VALPO LAW’S 6TH ANNUAL NEW ORLEANS TRIP

BY: John Bayard – Staff Writer & Heather Loopy – Editor-in-Chief/Contributor

Over Spring Break 2010, several students traveled from the snow-covered fields of Indiana, down to the bayous of Louisiana to work at the Orleans Public Defenders’ (OPD) office. They were accompanied by Professor Brown, Professor White, and Professor Carter, who has organized the trip every year.

The annual trip to New Orleans provides many students an opportunity to complete their pro-bono requirements, which will be increasing to 40 hours for students graduating from 2012 onwards. Attendees spent a week handling bail hearings at a detention center, conducting legal research, observing depositions, and attending courtroom hearings.

At the Orleans Legal Aid Office. Also, two 3L students, Brenna Bucher and Heather Loopy, worked with Professor Brown at the Juvenile Regional Services, a juvenile public defender’s office.

Students worked hard and took their assignments seriously, often staying at their work sites until after the full-time employees had gone home for the night; but the trip to New Orleans was not all work. Students had various opportunities to explore and enjoy the abundant scenery and culture of “The Big Easy.” Some visited the famous cemeteries of New Orleans, where they found Professor Carter waking up from a quick nap. Other students checked out the nightlife in New Orleans, which included going to a Hornets’ basketball game, scoping out the jazz clubs, and attending a play based on various peoples’ experiences of Hurricane Katrina. One night, the OPD attorneys hosted a meet and greet mixer at Sal’s, a local bar down the street from the OPD’s building. Students and professors also got a chance to talk to many locals at Sal’s. The locals were very hospitable and gave everyone a better perspective on what it is like to live in post-Katrina New Orleans. Most locals were still in an excited mood given the Saints recent victory in the Super Bowl.

The OPD’s office has been hiring many new attorneys over the last few years, post-Katrina, and in that time has been understaffed. Normally, a city the size of New Orleans would require 80 full time Public Defenders. Right now, the current number of attorneys working at the OPD is less than half of that number. Many law students from schools around the United States come to volunteer their time at the office, in order to fill in for the lack of attorneys. Countless students who have volunteered at the OPD’s office end up falling in the with love to the charming southern city and eventually go back to work there after graduation.

John is a 2L and Heather is a 3L. They can both be reached at forum@valpo.edu.

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the floor plans for our new Lawyering Skills Center have been displayed in the atrium for months. Still, a variety of interesting questions have been raised about the project, questions that go beyond the scope of the architectural drawings and floor plans. This column, offered in FAQ style, is an attempt to provide a fuller understanding.

What Is The Purpose And Scope Of This Project?

The designation “Lawyering Skills Center” is calculated. From the outset, this facility has been designed and planned to provide physical spaces tailored specifically to teaching and learning the myriad of skills every practicing lawyer must possess.

We have always enjoyed a richness of skills offerings in our curriculum (clinic, client counseling, negotiation, dispute resolution, pre-trial, trial practice, appellate advocacy, moot court and mock trial). What has never before been provided for this segment of our academic operation is teaching, learning, and practicing law.

Wesemann Hall has always had a moot court classroom, but that is as close as our current facility comes to having skills-specific space, and even that was intended to also serve as a teaching/lawyering space designed for the training of such talents.

Wesemann Hall will not be a place to hold lectures or special events. Instead, it will be a space dedicated to teaching, learning, and practicing the full range of courtroom proceedings. It will be an intimate space, formal and ceremonial in nature.

Is Every Element Of Our Skills Program Moving To The New Building?

As great as the facility will be, it cannot incorporate everything we might wish. As with any building project, financial and logistical constraints could not be completely eliminated. For example, while the new building will support the training and practice of our co-curricular student advocacy operation ( moot court and mock trial), the student advocacy offices will remain in Wesemann Hall.

The Stride Courtroom will remain a room that can be used as a courtroom in Wesemann Hall, one that allows for spectator seating.

Why Does The Building Look Like It Does, And Why Is It So Close To Wesemann Hall?

The entire university used to be located in the immediate surrounding area of Wesemann and Heritage halls. The original Heritage Hall, built in 1875, was the last remaining remnant of the building of the original university. One of our goals (and a goal of our primary donor) was to make sure that the new facility continues to be linked to the old campus.

At first we hoped to renovate the original Heritage Hall. Then we learned that the exterior bricks had lost their structural integrity. That made it impossible to maintain the exterior façade and made literal renovation impossible. We were left with no choice but to disassemble the original Heritage Hall and reconstruct the exact same building, as part of the new facility, using 2010 standards and materials. The portion of the Lawyering Skills Center that rebuilds Heritage Hall is on the exact site of the original and built to like dimensions.

Are We Following “Green” Building Practices?

The building is being built to be as sustainable as possible. Costs associated with obtaining LEED certification proved prohibitive, but every element of the project is being done to meet the best practices of sustainability and environmentalism.

What Is That Rock In Front Of The Building?

Yes. But this time there will be more grass and less concrete. A totally new courtyard between Wesemann Hall and the Lawyering Skills Center is a part of this project.

Everything is progressing as scheduled. So far, the building has provided plenty of visual evidence of rapid progress — the hole was excavated, the steel erected, the exterior studding locked to the steel skeleton, the interior spaces framed out and the first exterior “skin” (the yellow stuff) affixed. In the next several weeks the exterior brickwork will begin, and Heritage Hall as we knew it will reappear. Once the exterior is complete, the project will seem to slow; the internal finish and detail work is visually less obvious day from day.

But it is the interior work that will bring soul to our new Lawyering Skills Center. This is not just a building, it is a grand project for the lawyers who teach here, the law students who learn here and the clients whose lives are better for their service and representation.

Dean Cichowski can be reached at Curt.Cichowski@valpo.edu.
With the end of spring semester getting closer every week, it's likely you are firming up your plans for summer activities—study, work, vacation, or all three—which may involve another destination. According to Augustine, "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." As a librarian, I definitely recommend reading more than one page of any book, and I love to travel one page. As a librarian, I definitely little traveling this summer.

Cambridge ... Munich or Merrillville, itineraries, whether to Chicago or with a bit of specialized legal protection for travelers, liability for students in study abroad programs, or minimize lawsuits. It discusses issues that arise in hotels, restaurants, or airports, is directed primarily at hospitality, tourism, or travel, but it addresses legal issues in the hospitality field and practicing professionals involved in hospitality, tourism, or travel, but it provides a good overview for the legal researcher as well. It addresses legal issues that arise in hotels, restaurants, and air travel and what actions and precautions can be taken ahead of time by management in order to avoid or minimize lawsuits. It discusses legal issues on a fairly basic level, following the case method approach. It includes a glossary of common legal and hospitality terms.

**PRINT SOURCES IN THE VU LAW LIBRARY:**

- **Thomas A. Dickerson, Travel Law:**
  KF 2042.T75 D53 1981
  This hefty one-volume looseleaf treatise has been the standard resource on the topic for many years. The author is a state court judge in Westminster County, New York. Updated biannually, this book covers everything you could possibly want to know about travel law (and some things that you hope you won’t encounter...bedbugs, damaged or stolen luggage, overbooking, food poisoning, and so forth).

- **Norman G. Cournoyer, Anthony G. Marshall, and Karen L. Morris,**
  This recent edition of another textbook, written by several attorneys, is directed primarily at students in the hospitality field and practicing professionals involved in hospitality, tourism, or travel, but it provides a good overview for the legal researcher as well. It addresses legal issues that arise in hotels, restaurants, and air travel and what actions and precautions can be taken ahead of time by management in order to avoid or minimize lawsuits. It discusses legal issues on a fairly basic level, following the case method approach. It includes a glossary of common legal and hospitality terms.

- **Stephen Barth & David K. Hayes,**
  This recent edition of another textbook is also directed primarily at students in the hotel and restaurant management field. It includes case studies on such topics as food service, employee contracts, insurance, and international terrorism. The “international snapshots” which are presented with various topics serve to outline differences between U.S. laws and regulations on “hospitality” issues and those of other countries.

- **International Travel Law Journal (published 1994-98 as Travel Law Journal).**
  Available via HeinOnline. This journal ceased publication in 2008 but the 60+ issues produced over 15 years are all available, with still-timely articles on such topics as regulation of tour guides, air passenger rage, students in study abroad programs, and the standard of care for tourists.

**ON THE WEB:**

- **Information about the law of travel, tourism, and the hospitality industry in general is readily available on the web. Here are a few useful sites:**
  - The U.S. Department of State provides a variety of resources for travelers:
    - http://www.state.gov/travel/, which links to a Students Abroad website:
      - http://studentsabroad.state.gov/html-site/StudentAbroadHome.html
      - http://travel.state.gov/
    - The U.S. Transportation Security Administration webpage offers practical tips for travelers:
      - http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/index.shtm
    - Cornell’s Legal Information Institute website contains a short guide to hotel and restaurant law which provides an overview of the topic and a list of resources:
      - http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/hotels_and_restaurants
    - The International Bar Association’s Leisure Industries Section is comprised of over 250 international lawyers practicing in the fields of travel, tourism, hospitality, sports and gaming law. The Section’s webpage provides some interesting links:
      - http://www.ibanet.org/LPD/Leisure_Industries_Section/Leisure_Industries/Default.aspx

Also of interest are various resources on the website of The International Forum of Travel and Tourism Advocates (IFTTA):
- http://www.iftta.org/
- Travel Law Blog:
  - http://www.travellawblog.com/
  - This resource for hospitality, travel and tourism law includes information on such topics as operation of hotels and legal issues for innkeepers.

**NEW LIBRARIAN JOINS THE LAW LIBRARY FACULTY**

- **Sarah Glassmeyer** joined the Law Library faculty on Thursday, April 1. Her title is Faculty Services and Outreach Librarian. While helping the faculty with their research is the primary goal of her position, Professor Glassmeyer will also be teaching in the legal research program. Her office is in Room 262.

- Professor Glassmeyer is coming to us from the Alvin E. Evans Law Library at the University of Kentucky School of Law where she has been a reference librarian since 2006. Previous to that position she was a reference librarian at the University of Dayton. Her particular areas of interest include Web 2.0 and the use of social media in law libraries. She has given numerous presentations on social media to library and legal organizations. You can find Professor Glassmeyer on the web at http://sarahglassmeyer.com/.

- A native of Ohio, Professor Glassmeyer earned her B.A. in Anthropology and her M.L. S. from Indiana University-Bloomington, and her J.D. from the University of Cincinnati.

Dean Persyn can be reached at Mary.Persyn@valpo.edu.
THE DOCKET

RAW EGG BECOMES WEAPON AGAINST JUDGE

By: Christy Commers • Columnist

For this issue, I discuss the length a disgruntled member of society will go if he becomes fed-up with the judicial system. On March 24, 2010 a Naperville, Illinois man, Agim Demiri, 40, was in DuPage County’s Child Support Division Court, presided over by Judge Timothy McJoynot, because he owes back child support for his two children living with their mother in California.

According to WGN News, Demiri has been a frequent client in McJoynot’s court for his failure to pay the child support. He had owed as much as $17,500 and spent several days in jail in January for his failure to pay.

During his latest court proceeding, Demiri threw a raw egg at the Judge. The egg did not hit the judge, but instead, an Illinois state plaque that is on the wall in every DuPage County court and was placed behind the Judge. The Judge held Demiri in contempt of court and placed him in jail for five days. He was charged with one count of direct criminal contempt. According to WGN, it is unclear what led to the egg being thrown.

And now for the opinion of the Commers Court… I have to first say that this is NOT an April Fool’s joke…this actually occurred. I have so many comments about this incident, I don’t know where to begin. First, I believe it will be very difficult to argue that this was not a premeditated assault. A raw egg is not something that a person would typically carry on him or herself. If you carried a raw egg around all the time, you may need more help than being in court. Furthermore, there is really no argument that the raw egg was Mr. Demiri’s lunch because most reasonable people do not eat raw eggs. Also, there is history between the Judge and Mr. Demiri. He has had numerous problems with staying on top of his child support payments and has been punished by Judge McJoynot for this. I suspect that Mr. Demiri holds some animosity towards the Judge because he was jailed for non-compliance of his child support and the belief that the Judge is out to get him. Second, how do you even bring in an egg into a courthouse without breaking it? Women commonly carry purses and lawyers of both genders do carry briefcases, so perhaps it’s possible for Mr. Demiri to bringing the raw egg into the courtroom. However, raw eggs are easily breakable despite what container they are in, so no matter how the egg is transported to the courthouse, it may still break and cause a mess. All in all, this case is a funny example of why lawyers will always find work.

Christy is a 3L and can be reached at forum@valpo.edu.

VOTE FOR SCOTT FAHRNEY!!!

Valpo Law Grad Announced as Finalist in the U.S. Open Golf Challenge

By: Andrea L. Greene • Guest Contributor

I am writing to let you know about my husband, Scott Fahrney, who was recently announced as a finalist in the US Open Golf Challenge. As some of you may remember, Scott and I graduated from Valpo in 2008. Shortly after graduation, we got married and are now living in New Jersey. My husband is currently participating in a contest is sponsored by Golf Digest Magazine and NBC. Scott entered the contest by writing a 60 word essay about why he should be chosen to play a round of golf at Pebble Beach with three celebrity players under US Open conditions.

He has been selected as a top 5 finalist out of approximately 40,000 applicants. If he is selected as the winner, he will be playing in this tournament with Wayne Gretzky, Mark Wahlberg, and Drew Brees. Voting for the top five contestants begins on March 31, 2010. We are trying to get the word out to as many people as possible. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and a dream come true for Scott. As we are both Valpo Alumni, we thought it would be interesting to update the school on what we have been doing post graduation.

An article will be run about this contest next week in the New York Times. We anticipate there being additional media appearances for Scott in the coming weeks. Below is the link to the article which was released on golfdigest.com today.

http://www.golfdigest.com/magazine/usopencontest/2010/05/gd_usopen_challenge_finalists

Please vote for Scott Fahrney TODAY!!!

Andrea is a graduate of VU Law and can be reached at andreadynegreene@gmail.com.

HAITI IS NOT FORGOTTEN

The Haitian Crisis: Legal Perspectives Seminar

By: Jolene Cieniawski • Executive Editor

More than two months has passed since a devastating earthquake struck Haiti on January 12, 2010. Relief efforts are still underway, but as time passes, legal and social issues are arising. The Haitian Crisis: Legal Perspectives seminar was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at the Law School to familiarize students and other community members with these issues and allow for an open forum to discuss future goals and solutions.

Distinguished guests Lionel Jean-Baptiste, Marie Lynn Toussaint, and Jacques Leblanc are prominent Haitian-American community leaders and they provided the seminar’s platform: the history of Haiti and the consequences for Haitian society of the recent earthquake. Discussion was prefaced by a short film showing pictures and video of the hurricane’s aftermath in Haiti. The Tabor classroom was full as those in attendance were shocked into silence while witnessing the travesties experienced by the earthquake victims.

Mr. Lionel Jean-Baptiste, a lawyer and alderman from Evanston, Illinois, followed the film and provided a real historical journey into Haiti’s past, providing a perspective as to how the entire country has come to being and how it has now changed since the earthquake. Jean-Baptiste also brought awareness to the long-term goals for Haiti, both internal efforts for Haiti as a nation and ideal efforts of other nations, especially the United States. Ms. Marie Lynn Toussaint, another attorney of Haitian origin, spoke on a variety of political and social issues now arising in Haiti. Of high importance is the damage to the social infrastructure of the nation, as many citizens are left to police themselves due to a disbanded police force, lack of prison facilities, and rise in victimizing crimes against women. Mr. Jacques Leblanc, treasurer of the Haitian-American Community Association, was last to speak and he addressed the issues confronting Haitians in the United States and in their homeland. All three speakers emphasized the importance of continued involvement in Haitian relief efforts, not only on a humanitarian level, but on a social and political level as well. Long-term solutions are needed and solid contribution efforts can make seemingly unreachable goals possible.

The lecturers and audience had an opportunity to come together to share perspectives and further discuss Haiti’s legal and social issues at the reception that immediately followed.

Jolene is a 2L and can be reached at Jolene.Cieniawski@valpo.edu.
Dear Soon to be VU Law Graduates,

Here are a few important reminders about your upcoming graduation:

**BACCALAUREATE:** A University Baccalaureate will be held at the Chapel of the Resurrection on Sunday, May 16 at 10:00 a.m. Law students are welcome to attend but because our graduation is a week later it is not likely that you will have a cap and gown to march in the procession. The School of Law does not have a separate Baccalaureate service.

**EVENTS:** There will be a champagne reception at Strongbow Inn, 2405 US Highway 30, Valparaiso, on Friday, May 21 from 5-7 p.m. All graduates and family are invited. Watch for further details from Associate Director of Facilities and Events Lisa Todd.

**RECEPTION:** There will be a reception immediately following the Commencement ceremony in Ballroom B & C in the Harre Union, 1509 Chapel Drive (across the street from the Chapel of the Resurrection). Caps, gowns & hoods: The 3L Steering Committee is paying for the rental of these items. Measurements have been taken and the order has been placed. If you have not given your measurements to Arriel Stevens of the 3L Steering Committee, please do so immediately. Once the order has been received, information will be posted as to the time and place of distribution. Caps, gowns and hoods must be returned to Ballroom A in Harre Union immediately following the Commencement ceremony. Please plan your photos accordingly. If you have questions regarding the rental of caps/gowns/hoods contact Arriel Stevens before May 2, 2010, at arriel.stevens@valpo.edu.

**COMMENCEMENT:** 10:00 a.m. at the VU Chapel, Saturday, May 22. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and lineup is at 9:30 a.m. Attendance is mandatory and it is assumed that you will attend the ceremony. If you are not attending the ceremony, please notify the Registrar’s office and request permission to be absent from Dean Adams by securing an absentee form from Director of Student Relations, Joseph Baruffi, room 267. The alphabetical lineup list for the procession will be provided later. No tickets are required for the ceremony. Seats are available on a first-come basis (the Chapel seats 1300 people). If a guest is confined to a wheelchair, contact Kathy Stalbaum in the Office of Integrated Marketing and Communications, 219.464.6800, or IMC@valpo.edu, to reserve seating in the Chapel on a side aisle.

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER:** John R. Hoeher, 1974 alumnus of Valpo Law and Vice President and Director of Global Litigation, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. of Pasadena, California, has accepted the 3L Steering Committee’s invitation to be the Commencement speaker.

**DIPLOMAS:** Plain parchment paper with a congratulatory message inside is scrolled and distributed at the Commencement ceremony. You will pick up your “real diploma” from us in Ballroom A in Harre Union following the ceremony after you have returned your cap, gown and hood (you keep the tassel). August graduates do not receive a diploma until mid-August. If you receive honors such as magna cum laude – your diploma will be professionally re-printed and available to you by the end of summer. Please make sure you have left a forwarding address with Registrar Debbie Gleason if you want the reprinted diploma mailed to you.

**TRANSCRIPTS FOR BAR APPLICATION:** You must request a final official transcript to be sent to the Board of Bar Admissions. This request requires your signature and we cannot make this request for you. All official transcripts requests must be made to the University Registrar’s office in Kretzmann Hall, 1700 Chapel Drive. You will find their transcript request form online at http://www.valpo.edu/registrar/assets/pdfs/transreq.pdf.

**WARNING:** Please check for “restrictions” (holds) on DataVU. Your transcript and diploma will be retained by our office if you owe money to the Finance Office, Campus Police, Christopher Center or Law Library, or the Law School Emergency Loan Fund. All fees and tuition must be paid to the University and School of Law as of 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 21 (offices are closed on Saturday).

**NOTE:** There will be no commencement mailings to parents or spouses, so please share this Commencement information with family and friends. There is no rehearsal for the commencement ceremony. Contact us if you have questions.

For further information please contact Registrar Debbie Gleason at Debbie.Gleason@valpo.edu or Assistant Registrar Linda Canada at Linda.Canada@valpo.edu.
EDITORIAL
TOP 10 DEFINING MOMENTS OF A VUSL GRADUATE'S STUDENT CAREER

By: Heather Looby • Editor-in-Chief

Graduation time is fast approaching. In just about a month and a half—May 22, 2010—the Class of 2010 will become Valparaiso University School of Law’s newest alumni. Unlike the end of college, which for many of us meant starting law school in the fall, most of us have no idea what the future holds. Not only are we entering one of the worst legal markets in history, but the majority of us also have student loans, the monthly payments of which will probably match or exceed our monthly rent/mortgage payments. Personally, I cannot think of any other point in my life when I have been more excited, yet also more scared about what is to come. While I suspect that working into the early morning hours seems a little easier when you are being compensated for your legal expertise, leaving the “law student lifestyle” will be bittersweet, especially since countless former colleagues have forewarned me that studying for the upcoming bar examination (and then waiting to get the results) will make me “wish I was back in school.”

With all of that being said, I’m going to take this opportunity to reminisce a little about my time here at Valpo Law. I now offer all of you what have been ten of the most memorable moments of my law school career, ones which I suspect many Forum readers can also relate to. In no particular order (although most of these events occur pretty sequentially):

(1) Getting into law school (at Valpo, of course). I’m counting this one because writing your personal statement, rounding up letters of recommendation, and preparing for/taking the LSAT is hard work!!! It’s nice to finally get an acceptance letter (or fifteen, as some students in this school have boasted about), saying that you have been admitted somewhere. Sadly, this is the easiest part of your law school career.

(2) The first time that you are “cold-called” on in class. Enter the infamous Socratic method of teaching. You’re in the professor’s hot seat and every eye in the classroom is on you. The pressure to say something brilliant is on! Some of us sink, some of us swim, and some of us are too tired/defeated to care. Regardless of your class rank, we’ve all been there and can relate to this terrifying feeling.

(3) Receiving your first semester grades. Good or bad, now you have the proof that you can survive this thing called law school!

(4) Turning in your 1L Appellate Brief. This is a monumental moment in the life of just about every law student across the USA. There is a short-lived high that comes from completing this law school “rite of initiation.” Then, if you are a Valpo student, you realize that you have a legal research assignment due the next day. Plus, you still have your oral argument to get through! Buzzkill!

(5) Receiving your first call for an interview. Externship or pro bono, private or public sector, paid or unpaid, the first time that someone is willing to take a chance on your legal knowledge and skill set is rewarding and provides that much needed boost of confidence after surviving the 1L year.

(6) The first day of 2L. You’ve survived the worst of it. Didn’t read for class because of all of your extra-curriculars (which you had to start preparing for before the summer was even over)? You’re not worried about getting called on because you (and the rest of the class) has that killer outline that says word-for-word what the professor is saying. Plus, you should have a better idea of how to study for exams, i.e., what works for you and what doesn’t.

(7) Having someone come to you with a legal question and being able to be confident in the answer that you give them! DISCLAIMER: This only applies after advising this random person that you are not a licensed attorney and are not able to provide them with actual legal advice. I’m not sure if everyone’s experience has been the same, but almost daily or at least weekly throughout the past three years, everyone who I have encountered outside of Wesemann Hall expects me to be an expert in every area of the law. Once people hear that I am a law student, they just assume that I have the answers to all of their legal questions. Sometimes I’m not even sure about the things that I tell my clinic clients, but don’t tell Dave Welter. Just kidding. I guess that this one could also even apply to the first time that you give an answer in class that you are halfway confident in. Anyways, the point is that this moment is great because it makes you feel like some of the thousands of pages of reading that you have done might be starting to sink in. This in turn makes you feel a little better about all of the cash that you are currently spending (or will be paying back) for your fine legal education here at Valpo Law.

(8) Turning in your 3L Seminar paper or completing your law review note. This one is still in progress for me. It is time-consuming and stressful, but it is also a requirement to graduate from Valpo Law, so it seems like something to be proud of. Major props to the people who have and will accomplish both of these things!

(9) 100 Day Party! You realize that you are graduating from law school in a little over 3 months! You can see the light at the end of the tunnel. It’s a cakewalk from here on out. Besides, we all know that no professor is heartless enough to fail a 3L, although I don’t want to be the person to test this theory out. :)

(10) GRADUATION (and all of the events surrounding it)! Still waiting for this one too. However, I’m pretty sure that this will be one of the best moments of my entire life.

Heather is a 3L and can be reached at forum@valpo.edu.

SUDOKU!

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ANSWERS FOR FEBRUARY
S
pring break has come and gone. We all have our appellate briefs done. Some of us are even lucky enough to have our oral arguments done. So what is next for our weary warriors as we make our way through the treacherous path that is the 1L year? Truth be told I don’t really know. Mostly just finals and finding work and things to do in the summer. That’s pretty boring though. What else is there to say?

Somehow, so quickly, no matter how enthusiastic we were getting into, it seems that we’ve been broken down. “Ah screw it,” has become the mantra of the 1L class. What we need to do is find a way to rejuvenate the entire 1L class. And I have come up with a simple and elegant solution: Bribe.

That’s right, bribe us. It doesn’t necessarily have to be money. Stuff would work, or even Lexis points. Pretty much everyone would read all the time if we got a 100 Lexis points for being prepared.

APRIL

points of view from two females in a glass house.

who have had their fair share of your girl has gotten two people, true problems, emotions, it difficult for you to type emails relationships! There are no balls and shorter because key!

guys get a little advice that could help maintaining herself,

over the years it is that there are your pants all of any questions that anyone would like desires and decisions.

tell her that I’d like her to slim pounds, which is quite obvious on to submit!

a year and since our first date, she

STYLE: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

ties you may need at the same time. That way you don’t have to worry about thinking about what you have at home to match with the suit. The more important thing for men’s suit is fit. There’s nothing like a great fitting suit. Things to look for are the fit of the shoulders, midsection, sleeve length and hem. Gentlemen, the shoulder of the jacket should lie at a 90 degree angle. The midsection should be comfortable; QQ magazine recommends that you should be able to fit a fist between your shirt and suit. When you are standing up straight with your hands at your sides and your hands cupped, your fingertips should be touching the sleeves. You should also be able to cup the bottom of your suit with your palms.

And gentleman, tailor tailor tailor! No two people's bodies are alike but most suits are manufactured by the thousands. In order to get that custom made feel it is important to get your suits tailored. It costs around $25-30 to get most things tailored on a suit. For more comprehensive tailoring and that true custom made look, it will cost around $50-60. Ladies, fit is also important and a tailor and seamstress are more than willing to help you get that well-fitted polished look. For both men and women, it is a small price to pay in order to achieve a well put together look. Style isn’t necessarily about the runways, but is more about being comfortable, looking sharp and feeling good. Having these things in law school and beyond can help boost your confidence and put a bounce in your step so you can shine on this spring.

Nico is a 1L and can be reached at Nicoled@valpo.edu.
THE ENTERTAINMENT BLENDER

SPOTTING SOME UNDER THE RADAR SPRING SHOWS

W

WITH THE RETURN OF LOST, AMERICAN IDOL, AND SURVIVOR RECENTLY, THE TELEVISION WORLD IS AN EXCITING PLACE RIGHT NOW. SOME OTHER CRITICAL DARLINGS ARE DUE BACK SOON AND I AM GOING TO SPOTLIGHT WHY THEY ARE WORTH YOUR TIME TO CHECK OUT THIS SPRING.

BREAKING BAD

(Premieres March 21st at 9 PM on AMC)

Imagine a life where you were a genius who had not figured out a way to maximize your potential. You teach high school chemistry, have a wife with a baby on the way and a disabled kid with cerebral palsy. Then your whole world comes crashing down as you are diagnosed with terminal cancer. These are the circumstances facing Walter White (2-time Emmy winning Best actor Bryan Cranston). Not wanting to leave his family without money, Walt finds one of his former students Jesse (Aaron Paul), who makes a living as a crystal meth dealer and strikes up a partnership with him. Walt begins cooking the product while Jesse finds the customers. Two seasons in, Breaking Bad provides its viewers one of the most intricately plotted and exciting dramas on television as Walt tries to keep his secret from his family while allowing himself to get drawn deeper in the criminal world to make more money.

Complicating matters are the fact that Walt’s brother-in-law is a drug busting DEA agent and that he’s fighting with other drug dealers over territory. Season 2 saw Walt receive news that he will be cured from cancer, which should have made a rational person give up a drug cooking habit. However, Walt enjoys his status as a drug lord too much and wants to continue to up his reputation in the criminal world. He grows into a more dangerous and despicable human who lets Jesse’s girlfriend die when she suffers a drug relapse, forces his son to drink at one party, and by everyone who is close to him. The big cliffhanger was his wife finding out about his little hobby and kicking him out of the house. Can Walt repair his relationships with his family? Will Jesse make it out of rehab? What other dangerous criminals will Walt get involved with? The possibilities are endless and the results are sure to be unpredictable and fun to watch.

This spring, Bryan Cranston, winner of the last two Best Actor in a Drama Emmys, delivers the performance of a lifetime making you feel for Walt even as he slides further down a path of deceit and criminal behavior. There’s a vulnerability in his performance that lets the audience know he does care for his family no matter how much the drug life has changed him. The chemistry between Cranston and Paul is simply exceptional and has an odd-couple dynamic which provides a lot of comedy to offset the dark tone of the show. Aaron Paul’s Jesse is a dropout drug dealer with a big attitude. The way he manages to humanize the character, however, makes his performance outstanding. One example from last season was when two druggies stole money from Jesse. Jesse goes to collect and almost loses his life in the process. He manages to get his money back, but also saves the small child of the druggies by getting him out of the pit they were living in and turning him in to child services. There is a good person buried in Jesse’s damaged soul and seeing him struggle with what he has become has been entertaining to watch. How these characters continue to evolve is the big mystery of the coming season of this awesome drama.

NURSE JACKIE

(Premieres March 22nd at 9 PM on Showtime)

Bursting onto the scene last summer, Nurse Jackie became an instant hit for Showtime due mainly to the exceptional talents of 3-time Emmy winner Edie Falco. The show delvers brisk-paced hospital drama and comedy in a half-hour format, Falco’s Jackie is addicted to painkillers and leads the nurse crew at her hospital. She lives a double-life playing mom at home to her kids and with her husband while taking off the ring and spending time with her lover Eddie, a pharmacist at the hospital. Watching Falco act is a treat as she performs at a masterful level here both by creating such a complex character and having impeccable chemistry with the rest of the cast. Peter Facinelli's Dr. Cooper injects humor into the show with his inappropriate habit of touching women’s breasts when he is nervous and his crush he developed on Jackie toward the end of the season. Merritt Wever gives an inspired performance as new nurse on duty Zeyo and her mentor-mentee relationship with Jackie provided several of the show’s finest scenes last season as she found her place at the hospital. Like a lot of hospital shows, there are patient of the week stories, but also several serialized plots that keep viewers watching week to week. Eddie found out about Jackie’s family in the finale last year sending Jackie into an overdose to close out the season. This season, Cooper becomes the face of the hospital, Zeyo begins to work with a new male nurse, and Jackie deals with what Eddie will do with the secret that could destroy her family. Quite possibly the fastest half-hour on television, Nurse Jackie will entertain and surprise you if you tune in this spring.

John is a IL and can be reached at forum@valpo.edu.

MOVIE REVIEW: REPO "MY TICKET PRICE" MEN

BY: ADAM CLAUDY ♦ COLUMNIST

Greetings fellow law students, the legendary Ross Brennan has decided to step down as The Forum’s resident movie critic and I have been substituted in his stead. Ross’s razor sharp wit and receding hairline will be sorely missed...now onto the review.

This writer did not and is very thankful to have attended the matinee showing. In summation, one will be hard pressed to find Repo Men on any critic’s top ten lists, but for what it is worth, this movie is a great way to further procrastinate on outlining.

Bryan Cranston, winner of the last two Best Actor in a Drama Emmys, delivers the performance of a lifetime making you feel for Walt even as he slides further down a path of deceit and criminal behavior. There’s a vulnerability in his performance that lets the audience know he does care for his family no matter how much the drug life has changed him. The chemistry between Cranston and Paul is simply exceptional and has an odd-couple dynamic which provides a lot of comedy to offset the dark tone of the show. Aaron Paul’s Jesse is a dropout drug dealer with a big attitude. The way he manages to humanize the character, however, makes his performance outstanding. One example from last season was when two druggies stole money from Jesse. Jesse goes to collect and almost loses his life in the process. He manages to get his money back, but also saves the small child of the druggies by getting him out of the pit they were living in and turning him in to child services. There is a good person buried in Jesse’s damaged soul and seeing him struggle with what he has become has been entertaining to watch. How these characters continue to evolve is the big mystery of the coming season of this awesome drama.

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John is a IL and can be reached at forum@valpo.edu.
**MOOT COURT TRYOUTS!!!**

**By:** Joanna Lekkas & Erika Nelson • Moot Court Executive Board Members

Attention all 1L & 2L's! Are you looking to become involved with a competitive team next year? Are you looking to get more practical legal experience beyond the books? Are you looking to shine and refine both your written and oral advocacy skills? Then tryout for the Moot Court Society this Spring! Moot Court is a team comprised of second and third year law students who compete in both intraschool and national competitions. It is an intense and competitive team that requires fine tuned oral argument skills as well as clear and concise writing in the written briefs. A number of employers require or strongly recommend that potential applicants have this team or law review on their résumés.

The highlight of the fall semester is the annual Swygert Competition where members receive a legal problem, write an appellate brief and then argue both on and off brief in front of panels of judges. All members are given the oral arguments, and judges advance competitors to subsequent rounds based on both their advocacy skills and written briefs. The number of competitors then decreases for the Sweet Sixteen, Elite Eight, and Final Four rounds. The final four competitors argue in the final round of competition. The final round is judged by actual judges and justices. In fact, two years ago Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia participated as a member of the panel for the final round!

The second semester mostly involves preparation for national competitions. Team members travel to competitions across the country. Teams write appellate briefs together, travel to their competition location, and compete against numerous other high profile law schools in the country. This year, our team placed third in a Trademark competition in Chicago while outshining top law schools!

If you are interested in trying out and hopefully joining this team, please come to our informational meeting during Chapel Break on April 1, 2010 (date subject to change) to learn more and ask any additional questions. **Tryouts will take place at 6 PM on April 19th and April 21st. (times TBA).** The first round of tryouts involves arguing for 10 minutes on brief. There will be a cut after the first round of tryouts. Those who make it to the second round of tryouts will argue 10 minutes off brief. Those who are successful in the second round of tryouts will become members of the Moot Court Society.

Remember, all are encouraged to tryout and we look forward to seeing YOU at the informational meeting on April 1, 2010.

Please contact Joanna Lekkas at Joanna.Lekkas@valpo.edu or Erika Nelson at Erika.Nelson@valpo.edu with any further questions.

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**LAMBD&A & THE CPC GIVE VUSL STUDENTS SHARP STYLE TIPS!**

**By:** Nicole Cudiamat • Guest Writer

I love fashion. Shoes, purses, jackets, skirts, minis, maxis, cardis, tees, boyfriend blazers, boyfriend jeans, you name it. But in law school, very little trumps the need to study and work, so fashion can very easily fall by the wayside. So when I heard about the Sharp Looks for the Lawyer event LAMBDA and the Career Planning Center was hosting, I jumped on the opportunity to hear what experts had to say (and the promises of door prizes and food helped too!).

The event, held on March 25, brought in Donna Phelps, from Seasons on the Square, a boutique women’s clothing store in downtown Valparaiso, and representatives from K&G Superstore in Merrillville to help us law students keep our fashion wits about us.

Ms. Phelps shared with the students the latest trends in colors and suiting. The spring season is all about neutrals! Some women may be shy and not want to wear what they traditionally see as neutrals: khaki, brown, beige, etc. Lest we not forget, Ms. Phelps reminded us that gray is also a neutral that can be utilized both in the office and out, in order not to be washed out, it is very fashionable to accessorize with a pop of color, say a scarf or a purse. This, of course, is more for casual affairs like class, but can very easily fall by the wayside. Ms. Phelps also stated female news casters and news anchors are a feel good print and Ms. Phelps has this team or law review on their program. She also said that fashion trends often are dependent on education and salesperson. They have the necessary experience to tell you what looks good and to help you determine what fits. Also, it is important to know the size of your dress shirt. The salesperson will be able to measure for shirt size as well as suit size. Also, when buying a suit, if you can, it is important to buy the shirts and pants separately. For the final round! The more effort people are willing to take to present themselves in a more favorable light in many facets including education, socializing and yes, wardrobe! The representatives from K&G Superstore had some great advice for men’s suiting. Traditionally thought to be relatively simple (much simpler than women’s fashion no doubt!), the reps showed the audience the differences between cloths and fabrics of suits. Colored shirts are not popular for the spring, but one can always default to a good white shirt. There are two, three, and four button suits. Two button suits have a lower cut lapel and have side vents; four button suits have a higher cut lapel; three button suits are the most popular style. The most expensive and longest lasting suits are 100% wool; they are more expensive because it has a higher thread count and finer weave. Rayon and polyester are good materials for suits, but they tend to wear faster than wool. If you see a designation like “Super 100” or “Super another number”, it is an indication of the thread count of the suit. Like bed sheets, the higher the thread count, the tighter the weave and the more luxurious the fabric. The reps also gave a quick demonstration of how to tie a half Windsor knot for a tie. The reps advise to talk to the salesperson. They have the necessary expertise to tell you what looks good and to help you determine what fits. Also, it is important to know the size of your dress shirt. The salesperson will be able to measure for shirt size as well as suit size. The reps advise to talk to the salesperson. They have the necessary expertise to tell you what looks good and to help you determine what fits. Also, it is important to know the size of your dress shirt. The salesperson will be able to measure for shirt size as well as suit size. The reps advise to talk to the salesperson. They have the necessary expertise to tell you what looks good and to help you determine what fits. Also, it is important to know the size of your dress shirt. The salesperson will be able to measure for shirt size as well as suit size.

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**April 2010**

**ORGANIZATIONS**

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**Earning Westlaw Rewards points has never been simpler.**

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The right decision just got easier...
NFL competition committee changed overtime rule, the biggest NFL news from this week. Alas, I digress.

BY: Jolene Cieniawski • Executive Editor

aw school finals are among us, so I’ll keep this short and hopefully entertaining. Here’s an easy overview of the 2010 NCAA Mens Basketball Tournament thus far – A to Z.

A is for Annual, Thank God we get to enjoy a few weekends of entertainment every year in the crappy month that is March.

B is for Butler, who is an unexpected contender in this year’s Final Four, but may surprise many with their “home field advantage” of playing in Indy.

C is for Cornell, I had them in the Sweet Sixteen, and I was sure to brag to all my friends about it when they made it there.

D is for Duke, the only No. 1 seed still left in this tournament. I have them winning it all – their 3-man powerhouse in Scheyer, Singler, and Smith are unstoppable.

E is for Erin Andrews, whose annoying presence was NOT missed as CBS took over all college basketball at tourney time.

F is for Five-Seed, two of the four teams in the Final Four are 5-seeds (Butler and Michigan State). And they’re playing each other.

G is for Gauchos of UC-Santa Barbara, winner of the Best Mascot Award for the 2010 Tournament. “The gaucho’s penchant for drinking and gambling, and his fondness for resolving subsequent arguments with his knife, earned him a reputation as a menace to civil order,” according to a Santa Barbara Independent story on the men who inspired the name.

H is for Hungover, Friday to Monday for the past three weeks. Enough said.

I is for Indianapolis, which we can associate with the Final Four, NOT the Indiana Supreme Court for once. Even if it’s just until April 5th.

J is for Judd, as in Ashley Judd, the No. 1 Kentucky fan ... and the No. 1 seed in the South, finished the season, losing five of its last seven games.

K is for Kansas AND Kentucky, who really, really screwed mine and million others’ brackets.

L is for the Laptop, looks like lots of fans were still in class because that trusty laptop assured us we wouldn’t miss a second of tournament coverage.

M is for Michigan State, who I did NOT think would make it this far. I’m sick of hearing about the “god” that is Coach Izzo.

N is for Northern Iowa, how amazing was their win against Kansas?! I am especially fond of the Panthers because one of their players has a huge Polish eagle on his shoulder.

O is for Over-rated, as in Syracuse’s loss to Butler further affirming that Syracuse was definitely over-rated this year. Seems like everyone was looking for another “North Carolina.”

P is for Procrastination, those outlines aren’t going to outline themselves. I’d say I’ve lost a good 9 days so far of studying time due to my devotion to this tourney.

Q is for Qvale, which would be worth 17 points in Scrabble if it were a word. Instead, it’s the last name of Montana center Brian, one of the big (he’s 6-11) reasons the Grizzlies were even in the tournament.

R is forRefs, who have been pretty consistent throughout this tournament, if you can associate consistency with not calling blatant fouls when they should be.

S is for Scott Drew, who is officially the new “Happenin Drew” in college basketball, knocking off daddy Homer with a Baylor break into the Elite Eight. Sorry Valpo.

T is for Too-Bad-So-Sad, I’ve seen a LOT of crying in this tournament. Toughen up, boys. Too bad, so sad.

U is for Ugly, which is the best word to describe how Villanova, the No. 2 seed in the South, finished the season, losing five of its last seven games.

V is for Vegas, which is where I wish I was the first weekend of the tourney.

W is for Wofford, which is apparently the second-smallest school to ever earn a bid, with just 1,350 students.

X is for Xavier — whose 96-101 loss in double overtime caused me to pause, not lose on that 5-point spread.

Y is for Young, these players are mostly all under the age of 25 (I think I saw a few Super-Seniors out there) — easy to forget when you see some of these puses and dunks these kids drum up.

Z is for the Zags, a Tournament fixture and the No. 8 seed in the West. You can’t have March Madness without them. Or, for that matter, the A to Z.

Jolene is a 2L and can be reached at forum@valpo.edu.

NFL OFFSEASON NEWS AND NOTES

By: Mike Wild • Sports Editor

It’s been about two months since the Super Bowl ended. It’s unclear if the City of New Orleans has officially ended its celebration yet either. I suppose that our illustrious colleagues who had a chance to work in the Orleans Public Defender’s office over Spring Break would have a better perspective on the topic. Alas, I digress.

Outside of free agent acquisitions, the biggest NFL news from this offseason are new overtime rules and a proposal to make late season games more interesting. Let’s start with the overtime rule. In response to Brett Favre sinking his team’s Super Bowl dreams by throwing a critical interception in the NFC Championship game that subsequently allowed the Saints to win by a field goal in overtime, the NFL competition committee changed the rules for overtime in playoff games.

Instead of pure sudden death, if the team who scores first in overtime scores a touchdown, the game is over. If the team that scores first in overtime scores a field goal, then the other team gets possession. If the other team scores a touchdown, the game is over. If the other team scores a field goal, then the game reverts back to pure sudden death. If that sounds overly complicated, it is.

Essentially, the NFL wants overtime games to be decided by touchdowns. Touchdowns add drama and excitement to overtime games, and drama sells more officially licensed NFL television footage and merchandise. This isn’t about actual rule changes to add excitement to overtime games to be decided by the rules. The NFL got much more dramatic flare to overtime games if the NFL wanted to maximize its chances for both revenue and dramatic finishes while still maintaining a simple rule, there is only one choice: the Texas tie breaker, better known as the college overtime rule. Each team is guaranteed at least one possession and you play until somebody wins the game. It’s simple, and every NFL player who played in college knows the rules. The NFL got much more exciting to watch when it borrowed the two point conversion from college football, so I see no reason why borrowing the college overtime rule wouldn’t also make the NFL more exciting.

In other competition committee news, there is a lot of talk this offseason about discouraging the teams who are guaranteed playoff spots from resting their star players in late season games. Again, this is not about player health and safety (another perennial hot topic as of late), but is instead solely intended to generate revenue. The players on the higher caliber teams have worked hard all season to guarantee their team a spot in the playoffs. Those same players are all playing with some kind of injury. There is no way that any human being can take the punishment of an NFL training camp, preseason and regular season without some kind of injury. Yet, the competition committee wants to interfere with the coaches’ prerogatives to rest their players by proposing to make all games in week 16 and 17 divisional matchups.

I think this is completely bogus. When one of the NFL’s star players gets carted off the field on a backboard or on the meat wagon in an otherwise entertaining. Here’s an easy overview of the 2010 NCAA Mens Basketball Tournament thus far – A to Z.
What’s up, Forum readers? The Pigskin Reporters are back and ready to crush it. What? Yeah, we know we went Jimmy Hoffa on y’all for a little while. No, we didn’t choke on rib tips or get a nasty staph infection. We’ve really been busy doing big, big things, like competing in eating contests with Charles Barkley, lifting weights with Mark McGwire, and playing blackjack with Allen Iverson. Actually, we just got done dominating another day at Wesemann Hall. You probably don’t care about our scholastic endeavors because you already know we’re the most distinguished students at VUSL, so we’ll just get to the stuff you really want to read and fill you in on some of the mill stories from our life over the past 2 months. It’s definitely cooler than anything you’ve done, so if you get easily depressed, just stop reading now.

Let’s see...basically, we’ve just been watching a lot of daytime TV, reading random health care bill revisions, promoting world peace and spending every moment possible inspiring the 1 Ls. Ridiculous! The only thing that makes us sad is that when winter ends in Valpo since we were awarded our fresh slush fund. We ballin’! Just call us the Kentucky Wildcats!

We got big things popping and lil’ things stopping. Do you know what our contract was? A-Rod money, but Joe Mauer would envy our contract.

We’ve noticed a lot of animosity from our Forum teammates after we landed this deal, mainly Megan Flaherty, but seriously people?! You didn’t want to go to another school or live anywhere else. Well, you could, but it would have to be considerably more than the combined team salary of the Florida Marlins.

Apparently, Heather Looby printed an excerpt on our behalf last month about how we were grieving over the end of football season or some nonsense. It landed this deal, mainly Megan Flaherty, but seriously people?! You didn’t think we were going to ante up to pay John Bayard to write articles about origami and dragons did you? That would be like giving them random health care bill revisions, promoting world peace and spending every moment possible inspiring the 1 Ls. The only thing that makes us sad is that when winter ends in Valpo since we were awarded our fresh slush fund. We ballin’! Just call us the Kentucky Wildcats!

So basically we smell like fresh, crisp Benjamins. A lot of lames have said we’ve become big-headed. You know what we say? Quit hating. We got big things popping and lil’ things stopping. Do you know what it’s like to have an open reservation at the most ritzy restaurants in Valpo? Well, you could, but it would have to be considerably more than the combined team salary of the Florida Marlins.

No? Figures. If we want to go to Jimmy’s on a Saturday morning for an open reservation at the most ritzy restaurants in Valpo? Well, you could, but it would have to be considerably more than the combined team salary of the Florida Marlins.

One fun fact is that we’ve been watching a lot of daytime TV. The Forum and its avid readers have been praying to the gods of journalism for us to come back with this paper and season this paper with our literary spices. You guys know about free agency. So I’ll just hit the highlights.

The Bears opened free agency with singing Julius Peppers, Chester Taylor and Brandon Manumaleuna, instantly adding depth on both sides of the ball. They also showed their hand that their coaching staff and front office are on the coaching hot seat unless the Bears return to the winning ways of recent seasons past. Meanwhile, the Lions made a splash too. They signed Kyle Vanden Bosch and Nate Burleson. The Lions instantly added depth to their team, but still leave big questions about line depth on both sides of the ball.

So, we roll into Trailways on a Friday night to stock up. Rob picks up a 30 pack of Natty Lights. I can tell he wants to have a Ronnie Brown type of night. The cougars and kittens flock to you automatically when they see that. It’s the biggest power move that can be pulled off in Northwest Indiana. Rob’s a girl is a little bigger, kind of like a stocky cougar. Rob gets all his moves from Ben Roethlisberger. He’s a real ladies’ man. Anyway, Rob starts talking to his Lake Michigan princess while I’m gaming on the other one when she tells me the coolest line ever besides “the test came back negative,” she said “I’m from Gary, and I’m in town for the night.”

Score! Everyone knows the baddest chicks in NWI come from Gary. So, I’m talking to her and asking her if she likes Indian food, what’s her favorite color, and stuff like that, when she tells us about this ridiculous club in downtown Gary. I’m a little fearful seeing that I would be the only white person ever to step in Gary since the Industrial Revolution, but evidently everything is cool because Rob gave me some sort of pass.

You know that vacant hotel with weeds growing up the side of it downtown? Well, on the top floor is actually the most absurd club you’ve ever seen. Don’t worry about going. They probably wouldn’t let you in anyway. The biggest hitters from the “219” were there. Freddie Gibbs. Tito Jackson. Jeff Samardzija. Robbie Hummel. You name it. DJ Lori was there mixing it on the 1’s and 2’s. It was incredible. To make a long story short, these girls had late night access to the hot tub suite at the U.S. Steel Yard baseball stadium, home of the Gary Southshore Railcats. Needless to say, it was probably the best 6.7 minutes of their lives. Don’t worry, we called them the next day and asked them to take their names off their voicemails. I’m still waiting to get a text from Rob telling me his girlfriend just busted out the window in his 1973 Volvo with a 9 iron.

Alright guys, we actually have to go meet up with Mayor Hatcher for a curling match on Wolf Lake. It’s gonna be a who’s who of the region. I guess when you got it, you got it. We’ll let you know how it plays it out next month.

Oh, and FYI, since this is supposed to be a legitimate sports article, here is a little tidbit for all those baseball fans out there. Detroit Tigers win the World Series this year, so suck on that Cubs fans.

From, Your Favorite Writer’s Favorite Writers.

Hunter and Rob are both 2Ls and can be reached at forum@valpo.edu.

**MMA MONTHLY MATCHUPS: APRIL**

By: Dan D. Hallberg • Staff Writer

Well, it’s a first for MMA Monthly Matchups: this month, they’re all title fights! That’s right, everyone is coming full force and gold is on the line. Who keeps it and who loses it? Here we go!

5. Champion Anderson Silva (25-4) v. Damian Maia (12-1), UFC 112, 4/10/10. It’s been nearly a year since pound-for-pound king Anderson Silva defended his title. Unfortunately for us fans, the original and more worthy contender, Vitor Belfort, had to step out due to injury. That leaves Damian Maia as the winner of the “who gets a title shot” lottery. That doesn’t mean that Maia isn’t a threat, but right now the biggest weakness in his game is his striking and striking defense. Now he’s up against the best striker on the planet. Hard to see this ending in any other way then a decision or TKO for the champ.

4. Champion B.J. Penn (15-5-1) v. Frankie Edgar (11-1), UFC 112, 4/10/10. And the pound-for-pound list makes a second appearance as B.J. Penn takes on up-and-comer Frankie Edgar. I like Edgar, he’s an impressive kid with good boxing, wrestling, and okay jiu jitsu skills. He’s on the rise and could be Champion some day. Unfortunately, April 10th isn’t that day. Edgar on paper is very similar to Kenny Florian, but he does focus more on his boxing. That could help Edgar provide he doesn’t shoot for take downs. In the end though, it’s B.J. Penn, and he doesn’t lose to people his size.

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John Cusack has got to redeem himself after 2012! It's getting real old. Sorry, someone? Haven't gotten around to playing a Hendon (25-7), Strikeforce: Nashville, butt-kicking wonder. If he doesn't destroy Urijah Jose Aldo. Faber's style is weird to say the least WEC to try and reclaim his title against the fierce card to start with. Time for the biggest star in the month. I do work here, you know.

I kept my approach. Or the "begging for a job" approach. Favorite Stephen King short story or novel? The Chevron Two-Step. Wait, no - Hearts in Atlantis. Unfortunately I never finished it - His novels are pretty long. Are you a fan of Lady Gaga? She was intriguing when she first came on the scene, but now I think her look and her music is extremely obnoxious. Especially her look - it's getting real old. Sorry, Gaga fans.

What is the most eco-friendly thing you've done this year? I always cut up the rings that come on 6-pack cans before I throw them away. It prevents animals from getting trapped and choked in the rings while in landfills and oceans. What color are your eyes? Brown. What movie do you really want to see right now, assuming you had the time? Hot Tub Time Machine - John Cusack has got to redeem himself after 2012!

JOLENE (KAROWSKI) CIENIAWSKI-2L

Hometown: Beecher, IL
Undergraduate School: DePaul University
Undergraduate Major: Business Management
Family: I have a huge one! Husband: Alec Dille, Mom & Step-Father: Nancy & Fred Haggerty. I have two older brothers, Michael & Joel Beachkofsky. And I am one of a set of triplets. I have an identical twin sister, Sarah Beachkofsky and my triplet brother's name is Tom. I also have three step-siblings: Fred Haggerty Jr., Anne Lizarraga and James Haggerty. What's the best April Fools prank you've ever played on someone? I'm sure I'm not related to anything for something somewhere... but I do remember Hypercolor t-shirts and pegging your pants! The 1940's were an awful time of war and suffering and a time of heroes. The people that lived and served our country during that time are truly the greatest generation, but given the choice I wouldn't want to go back there.

How often do you read The Forum? Probably not as often as I should.

Favorite class this semester? Tax Clinic, I know most people will think that sounds insane but it's great to actually get to work with clients and help solve their problems. How often do you check Strategy for new job postings? Never. Favorite Stephen King short story or novel? "It" is the only novel I have read, so it wins by default, but I thought Misery was a great/disturbing movie and so was The Green Mile. A fun fan of Lady Gaga? Who isn't! What is the most eco-friendly thing you've done this year? I use curb-side recycling on a weekly basis and I use canvas bags when I go to the grocery store. What color are your eyes? Brown. What movie do you really want to see right now, assuming you had the time? Hot Tub Time Machine - John Cusack has got to redeem himself after 2012!

DAVID BOGAERTS-1L

Hometown: Rolling Meadows, Illinois
Undergraduate School: Elmhurst College
Undergraduate Major: Music Business
Family: Parents and a sister.

What's the best MMA: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11
Penn by submission in the championship rounds.

3. Champion Jose Aldo (16-1) v. Urijah Faber (23-3), WEC 48, 4/24/10. WEC is live on pay per view for the first time, and they chose a fantastic card to start with. Time for the biggest star in the WEC to try and reclaim his title against the fierce Jose Aldo. Faber's style is weird to say the least and hard to explain. But it doesn't really matter. The only thing that matters is that Jose Aldo is the baddest man in the WEC. He is 145 pounds of butt-kicking wonder. If he doesn't destroy Urijah Faber I will be shocked. Knockout, early.

2. Champion Jake Shields (24-4) v. Dan Henderson (25-7), Strikeforce: Nashville, 4/17/10. Jake Shields is a good champion and a great young fighter. A prospect that will eventually get to the UFC and make a real challenge for the belt. The problem is that he's a welterweight pretending to be a middleweight because Strikeforce's competition is lousy. That was until they landed number two middleweight Dan Henderson. Like Shields, Henderson has crossed into different weight classes, except he went up from middleweight rather then down. He even held his own against Big Nogueria. Again, it would be a huge shock if Shields wins this and the only way he could be would be if he ground out a decision, which he won't do because Henderson is such a great wrestler. This fight will probably be on the feet because of the cancelled wrestling, and Henderson's huge right will be the deciding factor.

1. Champion Benson Henderson (11-1) v. Donald Cerrone (14-2), WEC 48, 4/24/10. It's the rematch of last year's Fight of the Year, and this time it's for the real title. This fight could very well go just like the last one, but I don't think it will. Cerrone has learned that his slow starts have been costing him his decisions, so look for him to come out swinging. This could play into Henderson's favor. He's got the reach and moves to play a patient game which will frustrate Cerrone. Henderson has new confidence and has been working hard and even helped B.J. Penn train for Diego Sanchez. Cerrone put on an impressive show in his last fight, but I have to keep with Henderson. The man with the smallest waist in MMA retains his title in a five round thriller.

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