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'93 a "year from hell" for aid
by David Feldman
Editor-in-Chief

Financial aid has not been easy to come by in fall 1993. The FAFSA form was delayed and the computer systems were insufficient to process financial aid from Stafford loans and even later processing of SLS loans.

By Andrea Berkman
11. Staff Writer

At long last the 1993 negotiation competition at Boston College Law School is over. On October 19, the team of Bill Blake and Al McCarthy defeated Pat Farrell and Larry Grahala. Spectators agreed that they did not envy the judges' task of picking the winners. The judges took over twenty minutes to decide what they said was a close contest. When asked how they felt about this round of competition, both teams agreed that they represented their "clients" well and were surprised at how much progress was made toward settling the case.

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Alan and Bill will be taking part in the regional part of the competition in the next few weeks. From there, the competition advances to the national level.

2Ls Win Negotiation Contest

By Andrea Berkman

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Negotiation champion
Bill Blake

Al McCarthy, comprised other half of top duo

Financial aid director Laurie Hogan

The change in forms caused a wide variety of problems. When the federal government introduced the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the idea was to provide a free, simplified form for determining aid information. However, while the FAFSA contains information necessary to determine how much aid, institutional funds should be distributed. For example, FAFSA does not require information regarding parental income.

Because private services like College Scholarship Service (CSS), maker of the Financial Aid Form (FAF), could not duplicate the basic FAFSA information but still needed to provide information sufficient to determine parental income, their forms had to be completely revamped. This meant publishing the forms and updating the computer systems in less than a year.

While FAFS forms were delayed, another private service form, GAPFSAs, was available on time. However, GAPFSAs forms turned out to be wholly incompatible with their computer systems and the benefits of on-time availability were more than outweighed by the ensuing delays. Students who chose to fill out the GAPFSAs rather than the FAFSA, said BCLS financial aid director Laurie Hogan, "That put a lot of the first year class behind in terms of receiving scholarship funding and institutional aid.

In addition to being swamped with the original wave of useless GAPFSAs forms followed by a second wave of the revised forms, the financial aid office and attorneys were tasked with standardizing the application forms.

The media's response to allegations of some far reaching changes, but they didn't give the clients as much as a year for the changes, nor did they give the guarantors, the lenders, the servicers or anybody enough time to implement the changes, Hogan said.

BCLS relied on several means for alleviating some of the frustrations sustained during this reauthorization year. The emergency loan program was put to unprecedented use. For the first time, needy students were given as much as $2,000 (the usual limit is $500 for emergency loans) to get through the costly back-to-school months. Other schools without emergency assistance saw many students withdraw from their programs because of an inability to pay funds during the delays of 1993.

BCLS has brought in consultants to meet with Boston College financial aid officers and design methods for avoiding problems like those which occurred this year. Don Betterton, director of financial aid at Princeton University, and Jim Scanell from the University of Rochester have discussed the methods now in place and possible strategies for dealing with the ever-changing field of student financial aid.

Financial aid director Laurie Hogan

The negotiation competition is being run by the Board of Student Advisors (BSA), and is part of a national annual competition. It occurs in the first semester of each year and is open to all students. It is one of several national events for which the student advisors oversee Boston College's participation in any given year. Other national competitions run by the BSA include client counseling, mock trial and moot court. Like negotiations, these competitions are designed to give the participants an idea of what a certain type of law activity is like. The judges for the negotiation competition are Boston-area attorneys and BCLS professors. In addition to picking the winners of each round of competition, the judges provide feedback on how to improve their negotiating skills.
Sweet path to school unity

by Jay Talerman
3L Executive Editor

As of late, I have pledged a majority of my resources and time to the promotion of student harmony. I have directed my strongest power positions.

The French Cruller has had a lot of recent sociological import. Though the sugar glaze is often too heavy and prone to infinitely breakdown in hyper-normal temperatures, this particular type of donut’s ability to virtually melt on the tongue, is an absolute delight. It’s sugarless subtleties are not lost on a new intellectual generation that has been forced to be increasingly sensitive to specialization in order to survive in the high 90s. It is a donut that must be eaten with two hands, twisted apart, oiled and oaked over a donut with ever increasing popularity. An up and comer, ready to usher Generation X into its inevitable but hard fought power positions.

The Boston Creme is really a kid’s donut. The poor coating to a proper eclair. Its excesses are form fitted to the

consequence of generations of familial advancement.

The Blueberry Cake is the perfect transional donut, midway between the deep fryer at McDonald’s and the store heels of a local Beatle-style gal. If you really knew your parents, the Blueberry Cake is the donut for you.

Value judgments aside, we are all guilty of our individual prejudices. The donut is the missing link, the panacea for the masses. The generation-obilivion, “Why can’t we all just get along?” has anesthetized us all. The answer lies at Double D...and our hearts...Hey dude, I’m gonna grab half your jelly donut, you cool with that?” Just don’t let Chris Stone see you, he’ll tear you apart as a forum in which everyone is encouraged to share their own experiences and strategies. In addition, those present will have the opportunity to discuss financial concerns. Jean French and Linda Mallick (Career Services

Office), Laurie Hagan (Financial Aid), Dean Avigum Sofer, Dean Lisa DiLanna, Dean, Brian Latch, and Father James O’Malley (Dean’s Office (Administration)) will all be presenting information and be available for questions.

One of the main priorities for the faculty and staff in attending this meeting, is to help alleviate some of the student angst which has developed during the fall hiring times.

U.S. media fails in Somalia

by Steven Davis
II. Staff Writer

The United States finds itself in a quagmire in Somalia, and there is no way around the situation, no easy landing.

The objectives are undefinable (are people? capture General Aladdin? secure stability? all of the above?), the means is not known in front of our forces to make the fighting a conventional exercise, the people of Somalia are divided on whether or not they want us there, and people in America are divided about whether or not we have any business being there.

What is happening there has many parallels to U.S. involvement in Vietnam, right down to uncannily familiar claims and counterclaims, for students of history, that general Aled (in Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh) is either a liberator of his people or an outright despot.

Only this time the Congressional eumenidom has presented itself and the honor has been taken away by viewers radiated away like desert heat.

What a spectacle U.S. entry into Somalia was, an amphibious night time landing met by a formidable array of journalists and klieg lights. The moment, in terms of our purpose of going to feed the starving, was as singularly courageous and could have been as inspiring as the pictures of the Marines crowning Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima. Instead, we got the antithesis of the Iwo Jima moment— a beach scene lacking all spontaneity and so contrived that any meaning or inspiration that could have been taken away by viewers radiated away like desert heat.

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Law School: Run away from it

by Larry Dobrow
2L Executive Editor

So I’m about to enter the library the other day (really) when I’m accosted by a classmate who probably likes to think of herself as my friend. Seems as if the offending party had seen me while I was jogging last week, and had especially enjoyed the strained, please-call-a-paramecium-on-my-face. Which is fine, I heartily encourage everyone to laugh at my expense. If the person in question cares to join me on my daily jaunt through the neighborhood, I promise to scrape up what remains of her on the way home. Go chug some Crisco, role that physical fitness plays in our "wont" to "do," I got to thinking about the everyone to laugh at my expense. If the...
SATCHMO SEZ:
I think people like you are what law school had in mind when the Socratic Method was developed.

DEAR SATCHMO:

If you are going to quit, my advice is to do it right after Thanksgiving. You can go to your high school's football game or reunion and tell all those people you dread running into that you are going to law school, but you'll avoid any LRW deadlines and all exams.

SATCHMO SEZ:

I can sum up my thoughts on that book with a quote from my great legal mentor, friend and confidant, Emmanuel Gilbert: "The Supreme Court makes good precedent; Scott Turow makes good kindling."

DEAR SATCHMO:

It's tree falls in the forest, and no one is there to hear it, but a beaver with the bark of the tree caught between his teeth is arrested by the ranger of Jellystone Park for violation of CERCLA, nuisance law, the public trust doctrine and battery, can the bark between his teeth be admitted as evidence if the beaver has not been read his Miranda rights?

Well, that's about it for this week. If anyone has any letters for "Dear Satchmo," please drop them off in The Alledger mail box. And remember: the views of this column do not necessarily reflect the views of the Alledger, Boston College Law School, The Founding Fathers, the Courtship of Eddie's Sister, Eddie Vedder, Pearl Jam, grape jelly, Polaner All-Fruit or Bill Clinton.

By Michael Jacobsen, Gary Kaisen and David Kalikman
21 staff writers
One man had a dream. They said it couldn't be done. And now, no new IHOP had been built in the Northeast in the last 25 years. Yet Hal Martin is no ordinary man. Hal's dream is real. When Hal Martin sets his mind to something, things happen. And Hal Martin decided that was going to be a new IHOP in Boston and that he was going to be the man to open it.

From humble beginnings as a dishwasher at IHOP, Hal has worked his way up the IHOP hierarchy during the last 35 years. Hal now owns IHOPs in Brookline, Cambridge, Peabody and Brighton. But just acquiring another old IHOP wasn't enough for Hal this time. Hal wanted to construct an IHOP from the ground up.

And Hal had heard the voice. The voice ringing in his head day and night. But this voice wasn't like the other voices. This one was louder. "KENMORE SQUARE NEEDS IHOP!"

But the only open space in this area was a rundown old deli in a hideous disrepair that had recently gone out of business. Even Hal began to question himself, especially since he had announced that the Kenmore IHOP would be ready for business in just five short weeks. Hal knew that he couldn't disappoint the hungry hoards, so he pressed on. And right on schedule, on October 18th at 6 a.m., the IHOP opened its doors.

On the Friday before the opening, we were able to get a glimpse of the new IHOP at the gala VIP brunch (it's amazing what people will do for you if you tell them you're writing for a local newspaper, especially if they never ask you which one). Initially we were struck by the bright airiness of the new interior. Peach is the predominant color, with light peach cushions, peach formsica tabletops and peach accents in the wallpaper.

Booths are stained a light honey oak color, which blends perfectly with the brass rails and chandeliers across the tops of the booths. The floor is covered with a blue low-pile commercial carpeting, and bright white ceiling tiles are an exclamation point to a flawlessly designed interior.

We asked Hal about how much latitude IHOP allowed him in designing this new facility as well as other pressing questions:

Alledger: Do you like gladiator movies?
Hal: Huh?
Alledger: Could you tell us a little more about the franchise arrangement with IHOP?
Hal: We pay IHOP 4.5 percent of our revenues and in turn we receive the benefits of national advertising and local cooperative advertising. IHOP provides trademark recipes for certain dishes while we prepare others from our own recipes. But the bottom line is--no processed foods are served at any IHOP.

Alledger: After World-Wide Volkswagen, under what circumstances will out-of-state manufacturers and distributors be vulnerable to suit in the courts of the state where an injury caused by their products occurred?

Hal: Uh... Uh... I like eggs.

Next we decided to tour the kitchen. The staging area for food preparation is comprised entirely of stainless steel. Hal informed us that all the stainless steel components were custom manufactured for him in Colorado.

The proportions of the kitchen allow a maximum of nine cooks to work together in food preparation--five cooks at the grill, four at the ovens and three at the large commercial mixers. Down the galley from the kitchen is the dish-washing station, and still further down are two walk-in coolers.

We thought that even for this auspicious occasion it was a bit crowded. Over 500 people were in line. We went to the end of the queue, only to realize people were facing away from IHOP. Turns out everyone was headed into Strawberries, the record store located down the block. where the new Pearl Jam CD was going to be released at midnight.

We asked local residents for their reactions to the IHOP opening. BU students were elated. As one student said, "I'm so drunk. Do they have a bathroom? I can hurt in?" However, another resident fretted, "First the Red Sox, now IHOP. I'll never get a damn parking space."

While we sympathized with this troubled resident, we feel that such inconvenience is well worth the benefit. As another resident said, "Whoever built this place is truly a visionary."

We couldn't agree more.
Seeking public interest careers

By Shawna Smith
2L, Associate Editor

In anticipation of the Government and Public Interest on campus recruiting days (November 6th and 9th), the Career Services Office sponsored a panel presentation entitled "Careers in the Public Interest" on October 19th. The program was intended to not only inform students of different types of career choices available in the Government/Public Interest realm, but also to quell the feeling of being "left behind" that many students who opted not to participate at the larger firm recruitment days in October may be feeling. The three speakers were BCLS alumni, who candidly relayed experiences they had while searching for employment in legal services to the public as well as their eventual career choice and work/lifestyle today.

The first speaker was Lynn Weissberg from the private public interest law firm, Stem, Shapiro, Rosenfeld & Weissberg. Weissberg was a 1979 BCLS graduate. While a student, Weissberg participated in the U.L.L. program and interned at the firm she is now a partner in. She greatly enjoyed working at the small firm, unfortunately, upon her graduation the firm had no openings, and Weissberg worked for the Mass Committee against Discrimination for a little over a year. Weissberg enjoyed the responsibility of her hectic job but did not enjoy the bureaucracy of working for a state agency and was happy to become part of the Stem, Shapiro team when one of their own lawyers left at the end of 1980. She relayed that about 1/3 of the firm's litigation is in criminal cases (i.e. representing indigent criminal defendants); 1/3 in civil rights work (including but specialty, discrimination); and the final 1/3 in general civil litigation practice, which serves to banya the firm financially by paying for contingent fee cases that do not cover their own litigation costs. Weissberg's parting words of advice were to remain in contact with former employers for future employment opportunities. While a recent graduate, Weissberg was the second speaker at the presentation. Being such a recent graduate, Wang was perhaps most easily able to identify with the "plaint" of law students presently searching for jobs in the public sector. Wang stressed the importance of attending public interest career forums and aggressively networking the public sector by volunteering at organizations throughout the school year. He noted that personal initiative is particularly important in obtaining government/public interest employment because these organizations rarely have the money to extensively interview or train recent graduates due to budget limitations. Like Weissberg, Wang loves his job (he is a staff employee for the environmental protection agency) and feels the incredible opportunities available to government employees outweigh the frustrations of working for a large bureaucracy.

"Most important," according to Wang, "is not to let yourself get discouraged... Commit wholeheartedly to a particular field (or at least to the public sector, and do all that you can to gain may be feeling any kind of experience that could be transferrable to the type of employment you'd like to attain."

The third and final speaker at the forum was Ray Wallace, a 1983 BCLS graduate. Wallace works for the Southeastern Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation of Brockton. The S.M.L.A.C. division Wallace works for handles poverty law cases from Boston to Providence, with Wallace's specialty being government benefit litigation. Wallace acknowledged the significant pay disadvantages that lawyers working for the public sector encounter, but stressed that the camaraderie and the "feel-good" atmosphere of his workplace more than make up for the monetary imbalance.

Wallace was quick to point out that "...it's no crime to graduate from law school without a job," and reminisced about his own status as a construction worker after graduation, while waiting for an employment opportunity in a recently "Reorganized" (i.e. pared-down) public sector. Perhaps Wallace's parting words were the most significant and telling of the forum: "You must make some sacrifices, and you must commit wholeheartedly, but if you came to law school to change the world, and you still have that 'messiah-complex' upon graduation, public interest law is really the only chance you'll have to feel as if you've worked toward that goal as you look back at your career ten years down the road."
A compelling LAB experience

daniel Skrip
2L Contributor

When I signed up for the Boston Legal Assistance Bureau (LAB) I expected to enjoy a novel experience that would take me out of my comfort zone and provide an opportunity to learn new areas of the law as well as gain valuable practical experience. But in addition to the responsibilities at LAB, I was also taking four credit hours of classes. I was constantly juggling faculty demands and outside responsibilities. The week of trial was no exception. I had a final paper due on Friday that would be due on Monday. On top of that, I had a brand new client. I was representing a single mother in a housing dispute. She was facing an eviction action. JJ had not paid her rent since July and now owed the landlord $1,285. She was a single woman living with her boyfriend in a studio apartment. She had been living in the apartment for almost two years. I was recently in a car accident. She had been unemployed since July of 1992. She will not be eligible for welfare benefits until the onset of her fifth month of pregnancy which is not expected to occur until this fall. Her landlord has the right to serve her with an eviction notice and it is not likely she will negotiate in good faith. She is not likely to show up in court without an attorney. I had to quickly establish priorities. But the newest case was the most pressing, so I decided to put most of my time in on that one.

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Peterson, as they do about the current down to a T. He knows a lot about the game and sticks to his game plan."

In addition to Taylor, who is on leave from his head coaching post at Yale, the Olympic team is coming on some key forwards who are currently with professional teams. University of Minnesota-Duluth graduate Derek Plante (Buffalo Sabres), 1992 Olympian Ted Drury (Calgary Flames) and Lake Superior State's Brian Rolston (Albany of the American Hockey League) are expected to be Taylor's top three attackers. Drury's NHL contract stipulates that he will be sent to the Olympic team just prior to the February tournament, but Plante and Rolston's situations are not so well-defined. Also expected to join the Americans prior to Lillehammer is Peter Laviolette, a teammate of Drury's at Harvard who is currently playing in Europe.

"I don't think (1980 gold medal coach) Herb Brooks lost anybody for part of the pre-Olympic tour because of conflicts with pro hockey," said Taylor, who also expects his charges through a European exhibition tour prior to the Olympics. "But it's 13 years later and the game has changed. The Ken Morrow's and Mark Johnson's of the '80 team would be hard to keep out of the NHL row."

Rather than pick up players who would be cut later when Drury and the others leave, Taylor has been travelling with 23 forwards who are currently with professional teams. The U.S. is hoping for a top-three finish, something it has accomplished just twice since winning the gold in 1960. Prognostications are particularly difficult this year because of the unknown status of the former-Soviet Union entry and defending gold medalist, the Unified Team. A power struggle currently taking place in the Russian Ice Hockey Federation is considered a real threat to the quality of the Unified representatives. Canada, the 1992 silver medalist, and Sweden are expected to be favorites if the Unified Team is in disarray.

Laviolette's comments say as much as about Taylor's predecessor, Dave Peterson, as they do about the current U.S. hockey team. Peterson was strongly criticized in U.S. hockey circles for the weak team defense of the the '92 and '96 teams. "I don't think (1980 gold medal coach) Herb Brooks lost anybody for part of the pre-Olympic tour because of conflicts with pro hockey," said Taylor, who also expects his charges through a European exhibition tour prior to the Olympics. "But it's 13 years later and the game has changed. The Ken Morrow's and Mark Johnson's of the '80 team would be hard to keep out of the NHL row."

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