

THE OPINION

Volume 21 No.5 September 2008

The image shows the exterior of a brick building with a large glass entrance. The entrance is framed by a dark purple or maroon metal structure. Above the entrance, the words "WILLIAM MITCHELL COLLEGE OF LAW" are inscribed in gold lettering on a dark purple background. The building is constructed of red brick. The entrance has large glass doors and windows, reflecting the surrounding environment. There are some plants and a sign near the entrance.

WILLIAM MITCHELL
COLLEGE OF LAW

DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION?

- ARE YOU A JOURNALIST?
- IF NOT, DO YOU STILL WANT TO DO SOME REPORTING ANYWAY?
- DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE?

OR...

- DO YOU THINK YOU'RE FUNNY?
- WERE YOU THE CLASS CLOWN?
- Did you think you were funnier than the class clown, because he was a complete hack and you were handing your high school classmates comic gold and their only response was "uh...i don't get it" because they had the collective intelligence of a number 9 steel lock washer but they still pushed you so far over the edge you decided to sell your soul and go to law school and study patents, trademarks and copyrights*?

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR REPORTERS AND HUMOR WRITERS!
E-MAIL michael.vogel@wmitchell.edu IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.**

* THE OPINION would like to apologize to all copyright and trademark attorneys everywhere. PATENT ATTORNEYS KNOW WHAT THEY DID!

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THE OPINION

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“Mitchell Students in the Big Apple: *The American Bar Association’s 2008 Annual Convention*”

by Britt Kringle and Kodi Church

The American Bar Association

The American Bar Association (“ABA”) is the largest voluntary professional association in the world. With more than 450,000 members, the ABA provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges in their work, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public. The Law Student Division with over 50,000 members is the largest group in the ABA. Each August the ABA holds an Annual Convention bringing together Supreme Court Justices, members of Congress, noted authors and actors, attorneys, judges, and law students.

This year’s Annual Meeting, held in New York City, featured many of the nation’s leading legal industry and government professionals, including Jeffrey Toobin, author of “The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court,” Kenneth Starr, former Solicitor General, Independent Counsel and author of the “Starr Report,” and Dr. Asha Rose-Migiro, deputy secretary-general of the United Nations, among others.

SBA President Elise Peterson, ABA Representative Britt Kringle, ABA Chair Kodi Church, and Law Student Division liaison to the Law Practice Management Section, Bill Gschwind, were honored to represent the William Mitchell student body at the Convention this year and attended several conference events. The ABA-Law Student Division provides benefits and resources to law students and acts as a representative body for law students in the ABA delegation. William Mitchell Professors Scallen, Kleinberger, Kunz and others also attended the conference.

Highlights of the Annual Convention

The Rule of Law Initiative luncheon honored judges and lawyers from Pakistan who stood up against President Musharraf to defend the rule of law and justice in Pakistan. These individuals did this despite oppression by the government and suspension of the country’s constitution. The bravery of these lawyers and judges to work to preserve the rule of law in the country is an inspiration.

The CLE “Individual Rights, Terrorism and the Rule of Law: The World After 9/11” featured a diverse panel of renowned U.S. and international experts who discusses the key legal issues in the aftermath of 9/11, particularly relevant in the conference host city.

Another CLE entitled, “What the Presidential Candidates Should Be Saying About Judicial Selection”, discussed the process of judicial confirmation and the important questions that should be asked as judicial candidates are nominated, investigated, and confirmed. Linda Greenhouse, senior Supreme Court correspondent for the New York Times moderated an esteemed panel of professors, including Professor Eisgruber of Princeton University, Professor Ifill of the University of Maryland School of Law and Kenneth Starr, Dean of Pepperdine University School of Law.

Other CLE or section-sponsored sessions ranged in topics from the ramifications of climate change legislation, to liability in the event of a bridge collapse, to legal claims arising from the subprime meltdown and increased foreclosures, to discussions on current Supreme Court decisions dealing with the Second Amendment and Habeas Corpus.

ABA Convention continue on page 3

A Jazzy Coffee Shop

by Elise Peterson

If you are looking for a nice cozy place to study, walk down the street to Golden Thyme Coffee.

Located just a few blocks north of campus at the corner of Milton and Selby Avenues, Golden Thyme is a convenient study spot, with a bar looking out onto the corner, a series of tables set lengthwise across the main space, and comfy chairs.

Golden Thyme is a family-run business that Michael and Stephanie Wright started around eight years ago. Their son helps out with the family business, and though he doesn't drink much coffee, he spoke highly of the Turtle Monk Mocha a specialty drink, made from dark chocolate, caramel, pecan, steamed milk, and espresso. Another popular drink is the Billy Holiday, made of dark chocolate, almond, coconut, and steamed milk.

There are a variety of other items on the menu besides coffee drinks, including tea, soda, pastries, soups, sandwiches and salads. Golden Thyme also has daily specials ranging from spaghetti, to chicken wings, to tacos.

Golden Thyme Coffee also has a mid-sized adjoining room that can be rented for group meetings and presentations (it has presentation equipment). For example, local politicians sometimes hold meetings there. The coffee shop is cozy and community oriented, it is a great place grab a coffee, relax, and crack open the books.

Golden Thyme is open from: 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays; and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays.

ABA Convention Continue...

The William Mitchell representative's used the President's Reception as an opportunity to network with attorneys, students, and professors who were involved in bar activities or presentations at the conference.

Kringle and Peterson attended various leadership workshops and the LSD's Grand Assembly, acting as voting members of the LSD delegation. Church also attended leadership meetings and a variety of CLE seminars. Gschwind attended many CLEs, two in particular were hosted by the ABA's Law Practice Management (LPM) Section. Gschwind also lobbied the LPM Section to create a curriculum and materials for law students who are interested in running their own practice.

Becoming Involved

The Mission of the American Bar Association is to be the national representative of the legal profession, serving the public and the profession by promoting justice, professional excellence, and respect for the law.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the local or national chapters of the American Bar Association-Law Student Division, please contact Britt Kringle, britt.kringle@wmitchell.edu or Kodi Church, kodi.church@wmitchell.edu. Also, please contact us if you have questions about law student memberships and benefits or competitions sponsored by the ABA. Materials from the conference will be available in the SBA Office. For information on resources offered by the ABA to assist in managing a law practice, please contact Bill Gschwind, bill.gschwind@wmitchell.edu.

Reflecting on Tragedy

A Special Editorial Note on Beijing

The Editorial Staff of The Opinion all join in this statement.

The Opinion had accidentally scheduled a meeting of the humor staff on August 8th, however it was cancelled so the Opinion staff wouldn't have to miss the opening ceremony. It's obvious the last minute cancellation was a good idea, as we all got to sit at home and watch one of the most impossible opening ceremonies in Olympic history. As the ceremony progressed, we were all filled with wonder and amazement at the sights and sounds that no paper can describe and do justice.

For the Twin Cities, wonder and amazement turned to shock and sorrow in the period of only 24 hours. Reports were coming in from Beijing saying that Todd Bachman has been stabbed to death, and his wife was critically wounded. The Bachmans' were not specifically targeted, and the attack appeared to be random. The attacker leapt to his death immediately after the incident.

Todd Bachman was the CEO of Bachman's, a Minnesota floral company that has been in business since 1885. His company has been nothing short of a staple to Twin Cities businesses. Todd and his wife were in Beijing because their daughter is married to a coach of the men's US Olympic volleyball Team. Life in the Twin Cities progressed that weekend, but only at the most reluctant pace. We all seemed to be in horror as to what just happened. Everyone seemed

to be looking for an explanation. As one Twin Cities resident asked, how can someone think to attack a person who devoted his life to bringing people joy in their special occasions and comfort during their grief? All we could gather from the news reports was that the attacker just suddenly snapped, and randomly picked Todd Bachman's.

The television news outlets seemed to be on the case, seeking out what caused the man to snap. CNN noted that the attacker recently lost his job and went through a divorce. A local NBC affiliate also noted that in the year prior to this incident, the attacker's son went through some legal trouble. However, since the attacker took his own life, we will never truly know why.

"Why" is a question that will remain on the minds of many Twin Cities residents. Why would someone take the life of a man who has left such a positive mark on Minnesota. Todd Bachman's life was taken, however his memory will clearly remain. It will live on in his family, and every flower sold by Bachman's.

The Missing Nuances of the Georgian-Russian-Ossetian triangle

by Justin Paul

With the recent escalation of Russian-Georgian tension, the often ignored South Caucasus has come briefly onto the mainstream media and political analysis scene. There have been those that want to drape this conflict in a purely cold war lens. To do so is inaccurate and a deeper level of analysis is necessary.

Understanding the Ossetians: More than Russian Puppets.

Ossetians are in fact the only Christian people of Iranic descent. They have a substantial population and are the titular nationality in North-Ossetia-Alania, which is a Russian Republic due north of South Ossetia. While both populations are fairly russified in culture, they still retain a distinct Ossetian culture. They also are one of the few devotedly pro-Russian people in the North Caucasus, a land that has many Muslim populations who very understandably feel like the Russian state has discriminated against them.

The Ossetians in North Ossetia have feuded with Inguish (ethnic cousins of the Chechens), and the Beslan school siege effected almost entirely ethnic Ossetian children. This pro-Russian population on the frontier is useful to the Russian Federation, and they benefit from having more Ossetians.

South Ossetia itself features almost 14,000 ethnic Georgians or pro-Georgian Ossetians under the leadership of Dmitry Sankoyev. Their fate has been ignored by the pro-Russian media outlets, and western media outlets don't seem to mention this substantial community that does not support the breakaway republic. It is safe to assume that their future in a fully Russian occupied South Ossetia is perilous at best. Much of the rebel Ossetian leadership includes non-Ossetians who have served in relatively obscure republics such as Perm Oblast and Mordovia Republic. So while the Ossetian leadership may be manipulated by outside forces, they still represent the will of the majority of the dispute province. This point needs to be emphasized.

Effects on Georgia: An Imperfect Democracy is badly bruised

The media coverage has ignored the fact Georgia's multi-ethnic democracy has been tragically flawed. President Mikhail Saakashvili has not used his platform to improve the social situation for ethnic Armenians in the Javanakh region and ethnic Azeris in the Kvemo-Kartli region. He has also posthumously elevated the status of controversial nationalist leader Zviad Gamsakhurdia. This is important to note because it was Gamskhurdia's claims that non-Georgians were guests in the country that was the greatest recruiting tool for Abkhazian and Ossetian separatists. He has also brutally cracked down on his own people last fall when they protested against his regime, sacked and exiled his defense minister Iraki Orakushvili, and

Missing Nuances cont. on page 6-

Missing Nuances Continued...

for a time closed down the major non-government TV station, Imedi TV. This is where the good vs. evil narrative does not wash with reality.

Nonetheless, perhaps the most shocking revelation has been the American anti-war camp (be they left wing, paleo-conservative, or libertarian) abdication of a consistent line in favor of the Westphalian world order. Georgia may be an American client state in many ways, but that does not justify Russia's occupation of the towns of Gori and Poti, which are not necessary to hold in order to keep the Russians out of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. It was in fact that Russians that opened up the Abkhazian front, and also used this conflict as a pretext to try to drive the Georgians from the Upper Kodori Gorge, which is the only part of Georgia controls.

Kosovo ripple effect: It's 1999 all over again

We lastly need to understand this conflict as a side effect of the American and Western European attempt to create an exceptional standard in international law for the creation of Kosovo. The same sort of humanitarian justification that was used to aid and abet the insurrectionist Kosovo Liberation Army was used by the Russians to aid the Ossetian's breakaway militia. Ossetians and Abkhazians suffered discriminations under the Georgian Republic when it was communist, just as Albanians suffered after Belgrade stripped their autonomy. Both the West and Russia are only selectively interested in human rights.

It was said the recognition of Kosovo would create a precedent for unilateral secession. But precedents are only as valid as the system that allows them to have weight. The western world was not about to allow Moldova and Georgia's territorial integrity to be violated the same

way Serbia's was in 1999. It is instead a question of force, it was the force of the west that allowed Kosovo to come into the family of nations, and it is the force of Russia that will allow Abkhazia and South Ossetia to come into independence as a pretext for an anschluss with Russia.

We are now seeing that it is not only the United States that can force the westphalian state system into a period of irrelevancy. It is discouraging that some commentators will cheer this Russian advance out of a sense of "anti-imperialism," when they are really just trading one type of imperialism for different kind of imperialism. The good versus bad narrative of this conflict is not the most appropriate way to view it, and it is a shame so many commentators are using this human tragedy to score cheap political points.

Around Town

by Trisha Gabriel

Although we spend all of our time holed up in the library reading casebook after casebook, while our cars slowly become piled with snow, it's nice every now and then to get out and see civilization. One low key, but fun place to adventure out to in these frigid months, is the Historic Cathedral Hill neighborhood. The Hill neighborhood is just a few blocks away from school, on Selby and Western, and offers a variety of restaurants and shops, for any relaxing afternoon.

Here is just a sample of what the Historic Cathedral Hill neighborhood has to offer:

Nina's Coffee Shop

Nina's is not your run of the mill, cookie-cutter coffee shop. There is an eclectic blend of people – from the students who are frantically pounding on their keyboards to groups of both men and women discussing their latest page-turner for book club – Nina's has something to offer every one. Even though it is a coffee shop, it also has a variety of sandwiches and soups on their lunch menu and bagels and organic oatmeal on their breakfast menu.

Located in Blair Arcade, open 6:30am-10pm

Common Good Books

Even though law school does take up the majority of our time, on those cold winter nights it is sometimes refreshing to curl up with a non-academic book. Common Good Books is a locally owned bookstore that offers a variety of national bestsellers and local breed writers who are new to the literary market. Common Good Books is small, but densely packed with books from every genre. Not only can you shop in the store, for the truly devoted reader, they offer book readings

and book clubs that are for all to join.

Located in the basement of Blair Arcade, open 10am-10pm Monday-Friday, 10am-8pm Sunday
For a listing of readings and book club information check out their website at www.CommonGoodBooks.com

Good Eats

There are a variety of places to eat in the Hill neighborhood. If you are looking for something on the lower price end, Fabulous Fern's is a great option. Fern's offers the quintessential bar food – burgers and fries, sandwiches, and salads, with prices ranging anywhere from \$7.00-\$15.00 a meal. If you looking for a way to hydrate yourself, the Happy Hour at Fern's is a great deal. Happy Hour runs from 4-6:30pm Monday-Friday and 2-6:30pm on Saturday, with beer specials ranging from \$2.50-\$5.00 and food specials at \$6.00 an appetizer.

A restaurant that is on the pricey end, but worth every penny is La Grolla. La Grolla's offers an intimate setting, similar to a restaurant you would wander into while walking down the streets of a European city. La Grolla's menu consists of a comprehensive wine list, an array of Italian food, and traditional desserts perfect for any occasion.

La Grolla is open for lunch 11am-4pm Monday-Saturday, dinner 4pm-10pm Monday-Thursday, and 4pm-11pm Friday and Saturday. Additionally on Sunday they offer brunch from 11am-3pm, and dinner 3pm-9pm.

Bush deploys troops to *Atlanta, GA*



“How long has Russia been our enemy? 60 years?” commented Paul Farrelly, a bus driver in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Farrelly continued, “Here we are wasting our time in Iraq when the real enemy all along has been Russia.”

Dmitry Medvedev responded to Bush’s declaration with confusion.

“The United States is our ally; we would never directly level an attack against its people.

“I think President Bush may be mistaken in his analysis of the situation.”

Bush refused to hear anything but surrender from Medvedev, though.

“They had their chance for diplomacy, but they chose to attack first.

“You can’t just decide when to talk and when to go to war unilaterally; it just doesn’t work like that.

“And we have excellent intelligence of satellite photographs showing Russian military units deployed at Fort Benning near Columbus, Fort Gordon near Augusta, and Fort Stewart near Hinesville.

“We have a swift and extensive amphibious assault planned against these sites.

Bush Sends Troops Continued on page 9

Citing recent Russian military aggression, President Bush deployed troops to Atlanta, Georgia yesterday.

Defiant, the President declared, “We must meet the challenge of this unprovoked attack head-on.

“For years, we have stood idly by as Russian belligerence spread, destabilizing its neighbors and the region.

“Now, that belligerence has come to our shores.

“Make no mistake: we will drive back the invaders and bring peace to the people of Georgia once again!”

People from across the U.S. were equally angered by the incursion.

Bush Sends Troops to Atlanta Continued...

“Rest assured: Operation Pitted Peach will clear these areas of all military units within several days.

“Ensuring the freedom of the people of Georgia is our responsibility as a nation.”

Reports of Georgian casualties are inconclusive at this point due to the disorientation of the offices of the Georgian executive.

“I spoke directly with [Georgia Governor] Sonny Perdue.

“When I asked him how hard they were hit, he said he didn’t know what I was talking about but that he was going to look into it.

“No doubt he was taken off guard by Russia’s sudden and merciless strike.

“His office must be in disarray, and he personally must be reeling from the distress of the situation.

“I know none of us expected an attack from Russia.

“They have been a strong ally in the War on Terror, and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has been a good friend.

“This attack is not only damages our country, but also my feelings.

“I feel very betrayed.”

With that, Bush concluded, “It is our mission as a nation to liberate the people of Georgia from the tyrannical oppression of Russia.”

Profs Say the Darndest Things

We’ve all been there. You are sitting in class, innocently taking notes, when your professor says something hilarious. While this effectively prevents many of us from learning for the rest of the day, it is also, undeniably, one of the best parts of law school. As a public service, The Opinion will publish these gems of legal education.

Send us your profs’ quotes!

“My C’s are like Heidenreich’s F’s.”

“Just because so many stars in Hollywood are out having bastards these days, doesn’t change the fact that illegitimates have been historically discriminated against.”

“I don’t know why we make you study all this crap for anyway...”

“Just remember to write the word ‘gorilla’ in your exam answer.”

“Now, can you think of a principled reason why we shouldn’t be outraged at the NAFTA agreement?”

“Do you guys appreciate how many hours of old COPS episodes I had to watch to find this stuff?”

“Should have gone to Hamline!”

“Students at the U are lazy.”

“What do you mean you don’t know the answer - didn’t you read the book?”

“Do you guys ever feel like guinea pigs?”

ETHICS COMMITTEE TO CRACK DOWN ON LAWYER JOKES

TWO LAWYERS WALKED INTO A BAR, AND WERE DISBARRED.

by: Shmuck Maccallister

The American Bar Association Chair Robert Davidson announced on Thursday that it plans on fighting lawyer jokes “wherever they may happen”. He explained, “We here at the ABA feel it is our responsibility to fight lawyer jokes, as we do not condone, laugh at, tell, or otherwise enjoy lawyer jokes, or any other form of humor.”

Davidson continued, “While I realize many nay-sayers out there equate our actions with the Sedition Act, I assure you, our new policies and enforcement bear no resemblance to that dark chapter of American Legal History.” The ABA’s new enforcement operation is called the “Sedition Initiative”. Davidson commented, “It was either that or we call it the ‘Stop Making Fun of Us Act’”.

This policy initiative comes as a reaction to an incident at Chairman Davidson’s home two months ago where a light bulb went out, and it took three attorneys to change it. One attorney had to file a motion with the 9th Circuit to have the light bulb changed, another attorney had to argue the new bulb’s jurisdiction in Davidson’s home as it is intended to be domiciled there, and third attorney had to screw in the new bulb in accordance with the Federal Rules Light Bulb Procedure. The experience took 5 weeks and cost Davidson an estimated \$15,000.

The new initiative has already been enforced on existing attorneys. James Sanders, a private practice attorney who has put in 75 hours of pro-bono work this month alone, and part time stand up comedian has already felt the long arm of the ABA. At a recent performance at the Twin Cities Laugh-It-Up Comedy

Club, he told a joke claiming that he decided to become a lawyer at a very young age. The joke stated, “I was riding my bike when I was young, and I don’t know why, I just naturally chased ambulances.” The joke received a huge laugh.

Sanders was promptly arrested by ABA Ethics Enforcement Officials, beaten with nightsticks, and taken away. An Ethics Official commented saying, “We sent Sanders to Guantanamo Bay, with the rest of the terrorists.”

This new initiative has even extended to new criteria for the Character and Fitness Committee for certifying new lawyers. In a press release, the committee said, “We are looking new lawyers, who, if they were drowning in a lake next to an IRS agent, and an innocent bystander was standing by, and could only choose 1, they would choose the attorney.” A recent study by the ABA found that the largest dilemma for bystanders in that situation is whether to read a book or watch TV.

One Constitutional attorney went on record saying, “this is a clear violation of the rights of current and upcoming attorneys. I plan on taking this all the way to the Supreme Court.” The attorney’s lawsuit may be short lived, however, since the Supreme Court has already ruled the US Constitution only applies to a “person”, and that lawyers are “the walking dead”.

The Opinion is currently under investigation by the Ethics Committee for the publication of this article.

Shmuck MacCallister is a staff writer who is hell-bent on getting this paper into trouble.

Mitchell Mentor Sued by Mental Mentee

by Stuart Stendahl

A student from the William Mitchell Mentoring Program received a Summons and Complaint on Thursday from Leslie James, 1L.

She claims that her 3L mentor, Tommy Mann, committed mentor-malpractice by giving her bad law school advice, which led to: “a material and substantial decrease in my first-year grades that might force me to pursue other occupations,” said James.

Forcing a law student to pursue another profession is a violation of Federal Law under the Stop Giving Bad News to Law Students Act of 1985.

Therefore, she desires:

1) Mr. Mann to stop committing mentor-malpractice; 2) Compensation for future loss of earnings; 3) Mr. Mann to pay for her Jungian analyst; and 4) Dancing lessons at the Arthur Murray Studio where one Audrey Vokes became a “beautiful dancer”.

“This Mann has totally ruined my legal career,” James told The Opinion. “He was so wrong – he misinformed me that the Commerce Clause was just a bogus excuse that the U.S. Supreme Court uses to forestall progressive state legislation like medicinal marijuana.”

“How was I supposed to know my professor used to work for the DEA and had a child who was expelled from middle school for wearing a t-shirt that said: ‘Bong-Hits for Daddy’.”

James continued, “And for test preparation, he oversimplified matters when he told me to just go find the instructor’s test archive at the library, read the Hornybook, and nod and wink at the instructor a few times.” “I did the first and the last thing, but I never really understood what he meant by Hornybook – I thought he was talking some trash about a porn magazine – what a freak!”

Hornybook is an adult legal publication in conjunction with Hugh Hefner’s lawyer, whose intellectual property edition recently featured a centerfold of the commissioner of the US Patent Office.

Tommy Mann denies each and everything that Ms. James alleges in her complaint.

In fact, Mann says that, “Leslie should just get over it -- I did everything legally possible to help her out. She didn’t even know what a hornbook was. At the sessions, she looked at me like a deer in the headlights -- I even stopped the car and turned the headlights off. Besides, there is nothing wrong with getting a bad grade or two. I am sure she got

at least “D-’s” like I usually get. If she wants inflated grades she could have gone to the U.”

Mann hopes to 12(b)(6) this thing right out of court. He asserts that there was no special relationship between them then, and even less of a chance of it happening now that she sued him. However, if she drops her suit, Mann said he’d cover the dancing lessons.

Gloria Gogol from the WMCL Mentoring office says the matter is under internal investigation. She said that the office tries its best to match people up with “good” mentors, but sometimes, mismatches happen. “We assumed Mann was the right mentor for James. Having a sophisticated sounding last name and acting like an arrogant jackass are two strong predictors of mentoring success.” She mentioned that the contracts between students will be amended this year to contain: indemnity clauses for the school and students, ADR clauses, and definitions of key terms like hornbook and nutshell... and we will also get rid of that clause that says “if you get a bad grade, we will pay you 1 million dollars”

Story about case made interesting by inclusion of poo

by: Jeremy Byellin

A story told by a local law student to a group of his friends was made far more interesting by the inclusion of poo.

The student, William Mitchell College of Law 2L Zack Wilmot, was visiting with a group of friends at The Liffey Irish Pub in St. Paul.

The case, Irving Properties, Inc v. Sabat, is a simple contracts dispute between a tenant and a landlord.

Jennifer Kruger, one of Wilmot's friends present at the pub that night, recalled the events of the night.

"As soon as he started talking about some lease contract, I thought, 'Here we go again' and then just mentally checked out.

"He's always talking about some dumb case that he read.

"I've gotten to the point that as soon as I hear 'tort' or 'fee simple' or something like that, I just zone out or go get another drink.

"Then all of the sudden Zack started talking about a sewage pipe bursting in someone's apartment.

"Everyone perked up as soon as that came out."

The facts of the case involve a sewage pipe bursting and subsequently leaking its contents into the defendant's apartment.

The defendant ended her lease prematurely, causing the landlord to sue for breach of contract.

Pete Fleming recounted the group's reaction: "We all had a few drinks at that point, so the idea of a bunch of shit leaking into some poor jackass's apartment got a few good laughs out of us."

Wilmot was perplexed as to his friends' unusual interest in his story, but was grateful for the attention nonetheless.

"I don't really understand why they found this case in particular so interesting, but I'm glad they enjoyed it!

"They must like contracts cases, because the last time they got this interested in a case was when I told them about Weaver v. American Oil Co."

"I remember that case," Fleming commented.

"That was the one with the gasoline fight like in [the film] Zoolander.

Poo continued on page 13

Poo Continued...

“Oh, man, we all got a kick out of the fact that something like that actually happened.”

Unfortunately for Wilmot’s friends, their approval at his retelling of cases only reinforces the annoying habit.

Emily Long is concerned about just that.

“Someone should tell him we don’t like his stupid stories.

“Our acting the slightest bit interested just encourages him

“We can’t always rely on the facts of the case he’s talking about being humorous; we really have to say something and put a stop to it right away.”

Confident from his most recent case narrative, Wilmot plans on telling his friends about Chauffeurs, Teamsters, and Helpers Local No. 391 v. Terry next weekend.

DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION?

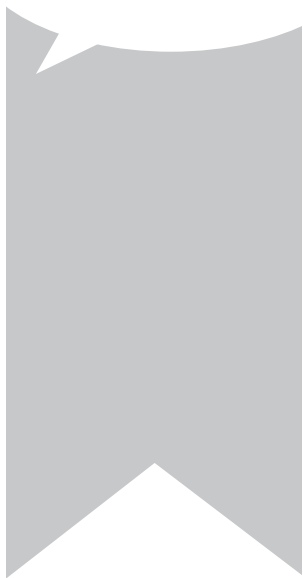
**WE’RE LOOKING FOR REPORTERS AND
HUMOR WRITERS!**

**E-MAIL michael.vogel@wmitchell.edu IF
YOU ARE INTERESTED.**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **September 5th, 4-6pm, William Mitchell Student to Student Mentoring Program Kick-Off, in the Auditorium, For the Mentors and Mentees**
- **September 11th, 3:30-4:30pm, All about the American Bar Association (ABA) and Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA), in Room 331, Everyone Welcome, Perspectives PLP**
- **September 11th, 1-2pm, Stress Release Yoga, by the Work/Life Balance Club, in the Auditorium, Everyone Welcome, Stress Management PLP**
- **September 13th, 12:30pm, Student Bar Association Board of Governors Meeting, by the SBA, in the Kelley Boardroom, SBA Board of Governors must attend, Everyone Welcome**

THE OPINION



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