SURPRISE OF THE CENTURY: SCHORNHORST IS BARNEY!

by Captain Kangaroo and Mr. Rogers

Shock waves continue to ripple through the I.U. Law School Community following Connie Chung’s interview with Kathleen Gingrich, mother of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, in which Chung duped Mrs. Gingrich into "whispering to her" that her son learned from the CIA that Socratic tyro Tom Schornhorst moonlights as the beloved children’s TV character, Barney the Dinosaur. As news of Schornhorst’s stunning second career hit Bloomington, eager reporters surrounded the law professor’s office, only to be greeted with the gruff statement “How the hell do you think I can afford that fleet of yachts on Lake Monroe?” “At least I know the real reason his grades are always late,” Dean Fred Aman told the clamoring crowd outside of his door. Amidst the ensuing uproar, members of the tabloid press began to speculate that Craig Bradley and Joe Hoffmann played Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street. “This is patently absurd,” Hoffmann snapped. “Criminal procedure and children’s programming have absolutely nothing in common.” “Only if you don’t count the exclusionary rule,” Bradley was heard to add.

The impact of this amazing revelation soon swept the entire nation. Angry parents' organizations quickly protested Schornhorst’s involvement with the Barney Show. Daniel McNaghten of INSIPID (International Nutcases’ Society to Immolate the Purple Idiotic Dinosaur) released the following statement: “We are outraged beyond compute that a legal educator and appellate advocate like Tom Schornhorst would hold himself out as a role model for innocent young children of extremely tender years. I mean, golly, Schornhorst defends death row inmates and people accused of mutilating other people’s ummm, errrrr, well, you know what I’m talking about! What’s more, Schornhorst works with the ICLU!” When told that I.U. law professor Alex Tanford also worked with the ICLU, McNaghten screamed, "Oh, lord, he’s probably playing Baby Bop!" (Tanford has since informed AP reporters that McNaghten must be deranged because he’s far too tall to play Baby Bop.)

When Schornhorst finally held a press conference to publicly describe his secret life as Barney, he further fanned the flames of controversy by announcing that since everyone now knew who plays the lovable reptile, he would begin teaching his audience how to handle a stop and frisk situation and to remain silent until the services of an attorney were secured. Grinning mischievously, Schornhorst quipped that he was trying to get O.J. Simpson’s defense team to guest star on his show as a pack of slavering raptosaurs.
In a related story, Connie Chung also attempted to force Mrs. Gingrich to admit that her son said Professors Aviva Orenstein and Susan Williams did the voices of Marge and Lisa Simpson, at which point Mrs. Gingrich told the persistent reporter to "boil her head." In an even less related story, Connie Chung whispered to Dan Rather that Oliver Stone whispered to her that Quentin Tarantino was planning a sequel to his smash hit *Pulp Fiction* called *Legal Fiction* in which Professor Bob Heidt would play John Travolta's vengeful brother, The Reasonable Man.

**OH, RATS! FACULTY MEMBERS GO PRO SE FOR DECEASED RODENTS**

by Ben and Willard

A number of I.U. Law School faculty members have taken up the cause of a family of rats living in the foliage on the west side of the building that was recently poisoned by I.U. Physical Plant workers. (For those not in the know, the rats had taken up residence at the base of a tree outside of the Recorder's Office in early March. Recorder Sherrilyn McCoy-Lawrence told authorities "At first, I just thought they were first-years trying to get their grades, but I began to get suspicious when they wouldn't actually come in my office to pester me." When several I.U. groundskeepers complained that they couldn't clean dead leaves out of the Virginia creeper because of the rats, the unfortunate rodents were summarily executed.) "This is just unconscionable," lamented Professor Pat Baude. "Animals may not have any rights under the Constitution, but we just can't bury due process beneath a pile of De-Con!"

Faculty members plan to attack the rats' assassination on several fronts. Professor Rob Fischman has indicated that preliminary autopsies have shown that the rats may have been a rare new family of rodentia, and as such, were protected under the Endangered Species Act. Professor John Scanlan, having determined that these were Norwegian brown rats, and hence foreign nationals, were under the jurisdiction of the Immigration and Naturalization Services and not I.U. Physical Plant. Scanlan is also contacting Amnesty International and asking them for a full-scale investigation on what he terms "is an obvious atrocity, and possibly a violation of the Geneva Convention." On a negative note, Professor Alysa Rollock has announced that, as far as she can determine, the rats had not publicly incorporated and that petitioning the SEC would therefore be to no avail. "I haven't gotten in touch with Delaware's Secretary of State, so there's still a ray of hope that we'll find a Minutes Book, or at least some stock certificates." In a similar vein, property mavens Jeff Stake and Fred Cate said there was absolutely no evidence that the rats had occupied the groundcover for twenty years and so adverse possession was a dead end.

**PROF TO THROW CURVE BALLS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM**

by Dick Vitale

Replacement player baseball took on a new twist last week when I.U. Law Professor Don Gjerdingen asked Dean Fred Aman for an unscheduled leave of absence to join the pitching rotation of his beloved Minnesota Twins. "There may be no joy in Mudville with the ongoing strike," Gjerdingen told this reporter, "but I just couldn't turn down a chance to play in the big leagues." The rookie hurler went on to say he'd refined his throwing technique by studying Professor Jeff Stake's split-finger pancake methods. "If Stake can accurately place a flapjack in the back row of Room 125, I can surely get a much more compact object across the plate at decent velocity."

While Gjerdingen's three innings of hitless pitching in an exhibition game against the Boston Red Sox left little doubts about his abilities (and curses of exasperation from Sox fans Gene Shreve and Ralph Gaebler), the Twins' coaching staff expressed frank concerns about time between pitches and the warnings their new pitcher received from the umpires. "He seems to go into some kinda long, post-modernistic deconstructive fugue whenever a new batter comes up," grumbled one coach. "Nonsense," Gjerdingen answered. "I was simply working through a cost-benefit analysis for every pitch I made. Obviously it worked," he said, scoffing at suggestions that the Red Sox hitters were lulled to sleep.
by his extended calculations. The opponents weren't the only players on the field baffled by Gjerdingen's radical style. Minnesota replacement catcher, Bob Bushleague, said, "While Don's the most effective pitcher I've ever caught for, I had to learn a whole new style of signalling. Coasian theory is still a complete mystery to me, and I don't have the vaguest idea of what Learned Hand was talking about or why I should even care. One thing's for sure—he's not going to fool anyone with that cost-benefit garbage when he tries to pick off a runner at first." That may be the case, Bob, but I'm willing to bet Don will never have to worry about runners at first with the stuff he's throwing!

(In a totally unrelated story, I was unable to persuade Kathleen Gingrich to reveal that her son had told her Professors Lauren Robel and Julia Lamber are planning to compete on American Gladiators.)

EMERGENCY NOTICE!

by Lovely Rita Rumormonger

Library Computer Center Supervisor Jackie Hickey today announced that every computer in the center has been infected with the infamous "MTV Virus." All students should be warned that this dread virus automatically converts the names of well-known legal realists to either Beavis or Butthead. While this might sound pretty insignificant to fans of the moronic duo, we sincerely doubt that your teachers will be amused.

YOU MAY BE A GRIND: YES, STILL ANOTHER TOP TEN LIST

by Dr. C.G. "Forever" Jung

Despite the best efforts of the Admissions Committee, every new year brings with it a handful of students who fervently believe law school is the crowning glory of their entire educational career (unlike their peers, who merely want to own BMWs and become the bane of society). These unfortunate, misguided "gunners" can be found Sheparding note cases from their texts, throwing themselves to the floor in front of the grade board in abject misery because they got an A and not the A star; following a professor after class from the classroom to the professor's office and then to the professor's home in order to clarify an obscure point; driving the reference librarians crazy; trying to buy Professor Cate's monkeys (see Vol. 2, No. 8 of this publication) and attempting to grow out their eyebrows so they look like those guys in Dawson and Harvey's contracts book. To discover if you are one of these academic pariahs, see if more than two of the following phrases describes you. (If all ten phrases describe you, please contact the Law School's Faculty Appointments Committee.)

10. Your therapist suggests you take up poetry writing to relieve pre-exam stress; you suffer a major anxiety attack when you realize nothing rhymes with "Palsgraf."

9. You call your underwear "Brandeis briefs."

8. Your library carrel collapses under the weight of all the journals checked out to you and your kneecaps are smashed; you scream in agony because you're bleeding all over the footnotes for your B706 paper.

7. Two weeks have passed since you returned to school from Spring Break and your parents can still recite the facts from Marbury vs. Madison.

6. You and the five members of your class that don't hate you have designed a form of poker involving legal education flash cards.

5. You silently repeat Professor Hughes' name and the rules of negotiability whenever you write a check.

4. You vow to name your first-born child Cardozo.

3. You actually look forward to the bar review as an opportunity to "relive your salad days" in civil procedure.

2. The stack of pancakes Jeff Stake flips your way is taller than you are.

... and the deadliest sign that you're taking law school far too seriously:

1. You don't know where Nick's is.
GET THE PICTURE? A VISUAL LAW EXAM

To warm you up for the probing yet arcane questions you'll be answering in a few short weeks on your final exams, our staff of amphetamine-popping, coffee-guzzling, choking-on-pieces-of-under-cooked-poisoned-rat graphic artists offer yet another four scenes designed to test your knowledge of law school and the legal profession. If you correctly identify all four scenes, you might want to go back and read the article with the Top Ten List a little more carefully!

The Suggestion Box

(Each month, Associate Director Linda Fariss apprehensively approaches the Suggestion Box, hoping against hope that among your well-meaning petty gripes she'll find a tip or at least a good excuse for initiating commitment proceedings against the author of this issue of Res Ipsa Jocular. In recognition of Connie Chung's recent triumphs in the world of investigative journalism, Ms. Fariss has taken a well-earned vacation from the column and leaves the veteran reporter to root out the answers to your comments and questions about library procedure.)

Chung: Mrs. Gingrich, can you whisper to me if your son plans to cut funding to academic institutions for replacing broken staplers?

Mrs. Gingrich: Would you please leave me alone?

Chung: Let me put it this way—does your son think welfare reform will free up enough capital to give the J.U. School of Law a block grant to subscribe to the Detroit Free Press?

Gingrich: Newt never talks shop with me. I told you that before. Why can't you just go away?

Chung: Now, Kathleen, just between you and me, did Bob Knight ever whisper to your son that if library fines were inevitable, you should relax and enjoy them?

Gingrich: How much do I have to pay you to go away?!

Chung: One final question, Mrs. Gingrich—

Gingrich: Don't you have anyone else to bother? I'm not a movie star or a politician! I'm only Newt's mother, for God's sake!

Chung: Please, Mrs. Gingrich. Has your son ever said anything about the students in Professor Popkin's Income Tax class?

Gingrich: Oh, that's different. He did tell me something... but I can't repeat it.

Chung: It'll be our little secret. Just whisper it to me.

Gingrich: Well, Newt did say without a copy of Chirelstein, those poor kids are up the creek without a paddle.

Chung: Did you hear that, America? An exclusive first, right here on Inside Edition! Without Chirelstein, Popkin's students are up the creek!

Gingrich: You bitch.
Question 1

1. This is a trio of:
   A) First-years after their oral arguments.
   B) Second-years trying to come up with law journal note topics.
   C) Third-years looking at the interview schedule.
   D) Rookie associates trying to remember what a digest is.

Question 2

2. This person is:
   A) A law student who's going to have a very hard time getting a job.
   B) A "headhunter" for a major Wall Street firm.
   C) One of the instructors for the Indiana Bar Review.
   D) Your punky, good-for-nothing undergrad roommate who's now pulling in over a million dollars a year playing for a Seattle-based band.

Question 3

3. This law student is:
   A) Preparing for exams.
   B) Recovering from exams.
   C) Fixing his own plumbing because his landlord won't return his calls.
   D) You during Spring Break.

Question 4

4. This is:
   A) One of the many places you'd like to be instead of in class.
   B) The view from your office at your first job after school.
   C) An allegorical representation of a lawyer's soul.
   D) The inside of your refrigerator.

CORRECT ANSWERS

1. (D) 2. (D) 3. (D) 4. None of the above; it's the birthplace of several Law School faculty members.
WORKING WITH TROWELS

Moot Court Faculty Coach Steve Johnson hastily dismissed all members of the I.U. team after a particularly violent round of arguments at a regional semi-final. Several angry judges demanded that I.U. students be permanently banned from future competition and that students on the present team be barred from the practice of law. "Can you believe the unmitigated audacity of these people, to come in here and quote from non-existent Supreme Court decisions?" sputtered one wrathful jurisprude. "Did those little jerks actually think we'd believe that Justice Scalia wrote something like 'the weasels who put together the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments were obviously on drugs and we're going to ignore their lobotomized ravings' in a case called U.S. vs. The Power Rangers?!" When told that the I.U. teams' defense was that "it's an artificial, imaginary case we're arguing, so why shouldn't we cite imaginary doctrine?" Professor Johnson muttered, "That's the lamest thing I've heard since the '86 Tax Reform Act."

I.U. Law School World Wide Webmaster Bruce Markell took quick action this week to allay fears that the School's Web page could be in big trouble if a bill designed to curb obscenity on the Internet passes both houses of Congress. "While it may be cruel and unusual that we only give two hours credit for all the work first-years have to put into Writing and Research, and some students will suffer hardships under next year's course listing, I hardly think any federal magistrate could possibly equate my posting of the fall schedule of classes with, say, the graphic types of violent pornography I hear you can find on alt.sex.lawschool.conference rooms!"

Professor Dan Conkle tossed CBS reporter Connie Chung out of his office yesterday, yelling "I will not so characterize Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Conner over her position on the Establishment Clause! And ditto on the separation of church and state!"

MEMORABLE EVENTS IN LAW SCHOOL HISTORY

November, 1983: After Ohio State's 24-21 loss to Michigan in football, Professor Terry Bethel orders all Michigan grads to shred their copies of Farnsworth and build him an exact replica of the Luton Bridge. When the original plans of the bridge cannot be found, Bethel begrudgingly grants them a reprieve and asks for a statue of Woody Hayes, or, in the alternative, Roger Dworkin.

April, 1988: Parents of injured law student Stan Steakburger settle out of court in a negligence suit against the Law School and Professor Ed Greenebaum. Although Greenebaum insists that no one could have foreseen the injuries Steakburger endured during a Roles and Relations field trip to the State Prison for Criminally Insane Attorneys, the Steakburgers' lawyer maintains that Greenebaum's decision to introduce his students to the psychotic cannibal Counsellor Peter "The Client-Eater" Blechter was "profoundly bonkers." Professor Greenebaum responds to this charge by saying that "I only wanted my students to understand that some types of attorney conduct, no matter how heinous, falls into a gray area. After all, the Model Rules don't say anything about dining on a client."

March, 1991: Reference Librarian Keith Buckley suffers an attack of hysterical blindness when asked to write the inaugural issue of this journal and told "to include something humorous yet inoffensive about every faculty member." Buckley is later institutionalized when informed that this will be an annual event.

April, 1992: Professor Steve Conrad says he is "bitterly disappointed" when the Law School Curriculum Committee turns down his proposal for a new seminar tentatively titled "Fireside Chats With The Founders." The Committee's main objection to the class is Conrad's request to team-teach with well-known Oolitic psychic Tereza Tableknocker. "Apparently some reactionaries on the Committee refused to accept my incontrovertible proof that Tereza channels for James Madison," Conrad grumbles. "Just think of all the wonderful opportunities our students have been denied—why, we could have finally settled the debate on the Second Amendment!"