**Coastal Alum Gives Back**

**KEESHA MCCRAY**

It seems like just yesterday he was a student gracing the campus of Coastal Law. Now a well respected attorney, Kenneth Jenkins vowed to give back to Coastal and the students. True to his word, Kenny (as everyone knows him) made himself available when the school needed him. He was a panelist during the Law School’s Black Law Students Association’s first Annual Banquet, an organization he served as president for two years before graduating in 2007. During his speech at the banquet, Kenny reflected on the years spent at Coastal. He so eloquently challenged all of the students in attendance to remember their purpose for attending law school and their responsibility in attaining such a distinguished degree. He stressed that the students should strive for excellence and pave the way for others. He believes that the students should strive for excellence and pave the way for others.

On his career... Kenny believes that Coastal’s insistence on networking paid off. He explained how while still a student, he attended a presentation at the school the day Craig Gibbs was one of the presenters. He spoke with Mr. Gibbs after the presentation and they developed a great mentor/mentee relationship. When Mr. Gibbs was looking for a piece to add to his law office puzzle, who better to ask to join him and professional elements in this field. Just as Kenny said, networking and being passionate about what you do truly is key.

Kenny credits his confidence with cases, his confidence in the courtroom, and his diligence in being prepared for a case to Coastal’s curriculum and his participation in the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition. He said competing against so many schools was such a great experience. Anyone who meets Kenny experiences his humor, but when asked about being a lawyer, he gets serious. Kenny said he “takes a great deal of pride in the service he provides,” and that “being a lawyer is one of the noblest professions, second to teaching.” He believes there is power in writing laws and practicing law, and with it comes great responsibility. He continued, “so many of us don’t get the opportunity to practice law and every day, I respect being able to do so.”

He recalls how he became even more enlightened when he visited the historical African American town of Rosewood here in Florida and really realized the power of lawyers. He marveled at how it was lawyers who challenged the United States government, ultimately getting them to pay reparations to the people of that town. “That was a true example,” he said, “of a lawyer being in a great position to effect change.”

When asked what else drives him, he quickly answered, “It’s the impact that we have on people’s lives.” He explained how many do not stop and think about that. He recalls a time when one of his clients, an elderly man in his eighties, was very close to having his utilities cut off. The settlement had arrived and knowing how desperately his client needed it, he promised to personally take a check to his home instead of mailing it. The day Kenny was to take the check to his client, his wife was in a car accident. It turned out to be a minor fender bender but he had left the office that day to immediately tend to his family. However, he still thought about his client. He returned to his office that evening, picked up the check, and headed over to his client’s house. Kenny recalled his client saying to him with a huge smile that he truly was a man of his word. That moment confirmed, again, what being a great lawyer was truly about—serving the client and going the extra mile. Kenneth Jenkins is not only a family man and a friend, but also a great example of a well grounded lawyer.

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**Congratulations Law Week Award Recipients**

The following Graduation Award recipients were selected by the Class of 2009 and were recognized at the Law Week Banquet on Saturday, March 28th:

**Barbara McCalla Memorial Award**

This award recognizes one faculty member and one graduating student who have demonstrated compassion, commitment to both the community and Coastal, and a strong interest in the support of justice for the less fortunate. 

*Faculty: Professor Lynn McDowell*

*Student: Tiny L. Williams*

**Jerome Kermit Coble Award for Distinguished Public Service**

This award is presented in memory of the late Jerome Kermit Coble, Jr., a member of the Coastal charter class. The award recognizes a student who has demonstrated a significant commitment to public service.

*Melissa J. Davenport*

**Phyllis Stansell Ethics and Professionalism Award**

This award is presented in the memory of the late Phyllis Stansell, a member of the Coastal charter class and graduate of the Class of 1999. The award recognizes a student who has exemplified professionalism and ethical behavior while a student at Florida Coastal School of Law.

*Janica M. Littles*

**Coastal Faculty Vision Award**

This award is presented in recognition of a member of the faculty who has made significant contributions to the law school and the students. This award was established by Coastal Class of 1999.

*Professor Sander Moody*

**Coastal Staff Vision Award**

This award is presented in recognition of a member of the staff who has made particularly significant contributions to the law school and the students. This award was established by Coastal Class of 2003.

*James A. Richter Humanitarian Service Award*

This award is presented to a student known for his/her devotion to the promotion of human welfare and the advancement of social reforms. The award was established by Mrs. James A Richter in 2003.

*Melissa J. Davenport*

**Commencement Speaker**

The selected Student Speaker will be responsible for giving a speech at the Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 16, 2009.

*Micheal L. Dear*
by enjoying non-traditional Hot Dog Wednesday foods including hot and sweet Italian sausages, fried rice, and fortune cookies!

In March, IALSA hosted its signature Bi-Annual Italian Lunch in the Atrium. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors enjoyed delicious homemade Italian food prepared by IALSA members. Dishes included lasagna, pasta salads, bruschetta, sausage & peppers, meatballs, ziti, biscotti, and much more. The proceeds of the lunch were donated to the Erie County SPCA in the name of Ellyce Kuason and to the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) Graduates to Leaders Program. Each lunch plate included entry into a raffle to win a $50 gift card to Maggiano’s Restaurant at the St. John’s Town Center. IALSA is pleased to announce the lucky winner of the raffle: Drum roll please……and the winner is Mrs. Joey Roberts! On April 2nd, IALSA hosted its Bi-Annual Wine Tasting Event & Mixer. The Wine Tasting is IALSA’s signature event and boasts a tremendous selection of top shelf Italian wines from various regions in Italy. IALSA is proud to announce that this semester’s Wine Tasting Event was the most successful one in IALSA history would like to thank everyone who participated, volunteered, and enjoyed the event. Proceeds from the Wine Tasting will be donated to the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute in New York City. The graduating members of IALSA’s Executive Board will personally present IALSA’s generous donation when they attend a conference at the Calandra Institute this month. If you missed out on this fabulous event, the Wine Tasting is held every semester and will take place again during the Fall 2009 semester in November. IALSA sincerely appreciates your continued support of IALSA!

IALSA Insider Scoop

Francine A. Cianflone

The Italian American Law Students Association (IALSA) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization committed to serving the needs of the Italian American community and to promoting a positive image of the Italian American culture. IALSA affords FCSL students the opportunity to participate in social, educational, and professional events while emphasizing the contributions of prominent Italian Americans in the legal field.

IALSA has been extremely active on Coastal’s campus this semester, joining with other student organizations, and hosting a number of exciting events. IALSA’s events have benefited deserving philanthropic causes. The organization has grown a great deal over the past year and with the help of its dedicated executive board and power members, the vision of its founders continues to take shape.

In February, for Valentine’s Day, IALSA collaborated with the Hispanic American Law Students Association (HALSA) to host the annual “Languages of Love” Bake Sale. The Bake Sale is a celebration of the Romance languages and the historical significance of Valentine’s Day. Treats included Italian cookies, tiramisu, Mexican wedding cookies, and more. The goal of the event is to promote mutually respectful, loving, and harmonious relationships. All proceeds were donated to the Hubbard House, a local domestic violence shelter for women and children.

IALSA and the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) co-hosted Hot Dog Wednesday during Coastal’s Diversity Week. The event was one of the most successful and diverse Hot Dog Wednesdays to date! Attendees were invited to celebrate diversity and harmony during Coastal’s Diversity Month.

At the Multicultural Affairs Center, the 2009 Multicultural Food Fair was held. The fair featured a diverse selection of food from many countries, including the United States, Italy, Mexico, and India. Attendees had the opportunity to sample a variety of dishes and learn about different cultures.

An Award Winning Year for BLSA

Keesha Mccray

The James Weldon Johnson chapter of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) has had an exceptional year. It started off with about 115 members, the greatest number the chapter has ever had since its inception at Coastal. That should have been the highpoint of a great year to come.

The organization has always been highly respected for committing its time to serving the community. This year was no different. To name a few, they participated in community events as voter registration, restoration of civil rights to former convicted felons, and making and serving dinner to the families at the Ronald McDonald House. The organization was recognized by the James Weldon Johnson Chapter of the NAACP for its hard work. BLSA also continues to serve the students at Coastal, as well as the Jacksonville community. As one member, Nicole Fisher, put it, “I was looking for a family at Coastal and what I got was BLSA. I am so grateful for having BLSA because they provided me with the guidance I needed to succeed and I hope they continue the great work.” This sentiment is not only felt by members of the organization but the accolades come from faculty as well.

The organization was then recognized as the BLSA Chapter of the Year by the Southern Region of the Black Law Students Association thereby putting not only the James Weldon Johnson Chapter on the map, but putting Coastal on the map as well. This chapter achieved this award by providing its members with benefits such as its Academic Enrichment program and Mentorship program and then by achieving over 145 hours of community service in the fall semester alone. The chapter was also the second runner up for the National Chapter of the Year, only losing by 3 points! Not only did Coastal’s BLSA make its mark there, but they also sent Mock Trial and Moot Court teams to competitions at the Regional Convention where they also made great strides. The Mock Trial team competed in the Thurgood Marshall competition where, although they did not advance, they won both of their rounds in the preliminaries. The Moot Court team, for the first time, advanced to the quarterfinals of the competition and also won the award for the Best Respondent Brief.

As if that was not enough, the organization also managed to put together its first banquet to recognize its members which capped off a great year for the organization.

Even with all that BLSA has done over the 2008-2009 year, the new President of BLSA, Mrs. Dee’Jean Thomas Mendez, said she will “strive for an even better professional organization that will touch the lives of everyone in the community from small children to the elderly.” With this said, she hopes that as a result it will also help them become the national chapter of the year. If the members of this organization continue the level of professionalism, commitment and passion it has shown over the years, they just may get their wish.
Environmental Law Society Plants Sea Oats

ZAHAVA ESSIG
CONTRIBUTOR

The International Law Society, formerly known as ELCAT, is one of the most active student groups on campus. Much of their events have included community service projects aimed at the preservation of natural resources around the area and education on environmental issues. Last year, the Environmental Law Society fundraised for a new project called the Sea Oats Restoration project, and this year, they continued the tradition.

On April 4, volunteers in the Environmental Law Society, Coastal professors, students, and members of the community met to replant the protective sea oats along a quarter mile stretch of beach in Atlantic Beach. With the help of Environmental Law Society’s Sea Oats Committee, run by Amanda Barton, Justin McCarthy, and Tony Drake, the group raised more than $1,000. In addition, the Sea Oats Committee obtained all the requisite permits, the support of Atlantic Beach officials, and local outdoor groups including the local Surfrider Foundation to initiate the project. All funds raised purchased various types of native beach plant species, including the Sea Oats. Sea Oats, which are usually lost due to foot and vehicle traffic, are known to help prevent erosion of beach dunes. Dunes in turn provide a natural barrier against storm surges and high winds during severe weather. Without dunes, waterfront property is at greater risk. Wildlife, such as shore birds and sea turtles, can lose critical habitat, and the coastline itself can be altered.

The project will continue with constant monitoring of the health of the plants throughout the year. If you are interested in the participation in projects like this or want to know more, please email Zahava Essig at zeessig@fcsu.edu

Photos provided by Zahava Essig.

NATALIE GHOSH
CONTRIBUTOR

President Natalie Ghosh, Vice-President Rohany Karya, Secretary Seth Lucas, and Treasurer Amber Knight were pleased to be the first executive board at Florida Coastal School of Law to make the International Law Society a national chapter of the International Law Students Association (ILSA). The focus of the International Law Society (ILS) at Coastal is to provide information and resources to law students interested in the field of international law. Since its inception as a chapter of the ILSA in August 2008, ILS has introduced a variety of events to the student body. Since most of the members were interested in study abroad programs, ILS has held study abroad informational meetings to discuss the available study abroad programs from ILSA’s website, including Coastal’s sponsored France study abroad led by Professor Hartland. Additionally, because most of the members were interested in Coastal’s International Law Certificate, it also held a meeting to introduce this certificate program. Professor Knechtle, the director of the international program at Coastal, provided information on the certificate requirements and the Caribbean externship program.

Members of ILS volunteered in local elementary schools last semester for their pro bono services. ILS has recently added a new subcommittee, Amenity International, to provide members with other opportunities to do pro bono work in an area of international law. With the new subcommittee, ILS hopes to get more members who are committed to public service and human rights issues.

Throughout the year, ILS has shown various films documenting recent international problems. With popcorn, snacks and refreshments, ILS Movie Night was an activity aimed at providing students a time away from studying while engaging them educationally. All films were related to an international law topic. The film “Darfur Now,” directed by Ted Braun, discussed the mass atrocities and genocide in Sudan. “Inside North Korea,” a National Geographic documentary, provided students with the challenges of humanitarian aid in the United States. Students, professors, and faculty were very much intrigued with both presentations. Because of the high level of attendees at the speaker events, ILS is working with the Criminal Law Society to bring another international high profile guest to its upcoming speaker events.

Prospects in International Law

MORGAN MONTANO
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday March 17, Matt Wilson spoke to Coastal students about topics in international law. Wilson is the Associate Dean and General Counsel for Temple University’s Tokyo campus. He has over seventeen years of experience dealing with Asia, and has worked with legal issues involving commercial matters, intellectual property, multinational clients, and cross border transactions.

Wilson’s presentation had one central theme: distinguish yourself. We all know how difficult it can be to stand out amongst the masses of law students, all of whom are smart and dedicated. The key to success in international law, or any area of law, is doing something that makes you different. It is a lot simpler than you may think. Of course there are the usual suspects: mock trial, moot court, law review, and leadership positions which can enhance your marketability. What about the unpredictable ones? Wilson recommended not only studying abroad, but extending your experience by trying to land an internship in the country where you are studying upon the close of classes, or applying for a summer job on an unsuperseding island such as Mexico, as Wilson did. Most people would bypass the island option because it

seems impractical, but the truth is that there are plenty of clerkships and internships. Your willingness to adapt to a different culture will make you a desirable candidate not only for that particular job, but future prospective employers will be impressed by your flexibility.

Wilson also presented us with a situation in which it is okay for an aspiring lawyer to tell a lie. Yes, lie. Call around to a few firms you’re interested in, locally or abroad, and tell them you’ll be in the area on vacation or business and would like to meet to discuss what their job entails. If you’re not forcing the option of an internship upon them, they’re likely to respond positively. After all, lawyers do like to talk about themselves.) If you receive enough affirmative responses and can justify the cost, get a flight and do some networking! Who knows, it could potentially turn into a job opportunity in the future.

Wilson spent some time talking about how it has been rumored that a career in “international law” does not exist. He emphasized narrowing the field by converting those two words into three—international disputes resolution, international business transactions, etc. He also raised the idea of private international law, a concept so obvious we would never even think twice about it: private international law.

Other upcoming events include the International Law Panel, where students and professors are invited to a Q&A session on the topic of international law. Also, ILS is planning to have an International Food Festival where it will invite members to bring food from different countries to share. And finally, our final event for the year will be our biannual Wine and Cheese evening. Last semester, we had a great turnout with professors, board members, practitioners and community supporters showing up for the event. At this semester’s Wine and Cheese event, ILS will be introducing the new Executive Board for the 2009-2010 year. Although a new chapter, ILS has so far introduced a great number of events to the student body. Wilson’s presentation is working with the Criminal Law Society to bring another international high profile guest to its upcoming speaker events.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
Moot Court Wraps Up the Year With Great Success

Adam Meier Reigns Supreme

ROXIE LOVETT
CONTRIBUTOR

What does it take to write a better brief than UVA, Emory, UNC, Harvard, and 33 other law schools? Ask the author and winner of the Best Brief Award at the Tulane National Sports Law Moot Court Competition and he may give you a list about as long as his thirty-two page brief. Adam Meier may suggest that you cancel any Christmas and New Year celebrations, laugh when you ask him if he enjoyed his semester "break", and shudder if you mention all of the school work that he disregarded. However, if you ask him how good it feels to be published in an upcoming issue of The Sport Lawyers Journal, I imagine you may get a bit of a smile and, if you are lucky, a notoriously brilliant "Meierisms." While Adam’s win was even more exciting than the Mardi Gras celebration going on outside the courthouse, Florida Coastal’s Moot Court teams consistently dominated the competition at the podium. The team consisting of Jason Sexton (oralist), Roxie Lovett (oralist), and Andrew Sutter (brief writer) remained undefeated through four rounds and ranked first of the final eight teams entering the "Meier" round. As has become tradition for Coastal’s Moot Court, one of the other top eight teams after four rounds also came from the nearly 100 other law schools? Ask the author and winner of the Best Brief Award at the Tulane National Sports Law Moot Court Competition and he may give you a list about as long as his thirty-two page brief. Adam Meier may suggest that you cancel any Christmas and New Year celebrations, laugh when you ask him if he enjoyed his semester "break", and shudder if you mention all of the school work that he disregarded. However, if you ask him how good it feels to be published in an upcoming issue of The Sport Lawyers Journal, I imagine you may get a bit of a smile and, if you are lucky, a notoriously brilliant "Meierisms." While Adam’s win was even more exciting than the Mardi Gras celebration going on outside the courthouse, Florida Coastal’s Moot Court teams consistently dominated the competition at the podium. The team consisting of Jason Sexton (oralist), Roxie Lovett (oralist), and Andrew Sutter (brief writer) remained undefeated through four rounds and ranked first of the final eight teams entering the "Meier" round. As has become tradition for Coastal’s Moot Court, one of the other top eight teams after four rounds also came from FCSL and consisted of oralists Lindsay Brey (oralist), and Jessica Davis, along with brief writer Adam Meier. One of the only two-female advocacy teams at the competition, Lindsay and Jessica showed eight "fellas" from around the country that the ladies are ready for sports law advocacy. Each team’s brief counted one-third of the first four rounds, so Andrew and Adam’s exceptional writing ability proved to be a huge asset to both teams.

Before and during the competition Honor Board President, Amy Delauter, acting as Team Manager, played an integral role in the teams’ success. She and faculty adviser, Professor Sander Moody, attended each round and critiqued our oralists’ performance to help prepare for the next round. Professor Rick Karcher joined Amy and Professor Moody as coach and adviser in the three-month preparation cycle before the competition. The success at the competition is a direct reflection on the teams’ dedication, the coaches’ demands for excellence, and Coastal’s desire to reign supreme.

Coastal Takes 1st Place at Navy JAG Competition

Coastal won the championship at the Navy JAG’s Military Justice Moot Court Competition defeating the University of Florida in the finals and Stetson in the semifinals. This is the first year that a Coastal Moot Court team competed in the JAG competition. Along with its championship, the team also received the Best Brief Award. Team members included Neal Buchanan (oralist), James Carson (oralist/brief writer), Eunice Maling (Team Manager), Kristin Rhodes (oralist/brief writer) and Wes Ridout (brief writer). Professor Sander Moody coached the team.

Moot Court Teams Excel at National Competitions

CANDACE WEEKS
STAFF WRITER

The Williams Institute at UCLA hosted the National Sexual Orientation Moot Court Competition in Los Angeles, California. The tournament is unique in that the prelim rounds, quarter-finals and semi-finals take place three weeks before the final round. In the prelim rounds, the Coastal team faced the University of New Mexico and NYU, then beat Cardozo in the quarter-finals and John Marshall (Chicago) in the semi-finals. The team saw NYU again in the final round, from the other side of the podium. The team flew back to Los Angeles in March for the finals. The final round is one of the centerpieces of a major international legal conference. On the bench for the finals were state Supreme Court justices from Georgia, Oregon and New Mexico. The return trip to Los Angeles was a complete success! Coastal’s Moot Court team defeated NYU Law School in the finals. The team members were Lisa De Long (oralist), Renatha Francis (oralist), Kristin Lawrence (brief writer/oralist) and Candace Weeks (Team Manager). Professor Sander Moody coached the team. In addition to the championship, Lisa De Long received the tournament’s Best Advocate Award.

YOUR AD HERE

E-MAIL KEESHA MCCRAY AT THERAINMAKER@FCSL.EDU

OR CALL (904) 256-1230

FOR INFO
Moot Court’s Brief Shines in Vienna

KYLE SILL
STAFF WRITER

What does it take to be ranked in the top 22 in the world? Just ask the seven members of this year’s Vis Team! The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot is an arbitration competition, held in Vienna, Austria, focusing on the Convention on Agency in the International Sale of Goods (CISG) and various arbitration rules and law. This year, 233 teams tackled what Coastal Professor and Coach Darren Latham called “the most challenging problem yet.”

Coastal’s Vis team consisted of 3L’s Jamica Littles, Marika Sevin, and Natalie Trolenberg; 2L’s Gina Peretti, Kyle Sill, Will Grimsley; and Agnes Mombrun held the team together as Team Manager. After the problem’s release, the team was responsible for researching, drafting, editing, and submitting two formal memorandums. After finishing the papers, the team switched focus to oral arguments and attended a pre-

most in Orlando. In Orlando, the team argued against five other Florida schools. Coastal took second overall in Orlando, beating the University of Florida, University of Miami, Florida International University, and Nova Southeastern. Kyle Sill also received a Best Advocate, Second award at the competition. Finally, after months of preparation, sleepless nights, gallons of coffee, and an international flight, it was time for the real thing. The team, along with coaches Professor Latham and Professor Sander Moody arrived in Vienna. In the preliminary rounds, Coastal was pitted against teams from France, Geneva, Poland, and Estonia. Oralists Jamica Littles, Kyle Sill, and Will Grimsley had outstanding performances against these teams. At the awards banquet, all the hard work and dedication paid off with Coastal receiving an honorable mention for their Respondent Memorandum. This award placed Coastal in the top 22 of the world!

With the competition concluded, the top 22 team in the world decided to celebrate a little... with a trip to Venice, Italy. After an eleven-hour train ride, the team was able to celebrate and relax a bit after a grueling seven months of work. So, what does it take to be top 22 in the world? “Hard work, dedication, infinite patience, and the ability to work with six other diverse, interesting, and intense people for one common goal,” stated Gina Peretti. And, after seven months of hard work, dedication, and ranking in the top 22 in the world, what do you do? You study! “I had to bring my books on the plane, because after all, finals are right around the corner,” comments Natalie Trolenberg, with a smirk. Special thanks to our coaches Professor Latham and Professor Moody for the constant support and help throughout. Congratulations to the team for their accomplishments!

Continued from page 3

The work is not very demanding and works around your school schedule.

Interested in joining THE RAINMAKER?

Join Florida Coastal’s student newspaper!

We’re looking for students with interest in working with the following:

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- Advertising Sales
- Ad Design

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Contact Candace Weeks at therainmaker@fcsl.edu for more information.
COASTAL LIFE

COASTAL LAW WEEK 2009 PHOTO RECAP

Photos provided by Kyle Beden
CAPIL 80’s PROM
Sports Law Society’s Annual Golf Tournament

**KRISTIN RHODUS**

**CONTRIBUTOR**
The Coastal Sports Law Society’s Annual Charity Golf Tournament, to benefit The Boys and Girls Club on April 10th, was a success. The tournament was a way for us to further promote Coastal in the community, as well as the Sports Law Program, which is a crucial part of our school. This year’s tournament saw over 50 golfers participate, including students, professors, and attorneys. The tournament was able to make a donation to The Boys and Girls Club due to the tournament’s success.

The first place team, Robert Batsel, Andrew Childress, Richard Turner and Harris Turner, shot a 56 at Deer Creek Golf Course. Their prizes consisted of a free round of golf at Deer Creek in the future, a dozen golf balls and Richard Turner won a certificate for $300 off a complete bar review from Kaplan. The second place team, Tres Steffey, Jeff Sands, Stevie Crider and Bradley Collins, received $15 gift cards, a putting game and a dozen balls. The longest drive contest was won by Dustin Winston after driving the ball ~330 yards. Coming in a close second was Taylor Casey with a drive of ~310 yards. Dustin won a putter sponsored by the Sports Law Society. The closest to the pin contest was won by Adam White. He received a wedge also provided by the Sports Law Society.

A special thanks to Kaplan, Edward Watts Golf Shop, the Sports Law Society, Marie Bagby, Jeff Gordon, Justin Cermak, David Furstellers, and all who helped make this tournament a success. We hope to see you all next year.

Coastal’s Flag Football Team

*Photo provided by Bradley Collins.*

Looking for someplace to go for BREAKFAST or LUNCH? We’re just down the boardwalk from FCSL!

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American Idol Update

DANIELLA DIAZ STAFF WRITER

For all you closet reality TV fans, get excited! It’s another April and that means only one thing—goodbye March Madness, hello Simon Cowell! American Idol Season Eight is in full force and the judges this year have introduced a shocking new rule—the power to save an eliminated singer. Erase any images you had of past idol eliminations, where singers would give their farewell performances right after 24 hours of brutal suspense, and then being told they were the lowest vote recipient. Enter the new rule—contestants are now literally singing for their lives!

The new “saving” power allows judges to keep a contestant that has been voted off by America, but with a few restrictions. Judges will listen to the singer’s farewell performance and then take no more than a few seconds deliberating on whether or not to save their fellow elimination. Once the judges save a performer, he or she is “immune” from elimination, and two contestants will be eliminated the following week. The rule can only be used once during the season, and if unused, the power to save a performer vanishes when there are only 5 contestants remaining. Talk about pressure!

In terms of talent, Season Eight is definitely dominated by the Y chromosome. Only two females remain in the Top 8 and are treading water. From Los Angeles all the way to Chicago, the men have continued to impress judges and viewers each week. Singing live is like a walk in the park for veteran Adam Lambert from California. Adam became an instant fan favorite after his performance of Smokey Robinson’s “Tracks of My Tears.”

Adam’s biggest competition is 23-year-old, University of Central Arkansas student Kris Allen, who has stolen the hearts of women all over the country, singing songs like “To Make You Feel My Love” and “ Ain’t No Sunshine.” Red flag, ladies—he’s married! Will his votes suffer because of his relationship? You be the judge. Tune into American Idol every Tuesday and Wednesday night on FOX.

News Of The Weird

A police officers’ convention near Harrisburg featured something no one expected—an armed man in the hotel bathroom. Reared New York police officer John Comparetto said he ran into the robber at the Holiday Inn in Swatara Township. “I saw a gentle man in there, he looked suspicious. I had a bad gut feeling, but I had to go,” Comparetto said. Comparetto said as he came out of the stall, the robber put “a very large handgun” in his face, said he would kill him and demanded his money. When the man fled, Comparetto pulled a gun from his ankle holster and chased him. The retired officer said a clerk at the hotel desk told him which way the robber went. Comparetto told the clerk to yell to the other officers at the convention that another police officer was in need of assistance. When Comparetto ran outside, he said he spotted the robber crouching in a cab. “I stopped the cab at gunpoint,” he said. “Ten other cops came running out and we arrested probably the dumbest criminal in Penn- sylvania.” They arrested 19-year-old Jerome Mar- quis Blanchett, of Harrisburg. When a reporter asked Blanchett for comment as he was led out of court, he said, “I’m smooth.” Blanchett is being held at the Dauphin County Prison on $1 million bail. The convention was a gathering of 300 narcotics officers from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

A Cincinnati Enquirer, 3-11-09

Cooking Corner

Do you remember Choco Tacos? They are hard to come by these days—especially since Taco Bells stopped selling them. But if you follow these directions you can make your own delicious Choco Tacos from scratch!

- Makes 12 -

Ingredients
For crepe taco shells: 2 eggs 1/2 cup sugar 4 tablespoons unsalted butter 2 to 3 teaspoons milk 1/2 teaspoon vanilla 1/3 cup flour 1/8 teaspoon salt For chocolate syrup: 1/2 cup cocoa powder 1 cup sugar 1 cup water 1 teaspoon vanilla Dash of salt Chocolate chip ice cream (vanilla also works) 1 cup peanuts Directions
1. For crepe shells: In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the eggs and sugar. Gradually add in the milk, vanilla, and melted butter, stirring to combine. Add the flour and salt. Beat until smooth.
2. Heat a lightly oiled, small griddle or frying pan over medium high heat. (We used a tiny 6-incher for easy maneuvering.) Pour about 1/4 cup of the butter onto the pan for each “shell,” tilting to make sure the liquid coats the surface evenly.
3. Cook the crepe on each side for about 2 minutes, until light brown.
4. Wrap a book in plastic wrap then shape the crepe around the bookbinding so it forms a taco shell mold. Freeze this contraption for ten minutes. Be careful when setting up; these are delicate.
5. Continue cooking crepe shells, shaping them around books, and freezing.
6. For the chocolate syrup: Combine cocoa, sugar, and salt in a saucepan. Add water. Mix until smooth. Bring to boil for 8 to 10 minutes, or until thick. Let cool. Spread over the crepe.
7. After the frozen shell is pretty sturdy, pull it out and drizzle inside with this (not burning hot) chocolate syrup. A paintbrush comes in handy here. Put syruped shells back into the freezer so chocolate can firm up.
8. Wait at least five minutes before pulling them out. Delicately stuff them with ice cream, then return them to the freezer for another ten minutes of firming-up.
9. Remove homemade Choco Tacos and drizzle them with extra syrup. Crush peanuts and add.

A “Fruit Pizza” is a giant sugar cookie with a sweet cream cheese frosting and delicious fresh fruit toppings. If you are feeling ambitious and want to make the dough from scratch then follow the recipe below. If you want to make this recipe even more quick and easy then buy a roll of sugar cookie dough and skip to steps four and five. Great for parties!

Ingredients
1/2 cup butter, softened 3/4 cup white sugar 1 egg

Fruit Pizza
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour 1 teaspoon cream of tartar 1/2 teaspoon baking soda 1/4 teaspoon salt 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese 1/2 cup white sugar 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Directions
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. In a large bowl, blend the butter and 3/4 cup sugar until smooth. Mix in egg. Combine the flour, cream of tartar, baking soda and salt; stir into the creamed mixture just until blended. Press dough into an ungreased pizza pan.
3. Bake in preheated oven for 8 to 10 minutes, or until lightly browned. Cool.
4. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese with 1/2 cup sugar and vanilla until light. Spread on cooled crust.
5. Arrange desired fruit on top of filling, and chill.

http://www.ohdeedoh.com/ohdeedoh/how-to-how-to-make-a-choco-taco-078549
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Editor’s Note:
Congratulations to everyone who received awards at the Law Week Banquet and to the SIBA winners. The Spring 2009 semester is wrapping up. Final Exams and Graduation are right around the corner. Thank you to everyone who helped so much with "The Rainmaker" this semester! Good luck with your final exams. Don’t forget to rest in between study sessions! "The Rainmaker" staff hopes everyone has a fun and safe summer. See you next semester.

CARLA-MICHELLE ADAMS CONTRIBUTOR

On January 20, 2009, the world watched as President Barack Obama was sworn in as the forty-fourth President of the United States. The inauguration of President Obama was a historic event, as he became the first African American President. While President Obama and the First Lady, Michelle Obama, strolled down Pennsylvania Avenue, many teary eyed Americans waved at the couple, overwhelmed with excitement over the promise of CHANGE. With the swearing in of the first African American President, there was this renewed sense of patriotism, hope, and racial equality. According to the U.S.A. Today Gallup Poll, “over two-thirds of Americans say President Obama’s election as president was either the most important advance for blacks in the past one hundred years, or among the two or three most inspiring major events.” Americans predicted a positive change in race relations and looked forward to racial equality due to President Obama’s presidential nomination. On Wednesday, March 25, 2009, National Urban League released startling statistics that reduced this prediction of Americans to a dream deferred. According to the National Urban League’s annual “State of Black America” report, “Blacks are twice as likely as whites to be unemployed; three times more likely to live in poverty; and more than six times as likely to be incarcerated.” As of summer 2009, the African community rejoices in President Obama’s nomination, the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. still remains a vision of the future, not yet obtained. Included in the “State of Black America” report was a list of policy recommendations for the areas of home ownership, jobs, health and education. One of the educational goals was identified as “providing a guarantee of high quality early education for three and four year olds.” In many African American communities, inequalities begin at the birth of a child, and continue throughout that child’s adolescence and into adulthood. “The Status of Jacksonville’s Children: Racial and Ethnic Disparities Report,” a study conducted by the Jacksonville Children’s Commission, identified racial inequality spanning over the lifetime of African Americans. The statistics, from the City of Jacksonville, provided a startling glimpse of the disparities existing in the community that we are part of: one in three African American children live in poverty, compared with fewer than one in ten Caucasian children; more African American infants and children die in the city due to poverty/ethnicity; and African American children are more likely to live in Health Zone 1 where there is a higher incidence of crime and illiteracy. Reflecting the disparities that were identified in the “State of Black American” report as well as “The Status of Jacksonville’s Children: Racial and Ethnic Disparities Report”, it is clear that racial discrepancies and inequalities are still part of the American experience. As Americans continue to break down racial barriers, and confront racial stereotypes, and the first African American President remains in office, we, as Americans are called to change. Change our racial perspectives enough to close the gap in racial disparity.

Closing the Gap Of Racial Disparity

BRYAN HAMILTON CONTRIBUTOR

When the Jews detained by the Nazi regime arrived by train at Auschwitz, they saw above the gate entrance “arbeit macht frei”, work will set you free. Work never did set them free, unfortunately the gas chambers did. In past World War II times “never again” is a popular coined term. It is happening again, right here, in the United States of America. The contemporary concentration camps are also at the end of train tracks, but above their front gates read “F.E.M.A.” or Federal Emergency Management Agency.

H.R. 645 would authorize these F.E.M.A. concentration camps, dubbed as “national emergency centers”, to be used. There are currently approximately 800 of these camps across the country, completely empty, but with full-time guards, ready to receive prisoners. All of these camps have railroad tracks and roads leading to them, with most having an airport nearby. Although most can hold 20,000 prisoners, the largest outside of Fairbanks, Alaska can hold approximately two million people. F.E.M.A. has also obtained over 500,000 plastic confins. What are they preparing for? What do they know that we don’t?

On May 4, 2007 the National Security and Homeland Security Presidential Directive was enacted. This basically allows the president to take December 31, 2005, a significant amount has been perpetuated beyond that date. Our government’s Orwellian utopia has arrived. “Emergency” is the go word for complete domination of the citizenry. In a drop of a word the Third Reich can be revived. The GIVE act, H.R. 645, is equivalent to the Nazi Youth or the Tott Organization of compulsory labor by the youth. Homeland Security has advocated for “safety bracelets”, that would be mandatory for all air travelers. They send an immobilizing shock to suspected terrorists, much like a dog collar. We now have RFID chips in our passports that have to be sedated much like the Romans were with gladiators and wine, with beer and football, and not ask questions. Do not trust them, the information is out there. The constitution is not just a piece of paper, and as it has been said, “the answer to 1984 is 1776.”

An Emergency Will Set You Free

MORGAN MONTANO STAFF WRITER

“If you had said to us a year ago, that the least of my problems would be Iraq...I don’t think anyone would have believed it,” said President Barack Obama on a 60 Minutes interview on March 20, 2009. So why then, one may ask, would President Obama seek $83 billion in war spending for Iraq and Afghanistan? Prior to announcing his candidacy for president, President Obama voted in the affirmative for war spending multiple times.

The hefty number will cover approximately 140,000 troops in Iraq, and almost double the troops in Afghanistan to 60,000. $2.2 billion will be allocated to increase the overall size of the United States military. The opposition feels that the money could best be spent micro-managing the war in Iraq’s economic development, humanitarian aid, and the promotion of reconciliation. If only it was that simple.

It is predicted that Republicans would overwhelmingly support the request, considering the fact that the other alternative would be an abrupt United States withdrawal from both locations at the same time. This would result in our troops being in danger, but risk everything else that has been put on the line for the past seven years. Although, in theory, the request is facing fierce opposition from Democrats, it is speculated that when it comes time to vote, the Dems will support the President and pass the bill. So what about everything else, you know, President Obama’s “bigger problems”? This presidency is an extremely difficult one to analyze due to the erratic ride on which President Obama has found himself—a rollocoaster of impressive achievements and record failures. One thing is unanimous; President Obama has one of the most ambitious agendas America has ever seen, and the charisma to go with it. He has already devised a transformative agenda proposing universal health care, advancing the “green” movement, reducing “inequities, and increasing the role of the federal government in education. But, with the unemployment rate at 8.1%, arguably the most polarized and dysfunctional political system in our history, and two wars many otherwise, is the administration too thinly spread? After only two months in office it is too soon to judge whether President Obama is carrying on politics as usual or starting to justify the revolution of faith that has been put in him, but perhaps he shouldn’t give up the idea of the “good fight” just yet.

Editor: Suzanne

Letter To The Editor:
Thank you for writing the article on Adji. I’m from southwest Florida, and was actually once home when he dis- appeared. It’s really sad, and I pray for his return. The article brings much needed awareness to issues/disparities like this.

Suwannee

Editor's Note:
Contributors

Closing the Gap Of Racial Disparity

An Emergency Will Set You Free

Is That So, Mr. President?

OPINIONS/EDITORIALS

11
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

Instant Messaging Acronyms

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