



# The Vermont Law School Forum

Volume XXX, No. 1

Friday, October 8, 2004

South Royalton, Vermont

## PRESIDENT AND DEAN SHIELDS INAUGURATED

by Peter Miller, VLS Staff

Vermont Law School President and Dean Geoffrey B. Shields was formally inaugurated on Friday, October 1st on the South Royalton Town Green. In March, the Vermont Law School Board of Trustees chose "Jeff" Shields as the law school's seventh chief executive. Shields was formerly a partner and past chair of the Management Committee of the Chicago and Washington, DC, law firm of Gardner Carton & Douglas LLP. He assumed the presidency and deanship on August 1 and also serves as professor of law. President and Dean Shields succeeds L. Kinvin Wroth, who remains on the VLS faculty.

President and Dean Shields' accomplishments include a wide range of financings, conversions, mergers, acquisitions, and corporate reorganizations for educational institutions, and for health care and elderly housing companies. Shields has edited four books and over 30 articles on foreign policy issues, health care financing, mergers and acquisitions, restructuring,

and environmental issues. He has served as vice chair and treasurer of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and is an active member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. He is past chair of the board of trustees of Lake Forest College (IL).

President and Dean Shields served as a law clerk for Judge James L. Oakes of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, from 1972 to 1973. From 1973 to 1976, he served as assistant counsel to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and as counsel and foreign policy advisor to Senator Frank Church. In 1977, Shields was special assistant to the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Vermont Law School Board Chair J. Scott Cameron commented: "public service

is a fundamental element of Vermont Law School's culture. It is already clear that Jeff Shields will be an effective leader who inspires and motivates our faculty and students."



**Newly Inaugurated  
Dean and President,  
Geoffrey Shields**

Cameron continued, "Shields' service at our helm represents a big step forward not only for VLS, but for the wider Vermont and legal communities as well."

Inaugural receptions were held on campus in three themed venues and included a cosmopolitan reception featuring chamber music by the Bartholdi Ensemble; a Cajun reception enlivened by "Shout Lula" zydeco music; and a Vermont reception with the Ed Larkin Contra Dancers. The festivities continued with entertainment from "The Shugarmakers," a local acoustic quartet.

## VERMONT LAW SCHOOL'S SOUTH ROYALTON LEGAL CLINIC CELEBRATES 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

by James C. May, VLS Faculty

VLS's on-campus, real client, civil poverty law clinic, the South Royalton Legal Clinic (SRLC), opened its doors in January 1979, and is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this 2004-05 academic year.

As part of that celebration, clinic staff members are organizing four panel discussions over the course of the year (two each term) dealing with aspects of the practice of law in the public interest. The programs are in the areas of domestic violence; delivery of legal services; immigration law and juvenile law.

"Given the high percentage of VLS grads who practice public interest law in one way or the other after graduation, plus those grads who serve on the boards of public interest organizations or support public interest law in some other way, this program should be of particular interest to all VLS students," said James C. May, the Clinic's director.

In addition, he noted that "public interest law is deep and wide, and can

accommodate the visions of many new lawyers seeking to make contributions to improving life in their communities and the world. Indeed, many VLS students make such contributions while still students, through clinical, externship and volunteer work. Public interest law is also a major employer of recent law school grads, a fact that should be of interest to anyone now in law school. Knowing something about the field can be of great help during job interview season."

Panels in the spring term will address the practice of immigration law in Vermont (including at SRLC) and juvenile law. Locations of all programs will be announced in campus-wide e-mails.

The South Royalton Legal Clinic offers students the opportunity to appear in state and federal courts on a regular basis. Students may enroll for one semester either full-time (13 credits) or part-time (6 credits), and are supervised by an experienced staff of four attorneys and

two support staff. Under state and federal student practice rules, students can represent clients in over 150 court and administrative hearings per year in a wide range of case types. These include family, juvenile, public benefits, bankruptcy, domestic violence, housing and immigration cases. Clinicians can earn credit toward their Vermont clerkship requirement (required for practice in Vermont) as they learn the arts of interviewing, counseling, negotiation, document and case preparation, and trial and appellate advocacy. With over 25 years of experience in helping VLS students integrate their knowledge of substance, procedure, skills and ethics, SRLC provides its clinicians with a remarkable opportunity to prepare for a lifetime of legal practice.

### CELEBRATING

# 30

**YEARS**  
**1975-2005**

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### Programs Planned for the Fall Are:

**Friday, October 22 12:45 – 2 p.m.**  
**Domestic Violence Panel**

Kate Kennedy, VLS '02 (SRLC clinician),  
*Have Justice Will Travel,*  
*Randolph, VT*

Jessica (Smith) McManus, VLS '01  
(Clinic work-study)

*Have Justice Will Travel,*  
*Bennington, VT*

Rebecca (Weiner) Wilder, VLS '02 (SRLC  
EJF Fellow)

*Vermont Legal Aid, St. Johnsbury, VT*  
**Moderator: Arthur Edersheim,**  
**SRLC**

**Tuesday, November 16 12:45 – 2 p.m.**  
**Delivery of Legal Services**

**in Vermont Panel**  
Eric Avildsen, Director,  
*Vermont Legal Aid*

Tom Garrett, Executive Director,  
*Legal Services Law Line of Vermont*  
Hon. Denise Johnson, Associate Justice,  
*Vermont Supreme Court*

Anna Saxman, VLS '85,  
*Vermont Deputy Defender General*  
**Moderator: James May, SRLC**



VERMONT LAW SCHOOL  
FORUM

CELEBRATING  
30  
YEARS

As Editor in Chief of *The Vermont Law School Forum*, I'd like to take the opportunity to formally welcome new first years and say hello again to returning second and third years. I've lived in Vermont for three years now and I can attest that this time of year always seems to be an interesting, yet nerve-wracking time in Vermont. Aside from those appellate papers, the AWR outlines, and the pace of classes picking up, there are also external pressures. The air is turning cold, the type of air which calls to mind an afternoon football game, and the echoes of winter coming into being. Also, all around us, we are fortunate to have by far the best leaf colors in the nation this and every fall, as the reds, oranges, browns, and yellows have gone from hints to clearly showing in maples (and falling from them) throughout the state, which I can now say certainly makes the school look much better than when it is blanketed by three feet of snow.

This year, we have a new Dean and President, and likely before the year's end, will have a "new" old classroom building, restored finally as Debevoise Hall. But hopefully some things don't change, like being the top-rated law school nationwide in environmental law by *U.S. News*. This also marks the 30th year that *The Forum* has been published, and by now you've probably noticed some big changes. We have some new features, and will be debuting others as the year progresses. However, *The Forum* will remain a newspaper which accepts all opinions, no matter how diverse or mainstream they are. Also, in being a newspaper at a law school, we feel it is our duty to protect and promote First Amendment rights to free speech while giving issues raised balanced and informative analysis. Although media outlets such as CBS, *The New York Times*, and the *USA Today* have suffered from scandal in recent times, we feel that accurate reporting is the best reporting. Please consider the newspaper as your outlet from the stress of life and a true venue for freedom of speech. If you have an issue that you care about, put it writing. You never know, there might be others wanting to hear what you have to say. While the temperatures outdoors may be getting colder, this is proving to be one of the most heated electoral seasons ever, maybe even more than in 2000.

With the daylight getting shorter in length, with the fog covered dawn and the cold, crisp nights, the winter is not far off. Especially for those of you from warmer, sunnier, more southern climates such as myself (i.e. the so-called "flatlanders"), and for everyone else, be safe out there this fall and winter, as there's so many things to do, and not enough time to do them. But this is a great time of year to be outside enjoying the color and splendor of our Vermont outdoors. I hope everyone finds an opportunity to enjoy all fall has to offer--before winter really comes.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan Stein  
Editor in Chief

#### STAFF

Brian Sodergren '06	Jonathan M. Stein '05 <i>Editor in Chief</i>	J. Lucia Schaefer '06
Jerry Edwards '05	Carolina Curbelo '05	Brian Leeds '07
Sara Parsowith '06	Stephanie Press '06	Baku J. Taila '05

#### SUBMISSION POLICY

The *Forum* is a jointly funded, student produced publication serving Vermont Law School and its surrounding community. Please contact the *Forum* office at 802/831-1299 or [forum@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:forum@vermontlaw.edu) for advertising information.

Every effort is made to publish *The Forum* monthly during the Fall and Spring semesters, and it is usually distributed on Mondays, although this is subject to change as needed. We encourage all articles, comments, and inquiries without prejudice. All copy and photo deadlines are announced to the VLS community via e-mail, though special arrangements may be made with *Forum* staff. Submissions should be made by email or on a 3 1/2" IBM-formatted floppy disk with your name and year on it. Printed photos submitted must be accompanied by your name and year in order to be returned. Hard copies of articles may also be provided. Documents submitted should be in Microsoft Word or Corel WordPerfect formatting. Any photos submitted electronically must have been scanned at a minimum of 300dpi to appear properly in the print editions of *The Forum*. Disks and hard copies should be placed in the *Forum* mailbox in the Chase Center. Disks and photos will be returned within a reasonable time.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions as is deemed necessary by *The Forum's* editorial staff, and the editorial staff makes final printing decisions. However, unless an article is without merit, lacks substantiation, or space is at a premium, we will do our best to see that submissions are printed.

*The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the editorial staff.*

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Volume XXX

## CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

### GPP Launches New Mentorship Project

by Susan B. Apel, VLS Faculty

The General Practice Program has instituted its new Mentorship Project for its second year law students. The project pairs GPP students with Upper Valley attorneys. The attorneys agree to mentor the students by having students shadow them during at least three professional transactions during the year, including a trial or hearing in court, a client interview, and any other transaction of the mentor's choice. This third event might be a mediation session, a negotiation, a real estate closing, or a case preparation session. In addition, students are guaranteed one lunch with their mentor to allow the students to ask questions and communicate about other matters of importance to the students.

This is a pilot project, according to Director and Professor Susan B. Apel, that has been two years in the planning. Professor Apel, who often brings local attorneys into the classroom, saw a need to create more opportunities for students to experience things in the real world of practice. "I used to bring my students to court to observe proceedings, and often those students would comment that it was the first time they had had the opportunity to see lawyers and judges in action," Apel said. "It was also sometimes awkward to bring a group of sixteen. The numbers excluded us from transactions like sitting in on interviews, or joining the attorneys in their negotiations on the courthouse steps. With the new project, students can, on an individual basis, have access to the whole range of lawyering activities. And they have an individual attorney dedicated to talking with them about their experiences."

The mentors were selected by the GPP administration for their professional expertise and reputation. They include Emily Davis, Karen Borgstrom, George Ostler, Scott McGee, Adele Fulton, Bernie Waugh, Nancy Veresan Brown, Dave Bradley, and James Mulligan. The GPP students are Lucia Schaefer, Agnes Lech, Hugh Bailey, Sarah Flint, Chris Asanya, Tim Corso, Matt Ferrigno, Gavin Boyles, Allison Owen, Nat Sears, Jenna Gatski, John Weil, Fred Bethel, Evelyn Marcus, James LaMonda, and Andrew Mason.

### Campus Greening Committee Promotes Sustainability at VLS

by Anne Mansfield, VLS Faculty

In March, 2004, Dean Wroth established the Campus Greening Committee to formalize the role of the former Environmental Roundtable group. Like the Roundtable, which was started four years ago by ELC staff member Kathy Leonard, the Campus Greening Committee seeks to establish environmentally sound practices and policies on campus. The committee is comprised of representatives from the staff, faculty, administration, and each student environmental organization at VLS.

In his memo establishing the Committee, Dean Wroth wrote, "The goals of the Committee are (1) to advocate for adoption of campus-wide environmental policies fostering sustainability, including, among others, procurement, recycling, and waste prevention policies; (2) to inform and educate the VLS community on issues of sustainable campus life; (3) to minimize the impact of our existence on the environment; and (4) to continually assess our progress and re-evaluate our objectives."

The Campus Greening Committee meets once a month and the meetings are open to the entire VLS community. At its first meeting, the Committee decided to form issue-based task forces and designate a "point person" for each task force. If you are interested in working on one or more of the issues listed below, please contact the point person or watch your email for an announcement of the next Committee meeting.

- The **Transportation** task force looks at issues including the lower parking lot, carpooling, and a bike-friendly campus. Point person: Andrea Disch '06.
- The **Waste Reduction** task force works on improving the campus recycling system and encouraging composting. Point person: Jeremy Clemans '06.
- The **Food Service** task force is working to offer more organic food and locally grown produce at the law school's cafeteria and at campus events. Point person: Erica Sussman '05.
- The **Campus Environmental Policy** task force will develop a campus-wide environmental policy document. Point person: Anne Mansfield, ELC Staff.
- The **Energy** task force is looking at ways the school can save energy, including use of compact fluorescent light bulbs and monitoring thermostats. Point people: Sean Clarkson '05 and Scott McGrath, IT Staff.
- The **Landscape** task force hopes to enhance the campus with native plantings and create a Campus Naturalist position. Point person: Steve Kelton '05.
- The **Environmental Education** task force plans to create a campus sustainability guide to provide more information for new and current students. Point person: Abbi Doolittle '05.

**SBA CORNER**

On behalf of the Student Bar Association, welcome to the 2004-2005 school year! SBA is here to provide support for student groups and to facilitate the participation of students in the administration of the school. We are looking forward to another great year. Thus far, it has been a very productive year. Randy Spydell, Director of Technology Planning, spoke to SBA about various IT issues. Ellen Swain, the new head of Academic Success, introduced herself and the new initiatives of the Academic Success Program. Recently, Vice President of Finance and Administration, Randy Foose, spoke to SBA about various issues including the status of the South Royalton House and student group office space.

Several resolutions and initiatives to improve the VLS community have been introduced. Andrea Disch designed a new carpool program which aims to reduce the number of cars on campus, with the long-term goal of restoring the lower parking to its original flood-plain designation. SBA passed a resolution in support of the carpool program. Olaseni Bello, Senator '06, introduced a resolution to create a special committee to research Vermont Law School's B minus curve. Their objective is to present SBA with a recommendation to keep or raise the B minus curve. This committee's findings will be presented at the October 26th SBA meeting. Abbi Doolittle, Senator '05, proposed an amendment to the SBA bylaws which would create a new standing committee that will oversee the Solutions Conference. The Solutions Conference is sponsored by a collaboration of interested VLS student groups in the Spring. SBA is currently reviewing this amendment pursuant to the SBA bylaws.

Additionally, SBA recognized 4 new student groups on campus: the Digital Yearbook Club, the Riverview Community Speakers, a local chapter of Toastmasters, Law Students For Choice, and the Vermont Law School Democrats.

We welcome your input and participation! Please join us at our meetings, but if you can't make it, share your ideas with your class senators.

**SBA'S UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**SBA Senate Meetings:  
Tuesdays at 12:45 pm  
Oktoberfest: October 25th  
through October 30th**

**SBA Officers 2004-2005****Executive Board**

Jerry Edwards '05 – President  
Jen Willis '05 – Vice President  
Cindy Carson '05 – Treasurer  
Jenny Gray '05 – Secretary

**Town Liaison: Alex Goncalves  
Student Representatives to the**

**Board of Trustees:**  
Amy Manzelli '05  
Clancy DeSmet '06

**JD Class of '05**

*Senators*  
Steve Brown  
Heather Dlhopsky  
Abbi Doolittle  
Meg Munsey  
Sarah Winter

*Committee Representatives*

Candi Jones - Code of Conduct Committee  
Marie Legrand - Curriculum Committee  
& Honor Code Committee  
Jen Willis - Faculty Hiring Committee

**JD Class of '06**

*Senators*  
Olaseni Bello  
Hart Knight  
Alex Manning  
Chris Middleton  
Fidel Rul  
*Committee Representatives*  
Nerissa Hamilton-vom Baur -  
Code of Conduct Committee  
Mark Hicks - Curriculum Committee  
Hugh Bailey - Faculty Hiring  
James LaMonda -  
Honor Code Committee

**JD Class of '07**

*Senators*  
Jess Biamonte  
Ben Blank  
Katie Burton  
Seema Kumar  
Robbie Gordie

*Committee Representatives*

Jeremy Teaberry -  
Code of Conduct Committee  
Harper Marshall - Curriculum Committee  
Jeremiah Sanders -  
Faculty Hiring Committee  
Joseph Griffio - Honor Code Committee

**MSEL Senator:** Mandy Mott  
**LLM Senator:** Evan Mulholland

**STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION  
Vermont Law School****A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CAMPUS  
CARPOOL INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Student Bar Association serves as the conduit for the exchange of ideas among students, faculty, staff and administration in areas of common concern, and

**WHEREAS**, it is a community goal to promote environmentally friendly practices, and

**WHEREAS**, the lower parking lot in front of Oakes Hall is designated as a flood plain by Vermont's Act 250 but is currently in use by the Vermont Law School community, and

**WHEREAS**, the 1993 campus master plan called for the removal of the lower parking lot and the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution in 1998 calling for its removal as well, and

**WHEREAS**, a carpool initiative has been proposed to begin reduction in the use of the lower parking lot, and

**WHEREAS**, this initiative will reduce car emissions, soil erosion and sedimentation in the white river, and

**WHEREAS**, such an initiative will only be successful with the support of all members of the Vermont Law community,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School is in full support of the carpool program and by this resolution will inform the community at large of this effort, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this resolution be forwarded to Jeff Shields, Dean and President of Vermont Law School, Randy Foose, Vice President for Finance and Administration, Shirley Jefferson, Associate Dean for Student Affairs and *The Vermont Law School Forum* for publication in its next issue.

**STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION  
Vermont Law School****A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE B MINUS  
GRADE CURVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Student Bar Association serves as the conduit for the exchange of ideas among students, faculty, staff and administration in areas of common concern, and

**WHEREAS**, Vermont Law School currently has a grading system with a B minus curve

**WHEREAS**, the B minus curve translates into a 2.66 grade point average,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School form a committee to research 1) the history and justification of the current grade curve, 2) Vermont Law's grade curve in comparison to peer institutions, and 3) current faculty and alumni that support this initiative.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this committee present this research to the Student Bar Association on Tuesday, October 26.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this resolution be forwarded to Jeff Shields, Dean and President of Vermont Law School, Bruce Duthu, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs, Shirley Jefferson, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, the Board of Trustees, and *The Vermont Law School Forum* for publication in its next issue.

**CAMPUS NEWS****VLS Remembers Lauren Salb and Kim Colburn**

*Editor's Note: Early on the morning on Wednesday, October 7, 2003 VLS students Kim Colburn, JD Class of '05 and Lauren Salb, MSEL '03 were killed in a single-auto accident on Interstate 89, near Waterbury, Vermont. Lauren was a guest passenger in the vehicle driven by Kim. According to the Vermont state police reports, both women died on impact.*

*All day Thursday, October 7, 2004, there was to be an "expressions table" in the Chase Loft where people could leave flowers, photographs, poems and other items of special meaning to remember Kim and Lauren. There was also to be a gathering in the Chase Loft for people to share their sentiments orally. Although this edition of The Forum went to press just prior to these on-campus events, one student, whose desire to remain anonymous has been respected, was kind enough to pass a piece along for publication in this edition of The Forum. I and the entire editorial staff thank this student for their generosity in submitting the piece printed below.*

**Healing: One Year After**

*by a Friend So Blessed to Have Shared With Kimberly Colburn and Lauren Salb*

I know that mourning the loss of a loved one is a process that takes time. Sometimes that process may even take years. I have faith that the heart is a powerful and beautiful organ that can endure immense amounts of pain, and can even survive heartbreaks only to come out stronger. But I also know that there are some losses that cut so deep that a certain time, a particular song, a subtle scent or perhaps even nothing specific at all, can trigger a memory that arrests the heart with intense anguish once again. It's as though the moment you lose a dear one, your heart, so desperate to understand and find reason, succumbs to a numbing pain lest it fail in its search for answers. Why? Why did this happen? Why did this have to happen? That pain can be as intense as the warmth and joy of the one you lose, which is why the healing process may take a very long time.

It has been a year since we lost two dearest friends, Kimberly Colburn and Lauren Salb. I can't speak for everyone of course, but I can speak for myself and for close friends when I say that the healing process is long, indeed. On the surface, our routines somehow resumed in the weeks following their tragic deaths. A reality of papers, exams, and grades forced us into a strange autopilot function where the passion and drive for law school temporarily ceased and the devastation from their deaths was anesthetized. Underneath the surface, our philosophical and spiritual wisdom often cried out, demanding another reality: that we put life into perspective, that we reject the

unnecessary stress of school, work and career ambitions, and that we begin appreciating the people and places we so often take for granted. The period following the death of Lauren and Kimberly, therefore, was not a time of healing, but one of survival. It is only recently that healing has actually begun.

It is in this time of healing we are most grateful for Kimberly and Lauren, themselves, and for having been blessed with their love and kindness. Were it not for their vitality, their compassion for the world, their passion to embrace every moment, their infectious sense of humor and their beautiful, light spirits that wanted to make each day a brighter one, our broken hearts would find an even greater challenge in the search for answers they so generously shared with us every day. While we find ourselves the battleground of the external pressures of work and the internal pressures of spiritual wholeness, Lauren and Kimberly found a way to harmonize the external and internal, fighting their own battles when they saw fit. Anyone who knew them appreciated their ability to lead such happy and full lives while having the ability to overcome any challenge with which they were faced.

Kimberly Colburn and Lauren Salb remain an inspiration to do great work but to never forget the importance of family, friends and generally enjoying life to its fullest. I miss them so terribly it hurts, but I am blessed to have received all that I have from their friendships. As I internalize what I've learned from them, I feel their presence, and I continue to heal bit by bit.

**A Vermont Orientation**

*by Susan Elder, VLS Staff*

It is not a myth that a 1L student arrived at VLS, sight unseen, for the first day of classes, drove her car with U-Haul in tow, past the school, around the village green and went straight back across the bridge and back home. The idea of spending three years in such a small town must have frightened her. She hasn't been heard from since.

Welcome to Vermont! If you are not from Vermont or from a rural state, arriving in

South Royalton may have been a bit of a culture shock. However, if you have a little knowledge under your belt you will not only survive Vermont but will appreciate it more with each passing year. It is indeed a beautiful state - one that you should inhale deeply in every sense of the word - except when passing a farm. When I ask students why they chose VLS for law school, the most common answer I receive is of its beauty and the need to be away from life's distractions to study. I admire you for

**VLS Hosts U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces Hearing**

*by Peter Miller, VLS Staff*

On Wednesday, October 6, the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces heard a case in the Robert B. Fiske, Jr. Courtroom of Vermont Law School's James L. and Evelena S. Oakes Hall.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces exercises worldwide, appellate jurisdiction over members of the armed forces on active duty and other persons subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The court is composed of five civilian judges appointed for 15-year terms by the president with the advice and consent of the senate.

Cases on the court's docket address a broad range of legal issues, including constitutional law, criminal law, evidence, criminal procedure, ethics, administrative law, and national security law. Decisions by the court are subject to direct review by the United States Supreme Court.

The matter argued at Vermont Law School, *United States v. Ray T. Leak*, involved jurisdictional and procedural questions related to a general court martial conviction of maltreatment, rape, adultery, indecent assault, indecent acts, and solicitation of adultery.

The Vermont Law School hearing is in conjunction with the court's "Project Outreach." The court will also hear cases on the campuses of Franklin Pierce Law School in Concord, NH, and at Harvard Law School in Cambridge, MA, during the same week.

Vice Dean for Academic Affairs N. Bruce Duthu comments, "Vermont Law School is proud to welcome these accomplished jurists. This will provide our students and the general public with a valuable opportunity to view the actions of an influential court. We host the Vermont Supreme Court on our campus every spring for the same reason."

taking on the challenge of law school in a foreign location and are braving it through the unknowns ahead of you. As an "experienced" native I give you the following bits of wisdom as a gift of your tenacity. The following insights will not be found in glossy tourist magazines showing Vermont in all its quaint and homespun glory. I want to share with you the things that real Vermonters know, enjoy, and are wise to. Excuse me if I am telling you the obvious, but in the past students have questioned me on all of the items below.

**Things the locals wish you knew:**

**Tractor Wise:** It is a state law that all farm machinery traveling on main roads have working lights, however, very few Vermont farmers comply with this law. The majority of farmers are eking out of living and drive worn out tractors, manure spreaders, and balers around on main roads without proper parking brakes and turn signals. They are on the road because their farm land has been

**South Royalton Town Update**

*by Alex Goncalves, Class of '06*

Hello My Darlings! This here is a Public Service Announcement from your best and only SBA Town Liaison: Alex G.

Just a reminder to you all: Town Selectboard meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Royalton Town Clerk's Office. Meetings begin at 7:30 and usually run until 9-10 PM. If you have a certain item you wish to discuss with the selectboard please e-mail me with the topic and I can get it on the next meeting's agenda.

Note: for all of you who have e-mailed me your requests or concerns, please note that I am working on getting them resolved and they will be discussed at the next meeting which will take place October 12th.

On an official note, here are a couple of reminders for you wonderful So Ro Community Members:

- No Dogs are allowed on the town green or on Carpenter's Field, be it with leashes or without. Apparently this is something that has been a long standing rule in the town, but apparently not really complied with by folks. The selectboard will be posting signs in these areas reminding folks, but I just thought I would give you a heads up.

- Please run, walk, and ride your bikes on the correct side of the road. For those of you that don't remember (I am one of these folks so this is serving as a reminder for myself) it's walk and run against traffic and ride with traffic.

Wow! That made for a really interesting read did it not? I hope the wonderful fall weather finds you all well and that you are taking advantage of the beauty that is Vermont during the autumn months! Stay tuned for more!!!

Alex

cut up for development and they must drive from field to field on paved roads. They don't like it either. Allow them plenty of space and consideration as they are slow, wide and their turning is unpredictable. **Cow Tipping:** Cows tipping is not true. Cows will not tip over if you approach them and give them a push while they are sleeping and it is not enjoyed by the cow. It is also not true that if you force them to run they will give skim milk, but it also is not good for them. Running with a full bag of milk could tear udders.

**Posted Land:** Landowners post their land for a variety of reasons, but mainly because they do not want hunters on the land. "No Trespassing" means just that, but if the sign says "No Hunting, Fishing or Trespassing Without Permission," which they often do, go to the landowner and ask for permission to enter. It has been my

*See Vermont, Page 5, Col. 1*

**ENTERTAINMENT****Vermont, from Page 4:**

experience that landowners appreciate your respecting the sign and will be happy to grant permission. Or you can just go elsewhere. There is plenty of unposted land out there.

**General Cautions:**

**Mud Season:** Driving on dirt roads is a wonderful past-time. Drive along, get lost, take a walk down a logging road, and get found. Dirt roads one drawback is during late March through April when the roads turn wet and soft. The mud can pull your car off the road faster than you can say "ditch." Also, use caution when driving over wet leaves on the road as they can be deceptively slippery. While I am on the subject of driving, a caution about driving in snow. Driving on snow-packed roads is harder than it looks. Black ice simply means the ice is nearly invisible on the blacktop so impossible to see traveling at 50 mph. Even Vermonters cannot control their cars on this stuff. On days when the roads are very bad, I wait for a sand truck to go by and follow it. However, don't follow snow plows too closely. The trucks are usually spreading salt and sand and often large pebbles bounce up and crack your windshield.

**Deer Season:** Deer Season is a huge economic generator to the state in licenses, housing, sporting goods, and services, therefore the state promotes and encourages it. Hunting also keeps the deer herd size in check. Generally all hunters are safety conscience and serious about their sport, but for the occasional noodle-head who shoots first and asks question later, wear a bright-orange hat and vest while walking, hiking or biking in the woods from October 6 through the last weekend after Thanksgiving. After that is muzzle-loading season, but those folks are so practiced with their sport and have to get so close before they shoot it really isn't an issue.

**Buying Wood:** If you are heating your home with wood there are a few insights about buying wood. There will be green, seasoned and dry wood for sale in the paper. Green wood has been freshly cut and has plenty of water in it and will not burn well. It also leaves creosote building up in your stovepipe which is dangerous. Green wood must be dried for at least 6 months under proper conditions (cut to stove length with air circulation) to bring it down to about 30 percent moisture, or better yet one year to get it down to the desired 20 percent moisture to burn properly. Seasoned wood means the length of time since the harvest. Ask the seller what "seasoned" means because it may mean three months which is really not long enough to dry it out. Ask the seller when it was cut. The cost of dry to green can be as much as \$50 a cord or more. A cord of wood measures four feet high, four feet wide, and eight feet long. A cord also can measure two feet wide, four feet high, and 16 feet in length.

**Deer:** Generally deer cross the road in pairs or threes. If one crosses the road in front of you, there may well be another ready to dart

out and into your bumper. If a deer is in your path at night and seems mesmerized and cannot move off the road, it is being blinded by your headlights. If you are the only one on the road and it is safe to do so, turn your lights down to your parking lights. This will allow the deer's eyes to readjust and he will be off within a couple of seconds.

**Moose:** Hitting a deer with your car will probably only damage your car and scare the pudding out of you. Hitting a moose with your car may kill you as it is so large and heavy. If a moose is in the road, stop. Do not try to go around him. Do not flash your highbeams at him. He will wander off in good time.

**Good things:**

**Bag Balm:** This is a medicated vaseline-type cure-all made in Vermont and used for cow's cracked teats. It is also cures cuts, abrasions, athletic foot, rashes, and plenty of other ails of the human kind.

**Lambing Season:** Find out which local sheep farms allow visits in the early spring during lambing season. Breathing in the earthy smells of the barn while watching the newborns nuzzle their mothers helps to break winter's hold on your bones.

**Weather Forecasters:** Not everyone is like me, but I have become a connoisseur of forecasters. Each one brings a flavor of their own to the science and I highly enjoy and rely on their predictions. Sharon Meyer of WCAX-TV and Steve Maleski and Mark Breen of Eye on the Sky on VPR are three of my favorites. They have been forecasting Vermont weather for a long time and are good at it. Steve Maleski's forecast is not only comprehensive but colorful. My favorite quote of his is, "The skies are pregnant and ready to give birth to rain".

**Town Clerks:** This is one of the best secrets for new lawyers. If you are in need of local information on property, genealogy, gossip, recent deaths, or where to find a "the old Johnson place," stop in to the town clerk's office. If you are polite and pay all vault and copying fees you will have a lifetime warehouse of valuable information not found on any computer.

**Cross-country Skiing:** However you might feel about the noise and environmental damage, snowmobiles leave a compacted and perfect cross-country ski trail. Just step off the trail when you heard them approaching. I have heard stories of rude snowmobilers, but in my 25+ years of skiing on Vermont trails, I have found the opposite to be true. There are many wonderful trails just minutes of the school. If you are on the other side of the state, Middlebury College has a cross country ski trail open to the public running along the back side of the golf course. It is free and is lit up until 10:00 p.m. To ski with friends at night with the moonlight and stars peeking through is as close to utopia as I have found. The Catamount ski trail runs north to south and it is being expanded with side trails every year.

**See Vermont, Page 8, Col. 1**

**Movies I Didn't See**

by Brian Leeds, Class of '07

I love movies. Can't get enough of them. Unfortunately as a law student, I don't have the time or money to actually go see them. But that doesn't mean I can't review them anyway.

That's right, you heard correctly. Fair and balanced reviews straight from someone that has absolutely no intention of ever sitting in a movie theater. Everyone got the premise down? Good. Let's see what's playing this week.

**Ladder 49**

Battlefield Fire. John Travolta and Joaquin Phoenix star in this explosive cross between "Backdraft" and a char-broiled carcass of rotten meat. Ugh. Has any other big star quietly made more bad films over the last five years than John Travolta? He's dropped more stink bombs in Hollywood than Michael Moore after a bag of meximelts. Maybe Quentin should have left him in the Scientology tent with Kristie Alley and the talking baby. This one looks so bad that I find myself rooting every time I see the trailer. Interesting side note is that Joaquin's requisite love interest in this movie is Jacinda Barrett, who some might remember as the annoying Australian twit on The Real World: London. She's now officially one movie away from talking about her favorite curse word with James Lipton. Wonderful. Don't see this movie. Add a star if watching things burn gives you an erection.

**The Forgotten**

Julianne Moore stars in this suspense thriller that seems to follow a timeless but reliable suspense thriller standard: when in doubt, just insert a creepy-looking little kid. And why shouldn't that work? Little kids are really friggin' creepy. Seriously. I get chills just thinking about glassy-eyed children whispering things like "Don't look in the closet" or "Redrum" or "I spilled hot fudge on the carpet again." Anyway, critics can't review this movie without mentioning "The Sixth Sense" — and apparently neither can I. But is this such a complement? Isn't it like being called the biggest thrill-ride since "Cabin Fever" or having your acting ability described as a poor man's Keanu Reeves? Or just being Ben Affleck? I don't know. I'd wait till this one makes it to video.

**First Daughter**

Adorable Katie Holmes plays the teenage progeny of the Commander-in-Chief, fresh out of the White House and straight into college. Keg stands for everybody. For the record I've never gotten over seeing Katie extremely naked in "The Gift" — watching "Dawson's Creek" has never been the same — so it nice to see her get those plum cute-girl roles that usually go to Mandy Moore or Hillary Duff or Lindsey Lohan's chest. (Pause, deep breath.) Anyway, this movie might have had potential if instead Katie played the out-of-control offspring of a former alcoholic coke-snorting moron who is inexplicably elected president and now can't even give his daughter a straight-faced morality lesson without choking on his own hypocrisy, never mind having to do it every day with the American public. But who would have ever believed that scenario?

**When Will I Be Loved**

Neve Campbell shower scene. Warrants mentioning.

**Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow**

The plot as I can piece together is that in an alternative universe 1937, Jude Law and Gwyneth Paltrow fight against Nazi robots that have devised a fiendish plot to give President Roosevelt syphilis and thus prevent him from out-sprinting Jesse Owens at the 1940 Summer Olympics. And Angelina Jolie is wearing an eye patch for some reason. You know when movies pick out blurbs from reviews to hype their movies, like Allison Benedikt from the *Chicago Tribune* saying "It's something new! Something different! And—whew—it works!" Those are fun. "I threw up in my own mouth! Twice!" "If you like scratching yourself until your skin starts to peel, you'll love this movie." "... better than ringworm!" "Like you had anything better to do for two hours, you sad and pathetic loser!" I'm babbling now, aren't I?

Bonus feature: DVD of the Week!

**Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind**

Jim Carrey mopes through this sci-fi-ish Charlie Kaufman vehicle about a guy that has memories of an ex-girlfriend, the very frisky Kate Winslet, surgically removed from his brain. If only this were possible. I'd start with the two hours I spent with the ex watching "The Majestic." The parallels between Carrey and a pre-"Philadelphia" Tom Hanks are almost disturbing right now. Anyone want to see Ace Ventura win an Oscar someday? Me neither. Anyway, Kaufman's always good for a script, the rest of the cast looks solid, and I think at some point Kirsten Dunst dances around in her underwear. That alone qualifies for rental worthiness. For the record, whenever I want to remove unpleasant and regrettable memories from my mind, I call up my old friend Jägermeister. Works every time.

See you next week ... but *not* at the movies.

**COMMENTARY****A Late Night MSEL Report***by Laura Sewall, MSEL '05*

The evening is taking shape in my mind. It goes like this: I come home excited to have the latest issue of *Orion* in hand. I read, and find Rick Bass writing about democracy, about our profound lack of it under the Bush administration, and about the great losses suffered by one who so loves the sensible world, the realm of the senses. He asks for greater wakefulness and the willingness to put all we've got into the opportunities we have to be heard, *now*, at a devastating time in planetary history—and especially with the presidential election just weeks away.

Next, rich photographs of Tuvalu catch my eye. The small South Pacific nation is literally drowning as temperatures shift and ice caps melt. There are scenes of an island suddenly denuded of its palm trees, of a woman wading in the high tide with her packed suitcase, of garbage washing up and collecting in the island's low spots, where the U.S. Marines had quarried for road gravel. Bill McKibben, a local Vermont hero, writes like he talks. With friendly determination, he reminds the reader that the U.S. requested Bangladeshi help for our war in Iraq, while also noting that Bangladesh is likely to drown in the near future; it already goes under periodically. Do we help them, he asks? Not yet.

Then I read Mary O'Brien, author of *Making Better Environmental Decisions: An Alternative to Risk Assessment* (2000), writing an almost uncharacteristic article for *Orion*; it is so much about the law, and about NEPA in particular. But quite characteristically, it is also about the undeniable interface between all of us and the places we inhabit. NEPA, I am realizing, may be our best shot at an ethical code governing that interface—and that it's pretty good legislation. But O'Brien describes NEPA not as a system of requirements but rather as that necessary tool for voice and democracy, for participating and sharing in the human responsibility for our once bountiful places. She describes the good work that has come from sitting down at the table to listen and participate with all sorts of others that have a stake. I think of Section 102: "...each person should enjoy a healthful environment...each person has a responsibility to contribute..." I find it hard to believe that this inspiring language was written by our Congressmen; I have lost so much faith—or else the country has changed so very drastically in the few years since it was passed in 1969.

Now it's really late. Even so, I find myself picking up the U.S. Constitution. I must read it, I tell myself, and settle in. The text begins with even more beautiful language: "...and to assume among the Powers of the Earth..." And then there are the inalienable rights: "...life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness..."

I read on, gaining images of the painful separation from Britain, and all the fine reasons for it. Through my modern eye, these reasons cover a range of assaults on democracy. They include: "...HE refusing his assent to law"; of refusal "to pass other laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People"; and "HE has obstructed the Administration of Justice..." The list goes on, but suddenly my mind's eye is ratcheting its way through a time warp—and I seem to be reading about our current president.

Perhaps it is, unfortunately, the democrat in me that does not care to be ruthless. I wish to win by everybody winning, the coal miner and the river both. But even this means facing a stranglehold on truly democratic ideals with an unfamiliar vengeance. Likewise, my otherwise utterly compassionate friend says, "We have to do *whatever* we can now." He's ready for a fight. Rick Bass hates giving up his cherished walks in the wild valley he has worked so hard to preserve (and even worse, sacrificing his family time), in order to do *whatever* he can now. He says, "I must become more active, must fight more ferociously while we still have the ability, the privilege, of having something left worth fighting for."

Then I remember the images of Tuvalu disappearing under the Pacific. Assuming they have fifty years before the islands are underwater, the government has arranged for seventy five Tuvaluans to emigrate to New Zealand each year. In the meantime, they are working out emergency evacuation plans and are suing the U.S. and Australian governments for damages. Merely symbolic, I think; a recent U.S. poll claims that the single, most salient issue for American voters is the price of gas. It seems that nobody is talking. I wonder, who is sitting down to the table?

**got opinions?**

If you're a member of the VLS community, you certainly do!

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Articles can be submitted to *The Forum* at  
[forum@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:forum@vermontlaw.edu).

**Dear Mister President  
September 8, 2004**

My dear Mister President, my commander-in chief.

The tubes are cooling now, perhaps silenced by our towers,  
Although the latest reports confirm a different story,  
One about an ambush along a dark and tortured highway,  
Triggered by some random wayfarers on their way to increment  
The neglected tally of the maimed, the dead, the damaged.

We know not the exact condition of our brothers and sisters on that lonely road,  
But we do know, in the flesh, the sickening sensation, the fossilized scowl,  
The vacant stare, the self-inflicted silence that bleeds through the fingernails,  
The rattle that stains this record book of sleepless nights foretold in the shock and awe  
Of my senses as they soak the milliseconds between the dry thuds of a raging heart.

The monotony is palpable in the smoke plumes of an interrupted nap.  
In the immediate aftermath, the most heroic lines the mind can conjure up  
Recall a naughty poem about the Sun's uninvited appearance in a bedchamber.  
"His parting thought was a meditation on John Donne and the metaphysical poets."  
A scene out of Borges in the style of Swift, Fielding, anyone in Tom Regan's pantheon,  
But you wouldn't know about such things, Mister President, because you squandered  
Your birthright, just like you have squandered my patience and your Nation's goodwill.

It relieves me to know, sir, that the acrid smell of gunpowder in the midday sun  
Has never haunted the crevices of your golf game, that your gaze is ignorant of  
The accusing glare of midget children, their swollen bellies fading in the gunner's wake.  
Every lethal pose, every hope deferred, every ounce of Kevlar binds me to this dream.  
It bears lightly on your uncluttered mind and the unfettered conscience of your heralds.

~ submitted by a soldier serving in the U.S. Military in Iraq

**Abortion Rights an Important Issue  
in Election—Vote For Choice***by Katie Rebolz, Class of '06*

When pondering your vote in next month's election, don't forget to consider an issue that impacts all our lives – reproductive rights. The American people desperately need better access to more effective contraception and reproductive health education. Unfortunately, the Bush administration has been hard at work with an anti-choice agenda; limiting funding to organizations that provide reproductive health options and education, and enforcing serious restrictions on the right to choose.

In the past four years, the Bush administration has requested that Congress increase funding to "abstinence only" programs in our schools, while cutting programs that educate students about contraceptives and how to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, in January 2001 Bush enforced a policy that

significantly restricts funding of foreign NGO's that receive family planning assistance. The Mexico City Policy (better known as the Global Gag Rule) does not permit funding to NGO's that counsel their patients about all reproductive health options. Those that accept funding must submit to the government restrictions. There has been no evidence that this policy prevents abortion; rather it is more likely to create an increase in unsafe abortions and high-risk pregnancies.

It has been 31 years since the Supreme Court ruled abortion legal in *Roe v. Wade*, yet President Bush continues to challenge reproductive rights. Just last fall, Congress passed a ban on partial birth abortion, enforcing a two year prison term on doctors who perform the operation.

**See Abortion, Page 7, Col. 1**

**Abortion, from Page 6:**

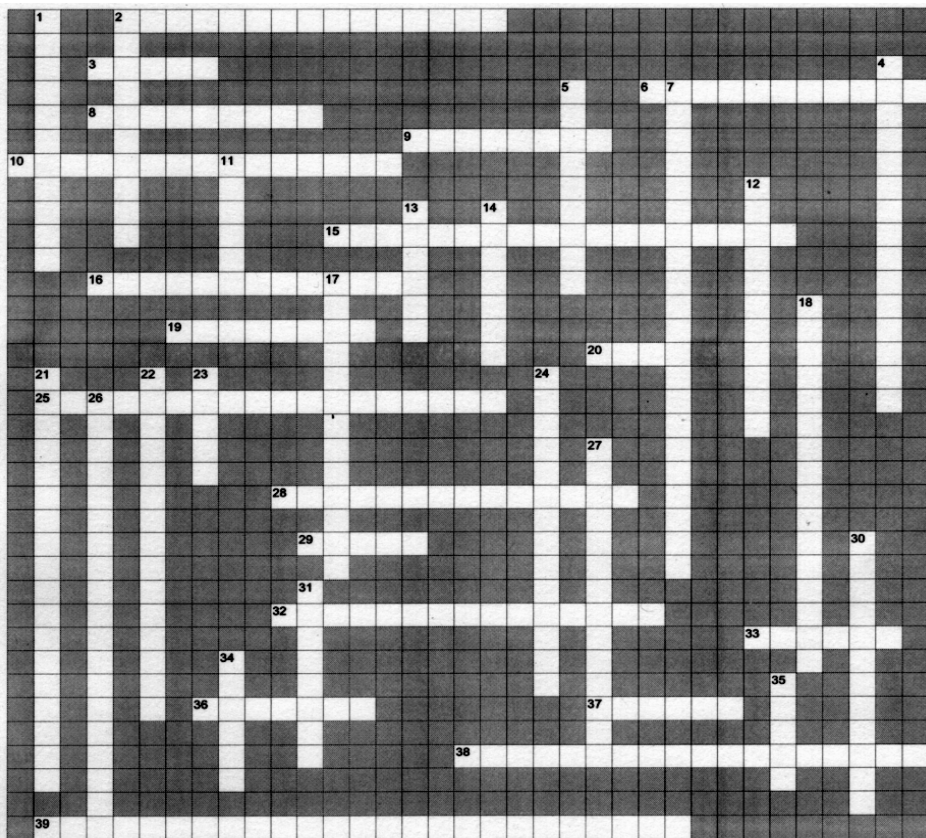
Federal courts in New York City, San Francisco, and just recently Nebraska have struck down the ban, holding it unconstitutional because it does not allow doctors to perform the procedure if the woman's health is at risk. If Bush is reelected, however, we may see the pro-choice movement extinguished. There has not been a Supreme Court retirement since 1994. Given a new term, Bush may have the opportunity to appoint new justices that would tip the scales in favor of overturning *Roe*.

The fight for reproductive rights free from government intrusion has come a long way, but the momentum of this movement is now at the hands of the voter. How important is your right to choose whether or not to have sex, use contraception, or have a baby? When weighing in at the polls this November, think about how your vote could impact the right to choose.

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**Across**

2. It is better to be "within the \_\_\_\_" than "not within the \_\_\_\_"
3. A person who has engaged in a transaction or made an agreement...or a gathering of two or more people with beer
6. The case which makes it clear that drinking and contract drafting do not mix
8. Honesty in fact in the conduct or transaction concerned
9. Deceptive; based on a false impression
10. The case which proves you cannot buy a Harrier Jet with Pepsi Points...Duh!
15. Compensation awarded for the loss of what a person reasonably anticipated from a transaction that was not completed
16. This case may leave you with "hairy palms"
19. A person who deals in goods of the kind involved in the transaction
20. The passing of title from the seller to the buyer for a price
25. Damages awarded to a plaintiff when the defendant has unjustly enriched at the plaintiff's expense
28. A substantial breach of K, usu. excusing the aggrieved party from further performance
29. Unborn young of animals, growing crops, etc.
32. Sequence of previous dealings between parties
33. A person who sells or contracts to sell goods
36. A belief that is not in accord with the facts
37. A violation or infraction of a law or obligation
38. The case that makes you say..."What?!! there were two boats named Peerless?"
39. The case which may still leave you guessing about whether loading up a roofing truck is "commencement of performance"

**IN SECRET**

- Only if you knew  
how much I care for you
- Only if you knew  
how much I feel for you
- Only if you knew  
how much I love to sit by your side
- Only if you knew  
how much your soft whispers mean to me
- Only if you knew  
the effect you have on me
- Only if you knew  
how much I need you
- Only if you knew  
how much your tranquil, sweet smile comforts me
- Only if you knew  
how much I wish to drown in your playful eyes
- Only if you knew  
about my ever burning desire to hear you breathe
- Only if you knew  
how much I adore you
- Only if I could caress your body  
with mine for the very last time
- Only if you knew  
how much I desire your softness
- Only if your feelings  
could hear my inner screams
- Only if your heart  
could embrace mine
- Alas, I can't think so  
alas, I can't feel so  
For you chose to be with another
- But, you will live in my memories  
forever                      forever                      forever

by Bakhtyar "Baku" J. Taila  
Class of '05

**Down**

1. The case with the "mirror image rule"
2. An action is taken \_\_\_\_ when it is taken at or within the time agreed
4. Damages awarded for losses incurred by the plaintiff in reliance on the K
5. Having this Professor first thing in the morning will wake you up faster than coffee
7. Contracts...codified
11. An individual or an organization
12. This case was a "Bastard"
13. Any remedial right to which an aggrieved party is entitled
14. An agreement between parties for the exchange of promises or performances
17. A promise which is bargained for is \_\_\_\_ if, but only if, the promised performance would be
18. The case with "the miller and the shaft"
21. The principle that a promise made without consideration may be enforced to prevent injustice
22. The case that made it clear: Just because your family offers to put you up, doesn't mean they can't kick you out
23. A person who buys or contracts to buy goods
24. A party entitled to resort to a remedy
26. A court-ordered remedy that requires precise fulfillment of a legal or contractual obligation
27. If the court finds the contract to have been \_\_\_\_ at the time it was made the court may refuse to enforce the contract.
30. Regularity of observance so there is an expectation that it will always be observed
31. A promise or promises for which the law gives remedy if breached.
34. She believes that in Contracts law, "It always comes back to *Lucy v. Zehmer*"
35. The manifestation of willingness to enter in to a bargain

## ASTROLOGY

by Mademoiselle Crystal Claire

**Libra** (Sept. 23/24-Oct. 23/24): Lucky Libra, who focused so intently on balancing the scales that you failed to notice that your true love was right under your nose! That's too bad for you, because they are gone for good now. I guess we could say that this month you are "Unlucky Libra." But don't hang your head that low, with the beginning of the new moon also comes the beginning of hygienic classes, which are essential for you to attract that new love! Out with the pew and in with the new!

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24/25-Nov. 21/22): Now, now, Scorpio, you have to cut back on those stinging sarcastic remarks. They are exposing you for the deep jealousy that you harbor towards *that* student (you know the one I'm talking about) who really is smarter, better looking, and more personable than you. The lesson today is: Get over it! The truth of the matter is, you're the only one obsessing over this and it's turning away the few friends that you have. I suggest that you take a long look in the mirror and repeat the words, "I am special. I *am* special." And if that doesn't work, well, who says money can't buy you friends? Nobody, that's who! Spend away.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22/23-Dec. 21/22): You are annoyingly self-indulgent and hot-headed this month! Oh, wait...sorry that's Leo. This month in the land of the Sagittarius looks like it's going to be relatively quiet--how boring! As you've probably noticed, there is nothing exciting going on and it's going to continue that way. Even if you make plans to do something that sounds like fun, it's going to turn out to be a big yawmfest. In fact, your forecast is so completely dull, I'm going to move on 'cause there's nothing more to say other than how uneventful the next month is going to be and well, who cares?

### Vermont, from Page 5:

#### Foods.

Pie is a perfectly acceptable breakfast food. If you are feeling brave about trying old-fashioned Vermont foods, the Wayside Restaurant in Barre serves some of the old dishes such as fried salt pork and fiddleheads.

Church suppers. Chicken pie suppers, harvest dinners, whatever you find to go to contain good homemade food, served by shy but warm church folk. If you don't have a date go alone and sit next to farmers just to listen to the conversation and the dialect.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22/23-Jan. 19/20): Oh, beautiful goat, how do I love thee? Let me count the ways: One, for your eyes so tender; two, for your words so sweet; three...eh, who am I kidding? I was never good with flattery. Even though this month has started out all peaches and cream, there is some rain that's ready to pour on your parade. People who you thought were your friends are going to turn out to be rude and unpleasant. And if that wasn't bad enough, your family is going to abandon you like a pair of old tennis shoes. But there is a good side to this, you have your health and anything can be rebuilt and fixed when you have your health. So, take the blows standing and the bruises will heal.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20/21-Feb. 18/19): Aquarius, wouldn't life be easier if you could just swim and splash around in the water all day? But life isn't made that way. To paraphrase Oscar Wilde: life is a stage but the actors are poorly cast. Here's a little bit of advice free of charge: when life hands you a lemon, don't make lemonade, throw that sour tasting fruit back at life with all of your might! If you let life keep handing you lemons, you won't end up with a ton of lemonade, you'll end up with a huge pile of lemons and everyone will think you're weird. Stop that cycle dead on and refuse to take those lemons. Come on...don't be chicken.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19/20-Mar. 20/21): Pisces the Procrastinator is at it again...this is the fifth time this week and I'm very disappointed in you. How many times do you have to put things off until the last minute and then stressfully scrounge around grasping at anything that remotely fits into what you think you need? I've got to tell you, nobody's impressed with your behavior; particularly that person that you thought was so attractive. They noticed everything and their initial attraction has, like Elvis, left the building. Well, I guess you were meant to spend life alone. But there still is hope, you could find a person who procrastinates as much as you do and then you both could procrastinate your relationship together.

Sugaring. Corresponding with mud season is sugaring season. If you have any desire to have an up close and personal experience with this activity I would highly encourage it. Local sugarhouses have open houses, but that's for tourists. If you really want to get involved ask around for

**Aries** (Mar. 21/22-Apr. 19/20): For once your impulsiveness has landed you the jackpot. The only meaningful sentence for you this month is: "The sky is the limit." Don't hold back because for some ungodly reason your path is paved in gold and you are out of harm's way. Your charm, wit, and attractiveness are out of control and nobody can resist! I warn you, that this is for a limited time only--so be wise like in PacMan and know that when the invincibility power runs out, you're mortal and those ghosts are coming to get you! So, for the time being, strut your stuff 'cause you can do no wrong!

**Taurus** (Apr. 20/21-May 20/21): Maybe life has no meaning or maybe life is full of meaning that we are never meant to understand or maybe life has all the meaning in the world and you will learn to appreciate it wholeheartedly. Whatever it is Taurus, your life sucks right now and there's just no philosophical way of getting around it. At least you have the mind-numbing comfort of T.V. and alcohol. Oh wait, you don't have a T.V. and your friends drank all your alcohol over the weekend. Life really sucks for you. Well, next time remember to hide a small ration of booze and cash in those "T.V." favors from those booze-hound friends of yours.

**Gemini** (May 21/22-June 21/22): Less talk and more rock has been a common theme with you this month. Your classes just don't seem to be as exciting as they first were, highlighting and taking notes have lost their luster, and gosh darned it, law can be really taxing. But there is a light at the end of the tunnel, a \$90,000 light at the end of the tunnel to be exact and once you're there, you're home free! So, keep your chin up and plug on through, 'cause the years go by quicker than you think and soon Vermont Law School will be a distant, fading memory. Hallelujah.

sugarhouses in the area that will allow you to help out for a day. Seek out sugarers who collect the old-fashioned way. Collecting sap from buckets on snowshoes gathered into a large tank drawn by a pair of horses for a day is a life-altering experience. Several VLS faculty and staff have backyard operations for producing maple syrup for home use and would be happy to have you work, I mean tag along.

Well that is my short summary for your use and enjoyment. If you have any questions, let me know. I live up past the "Old Johnson Place."

**Cancer** (June 22/23-July 23/24): All that partying in the past month that you've been doing has finally caught up to you. You've reached your full capacity and are now running on fumes. But wasn't it worth it? Meeting all those new people and creating fond memories that will last forever and ever! If only you could remember who you met and what exactly you were doing in the past month...but you can't because you were trashed out of your gourd. There isn't a single evening that you can recall, but fortunately, you made quite an everlasting impression on everyone else.

**Leo** (July 24/25-Aug. 23/24): Now I've got you, you annoyingly self-indulgent and hot-headed Leo! Thought you were going to slip underneath Mademoiselle Crystal Claire's nose under the guise of a Sagittarius, but you didn't! You've been causing quite a raucous around campus lately with your lewd, lascivious, and boisterous ways. Good thing you have that time warp invention to go back and start this year all over again--oops, did you forget to pack that? Tough luck, looks like we're stuck with you as you are, which believe me is a no win situation. Maybe next time, you'll be a little more pleasant.

**Virgo** (Aug. 24/25-Sept. 22/23): "One way or another, I'm going to find you, I'm gonna get you, get you." "Every step you make, every breath you take, I'll be watching you." What do these classic lyrics by Blondie and The Police have in common? Stalker tendencies...unfortunately, so do you! Once you have your heart set on someone, there's no turning back! You have to learn how to play it cool. Perhaps you can take in some wisdom from some other bands, like Sarah McLachlan, "My body aches to breathe your breath, your words keep me alive." On second thought, maybe good ole wholesome Britany Spears, "I'm addicted to you, don't you know that you're toxic." Nevermind, looks like unhealthy, obsessive relationships are here to stay.