During the week of March 23rd- 27th students will have the opportunity to elect the Student Bar Association Executive Council and Honor Court for the 2009-2010 academic year. There are three tickets running, each consisting of candidates for President, Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, 3L Honor Court Justices, 2L Honor Court Justices, Prosecutors and Defenders. The winners will be announced at the close of Law Week at the Law Week banquet on Saturday March 28th. Coastal looks forward to what the new council will bring. Good luck to everyone!

All bios and photos were provided by the candidates themselves and do not reflect the views of The Rainmaker.

David Beyl - Presidential Candidate for the Speak UP! Ticket

David Beyl comes to Coastal from Sellersburg, Indiana. David attended Indiana University where he received dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Marketing and Economics in just three years of undergraduate studies. His dedication and persistence continues at Coastal where he currently serves as a SBA Legislator, Co-Chair of the Intramural Committee, Torts I teaching assistant, and mentor in the mentor/mentee program. He is also a recipient of the Dean’s List honor, and is a student representative for Bar Bri. In pursuit of the Sports Law certificate, he hopes to one day work with the NCAA in regulating compliance among members. David will also be graduating with a Pro Bono Honors Certificate.

David’s presidential campaign focuses on issues of central importance to a solid educational experience. He is strongly dedicated to bridging the gap of communication between the SBA and the student body and wishes to eliminate the misconception that the SBA is a separate entity. He encourages student involvement and welcomes their opinions while understanding that his purpose is to represent the students’ best interests. His “open door” policy will facilitate student participation which in turn will improve the overall educational experience at Coastal.

David also has a compelling interest in the manner in which Coastal is promoted, not only in Florida, but across the nation. David shares in the concern of other individuals like himself who do not call Florida home. He plans to increase the amount of national recognition Coastal receives in order to assist the diverse student body find employment upon graduation. He has surrounded himself by a dedicated, qualified, and competent group of individuals that share a common goal and have complete faith in their dedication, abilities, and desire.

Shawn Packer - Presidential Candidate for the Students First Ticket

Our campaign is to literally put “students first”. Although we’re not in office, we’re working NOW to help you. We’re currently working with administration and alumni relations to help students keep scholarship money and offer scholarships more efficiently in law school (community involvement/diversity/leadership scholarships and monetary Book Awards). Additionally, our candidates were those who pressed for transcript letters to explain the grade curve and we continue to push for an exam editing process, avoidance of another Thanksgiving reading period, and alteration of the grade appeals process. We would love for SBA to take credit for changing the curve, but it was actually the professors’ initiative. Please don’t believe that SBA changed it.

Additionally, our Alumni Relations office does a lot more than we think it is. It is the SBA’s job to create services and educate students on the array of local, state-wide and national opportunities with alumni. In connection with the Career Services Department, job openings to Florida Coastal students can only be accomplished through the notoriety and alumni relations, not with the push of an SBA committee. Moreover, Brenna Caballero and the Jacksonville Bar Association are working to launch the Student Section of the Jacksonville Bar Association to further the promotion and networking of our students and interaction with alumni. Did you know that we’re ALL shareholders of the SBA, LLC? Did you know we currently have $100,000 in the account? We want to remove this SBA “secret, upper-class” status by holding Executive members and Legislators accountable for their votes and not ‘hand over’ a blank check of $5,000 to a non-student organization behind closed doors. We want students to attend SBA meetings to voice their opinions. We want to change the dates/times of meetings so that students don’t have to choose between organization meetings or panels. STUDENTS FIRST!

Whitney Wright - Presidential Candidate for the InsPiRED Ticket

Hello, my name is Whitney Wright and I am running for President of the Student Bar Association (SBA) with the InsPiRED ticket. I was born in Aspen, Colorado and I went to the University of Florida. During my first semester serving as SBA’s Secretary I became insPiRED as I realized that the Executive Council and the Honor Court had the ability to make a difference. For instance, while serving as a 1L Legislator I worked on successfully changing the 1L curve from a 2.3 to a 2.5 and we will continue to fight for a curve that is comparable to other law schools across the nation. As Chair of Membership for the Law Student Division of the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar, I have realized the importance of networking with members of the legal community on a local, state, and national level. I believe that SBA should work closely with the Jacksonville Bar, Florida Bar, ABA Multicultural Bars and other state bars setting up events that give every student the opportunity to network and represent Florida Coastal in a positive light.

The strong relationship I have established with the deans has allowed me to plan Law Week Banquet, help organize the CAPFL auction, and propose different academic legislation. It is this relationship that will give me the upmost success at implementing my platform. We hope to institute an LL.M. (Masters in Law) program to allow students to leave Florida Coastal after four years with two degrees. We also have been working with computer services and members of the administration to switch Examsoft to a Macintosh friendly system and have extra laptops available for students that have a laptop break before or during an exam. Additionally, we believe that as the tuition and general funds increase the scholarship awards should increase as well.

Go to www.inspiredticket.com for more information on our platform and what the InsPiRED ticket stands for. Get insPiRED on election day.
Coastal’s SBA Vice Presidential Candidates

Eric Durand - Internal Vice Presidential Candidate for the Students First Ticket

Accountability. As Vice President of Internal Affairs, I want to ensure that my fellow Executive Council members and Legislators are held accountable. These elected officials need to be held accountable for their votes and the products of their decisions. I want to make certain that each and every vote is recorded accurately and published without delay, as the student body needs to be informed and be a part of the unrestricted process. Additionally, I believe that each legislator needs to know who their 25 constituents are within the school. As elected officials, we represent the student body. We protect and advocate for the best interests of the student body. We need to know who our students are and what they want.

Communication. As Vice President of Internal Affairs, I want to make certain that the Executive Council members and Legislators are in constant communication. I want to make certain that your elected officials are in constant communication with you, the student body. I believe in the need to foster an active line of communication between Executive Council members, Legislators and the student body to achieve maximum results. Office hours and the Legislator Table were created by Shawn Packer, Brenna Caballero, Jessica Edgell, and Tony Perkins of the Academic Affairs committee, who are all on the STUDENTS FIRST ticket. Office hours need to be incorporated more effectively to communicate student interests and concerns.

Heather Gurgiolo - Internal Vice Presidential Candidate for the Speak UP! Ticket

Coastal who graduated summa cum laude from Westminster College, where she developed an interest in community involvement, she has served on several local and national student organizations throughout her undergraduate career including Westminster varsity softball, Mortarboard Honor Society, Pi Sigma Pi local Honor Society, and Who’s Who of American Colleges and Universities. Additionally, Heather has acquired significant leadership experience by serving as the Public Relations Chair for Sigma Kappa Sorority, President of Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, and Social Chair for Westminster’s Student Alumni Association.

At Coastal, Heather has displayed a profound interest in serving others as a Teaching Assistant for Lawyer Processing. Heather also serves on the Budget Committee, the Law Week Committee, and the Mentor/Mentee Committee through her involvement as an SBA legislator. Heather believes that members of the SBA should serve as approachable, active liaisons by responding to students’ needs and concerns. Heather pledges that she will utilize her leadership skills to ensure a better campus climate so that every student’s voice is heard.

As Internal Vice-President, Heather intends to “speak up” for students by expanding the number of career and academic opportunities available to Coastal students. Heather is dedicated to developing a CurriculumReviewCommittee to improve the availability, uniformity, and curriculum of classes. She would also like to implement a Student Alumni Committee to reach the Coastal alumni across the country for networking, internship, externship, and shadowing opportunities. Additionally, Heather would like to utilize a Career Opportunities Committee to ensure that more on-campus interviews and employment opportunities are available to both Florida and non-Florida bar-takers at Coastal.

Alexis Hailpern - Internal Vice Presidential Candidate for the InspiRED Ticket

My name is Alexis Hailpern, I am a 2L running for Internal Vice President of the SBA on the InspiRED ticket. I am running with extremely qualified and experienced Executive Council candidates: Whitney Wright, Adriana Pampanas, Mathias Maurer, and Chris Basler.

I grew up in Greenwood Village, Colorado and earned my undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado. I currently serve as an SBA legislator, and was appointed by the current Executive Council as the Committee Head for the Mentor/Mentee Program. I have spent many hours working with the current Internal Vice President, as I am the only Internal candidate to receive such an appointment as a committee head. Furthermore, I was appointed by the faculty and the Deans as a student representative on three faculty committees: the Professionalism Committee, the Multicultural Affairs committee, and the Admissions Committee on Diversity. The main duty of the Internal Vice President is to oversee SBA committees. I know that I have the experience to be an effective Internal Vice President. Also, I am comfortable working with Deans and professors, just as an Internal Vice President must be.

I would like to effectively oversee SBA committees and continue working with faculty committees. I would also like to develop new committees such as a one to help career services serve the needs of our students to a greater degree. I propose to do this by involving students in decisions and programming. I am also interested in developing a stronger alumni network for our graduates and instituting an “attorney mentor” program for all students at Coastal regardless of the location in which they intend to practice. Please visit our website at www.inspiredticket.com for more information about our platform and the rest of our ticket, including our Honor Court candidates. I look forward to next year!

Nina Banaie - External Vice Presidential Candidate for the Speak UP! Ticket

graduated magna cum laude. During her time at UNF, Nina worked in the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership and coordinated sorority life with campus student organizations. Nina was elected Panhellenic Council President where she worked with every sorority on campus to ensure compliance with rules and regulations. Nina arrived at Coastal with student government experience as a Student Senate Legislator from her college. She currently serves as a SBA legislator and works as a Teaching Assistant and as a Research Assistant. As a SBA legislator, Nina serves on the Law Week and Social Committees. As VP of External Affairs, she plans to coordinate mandatory workshops for all student organizations’ executive boards before each semester begins. These workshops will explicitly outline the requirements for organizations’ good standing status. She also plans to work very closely with the Public Interest Chair of SBA to assist student organizations in obtaining their pro bono requirements. She and Speak UP will bridge communication barriers between student organizations and the SBA, and work with both Florida and non-Florida bar-takers at Coastal.

with the Public Interest Chair of SBA to assist student organizations in obtaining their pro bono requirements. She and Speak UP will bridge communication barriers between student organizations and the SBA, and work with both Florida and non-Florida bar-takers at Coastal.

you as the student, so you may communicate with that legislator personally. Before each meeting, the SBA will send its agenda to the entire student body, so all students are informed. After each meeting, the student body will also be e-mailed the minutes. Nina’s work with professors and the students at Coastal, makes her fit to serve as SBA VP of External Affairs.
The Vice President of External Affairs works together with student organizations. One of the most important aspects of student organizations is the availability and utilization of funds. I believe the SBA should not have a “Big Brother” effect in the governance and fiscal spending of the organizations. I believe that the budget process needs to be changed so that each organization is equally represented and respected in proposing and receiving funds. Who are we to say which organization’s event or conference is more worthy than another? As Vice President of External Affairs, I want to assure that each organization is equal ly represented and respected in the approval or denial of funds. I believe the SBA should have an opportunity to either approve or deny new organizations on campus. We want to know how the approval or denial will affect diversity in your organization’s membership, how the approval or denial will affect the availability of funds to student organizations and how it will affect the calendar of events. Moreover, by shifting the SBA meeting to another day and time, the cost- ly lunches for SBA meetings will no longer be a concern.

The Vice President of External Affairs, InsperiRED. First, a little about me: I was born in Brooklyn and raised in Miami Beach. I went to Florida State University for undergrad and majored in English and Psychology. For the past 2 years, I have been actively involved in the school. Currently, I am an Honor Court Justice, on the Mock Trial Team, a member of HLSA, and I’ve been an SBA Legislator for the past 2 years.

Since I am running for External Vice President, I will focus on diversity and organizations portion of our platform. Our ticket feels that SBA can increase the diversity of the student body through Student Organizations. I strongly believe that every student should have an opportunity to find their niche and meet people who have similar interests, while attaining more experience in their field. I would also like to increase the importance of community service or outreach programs. Community service will give students more recognition and in turn help our graduating students find jobs. We intend to promote organizations to help improve membership. Another one of our goals is to improve communication between SBA, student organizations and the student body. Hopefully this communication will keep organizations in good standing by allowing them receiving their funds. We would also like to improve communication so the organizations are better prepared for budget meetings, and effectively convey their needs. Ultimately, the InsperiRED ticket would love the opportunity to work for the students and make this school a better environment for everyone. If you have any questions about our platform, please ask us. Thank you!

### Other Candidates:

#### Treasurer:
- Jeffrey Gordon
- Mathew Leeth
- Mathias Maurer
- Bradley Robinson

#### Secretary:
- Chris Basler
- Jessica Edgell
- Sarah Gammon
- Kristin Rhodus

#### Prosecutors:
- Brandon Allen
- Eva Gibbs
- Alison Goldberg
- Jennifer Kifer
- Rosalina “Nina” Serrano

#### Defenders:
- Jennifer Dunne
- Laurel Li Harris
- Jessica Sexton
- Russell Thompson
- Ashby Underhill

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Coastal’s Student Bar Association Recognized By ABA Law Student Division

The ABA Law Student Division recognized the Coastal Student Bar Association (SBA) this month for its programming that raised $5,000 to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Money was raised as part of the Coastal Law SBA’s annual Barrister’s Ball. The annual social event is held by most law schools around the world, though Coastal Law is among the few that uses its Barrister’s Ball for charitable purposes. Komen North Florida representatives were presented with a check in December.

Wells Griffith, Vice-Chair of the American Bar Association Law Student Division, referred to Coastal Law and its students as being an example to the approximately 200 ABA accredited law schools during his semester address to all SBA presidents.

“My law school holds its Barrister’s Ball in the spring, and we are planning to follow Florida Coastal’s lead and use it as a platform to raise money to benefit one of the many charities in need,” said Griffith in a correspondence to all SBA chapters this week. Coastal Law SBA President Brian Strickland said he is proud of the organization’s philanthropic efforts, adding they will continue.

Strickland also said he hopes the school’s SBA will continue to work hard in helping the Coastal Law build a good reputation nationally.

“SBA has always been seen as a positive social activity here at the school,” he said. “We want to have a long-term and positive impact here at Coastal Law, and fundraising and being active in the community are big parts of that.”

Coastal Law students will elect their new SBA officers for the fall during the school’s Law Week Banquet, March 23-28.
Defeating Bias, and Building Education (CLE) Lectures

Two Coastal students, 3L Mary Rooney and 3L Ashley DuBose were able to attend. By now you have all heard about Haleigh Cummings, the five-year-old Satsuma, Florida girl who vanished from her bed while in the care of her father’s seventeen-year-old girlfriend. Familiar faces from the Caylee Anthony case, including Tim Miller with Equalsearch, George Anthony (Caylee’s grandfather) and bounty hunter Leonard Padilla, have gotten involved in the elaborate search effort. Local TV news stations in Jacksonville have dedicated extensive coverage to the search for Haleigh. Her story has also captured the national spotlight; CNN’s Nancy Grace regularly features the missing girl. And then there is Adji, maybe you have heard of him, maybe you have not. He is a six-year-old Immokalee, Florida boy with developmental disabilities who functions at the level of a two-year-old. In January, he went outside his grandmother’s house to play with neighborhood kids and was not seen again. Adji is Haitian and only understands Creole. Why has Adji’s story gone largely unnoticed? Anderson Cooper 360° Blogger, Gabriel Falcon, suggests it is because Adji is a little boy – not a little girl. He also points to extensive and repeated media coverage of the same missing children, to the exclusion of many others. Blog readers exchanged a flurry of comments in a discussion about what impact a child’s race has on media coverage. They charged the media with disproportionately reporting cases of missing white children, to the detriment of minorities. Some also suggested that shocking facts – like Casey Anthony’s lies or Haleigh’s father’s girlfriend’s mysterious relative who is believed to be a sex offender – are responsible for the discrepancy in airtime. Investigators say they are not surprised by the limited media attention in Adji’s case. They blame yet another potential factor, the lack of evidence or suspects. On February 28th, Adji’s story aired on America’s Most Wanted (AMW) as part of an 8-minute-long segment about missing children across the country. Lieutenant Tom Smith of the Collier County Sheriff’s Office spoke of the modest victory, “Having this national exposure is what we’ve been working for. This is a big deal for us and the investigation.” The crew of AMW spent three hours speaking to investigators and Adji’s family. Posters of missing boys and girls of all ages and races are available for viewing on the National Center For Missing & Exploited Children website at www.missingkids.com.

Coastal Students Attend The American Association For Justice Winter Conference

The American Association for Justice hosted this year’s Winter Convention in New Orleans from February 6th to February 11th. For six days, litigation attorneys and law students were able to mingle in Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Lectures and group meetings on a wide range of topics, including Negotiation and Settlement Strategies, Exposing, Attacking, and Defeating Bias, and Building a Case Through Discovery. Attorneys who attend the conference have the ability to satisfy almost all their requirements for CLE credits.

Two Coastal students, 3L Mary Rooney and 3L Ashley DuBose were able to attend. Aside from visiting some of the wonderful tourist attractions of the rebuilt city, the two students took advantage of the benefits of the conference. “I had a lot of fun,” said Ashley DuBose, “I was able to talk to several lawyers about getting started in the field, and the problems they were facing in the current economy. They were very open and helpful.” According to Mary Rooney, “this was an excellent opportunity for us as law students to be immersed in a situation with practicing attorneys who were able to share their war stories with us.”

Guantanamo - The Beginning Of The End

The Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp is perhaps one of the most controversial topics of today. Over 400 individuals deemed enemy combatants have passed through Guantanamo in the last seven years. Since its instatement, it has received grave criticism for practices such as waterboarding, the irreprehensible behavior of those of its staff, and what some hale as a complete and utter hypocrisy of what the United States represents. On the other hand, the advocates of the camp are equally furious at the thought of these prisoners being released. This fear may now become a reality. The Department of Defense has since determined that the remaining 245 detainees are eligible for transfer or release. On January 22, 2009, President Obama signed an Executive Order to shut down “Gitmo” within a year. Attorney General Eric Holder was hand-picked by President Obama at the inception of his presidency to head the new administration’s initiative. Holder visited Gitmo this past week to ensure that humane standards of confinement, which are required for the remainder of Gitmo’s time as a prison, were being implemented. Although coming from his visit at Gitmo with a positive opinion of what he observed there, the respectful treatment of the detainees and appropriate conduct of military staff was not convincing enough to dissuade the administration from closing the facility by January 2010. To determine who is to be tried under United States jurisdiction or in foreign nations, the background of each detainee must be carefully reviewed on a case by case basis. This investigation will be lead and coordinated by Holder, and comprised of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as well as attorneys with military and counter-terrorism backgrounds.

Those detainees who do not receive approval for transfer or release will be evaluated to determine how the United States should prosecute those individuals pursuant to Article III of the United States Constitution. Factors included in this analysis will be the crimes committed, the jurisdiction, and the feasibility of trying them in the United States. Until 2010, while Gitmo is still operating under United States control, and there are still individuals in the custody of United States personnel, the Executive Order demands the conditions of confinement be humane, the immediate prohibition of any CIA detention facilities, the cease of unauthorized interrogation techniques, and the unlimited access of the Red Cross to detainees. The Executive Order states that any detainees still in the prison at the proposed deadline of closing must be released to their home country or transferred to another lawful United States facility operating in accordance with the foreign policy interests of our nation. As law students we all can understand the right to a fair trial, appreciate the necessity of a thorough investigation, and respect the compliance to the United States Constitution. However, as the unique individuals we are entitled to differ in our opinions. It has only been a few weeks and this initiative is already receiving high praise as well as fierce resistance. With the investigations underway, President Obama promises he will not back down. Whether
Law Students Against Violence

The Vagina Monologues

VICTORIA ANDREWS  STAFF WRITER

It may be the last thing you ever expected to see on a movie theatre marquee, but there it is, Vagina Monologues, in bright lights above the 5 Points Theatre in the Riverside district of Jacksonville, Florida. Each year the Coastal student organization, Law Students Against Violence (“LSAV”) organizes and puts on a production of this award-winning play, as part of the global “V-Day Movement” to end violence against women and girls. This year the event will be staged on April 3rd and 4th.

Inspired by intimate conversations with a few of her friends, Eve Ensler interviewed over 200 women of every age, race, experience and background imaginable to create this compelling series of monologues. Each story deals candidly with topics once considered taboo, from humorous musings about what a vagina would wear and say, to tales of horror at the hands of the Bosnian military. Ensler seeks to remove stereotypes and break down barriers by using the intimacy and frankness of personal storytelling. An aging lady reveals her secret daydreams about Burt Reynolds. Another woman tells her story of being cheated on. However, the spotlight of the play varies from year to year. This year’s version is focused on bringing attention to the rape, torture and mutilation of hundreds of thousands of women and girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo by its military government.

Last year the LSAV production of Vagina Monologues raised $4000 to support Hubbard House. Once again this year, all ticket sale proceeds will go to support the work of this local domestic violence shelter. As part of the international “V-Day Movement”, performances of this play around the world have already raised over $60 million for women’s anti-violence groups, to build and maintain battered women’s shelters and to continue the work of ending the violence and protecting abused women. The Women’s Law Student Association and Lambda are also supporting this year’s production. T-Shirts and pins will be on sale before the play dates and a bake sale will be held in the atrium on March 18. To reserve tickets you may send an e-mail to vaginamonologues@fcsl.edu. Reserved tickets may be picked up at the theatre “Will Call.”

Moot Court Team In Final Round of National Competition

STACEY PELLON  CONTRIBUTOR

After a month of preparation, two of Coastal’s moot court teams returned from the Charleston School of Law Moot Court Competition successful once again. In the competition, team members acted as both brief writers and oral advocates. One team consisted of Frank Camarota and Stacey Pellom, with Scott McCaskill and Trey Smith on the second team. Lauren Shaffar acted as the team manager. In her duties, Shaffar arranged practices, guest judges and assisted in every step of preparation. This competition was the third hosted by Charleston School of Law and this year’s problem proved both interesting and challenging. The problem mirrored an actual case recently decided by the District Court of South Carolina involving the state’s creation of a Christian license plate, and whether that action violated the Establishment Clause and Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment. Both teams’ briefs received high marks from the judges, but Elon University squeaked by to win Best Brief just ahead of Coastal’s two teams. During preliminary oral argument rounds, Coastal faced teams from Duke, New York School of Law, Elon and Seton Hall. After two preliminary rounds each, both Coastal teams advanced to the quarterfinals. Pellom and Camarota faced Duke University for a second time in the quarterfinals and impressed the judges with their knowledge of case law and ability to persuasively answer the judge’s questions. However, Duke prevailed and advanced out of the quarterfinals. McCaskill and Smith argued against Mercer University in the quarterfinals and emerged victorious. In the semifinals, they argued against the Seton Hall team they had encountered in the preliminary rounds. Seton Hall was an excellent opponent, but McCaskill and Smith dazzled the judges to advance to the final round of the competition to face Seton Hall’s second team. In the final round of arguments, the bench was composed of two U.S. Magistrate Judges, the Associate Dean of Charleston School of Law (former U.S. Attorney) and a reference librarian- also from Charleston Law. This bench proved to be a challenge for McCaskill and Smith by asking multiple questions in rapid succession, but the team handled the questions like attorneys with years of experience.

After a hard-fought final round, McCaskill and Smith received the runner-up award, advancing past thirteen other teams through five rounds of oral argument. Camarota received the Best Advocate award by receiving higher scores than all other advocates in the preliminary rounds. The competition was a successful showing for Coastal and reflected the hard work and preparation of the team members under the guidance of Professor Sander Moody, faculty advisor.

Interested in joining THE RAINMAKER?

Join Florida Coastal’s student newspaper!
We’re looking for students with interest in working with the following:
-Layout Design
-Advertising Sales
-Ad Design

The work is not very demanding and works around your school schedule. Contact Christina Shackelford at therainmaker@fcsl.edu for more information.
Coastal Students Attend J. Reuben Clark Law Society Conference

Alisa Wilkes
Contributor

In February, four members of the Coastal Chapter of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society had the opportunity to attend the JRCLS Annual Conference held at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Attendees were Bud Powell, Coastal Chapter President; Alisa Wilkes, Coastal Chapter Vice President; Adam Patton and Jeff Brown. The three day conference included such guests as Judge Thomas Griffith, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; Judge Kent Jordan, U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit; Howell E. Jackson, Dean of Harvard Law School; Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, author, historian and professor in the History Department of Harvard University; Kitone Vunati, Solicitor, Fiji; John M. Smith, former Associate Counsel to President Bush; and Kenneth Star, former Solicitor General & current Dean of Pepperdine Law School. Over 400 people were in attendance at the conference including students from 55 law schools and attorneys from nearly every state, the Philippines, Fiji, South America and Europe.

Coastal Law Professor To Aid In Nepal Constitutional Reform

Professor David Pimentel is among eight Americans and the only person from Florida who has been invited to help Nepal with its constitutional reform. Coastal Professor David Pimentel, will travel to Nepal this week, in an effort to help reestablish the former monarchy and Hindu state’s constitution. He will participate in international court governance, Pimentel will focus exclusively on judicial reform during the three-day conference.

The Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) won the largest number of seats in the Constituent Assembly election held on April 10, 2008. The Party has since insisted on the abolition of the monarchy, with Nepal transitioning to a democracy with an elected leader.

The First Annual Jacksonville Bar Diversity Symposium was held on February 20th, 2009 at Coastal. The featured speaker was Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente, who has served on the Florida Supreme Court since 1997, after 18 years of private practice as an AV rated and Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney in West Palm Beach. Justice Pariente served as Chief Justice from 2004 to 2006. Justice Pariente has been a tireless advocate for diversity and she has written and spoken frequently on issues affecting women trial attorneys and on professionalism.

Professor Elizabeth DeCoux has been invited to speak at the First International Conference on Animal Law in Montreal in May, 2009. She will also serve on a panel addressing Animal Law issues, at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado, of the Association for Law and Society. Closer to home, she served as Santa Claus for Pet Pictures with Santa at PetCo, raising a tidy sum for Saving Animals Through Education.

Help Stop Predatory Lending

The Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA) Consumer Services is looking for law students interested in working on a new project to design a Truth-in-Lending and life of loan audit process. Law students with IT, auditing and/or accounting experience are encouraged to get involved with this project to analyze loan origination and closing documents to support legal claims on behalf of consumers. This is a new project being developed by JALA attorneys in collaboration with other consumer attorneys across the country. Every lawyer engaged in foreclosure defense needs these applications. This project provides a great opportunity to work with some of the best and brightest consumer attorneys in the country. If you are interested in working on this project, please contact April Charnery at April.Charnery@jaxlegalaid.org.

Justice Pariente Speaks During Jacksonville Bar Diversity Symposium

On January 22, Professor Kornfeld was invited to speak at Jacksonville University’s Environmental Forum. The topic was Appropriation of Water in Times of Drought: Florida and America’s New Reality. On February 5, he participated as a commentator at Wayne State Law School in Detroit, MI at a conference on the 100th Anniversary of the Boundary Waters Treaty’s International Joint Commission (“IJC”). The topic addressed all of the rivers and lakes across the 5,000 mile long border between Canada and the U.S.

Prof. Sander Moody has been invited to moderate a panel on appellate advocacy at the Honorable Ralph W. “Buddy” Nimmons Jr. Federal Practice Seminar hosted by the Federal Bar Association.
The Great American Race

STACEY PELLOM CONTRIBUTOR

Baseball, one of the few things America can call its own, has been degraded and polluted from the rampant steroid use by the “stars” of the game. With Alex Rodriguez’s admission of using performance enhancing drugs, another blow has been dealt to the national pastime.

For players who admit steroid use, like Rodriguez, the entire incident is soon forgotten and the players do not even receive a slap on the wrist. And Pettitte and Jason Giambi were accused of steroid use and promptly admitted their wrongdoings, and all has quickly been forgiven and forgotten by the public and Major League Baseball.

Players who have not admitted their mistakes receive far more scrutiny and abuse from the public and media than if they had just admitted their use and moved on. Roger Clemens, for example, by not admitting his use, put his friends and family and himself nationwide televised Senate hearing with days of questioning and examination of every aspect of his and his wife’s life. Clemens was already convicted in the public eye, so what did he seek to gain by denying the evidence against him? It seems that far more was lost by his adamant denial and request for such a public hearing. Barry Bonds, the all-time career home-run record holder, denies knowingly taking performance-enhancing drugs. Despite positive drug tests, the damaging testimony of those close to him, and handwritten laundry lists of steroids, Bonds still refuses to admit that he used anything other than natural supplements. Compare the Barry Bonds of 1998 and the Barry Bonds from 2000 to present. A man simply cannot gain 40 pounds of muscle in one off-season in his mid-30’s without some sort of unnatural help.

In a third category are the players who have not yet been accused, but whose careers and bodies have transformed seemingly overnight. One example is Albert Pujols. While Pujols is a great athlete and role model, he was a long, lanky baseball player and the National League Rookie of the Year in 2001. Now, Pujols is a thick, powerful home-run hitter and two-time NL MVP. Pujols has never been accused of steroid use, but is it completely improbable? Meanwhile, those who are guilty are not even treated as cheaters. Their records stand and they continue to be idols to young children across the country. What message is this sending to youth? MLB banned chewing tobacco because children began copying their idols on-field behaviors. Steroid use produces far more negative consequences than tobacco use, but these acts are ignored by MLB. While steroids may not have been banned by MLB at times when a few of the guilty players used, many more players have used recently and unnamed players may still be using today. The use of performance-enhancing drugs sends a message to children that a person cannot be good enough on their own and that dreams cannot be achieved without cheating.

Rodriguez and his fellow guilty players have seen their careers skyrocket because of their steroid use, but the numbers they put up and the records they hold are not comparable to past generations. All of these players were great without steroids, but became phenomenal after their use. One example of this can be seen in baseball’s illustrious 40/40 club. Members of the 40/40 club boast having home runs and 40 stolen bases in the same season. Throughout the history of baseball, only four players have become members of this exclusive club. Three of these players, Rodriguez, Bonds, and “Juiced” author, Jose Canseco, have been linked to steroids. Rodriguez and Canseco have openly admitted their use and Bonds is only a technicality away from conviction of the same. The fourth and final member is current Cubs outfielder, Alfonso Soriano. Much like Bonds in his Pittsburgh Pirate playing days, Soriano displays power while slender in stature. One would be hard pressed to find a baseball writer or analyst who suspects Soriano of steroid use. Soriano is the only clean, true member of the 40/40 club.

More scrutiny must be done of the records broken by players who are guilty of steroid use. The players who used steroids to achieve unnatural results have broken the records and diminished the careers of true athletes like Hank Aaron and Willie Mays, baseball greats who did not use drugs to earn their titles. Take Pete Rose for example. As the Cincinnati Red’s manager, Rose bet on the Reds to win and therefore was banned from baseball forever. These players, however, are not even slapped on the wrist, are allowed to continue to play and their records stand.

How much cheating is finally going to be too much? How much is necessary for the player’s numbers to be struck from the record? These are questions that must be answered. The records of players who use performance enhancing drugs should not stand.
Nothing beats studying like feeling the tug of a 40lb mahi-mahi on your line. Well, to be honest, I think anything beats studying at this point.

A few weeks ago I got the chance to head 50 miles out to the Gulf Stream. We left the Conch House Marina before daybreak and made our way out on the Endless Summer II. With Captain Billy Hunsicker at the helm, 8 of us hunkered down on the 43’ Sportfish for the 2-hour trip. This was my first trip out on the ocean. I have to say I am now spoiled taking a chartered trip out as my first experience. Once we got to the Gulf Stream, Griff, the first mate, had everything set up and in the water within minutes. Now the boat was 16’ wide but I was still amazed at how many lines we ran at once. We had 2 long riggers, 2 short riggers, 2 shotguns, a deep line, another short rigger, and teaser lines on each side. For those who are completely lost after that sentence, don’t worry I was in the same boat until this experience. Before I get into the actual fishing I should tell on myself. Like I said, this was my first trip out. Yes, I got sick. I spent most of the trip out staring at the horizon line wishing I were back on flat ground. I like to think of myself as a pretty tough guy but I definitely got sick. So, getting back to fishing, I will come back to being seasick. We went out to troll for wahoo but ended up hitting nothing but mahi-mahi. Everyone was lined up on the back of the boat just waiting for a hit. As soon as Griff would run for a pole, he would set the hook and pass it off to whoever was anxious period of time. My adrenaline kicks in and my heart was just a pound after. But like any good college student, I chugged a beer after. But like any good college student, I chugged a beer after. But like any good college student, I chugged a beer after.

American Association For Justice Is On The Move

Coastal’s chapter of the American Association for Justice (AAJ) has been on the move this past year. In fall term, its members got out into the community by participating in the Pumpkin Run, the Mandarin Run, and the Outback Steakhouse Run. Each Run’s proceeds were donated to local charities. This term, AAJ plans to continue on this track. As reported in the last issue, several members have already signed up to run in the Gate River Run in March.

Running is not the only activity enjoyed by AAJ members. Two AAJ members, Executive Committee Member, 3L, Mary Rooney and Treasurer 3L, Ashley DuBose attended the AAJ Winter Convention in New Orleans from February 6th to February 10th. Also, on February 16th, several AAJ members gathered at the University of North Florida to act as judges for the regional science fair. Along with attorneys, military officials, and professors, President, 3L, Christian Lukjan, Pro Bono Committee Leader, 2L, Danielle Hittle, and Ashley DuBose judged student projects on a wide range of topics presented by students between the ages of 12 and 18. According to Lukjan, “This was a wonderful experience for both the judges and the students.”

All that may seem to be quite enough for busy law students, but AAJ is not done yet. They have plans for a litigation expert to come and speak at their meeting in March; the date and time of the lecture will be announced at a later time. Also on the agenda is a small AAJ beach party later in the year.
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**Harmonious Monks: A Harmonizing Good Time**

**KYLE SILL**  
**STAFF WRITER**

What: Harmonious Monks  
Where: 10550 St Augustine Rd # 30 (1 mile off of I-295 and St. Augustine Road)  
Phone: (904) 880-3040

Singing waitresses, Irish songs about elephants and unicorns, and people dancing on tables, all while enjoying some great food... if you guessed Harmonious Monks, you guessed right. You have to try this little slice of food and entertainment heaven! The food is incredible and not what you would expect from a “bar” (the chicken alfredo was top notch!). The drink menu includes a variety of tap beers as well as a full liquor bar. Harmonious Monks is definitely more than your average restaurant. Not only is the food delicious, but everyone is invited to join in the entertainment and sing along with the performers—shake a tambourine, or get on a table and dance! The experience would not be complete without a little help from the waitresses, who stop serving only to get on stage and belt out a song or two! The music included classic rock, some country, and throwbacks like Gloria Gaynor and Soft Cell. The prices are very reasonable and certainly manageable on a law school budget (less than $6.00 for a half-liter of New Castle Brown Ale and less than $9.00 for an overflowing plate of chicken alfredo). Harmonious Monks is more than a meal or a bar, it is an experience, one that everyone must see for themselves. Great food, great entertainment, great people, great fun... right here in Jacksonville.

Romeo Montillano was wanted for robbing a California Kmart when he showed up to take a police entrance exam. He was promptly arrested at which point he inquired as to whether he could take the test before cops took him to jail. After police told him no he asked if he could re-apply and take the test at a later date. [trutv, 3-2-09]

Though India is recognized as a world leader in promoting the health benefits of urine, its dominance will be assured by the end of the year when a cow-urine-based soft drink comes to the market. On Prakash, chief of the Cow Protec Department of the RSS organization, trying to reassure a Times of Lon- ddon reporter in February, promised, “It won’t smell like urine and will be tasty, too,” noting that medicinal herbs would be added and points remould. In addition to improved health, he said, India needs a domestic (and especially Hindu) beverage to compete with the foreign influence of Coca-Cola and Pepsi. [The Times, 2-11-09]

In September, after a Chinese Shandong airline flight landed safely in Zhengzhou, the engine died, and the airline was forced to enlist some of the 69 passengers to help employees push the plane to the gate. [Daily Mail (London), 9-27-08]

Andrew Rickert, 28, was driving the wrong way down a street and swerved toward another car when his passen-gger Charles Patton Thomas III, 24, leaned out to throw a beer can at it, according to police in Tampa, FL. They were caught within minutes, because as their bad luck would have it, the car they allegedly nailed with a Bud Light was an un-marked police vehicle that was being driven by an on-duty police captain. They were both arrested and charges with throwing a “deadly missile” at an occu-pied vehicle. Thomas faces an additional drug posses-sion charge. [10connects.com, 2-27-08]

Twenty million Chinese have their own dedicated cemeteries, but that is often not a bad deal, according to a Decem-ber McClatchy Newspapers dispatch from Mi-aogu Village. In addition to the obvious advantages (e.g., no mortgage), some cemeteries have been in the family for generations and have electrical wiring, plumbing and cable television, and some are part of communi-ties of connected caves. Re-searchers said that earthen insulation keeps the inside temperature from drop-ping below about 55 de-grees Fahrenheit even in the dead of winter. [McClatchy Newspapers, 12-16-08]

In an 11x14 in glass pan, add 3-4 fillo leaves, brushing each with olive oil, butter or a mixture of each. Place 1/3 of feta cheese on leaves and top again with 3-4 fillo leaves brushing each with olive oil, butter or mixture of each. Cut Tirotipa in squares. For the top mix the 6 eggs slightly with milk and pour it on top of fillo. Bake 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes.

The Northwest Florida Daily News reported the arrest of a woman for trespassing in December in Mary Esther, Fla., after she was reluctant to leave a neighbor’s porch. According to the newspaper, she eventually “left — in anger, knocking over a dryer — in the front yard.” [Northwest Florida Daily News, 12-24-08]

Michael Reed, 50, was charged with attempted rob-bery of Eddie’s Fried Chick-en in Fort Worth, Texas, in December. He was armed only with a tree branch and was quickly neutralized by a 56-year-old employee, who grabbed a broom, and the men proceeded to duel un-til Reed dropped his branch and fled (but was arrested nearby). [Dallas Morning News, 12-19-08]

Travis Lavar Fields of Tar-pon Springs, FL left his drivers license in a vehicle he allegedly stole and then ditched. He then used a stolen credit card to pay his utility bill. Fields was arre-sted when he returned to re-claim another vehicle he had stolen. [trutv, 2-24-09]

The Happy Egg Company (Lincoln, England) altered the packaging in Janu-ary for its six-egg cartons to include the prominent warning, “Allergy Advice: Contains Egg!”. [Daily Mail (London), 1-24-09]
Letter To The Editor:

Hello all -
I just perused the new issue of The Rainmaker. First, I would like to say that I appreciate having it online so that 1) I can read it and not throw it away when I’m done and waste paper and 2) that it is not now littered all across the law school. Second, I want to commend you all for what I think is the best issue yet. It was very well written with pertinent legal information internationally, nationally, and locally. The paper has much more integrity now and I would be proud to have a lawyer in our legal community pick it up while they’re here for a symposium or as an adjunct professor. This paper was something we can be proud of.

Thanks,
Susan Chesnutt

Editor’s Note:

During the last week of February, Coastal students trekked down to Tampa to take the Florida Bar Exam. Over 1,500 students from around the state sat through two grueling days of the bar exam. Fortunately, Dean Taggart and Odessa Alms joined Coastal students to offer support. For now, everyone is anxiously awaiting the results which are released in April. Coastal’s annual Law Week begins March 23rd. During Law Week, Coastal welcomes back alum, student organizations strut their stuff, and the SBA election results are announced. The Law Week Banquet wraps up the week and the SBA results and student awards are announced as well. Tickets are on sale now, so don’t miss out on the fun. The Coastal community experienced a great loss last month. On February 12, 2009, Continental Flight 3407 crashed outside of Buffalo, NY. Among the many passengers was Ellyce Kausner. The 24-year-old 2L was beloved by many friends, family, and the entire Coastal community. On February 23rd, Coastal held a memorial service to honor Ellyce. The service was lead by Deans Goplerud and Taggart. Along with Ellyce’s father, John, and brother, Chris, several people spoke in celebration of Ellyce’s life. Our hearts go out to Ellyce’s family and friends.

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Sudoku

Fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers. In a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

* Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
* Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
* Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

Solution to Last Issue’s Crossword

B A R E C O A T

International Law Crossword Puzzle

Across
2 Territorial: control over its internal affairs
3 What people are entitled to under a state’s legal jurisdiction
5 Law that is fundamental or basic
6 Administrative arm of the United Nations
10 Formal adoption by a state’s legal system
11 Attributes are territory, population, and government
12 Cannot be prosecuted by a court for purely governmental actions
13 Agreement of a state to be bound by a treaty

Down
1 International and municipal law operate independently but in coordinated spheres
3 Outline of objectives, structure, powers, etc. of an NGO
4 A future that has been regarded to be lawful in the past
7 The courtesy between nations as a matter of goodwill
8 Outlines objectives, structure, powers, etc. of an NGO
9 Rules of enterprise

Instant Messaging

Acronyms Crossword

Your Ad Here

Coastal students can place classified ads for only $5. Submit your ad to Therainmaker@fcsl.edu.

Have you seen someone you wish you had talked to? Talked to someone and didn’t get their number? Even if you don’t know their name, or can’t remember it, if you’re sure they are on campus, send them an anonymous ad for just $5. Think you may be the person someone is looking for? Email the Therainmaker@fcsl.edu with the ID# listed in the subject line and we will put you in contact. The Rainmaker reserves the right to edit any and all submissions. All submissions are held in confidence.

Solutions:

DOG FOR SALE: Eats anything and is fond of children. [ID# 2009-05]

WANTED: Hair cutter, excellent growth potential. [ID# 2009-6]

LOST MIND: Last seen before law school. Any info, please write. [ID# 2009-7]

PONY FOR SALE: Looks like small horse. If interested, please write. [ID# 2009-8]

HAVE YOU SEEN ME? I have lost a silver compact mirror with the initials HRF. It was a gift and irreplaceable. Have checked with security and front desk. No luck yet. [ID# 2009-9]

You: business major waitress. Your smile is stunning! Can I take you to breakfast or canoeing? Me: friend and band mate of co-worker. [ID# 2009-10]