3)
INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY (2)
We then traveled to Valparaiso, a spectacular sight.

During our time in Valpo, we attended a session where we heard from a battery of speakers. First, Jose Larenaaz, an author who has devoted his life to combating the use of landmines, and landmine removal spoke from first hand experience. He was injured when he rode his jeep over a landmine while joyriding. We also heard from experts in Chilean indigenous culture.

After dining on some of the finest seafood in the world, we traveled to Santiago. Here we attended class at Los Andes, and the following weekend, the group went skiing in the Andes at Portillo Ski resort.

We had the opportunity to spend some time with some of the Argentine students. Here are some of their thoughts about the program.

“Not long ago we had an unusual chance of interacting with some students from Valparaiso (now known by me as Valpo). I can say we had a very pleasant time interviewing them and being interviewed. Since we all were law apprentices, I can tell we weren’t really speaking different languages or, at least, we had a good/particular communication. I shall also mention the fact that we were far from offices and classrooms, deep in the country side, so there was an enjoyable atmosphere. I must shyly admit that some of them knew Buenos Aires better than me, but the good thing is that they liked it. So...mission accomplished.”

--Ramiro Pirillo, Third Year Student, Universidad Católica Argentina (Catholic-U; UCA)

“I think the program was great. First of all, the Chilean University, Universidad de Los Andes, is amazing and they hosted us very well. Secondly, the Chilean lecturers were very well prepared and capable. They gave me a different perspective to my personal views of what human rights are. I think that made the difference for the program. To confront your own ideas and cultural background on the human rights concept with the thoughts and culture of different countries is a highlight of the program. Finally, I liked a lot what for me were the unknows links between human rights and international labor law. For me, as a human rights practitioner, it open a wide field of action.”

--Ignacio Boulin (Human Rights Lawyer in Argentina who attended most of the program)

The opportunity to study areas of interest, as well as travel and experience different places and cultures is a priceless experience. I would recommend it to anyone.
Sports

NFL Season Preview and Predictions

By Eric Gettemy
Executive Editor

AFC East

The addition of Randy Moss, as long as he stays off the IR, should make the Patriots offense as dynamic as it ever has been in the "dynasty" era. If nothing else, Moss will play the role of a decoy drawing doube coverage and opening up the field for Tom Brady. (As if he needed it). With RB Moroney set to have a career year, look for the Pats to be a formidable force. However, fantasy owners will be taking a big risk on Randy Moss. Don't expect Tom Brady to go to him consistently or often as Tom Brady is fond of finding 3rd string receivers and turning them into some of the top receivers of the week, i.e. Doug Gabriel and Reche Caldwell. Moss will have his glory, but don't draft him higher than the 7th round.

As for the Jets, the addition of RB Thomas Jones and his performance this year will probably determine how far they will go. Thomas Jones is going fairly high in most fantasy leagues, and I think that is reasonable given his talent and the capable offense of the Jets. He is a solid second running back in most leagues, and a steal as a backup or 3rd back.

The Miami Dolphins are "one of the NFL's classic franchises" and have won "at least five super bowls", according to Forum Sports Miami correspondent, Jeff Lehrman. Even though I have been unable to verify either of these assertions through any source, I will be willing to admit that the Dolphins may be OK this year, possibly even achieving a record of 9-7, if they get lucky, and the other teams don't really attempt to win the game. The addition of Ted Ginn, Jr. from Ohio State will pay off sooner than later, and he may be a good late round sleeper pick in most fantasy leagues.

The Buffalo Bills are in trouble this year, unless RB Marshawn Lynch can bail them out. WR Lee Evans is nursing an injury, and QB Losman has been sketchy throughout his career.

Prediction:

New England 12-4
N.Y. Jets 10-6
Miami 8-8
Buffalo 6-10

AFC North

The Baltimore Ravens are without Jamal Lewis but with Willis McGahee. This is a net gain for them. Steve McNair seems to have found his groove also, and he may be a reliable backup QB this year in most fantasy leagues. The Ravens are also deep in receivers as McNair favors Derrick Mason from their years together in Tennessee, and Mark Clayton, if healthy, will have a decent year. Todd Heap is also among the league's most threatening tight ends in the passing game.

The Pittsburgh Steelers will rebound this year from a tough-luck 8-8 season last year. Ben Roethlisberger will be sold in an offense built around 1500-yard rusher Willie Parker. However, the news out of Pittsburgh is that new coach Mike Tomlin wants to air it out more. This could result in great late round fantasy pickups such as WR Santonio Holmes, TE Heath Miller, and of course, the always reliable Hines Ward. The new approach to offense may be more reminiscent of the 2005 championship season, epitomized in the Super Bowl when the Steelers abused Seattle's secondary while mixing in explosive running plays to speed demon "Fast" Willie Parker.

Cleveland Browns fans will realize that the honeymoon is over when new QB Brady Quinn is exposed to arguably the most defensively aggressive division in football. There is a high question mark next to the offensive line, and whether Quinn, or the projected starter Charlie Frye, will have enough time to hit star targets, Kelvin Winslow and Braylon Edwards. However, if, (and it is a big, doubtful if), Jamil Lewis can return to form, perhaps defenses can stay on the soles of their feet long enough for Quinn not to become one with the Cleveland grass.

The Cincinnati Bengals are mostly out of jail, and ready to play some football. Team chemistry has been a problem for the Bengals in recent years, spurring frustrated comments from QB Carson Palmer last year. However, there is tons of talent on this team, and they will make the play-offs this year, one way or the other. Expect career years from WR Chad Johnson and T.J. Houshmandzadeh.

Predictions:

Pittsburgh 12-4
Cincinnati 12-4
Baltimore 11-5
Cleveland 5-11

AFC South

The Indianapolis Colts...Peyton Manning...Joseph Addai...Harrison and Wayne...Dwight Freeney...There isn't really a lot to be said about the reigning champs...AFC Championship game again? Probably. Super Bowl? Time will tell. Beastly safety Bob Sanders will need to stay healthy as the loss of linebacker Cato June to Tampa Bay may result in an even weaker run defense.

The Tennessee Titans are looking exciting this year. Vince Young is likely to have a monster fantasy season, and he may be a great value in the 4th or 5th round. They will get the running back situation figured out; although having two, possibly three capable running backs is a problem many teams would like to have. The defense is going to be the difference between this team having a great year and this team having a good/average year.

The Jacksonville Jaguars may surprise some this year, as Jack Del Rio has proven himself to be one of best young NFL coaches. The decision to part ways with Byron Leftwich and go with David Garrard as the starting QB has raised some eyebrows, but Garrard seems to be the QB with the most upside as Leftwich couldn't get it done with any consistency. Maurice Jones-Drew has been going fairly high in most fantasy drafts, but I'm not entirely sold on him as a number one back. However, do pay attention to the Jaguars defense this year, they may end up being in the top five before the season is over.

The Houston Texans will fight an uphill battle most of this season. Interestingly enough, they took a defensive line-man again this year in the first round of the draft. Amobi Okoye was the tenth pick overall. WR Andre Johnson is the biggest offensive threat on this team, he had 1147 yards last year. TE Owen Daniels usually finds his way on to most fantasy teams as well. A new quarterback, Matt Schaub, former Atlanta Falcons backup, is a legit question mark.

Prediction:

Indianapolis 12-4
Tennessee 10-6
Jacksonville 9-7
Houston 3-13

AFC West

It's hard not to root for the Kansas City Chiefs after watching HBO's "Hard Knocks" show about the drama of football camp. Be that as it may, I don't buy the "400 carry" argument I've been hearing on ESPN, at least with respect to Larry Johnson. It goes something like, "He carried the ball more than 400 times last year. When backs carry the ball more than 400 times, they aren't as effective the following season." That might be true, if LJ were over 30, and he wasn't LJ. The quarterback situation, on the other hand, is something far more troubling, as both Damon Huard and Brody Croyle are mediocre at best.

The Oakland Raiders will be better than they were last year. They won't make the playoffs, but if they start to put some games together, don't expect them to get blown out against some of their powerhouse opponents. Their difficulty will mostly come from generating an offense, as JaMarcus Russell isn't ready, Daunte Culpepper doesn't have a circa 1999 Randy Moss, and Josh McCown has yet to have that "breakout" year despite having a couple of opportunities with Arizona.

The San Diego Chargers are my super bowl favorite out of the AFC. They are bringing the total package this year. We all know about LT and Antonio Gates, but Philip Rivers quietly had a great season last year. Some have said that it will be difficult for Rivers to be a top 5 fantasy QB because the offense is so dependent on Tomlinson. I disagree with this, WR Vincent Jackson will emerge as a premier receiver this year, and the Chargers will gradually shift into a more balanced team offensively. It is easy to forget that LT has run the show because the Chargers haven't had a better-than-average QB until Rivers in the recent past to mix things up.

The Denver Broncos will make a showing this year. RB Travis Henry is a new face and he is making many people expect a huge year from him. This is partly because Henry let fly last year with over 1200 yards in 14 games, and partly due to the fact that anybody has been an effective rusher for Denver. May I remind you that this is the team that traded Clinton Portis in his prime. Jay Cutler will turn out to be decent, and his receivers will get the job done. Javon Walker is a top shelf receiver, while the addition of ex-colt Brandon Stokley will provide some depth.

Prediction:

San Diego 13-3
Denver 10-6
Kansas City 8-8
Oakland 6-10
NFL Season Preview Continued

NFC East

Donovan McNabb will be back in a big way, yet in most fantasy leagues, he was slipping well into the later rounds. Although, I didn’t pick him either, so I suppose that is somewhat hypocritical. Also, the release of LB Jeremiah Trotter is still somewhat of a mystery to me, apparently the Eagles thought he was a liability in pass defense. Brian Westbrook had a strong year, but the rest of the team is missing the impressiveness of past years. Philadelphia is anyone’s guess this season. Although, I am guessing they will not make the playoffs.

First round pick LaRon Landry (LSU) will be starting at strong safety for the Redskins. This should solidify the defense to some degree. Even so, they don’t have the type of shut down defense that can manage the game if the offense can’t stay on the field. Clinton Portis has knee problems, and Ladell Betts might be a safe bet to replace him if he goes down. However, it is difficult to say that Betts can carry the load if Campbell can’t get the passing game working to Antwuan Randle El and Santana Moss. Both of these receivers, by the way, are relatively small, so if teams can match their speed there is no “big target” receiver to go to instead.

The Dallas Cowboys are emerging as my favorite in this division. Tony Romo has shown that he can be a great quarterback, and the running back tandem of Marion Barber and Julius Jones may be the best 1-2 punch in the NFL. You also can’t forget about Terrell Owens, who has been quiet as of late. As long as the new coach can manage T.O. like Parcells did, he will have a great fantasy year, and may end up as a top 5 receiver. WR Terry Glenn will have to stay healthy for the passing attack to flourish.

Michael Strahan has decided to return for what will probably be his final year. But, I can’t honestly say I believe it is because he thinks the Giants have a shot at the Super Bowl. Eli Manning has less consistency than, dare I say, Rex Grossman. However, the addition of RB Ruben Droughns is key, and you expect to see him get a fair share of carries. I don’t think RB Brandon Jacobs is ready for the full time job. Plaxico Burress, Sinorice Moss, and Amani Toomer round out the receiving core nicely. Look for some close games, and a number of heartbreaking losses for the Giants this year.

NFC West

Shaun Alexander will return to form this year, but he is still on the decline, so don’t expect much more than 1100-1200 yards, which will be a disappointment for fantasy owners who took him in the first round.

Matt Hasselbeck is a quality QB, and should be able to manage with his plethora of decent receivers. LB Lofa Tatupu will headhunt all year, and the team will need him against my NFC West favorites, San Francisco and Arizona. However, the most pathetic division in football last year will probably be the most competitive this year with St. Louis and Arizona both fielding dangerous teams. Arizona will be, if nothing else, one of the most exciting teams to watch this upcoming year. They almost beat the NFC Champion Bears last season, and this year they have a healthy Edgerrin James and Larry Fitzgerald, not to mention Anquan Boldin. They’ve added the best offensive line coach in the game, Russ Grimm, and also have a new head coach in Ken Whisenhunt, who was favored to be the Steelers replacement for Bill Cowher.

San Francisco came on strong late last season, almost threatening Seattle for the division before trailing off. Frank Gore will be the key to success, and for QB Alex Smith, this has to be the year to perform. He was a number 1 overall pick in 2005, and the training stage is over.

St. Louis is also set to make a run at the division. RB Stephen Jackson is nearly on par with L.T. as the premier running back in the league. Marc Bulger is underrated, and could easily lead this team deep into the playoffs.

New Orleans might be as bad as you would expect, given the loss of former superstar Michael Vick. The loss might actually force Atlanta into playing a realistic offense, instead of depending on Vick to consistently make plays. RB Jerious Norwood might have a breakout year, so keep an eye on him in your fantasy league.

New Orleans will emerge this year as the bandwagon team of the decade. But can you really lay blame? They have the NFL coach of the year, Sean Payton, RBs Reggie Bush and Deuce McAllister, and a flock of receivers. Not to mention Drew Brees, who is arguably a top 5 QB, or will be after this year.

Carolina went 8-8 last year, and I don’t expect much to change this year. They might add one or two wins on to that total if Steve Smith has another fantastic year, and RB duo DeShawn Foster and DeAngelo Williams stay healthy and perform well. This team is middle of the road, and won’t be able to break through their difficult schedule.

Prediction:
- New Orleans 13-3
- Tampa Bay 8-8
- Carolina 8-8
- Atlanta 6-10

NFC North

Da Bears will make a run this year. The defense is back as arguably the best in the NFL, and I think Grossman will, if nothing else, be more consistent. RB Cedric Benson may turn out to be a huge bust this year. His hard-nosed style was complimented well last year with the speed of Thomas Jones, but without that dichotomy, I think Bears fans and fantasy owners alike are in for a disappointment. The defense will carry them, but I don’t think it will carry them past emerging NFC teams like New Orleans and San Francisco in the playoffs. At least not without an offense.

RB Adrian Peterson will be a horse for the Vikings this year. He was this fantasy year’s true diamond in the rough, going as far as the last rounds in some drafts. In more knowledgeable leagues, some owners were taking him as high as the 2nd or 3rd round. I can’t criticize this “reach” pick generally, but there are some questions with Minnesota’s offensive line. This would lead me to question taking Peterson higher than the 5th round. The Vikings lost their defensive coordinator to the Steelers, and this may lead to some instability in defense. Overall, I think the Vikings may be the Titans of last year, starting off slow, but coming on late to salvage a respectable record.

Everybody is taking Detroit’s receivers high in most fantasy drafts. This can mostly be accredited to the addition of Mike Martz, the offensive guru responsible for the Kurt Warner years in St. Louis, as offensive coordinator. So, expect Detroit to air it out about as frequently as anyone. The defense is suspect though, and this could lead to some bonafide shootouts against Detroit. In other words, if your fantasy QB is playing Detroit, he must start. Don’t expect this team to rush more than 15-20 times a game.

Brett Favre is back, extending his AARP back by one more year. Apparently, ViagrA didn’t tell him that their product doesn’t help with winning football games when he agreed to be the sponsor. Even so, at least ViagrA is non-addictive, as far as we know, so it shouldn’t effect Favre’s already limited mobility. RB Brandon Jacobs is hurt, and there is not much of a threat anywhere else in that offense. WR Donald Driver has hurt his foot, which may lead to some problems getting off the line.

Prediction:
- Chicago 10-6
- Detroit 9-7
- Minnesota 8-8
- Green Bay 3-13

Prediction:
- Dallas 10-6
- Philadelphia 9-7
- Washington 7-9
- New York 7-9
**Legally Brunette & Brunetter**

**Advice for Law School & Life**

By JORDAN GWIAZDON and BRANDON SANCHEZ

**Dear Brunette and Brunetter,**

Ever since the start of school, all the upper-classmen have been talking about this Cardozo Cup. What is it and who in turnation is Cardozo?

- Rebecca Butros-Butros, 1L.

Thank you for your interests in Valpo’s rich history and heritage. Becky, Benjamin Cardozo is traditionally recognized for his accomplishments in the legal community as well as a lifelong devotion to celibacy. As storied as his legal career was, he is better known for his prolific stick on the softball diamond. Legal and athletic scholars wholeheartedly maintain that Cardozo was the greatest Jewish athlete of all time, even greater than Sandy Koufax himself. He finished his storied softball career with a 0.43 ERA, a .772 Batting Average and a Slugging Average of .858. It is widely reported that Cardozo attended Columbia Law School, but this is a LIE! He was actually a 1L at VUSL but ended up transferring to a school with a better softball team, and thus more national coverage; yet Benjamin Cardozo never forgot his roots. When he retired, Cardozo chose to commemorate his career by forging a trophy from the scraps of a Gary smelting plant on the shores of Lake Michigan. And thus, the Cardozo Cup was born! This trophy is awarded annually to the winning class of the VUSL softball tournament, which is known today as the Cardozo Cup. It should be noted that no 1L or 2L team has ever succumbed to the temt of victory and tasted the sweet nectar of a Cardozo Cup Championship. It is also rumored that the Cup grants the victors who drink from it special powers, such as higher grades and batting averages, increased speed, judicial clerkships, and everlasting life. It should also be noted that Chief Justice John Roberts, an Indiana native, is said to have drank from this Cup. Coincidence? Nay, we say. Therefore, we strongly encourage anyone who is interested in either softball glory or becoming a Supreme Court Justice to grab a stick and sign up for the annual softball tournament on Friday, September 28th!

**Dear Brunette and Brunetter,**

In one of the recruiting pamphlets for VUSL, there was a pasting reference to a bar named “Bin Willy’s”. I did some research myself, and chose this school over Harvard and Yale based entirely on my commitment to celebrate what has been known as Bin Willy’s Day. Upon arriving, this wonderful bar has changed its name to “Novo” and isn’t even open. What gives?

-Maz Mullapajalamisfelsteinerson, 1L.

Mr. Mullapajalamisfelsteinerson, it was indeed a dark day when Bin Willy’s ceased to be. My Brunetter colleague can attest to the glory that was the original Bin Willy’s and its historic reign that rivaled even the Roman Empire and such a very classy upscale feel and is in a great location for nightlife and cocktails! Great wine selection. $$$

Grand Lux Cafe- 600 N. Michigan at Ontario—Unique Variety. They boast having something for everyone, and they truly do! This unique dining experience will make you feel like you’re in a fantasy land right above the hustle and bustle of Michigan Ave. Sit in the atrium if you have the opportunity, and don’t miss their dessert! $$$

Bandera- 535 N. Michigan Ave—Chic American. This restaurant is perfect for people watching. It is a small locale with great food and amazing ambiance. A great place to get cozy and have cocktails. $$

Vivo- 838 Randolph St—Swanky Italian. Vivo is a great place nestled in what seems to be a well kept secret hot spot neighborhood. Vivo has amazing ambiance and the best gnocchi in Chicago. Prices are very reasonable and Vice next door is an amazing cocktail lounge. $.5

*If an early trip to Chicago is not in your plans, Valpo offers a few chic restaurants that you should try before the big night. A few that we suggest include:*

**Bistro 157-157 Lincolnway** - An eclectic mix offering a variety of dishes from Asian fusion to steak. Bistro 157 is a great place to relax in a trendy atmosphere. One great option would be to arrive a little early to your dinner reservations and try the wine bar. Prices are consistent with similar Chicago restaurants, but it’s a great alternative to having to drive the distance! $$$

**Don Quixote Restaurant-** 119 Lincolnway—Located conveniently near the law school, Don Quixote is a romantic restaurant offering a variety of Spanish cuisine. The lighting in the restaurant creates a romantic ambiance. Great place to go to try authentic Spanish food. Also, for those who enjoy a glass of wine, Don Quixote offers a collection of Spanish wines that are hard to come by in regular liquor stores. The prices are reasonable and the food is excellent. $5

**For those making a weekend out of the boat cruise event, we recommend booking a hotel at one of these nearby locations:**

**The Congress Hotel- McCormick Place—Although it’s not the chicest hotel around, the Congress provides an affordable and clean room for a reasonable rate! Remember, we’re law students with champagne taste and beer pockets. That doesn’t mean we have to sacrifice quality! The Congress Hotel is offering rooms on the night of the boat cruise for around $169 per night! Hurry and book one while this deal lasts!**

**Chicago’s Essex Inn- Michigan Ave—Offering rooms slightly more expensive than the Congress, the Chicago’s Essex Inn is nearby Grant Park. Wake up the morning and head over to the Michigan Ave shops to complete the weekend! Rooms starting at $189.**

**Hilton Chicago- Michigan Ave—For only $10 more, book a room at the Hilton Chicago and enjoy all the amenities that a Hilton typically offers! Rooms are starting at $199 the weekend of boat cruise.**

Remember...whatever is in your budget for Boat Cruise weekend, it’s always a blast! You can’t go wrong dancing all night on the Spirit of Chicago boat, looking your best, and enjoying the scenic tour of Chicago! Make some memories and expect a great time!

Andrea and E.B. are both 3L’s and can be reached at andreagreene@valpo.edu and ellennewberry@valpo.edu.

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**Etcetera**

**Law in the Fab Lane**

By Andrea Greene and E.B. Newberry

**Boat Cruise Edition**

It’s that time again! Time to take a classy cruise with your colleagues and their dates. Here’s the 411 of the PAD/SBA Boat Cruise! Impress your mate or hottie of a date!

**Proper Attire:** We know it’s hard. Attire. It’s a small word with so many possibilities! We’re going to make it easy for you. Women: cocktail dress. Men: pants, nice shirt, tie (optional). Historically, it’s freezing by the time the boat cruise rolls around. This year it’s earlier, but be prepared to stand on the pier! The bus is super fun. Pack drinks and party down.

If you decide to go up early, or are just interested in taking a date out in Chicago, here are some ideas that will impress:

**Chicago Restaurants:**

Gejas- 340 W. Armitage—Romantic Fondue. Food can’t get more romantic than at Gejas. It has a wine cellar feel and the fondue allows you plenty of time to talk in between bites. Great wine selection. $$

Morton’s- 65 E. Wacker Pl.—Classy Steak. Said to have the best steaks ever, Morton’s is a great way to go if you’re hungry! It has clubs as Studio 54. Back in the yesteryears of 1981 A.D., anxious patrons would line up outside this hallowed club on Bin Willy’s Eve (Thursday night), hopeful to gain admittance to the holiest of hole-in-the-wall bars. The revelry was non-stop, and provided welcome relief for VUSL students and Valpo townies alike, with only a small handful of smoke-machine related incidents that required the fire department. But alas, at the turn of the century, management decided to change the name several times, and this once great bastion of two-dollar “you-call-its” and hip-hop induced dry-humping began its descent into obscurity. The name was first changed to Buddy and Pal’s, then back to Bin Willy’s, and then, in the winter of 06-07, Bin Willy’s transformed into Novo. Completely remodeling the entire establishment, Novo sported a $500 monthly cigar and whisky club, VIP Lounge, and an assortment of scantly-clad bartenders and go-go dancers. Coupled with a grand-opening at the beginning of Spring Break, as well as extravagant cover charges, Novo’s lofty goals of becoming northwest Indiana’s premiere club hot-spot were dashed across the rocks of fate. And, so it is that the legacy of Bin Willy’s is no more; yet there are those who still hold true to the old ways, and every Thursday celebrate the weekly holiday that is Bin Willy’s Day. Although it may physically be gone, the spirit and ideals that were represented by this club still live on today, whenever you hear students heartily proclaiming “And a Merry Bin Willy’s Day to you, too, sir!”

**Questions? Comments?** You can contact Jordan and Brandon at:

jordan.gwiazdon@valpo.edu

adalfo.sanchez@valpo.edu

**Dish Restaurant- 3907 Calumet- Nestled in a small shopping center in the North side of town. Dish is a trendy restaurant offering a wide selection of cuisines. The menu changes frequently, so there is always a new dish to try! We recommend ordering a martini with your dinner...they make some of the best martinis in town! Prices are moderate. $5**
Upon being assigned a pack of 1Ls to mentor, we thought of about 472 things we wish we would have known when were first started Valpo Law. This is a smattering of that list, more specifically the study portion. Enjoy.

1. Treat law school like a job. You are being told this over and over because it is good advice.
2. Keep up with your reading. Once you get behind it is very difficult to catch up. Also, you will inevitably be called on when you are behind. We have a theory that law professors have a sixth sense that tells them when you haven’t read.
3. Don’t procrastinate on your legal research and writing assignments. You will be kicking yourself when that blizzard closes the library two days before the assignment is due... not that we would know anything about scrambling to get an assignment done....
4. Take the practice exam seriously, especially if you have Carter. This is a good way to figure out how well you understand the material and how well you can write a law school exam.
5. Don’t highlight the entire page in your casebook. This is ineffective. A fluorescent yellow page does not point out the important aspects of the case and all you have accomplished is blinding the rest of your row when you turn the page.
6. I know that it appears that we are telling you how to study, but it is important that you study the way that works best for you. You will hear somebody in the library talking about how he read an entire horn book the night before and can now recite all the rules of civil procedure from memory. Ignore him and don’t let him make you think you aren’t studying enough. Study the way that helps you best process the information.
Efficiency will always beat mass.
7. Write your own outlines. Outlines are often written in a code that only the author understands and the CIA wishes it could break, so the likelihood that you will understand another person’s outline is minimal. You are better served by writing your own outline, and if you must, finding a translatable one that you can modify with your own notes.
8. Do not buy every supplement in print. They can’t be reached at Glannon plus Civ Pro = AWESOME. Save your money and a tree and wait to buy the things you wish you would have known and would like to share we can be contacted at forum@valpo.edu.

Sari and Alecia are 2Ls. If there is something you wish you would have known and would like to share we can be contacted at forum@valpo.edu.

Buckley’s Brewhouse

BY CHRIS BUCKLEY
Guest Columnist

Despite what may be claimed by some American “beer” manufacturers, the Belgian Tripel is truly the king of beers. With an alcohol by volume (ABV) of 7.5 percent or greater, this variety shares among the most complexities of flavor that exist in the beer world at large, and next to barley wine is one of the strongest beers throughout the entire spectrum. Though it is extremely smooth and light-bodied, it is no “session beer.” In other words, make sure you have a sober driver standing by when you uncork this one...

This particular Belgian Tripel is the oldest on record. Trappist Monks have historically dominated the field. Mostly of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance, or O.C.S.O., Belgian monasteries have been producing beers such as this since early in the Eighteenth Century. As suggested, this one packs quite a punch at 9.5 percent ABV. The trick to such a punch is candy sugar, which is also commonly made within the monasteries. Candy sugar added early in the fermentation process spikess the alcohol content without affecting the body or mouthfeel of the beer itself. Tripel ales are usually served from a 750mL bottle, at temperatures between 45 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit, and they are usually sampled from snifter glasses.

I partook of this ale in the traditional fashion. At a cool 47 degrees, poured neatly into a snifter glass, I first noticed a thick head that lasted several minutes. Once it began to subside, it was clear that a thinner, lacier head would hang indefinitely against the side of the glass. The color of the body was a light orange citrus, though slightly hazy or cloudy. A very attractive champagne-like carbonation provided a very inviting overall appearance, very typical of the style. Its nose was that of strong white or yellow grapefruit, followed by a slightly sweeter floral fragrance, with no significant yeast signature. Also, upon a violent swirl and second trial, a bit of an herbal aroma began to arise, something of perhaps sage or a hint of thyme. The first sensation inside the palette is a very smooth, moderate mouthfeel.
Flavors began very sweet and balanced, fading quickly, and finishing extremely dry and clean with little or no aftertaste. The foreshadowing of herbal and citrus in the nose were very evident in the body of the beer itself, leaving a slight but not overwhelming bitterness. Sage was particularly pronounced at this point. This essence reminded me of the Greek wine Retina, in which tree bark is used in the fermentation process for a clean finish and to infuse an herbal character to the naturally sweet white grape variety. As I continued through the glass and the beer gradually warmed to 68 degrees, the sweetness became more evident and the bitterness receded dramatically.

Many connoisseurs label this tripel as among the finest beers of any class throughout the world, and I have remotely little to support a claim to the contrary. All I have to say is, 750mL went awfully quickly. Try this ale at your own risk. It is readily available in Valparaiso and is affordably priced. Pick up a bottle and share it among friends!

Op uw gezondheid! (“Here’s to Health!”)

-BUCKLEY

Chris is a 2L and can be reached at christopher.buckley@valpo.edu.
It's surprising how as a society, we label, stigmatize, and judge music based on things we remember from the past. A prime example occurred over the course of the last few months. Chicago's Q101 aired a song contingent on the fact that it would not reveal the artist responsible for it. Many listeners did their best to pin down the artist's identity, but each attempt resulted in a failed one. Even the disc jockeys tried to tease the listening audience by reading fictitious letters allegedly sent in by random bands willing to take credit for the song.

Last week, the artist was finally announced. Let's just say listeners were not prepared for what they heard. Once it was revealed the artist was Hanson, opinions regarding the song quickly changed. It was a great little experiment the radio station promoted. With the only thing were prepared for what they heard.

This album is my favorite find from over the course of the summer, wholly attributable to a pretty amazing friend of mine who suggested it to me. When I first listened to this album, I knew nothing of Ethiopian jazz, and technically I still know nothing about Ethiopian jazz. However, I do know that I am ecstatic to have been exposed to it. Predominately a compilation of the works of Mulatu Astatke, and entirely instrumental, this album is comprised of fourteen amazing tracks. Basic fundamental jazz techniques embodied through the use of trumpet, trombone, and saxophone, are intertwined with funk-i-fied electric guitar, electric keys, all with a touch of an Arabian vibe. The recording themselves are predominately lo-fi, bridging a gap between classy and exotic, giving the feeling of a live performance just as if you were in some outdoor jazz club on a hot summer night. There are twenty other albums in this collection and I predict they are just as much worth checking out.

If this album sparks your musical interest, please be enlightened to check out: All Farka Toure, Seu Jorge, Toumani Diabate

White Rabbits, “Fort Nightly” Released May 22, 2007; Say Hey Records

This band has a lot going on creatively. It's hard to determine who their musical influences are by simply listening to this album. There are so many things, technically, that the band uses on “Fort Nightly”. Sounds ranging from the 80’s and classic rock, to big-band horns, to a raw, unpolished modern sound are throughout this album. Each song, unique in its own way, consists of different rhythms and melodies created on a mix of instruments. For example, the drums in the introductory measures of “While We Go Dancing” are reminiscent of the “Footloose” theme song. A few measures later, the band introduces keys reminiscent of “turn-of-the-century” player piano. Before the combination of these sounds can catch you off-guard, the band chimes in with rocking vocals bringing it all together into a cohesive unit. This six-piece band really showcases a new trend for Indie bands to implement keys and other untapped instrumentation into most of their tracks. The band also uses dual vocalists creating natural vocal harmonies rather than over-dubbed ones. Although their techniques may seem somewhat simplistic, it is the way in which these techniques are layered within each song that makes this album so creative. It is as if each song is a smorgasbord of sound, and it is just as tasty. And catchy. And delightful. I still can't stop tapping my foot.

If the White Rabbits send you dancing, then you might consider: Spoon, Okkervil River, The Cribs

Silverchair, “Young Modern” Released July 24, 2007; Silverchair Recordings

This is what I have waiting for the last ten years without even knowing that the band would make an album of this sort. Forget what you remember from “Frogstomp”, this band has achieved an entirely different sound on this album and it is immensely engaging. If you can’t try and forget those “Frogstomp” days, you aren’t going to enjoy this album for everything it is worth. Don’t be fooled by the single “Straight Lines”; the rest of album is not quite as pop-friendly. Many of the songs have great orchestration, almost as if the album is destined to be a soundtrack for a movie not yet made. This album is light and flirty, and sometimes funky with amazing lyrics. Not only do the songs transition beautifully within themselves using great musical variety, but the album itself transitions just as well from song to song. Silverchair has succeeded in breaking free from its own stereotype and developing an entirely different sound. I can’t wait to see what they will come up with for their next album. Kudos.

I haven’t heard an album as diverse as this in a very long time, so just go buy this one.

Megan is a 3L and can be reached at megan.krol@valpo.edu.
**Student Profiles**  
*By Kristen Thompson, Editor-in-Chief*

### Anna Mandula  
**Hometown:** Crown Point, IN  
**Undergraduate School:** Loyola University, Chicago  
**Undergraduate Major:** Psychology

**Family:** Stefan (dad), Helen (mom), Natasha (26) & Steven (24) (siblings)

**What did you do this summer?** I worked (a lot).

**What are you looking forward to most this school year?** Graduation

**What type of law do you want to practice?** Undecided at this point but will most likely go into private practice.

**What advice do you have for the 1Ls?** You need a strong work ethic, especially in this profession.

**What would be your superhero name?** This answer was left blank, the Editors assume that Anna already has a super power and doesn't want her enemies to know.

**What do you think about parking stickers going up to $90 this year?** It wouldn't be that big of an issue if our parking lots at the law school seemed to benefit from the increase.

**What do you think about President Bush's surprise visit to Iraq and what do you think it accomplished?** I think it's rather admirable that he wanted to meet with al-Maliki face-to-face regarding the formation of the new Iraqi government.

**What do you think about Attorney General Alberto Gonzales resigning?** I heard about it but I really have no opinion about it.

**Do you think Iowa's decision to allow gay marriages will be upheld?** No.

### Alecia Pehr

**Hometown:** Wheaton, IL  
**Undergraduate School:** Bradley University, Peoria IL  
**Undergraduate Major:** Music Business

**Family:** Donna, my mom; Jeff, my step-dad; and Jeffrey, my step-brother.

**What did you do this summer?** I worked for Judge Gardner of the Cook County Circuit Court of Chicago and taught a summer chamber music camp for high schoolers.

**What are you looking forward to most this school year?** I'm looking forward to taking classes in areas of law which I actually enjoy.

**What type of law do you want to practice?** Intellectual Property, specifically Copyright Law.

**What advice do you have for the 1Ls?** Don't. Stress. [And read "I Wish I Would Have Known"]

**If you could have a super power, what would it be and why?** I'd be a mind-reader. You don't need to know why.

**What would be your superhero name?** Secret identities are for suckers.

**What do you think about parking stickers going up to $90 this year?** It's kind of ridiculous. And by kind of, I mean a lot.

**What do you think about President Bush's surprise visit to Iraq and what do you think it accomplished?** Isn't the Iraqi Parliament on vacation? Who exactly was he expecting to talk to? The security guard?

**What do you think about Attorney General Alberto Gonzales resigning?** It's about time. Seriously.

**Do you think Iowa's decision to allow gay marriages will be upheld?** Sadly no.

### Brittany Claytor

**Hometown:** Naperville, IL  
**Undergraduate School:** Valparaiso University  
**Undergraduate Major:** International Service

**Family:** Mother, father, younger brother and sister and 3 dogs.

**What did you do this summer?** I did an internship at an organization in the Chicago Suburbs that helps resettle refugees in America. I met refugees from Iran, Russia, Burma, Sudan, Burundi, and Ethiopia to name just a few places. I took the refugees to apply for Social Security Cards, Public Aid, the grocery store, etc. I also did a lot of research on the various ethnic groups that are or will be coming over in large groups.

**What are you looking forward to most this school year?** I'm looking forward to successfully completing the school year while maintaining my sanity. And the Halloween Party.

**What type of law do you want to practice?** International Human Rights law.

**What advice do you have for the 1Ls?** Take breaks. If you don't have some fun every now and then, burn out will quickly ensue.

**If you could have a super power, what would it be and why?** That's a tough one. I guess I'd like to be able to fly so that I wouldn't have to mess with airport security anymore.

**What would be your superhero name?** Mistress Punch. I had help from some friends with that one. Thanks guys, you know who you are.

**What do you think about parking stickers going up to $90 this year?** I think it's a complete rip off. They were only $70 last year. So what's with the $20 dollar hike?

**What do you think about President Bush's surprise visit to Iraq and what do you think it accomplished?** Total publicity stunt. Did he even leave the green zone?

**What do you think about Attorney General Alberto Gonzales resigning?** It's about time.

**Do you think Iowa's decision to allow gay marriages will be upheld?** Regretfully, I don't think it will. I think Iowa is too much of a red state. Sorry Iowa.
From the Editors to our Loyal Readers

Dear Alumnus,

The Forum is a publication of the Valparaiso University School of Law. The newspaper you hold in your hand was written and produced by VUSL students. The purpose of The Forum is to provide a place for thoughts and ideas, and also a source of information on happenings at the Law School and beyond.

The Forum is an independent publication of the Law School. This independent status affords us the freedom to publish articles we may otherwise be unable to. However, this independent status also requires us to obtain most of our funding from outside the Law School. We rely on advertising and the occasional donation to publish the newspaper each month.

The newspaper is read by students, faculty and alumni. It is published for the students, and sent to alumni as a service. Although The Forum is targeted at students, we enjoy getting feedback from any and all of our readers- you were law students once too, and you may know better than us what we should be reading.

If you have any suggestions or comments for improving The Forum, we would like to hear them, both the good and the bad. If you enjoy reading The Forum, we would like to know why. We want to open the lines of communication between The Forum and alumni. We take pride in the work we do here and enjoy the opportunity to send The Forum to you.

During the coming school year The Forum will be sent to as many alumni as possible, as often as possible. Unfortunately, The Forum cannot be sent to everyone every month. This means that not everyone who is reading this month’s edition will receive next month’s. Yet, we want all alumni of the Law School to have the opportunity to read and enjoy The Forum. Nevertheless, it takes approximately $5 a year to send The Forum to an alumnus. The Forum has no intention of instituting a subscription fee. Instead, we are asking you to consider becoming a patron of The Forum.

Last year, 25 alumni became patrons of The Forum. Their support helped us send copies of the Forum to all of VUSL’s alumni for several months. This year, our goal is to increase that number. As with last year, we will be recognizing this year’s patrons in every issue, with special recognition in the December issue.

As long as you continue reading and enjoying The Forum, we will do everything in our power to continue sending it.

Sincerely,

The Forum Editorial Board
Kristen Thompson, Editor in Chief
Alecia Pehr, Managing Editor
Eric Gettemy, Executive Editor

I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A PATRON:

[ ] $5 (Bronze Level) [ ] $15 (Silver Level) [ ] $30 (Gold Level)
[ ] $50 (Platinum Level) [ ] $100 (Diamond Level) [ ] Other

[ ] Please keep my name on the mailing list. [ ] Please remove my name from the list.

Name: __________________________ Address: __________________________

Please make checks payable to The Forum. Return this form to: The Forum, VUSL, 656 S. Greenwich Street, Valparaiso, IN 46383, or e-mail us at: forum@valpo.edu.
Crossword 101

Baseball Quip

Across
1 Unexciting
5 Off-color
9 Supplement: 2 wds
14 Gulf war ally
15 Rich Little, e.g.
16 Kennel club classification
17 Found in trees
19 Muslim religious sect
20 Lady’s man
21 Fork part
22 Beginning of quip
23 Quip continued
25 Artist Max
26 Having a pleasant odor
28 Big coffee holder
31 Old-fashioned
34 Over
35 ___ v. Wade
36 “The Sound of Music” backdrop
37 Quip continued
39 Sacks
40 LX - LIII
41 Boutique
42 West Pointer
43 And so forth
44 Conclusion of quip
47 Clear, as a disk
49 Skunk
53 Loud
55 The “C” in U.P.C.
56 Absorbed, as a loss
57 Soaked
58 Originator of Quip
60 Philosopher John
61 Atlas stat
62 Hideaway
63 Durable resin
64 Cheat, in a way
65 R.R. stops
3 Economics lead in
4 Needle point?
5 Hispanic
6 Down of Down’s syndrome, e.g.
7 “The Way We ___”
8 E.R. workers
9 Failure to be present
10 “ ___ Along The Mohawk”
11 ___ alcohol
12 Be inclined
13 “Garfield” dog
18 Gawk
22 Squeeze
24 Catholic celebration
25 Collar type
27 Take as one’s own
29 Teased mercilessly
30 Birth place
31 Finish a drive?
32 Came down
33 Ginger’s place
37 Sibilant sound
38 Wine choice
39 Corner of a diamond
41 Under the table
42 V.I.P.
45 Highest point
46 Alaskan brown bear
48 Hazardous
50 Diamond unit
51 Skylit lobbies
52 Eye drops
53 Apple variety
54 M.P.’s quarry
55 Reactor part
58 Canine cry
59 Golfer Ernie

Down
1 Breakfast bread
2 Prenatal test, for short

Quotable Quote

If it weren’t for baseball, many kids wouldn’t know what a millionaire looked like.

Phyllis Diller

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CLOSING ARGUMENTS

Hanging out at the MLSA, HLSA, BLSA picnic.

What’s Happening?

The Valpo Law Democrats & Valpo Law Republicans encourage you to come out to our welcome picnic on Friday, September 14th, 4pm until dark at Kirchoff Park. Spouses and families are welcome.

We will compete against each other in light sporting events and political heckling. (bring your softball equipment) Whether you’re for one side or the other, or you choose not to stick to one side of the aisle, come out and celebrate with us to open the 2007-2008 “congressional session”!

PLEASE RSVP!

Jennifer Sheetz
President, Valpo Law Democrats
jsheetz@valpo.edu

Chris Buckley
President, Valpo Law Republicans
chris.buckley@valpo.edu

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY’S DAY OF CARING!

Saturday, September 15th
Breakfast provided in the Union Great Hall at 8:00am

We need you to help in the Valparaiso Community! Can you lend a hand in washing windows, doing yard work, building a fence or painting? We will be assisting these local organizations for a few hours on Saturday.

Family House – Windows & Fall Cleaning
Hilltop Center – Building a Fence
St. Agnes Center - Painting
The Caring Place – Yard Work

Email vu.dayofcaring@valpo.edu to reserve your spot. Then join us for breakfast on Saturday at 8am before heading out to your organization.

Thank you for your help!
Black Law Student Association
Christian Legal Society
Hispanic Law Student Association
Phi Alpha Delta
Sports & Entertainment Law Association
Student Bar Association
Valpo Law Democrats
Valpo Law Republicans

BBQ for the UDems.

The PAD picnic.