HAS "DOWNLOAD" BECOME A DIRTY WORD?

BY MANDIE FORMAN

The incident involving Professor Samuels brought a very important issue to light. Is there such a thing as freedom? The accessibility of what's too much in terms of technological freedom? The accessibility of what's available to us everyday via the Internet has become practically a given. Most students at New York Law School have either a private computer at home or have ready access to one. Every member of the NYLS Community has access to a computer on the school premises. As the school increases the amount of information and download material that can be stored, the technology usage and policy as it relates to school computer use have not been pushed for a vote against a bill. Since the September 11 terrorist attacks, the law schools have introduced a brand new wireless network in the library, which allows students to achieve Internet access without plugging into the system. Ms. Alta Levat, Dean of Public Affairs, and Dean Richard Matasar offer some insight as to how this issue may be dealt with in the future.

The Dean has recently asked Ms. Alta Levat, to create a Network and Internet Usage Policies Committee which will review technology usage and policy as it relates to the school. The Committee has been charged with drafting policy guidelines in the following three areas:

a) Network security, privacy, and usage policies
b) E-mail security, privacy, and usage policies
c) Internet security, privacy, and usage policies

The Committee will review policies of major universities as the basis for developing our own community standards. The Committee will then present a draft to Dean Matasar early in the spring semester. The faculty approval process will follow.

One of the goals is to put in place a clear understanding of where the boundaries lie in terms of school web server usage. As mentioned before, the school has a greater capacity for storage now then in the past. Policies concerning appropriate, and inappropriate computer use have not been written down anywhere. There is a sense that incidents like what happened with Professor Samuels, and the various viruses that have appeared on the system in the last few years have created the need for some sort of formal structure.

The creation of this Committee is in no way meant to threaten the freedom of student's access to computer technology at school, but students use the web at school such as: research, typing documents, e-mail, etc. The school does not have an interest in censoring or policing the use of the web, because to do so would interfere with a legitimate enterprise. The school recognizes that there is a First Amendment right to free speech implicated here. NY LS is not a state institution, thus the virtue of being so does not have to adhere to certain public standards of content. All that the Committee Continue on Page 18

TRY NOT TO TALK!

Top 5 Utterly Worthless Class Comments

Look on the bright side — nobody will ever ask you to speak again...ever

5. "At least I was confident"
   - Comment made after professor told student his answer was wrong.

4. "Who do you bill for the time you take to write the bill"
   - In context of class discussion on billing hours.

3. "Just a few drinks on the weekend"
   - Called out in context of lies we tell doctors.

2. "What about if you're on a plane, spending more time because of time zones"
   - Same student as in #4 (and same class), wondering if you can bill a client for extra hours gained by virtue of crossing time zones in an Int'l Date Line.

1. "I DID NOT READ!"
   - Mr. Johnson shouting in class when called on.

VOTE: IT Doesn't EVEN HURT BY DWIGHT DAY

Election Day is almost upon us, and many may be tempted to take a pass because it is a midterm election and a non-presidential year. To do that would be egregious, not only because the right to vote is so precious, but also because the balance of power in both houses of Congress is on the line and so many races are dead even. It would also be unacceptable because we are living in a new era, going down an uncharted path where the executive branch of our government is not taking us where the President's policies, we were still able to agree on certain points. Before we were kicked out of the restaurant, continued on p.10

INSERT THESE IMAGES HERE
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NOISE

By Lisa Pettlo

The sounds of the city that bring a smile
and

annoyance. Horns honking, people yelling... everyone is in a rush. These sounds can almost instantaneously bring on stress. But there is one sound of the city that brings a smile.

The best kept secret

BY DAVID STEINCARD

There is something about New York City that draws new people to it and keeps them coming back. Perhaps it is the excitement of living in the center of the universe. Perhaps it is the diversity of people and cultures. Whatever it is, New York City has a special charm.

What is it that makes New York City so special? Some say it is the energy and vibrancy of the people. Others say it is the beauty of the architecture and art. Whatever the reason, New York City is a place that people love to visit and love to live in.

The beauty of New York City is not just in the buildings and streets, but in the people who live there. The diversity of the population is a source of pride for many. Whether it is the food, the music, or the art, New York City has something for everyone.

There are many reasons why people love New York City. It is a place that is always changing, always growing, always pushing the boundaries of what is possible. It is a place that celebrates individuality and creativity.

New York City is a place where anything is possible. It is a place where people can dream big and make their dreams a reality. It is a place where people come together to make a difference.

New York City is a place that is full of life. It is a place where people can find joy in the simple things. It is a place where people can find peace in the midst of chaos.

New York City is a place that is full of history. It is a place where people can learn about the past and how it has shaped the present. It is a place where people can explore and discover new things.

New York City is a place that is full of possibilities. It is a place where people can find inspiration and hope. It is a place where people can find meaning and purpose.

New York City is a place that is always moving forward. It is a place where people can find a sense of belonging. It is a place where people can find a sense of purpose.

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EVERYBODY'S GOT AN OPINION

Dear Editors:

In your last issue, Omotulo O. idowu characterized her experience two years ago in the required first-year Legal Reasoning, Writing & Research and Written & Oral Advocacy courses as: "(a) necessary evil all students must endure" and wondered whether changes have been made since her first year.

This two-semester sequence introduces students to fundamental lawyering skills. It is applicable to all other course work, and which they will practice and refine throughout their legal careers. Year after year, upperclass students report how invaluable their first-year writing courses were in teaching them how to think, write and speak like lawyers.

Recognizing the importance of these first-year writing courses, the faculty voted (in the fall of 2000) to add a credit to Legal Reasoning, Writing & Research to enable classes to meet twice instead of once a week and to ensure that the credit a student receives accurately reflects the workload of the course. The change, which took effect in the fall of 2001, has allowed The Writing Program to restructure the course so that professors can spend more time teaching the fundamentals of legal analysis and students can have more opportunities to receive feedback on their written work.

Our students now benefit from the close relationship between the first-year writing courses and the course textbook, The Lawyer's Craft: Written & Oral Advocacy. The Lawyer's Craft was first available in book form in January 2002 and has already attracted a following at several other law schools. It has been adopted by the law schools at the University of Texas and the University of Virginia, for the entire first-year student bodies, and also for use in various sections of the first-year writing courses at the law schools at the University of Wyoming, St. John's University, Ohio State University, North Carolina Central, and Touro College of Law.

While learning how to think, write, and speak like a lawyer is certainly not easy, it is the foundation for all that follows in law school and beyond. If you have any questions about the Writing Program, please contact Professors Cathy Glaser, Elizabeth Rosen, or Lynn Su.

Sincerely,

Jethro K. Lieberman
Associate Dean, Professor of Law, and Director
Writing Program

*The rumors of my death have been greatly exaggerated." -Mark Twain

Dear De Novo:

I picked up your premiere edition only to find the first item you run, in the first column of the first page, states "The L... and its staff are no more." As a former staff member of the L, I'd like to state that I am alive and well and so is everyone else on staff. Your following sentence states: "We are not looking to uncover every administrative mishap." By this did you imply that the L was too intense for NYLS? If so, thank you! It meant we were doing our job.

Seriously, how about a little appreciation for the Department of Defense-Grade equipment we left you, and the advertisers we connected you with? I imagine the "administrative mishap" that would have occurred if you tried to get these resources out from the School itself.

Furthermore, Where's the news regarding Ed Samuels?

Now before you give me all the good reasons why you didn't run it, I just want to remind you that New York Law School's student newspaper (be it DeNovo, or the many incarnations before it) is first and foremost the School's paper of record. If De Novo does not report on the relevant current events as intelligently and objectively as possible, then it is not a newspaper, plain and simple.

Don't get me wrong, I think De Novo looks good--I give kudos to your layoutpeople--and I appreciate the lighter approach you choose take today (I hope you can maintain that outlook). I take no genuine offense to your layoutpeople--and I appreciate the lighter approach you choose to take today (I hope you can maintain that outlook). I take no genuine offense to your...
WHAT IS THE CHILD PORN LAW?

BY MANDIE FORMAN

About a week before school started this semester I got a frantic early morning call from one of my classmates: no "good morning" or "how are you?" - he was saying "Can we get the NY Post right now?" Since I was inclined to stay in bed I persuaded him to tell me what had happened. As he began to speak I could feel my mouth drop open. I thought "How could this be?" But my own purchase of the paper later that day only confirmed it. Professor Edward Samuels, a member of our faculty for 25 years, a distinguished colleague and friend to many, and my first year Contracts professor - accused of possessing child pornography. It just didn't fit. For those of you who saw the article you may remember that it read like something straight out of the National Enquirer. For those of you who didn't see it maybe you have heard the series of rumors that have been circulating ever since. I had many questions as a result of the article. Were these all the facts? Were they exactly the same as they had been circulating? How many questions as a result of the article? These are the questions and yours.

Professor Samuels has been accused of possessing pictures of underage girls on both his home and office computer. According to the Post and the Daily News, the pictures were uncovered in early June when school technicians stumbled onto a folder in Samuels' Windows system while trying to fix his computer. A police search later uncovered pictures that had been downloaded both at home and at the office. Samuels is accused of possessing an obscene sexual performance by a child. It states that a person is guilty of possessing an obscene sexual performance by a child when knowing the character and content thereof, he knowingly has in his possession or control any obscene sexual performance by a child by use of the word "obscene." The word "obscene" is defined in a separate section, 235, and has several applicable definitions. In other words, the facts may fit any of these broad definitions to constitute "obscene": a) If the average person, applying contemporary community standards would find that considered as a whole, it's predominant appeal is to the prurient interest in sex, b) it depicts or describes in a patently offensive manner, actual, simulated, sexual intercourse, sodomy, sexual bestiality, excretion or lewd exhibition of genitalia, and c) considered as a whole, if lacks literary, artistic, political, and scientific value. It seems that the range of what's considered obscene is widely drawn here. One hand, the material may just offend the average person, applying contemporary community standards; or it may be "considered to lack serious literary, artistic, political and scientific value." The rationale for why this definition is so widely drawn may be to encompass a variety of material that doesn't fit into a specific classification. Other words to allow for acts not thought of by the framers of the Penal Code. But the thought that just because something lacks serious artistic value, it may be considered obscene, seems to opening up another issue. Where is the line for what's artistic and what's just obscenity? Are nude pictures on the wall in an art exhibit really so different from nude pictures on one's computer?

It seems that the law draws a distinction when the material involves a child. In New York "a child" is someone sixteen and under. In some states it's seventeen and under, or even eighteen and under. The rationale behind punishing for possessing, possessing with an intent to promote, or just possession of child-pornography is that the industry harms those who cannot give consent. In the mid-1990s, a man gained access to the children in a private German or possibly Danish kindergarden and over a period of years took thousands of nude photographs and videos of girls between the ages of 3 and 6. This so-called "KG" (kindergarden) series represents one of the most extensive collections available on the Internet today. There is still the more sought-after hard-core version, "10C" - which are described performing sexual acts upon adult men. The fact that children are not capable of knowingly consenting for such material justifies its status as a crime under the law.

Now an obvious question here is how does one know that it is indeed child porn? Countless Web sites claim to be offering "middle porn" or "young Lolitas" while actually presenting nude pictures of women in their 20's or older. When the material depicts non-children a crime has not been committed. Also, it is an affirmative defense to possession of an obscene sexual performance by a child that the defendant in good faith reasonably believed the person appearing in the performance was sixteen years or age or over.

I had an opportunity to speak with Dean Richard Matasar about the incident at one point and I asked him what impact he thought it had if any upon the NY Law School community. He suggested that there were a few reactions that most people had experienced. First, a human kindness reaction - sympathy for him as a person and longtime member of this community. Secondly, worry that there might be some negative reactions about it that would reflect poorly on the school. And thirdly, discomfort and tension within how community members feel about him as a professor and colleague, and how they feel about the subject of child-pornography and the possibility of his involvement. It's understandable that people have personal and moral conflicts with this subject. The Dean's position on this matter is that it is a law that punishes and protects - someone charged with a crime is innocent until proven guilty. He urges that the bottom line is that we don't know the facts so we ought not make judgments, end just let the criminal justice system play that out. At this time there is no information as to the nature and type of photographs Professor Samuels is accused of possessing. He has a motion hearing scheduled in NY Criminal Court next week.
CURVES AHEAD
BY DAVID FREYLIKHMN

So it's nearing the midpoint of the semester and the usual panic is starting to set in. By this point, we should be somewhat familiar with the classroom material... after all, the "I'm-ok-to-be-a-dumb-ass" grace period must have already expired. By now we know our professors, know what they're going to say and know their catch phrases. It is no longer acceptable to sit in class stupefied by the classroom discussion, wondering if you mistakenly wandered into Portuguese 101. So all that reading you've been putting off... well, now may be a good time to get on top of it.

came back from a summer vacation consisting of work (or worse yet - a summer of fun) and it takes time to readjust. Some of the readings pass you by, you take your chances in class, and you know that it's only the beginning. There is plenty of time to learn whatever it is you don't understand.

But then you spend a month drifting along until you read an article in the school newspaper to get you back on track. Exams are approaching and loom on the horizon less than 8 weeks away. That means outlines should be ready in about 4 week. It means if you're not caught up, now's the time. Four tips:

1. Go to Class
It's not college anymore. No matter how bad class is, downing drinks during class time isn't boosting the GPA.

2. Pay Attention In Class
The semester is 7 weeks deep. This means you should no longer be playing nood on your laptop during lecture or text messaging your friend on the other side of the room. Listen and take notes.

3. Do Readings
Stop skimming the cases and relying on Legalines. Read some of the real cases from the actual casebook.

4. Work on Outlines
Those outlines you scored from last year are very impressive - but the type that plans to rely on an outline, do your own. Of course, you may be the type that plans to study without an outline. In that case, start organizing your notes and materials.

Do the best you can, because wasting $30,000 a year is never a smart move. But if you insist on slacking, it's your call...

The LEFT AWAKENS
BY Mr. P

In January 2001 when George Bush became the new occupant of the White House, things were different. One has only to look at the first 21 months of the Bush administration, in terms of economic factors, and then make up his/her mind.

On Inauguration Day, the Dow Jones was at 10,587. It's down 32.5 percent. The unemployment rate is up 36 percent. The budget has gone from a $281 billion surplus to a $167 billion deficit. We have just passed the two million jobs. One would think that Republicans would not be comfortable running on that kind of record. But to and behold there is no focus on the economy and so this is allowed.

We have had a tax cut which didn't help. The few hundred dollars that we all received in tax rebates was gone in a week and I haven't really seen a difference in my paycheck.

Until recently, the Democrats in Congress had become spineless, afraid of standing up to their obligation under the U.S. Constitution. A few weeks ago, it appeared that they were just about to give the President a blank check to do as he pleased all over the world. It is an election year and no one wants to appear as if they are not in the fight against terrorism. Although polls show a slight majority for taking down Saddam, the Democrats would be putting politics over the interest of the American people by smugly acquiescing to the President without much debate.

This "If you are not with us, then you are against us" kind of rhetoric used by President Bush in his address to the nation at the beginning of the year casts a wide blanket which does not help us in conducting world diplomacy. It cuts off all debate even here at home.

As someone said, "I guess if President Bush said Al Qaeda was related to the Democrats they would vote to bomb themselves." It's just pathetic that the voice of the left has become so weak. Where are the moderates?

OK, we just recognized the one-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks that cashed in the deaths of thousands of innocent people. However, anyone who stopped to realize how many innocent people have died overseas at the hands of our government? Make no mistake, we could multiply the number of thousands and it would be far too low of a number.

The U.S. is at a time in its history when it's probably at its strongest militarily. I used to believe that the U.S. was a country that used its power to champion democracy. I had to rethink that thought lately. We have had to give up so much since 9/11 and who knows we may still have to give up more.

The reality we go in and bomb and then withdraw. The U.S. is not into nation building. President Bush who before 9/11, seemed to be an isolationist, a non-interventionist and not for U.S. troops all over the world, has now post 9/11, made a 180-degree turn. Nevertheless, this is not the time for a lone cowboy attack and we should not be risking the lives of American troops for a family vendetta. continued on p. 13
OWLS
OLDER AND WISER LAW STUDENTS

OWLS is a new student organization at NYLS aimed at promoting the unique concerns and interests of the school’s non-traditional students. One of the group’s goals is to provide a forum for socializing and networking where members can utilize their life and work experience to help themselves and fellow OWLS.

According to NALP (National Association for Law Placement), the traditional starting age for law school is 22, but nationwide nearly 1/3 of the graduates in 2001 were over 30. Several law schools around the country now have their own OWLS groups and they were featured in last November’s ABA Student Lawyer. The article included interviews with several New York Law School students and even our own dean Richard Matasar.

The article summed up OWLS in it’s subtitle by stating that “second-career law students may be out of the habit of studying, but they bring a wealth of real-life experience to the classroom and the profession.”

It’s important to note that NYLS discourages any kind of exclusionary practices so OWLS does not have a minimum age for membership. The group will focus though on issues, such as balancing school with family and work, that concern “older” students. So we welcome anyone who considers themselves to be older and wiser!

Our first general meetings (to accommodate both day and evening students) will be held on Wednesday, October 16th at 12:30pm-1:30pm in Room A-600 and from 5:00pm-6:00pm in Room A-400.

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THE AVERAGE NORTH-AMERICAN WILL EAT 35,000 COOKIES IN DURING THEIR LIFE SPAN
Dear Krysia,

I am very concerned about a good friend of mine. Her boyfriend of five months recently broke up with her and she is very depressed. I am trying my best to be there for her, but I feel that this is frequently happening. She is the type of person who always jumps from relationship to relationship, each time another one of her relationships ends. I tell her that she should take it easy for awhile and take a break from the dating scene. While she says that she sees my point she always seems to fall back into the same pattern and ignores all of the advice that I give her. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Forever a Friend

---

Dear Friends,

You are definitely a good and strong friend. Your friend is very lucky to have someone like you whom she can rely on. We all know people who are always in need of a significant other to be happy. And there are many reasons for this: a lack of self-confidence, loneliness, hormones in over-drive, a need to feel needed, and that women are more often the one in the relationship. Women's brains are more active involved in imprinting and control another human being in various situations. Especially when they are married.

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The revolving door was invented in 1888.

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The revolving door was invented in 1888.

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The revolving door was invented in 1888.

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The revolving door was invented in 1888.

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The revolving door was invented in 1888.
Indeed.

(music is life)

by Josep H. Hadala

The "Very Muppet Christmas Movie" has been dropped? Filler has cancelled their headlining dates on the Reel Tour after singer Richard Patrick checked into a rehab center. 7-Eleven knows they'll have to buy up the first single off their new album by November 12. The remaining Grateful Dead members will play Madison Square Garden as part of a 17 show tour? An Aaliyah greatest hits album due out in November will contain some previously unreleased tracks. On-again, off-again "supergroup" Audioslave (ex-Soundgarden frontman Chris Cornell and Rage Against the Machine minus Zack De La Rocha) is on again, with a new album and tour planned. Iron Butterfly vocalist Danny DeLeo died from liver cancer on October 3. Guns N' Roses will tour again, following up his out of breath performance at the MTV VMAs. Axl and his new band of merry men are hitting the road into a rehab center? (ex-Soundgarden drummer Eric Thoughts, Lita Ford, Glenda Deville, and current guitarist for Guns N' Roses, Buckethead (no comment).)

THE RUMOR MILL

October

Like you don't have enough to read

A BOOK REVIEW BY LISA PETTOS

SOMETIME I DREAM IN ITALIAN

BY RITA CIRESI

If you read the back cover you may think you are about to read the book version of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," only an Italian family. Approaching the book with that in mind was a bit disappointing. Although the book had its funny moments, in my opinion it was the sad story of two people that immigrated to America. For the parents, raising their children in America was a life's dream, they were content with the simple things. For them, America was the end of the rainbow and their children should have been grateful to be here, for their children, America and the simple things in life were not enough. They wanted more...

Sometimes I Dream in Italian is the story of two first-generation American sisters, Lina and Angel who desire to be Americans, just plain American! They hated everything about them that was Italian. To them it was a sign of that they were different then "normal" Americans, a sign that they would grow up to be like their parents.

Angel, who aspires to be like her older, prettier, and more talented, attention-getting sister tells the story as a narrative. The author takes you through their adventures from young girls, to teenagers, to adulthood. Their animosity and sadness these two girls had as children followed them into adulthood. Much of this animosity stemmed from their overbearing mother. The animosity and sadness these two girls had as children followed them into adulthood.

I enjoyed the book, even if it was not what I expected. It was a good story that kept my attention, and prompted me to read further.

THE AVERAGE PERSON OVER FIFTY WILL HAVE SPENT 5 YEARS WAITING IN LINES
A blonde was terribly overweight, so her doctor put her on a diet. "I want you to eat regularly for 2 days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for 2 weeks. The next time I see you, you'll have lost at least 5 pounds."

When the blonde returned, she shocked the doctor by losing nearly 20 pounds.

"Why, that's amazing!" the doctor said. "Did you follow my instructions?"

The blonde nodded. "I'll tell you though, I thought I was going to drop dead the 3rd day."

"From hunger, you mean?"

"No, from skipping!"

A pipe burst in a doctor's house. He called a plumber. The plumber arrived, unpacked his tools, did mysterious plumber-type things for a while and handed the doctor a bill for $800.

The doctor exclaimed, "This is ridiculous! I don't even make that much as a doctor!"

"From hunger, you mean?"

"No, from skipping."

A man is in the pub watching his favorite soccer team on the TV with his pals. Several beers later, he is disgustingly drunk and decides to walk home. When he gets to his house he tries to be as quiet as he can. He climbs up the stairs and sneaks into the bedroom where his wife is sleeping.

He creeps across the floor and just as he gets one leg into bed, there is a sudden "ploplop."

"What was that?" the wife whispers. "I scored, its 1-0 to me!" the drunk says happily, still thinking of the match.

His wife, who was angry at his lateness and who woke her up, decides to beat him. So he tries and tries to push one out. He can feel one coming ... it's a big one-跨国enders'Lang words."

His wife turns in horror and whispers "Is that what I think it is?"

'pocorp' "What was that?" he asks. "I equalized. It's 1-1!" his wife replies.

The man is distraught. His pettiness and drunken state tells him he should fight back. About 10 minutes later, as the man is falling asleep he hears "Ploplop."

"What was that?" the wife asks. "I scored, its 1-0 to me!

The man replies rapidly "Yep. Half time, change ends!"

**BRAIN FEED**

1. How many US Presidents were assassinated?
2. Who were they?
3. What does TriBeCa stand for?
4. What is the motto of the United States of America?
5. In what year was the Statue of Liberty displayed in New York Harbor?
Last year I took notes by hand and was very dissatisfied with myself. Even when I could read what I scribbled down which was not always possible due to my failing eyesight. I decided then, instead of buying the latest palmtop pilot, I would use the marvelous little gadget, which makes a palm pilot a viable alternative to using a laptop. Targus Stowaway Portable Keyboard is truly portable. It weighs less than 8 ounces and is 5.6" x 3.1". Unlike some laptops, which have smaller keys that you have to adjust to, this keyboard ingeniously folds out to reveal 100% full size keyboard. The palm pilot simply plugs in on top – no wires, no hassle and you are ready to type away in less than 30 seconds. The only word of caution is while Targus makes keyboards for most Palmes some newer models may not be supported. Also when getting one make sure to get the right one there are several versions - Targus keyboard for Sony Clio has a different connector than Targus keyboard for Palm brand pilot. The cost ranges from $60-$100. Look around for a rebate and you may get one for as low as forty bucks.

A Palm pilot is not a true substitute for a laptop. But with a word processing program you will be able to take notes, and effortlessly transfer them to your home computer via a cradle, which synchronizes the content of your PDA with that of your computer. PDA can truly become your "personal digital assistant". With a date book, calendar, address book its easier than ever to manage your time and contacts. Our school supports the Palm format with a JurisPDA project at our school website. It has a lot of useful resources, including links and legal material that you can download. On a lighter side, when you need a break you can also play games and more expensive models feature a built in MP3 player. Some models even have Internet capability. However, I advise against getting one of those if you want to surf the web and not just check email. You would have to sign up for Internet service and that can get expensive. Also surfing with web clipping application on a screen is not very comfortable. So unless you desperately need those stock reports skip on this feature.

The price on PDA can range from a $100 for a monochrome model to $475 for the top of the line color one. I recommend getting one somewhere in between. Sony is famous for having the best screens with the highest resolution. It an important factor to consider since the screen is pretty small. I own a PDA Clique N760C, which is now discontinued, but I am very happy with it. As with everything shop around on Pricewatch.com and Nexttag.com for the best deals. Make sure to take a look at JurisPDA project at our school website. And if you still have more questions stop by the library and speak with Grace Lee an electronic resources librarian. She was very helpful this summer when I was trying to figure out this stuff myself.

VOTING
(Continued from Page 1)

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MEN ARE FROM MARS...
(CONTINUED FROM P.7)

Walter Gino Antonio, body found, naked and discarded on Nov. 19, 1990, in Dixie County; and Peter Siems, whose body was never found, but Wuornos admits she killed him.

Wuornos's life is a tale of hardship and horrific sexual abuse. Her father Leo Dale Pittman, convicted child molester who was strangled in prison in 1968. Her mother, Adrienne, along with her brother Keith when they were very young. At the age of 15, she became pregnant and the baby was put up for adoption. Eventually, she dropped out of school and lived a life of biker bars, hitchhiking and prostitution. She would later make the impossible claim of having slept with 250,000 men.

Karen says Aileen Wuornos is unique is that all of her killings involved sex. They began as common for sex encounters that further developed into a life of biker bars, hitchhiking and prostitution. She would later make sure of having slept with 250,000 men.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
An interview with an Alumnus by Dwight Day

Do you ever stop to wonder where you will be or what you will be doing in 10 years? Well, we thought we would go out and find an alumnus from ten years ago and have him/her share his/her experience. So off we went across the river to New Jersey, to a town called Clifton where we found Mary-Jane Oltarzewski, a member of the Law Office of Frank Martone, P.C.

Ms. Oltarzewski has supervisory responsibility for all bankruptcy matters, including the conduct of bankruptcy discovery proceedings and work-out and settlement negotiations. She interfaces with her firm’s client representatives on all contested matters and argues motions and conduct adversarial proceedings in all three of New Jersey’s bankruptcy venues.

Ms. Oltarzewski, thanks for agreeing to this interview. When did you graduate from NYLS?

I graduated in June 1992. Were you a full-time day student or a part-time student?

I was a full-time mid-year student. Back then, NYLS had a program for people who for one reason or another wound up starting during the winter/spring semester. You could start in January, and have the option of taking summer courses 2 years in a row, so that you could graduate with the rest of your class after 2 years.

Were you involved in any student activities? If so, which one(s)?

I worked as a research assistant for Professors Purcell & Lieberman; that school kept me pretty busy. Which class was your favorite?

I liked Family Law with Professor Newman, and Law & Reproductive Technology with Prof. Meyer. I also enjoyed the second semester of Can Law with Prof. Lieberman. His lecture on the 1st Amendment implications of an obscenity-emblazoned jacket remains my favorite single lecture of all time.

Who was your favorite professor(s)? Why?

There were a lot of good ones. You have to love Prof. Katter – he is an icon. I was partial to Prof. Strossen, who taught me a lot about making persuasive arguments and being good “on your feet,” and Professors LaPiana and Leonard because they always seemed to enjoy what they were doing but never told anybody.

Did you go directly from undergrad to law school?

Oh no! I graduated from Rutgers in 1982, with no intention of ever going to professional school. I worked in catalog advertising for 7-8 years, and then started thinking about what I wanted to do for my next career. I bought a Barron’s LSAT prep book and studied in secret, then took the LSAT without telling any of my family or friends. I figured if I got lousy scores I would just go about my business and never tell anybody.

Do you believe that your education at NYLS really prepared you for the legal profession?

Yes. In the sense that it taught me how to unweave a problem and look stuff up when I didn’t have all the answers. In terms of practical skills, I can’t stress enough how important my student internships were.

How long have you been with your current firm and what is it exactly that you do?

I’ve been here for 4 years. I came to fill in for an attorney who was on maternity leave, and kind of never left. We represent banks and lenders in real estate transactions; sales, foreclosures, bankruptcies, etc.

Before graduation, did you know what area of law you wanted to practice?

No. In fact, I never took a bankruptcy course at NYLS and that’s a big chunk of my current job. How long after graduation did it take you to find a job? And what was it?

A few months after passing the NY & NJ bars, I got a job as a legal editor for CCH. I thought I would like the combination of my legal training with my life before law school. It turned out that I became anxious to do some real lawyering, so I left to work at a small firm in New Jersey. One morning (about a month after I got there), six federal agents with search warrants and ankle holsters walked into the office and told me that one of my bosses was an identity thief, who had been disbarred for years and was practicing under an assumed name. That was definitely my most exhausting day at the office to date.

Had you had an internship(s)/clerkship while you were in law school?

Yes. I clerked for Judge Amman in Staten Island before I went on to work for the Office of the Corporation Counsel one semester and did a summer internship through the Richmond County Bar Association, where we were rotated among a couple different judges and senior clerks.

Are you an active alumnus?

I am sorry Ms. Oltarzewski, but how did you end up in Clifton, NJ?

I sought out this firm because I like to lunch at the Tick-Tock diner on 6th. 3. Do you keep in touch with friends you made while at New York Law School?

I keep in touch with one very dear friend, who oddly enough is not currently practicing law.

Would you say that he has a successful career?

Yes – He is teaching gifted and talented students at a city high school and is both happy and successful, I think.

Are you an active alumna?

Not as much as I’d like. I’ve only been back for the occasional trip to the library.

What advice would you give a first year student just beginning law school?

Read everything twice, and avoid “all-nighters.” After a certain point, you will wind up seeing a lot of action right off the bat and it could help you decide in which direction you would like your career to go. Also, try to relax when you’re studying for the bar exam – remember that the vast majority of graduates pass on the first try.

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Iraq did not attack us. It has been mindling its own affairs. Yes, I agree that Saddam is bad, and he might be developing weapons of mass destruction (WMD), which by the way we helped him to get when we liked him. But how did we jump from Al Qaeda to Iraq? How have we been so gullible to let President Bush convince us that there is a link between Al Qaeda and Saddam? I must credit the President in going before the United Nations down the toilet. Now we have a new administration which won't allow any foreign state to catch Saddam because not so long ago it was refusing to pay its dues. I saw the vital need of such action. So it was not just a big joke. The President told the U.N. "Show the world that you can act." To the rest of the world it seems that entity above the sovereign, but what about international law? Can one nation just decide to get rid of another sovereign's government? Who gives America the right to be so mighty to dictate regime change in Iraq? In Palestine?

The former doctrines of Containment, Non Proliferation, and Deterrence have now been flushed down the toilet. Now we have a new doctrine of MILITARY GLOBAL SUPREMACY, one of First Strike Prevention. Is this the doctrine of infinite arrogance? This is just absurd. Is anyone awake? I know this is a big joke and I laughed at the thought of the U.S. to use at its convenience. Is anyone going to challenge that? The President said "Let's allow the U.N. weapon inspectors a chance. Although I laughed at the thought of the U.S. inspectors going into Iraq, I saw the vital need of such action. So it was not just a big joke. The President told the U.N. "Show the world that you can act." To the rest of the world it seems that entity above the sovereign, but what about international law? Can one nation just decide to get rid of another sovereign's government? Who gives America the right to be so mighty to dictate regime change in Iraq? In Palestine?

I just have to keep laughing as I read stuff like "Will not allow any foreign state to catch Saddam or pass us or take the place of the former Soviet Union." Even if that is our goal, that is formidable, it's not the way the world's last remaining Superpower should be acting. And then we wonder why Americans are hated? Ok moving right along.

Are we really talking about defense in pursuit of freedom? We do not have a history of doing well in interventions so why will this time be any different? I won't be cynical and say ok it is two oilmen from an oil state going after the second largest reserve of oil in the world. I do not question that President Bush believes what he believes. I do not doubt his patriotism. However, although I respect his view, I beg to disagree. Is that still allowed in America?

Then not to mention the cost of this war! Both the White House and the Congressional Budget Office estimate between 100 and 200 Billion dollars for the cost of such an undertaking. And that is just the cost of winning the war, not of securing the peace and rebuilding afterwards. Where is this money going to come from? And why not instead spend this money (which we don't have) on a national health insurance plan or to jumpstart the economy?

Does it not then seem silly to act alone or with just Great Britain?

Let's allow the U.N. weapon inspectors to go in - call Saddam's bluff - and then go in with the support of other countries. After all we are making the world safer not just for ourselves but for everyone on the planet and others should help to foot the bill.

The job at hand is taking down Al Qaeda. We can't even get Bin Laden, and we are going to go after Saddam. The sacrifices of the Navy, the Green Beret, etc., are already great and the cost of Afghanistam is already overwhelming.

In the end it comes down to how you see the world. It could be a generation thing or it could be an arrogance thing or it could be plain stupidity. Whatever you view you take, the outcome looks bleak and we are probably all doomed.
ANSWERS TO LAST WEEKS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

(GOOD LUCK)

PIEPPER

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University at Buffalo
O'Brian Hall - Room 108
Hofstra University
Law School - Room 230

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IS THE SECOND LARGEST LANDOWNER IN NEW YORK CITY, AFTER THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.
FOR EVERY ACTION THERE IS AN EQUAL 
AND OPPOSITE REACTION 

BY STAFF WRITER

Kudos to Dean Matasar. Seriously, I respect and appreciate the Dean’s efforts to improve New York Law School...a school, according to a recent issue of L Magazine, whose students “couldn’t get in anywhere else.” Now, I could use this free space to criticize the dean for what some would call a well-intentioned, but poorly planned P.R. stunt...but, I won’t. Hey, at least someone came out looking good (did you see his picture on pg. 35)?

Ok. Now that I’ve given you the sensational, controversial stuff the world now eats to survive, let’s get to what’s important. At the end of the day, New York Law School is not a bottom feeder; some of our faculty’s accomplishments pale in comparison to some of the accomplishments of our students (pre, during, and past-NYLS), and yes, some of us actually chose to come to NYLS. Before coming here, I was introduced to the school by a friend of the family who is an associate at a top New York law firm.

Our alumni are practicing attorneys in every field and at every level. We can boast about some of our non-practicing attorneys as well – presidents and directors of major corporations, actors, authors, etc. By now, you’ve got it. I’m telling you what that article in L Magazine should have told you and the legal community about NYLS (particularly, its students).

This is the kind of language that would encourage alumni to give and then give some more to our school. This is the kind of language that encourages students to speak well of our school. With that said, because this is intended to be a quick blurb, I’ll bring this to a close by saying this: We didn’t need to hear again about how bad our school was or arguably is – that’s old news. We’ve heard it before. Obviously, the responsibility is ours (meaning, the students) to express the truth about our little law school in Tribeca – through our words and our actions.

The truth is that many of us come here because of this school’s purported commitment to excellence and diversity. Many others come because of this school’s history of radical thought and action. Many stay and go on to do well because of this school’s emphasis on practical learning (a skill many of the Ivy’s haven’t yet mastered). Hopefully this will be printed in the Lor in the author, Professor Kirp’s book.

GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE, SOLD 

BY STAFF WRITER

Ever wonder what big corporations spend their money on and what happens to that stuff when they go bankrupt? Better yet ever wonder how to get your hands on it. Enter DoveBid.com, a live auction website specializing in corporate asset liquidation. Last month I visited the site to check out the Enron auction. Up for bids were crates of plasma TV’s, computers, laptops, an air hockey table, a football table and boxes of corporate gifts with the Enron logo. The big Enron “E” went for $20,000.

The stuff being auctioned was amazing, but the technology was also impressive. To participate you need to register which requires a DoveBid to hold $500 on your credit card, you are not charged anything though. DoveBid hosts live auctions, which means in the case of Enron there was a live auction going on in Texas and those with internet access and a separate phone line can actually participate in the real time auction. Via your computer and some sort of video media player you can see what item is being auctioned and hear what is being said i.e. the auctioneer. To actually bid you need to dial into the auction center. While on the phone there are two ways to bid. The auctioneer might say that the phone lines are open. This mean you can speak and the auctioneer can hear you and will acknowledge your bid. The other way is when the phone lines are closed. In this mode you use the phone to bid, press #1 to raise your paddle and some other button to lower it. Just note that they take the room bids first and then turn to the web bidders. That is the basic idea but the concept and technology is pretty cool and works remarkably well.

So if you are an internet auction junky and are looking for real stuff that you can use or some random corporate machinery then DoveBid is worth a visit. Even if you are not interested it is still neat to see what kind of weird stuff is out there.

J. GARDINER PIEPER

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CITY WITH THE MOST ROLLS ROYCE’S PER CAPITA: HONG KONG
Question/Statement from 3rd year student in audience:
In some cases, students have been closed out of classes they need for the bar and for their future jobs. Criminal Procedure Investigations, in my case. What can be done to ensure that if a student needs a class and it's already filled, the student can take the class, especially graduating students?

Response:
Class space will almost always be limited, due to the irregular frequency with which certain classes are scheduled, the logistical requirements of the overall class schedule in any given semester, the faculty member's teaching schedule, and the size of available classrooms. If a student really wants the content of a particular subject, and is interested in taking the class, and meet with the professor to ask questions. Also, for potential employers, ask the professor if she/he could write a letter on your behalf stating that you wanted to take the class, and were closed out of it, but you met with the professor throughout the semester, did the reading, etc. and recommend that you have a full understanding of the subject although you did not officially take the class for a grade.

If the curriculum is expanded over the next 3-5 years, courses will be more widespread and covered for students to enroll in more courses without being closed out.

Question/Statement from student in audience: You (the Dean) always seem to have both a long-term and short-term plan with law school programs. What goals are there to help with employment for students not in the top 5%?

Response:
NYLS will likely always be driven by long-term goals, because long-term goals tend to create improvement in the short term. Second- and third-year students will always see improvements for first-years and incoming students, and may feel that they were somehow "left out" it's the nature of the way things work.

Regarding employment, students need to be particularly aware right now that the economy is bad, so things are harder than ever for students not in the top 15 percent of their classes. When the economy's bad, and employment is challenging in all industries, there is a disproportionately negative effect on the content of a particular subject, and is interested in taking the class, and meet with the professor to ask questions. Also, for potential employers, ask the professor if she/he could write a letter on your behalf stating that you wanted to take the class, and were closed out of it, but you met with the professor throughout the semester, did the reading, etc. and recommend that you have a full understanding of the subject although you did not officially take the class for a grade.

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Question from student in audience: Can you address the recent article in the L Magazine?

Response:
The author of the article said good things about NYLS but also said bad things, and the bad things were hurtful. It's troubling that some of the conclusions that were drawn about the Law School were based in interviews that were done a year ago, and our programs have changed since then. But the author and editor have the right to write what they choose, and we can't control what's written. In the long wrong, it's our belief that we perform relatively to their classmates. Personally, I don't like the 4.0 grading scale, but the grading scale is a matter for faculty consideration. I can predict that the faculty is not going to approve an overall increase of our grading curve; however, if students want the faculty to examine some part of the grading system, they must work together and petition the faculty as a group. It's much less likely that the faculty will respond to such a request from an individual student or two.

Question from student in audience: Do you have any plans to change the grading system at NYLS?

Response:
Our admissions goal this year was to maintain the size of the entering class at the level at which it was last year, and the past few years. NYLS is looking into renting and/or buying space within the blocks surrounding the Law School, but those proposals must be financially viable, and we need money to rent and buy space. We cannot raise tuition to increase space, so we are thinking of other ways to raise money and we hope to receive donations. We hope to have a new dormitory and office space for the Law School, but that project's unlikely to come to fruition for three or four years.

While we know that the larger first-year class poses some challenges in terms of our physical plant, we also know that the classroom experience for each of those additional students is the same as it would have been with a smaller class. Individual class sizes have not changed.

Question from student in audience: Will there be an LLM program at NYLS?

Response:
Regarding our goal to keep this grant aid for living space within the blocks surrounding the Law School, but those proposals must be financially viable, and we need money to rent and buy space. We cannot raise tuition to increase space, so we are thinking of other ways to raise money and we hope to receive donations. We hope to have a new dormitory and office space for the Law School, but that project's unlikely to come to fruition for three or four years.
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Remaining NYLS Table Dates:
Every Tuesday from 10AM-6PM until November 12