Forty-seven years ago in Jackson, Miss., Ernest “Rip” Patton was a young man from Nashville, Tenn., who quietly arrived in a bus station lobby. He was a Freedom Rider, a black youth protesting the injustice of racial segregation by riding public buses, which had been recently ordered desegregated by the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1960 decision in Boynton v. Virginia. Patton did not even have a chance to sit down before he was arrested for “disturbing the peace” on May 24, 1961. He was then shuttled from jail to jail until he ended up in Mississippi’s Parchment State Prison, a maximum security prison, for 62 days.

SBA introduces Diversity Week

SBA’s Diversity Committee welcomes all students to Stetson Law’s Diversity Week. Everyone is invited to the kickoff reception featuring Jeannine Williams as keynote speaker. Williams is an assistant city attorney for St. Petersburg. Currently, she serves as president-elect of the St. Petersburg Bar Association, and, in June, she will become the first African-American president in the Bar Association’s 85-year history. As chair of the Diversity Committee of the St. Petersburg Bar Association, Williams led the team that created the museum exhibit, “A Legacy of Courage, Vision and Hope: African Americans in the legal profession in St. Petersburg.” Williams also has served as president of the Fred G. Minnis Sr. Bar Association, the minority bar of Pinellas County, and as president of the Minnis Foundation. Students are encouraged to attend the reception offering international cuisine on Feb. 18, from 5 p.m.–6 p.m. in the Great Hall.

The events featured during Diversity Week are noted below. The SBA Diversity Committee would like to thank all organizations that participated in the effort, and we encourage all students to attend the events and support your fellow classmates. The week will culminate with the
Stetson Scenes

Stetson’s Asian American Law Student Association brings the Asian Lunar New Year celebration to campus on Feb. 3.

The dragon leads the New Year parade on Stetson’s Gulfport campus past the Dana Building Feb. 3.

A dancer sweeps through the Great Hall at the AALSA Asian Lunar New Year celebration.

BLSA makes sure everyone has a chance to buy a Valentine in the Breezeway Feb. 11.

Professors Lou Virelli, Mark Bauer, Paul Boudreaux and director of Career Development Cathy Fitch discuss the value of D.C. internships Feb. 11 in Classroom A.

Students learn about international programs Feb. 11 in the Great Hall.

Students celebrate First Friday in St. Petersburg.

The Performing Arts Society at the Student Organization Fair in the Great Hall on Feb. 6.

The Hispanic Bar Association introduces its organization Feb. 6.
SBA continued from page 1

Diversity Picnic at the Tampa Law Center on Saturday, Feb. 23. Florida Bar President Frank Angones and local legal professionals will attend and mingle with law students. The event will provide excellent networking and mentoring opportunities, so bring your business cards and possibly find a legal clerking position or internship. Also, don’t forget to invite your family.

RSVP to the Hillsborough County Bar Association via e-mail at hcbarsvp@hillsbar.com. For more information, please contact Clara Rodriguez Rokusek at crokusek@law.stetson.edu.

Lunch & Learn: Illinois Legal Market
Interested in practicing outside the state of Florida? Have you thought about Illinois? What about the Chicago area? Come learn about what the legal market is like with Tony Waller, assistant dean for career services at the University of Illinois College of Law. This program will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 12:15 p.m.–1:15 p.m. in the Mann Lounge. RSVP to hortonj@law.stetson.edu if you would like to attend.

2008 Loyola Patent Law Interview Program
The 2008 Loyola Patent Law Interview Program will be held on Thursday, July 31, and Friday, Aug. 1. This is a nationwide interview program featuring patent law employers, and targets second- and third-year J.D. students and LL.M. students with engineering and/or technical science academic backgrounds. Last year, 150 patent law employers, 140 accredited law schools and 1,700 law students from across the country participated. Employers pre-screen and choose all of the students they interview.

On Feb. 20, students may register by going to www.patentlawregistration.luc.edu and clicking on “Students.”

Career Placement Updates

By JENNIFER HORTON
Career Placement Staff Writer

Diversity Week Events

Monday, Feb. 18
Diversity Week Kickoff Reception with special guest speaker Jean-nine S. Williams, Esq., president-elect of the St. Petersburg Bar Association, 5 p.m.–6 p.m. in the Great Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 19
Bay Area Legal Services guest speaker, Nancy Lugo, Esq., sponsored by the Hispanic Bar Association, 12:15 p.m.–1:15 p.m. in Classroom A.

Lambda Legal Event, 5 p.m.–6 p.m. in Classroom A.

Wednesday, Feb. 20
Conversations in the Courtyard, co-sponsored by the Christian Legal Society and Jewish Law Student Association, 12:15 p.m.–1:15 p.m. in the courtyard.

Thursday, Feb. 21
International Law Society Program, 12:15 p.m.–1:15 p.m. in Classroom A.

Minority Faculty/Staff Appreciation Dinner sponsored by the Black Law Student Association, 5 p.m.–6 p.m. at the Pool.

Friday, Feb. 22
NIRSA Sport and Fitness Day, 12:15 p.m.–1:15 p.m. at the Pool & Fitness Center

Saturday, Feb. 23
Central Florida Diversity Picnic, 1 p.m.–4 p.m. at the Tampa Law Campus.

Come and join legal professionals and law students from around the state to celebrate culture and diversity. There will be free food, activities for children and entertainment featuring African Drummers and Dancers Bamboo Orchestra Caribbean Music.

This event is sponsored by Hillsborough County Bar Association’s Diversity Committee, Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association, George Edgecomb Bar Association, Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, Clearwater Bar Association, Sarasota County Bar Association Diversity Committee, West Pasco Bar Association and Carlton Fields P.A.

Stetson Law Review is proud to announce its newest members:

Forrest Bass
David Barnhill
Chris Bristow
Patrick Chinunde
J’aimee Crockett
Kelly Downer
Siobhan Duff

Mark R. Johnson
Sarah Kay
Ryan McGee
James McKean
Allison Millward
Jennifer Morris
McPheeters

Lauren Pilkington
Matthew Ransdell
Jesse Rose
Julie Simonsen
Robert Stines
Kristin Tolbert
Pamela Vergara
Peter Winkelman

Congratulations!
in the Great Hall with interviewee professor Robert Bickel to talk at Stetson’s Black Law Student Association’s first alumni dinner.

“I thought that Rip Patton painted a very descriptive picture of his experience during the Freedom Rides,” said 1L Jason Fletcher. “I actually felt that his struggle made it possible for me to be here, and that education and freedom should never be taken for granted because things were so different not so long ago.”

Patton recalled first experiencing racism as a young boy living in a white neighborhood in northern Nashville, where he had to use the back door to attend a movie. Unlike his white neighbor, he could not use the front door, and he could not sit in normal seating. He had to sit in the “crow’s nest,” where one had to look down to see the movie screen.

As a young man, Patton participated in sit-ins against segregated lunch counters, where groups of 20 young black men and women protested segregation in diners. Waitresses would walk off the job or refuse to serve them, saying, “We don’t serve Negroes. Please leave.”

Police would inevitably show up and form a line in the restaurant, leaving a shoulder-wide walkway between them and the protestors sitting at the diner counters. The sit-ins attracted hecklers who would pour ketchup and put cigarettes out on the protestors. Patton, however, did not sit with the protestors. He watched from the outside as an observer, and when the protestors were arrested, he would relay the message that replacements were needed; another group of 20 protestors would immediately fill the spot. The goal of the Freedom Rides was to fill the jails by filling them up.

From the lunch counter sit-ins, Patton graduated to being a Freedom Rider. The goal of the Freedom Rides was to test the Supreme Court’s ruling and challenge the customs that buttressed a segregated society.

“Over 400 Freedom Riders signed their wills before they left,” Patton said. Patton participated in the second wave of Freedom Rides. He was supposed to travel from Nashville to Montgomery to Jackson, and continue on to New Orleans. However, he only made it to Jackson before he was arrested and incarcerated. As in the lunch counter sit-ins, another group of Freedom Riders was called in as replacements. Eventually, the county jails filled up and the police transported the Freedom Riders to another jail, and then another jail, and they eventually wound up in Parchment Prison with the option to either stay or pay a fine. Patton chose to stay.

Patton captivated the audience by singing Freedom Songs as he did in prison which drove the prison guards crazy. “They beat us down,” said Patton, “but song lifted us back up.” “Don’t grow old saying you wish you had,” said Patton. “Grow old saying you’re glad you did.”

When he returned home from Jackson, he was expelled from school for participating in the Freedom Rides.

“This lesson of history because you told it,” said Bickel after Patton made his closing remarks, “now belongs to [the students] and they can carry it on.”

Bickel later shared with BLSA that he and Patton talked about the Movement and its legacy following the BLSA program. Bickel was told that looking out over the wonderful group of law students at the BLSA dinner made Patton feel that what he did and all that he endured, was worthwhile and meaningful. He said he saw the legacy of all that he did in the students sitting in the Great Hall. Patton said he felt very proud of the Movement’s legacy as he visited with our students.

“BLSA has much to be proud of, and I told him that our students are committed to sustaining and advancing the rights that his bravery helped secure,” said professor Bickel. “With the amazing mentoring that professor Wilson provides, and the passion that professor Beane, professor Rose, Dean Podgor and others have for your potential, I am confident that BLSA will continue to play a large role in the professional and personal development of our students.”

Bickel, Dean Michael Farley and BLSA collaborated to bring Patton to Stetson. Almost 80 students, professors and legal professionals attended the dinner in celebration of BLSA and Black History month.
COLUMN

Introducing International Topics

By BETH GALBAVY
Staff Writer

Some of you may recall my previous column, “Beth’s Best of the Bay.” I really enjoyed writing about the different places in our area to visit, and I still recommend that everyone take the time to explore the things to do around St. Pete. I also appreciate all of the feedback from everyone. However, I started running out of ideas, and time, to find new, exciting places nearby.

This semester, Ahmad Yakzan and I will be writing a column on various international topics, upcoming events and study abroad programs.

I am currently the president of the International Law Society and participate in the international law concentration program here at Stetson. I highly encourage anyone interested in any aspect of international law to join ILS. I have been talking with Dean John Cooper about some upcoming projects, and we have come up with a few really great ideas. The first meeting of the semester is Feb. 21. We’ll have a guest speaker TBA, and we will discuss ideas about different international projects that the members would like to take on this semester. And, of course, there will be free food!

The International Law Society’s big event of the semester is the International Fair on April 3 from 4 p.m.–7 p.m. It is an opportunity for students to be exposed to the unique characteristics of many diverse cultures. Each country represented at the fair will have a table with ethnic food, decorations and hopefully costumes. We are also planning to have live entertainment, such as music and dancers. We are putting a lot of work into the International Fair this year, and we hope to have a good turnout. Anyone with an interesting background or a particular interest in a specific country or culture is encouraged to participate.

Stetson also offers many study abroad opportunities for students, including programs in Spain, Germany, Holland, Argentina, Austria and China. I had the opportunity to go to Granada, Spain, last summer, and it was incredible. Whether you’ve traveled a lot or not at all, Stetson’s programs are a great way to learn about a new culture, compare the U.S. legal system with other nations’ laws, and make new friends. I’ve always been interested in other cultures, but my summer abroad reaffirmed my interest, and inspired me to take more international classes at Stetson, and to enter into the international law concentration program.

For those of you who are wondering, what is international law anyway, don’t feel bad. It’s a valid question, and it doesn’t have an easy answer. International law is so broad and new that it is hard to define. It is basically the system of laws that govern international relations, including nation states, international organizations and individuals. The law is exercised through customary law, general principles set forth by the United Nations Charter, and law created through international treaties. It is very complex, and is evolving every day.

We hope our new column can help inform you about international law, promote discussion about the current issues involving international law, and show you the vast job opportunities that are available in this growing field.

By BETH GALBAVY
Staff Writer

Trivia Test

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: What 1980 film featured a mechanical bull?

2. GEOGRAPHY: Where is Ascension Island located?

3. ANATOMY: What divides the outer and middle ear in humans?

4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What does an arctophile collect?

5. TELEVISION: What was the name of the DJ character in “Northern Exposure”?

6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: How many teeth does a dog have?


8. GAMES: What is the board-game version of the outdoor game known as “Capture the Flag”?

9. SCIENCE: Where would you most likely find a Bunsen burner?

10. LANGUAGE: What does the “hieroglyphic” mean in the original Greek?

ANSWERS on page 8
Students fill the gap at elder law pro bono seminar

By NICOLLE RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

There was a need, and Stetson students banded together to fill it. On Jan. 26, 10 Stetson students, along with local attorney Charles R. Gallagher, Esq. went to Pasadena Community Church and conducted Stetson’s first elder law pro bono seminar. Heading this effort was 2L and Christian Legal Society president Casey Stoutamire.

“My church periodically held an end of life seminar for the elderly that informed them of all the legal documents available to them, but no one ever helped them fill them out,” said Stoutamire. She asked if she could help and got the ball rolling. Now, Stetson students with training can assist the seminar attendees by helping them fill out Florida Bar-approved forms such as living wills and designation of health care surrogate documents.

“Training, you ask? It’s online. Check out the Elder Law Pro Bono Seminar TWEN page. The training will be available on the TWEN page by Feb. 22, in time for the next end of life seminar, which will be held at Pasadena Community Church on Feb. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon. All students are encouraged to participate—you’ll be helping our local seniors and getting legal pro bono credit too.

Questions? Contact Casey Stoutamire directly at cstoutam@law.stetson.edu. Join your fellow students and fill in the gap.

COLUMN

Animal rights and election issues

By JENNIFER HUDSON
Staff Writer

As the primaries progress, narrowing the pool of presidential hopefuls for 2009, it becomes increasingly important for us to conduct our own research and understand where the candidates stand on those issues that matter the most to us. The topic of animal rights received a lot of attention in 2007, and neither legislators nor constituents were afraid to express their concern over various fundamental animal issues.

The 110th Congress saw the introduction of a significant amount of animal rights legislation, some with encouraging success. The Humane Society of the United States identified some of the front-running issues from the session, including:

Horse Slaughter Act (H.R. 503 and S. 311): This legislation seeks to prevent the transport of live horses to be slaughtered abroad for purposes of human consumption. While American slaughter plants have been shut down, the practice continues in Mexico and Canada.

Class B Dealership-Pet Safety and Protection Act (S. 714 and H.R. 1280): The goal of this bill is to eliminate the unfair practices utilized by dealers in obtaining research animals. Without adequate regulation, some Class B dealers have gone as far as to steal pets, which they then sell to research institutions.

Dog Fighting (S. 1880 and H.R. 3219 and H.R. 3327): This bill would allow for the imposition of stronger penalties on those who engage in this inhumane treatment of dogs. Furthermore, it would make participating in any dog fighting activities a felony.

Canned Hunting and Internet Hunting (H.R. 2711/S.2422): Canned hunting, a practice by which hunters seek pre-captured prey from enclosed environments, has spawned a disturbing new practice: Internet hunting. According to the Humane Society of the United States, certain Web sites allow users to log on then “aim and fire a weapon at captive animals from hundreds, or even thousands, of miles away.” The act would prohibit the use of these sites.

So what can we expect in the future? A lot of that depends on who is willing to lend their support to these bills. There are countless resources available for those interested in learning where members of Congress as well as presidential candidates stand on these issues. The Humane Society Legislative Fund releases an annual scorecard assessing the support of various animal related legislation by members of Congress (www. fund.org/humanescorecard/).
ANIMAL continued from page 6

The president of the organization, Michael Markarian, also thoroughly assessed the presidential candidate track records as they pertain to animal legislation.

Hillary Clinton’s track record shows a strong support for animal legislation. She is a co-sponsor on both the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act and the Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act. She is in support of all current animal protection legislation. In her response to the Humane Society’s Presidential Questionnaire, she expressed her concern for animal protection in detail, and even discussed her own family pets.

Barack Obama has also given his support to numerous anti-cruelty animal legislation in the past and pledges to continue. Although he has expressed support for sport hunting, he maintains that if elected, he would push towards stronger penalties for animal cruelty and ensure that it be treated as the serious crime that it is.

Another positive assessment was that of John McCain. McCain also co-sponsored legislation to end horse slaughter and to prohibit the transport of birds for cockfighting. Although he too has expressed a tolerance and support of hunting for sport, he strongly opposes drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Candidates with the least favorable assessments based on their roles in animal protection legislation included Mike Huckabee and Ron Paul. One major strike against Huckabee comes as a result of his inaction towards stronger animal protection. In Arkansas, serious acts of antici- ruelty are still only misdemeanors. The most controversial indicator of his anti-animal stance regards his conduct after his son brutally killed a stray dog while at a Boy Scout camp. Huckabee allegedly obstructed the investigation, and no charges were ever filed. As for Ron Paul, his previous record shows support for animal protection measures, such as cutting funding for trophy hunts, but his overall position seems to be that the federal government should limit its involvement in issues of this nature.

As we try to align our ideals with those of the candidates, it is important that we recognize our platform. Before we hit the polls, we have to do the research. If the issue of animal rights is close to your heart, check out the detailed assessments of the 2008 Presidential candidates for yourself on the Web at www.fund.org/voter_guide/

For additional information on animal legislation currently in session, visit HSUS’ website at www.hsus.org/legislation_laws/.

Students show off organizations

By DAVID DELRAHIM
Staff Writer

The student organization fair is held once a semester to showcase the different student organizations available to students on campus. There are 37 student organizations at Stetson, which does not include organizations such as Moot Court, Ambassadors, Trial Team, and the ADR Board. Morgan Battrell, assistant director of student life, said, “Getting active in student organizations is a great way to connect with the Stetson community, diversify your educational experiences, and relax from academic stress.”

The student organization fair was held on Feb. 6. Hundreds of Stetson students entered the Great Hall to see the different student organizations and eat pizza. First-year Mandi Feld said, “It is really great to meet lots of people and find out how to get involved all in one place.”

Stetson offers very diverse student organizations with different focuses. There are political groups such as the Stetson Democrats and Stetson Republicans, and religious organizations such as the Jewish Law Students Association and Christian Legal Society. However, most of the clubs at Stetson focus on areas of practice, ranging from the seas (Maritime Law Society) to the skies (Aviation and Aerospace Law Society).

The student organization fair was also a great place for the organizations to recruit new members. Third-year Caitlin Sirico, president of Real Property Probate and Trust Law Society, said, “The student organization fair is the highlight of our semester because our executive board fields questions from potential

STUDENTS continued on page 8
**COLUMN**

**Change**

By VINCENT CARL LOBUE
General Secretary of the Stetson Democrats

You math geeks out there know that a major tenant of calculus is a derivative, the change in slope, represented by the Greek letter delta or $\Delta$. Change is a major tenant of the scientific process. Experiments are set up to measure the change in an unknown variable. Politically, change is also a fundamental tenant. Each time we vote we decide to stay the course or attempt something new.

The power of change as a political tool is clearly at issue in both parties. For the Democratic candidates, the issue of change is critical for two reasons. First, Democrats are seizing the issue of change because they are competing against seven years of incumbency policy. Second, the two remaining Democratic candidates are united in policy, leaving the issue of who can best facilitate the policy and bring about change.

The first candidate to seize the hilt of the change saber was Barack Obama. His candidacy relies heavily on the simple fact that he can facilitate change because he can create a new united governing coalition. Hillary Clinton also relies heavily on change. She asserts her experience best positions her to be ready on day one of her term to bring a change in policy.

Mike Huckabee, who is running a distant second in the Republican race, claims he is the change candidate because he hails from outside the entrenched system of Washington D.C. The Republican front-runner, John McCain, claims he is a candidate of change because of his positions on lobbying and campaign finance reform.

The effects of change in an election were observed in the 2006 congressional elections. Two issues permeated that campaign. First, there was a political scandal involving corruption stemming from the indictment of former lobbyist Jack Abramoff. The second and more important issue of the 2006 congressional election, was making a change in war policy. In response, voters elected anti-war change candidates like Jim Webb of Virginia.

The ripple effect of that election can still be seen in congressional approval numbers below 20 percent because neither party has delivered results. Congress' lack of action, and voters' election of incumbents with no position on lobbying and campaign finance reform.

The second and more important issue of the 2006 congressional election, was making a change in war policy. In response, voters elected anti-war change candidates like Jim Webb of Virginia.

The ripple effect of that election can still be seen in congressional approval numbers below 20 percent because neither party has delivered results. Congress' lack of action, and voters' election of incumbents with no position on lobbying and campaign finance reform.

As a final note – I will be expanding on this article and my previous article in person at the upcoming Stetson Democrats meetings on Monday, Feb. 18 and Monday, March 3. If you disagree, do not hide. Get your face out from behind your book and come challenge me in person.
How to take yourself less seriously at law school

By JESSICA R. WRIGHT
Staff Writer

If you find yourself wondering lately when you bump into the coffee table whether you owed it a duty of care, take courage. Most of us would probably agree that going to law school can tend to make us a little too serious and myopic from time to time. Hence, here is a list of 12 user-friendly suggestions to help you get through your time here with a little more levity and grace.

1. Keep your perspective: Google the funniest lawsuits. You may be surprised to find that the show “America’s Funniest Home Videos,” tasteful and tame by today’s reality TV standards, has been the defendant in quite a few of them. The legal burden that the plaintiff has to prove in many cases is simply that he did not give permission for the video in which he appeared to be aired. To wit: Consider the Boston man who wanted to sue his friend for shaving a smiley face in his chest hair when he nodded off after having a few drinks. Not only did the erstwhile friend brandish the Bic, but he also managed to videotape it and get it aired on AFHV. While the plaintiff’s attorney felt that it was not a strong enough tort claim against the enterprise drinking buddy, he thought there might be a claim against AFHV for airing it. Google it yourself to find out the outcome.

2. Let your endorphins go to work for you: Sign up to walk, jog or run a local 5K for charity. Better yet, if you have kids, make it a family affair. Put them in a jogging stroller and let them out to sprint gloriously every once in a while. If they are older, just watch nostalgically as they leave you in the dust.

3. Abandon your pride: Stand on the corner in downtown Tampa dressed in a suit and try jaywalking like Jay Leno’s staff. This means you must carry a clipboard and try to look important while you politely ask the most vapid-looking pedestrians, “Excuse me, I am taking a poll. Can you tell me who Dick Cheney is?” Or, “Pardon me, but I’m trying to master the English language. What is the meaning of the word lugubrious?” And so on. Be sure to dutifully scribble their answers and never laugh out loud. Just keep it clean, go with a friend and don’t tell them where you go to school. Disclaimer: Author has never tried this herself.

4. Laugh at yourself: Indulge a former English teacher and read Moliere’s most famous play, “Tartuffe,” before you go to bed one night. As you roll your eyes and say, “What! Read something I don’t have to,” try to keep an open mind to the possibility that occasional reading for pleasure like you used to do will not totally fry what’s left of your brain cells. You’ll be amazed at how this classic play about hypocrisy and keeping up appearances, first performed in Versailles back in 1664, still seems so funny today. Teaser: The religious leadership of the day wanted King Louis XIV to censor it. What present day actor would you cast as the lead?

5. Laugh at everyone else: Order a copy of a CD by P.D.Q. Bach off the Internet. He takes classics in the English canon, changes the language to be delightfully irreverent and poke fun at new targets, and then puts it to music. For instance, his famous ode called “Oedipus Tex” (apologies if you hail from Texas) goes something like this: “You murdered your father, you married your mother, you RASCAL! You’re my kind of guy.”

6. Up the ante: Laugh at yourself AND everyone else. Find a copy of the video “H.M.S Pinafore,” “Pirates of Penzance” or “The Mikado,” created by the unique talents of the late British collaborative team, W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan. Then kick back and watch it for a few hours. The acting is purely spoofish, the plots satirical, and if you pay attention, the utterly ridiculous words will get your mind off Torts. For example, a lyric from “Pinafore”: “I am the very model of a modern major general-er-al, I’ve information veget-able, animal and min-eral.” If this suggestion does absolutely nothing for you, why not rent Peter Seller’s last movie, “Being There.” Even if you have seen it before, many critics agree that it is one of the smartest funny films ever made.

7. Statistics bear the grim tidings that about half of all relationships do not survive graduate school, so don’t forget what really matters: Go on a date with your significant other. Put on a clean shirt. Make a reservation at his or her favorite restaurant and, over some kind of obnoxious flaming souffle, try not to mention one blessed thing about how much work you have to do. Most of all, though, allow the conversation to just be about the person sitting across from you or (gasp) things that are going on in the larger world.

8. Pencil in some aimless fun: Spend time with children. They don’t care a fig about your class rank or your curriculum vitae. If you have your own kids, young neighbors, or nieces and nephews, take them to a movie that they have been dying to see. Get a big buttered popcorn to pass back and forth and don’t even think about how you should eat this.

9. Go green: Get outside for at least 15 minutes a day, whether it’s just to walk around the block on your lunch hour or to stand on your head. It will give you a blast of the sunshine vitamin, vitamin D, which helps you absorb calcium. In addition, studies have shown that being around trees and plants calms the nervous system and primes us for retaining information better.

10. Embarrass yourself purposely: Swap stories with someone you are close to (and, preferably, have known for years).
SERIOUSLY
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about your most embarrassing moments. In our house, this is always good for a laugh, regardless of how many times the tales are embellished and retold. This is especially so with Olivia Robin, my seven-year-old daughter. I think I love her moments more than she loves mine. Caveat: Be wary of anyone who says they don’t have any.

11. Don’t be too cool or too busy for some old-fashioned entertainment: Invite a few friends over to play games next Saturday night. Serve some simple hors d’oeuvres. Just grab a TGIFriday appetizer from the freezer case at Publix and hold your head high. The late American humorist, Erma Bombeck, wrote rather wistfully in several of her latter musings that if she could do it again, she’d invite friends over to visit more, even if the house was not perfect and the carpet was stained. You might be surprised how much fun a game of charades and a bottle of Chardonnay can be.

12. Last but not least, remember with fondness the kind of grades you used to get in college. Accept that law school is a whole different animal. Just do your best and try not to lose sleep over it. Rather than competing with others, why not try to have as your standard the best that you are personally capable of given your unique set of life circumstances? Note: The second part of that sentence is key. This semester, instead of bemoaning how you just missed the Honor Roll by 0.1 again, pat yourself on the back for everything that you are accomplishing. Congratulate a classmate on making Law Review. Woody Allen may have had one thing right when he coined the famous line, “Half of life is just showing up.” The trick is to show up faithfully, fully present and thankful for the rich educational opportunity you have, and the rest will usually fall into place.
Adam Brown was born in New Hampshire, but grew up all over the U.S. He spent most of his life in Philadelphia, Penn. Competition was a way of life for him growing up. His younger brother is a National Champion rock climber, and his older brother continuously beat him up, which proved to be good training for him and probably contributed to his wrestling talent. He wrestled in high school and received a wrestling scholarship to East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, a D1 wrestling school. At ESU, Brown switched from wrestling to rugby. He transferred to Florida Atlantic University, where he continued to play rugby. He picked up his latest sport, competitive running, after college. Brown shortly played semi-pro rugby in a national league, but decided it was in his best future interest to go to law school.

He has continued running since college and has placed very high in many local, and statewide, competitions. His most recent conquest was taking first place in the Michelob Ultra Challenge at the Gasparilla Distance Classic in Tampa on Feb. 9-10. The race consisted of the accumulated times of running a 5k, a 15k and a marathon. The weekend kicked off Saturday with a 15k run, which he placed ninth in his age group, and 41st out of about 4,000 overall with a time of 55:53. Then, just about 30 minutes later, he ran the 5k where he placed fifth in his age group, 62nd out of about 8,000 overall with a time of 18:50. The 5k consisted mostly of competitors who were fresh on their feet, unlike Brown, who had just run the 15k. After the first day, he was in first place for the Michelob Ultra Challenge.

But Saturday was just a warm-up. On Sunday, Brown and student George Root ran a full marathon, 26.2 miles. Brown finished in just 2:58, placing 15th out of about 1000 competitors. He easily qualified for the Boston Marathon, a feat even trained distance runners aspire to accomplish. For those of you who aren’t familiar with distance races, an approximate qualifying Olympic marathon time is about 2:20. Taking into consideration that he ran 12 miles the day before his marathon, that’s not bad. His total average was about 6 min 45 seconds/mile over 39 miles. He won the Michelob Ultra Challenge by 14 minutes over the second place competitor.

In addition to running competitively, Brown stays busy with many other sports and organizations on campus. He plays flag football for Raw Dawgs Revenge, is a member of the Order of the Foley, a member of Cobra Kai Bike Club, and headed a running club at Stetson last semester. (Brown says he would like to thank the three people that came).

Some Fast Facts:

Adam’s Favorite...

Movie: “Boondock Saints,” or “Meet Joe Black”

Place to travel: New Zealand

Book: The Outsider by Albert Camus

Athlete (besides Scott Feather): Dan Gable

Sport to watch: Hates watching sports

Sport to play: Rugby

Food: Mom’s pasta (pasta a la Barb)

Law class: Spain or Germany Abroad
Central Florida
Diversity Picnic
1:00pm-4:00pm February 23, 2008

Stetson University
College of Law
Tampa Law Center
1700 N. Tampa Street
Tampa, FL 33602

An out of the world experience to diversify!

Come and join legal professionals, including FL Bar President Frank Agones, and law students from around the state to celebrate culture and diversity. There will be free food, activities for children, and entertainment featuring:

- African Drummers & Dancers
- Bamboo Orchestra
- Caribbean Music
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FREE but RSVP to hcbarsvp@hillsbar.com or call 813.221.7777

Need more information? Email crokusek@law.stetson.edu

Sponsored by: Hillsborough Cty. Bar Association’s Diversity Committee, Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Assoc., George Edgecomb Bar Assoc., Florida Bar Young Lawyers’ Div., Clearwater Bar Assoc., Sarasota County Bar Assoc., Diversity Committee, West Pasco Bar Assoc., Carlton Fields, P.A., Stetson University College of Law Hispanic Bar Assoc.
An information session was held on Feb. 14 in Classroom F for students interested in learning more about becoming a Guardian ad Litem for children in the local area. The information session was brought to campus by the SBA Pro Bono Committee in an effort to bring more pro bono opportunities to students on campus.

A Guardian ad Litem is a volunteer legal advocate for local abused, abandoned or neglected children. Volunteers work with attorneys and a case coordinator, and after becoming familiar with the child’s situation, he or she can then make recommendations to a court to ensure that the child will have a safe and stable permanent home.

John Zucker, Community Relations Coordinator for the program and Guardian Ad Litem for three years, spoke to interested Stetson students and answered questions about the time commitments, qualifications and benefits of becoming a certified Guardian ad Litem. He said that the need is great right now and he encouraged all interested students to volunteer for this rewarding experience.

“There are currently 2500 children in need right now, and over 1000 of these children have no Guardian ad Litem to represent their interests,” said Zucker.

Some students may be concerned that they do not have the extra time to devote to this program, but they may be surprised to learn that after certification, a Guardian ad Litem volunteer usually spends an average of four to six hours a month volunteering. Volunteering as a guardian also counts towards Stetson’s legal pro bono graduation requirement.

After completing 30 hours of training at nearby locations, students will be completely certified as Guardian Ad Litems.

Online make-up classes are also available on their Web site: www.guardianadlitem6.org. This Web site will also provide information about training schedules and additional details about the program. For more information, call 1-866-341-1425.
Super Crossword

Across
1. Commedia dell'—
2. Red
3. One of the Manx
4. 9 Serchio
5. 14 telescope
6. 19 Clark's co-worker
7. 20 "An apple
8. 21 Catherine of Aragon
9. 22 Mindful
10. 23 Start of a
11. 24 John Yeck
25. 26 Neighbor of Nigeria
27. 28 Confused
29. 30 Monsoon
31. 32 Winter
33. 34 Lincoln or Zumwalt
35. 36 Swine
37. 38 Baing soup
39. 40 Part of a
41. 42 Pull the
43. 44 Pie
45. 46 Snail
47. 48 Adjectival
49. 50 Western
51. 52 Faming
53. 54 Points
55. 56 Reg man?
57. 58 — try
59. 61 — say
62. 63 — go
64. 65 — go
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SUDOKU

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, each column, and each small 3-by-3 box all contain the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★ ★★★ Challenging

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