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The Docket is a labor of love. Every writer, contributor, and editor has dedicated hours of his and her precious little time to bring you, the reader, our fellow student, something that will hopefully enlighten, inform and entertain you. All of your positive feedback and support has sustained and fueled us. It is our food and water.

And so, in this 2009-2010 school year, the 16th year of The Docket and the 27th year of our College of Law, I present to you this inaugural issue. Read the paper at your leisure, and visit and have fun reading all of the new and expanded content on The Docket Online at law.gsu.edu/thedocket.

Robert Bexley is Editor in Chief of the Docket, is interested in Labor & Employment Law

Children In Need of Services (CHINS) Program helps at-risk kids By Francine Acvedo, 2L

Johnny was afraid to go to school because he did not want anyone to see the bruises and cuts from his father’s beatings. Skipping one day of school was not so bad, so he decided to skip a few more days. Eventually, Johnny, a star student, was not going to school at all. He was embarrassed by the way he looked and could not face the teasing at school, since he already had a bully at home. The school officials referred him to the local juvenile court for his truculence, who adjudicated him an “unruly” child. See CHINS on Page 3.
Sports & Entertainment Law kicks off Fall semester
“Breaking into the Business of Sports” panel big success
By Eric Tatum, 2L
If you were not able to attend the “Breaking into the Business of Sports” panel presented by the Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS) on Thursday, September 10, you certainly missed out. The panel consisted of Scott Barber, Bill High towerer, Kevin Mcguire and Buddy Curry.
Scott Baker is part of the Career Sports Agency and agent for Jason Heyward—considered by many to be the number one prospect in all of Major League Baseball. Bill High towerer is staff council for the Atlanta Spirit Group which owns the Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Thrashers. Kevin Mcguire is the head of marketing for the Sports Agency. Buddy Curry, former NFL player for the Atlanta Falcons and the 1990 NFC Draft of the Year, offered an athlete’s first-hand perspective of the industry.
A packed room of law students interested in a legal career in the sports industry benefited from the professional advice. The panelists described their experiences and hardships from when they were new beginning a career in the sports business. The eclectic panel provided different perspectives into the sports industry as a player, agent, marketer, or lawyer. All four panelists stressed the importance of having perseverance and networking within the industry to reach the next plateau in a young professional’s career.
SELS members benefit from both on- and off-campus events scheduled throughout the year. Upcoming SELS events include a tailgate at UGA with the UGA SELS chapter in an attempt to network and grow connections. In the future, the organization will also have entertainment related events with big name entertainers from the Atlanta area. Students interested in participating in the Sports & Entertainment Law Society events or joining SELS should visit http://law.gsu.edu/sels for more information.
Eric Tatum is a 2L planning on becoming a sports agent. He is the Social Chair for the Sports and Entertainment Law Society.

Be Your Own Boss Network teaches students how to go solo
Puttong out a shingle a viable option for many students
By Beth Bachman
The GSU College of Law has a new student group in the works, and it is unlike any other seen before at the law school.
The “Be Your Own Boss Network” (BYOB) is a student-initiated and operated group designed for students who want to start their own solo or small practice after law school. BYOB’s mission is to bring together like-minded students, solo practitioners and business counselors in order to prepare those law students for the challenges relating to self-employment. Topical events will address these challenges, including financing, accounting, marketing and management.
BYOB will teach students how to use advantageous technology, such as QuickBooks for accounting, CaseMaker for free Georgia case law research and WordPress for building a website.
In addition to teaching students how to manage a traditional solo or small law firm, non-legal career alternatives will also be highlighted, such as consulting, managing, lobbying and financial planning.
In addition, BYOB will also address the needs of students who desire to pursue corporate employment by providing information about the various business responsibilities that contribute to a firm’s financial success.
BYOB’s mission is to build a network of valuable, self-motivated, and business-minded future professional s that will continue to be a part of students’ lives long after graduation.

Learning how to stand out and build relationships with Ari Kaplan
Renowned author gives his advice on how to stand out and build relationships
By Paul Black, 3L
On September 24th, GSU College of Law’s Career Services Office welcomed Ari Kaplan, author of The Opportunity Maker. Mr. Kaplan spoke to an audience of approximately 150 law students and staff on how to market oneself and create opportunity, even in the midst of the Great Recession that we are now experiencing. In addition, Kaplan’s book develops his ideas in greater detail, and is well worth the read—so much so that I would encourage you to get a copy. What follows is a synopsis of five of his key ideas, followed by two of my own.

Make yourself stand out
In the beginning, Kaplan began “with a vision and a story”—the vision being that law students needed to learn ways to make themselves stand out from the crowd—and the story being about how he rented a red truck while in Phoenix, and how it stood out among the smaller white sedans in a parking lot. I did not really see the relevance of Kaplan’s red truck story, but his book provides multiple chapters on different ways to stand out: networking in law school, creating panel discussions, even creating a day to raise awareness for a cause.
At GSU, however, it seems that leading or even starting your own student organization is a good way to stand out and be recognized. This year, two of my friends in law school have launched new student organizations: the Thomas More Society (for Catholic law students) and Be Your Own Boss (BYOB), for students who eventually want to be self-employed.
In five years, long after these students have graduated, these groups will probably still be well established, to the point where law students will see them as a natural part of the social environment, and to the point where guest speakers likely will have heard of the organization even before being invited to speak.

Build relationships and keep in touch
When it comes to building relationships, Kaplan’s advice for the shy is simple and direct: “Just get involved in something.” This might mean your undergrad alumni organization, your religious congregation, a community or volunteer group, or the chapters of local bar associations.
As for keeping in touch, Kaplan’s recommendation to use mailing lists is one that needs some further explanation. It does not mean that you spam your extended list of legal contacts every time you need help or have a success story to share. It does mean that you keep them in mind each day when you run across interesting articles, want to share good news about your work that is relevant to their practice, or want to hear how their work is progressing. See Kaplan on page 4.
**The DoCkEt**

**October 2009**

**Feel yourself up for your health!**

*By Carli Mingus, 2L*

October is Breast Cancer awareness month. In 18 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, at approximately 200,000 diagnoses per year. Of those 200,000 cases, 40,000 women will die of the disease. In addition, 1,700 men are diagnosed with breast cancer every year.

Early detection of breast cancer drastically increases survival percent ages. Doctors recommend that young women need to perform self-administered breast exams (cancer.org/can/d breastcancer/hb-breastlexexam.htm for details). Moreover, women over the age of 40 should get annual mammograms. High risk individuals, those with breast cancer in your family should consult with their physician regarding when they should start getting regular mammograms. For more information, go to www.thebreastcancersite.com. While there, help fund breast cancer research by visiting the online store, which has a variety of very cute things for sale.


For more information on the Breast Cancer Three Day Walk in Atlanta (October 23-25), go to: [www.theday.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AT_landing](http://www.theday.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AT_landing). Also, there will be a Breast Cancer Full Marathon in Jacksonville, Florida on February 21, 2010.

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**The most reported crime on campus is theft, and it is often 'theft by give-away,'” said Sergeant Kristal Perkins**

**Suspect allegedly breaking into a student’s locker.** *(Photo courtesy GSU Campus Police)*

**CHINS continued from page 1.**

The court tried to work with his dad to make sure Johnny got to school, but according to his dad, he was too “rebels” and wouldn’t go. If the court knew what was really happening at home, maybe Johnny and his father could have received services that would have helped him stay in school.

Johnny is known in our current juvenile justice system as a status offender. Status offenses are acts prohibited by law that would not be an offense if committed by an adult. Examples of status offenses are habitual truancy, curfew violation, alcohol use, and running away. Status offenders do not fit neatly into the categories of deprived (abused/neglected) or delinquent children. However, our current system treats status offenders more like delinquent children, although they have not committed any delinquent acts. The CHINS provisions in Article Six of Senate Bill 292, the Child Protection and Public Safety Act, were designed in order to shift the focus from the criminalization of children who need help.

Johnny’s story is just one example of how a kid who was previously no danger to society could be locked into delinquency if adequate early intervention services are not provided. The revised juvenile code. Senate Bill 292 provides the guidelines necessary to effectively help children like Johnny. The CHINS provisions will ensure immediate, family-focused services, making formal juvenile court intervention a last resort. As soon as a complaint is filed and an intake assessment is made, the child and family will have to attend a multidisciplinary conference where an informal family services plan agreement will be made. The plan will address the problems and their causes and include a description of all of the services available to the child and family. A caseworker is assigned to the family to monitor the plan and ensure that services are delivered. The child and family can have up to six months to address the issues through counseling and other services in order to achieve the plan’s goals. If additional time is needed, an extension of up to six months can be granted.

Under the proposed legislation, a formal petition will only be filed allowing formal court intervention if one of three things happens: if the intake officer deems a mandatory conference inappropriate, the court deems an informal family service plan agreement is futile, or the end of the period governed by the informal family services plan arrives and the goals have not been met. It is that children and their families can be solved through services before formal juvenile court intervention.

The Child Protection and Public Safety Act is based on stakeholder feedback and best practices proven successful in other states. Several states that have their own versions of CHINS have seen a significant drop in recidivism among alleged status offenders. Florida, where the Families in Need of Services and Children in Need of Services (FIN/S/CINS) programs allow a child to receive services totally independent of court involvement, has seen very positive outcomes. In fiscal year 2005-2006, 96% successfully received services without any criminal behavior and 90% were crime-free six months after completion of services. Studies in other jurisdictions show similar results.

In Georgia, child advocates believe that CHINS will mirror the success of similar programs around the nation. The goal is to address status offenders’ problems through non-punitive, rehabilitative services before reaching formal juvenile court intervention. Using early preventative measures is proven to reduce recidivism and save government money in the long run. The American Bar Association recommends that CHINS should be adopted by every state in order to preserve the family unit through counseling, treatment, and advocacy.

SB 292 will be reviewed by legislators in the upcoming legislative session starting in January. It includes the CHINS provisions. Other states have seen positive outcomes by moving status offenders and alleged status offenders away from the delinquency side of juvenile court through programs similar to CHINS. Through policy change, Georgia, too can better serve these children, see recidivism rates fall substantially and save money in the long run. If you’d like to join the coalition dedicated to justice and safety for children, please visit www.justgeorgia.org and sign up as a coalition member.

Francine is a 2L and received the Emory Summer Advocacy Program Grant and was a legal intern for Voices for Georgia’s children. Currently she is clerking and translating for an immigration law firm.

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**THEFTS continued from page 1.**

However, Sergeant Perkins cautions that while all students may know better, they often are too distracted by their hectic lives to double check that their locker is secure before they hustle off to class, or they incorrectly assume that their laptop will be fine while they leave their station in the library to retrieve a book or run to the restroom.

Sergeant Perkins noted that there have been very few instances of lockers broken into in the Urban Life building in the past year, but she implored students to take steps to inform themselves of any crimes that have occurred on campus. The Crime Prevention team is working with various student organizations to spread the message to the campus community. Every student has access to a “Daily Crime Report,” which provides a daily summary of all criminal incidents that occur on campus and is available everyday through the Campus Police website at www.gsuse.edu/police.

“Don’t believe the rumor mill,” advised Sergeant Perkins. “Log on to the Web site and get Daily Crime Report to stay informed, and keep the security of your property at the forefront of your mind when on campus.”

During the second semester of the 2008 school year, then-first-year law student Andrew Fleischman was victim of theft when someone stole his laptop from the locker on the first floor because his combination lock did not fully engage. Thanks to the security cameras stationed around the building, the police were able to identify and apprehend him within a matter of weeks. While the laptop was never recovered, the guilty party was required to compensate Fleischman for the value of the computer as part of his punishment for the theft. Fleischman provided a good piece of advice for students to follow when purchasing a new laptop for use on campus.

“I had insurance on the laptop, so I was able to replace it at no cost,” he said. “I came out of the situation okay, but made sure to check my locks from that point on.”

Although the police encourage students to diligently protect their belongings, there is a right and wrong way to handle suspicious persons.

A short time after Fleischman’s laptop was stolen, another first-year law student’s actions in the final moments before acting as a citizen and stopping one’s reach.

The student observed an unknown person walking up and down an aisle of lockers on the first floor of the building, checking the unused compartments and testing the strengths of the locks on those lockers that were in use. Acting in a way that likely would be supported by most of their peers, the student called the campus police and alerted the security personnel situated at the library entrance. Up to this point, the student did everything right in identifying a potential crime and alerting the proper authorities.

Next, the student confronted the suspicious person and let him know (in so many choice words) that his presence and potentially unlawful activities were not appreciated and would not be tolerated. Unfortunately, while acting with the best interests of his peers, the student exposed himself to potential trouble, when the suspicious individual led the scene after his confrontation with the student and complained to a police officer elsewhere on campus of the student’s words of warning. The student was forced to apologize to the suspicious person, and no other developments occurred against either party.

Perkins advised. “Don’t confront a suspicious person. Get in touch with the police as soon as the incident occurs, get a good physical description, and let the police know in what direction they are going.”

Kevin Jeselnik is a 1L and an Associate Editor for the Docket.
KAPLAN continued from page 2.

In these ways, you are not simply clinging to your classmates. You have developed further connections. Rather, you become part of their network, and you eventually add value to it. Kaplan, who focuses on the effective use of social media (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn), all of which Mr. Kaplan believes should be leveraged towards the overall goals of making yourself stand out, and of staying in touch.

Take advantage of being a law student

I have never had attorneys want to meet me, as Kaplan quipped was the emotional response of lawyers to law students. Attorneys often share incredible insights about how they got into certain areas, where they struggled and how they find satisfaction in their work.

At the end of the day, as Kaplan points out, you have to eat—so you really have no excuse for not scheduling time to meet with mentors over lunch or breakfast. He recommends doing so at least once a month (and then meeting with a broader variety of mentors more frequently thereafter, which I think is a good goal, and which is the least I do after surviving the first year of law school).

Get published

While working for a large law firm in New York over nine years, Kaplan found time to publish more than 150 articles on topics that he strategically identified as being fresh, relevant and ripe for publication, such as electronic discovery and contract drafting. Given the demands of being a large firm associate, I don’t know when Kaplan slept.

Law students who are not writing a Note for law review still have broad outlets to explore their interests in writing, and thus participate in the production of journals and contests who are eager to reward and publish law papers. Your best bet: Find an area of law that you find interesting. Identify the hot topics in that area. Write a paper for a course in that area (writing requirement, anyone?). Submit the paper to a contest that might publish it.

Get rid of self-doubt.

In Kaplan’s presentation, he described a line of garbage trucks between him and the Hudson River, where he was on his way to swim. It made him think twice about swimming in the Hudson. For my part, I would have thought twice, too, if I knew that he sought a firsthand view of the pollution and then came back to the audience with a view of what he had seen.

When you find yourself spread too thin, take some time to assess your priorities.

When you find yourself spread too thin, take some time to assess your priorities. This is especially true in the first year—how you can perform on issue-spotting exams, in appellate writing, and in writing competitions. While I certainly wouldn’t discourage anyone from putting forth their best efforts in these arenas, I would also encourage students not to forget their own limits.

Know when to scale back.

Part of playing to your strengths is recognizing when, in spite of your best efforts, you simply do not have the passion, the talent, or the time to pursue certain coursework or certain areas of practice.

In spite of our tendencies towards perfectionism and our (usually) strong work ethic, even law students have only 24 hours in a day. So when you find yourself spread too thin, take some time (maybe a couple of weeks) to assess your priorities, and decide whether you might need to scale back. While this certainly doesn’t mean you should simply raise your hands in despair every time you feel overwhelmed (after all, that’s an understandable and common feeling when you are still a second-year law student), just do enough to make your workload manageable and under-controlled.

If you falter at first, do not give up. After all, if law school has been any indication of what is ahead, then the practice of law is going to be a marathon, not a sprint.

Better Know a Legal Profession: Environmental Law

An interview with Jessica Lee Reece

By Andrew Hagenbush, 2L

Ed note: This interview is the first in our on-going series to provide law students with some insight into specific areas of law and what they can do to get involved. If you would like to explore a particular legal profession and write the next article in the series, please email DocketNewsEd@gmail.com.

To some Americans, the health and safety of the environment is a principal concern and not just those who wear Birkenstocks and reel of patchouli. To others, environmental regulations are seen as cumbersome and oppressive, which ultimately hinders the free market. No matter what side of the argument one stands on, the environment is a hot issue in the public conscience and in the legal community. I spoke with Jessica Lee Reece to find out more about environmental law.

Jessica Lee Reece is a 2006 GSU Law graduate and a associate with Smith, Gambrell, and Russell, LLP. She specializes in environmental, sustainability, and natural resources law. Supplementing her professional experience, Ms. Reece is also a board member for Generation Green of the Georgia Conservancy and is active with several environmental organizations and associations. We discussed what an environmental lawyer does on a week-to-week basis, what makes environmental law unique and appealing, and what a current law student can do now to find a job in the field.

What would you say you do here?

Advising corporations about recently promulgated regulations, litigating toxic tort cases and mold cases, consulting on sustainability issues, researching real estate due diligence and contract negotiation, monitoring carbon emissions legislation—suffice to say, defining the expansive scope of environmental law can be challenging.

However, Ms. Reece asserts that while environmental law is "a very scientific area" and "the litigation comes down to a battle of the minds," an extensive scientific background is not a prerequisite for practicing in the field.

As Ms. Reece explains, "I was a journalism major. I was not a scientist. I was not even scientifically inclined. I sat down with an Environmental Law book and read that cover-to-cover. [As a law student,] you probably are smart and capable of educating yourself. It’s a steep learning curve, but most everybody that goes to law school doesn’t mind learning."

Why should a law student look into Environmental Law?

Ms. Reece explains that "environmental law is a lot of fun. You’re never sitting behind the desk doing the same thing every day."

The work variety includes everything from corporate consultation to litigation to contract drafting.

The best chance a law student has to get a job in environmental law is to get involved with the legal community and network with potential employers. Ms. Reece explains, "If you want to do something and you don’t have a job yet, just have that initiative and go out and meet people. I can’t tell you how many times we’ve interviewed people and they are great, but we’ve actually got someone that’s met this [other student] four different times at four different events and obviously [that student] is involved in the community, cares about the community and is interested in the firm, and... if your grades are fairly decent, you can really separate yourself from the pack."

How do you become an Environmental Lawyer?

I asked Ms. Reece what skills law students should work on to make them more attractive to potential employers. Without hesitation she replied, "personality."

Ms. Reece explained that, whether an environmental lawyer is dealing with opposing lawyers, colleagues, or clients, a good personality is vital to be successful in the field.

She continues, "You have a lot of people where personality can go on a long way. Some clients are staunch economists where environmental issues are not the top priority and are just interested about their bottom line. If you have a personality where you can interact on their level, then you can help [business owners] to understand why they need to install an [expensive] filtration device."

Although Ms. Reece recommends taking courses like Environmental Law to help a student understand the science involved and Administrative to understand how to interpret statutes and regulations. The key to getting a job is selling yourself. "Being a law-student, don’t forget you’re also a person. That’s the part they don’t teach you enough in law school-the business of being a lawyer-you have to get clients and that involves selling yourself. Especially as a young lawyer you have to have people that know you and remember you, that you’re personable and friendly, and intelligent."

Ultimately, the best chance a law student has to get a job in environmental law is to get involved with the legal community and network with potential employers. Ms. Reece explains, "If you want to do something and you don’t have a job yet, just have that initiative and go out and meet people. I can’t tell you how many times we’ve interviewed people and they are great, but we’ve actually got someone that’s met this [other student] four different times at four different events and obviously [that student] is involved in the community, cares about the community and is interested in the firm, and... if your grades are fairly decent, you can really separate yourself from the pack."

If you’re interested in Environmental Law, you may want to join the Environmental Law Society (ELS). If you would like to read the unabridged edition of this article, including a Leyman’s explanation of Cap and Trade and other current issues in environmental law, check out the Docket’s Online edition at law.gwu.edu/thedocket.

Andrew is a 2L with an industrial engineering degree from Ga Tech. He is News Editor of the Docket, VP of ELS and a member of STLA, SELS and the Ogletree Society.
Student experiences hope, heartbreak in a country
By Melissa Haberlen, 2L

Contemplating the Separation Wall in Bethlehem. (photo courtesy of Melissa Haberlen)

Few American law students consider politics as a summer internship abroad a goal before graduation. However, those students interested in considering participation in a summer internship have selected for a human rights internship program. The organization, international professors, offered the international sampling of 37 political science and law students, half from Europe and half North America.

I was placed in Jerusalem with an Israeli-Palestinian Peace, an organization founded by a group of Israeli, Palestinian, and international professors, offered the internship program. The organization, among other efforts, provides international students with internships in Israel and the Occupied Territories that work in the variety of ways towards peacefully ending the occupation. The group was an international sampling of 37 political science and law students, half from Europe and half North America.

I arrived in Jerusalem with an understanding that the College of Law is ill-prepared for the students. I say this, not to point a finger at the College, but to point out the utter baffling process that students must navigate on an annual, or even semiannual basis.

The typical student entering the College of Law is ill-prepared for the bureaucracy that awaits them when they first enter the Urban Life building. A significant number of students each year discover that their financial aid has not yet been processed, and that they must wait for weeks while the financial aid office resolves problems that often involve only the necessity of providing the information that they need for rent, food, books, and utilities. Rather than notify students of problems in a proactive manner, the financial aid office abstains from notifying a student of her pending financial aid meltdown until it is much too late for anything to be done.

When a problem arises, law students must first go to the One Stop Shop. They may wait anywhere from thirty minutes to any number of hours in line for the privilege of speaking to a representa- tive. Unfortunately, these conversations typically end with the representative issuing me with what is effectively a permission slip to speak to a financial aid officer directly. This process of wasting through multiple levels of bureaucracy to finally obtain assistance is a consistent waste of time, which only acts as a deterrent to students seeking out help from the office tasked with helping them. Only those with the most daunting problems can afford to spend an entire afternoon waiting in line to receive five minutes of help from an otherwise idle financial aid officer.

This sad state of affairs reflects poorly on the College of Law. Without exception, the administration within the College itself excels in its duties. Nevertheless, the degree to which students rely on, and are let down by the Office of Financial Aid adversely affects the perception students have of Georgia State University, and by extension, the College of Law itself. The administration of the College of Law has done a great deal, in my experience, to ensure that the Financial Aid Office resolves issues as they arise. However, this office has not offered a proactive solution to the recurring issues that confront law students year after year. Greater oversight by the College of Law, to ensure that the Financial Aid Office resolves issues proactively, would go a long way in preventing students from having to spend the first month of school charging their expenses to a credit card, or prevent students from being pulled from their classes for failing to pay tuition that should have been covered by financial aid.

See FINANCIAL AID on page 6.
Point-Couterpoint: The right to health care and how to reform the system

By Robert Besley, 2L

As I sit down to my laptop to write a Point-Couterpoint OpEd piece on the ongoing health care reform debate, knowing that this is an editor for Georgia State University’s Law Review, is carefully crafting his magnum opus, I can’t help but feel I’m at a crossroads. While it seems that the national debate has overflowed our nation’s capitals and beyond, but thinking of that timeless Bob Dylan lyric, “If it keep on rainin’, the levee gonna break.”

In lieu of trying to change the minds of my fellow students, I will attempt to light a thousand candles.

Are we entitled to health care?

This question remains the root of the debate. A right, or something not in the name of justice, is a just claim or title, whether legal, prescriptive, or moral (according to dictionary.com). This is a difficult question to answer because it demands us to question whether we are entitled to another person’s labor. The gun’s reaction to this question may be a resounding, “No!” And yet, there is precedent for a timid, “Yes.”

We feel entitled to have firemen put out the fires in our homes. We feel entitled to have soldiers defend our land. We feel entitled to have teachers educate our children. We feel entitled to have emergency room doctors repair our bodies.

Entitlement to a person’s labor doesn’t mean that the person shouldn’t be compensated, only that we have made a social agreement that certain services are provided. As the late Senator Ted Kennedy once stated, “Entitlement means that the President of the United States has as much right to receive emergency care as an illegal immigrant worker. The social fabric that we built our great civilization dictates that we should not have people dying in the street from traumatic wounds or children falling into comeas a flu’s fever.

Why? Isn’t this land founded on every man for himself, dog eat dog, survival of the fittest? No. We as a society have implicitly agreed, by virtue of each individual’s right to live, that our fates are interwoven. Our feral desires are best suppressed for the greater good. Law and order demand a higher standard, through which we have received a bounty of rewards.

Who should pay for our health care?

If able, the people should care for themselves. No one else can be expected to do that instead. This is not only the right thing to do, but it’s also less expensive. After all, as we proclaim our egalitarianism, “all men are created equal,” the truth is far less idealistic. The idea is not that our Creator has imbued us with the same skills, mental capabilities, metabolisms or genetically desirable traits, but instead that all people receive a birthright no greater than his or her neighbor’s the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The concept of these “unalienable” rights does not come with the caveat of selfishness. Indeed the whole notion of everyone receiving rights which directly conflict with everyone else’s right to the same thing is silly and illogical. These naturally conferred rights are tempered by self-awareness of the rights of others. That for which you do not have any meaning they cannot conflict with another person’s rights to the same. Simply, the greatest right we have is life, and our government is charged with ensuring this entitlement’s perpetuation.

As a society, we do not ask a family to extinguish their home’s fire, to defend their property from foreign aggressors, or to set their own bones on the side of the highway after an accident, despite any ability actually to do so, yet we demand that a family with insufficient income must afford hyper-inflated health care premium costs. If a person is blessed with the skills necessary to provide for his or her family, outstanding. However, the fact is that Kaiser Family Foundation’s Employer Health Research Survey finds that employee-sponsored health insurance premiums have nearly doubled since 2000, a rate three times faster than wages.” Of course if your employer does not offer a group health insurance plan that individuals could purchase if needed before we reach our pre-existing condition set - er. Oh, you have a pre-existing condition, also? Good luck!

How can health care be reformed?

In their August 2009 report, Divided We Remain: Poll of Americans’ Attitudes Toward Health Care Reform, Penn, Schoen and Berland Associates (PSB) concluded that Americans “agree that the healthcare system needs to change, but very few are willing to make the hard choices to pay for reform.” The report finds that 56% of people say that it is more important than ever that we address the health care reform but they are neither willing to pay more in taxes (64%) nor in premiums (74%) to cover the uninsured.

Three solutions, used in tandem or separately, may mend our ailinng health care crisis. First, the Public Option. A Public Option would allow the creation of a group health insurance plan operated by the federal government which would directly or indirectly compete with the private health insurance industry. With the mute to increase profits through consolidation and denial of health coverage removed, and with the pool of insured persons in the millions, the Public Option would be an enticing choice to those who could bear some of the cost. We are crossing our fingers, every eye, some argue that this plan would cripple the private health insurance industry. This argument is quickly euthanized when one contemptates the state of the U.S. Postal Service, for instance, which has large private sector solutions to a government equivalent that addresses the needs of the public in its own way.

Furthermore, while the same PSB study indicates that while the public generally supports the Public Option, they do not necessarily realize that they do. The report finds that 79% of people support “starting a new federal health insurance plan that individuals could purchase if needed before we reach our pre-existing condition set - er.” But only 37% were actually able to associate that plan or a variation thereon with the term “Public Option.”

Second, there is a glasses on a bipartisan agreement for some kind of Health Insurance Industry Regulation. The health insurance industry is bloated, inefficient, with a obsolete model for handling the broad health care needs of a society in the throes of a severe financial recession. Moreover the concept of the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), created by the Nixon administration, should be re-evaluated entirely as the model for health care. With virtually untruncated financial incen - tives directly attached to reducing the quality of health coverage for policy holders (reduced operational costs of denying policy holder claims means increased revenues), it is difficult to formulate any convincing argument sup - porting the HMO model.

Thirdly, the Health Insurance Marketplace Exchange creates a multitude of options by allowing con - sumers, both individuals and small businesses, to price compare insurance plans and to thereby drive real market competition. Additionally there would be built-in mini - mum coverage mandates for a variety of routine preventa- tive care procedures (such as mammograms and colonos - coseopies). Finally, millions of consumers who were not able to be able to afford insurance, thus reducing overall costs, spurt health competitive and promoting economic recovery.

This relatively overlooked plan has gained some momentun, however, including within our own Georgia Senate. Bill 404, supported by Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle (R), and already passed within the state Senate, contemplates the Georgia Health Marketplace Act, “establishing – the Georgia Health Marketplace, which shall serve as an Internet portal for access to health care products... The GHM shall also include specific measurement tools for consumers to use in comparing individual health care products, including brief summaries of deductibles, copayment requirements, covered providers, benefits, pre - miums, financial soundness ratings and coverage limits.” This debate is one of conflicting values: person - al responsibility and self-reliance versus a belief in a soci - ety that can help shoulder a mutual burden for its neigh -bors. These diverging philosophies indicate a social divide wherein those without the luxury to contemplate such things look up to bickering folk and self-absorbed pontificating, and the death of any real leadership to effec - tuate meaningful progress.

Robert Besley is a 2L. He is the Editor in Chief of the Docket, co-founder of the Be Your Own Boss Network and co-founder of the Labor & Employment Law Society.

FINANCIAL AID continued from page 5.

The problems are too frequent, and too predictable. The College of Law needs to confront these issues and create meaningful solutions.

Ideally, the College of Law should have its own financial aid office. With over 500 students in the College of Law, this is not a new concept, but would likely come at the cost of higher tuition, or additional fees. This is not the only option. A less expensive, but nonetheless helpful alternative might be to create a staff position within the College of Law to act as a financial aid liaison. This person could be accessible directly by law students, without permission slip requirements, to resolve simple problems. The person could follow up on systematic problems with financial aid, to ensure that when multiple students have an identical problem, the financial aid office resolves the problem for all affected students, rather than those who have the time and the inclination to wait in line at the One Stop Shop for permission to speak with financial aid.

All too often, many students have identical problems that should be resolved simultaneously, but are only resolved on a case-by-case basis. This past summer, the aid amount awarded to students studying abroad in Austria was mistakenly set too low. Each student, even though the problem was systemic, had to follow up with financial aid individually to resolve the problem. A simple problem that could have been resolved by a single student notifying financial aid of the problem became much more severe requiring nearly twenty students to individually take the time to notify financial aid that they had been adversely affected, in order for the problem to be resolved. This is unacceptable and we can do better. In the past, stu - dents have often benefited from the attentive, proactive approach that the College of Law administration has taken on resolving student problems. We, the students, are speak - ing up now.

The College of Law should set up a task force composed of student and faculty members to come up with a strategy to deal with this currently untenable situation. There is no reason why next year’s first year students need face the bureaucracy that has been a reality for all too many law students in the past.

For more information on health care reform, go to:

www.realcleareconomics.com
www.cato.org
www.healthcareprocon.org
www.heritage.org/Research/HealthCare
www.healthcare.gov
www.whitehouse.gov/issues/health_care
www.healthcarereform.com
www.newamerica.net/events/2009/
new_health_insurance_marketplace
healthreform.kff.org
www.healthreform.gov
www.commonwealthfund.org
www.bipartisanpolicy.org
www.urban.org/toolkit/issue/healthinsurance.cfm

October 2009


Point-Counterpoint:

By Kevin Bradberry, 3L

There’s little debate on the necessity of health care reform. Americans get health care coverage through their employer, the availability and affordability of which has been slowly diminishing. The value of that coverage has also decreased, as people are forced to pay more out of pocket for lower quality care. And the issue is no longer confined to low-income families and the elderly, some eleven million people without insurance coverage make the middle class. Studies show that insurance premiums increased by 6% of GDP, it is crucial that we make not only an informed decision, but the right one. Operating on one’s foot won’t remedy a failing heart, after all. The right reforms must be specific to lowering costs, improving access and increasing quality.

Ways to Lower Healthcare Costs

Comprehensive Tort Reform

Defensive medicine costs money. A Massachusetts Medical Society study found that five out of six doctors admitted that 25% of their tests, procedures and treatments were done for defensive medicine, with half that number citing that they could have saved $5,000, without causing the uninsured poor.5 In President Obama’s nationally televised speech on September 9, 2009, he urged states to “move forward” on test pilot programs on reforming medical malpractice laws. Researchers in California and Texas did so: tort reform could reduce premiums in California by 40% and 30% in Texas.4 Several other states concluded that existing state-level tort reforms have significantly lowered the value of claims and damages awards...thereby reducing insurance premiums” by as much as 40%.5

Sound Financing

The United States spends $2.4 trillion on health care. Instead of spending an additional 1.6 trillion in a plan that provides no tax credits or subsidies to nearly everyone, Congress should restructure and reduce existing health care spending to make it more effective.6 Medicare for all, however, is not designed to produce high-quality care. The cost of the program has doubled over the past 10 years and is expected to reach $5 trillion over the next decade.6 Medicare Trust Funds are already in trouble.7,8 Medicare beneficiaries are paying more for less, or higher copays and deductibles.9

Although the state succeeded in increased coverage, estimates suggest that out of 389,000,000 residents who did not have insurance, more than 200,000 remain uninsured.

Most of the increase in coverage is due to subsidies, not the individual mandate. 58% of the newly insured are having that insurance paid for by the government.10

Uncompensated care subsidies were intended to virtually disappear (because everyone would be insured), but instead hospitals rely on subsidies to deal with patients more than ever.11

Despite the individual mandate, 55% of the state’s remaining uninsured are the healthy people—those below the age of 19, and over. The result of the mandate and subsidies is that the insurance pool is just becoming older and sicker, and costs have increased per capita.12

Individual cost predictions were wildly off.13

Although supporters theorized that insurance regulation would reduce the price of individual insurance policies by 25 to 40 percent, individual policies actually increased by 25% in 2008, and are expected to see 9 percent in 2009.22

Health insurance in Massachusetts costs roughly $4,000 dollars more than the national average.23 When the Massachusetts reforms were first enacted, they were projected to cost about $1.5 billion in total. The state now says the total bill will be some $225 million dollars.24 Above all, the best way to compel health care providers to compete is to allow seniors and the poor to choose the coverage that is right for them using the money already available to them through these programs.25

The market will balance itself. There’s no reason to assume that the insurance industry, if left alone, won’t change. Consumers have raised quite a racket and insurance companies have noticed. The private insurance industry has proposed widespread changes on how to conduct business. The Blue Cross-Blue Shield system, for example, now suggests that it would not deny coverage based on medical conditions as well as equal premiums within geographic areas.27

Some Things Are More Troublesome Than They’re Worth

Individual and Business Mandates

Several current plans would require that every person buy a minimum amount of insurance coverage, and that most businesses provide health insurance to their employees. This isn’t a simple directive for a person to buy coverage; mandates are taxes. Just because the results of a mandate don’t flow directly through the budget doesn’t mean they don’t affect your pocketbook.28 Most uninsured persons in the United States don’t have insurance because they say they can’t afford it, but understanding that, you want workers who are forced to either buy it or pay a penalty. Under the main House bill, that penalty would be 2.5 percent of a person’s income, and up to $1,900 for a family under the Senate Finance Committee’s bill.

These mandates affect more people than the individuals without insurance. Since the government is free to require you to choose an “adequate” health care plan to include a list of benefits, it would be free to require the “proper benefits,” you’ll have to switch to a different policy. (Should the government mandate which benefits you want to have, that is precisely what you are doing). In addition, a mandate that every employer offer insurance to their workers is also a hidden tax. Providing insurance for employees costs businesses money because they are required to pay taxes for the “proper” benefits, you’ll have to switch to a different policy. (Should the government mandate which benefits you want, that is precisely what you are doing). In addition, a mandate that every employer offer insurance to their workers is also a hidden tax. Providing insurance for employees costs businesses money because they are required to pay taxes for the “proper” benefits, you’ll have to switch to a different policy. (Should the government mandate which benefits you want, that is precisely what you are doing).

I mentioned at the beginning of this article that three considerations should play into the healthcare reform: cost, access and quality. Perhaps a fourth is worth mentioning: common sense. Let’s treat the match the diagnosis. With something this important, we can’t afford not to.

Kevin Bradberry is a third year law student at GSU. He is the Law Review Student Writing Editor, a member of Moot Court and a Papil in the Bleckley Inn of Court.

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6 3 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

7 Neil Orzechowski, supra note 5.

8 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

9 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

10 Neil Orzechowski, supra note 4.

11 Neil Orzechowski, supra note 4.


13 Neil Orzechowski, supra note 5.

14 Kevin Bradberry, supra note 5.

15 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

16 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

17 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

18 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

19 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

20 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

21 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

22 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

23 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

24 Kevin Bradberry, supra note 5.

25 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

26 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.

27 Owen Owcharenko, supra note 4.
The American Constitution Society (ACS) is a non-partisan organization of progressive lawyers, students, scholars, judges, and policymakers. Read about ACS (www.acslaw.org) and check out the networking opportunities, outreach, and panel discussions planned for the GSU chapter at www.law.gsu.edu/acs, or contact Co-President Paul Black (pvblack@gmail.com) or Suzanne Wakefield (swakefield2@student.gsu.edu).

Asian American Law Students’ Assn. (AALSA) strives to provide all law students with opportunities to network with Asian professionals within the legal profession. AALSA also provides all law students with opportunities to network with Asian professionals within the legal field. Co-Presidents: Nicole M. Ware (nicole.m.ware@gmail.com) or Taimur Ghaznavi (taimur85@gmail.com).

Asian American Law Students’ Assn. (AALSA) strives to provide all law students with opportunities to network with Asian professionals within the legal profession. AALSA also provides all law students with opportunities to network with Asian professionals within the legal field. Co-Presidents: Nicole M. Ware (nicole.m.ware@gmail.com) or Taimur Ghaznavi (taimur85@gmail.com).

ences and create networking opportunities. We provide educational and career opportunities in the field of IP. Chittam Thakore, President (cthakore@gmail.com). The Lambda Law Society is an international professional law fraternity that promotes leadership and service to students and to the legal profession in the community. It is a great way to meet peers and future colleagues while building ties to professional networks. Presidents: Shannon McNulty, VP Denise Dominguez. Please contact mcnulls@gmail.com with questions.
Parenting procedure: bringing the law home

By Daniilie Hudson, 2L

While being reared by a judge or professor can be humilitating and dehumanizing, children inadvertently do a much better job of parenting adults than we might imagine. No, students may not know the rule against perpetuities like they should for that zinger of a case that professors make us prepare for. Yes, lawyers should know the citation of the case relied on in their brief. Sure, we could spend a few more hours a week studying and maybe actually feel I'm right? But in law school and in court, there are remedial measures to correct any one of these problems. Parents could benefit by taking a lesson from law school and applying them to the war at home.

Motion to Strike

Parents should have the convenience of strategy and the security of protection, too. A motion to strike would be helpful in many, if not most, scenarios, most notably when you let a bad word slip in your child's presence. Depending on the child's age, this could be a moment of shame or humility. If your child is under eight, you feel infinitesimal covering their innocent eyes. Avoid you will be haunted by this later. If your child's over eight, it will instantly become the planet's biggest hypocrify with no chance of redemption.

Zoning

Just as zoning rules control behavior, parental zoning could do wonders for the law school. If someone leads the pledge of allegiance, some- thing inside each of us will cower beneath their innocent eyes, afraid you will be haunted by this later. If your child is over eight, your motion to strike your frien ds vanish without the ability to keep your child's right.

Privilege

Attorney-client privilege is one of the double-bind of law student life is that we are short on both time and money, and throwing a party seems like something you cannot tackle until you have made your own, and are ready to make your own version of the peanut butter cup: use brown sugar in place of white and replace half of the oil with peanut butter. Top with chocolate buttercream frosting and crumbled peanut butter cups.

Harpern Self-Determination

Master Micro Economics

There is something deeply imbedded in human DNA that makes us innately impressed with hours of research. Take something fairly standard (say, a dollop of goat cheese and fig jam, or prosciutto and cream cheese), put it on a tiny cracker, and voila! You are suddenly the favorite to win Top Chef.

Let Them Eat Cake

Cupcakes are high-impact but low-budget. The basic vanilla recipe is cheap to make from scratch and easy to upgrade (go to The Docket's online edition for the recipe). Add half a cup of vanilla extract to the batter, spike the frosting with a cup of the rind, and add a dollop of chocolate buttercream frosting and crumbled peanut butter cups.

Magic Micro Economics

There is something deeply imbedded in human DNA that makes us innately impressed with hours of research. Take something fairly standard (say, a dollop of goat cheese and fig jam, or prosciutto and cream cheese), put it on a tiny cracker, and voila! You are suddenly the favorite to win Top Chef.

Back to Basics

Skip the themed paper plates and plastic cups, and not only because it won't fatten your up spread with corn- feed foods eat on the cheap. Make your own hummus (add yogurt to get the smoothness of the store-bought variety), cube some basic cheese and don't forget the spinach and artichoke dip. Lay out strips of baked pita bread and tortilla chips and your guests will be in such a carb haze that they will never notice that the smoked salmon has sailed.

Courtney Spicer shares her experiences as a White House Intern

By Laura Williams (2L)

On any given day, second-year LSU law student Courtney Spicer might be found running to classes, serving as our Lexis Rep, performing her presidential duties for the Criminal Law Association, and working hard in the library or Most Court office. But, in the spring of 2004, while President Bush was in his second term, Courtney and I were two of the last applicants for one of only eighty-five coveted White House internship positions.

What were your main responsibilities as an intern?

As a law student, you are expected to have a basic understanding of certain aspects of the law. You are expected to have a basic understanding of certain aspects of the law. You are expected to have a basic understanding of certain aspects of the law. You are expected to have a basic understanding of certain aspects of the law.

What activities did you participate in as an intern?

I went to the White House Easter Egg Roll. I realized the state of the Union Address take place at a local pub and I was sitting there with a bunch of interesting people. My colleagues at The Docket were all very interested in the different speakers, including Chief of Staff Andrew Card, then National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, Karl Rove and others. They were interested in our intern's responsibilities.

What was the biggest challenge you faced during the internship?

A: The long hours. A typical day started at 7 a.m. and ended at 7 p.m.

Q: Did you like intern for the President of the United States?

A: Yes, I have been very impressed with the professional demeanor of the President. He has a great sense of humor. I really enjoyed working for him.

Q: What is your memory of your time working at the White House?

A: I remember the day in one of the rooms where we were discussing with the President. The President had some important decisions to make and he was working very hard. We were all very impressed with his leadership.

Q: How was the environment of the Presidential suite like?

A: The Presidential suite was very professional and serious. We had to be very careful with our language and behavior. We had to be very respectful of the President and his team.

Q: What is the best story or experience you had while working for the President?

A: One of the best stories I had while working for the President was when he asked me to accompany him on a tour of the West Wing. It was a really exciting experience. I got to see the behind-the-scenes work of the White House and I learned a lot from the President and his team.

Q: What is your biggest challenge in your work environment?

A: One of the biggest challenges I faced was keeping up with the fast-paced nature of the White House. It was very difficult to keep up with all the meetings, interviews, and decisions that had to be made. But it was also very rewarding to see the impact of our work and the President's leadership.

Q: What is your most memorable moment while working for the President?

A: One of the most memorable moments I had while working for the President was when he thanked me for my hard work and told me how proud he was of me. It was really令人感動的时刻。
Kids’ Chance of Georgia assists children of injured workers

By Madeleine Peake, 2L
Each edition, the Docket will be spotlighting a charity that is making a difference in the Georgia community, this edition we chose Kids’ Chance of Georgia, Inc.

As law students, we understand the vast benefits of higher education. Thanks to Kids’ Chance of Georgia, Inc., so do many children who might not otherwise have access to post-secondary education. Kids’ Chance of Georgia raises money to fund educational scholarships for children of injured Georgia workers. When a child’s parent is seriously injured or killed in a workplace accident, the result can be life shattering, and many times the child is left with the difficulty of having to fund his or her own education. With the help of the Georgia community, and the Workers’ Compensation Section of the Georgia Bar, Kids’ Chance of Georgia helps these children pursue their educational goals.

Since its establishment in 1988, Kids’ Chance of Georgia has awarded more than 600 scholarships and has raised nearly four million dollars. With the recent economic downturn, there is a danger that there will not be enough funds to support the scholarships needed this year. Kids’ Chance of Georgia needs your help!

On the third Friday of every month, the Artmore Hotel (1302 West Peachtree St.) is hosting a “Legal Relief Night” to benefit Kids’ Chance of Georgia. The Artmore is contributing 20 percent of its bar receipts from each Legal Relief Night directly to Kids’ Chance of Georgia. It is free to attend, and features complimentary valet parking beginning at 5 p.m. Come enjoy a drink (or a few!) and take advantage of the opportunities to network with attorneys from all over Atlanta.

In addition to the Legal Relief Nights hosted by the Artmore, Kids’ Chance of Georgia has a Fun Run/Walk coming up in November. This is another great way for students to donate their time and/or funds to Kids’ Chance of Georgia.

The Fun Run/Walk is a two-mile walk, or 5K (3.1 mile) run. It usually begins at 8:30 a.m. at Druid Hills High School. The Fun Run/Walk benefits your physical fitness and provides another opportunity for networking with Atlanta lawyers. Contact Ben Leonard, the Fun Run/Walk’s chairperson through kidschancega.org if you want to participate in the event. If you cannot participate in the Fun Run/Walk, but still want to donate, send your donations care of Kids’ Chance of Georgia, Inc., to Mr. Leonard. The date of the Fun Run/Walk will be posted at kidschancega.org, within a few weeks.

There are many opportunities to help the children of catastrophically or fatally injured Georgia workers obtain an education. Make a difference in a child’s life by donating to Kids’ Chance of Georgia today!

Pro Bono Calendar

Students who are looking to get out of the law library for a few hours and help the community this semester are in luck. Pro bono projects are happening all over Atlanta and they provide a wonderful opportunity for students to improve their resumes while giving back to the greater Atlanta area. Need more of an incentive? GSU College of Law offers graduates who have completed 50 hours or more of pro bono service “pro bono distinction” at graduation. The Docket has compiled a calendar of upcoming pro bono projects, however there are always more becoming available… take a study break and start working towards your “pro bono distinction” today!

Kashi Atlanta Street Meals Program
On Tuesday, October 13, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., or Wednesday, October 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., volunteer to deliver sack lunches for hungry and homeless men, women and children living on Atlanta’s streets.

Discovery Program at Gideons Elementary
Male volunteers are needed to help tutor first and second grade boys with their reading and math skills. Make a difference on Saturday, October 17, Saturday October 24, Saturday November 14, or Saturday December 12, from 9:45 a.m. to noon.

Kashi Atlanta Kids Art Program
Help hospitalized children create arts and crafts projects, on Sunday, October 18, from 2:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Wilderness Works
Attend an orientation meeting Friday, October 23, from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and become a volunteer for Wilderness Works, an outdoor adventure and experiential education program serving economically disadvantaged children. Volunteers are needed to support youth enrichment and recreational activities.

Hosea Feed The Hungry and Homeless
Volunteer Saturday, November 21, at Turner Field, to set-up the HFTH annual Thanksgiving dinner, or Wednesday, November 25, at Turner Field, to help prepare food for the HFTH annual Thanksgiving dinner. For volunteer times sign-up at www.hoseafeedthehungry.com

MedShare International
MedShare International is dedicated to recycling surplus medical supplies and equipment for use by healthcare institutions in developing countries. On Saturday, December 5, from 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., come help organize, sort, package and process medical supplies for shipment overseas.

Piedmont Park Conservancy
On the third Saturday of every month, from 9 a.m. to noon, participate in Piedmont Park Conservancy’s Clean and Green Days. Volunteer for landscaping, mulching, planting and cleanup efforts.

Cool Girls-Cool Scholars at Avondale Elementary
Become a mentor for girls in low-income communities by volunteering each Monday from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mentors assist under resourced girls make positive decisions to avoid cycles of teen pregnancy and poverty and overcome barriers of racism and sexism. Register online at www.coolgirls.org.

Oakhurst Community Garden: Gardening and Site Beautification
On the second Saturday of every month, from 9 a.m. to noon, volunteer to do a variety of gardening and site beautification projects at the Oakhurst Community Garden.

Nursecare of Buckhead
On the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., get to know the residents at Nursecare of Buckhead by helping lead BINGO while playing alongside the residents.

Chastain Memorial Park Conservancy
Enjoy the outdoors on the first Saturday of every month, from 9 a.m. to noon, by participating in the Chastain Memorial Park Conservancy’s effort to restore, maintain, and enhance Chastain Park. Volunteers are needed for clearing overgrowth, mulching, and general park clean-up.

The Pro Bono Page and the Pro Bono Calendar are maintained by Madeleine Peake, 2L.
Old gift ribbon dresses up serving utensils and wine glass stems, and a tablecloth in basic black or white is a great backdrop for small cuttings of fresh flowers (get them on the cheap at a farmer’s market and float them in cute teacups and shot glasses). Scatter some tea light candles around and you have got yourself a party.

Question: What do you get when you combine acoustic guitar, fresh delicious pizza, a beautiful open patio, good company and ice cold pitchers of beer with an extraordinarily talented musician studying to be an attorney?

Answer: The Charlie Britt Show.

On Saturday, Aug. 29, Capozzi’s in Decatur and GSU Law’s very own Charlie Britt teamed up and awesomeness ensued. Charlie performed a number of songs at the request of patrons ranging from “You Found Me” by The Fray to “Exclusive” by Day 26 as the wait staff brought out a seemingly endless parade of piping hot pizzas.

Charlie tells us there will be other chances to catch him showcase his acoustic guitar skills and captivating voice so stay tuned for updates on Facebook. You can enjoy live music on Fridays and Saturdays at Capozzi’s in Decatur or stop in for the amazing pizza any day of the week. Pizza specials are available to GSU students with valid student ID.

Live Music Review: Charlie Britt at Capozzi’s

By Gino Emanuels, 1.5L

Paper hat.
Umbrella for next flood.
Birdcage liner.
Landfill filler.
Ingredient for matzo balls.
Roll it up and hit your neighbor in Con Law.
Blanket.
Protection from nuclear blast.
Have two friends hold up newspaper by the edges and then run through it like a football player.
Trade it to dumb kids for their Pokemon cards. Sell the cards.
Wallpaper.
Mattress stuffing.
As currency in approximately 4 years.
Proof of citizenship at the border.
Parachute or hanglider.
Burial shroud.
Punishment for your dog’s insolence.
Hall pass.
Old fashioned megaphone.

Sudoku Puzzles Courtesy of PDF Pad (www.pdfpad.com/sudoku)
From Recently Single: Okay so two weeks ago right before I broke up with my boyfriend I met a guy. Had a fun night, but in the morning he said that he wasn’t asking for my number because I had a boyfriend. So, he lives close to me and is close with my mutual friends... we’re bound to run into each other at some point. He’s not on facebook. I did happen to see his email address at the party from a list that was going around... its really easy, like just his name, so I’m not a total freak.

What should I do, if anything now? I haven’t been single for a long time... is this the type of thing you let go and maybe I’ll see him maybe I won’t.. or should I pursue it at all? I just want to make sure that I’m not a total freak.

Dear Recently Single: You have 2 options here. 
1) the most preferable option is to go through your friends. Call one of them and try to get THEM to get HIM to go out with you all at some point, so that you don’t seem like the one who tried to get him to go out with you. Plus then it is a group event and you have the chance to really see if you like him or if he is a jerk.

2) You can use the email you got through the party list, but just make sure you have a back up excuse for how you got it (i.e. - you don’t remember? you gave it to me the other night you have had too much to drink, lol) OR just say that one of your friends gave it to you. The second choice is a little more iffy, depending on the vibe that you all had. Some boys may be creeped out by that, but some may not even wonder how you got their email address.

FOLLOW UP - Recently Single chose option 1 and he ended up being busy and they never got together BUT...

Recently Single goes on a date with a different guy. Read Part Two and the conclusion and even more drama on “Ask Carli...” online at law.gsu.edu/thedocket!