

The Humor Edition:

This paper bears no resemblance to reality.

In a way, this paper is to reality what law school is to legal practice.

Opinion Newspaper Recalled, Arrested, Obliterated

By Mike Vogel

Charges against the newspaper were brought by the CPSC, DEA, ATF, FBI, EPA, INS, Homeland Security, NSA, Canada, and the City of St. Paul.

A White House spokesman announced on Monday that after a two month investigation into what is now being dubbed "Operation We Don't Care About Your Opinion," thirty seven arrests have been made. Twenty of the arrests have been attributed to the fact that staff writer Mike Vogel just keeps escaping. None of the writers were granted bail or apprised of their constitutional rights. In addition, the spokesman announced that the paper's printing presses and meth labs have been destroyed with AmRam's.

The investigation began when an investigator from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) picked up a newspaper, and smelled the ink. Seven weeks later, he sobered up and reported *The Opinion* to the DEA which began its first raid, in conjunction with the CPSC on the printing presses. Once there they recovered thirty-five kilos of a special formula of black ink that is

known on the streets as "Gazette Blow." The stockpile's net worth was estimated at 1.2 million dollars. Investigators also discovered the dumping of toxic waste, an illegal passport distribution service for Canadian Nationals, and that the printing paper is made from fluffy kittens. An FBI spokesperson commented: "I knew that freedom of press was going to be trouble."



*Undercover FBI agent, Noushzad Vahid, will receive the Bureau's honorary "Hero Award" for his work in capturing *The Opinion* staffers. He plans to use the award's cash component to fulfill his lifelong dream of going to Dollywood.*

After the raid, a massive one-week manhunt ensued for the staff members. FBI, in cooperation with U.S. Marshalls and Twin Cities SWAT, broke into *Opinion* staff members' homes in the middle of the night and made numerous arrests. However, not all went so smoothly. After a twelve-hour standoff, Editor Kate Johansen was finally incapacitated with twenty-four well shot tranquilizer darts.

All fifteen staff members face charges for illegal dumping, forgery of federal documents, illegal possession with intent to sell, legal possession with intent to sell, illegal possession of arms, illegal possession of legs, the use of animals we actually give a crap about as printing material, and violations of Minnesota's nuisance statute. If convicted on all federal counts, they each could receive up to thirty-five consecutive life terms. Minnesota state prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for violations of the nuisance statute.

When asked for comment, the White House spokesman responded "Who are you and what are you doing in my house?" ***

MIKE VOGEL IS A STAFF WRITER WHO NEEDED THREE ATTEMPTS TO SPELL EPA CORRECTLY.

Pentagon Outsources Mercenaries

By Grant Smith

In a controversial move, the Bush administration decided to replace the Blackwater military contracting firm with the Hessians, an eighteenth century mercenary force employed by the British Crown during the American Revolution. Critics say the rank and file military strategy utilized by the Hessians will make them likely targets for IED attacks, and the long reloading time of their Victorian era muskets renders any sort of offensive capabilities meaningless. "In order to engage in a proper military campaign, we need Humvees, body armor and air support, not some kraut munchers who still believe witches are buoyant," says Gen. George Stevens [Ret.], a professor at WestPoint. Supporters, however, are optimistic: "Listen, the Hessians will work for peanuts; all they ask for is twenty doppelzentners of schnitzel, the map to the Lost Dutchman's gold mine, and the ability to drink the blood of their enemies. Frankly, we'd be stupid not to utilize their services," opined Josef Watten, aide to President Bush. ***

Judge Removed Over Latin- Only Hearing

By Adam T. Johnson

In what some critics are calling an arcane departure to antiquity, Dakota County District Court Judge Benedictus Jerominus III, in a recent hearing on a motion for summary judgment, required by a pre-hearing order, that all in-court statements made by counsel and parties be made in Latin. The Judge's decision is a reflection of the growing number of those in the American legal profession currently pushing for Latin-only proceedings.

Edmund Snodgrass, counsel for the plaintiff in the aforementioned proceeding, was unclear as to whether his client's case was presented before the judge as favorably as it could have been in English: "I tried my best. I mean, my *gravamen* had a *bona fide arguendo*, and not only in *dicta, ergo*, the *locus ipso facto* never became a part of the *quo warranto, et cetera*." Mr. Snodgrass expressed that he had never had any formal Latin training, but rather, relied heavily on his Black's Law Dictionary at the proceeding.

Jonathan Podsnap, counsel for the defense, agreed, stating: "*Cui bono? Cui bono?* That's the question we must ask ourselves. We're entering *terra nullius*, it's a matter of

utmost *res publica*. Mr. Snodgrass may have overcome the motion, but it's a *quid pro quo*, rather, a *damnum abseque injuria* if you will."

Mr. Podsnap's assertions did carry a quantum of truth, for at the time of this story Judge Jerominus' order is still under translation and the parties to the action still in the dark as to the Judge's decision. The Judge was removed from the bench by an executive order of the Governor on October 8. When pressed for comment, the Governor coyly responded, "The commander does not bother with the smallest things, or as the Judge would say, *de minimis non curat praetor*."

Nathaniel Winkle, attorney for *De Profundis*, a nationally recognized interest group created to restore Latin in the courtroom, has filed suit in federal district court on behalf of Judge Jerominus, alleging that his removal was patently *contra legem*. Spokesman for the group, Daniel Quilp, emphasized, *inter alia*, the importance of maintaining an insulated legal profession. "For too many years, English has been encroaching on the roots of the profession.

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DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION?

We want your contributions! If you are interested in writing for *The Opinion*, let us know by writing to theopinion@wmitchell.edu. We are also looking for people with knowledge of lay-out and document formatting, fundraising, shoe shining, and advertising. Contact us today!

JUDGE**Continued from page 2**

It's nearing a situation where laymen can understand the law. To think of such a world! Where everyone could sue *pro se*. It's unthinkable. Unthinkable! The law must insulate

itself or we're all damned." When pressed to support his assertions, Mr. Quilp paused for a brief moment and suddenly broke into a violent recitation of Virgil.

The federal lawsuit on behalf of Judge Jerominus is just underway, and a decision in the next

month or two will weigh heavily upon the direction the courts will take regarding Latin in the courtroom. For now, suffice it to say that English will do just fine, with that little bit of Latin on top to wow one's clients into signing the check, *ad absurdum*. ***

Nine Supreme Court Justices, Zombie Rehnquist, to Give Letterman's Top Ten

Members of nation's highest court and Zombie Rehnquist to announce the "Top Ten Things to Take Bong Hits for Other than Jesus"

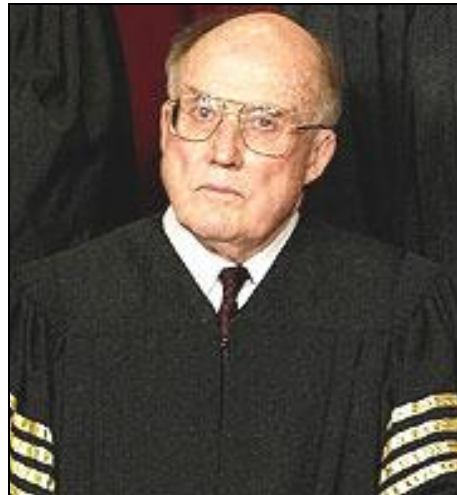
By Shmuck MacAllister

A CBS spokesperson announced on Monday that the nine members of the U.S. Supreme Court will be joined by zombie Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist next Friday on "The Late Show with David Letterman." The Justices are said to be giving the "Top Ten" as well as a sit down interview with the show's host, David Letterman. "This is a great honor," said the spokesman, "Larry King can bite our asses."

Fox News anchor Brit Hume declined to comment on the alleged death threats he has been sending to Letterman out of jealousy for being chosen for such a rare and prestigious interview. Letterman has won four Peabody Awards and recently interviewed Pope Benedict the XVI, in which he asked, "Can you pull a rabbit out of that hat?"

This appearance is coming off of a motion for clarification of the Supreme Court's verdict in the

case of *Morse v. Frederick* (a.k.a. the "Bong Hits for Jesus" case).



Chief Justice Rehnquist, pictured, is rumored to have added gold stripes to his robe after one particularly potent midnight toke.

The motion stipulated to put the clarification "in the form that a high school student can understand." The CBS spokesperson commented, "I hope everyone can find meaning in this upcoming broadcast."

In a rare press release yesterday, Chief Justice John Roberts noted that "this appearance is not a school related function, so students are not encouraged to inhale as a class." Roberts also mentioned that Justice Alito will be giving a demonstration on how to

create a bong out of some aquarium tubing, a screen, and a gavel.

Justice Stevens issued the dissenting press release stating that "this is probably the most degrading thing the United States Supreme Court has ever done."

The broadcast will air next Friday night at 11:30pm EST on CBS. Also appearing that night will be Nicole Richie, a stand-up comedy performance by Carrot Top, and the music of Barry Manilow, unless he's already dead.

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Fair and Balanced...and HILARIOUS

Top 10 Things that Offend Über Conservatives

By Jen Becker

10. Evolution. There is something about the idea that things can change over time that conservatives just can't understand. Things evolve every day. I mean, look at the potato— first, we just had the simple shoe string fry and now we have crazy things like curly fries, tater tots, and waffle fries. Things do change!

9. Gun Laws. (Why do liberals even want these? The more guns the better chance one of those bullets will hit a crazy conservative. Thin the herd!)

8. Homosexuals. Why hate gays when we ALL love anal sex?

7. People who assert rights over their own bodies and for some reason oppose my "Birth Control in the Water Aught Eight" election platform. Let's get real— birth control isn't the enemy. It's time to realize the only way to prevent overpopulation and the overuse of all public assistance programs is to put birth control in our water.

6. Poor and/or homeless people (this is why Giuliani had them exiled from Manhattan).

5. Clean air, recycling, and the global warming "myth." Hey, if Al Gore won a prize for it, it must be true! Just ask Jimmy Carter or Yasser Arafat!

4. Hillary Clinton.

3. Women in general, except for Ann Coulter who no longer qualifies as a woman because of her Y chromosome.

2. Cindy Sheehan and anti-war protests in general. Somehow the conservatives still believe there is a valid reason for us to be in this "war."

1. This list. ***

Top 10 Things that Offend Über Liberals

By Kate Johansen

10. Hard work and personal responsibility.

9. Bill O'Reilly. It's cool; we know that you are just jealous.

8. Straight white males who love their nuclear families. This one actually works as an aggregate list since uber-liberals are offended by each individual element: straight people, white people, males, and people who love their nuclear families. It works on every level!

7. Dealing pragmatically with the realities of national security. Why have a strong military or a national defense strategy when we can just buy the world a Coke?

6. Chastity belts and the people who insist that everybody wear one.

5. Tolerance of things liberals subjectively believe to be intolerant, like a fundamental belief in a color-blind meritocracy.

4. Boot straps and the people who pull themselves up by them.

3. Fiscal restraint. There's an old adage that there are two types of politicians: those who want to say no, and those who want to say yes. Uber-liberals are actually an often overlooked third type that suggests additional spending even where groups are already delighted with their current funding.

2. God in all His Judeo-Christian permutations...unless those Judeo permutations are contributing to the Democratic Party and are not too concerned with Israel.

1. America. ***

Things No One Else Will Tell You: Give that Pony a Break

By Allison Crandall

When I was a little girl, my parents used to take us to the Nativity County Fair. It wasn't really a county fair; it was a fair at a Catholic grade school in my mom's old neighborhood. They set up rides in the parking lot and vendors in the gym. There was bingo. And the thing that had my heart, that absolutely thrilled me, was the pony ride.

This pony ride was one of those things that when you get older depresses the hell out of you. It was a pony leashed to a post that walked all day in the hot sun with sticky children on its back.

I have been thinking a lot about that pony lately. My dad always says, "When you are the hammer, strike. When you are the anvil, bear." It is on me, and many of the people in my life, to bear right now. We get up early and review, go to class and try to process all that we learn. We break for lunch, work and interviews. Then on to working out, studying, making dinner, and then finally, sleep. And in between—the most important thing—making time for visits with friends, or even just phone conversations. We try to really connect in our relationships, even though this may be a stressful time for our loved ones as well. We try to laugh hard and have a good talk, even if it means we have to push back our bedtimes. We try to pull ourselves off of the cross the typical law student hauls around all day and appreciate all that we have, all that truly matters, if school falls away.



Pictured: Suzie Johnson astride Clip Clap before the animal's untimely death due to crippling low self-esteem.

So at this time in my life, I am that pony. I believe that if I put my head down and work, grace may shine on me. Hopefully, the sticky child on my back doesn't drop an ice cream on my head. But then again, hey, that's the breaks. Maybe grace is most important when you have a swirl cone melting down the side of your face.

I have half of the semester left, and a desperate hope for a job that doesn't involve slicing highly priced cake. I have the chance, as I always will while I am in school, to work ever harder and harder, with the possibility of a positive result being only a marginally rational motivation for continuing on.

I have six weeks to work just a little harder than I think I am capable of to prepare for finals. And

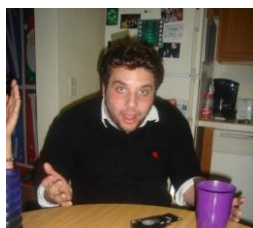
Lord help us all, this place has warped my mind, because I am looking forward to it. A little. Law school finals have come to seem to me like delivering a baby, or running a marathon - things that at the culmination of their preparation often seem like terrible misadventures to the participants.

Next time you pass a county fair and you see a pony tethered to a pole, specifically if it is in the parking lot of a Catholic grade school, give him a little salute. He will likely have a sticky child on his back, quite possibly a loud and obnoxious child who insists on entangling his chubby, sweet tacky hands in the pony's mane. That pony is working hard under adverse conditions and he is my hero. ***

The William Mitchell Life Coach

Your Questions.

By Dr. Chip Herringbone



Dear Dr. Chip Herringbone,

I am a first year law student and am wondering about tips for final exams. Any suggestions?

Yours,
Samuel T. Rockingham

Dear Samuel and the rest of my esteemed readers,

Although you are stunned by my gallant prose and minimal grammatical errors, I'll let you in on a little secret: I can't read or write. I've gotten through school solely on my good looks and charm. Well, that and Poncho, a typewriting monkey I carry in a baby sling and to whom I dictate my clever musings. Due to my "handicap," some readers might be wary of taking final exam advice from me. To the contrary, I would never give advice on a topic that I am not experienced with or haven't researched on Wikipedia for five minutes.¹ Here are two tips to make

¹ As a matter of fact, I have dictated numerous books and articles including: *Putting the "Pro" in Proctology: A Guide for Medical Hobbyists*; *Turn Your Alzheimer's into Wow's-heimer's!*; and *What Are You, Racist? A Guide to Discrediting Critics of Black Market Organ Sales*.

your test grades better than those of your law school arch-nemesis.²

First, in order to impress your professors on the final, you must be motivated. I recommend constructing a pendulum to keep you on your toes. First, suspend a blade ten feet above you that lowers as time elapses. Next, lie below the blade and outline before it hits you. If your fear of being horribly disfigured doesn't allow you to remember the rule against perpetuities, nothing will. Furthermore, you will feel like Edgar Allen Poe writing *The Pit and the Pendulum*; and let's be honest, who doesn't want to be a melancholy writer with webbed feet, rabies and a thirteen year old cousin-bride!

Second, you must keep an adequate life balance. Some professors will tell you that life balance isn't important—that you should concentrate solely on your studies. However, these people are stuck in their ivory towers and don't understand the simple joy of drinking until you black out and making terrible life choices. That's what school is all about. However, "life balance" doesn't have to be all alcohol abuse and self-loathing; it can be wholesome and enlightening. Personally, I volunteer with the less

Answered.

fortunate. I have started a charity called Hope for Quadragenarians. It provides free and safe activities for men suffering mid-life crises. We take them on field trips to strip clubs, let them race Ferraris, and have a bevy of co-eds to flirt with them, destroy their self-esteem, and make them appreciate their wives.³

Although these suggestions are the bee's knees, it's important to do what's right for you. Don't let the finals get you down, you neurotic little bunnies, everything is going to be okay...so long as you either graduate in the top 10% of your class or have powerful parents. Otherwise, you will be the most overqualified manager at McDonald's. And that, like chocolate-covered peanuts, is bittersweet. Enjoy! ***



Pictured: Girard, one of the lost souls helped by Hope for Quadragenarians.

² We all have one; mine is *Opinion* editor Kate Johansen; she knows what she did.

³ You're welcome, ladies.

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.

- "Equity is a mean drunk."
 - "After class, I'll post these notes on Blackacre."
 - "The people I was with--one of them was a general in the Turkish army. You know what that's like!"
 - "I'm going to give the 9th Circuit rulings the same respect as I give the laws of France."
 - "There's an MC Hammer reference that we let linger but we don't pursue."
 - "Hamlet is the epitome of law professors...to footnote or not to footnote?"
 - "Coke, Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, flavored water, carbonated water, bottled water, rash water, river water, cat urine... are all interchangeable depending on how thirsty you are."
 - "After I got shot, I'm not really big on guns anymore. Also, I became a pacifist."
 - "John Marshall...what a card!"
 - "The people of Greenland do have a permanent population. They do replenish themselves. I guess it's one of the few things they can do."
- Send us your profs' quotes!!**

Poetry Corner with Kate Johansen

Ode to 12(b)(6)

Oh twelve B six
You sit betwixt
Twelve B five
And twelve B seven
To choose which motion of
procedure civil
I most love
There'd be no quibble
As sure as there's a heaven
I will always love you, twelve B six

Oh twelve B six
I can't ignore
My obsession
With your possession
Of procedure's most powerful
request
The noblest behest
That frivolous litigators may abhor
Because it plants the kiss
To dismiss

Oh, I will always love you, twelve B
six

Oh twelve B six
You move me as a motion
With your circumvention of
commotion
Regardless of my opposition's
stance
You will always hold me in your
trance
Oh, I will always love you twelve B
six

Oh twelve B six
No type of preclusion
Could sway my conclusion
That you are the rule for me
No harbor
No matter how safe
Could cause me to stray
Or convince to betray
My devotion to you, good rule
No form of estoppel

Mutual or non-
Could ever topple
Or render wan
My admiration for you
Oh, you are the whole enchilada
My affection for you is res judicata
Oh, I will always love you twelve B
six

Oh twelve B six
From the day that you were
promulgated
No good lawyer's ever hated you
True, there are those who would
abuse you
Use you to delay
Invoke your charms
To promote their harms
But they are wrong
Oh, I love you so much twelve B
six

HOROSCOPES

By retired cat burglar Irina Abramovich



Aries (March 21-April 19): Your moustache will grow in twice as thick and bushy this month, bringing it a few hairs closer to being able to compete with your mom's.



Taurus (April 20-May 20): Your recent symptoms of high fever, vomiting, and sore throat will be the least of your worries this month when you learn that your favorite color of nail polish has been discontinued.



Gemini (May 21-June 21): Consider going up one size. Those leather chaps can only support so much weight.



Cancer (June 22-July 22): Just because your dog tells you that you were cooler before you smoked weed doesn't mean that you should quit now. In fact, it means that you should smoke more; who knows what other wondrous new things could talk to you.



Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Of all the things you have to be thankful for this month, a mother who loves you isn't one of them.



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): November will be a month just like any other for you— filled with blueberry jam scones and self-loathing.



Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will find great little bargains at the auction for homeless children this

month. You'll be amazed when they work longer hours and pick up your garbage better than Lupe.



Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your unimpressive roller skating abilities will get you rejected from the Minnesota RollerGirls team, but your flawless makeup application techniques will get you accepted onto the lesser-known Minnesota RollerTrannies team.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A traumatic brain injury caused by a harpoon accidentally passing through your skull in an upcoming whaling excursion, damaging the frontal lobes of your brain, will leave you practically unchanged. However, you will become irate at the site of those adorable Precious Moments figurines.



Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your angst-fueled rendition of "The Piña Colada Song" will show the entire world, or just your next door neighbors, that you too can get drunk and sing loudly in the middle of the night.



Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your new mink coat will make a splashing entrance into fall fashion, although you won't realize this until you're all covered in red paint.



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't worry; your secret is safe with me. I won't tell anyone that you were Hannah Montana for Halloween.
