

VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

A Look
Inside:

Remembering Allison Angel.....	2
Law Weekly Lunch with Professor Sánchez.....	3
A Tar Heel's Take on UVA's Final Four.....	3
Holocaust Survivor Allan Hall.....	5



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Law Weekly Exclusive Interview with Senator Sheldon Whitehouse '82

Anand Jani '20
Special Projects Editor

In what is certain to be a relief for those students who find themselves academically in the middle of the pack at the Virginia School of Law, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse '82 was never on the Dean's List or a candidate for a Supreme Court clerkship. By his own account, the Senator's law school career was "relatively undistinguished." Justice Richard Neely of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia once quipped, on a visit to UVA Law during Whitehouse's 3L year, "I sometimes find it difficult to be always serious about the law and that is reflected in the fact that my law clerk next year is Sheldon Whitehouse."

Nevertheless, through his own dedication to the pursuit of public service, Senator Whitehouse now finds himself as one of UVA Law's most venerable alumni. Serving as the junior United States Senator from the State of Rhode Island, Senator Whitehouse's accession to the office shows us that success is not determined solely by grades and accolades but rather by one's undaunted passion and willingness to commit.

In February of this year, Senator Whitehouse graciously spoke the *Virginia Law Weekly* about his journey through the public sector and reminded us that it is not about where one begins their path but where they end it—and the journey along the way. The *Law Weekly* is pleased to share his insights with this article.

In the most extraordinary admission throughout our interview, Senator Whitehouse revealed that one of his favorite courses at UVA Law was Civil Procedure. Taught by former Virginia Law Professor Stephen Saltzburg, Senator Whitehouse confessed that he found the class, which is a bane to most first-year students, "interesting and even fun." As a show of good faith that Senator Whitehouse has not lost touch with the common law student, he vigorously conceded that this was an "astonishing" thought. Although Senator Whitehouse was a law student without a clear career path or particu-

WHITEHOUSE page 3

Libel Loses Theme, Gains Laughs



William Kelly '21 and Caroline Kessler '19 sing about the relative merits of careers in Big Law and public interest in the song "Big Law Til' I Die." Photo credit Kolleen Gladden '21.

Jacob Jones '21
Event Editor

Ah, Libel show. A time to cast aside the serious, somber nature of law school in favor of the silly and the sarcastic. I was excited to watch this performance of a real-life meme, or as some people call it, "The Theatre."¹ I went into the show with high expectations, and they were surpassed. It was surprising and inspiring to see how talented some of my classmates are. From outstanding writing that managed to navigate serious issues while remaining funny, to the amazing dancers and band that were essential to every musical performance, to the stage help and lighting experts, and of course the singers and actors, each did their part to make the sum greater than the whole of its parts.

While every performance and every video were great, several of them stand out to me in my somewhat hazy memory of the Libel Show. For example, I recall The BlueBook² sketch, which made fun of the unnecessary Latin phrases we've come to know and love to the tune of Dora the Explorer. I'd rave about how great this skit was, but I think the thing speaks for itself. Another sketch—a mock news segment featuring a stressed out 1L—felt a little too real for me, but that's showbiz baby. I would much rather have been the carefree 3L, at least

¹ Pronounced "Th-ee-ayy-ter."

² A uniform system of citation.

until he gets hit in the head by the bar.³ Other sketches that felt far too real included the 1L who went around begging for outlines, even for LRW, and being a Band 3 for dating. I can't wait until I become a summer associate and can relate to all those problems.

Plenty of jokes were made at the expense of faculty and professors as well. Sitting directly behind the Real Jennifer Hulvey made me somewhat uncomfortable about hearing her exaggerated Southern drawl say things like UVA being "better than a barn-tootin racoon on a midnight train to Dixie,"⁴ but J-Hulv seemed to find the portrayal funnier than I did.⁵ I think I'll base my selection of classes next semester exclusively on "Professor Dungeons and Dragons," which means taking Professor Coughlin's class for sure.

The skit that had the simplest premise, a grumpy old donor groaning about changes in the law school, turned out to be one of the funniest. I have no idea why I cried laughing at this, but I did, and it was great. The old man's makeup was just another one of the small touches that made the show great.

The last song titled "Under the Curve," set to the theme of "Under the Sea," gave great advice to us rudderless students who sometimes find ourselves

³ By bar I do not mean Bilt.

⁴ I made this up but you get the idea.

⁵ She even wrote into Libel to congratulate them on a job well done!

drowning under the waves made by our gunner peers. After that, the show was dismissed, and the dancing lobsters were brought out. After the show, we all went to Bilt to prove our stereotype as a party school as true. You might have ideas about what skits were good and bad that differ from mine, but that's showbiz baby.

M. Eleanor Schmalz! '20
Editor-in-Chief

As a 1L, I was absolutely blown away by the Libel show and the talent of all my classmates. Their ability not only to perform, but also to produce such an amazing show really made me question why some of my classmates were here instead of auditioning on Broadway or trying to make it big in Hollywood. This year, I was able to view the show from a 2L's viewpoint, one with high expectations of the content and low expectations regarding the alcohol that was served. I found myself pleasantly surprised overall, but left with a few critiques for the show next year.

First, and most important, the beer: 10/10 better than last year. I know several classmates didn't buy drinking tickets because of last year's less than ideal⁶ beer selection. This year, I heard several upperclassmen wishing they had purchased drinking tickets to enjoy the IPA and PBR being served by the Libel crew. The only caveat: I didn't have time to drink what my ticket allowed because of the "No alcohol in the auditorium" rule. Yes,

⁶ Read: pretty dang awful.

LIBEL page 4

around north grounds



Thumbs up to all the suckers who fell for the April Fools Edition. All you suckers make ANG feel smart.



Thumbs down to the Bachelor franchise not providing any content these days. ANG needs something to distract ANG from the fact that the approach of finals is killing ANG's soul softly.



Thumbs up to the Law School for providing free subscriptions to so many news organizations. If you didn't know, now you do. You're welcome.



Thumbs down to the character and fitness portion of the Bar. ANG has made some mistakes in the past and learned from them, okay legal profession??



Thumbs up to the softball tournament this weekend. The only thing loves more than UVA Law bros at the Biltmore is bros from every law school at the Bilt!



Thumbs sideways to the need for everyone to do journals. ANG knows that you know you don't want to do it, but you have to because everyone else does.



Thumbs up to scanner apps that turn pictures into PDFs. They're a useful lil tool. ANG needs some way to transfer ANG's picture of dead bugs, crushed up vodka bottles, and old softball shirts into posters.



Thumbs up to frosé season for finally being upon us. ANG can only live off the tears of 1Ls, the remnants of coffee in MyLab cups (RIP), and the ink from old pens for so long.



Thumbs sideways to oral arguments. While ANG is disappointed to have to be re-enrolled in LRW (again), ANG always enjoys seeing the new bloods cry upon having their arguments ripped to shreds by the top professionals of the legal profession.

Remembering Allison Angel '19

Allison Angel, a member of the Class of 2019, passed away in February after a battle with cancer. In tribute to her mem-

Jansen VanderMeulen '19
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus



ory, her friends wrote the messages below. To commemorate her life, The Class of 2019's Gift Campaign is designating funds to a remembrance tree in her honor that will be placed at the Law School. If you'd like your pledge to go towards that memorial fund, please chose "unrestricted funds" on your pledge card and include a note that this is for the "Allison Angel Fund." If you pledge online and would like to do this, choose "unrestricted funds" and email Julia (jlv8we@virginia.edu) or Robbie (rap3fa@virginia.edu) with that preference. The Law Weekly salutes Allison's memory and sends its sincerest condolences to her friends and family.

Brian Diliberto '19

Allison and I were both in Section D so we naturally spent a lot of time together during our first year at UVA Law. We immediately connected because we were both from California, we each attended the University of California, we both had an interest in entertainment law, and we both had no idea what was happening in Torts.

I will always remember Allison as someone who was a champion for women and the LGBT community. During law school, she always sought out new ways of helping others. We spoke about her interest in participating in the Innocence Project Clinic and I remember encouraging her to apply because I knew they would be lucky to have her. Before law school, Allison worked at a law firm in San Francisco and gained knowledge in the area of entertainment law. I was fascinated with her experience and excited to meet another

student with the same curiosity and passion for the industry. We spoke about our professional aspirations and she described returning to California and possibly pursuing entertainment law as a career.

Allison left an enormous impact on our section and the law school. She was deeply loved because she was incredibly down to earth, optimistic, and a joy to be around. She loved EDM, music festivals, and was a real adventuress. She had a free spirit and a level of charisma that I deeply admired. I will always remember Allison for her great sense of humor, unapologetic hipster vibes, and her vivacious approach to life. Allison will forever be a part of my experience at UVA Law and I will always cherish our time together. My thoughts are with Allison's family and friends during this very difficult time.

Clay Davis '19

When I close my eyes and bring Allison to mind, I can see her smile, her infectious smile, so clearly. Allison and I became friends through our many hours spent in the climbing gym, trying to escape the stress of 1L. A small group of us formed a climbing crew: Allison, Alex, Jenny, Taylor, and I.

The afternoons spent bouldering at Rocky Top were some of my happiest in 1L. A mix of physical activity, mental release, and laughs as we fell time and time again off the wall. Allison's smile permeates those memories. We were both horrible at climbing but, nevertheless, still loved every moment.

As the year progressed, I got to know Allison better. And what I witnessed was a truly remarkable woman. I wish I could give light to Allison through my words, but it is simply impossible.

Allison was kind. She was thoughtful. She was genuine and confident in herself. She was light and fun. She was a true

friend. Above all, she was strong as hell: through all the trials and struggles of 1L, Allison never complained, even as she silently suffered from cancer.

I miss her dearly. The pain of losing her hurts, hitting deep inside my chest. What I would not give to see Allison walking around the halls of the law school, looking like she just stepped out of a Coachella fashion magazine, just one last time.

Allison was a free spirit, with a subtle light around her and sense that she was on the edge of growing wings, leaving the troubles of law school behind her. Reflecting now, her body was only holding her free spirit down, chaining her to the ground. But now, she's been freed to soar the heavens as, living up to her own name, an angel.

Jenny Lamberth '19

Allison and I became friends during 1L when we started rock climbing together with a few other classmates from the law school. Allison had such a calming presence and radiated love and laughter. It still amazes me that, while battling stomach cancer and 1L all at the same time, Allison never told anyone or complained once. Rather, she was walking around the school in her bell bottoms and excited to be jetting off to fashion week or a music festival that weekend. I will always remember Allison as being adventurous, sunshiny, and making the most of everyday.

Teddy Kristek '19

Allison was, and still is, an inspiration to me. She was courageous, pursuing her dreams in the face of so much adversity. And through it all, she never took a smile off her face. She would light up every single room she walked through and made every day brighter. I am so grateful to have been placed in her section and have gotten to call her a friend. I could not have made it through 1L spring finals without her. Whether it was her unique sense of style (almost always complete with trendy glasses and a big hat) or her love for music and dancing, Allison lived life in her own per-



fect way. Everything she did, she did with an unmatched passion and enthusiasm. The way she treated life should be a model for all to live by. She will be missed dearly.

Mary Seraj '19

It's hard to put Allison Angel into words. She was really something else. She was the sort of friend that would pull an all-nighter with you to support you during a long night of studying, the type of person that never judged or asked anything of anyone, and, honestly, the most inspiring human I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. Our best memories weren't the ones that involved extravagant trips or once-in-a-lifetime events, but ordering in takeout and just bonding over all life had to offer. She was a radiant human being and a source of unparalleled positivity. For Allison, it was all about being the best version of yourself and enjoying life for what it is. I will always remember her as the girl I met at Admitted Students Weekend who rocked bell bottoms, lived for sunshine and music festivals, and saw the absolute best in everyone she met. My memory of her is this image and every time I walk down Withers-Brown Hall, I see Allison and think just how lucky, we the Class of 2019, were to have had her in our lives.

Kyle O'Malley '19

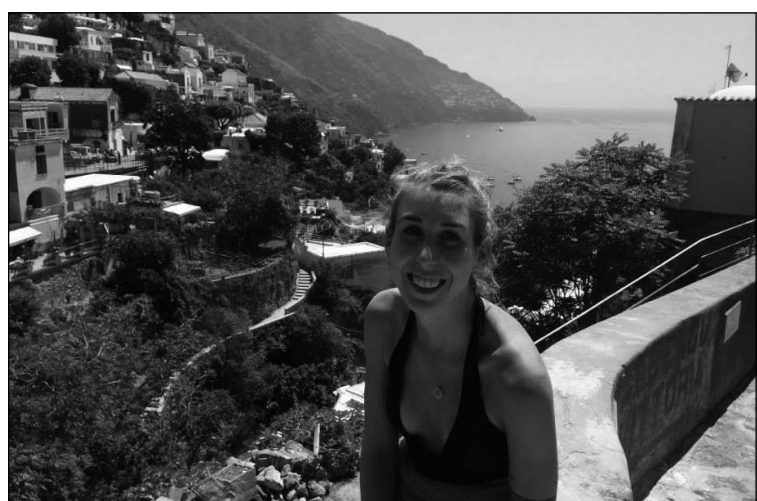
In the six years I knew her, Al-

lison played many roles. At first, she was just my colleague. Then, she became my comrade. After a while longer, she became my best friend. Finally, she became my classmate and conscience. I looked forward with joy to see what she would accomplish. At no point along the way did she fail to show the kind of generosity of spirit, and openness of mind, for which she was so well regarded and so well respected. Like so many others, I am devastated by her passing. This world will never be the same without her sense of humor, her sense of style, and her sense of justice. But that devastation cannot, and with the support of others will never, erase the memories she left me with; nor will it expel her spirit from its home in my own. Instead, her spirit will remain, a reminder to ask, as the late Mary Oliver did: "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your wild and precious life?"

Jessie Michelin '19

Allison Angel is someone I looked up to and will continue to throughout my life. She was nothing but kind to me from the moment I met her and from what I saw, she treated everyone with this same kindness. Allison listened to you and cared what you had to say. She was someone I knew I could turn to whenever, and she would be there. One of the things I admired most about her was her positivity. She saw the good in any situation and did not want anything to stop her from enjoying her life—even her own illness. Moreover, Allison was determined. She was determined to accomplish her dream of becoming a lawyer and was determined to beat her illness. She continued to be the bright, passionate, warmhearted, and tenacious spirit that she was throughout it all. Some of my favorite memories with Allison are staying up until 4 a.m. eating the famous C'ville dumplings after nights out with our friends and chatting about everything and anything until we realized what time it was and that we should probably go to bed. Allison will not be forgotten and will be deeply missed. I am extremely saddened that she will not be able to accomplish her dreams, but I will try to carry her spirit with me the rest of my life. I love you Allison!

jmv5af@virginia.edu



Professor Sánchez Talks International Human Rights Law with the *Law Weekly*

What Camilo Sánchez doesn't know, and what he will uncomfortably know as soon as this is published, is

Sam Pickett '21
News Editor



that my goal since coming to law school has been to make him my best friend. As an aspiring international human rights lawyer, I greatly admire Professor Sánchez's impressive credentials and commitment to the development of human rights in the Americas and, more specifically, in his home country of Colombia. Since his arrival in the fall, however, I have been even more impressed by his accessibility and commitment to the community. He often speaks at human rights law events and attends them even more frequently; he sponsors 's new Spanish-language club¹; he also fully committed to the role of inflatable-guitar holding rock star in this year's 111th Libel Show. As a result, I was more than happy to sit down with Professor Sánchez and four other *Law Weekly* students to (1) show them how cool he

¹ E-mail Jen Kelso at jlk8uc@virginia.edu to learn more!

WHITEHOUSE

continued from page 1

lar academic bent, there was no question about whether he would enter private practice or public service. As the son, grandson, and nephew of Foreign Service Officers, the sense of duty to serve one's country was inculcated in Senator Whitehouse from a young age. Raised outside of the traditional champagne circuit of politics, his childhood consisted of rural communities, powdered milk, and non-portable water. Places where, although resources were sparse, the people were cheerful and buoyed by a sense of generosity that looked beyond their own personal comfort. Having grown up around Americans who eschewed the safety and comforts available to them at home, Senator Whitehouse developed a sense of civic pride that was baked into his personal code of ethics before he ever reached the halls of UVA Law.

On Senator Whitehouse's desk sits a collection of quotations that he compiled and published in 2012. The book started as a reference for the Senator to easily access quotes whose broadness made reattribution impossible without hours of research; it grew into a selection of timeless insights and inspiration that outline America's core values. In typical Lawhoo fashion, Senator Whitehouse turned during the *Law Weekly*'s interview with him to a quotation from Thomas Jefferson that reads, "That our creator made the earth for the use of the living

is and (2) to learn more about how cool he is.

Professor Sánchez's career has been motivated by a passion for learning and a restlessness that led him from Colombia to the United States and back. His plan for the first twenty years of his career was to explore the world and try as many jobs as he could to find what he loved to do, and then to spend the next twenty years focusing on that. While Sánchez's career hasn't been quite this frenetic, he has rejected complacency and embraced new experiences and new people. He began his career in human rights as part of the Colombian Commission of Jurists working with the families of those who had been disappeared during the Colombian conflict between the government and the FARC.² Soon after graduation, however, he received a scholarship to work at the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights in Washington, D.C. While the scholarship lasted for only a

² The conflict lasted over half a century and has resulted in the disappearance of more than 100,000 people. This is more than the combined number of disappeared persons in Chile, Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay.

year, Sánchez continued to work there afterwards until he left briefly to get his LL.M. in International Legal Studies from Harvard.

Even though he returned to the Commission afterwards, he grew restless and sought a change. This time, he moved back to Colombia to work at the Center for the Study of Law, Justice, and Society (Dejusticia), where he spent time grappling with the complex issue of transitional justice and negotiating a political solution to the Colombian armed conflict. In fact, Dejusticia contributed to the peace negotiations by acting as an intermediary between the two sides and dealing with controversial problems—like balancing the ideals of international law with the practical necessities of ending a civil conflict, such as providing amnesty for rebel soldiers. And yet somehow, throughout all of this, Professor Sánchez had time to get his Ph.D. and write his dissertation on property law in societies in conflict and post-conflict.

As Colombia began to maneuver through the difficulties of a post-conflict society, Professor Sánchez decided that it was time for him to continue on a new journey, one that would allow him to continue growing as a person



Professor Camilo Sánchez graciously met for lunch with *Law Weekly* staff, including his biggest fan Sam Pickett '21. Photo credit UVA Law.

and an academic. And thus he arrived at UVA. Here, he has come to appreciate the additional time and student interaction that has come with teaching. He values the opportunity to better reflect on what he is teaching, which he has found to be a never-ending learning process that gives him the opportunity to interact with new people and new subject areas all the time. His reflective approach is evident in how he structures his International Human Rights Law clinic. Students do not just work with international human rights law—they investigate how the law intersects with diverse subject matters and they work to inject the knowledge, sensibilities, and principles of human rights into a wide range of the world's industries. The clinic members also work to significantly impact human rights by promoting the development of international norms, and this week they will be

traveling to Geneva for a convention of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers.

If you want to take a class with the man Amanda Yale (called "the nicest person I've ever met") and who everyone agreed was a fantastic choice for lunch, then I would encourage you to take a class with Professor Sánchez. Or to go see a talk by him. Or to go to any human rights event and talk with him. Or you can be like me and just walk into his office and ask him to help you start your career in international human rights.³ He certainly has the experience to do so.

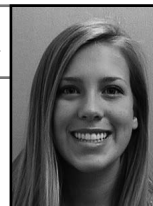
shp8dz@virginia.edu

³ And he has! This summer I'll be working at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in large part because of his help!

UVA's Final Four Through a Tar Heel's Eyes

When you walk into my apartment, there are a few things you can't help but notice. First, the Carolina

Lena Welch '20
New Media Editor



blue. It looks like it was decorated by a seven-year-old UNC fan. Second, I have more than 100 press passes displayed on my walls. When people ask about them, I say they are from my past life. Before law school, I worked in the sports information field, which is kind of like media relations plus keeping statistics for university athletic teams. But it's misleading to say that sports are my past life. Watching sports will always be one of the most consistent things in my life, and this weekend is a good example of what I mean.

Thursday, like many other 2Ls and 3Ls, I attended the Libel Show, but I also checked my phone during the second act to figure out when the tip-off for UVA Men's Basketball Sweet Sixteen game would take place. I went home from the show and turned on the TV. Ultimately, I fell asleep on the couch watching the Hoos top the Ducks.

Friday, I downloaded the

March Madness app on my phone so I could watch the UNC-Auburn game while attending the UVA-Richmond men's lacrosse game. Saturday, after watching Carolina's Men's Lacrosse defeat Duke in its first ACC game of the season, I attended a party, which turned into a basketball watch party as UVA earned its first trip to the Final Four since 1984. The other partygoers can attest that 1) I said Ty Jerome should intentionally miss the second free throw for the chance to send the game to overtime (even though I never thought it would work), and 2) I told everyone to calm down and not celebrate too much.

Sunday, I went to another Men's Lacrosse game as UVA hosted first-year program Utah, which is helmed by former UNC volunteer assistant coach and all-around great human Brian Holman, before heading over to the Park for my section's softball games. All the while, I kept a close eye on the scores from the remaining Elite Eight games, even watching over Editor-in-Chief Eleanor Schmalzl's shoulder in the dugout.

This is a typical weekend for me. If I'm not attending

FINAL FOUR page 5



Senator Sheldon Whitehouse '82 discussed his career and his time at Virginia Law with the *Law Weekly*. Photo credit UVA Law.

and not of the dead; that those who exist not, can have no use nor right in it, no authority or power over it; that one generation of men cannot foreclose or burthen its use to another . . . these are axioms so self-evident that no explanation can make them plainer."

Reflecting upon how his training as a lawyer influenced his philosophy on legislating, Whitehouse stressed the importance of understanding how to distinguish between issues on which one has no choice but to go to battle and those that present an opportunity for a collegial resolution. He also stressed the importance of a good reputation and the confidence of one's colleagues that you can be a person of your word. Comparing the "class" of one hundred in the United States Senate and his own Law School class of

roughly the same size, Senator Whitehouse expounded upon not only the virtue, but also the necessity, of treating others fairly and establishing friendships regardless of ideology or party. He pushed back on the notion that the U.S. Senate has become less stable or less collaborative, but he did allow that so-called "titans" of the Senate (e.g., Senators Ted Kennedy, John McCain, Robert Byrd, and Joe Biden) no longer prevailed within the chamber. The lack of these personal gravitational centers, Whitehouse believes, has changed the personality of the legislative body, as individual lawmakers are less likely to stand out against the greater party structure that splits the upper house of Congress.

When asked for advice for

WHITEHOUSE page 6

LIBEL
continued from page 1

the rule makes sense and wasn't up to the Libel crew, blah blah blah, but I'm an economics gal. If I get four beers, I want my four beers (and don't want to have to chug it like that one guy did on stage). Next year, Libel should definitely continue on this "good beer" trend and maybe advertise what beer will be provided so students can make informed decisions about what ticket to purchase. They should also try to start serving earlier before the show so I can drink in peace instead of having to #chug before the show and at intermission.

Next, the performance of the show: incredible. The live numbers were so well performed and the people who participated should be really proud of their hard work because it showed. My only critique is a desire to have screens of the lyrics on both sides of the stage so people can view it from multiple angles. I had to miss some of the incredible dancing because I was trying to see the words on the far screen, and was sad I didn't get to fully take in all the wonderful choreography that the show had to offer. Overall, the live numbers were fantastic and far surpassed the memories I have of my 1L show.

Finally, the content: overall extremely strong. Several of the sketches had me #ROTFL,⁷ especially the portrayal of Professor Kordana, but a few parts

⁷ I like to pretend that adding a "#" before things makes me sound cool.

seemed like unnecessary cracks that pushed a little too far. Namely, the portrayal of Justice Thomas was inappropriate and left a bad taste in my mouth. I'm all for making fun of the most prominent figures in the legal profession, but think we should spread the love a little and not unevenly make fun of those more conservative among us. Sorry, but portraying Justice Ginsburg as old and fragile doesn't equalize to the *three* scenes dissing Justice Kavanaugh, in addition to shots at Justice Gorsuch and having Justice Thomas only speak in grunts. Overall minor critique, but I felt I couldn't give a review of the show without mentioning this, in my eyes, big shortfall. Overall, the show has a lot to be proud of content wise—"Post my grades" was my favorite song and Old Man Wilikers had to be the best sketch of the night. This will be a tough show to beat next year, and I can't wait to see what next year's cast comes up with.

Daniel Grill '19
Staff Editor

Each year, Libel showcases the wide-ranging talents of the Law School student body, and this year was no exception. Over the show's sixteen skits, the cast's singing, dancing, acting, and writing abilities were on full display. The writers did a particularly good job of including new and timely material, like the Kavanaugh hearings, along with classic jokes on topics like the curve and professor impressions.

I particularly enjoyed the "Weakest Spouse," in which a



In this Dora-themed sketch, Libel-goers learned that the way to get rid of a gunner is to shout, "Gunner, no gunning!" From left to right: Jessie Conover '20, Sarah Ingles '19, Emily Chandler Walpole '20. Photo credit Kolleen Gladden '21.

gameshow host decided which member of professor couples could continue to teach at the Law School. This was a funny way to talk about the seemingly high number of professor couples, and it is the first time Libel has touched on it in the last three shows. I can never go back to studying in the Gambini Room, but it was a great way to put an end to the classic Goluboff v. Schragger debate.

I also enjoyed "Butts R Us," in which an attorney assigns a summer associate a big project that he is not equipped for. In the video, the summer associate seeks help from other summer associates and attorneys, who provide little help. The summer associate ultimately completes the assignments to realize that the attorney no longer needs the report. This caricature of life as a summer associate was funny and addressed fears that many hold before working for a big firm. The video also included great music and slo-mo effects.

The professors' three-song response was also very impressive. While "We Will Stump You," sung to to the tune of We Will Rock You, brought back repressed memories of 1L cold calls, the professors finished with their own version of Bohemian Rhapsody, with harmonization that would put Freddie Mercury to shame. The profes-

sors seemed to enjoy poking fun at the student body and the audience appreciated their funny outfits and air guitars. It will be a tough act to follow next year!

This year's Libel Show was certainly a success. It was funny and well executed. It also felt a little shorter than last year's which seemed to run a little

long. I enjoyed watching such a talented cast put on a great show!

jmj3vuq@virginia.edu
mes5hf@virginia.edu
dkg5rd@virginia.edu



Jenny Lewis '20 and Blake Steinberg '20 as Vice Dean Leslie Kendrick and Professor Micah Schwartzman in the "Weakest Spouse" sketch. Photo credit Kolleen Gladden '21.



David Gremling '19 and Kat Collins '19 as Professors Paul and Julia Mahoney prepare to give each other a fair shake in the competition. Photo credit Kolleen Gladden '21.

Faculty Quotes

A. Woolhandler: "Suing your mother? I guess Thanksgiving was kind of weird that year."

K. Abraham: "The only state that doesn't require minimum auto liability insurance is New Hampshire. Live Free or Die."

S. Walt: "Questions, comments, groans?"

J. Setear: I'm getting Game of Thrones-y . . . or

maybe, more Settlers of Catan.

J. Fore: "Don't answer questions in gif form."

Ad. Bamzai: "You might say to the extent this is a problem, it's something like shuffling the chairs on the titanic."

Heard a good professor quote? Email editor@law-weekly.org!

Virginia Law Weekly

COLOPHON

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Virginia Law Weekly
580 Massie Road
University of Virginia School of Law
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-1789

Phone: 434.812.3229
editor@lawweekly.org
www.lawweekly.org

EDITORIAL POLICY: The *Virginia Law Weekly* publishes letters and columns of interest to the Law School and the legal community at large. Views expressed in such submissions are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the *Law Weekly* or the Editorial Board. Letters from organizations must bear the name, signature, and title of the person authorizing the submission. All letters and columns must either be submitted in hardcopy bearing a handwritten signature along with an electronic version, or be mailed from the author's e-mail account. Submissions must be received by 12 p.m. Sunday before publication and must be in accordance with the submission guidelines. Letters and/or columns over 1200 words may not be accepted. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, and clarity. Although every effort is made to publish all materials meeting our guidelines, we regret that not all submissions received can be published.

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Holocaust Survivor Allan Hall Shares His Story and Insights with the Law School

In the shadow of the 2017 white nationalist rally, Allan Hall, a law professor, engineer, and Holocaust survivor,

Raphael Cho '21
Staff Editor



spoke to the UVA Law community about his harrowing experiences under Nazi occupation and the role of lawyers in fighting extremist ideologies. Hall began the talk by describing his shock and consternation at the 2017 white nationalist rally as his motivation for hosting the talk in UVA. He felt that it was important for students to hear about his experiences and be vigilant in stopping extremism. As a prelude to his story, he posed two questions that

nestled into the minds of the attendees: “Can it happen to you? Can it happen now?”

Hall was only four years old when Nazi Germany occupied his childhood home of Krakow. Throughout the war his family fled from one city to another, narrowly avoiding capture at each turn. In the early years of the war, his father attempted to avoid capture by bleaching his hair and obtaining a rhinoplasty, which he described as a home surgery in the dead of night, with nothing but “vodka anesthetic.” Later, his family was identified by the Nazis and moved to the Jewish ghettos where he was taken to a holding camp along with hundreds of other children. Although his father was ultimately able to free him, he vividly remem-

bers, to this day, the faces of the children he left behind. Hall’s family then obtained false IDs and posed as Christians but were taken to the Gestapo headquarters after a neighbor informed the Gestapo of her suspicions. Hall narrowly escaped being sent to Treblinka at the age of eight, after the train he was boarding was delayed due to the Nazis’ fears that the corpses would infect their soldiers. Although he was subsequently separated from his family and sent to an orphanage, Hall reflected fondly on his time there as it returned some semblance of normalcy to his life. He was eventually reunited with his mother and hid in an office storage closet during which time his younger brother, Andrew, was born. Following Germany’s surrender, Hall and his family lived under Soviet occupation. Hall and his father were sent to Siberia despite the fact that there were “never formal charges,” but were eventually reunited with their family in France. In 1947, his family immigrated to the U.S. where he and his brother studied law. However, the scars of the war remained with him throughout his life. He stated, “everyone faces depression at one time or another,” and thanked his mental health workers for enabling him to share his story so that others may learn from it.

Despite all that he endured, Hall remained thankful to those that helped him and maintained a sense of humor throughout the talk. He spoke with deep gratitude about the man who assisted in reuniting him with his family. He wished he could thank the man for risking his life to help his family, but knew nothing about him. Hall emphasized that even in the darkest times, “there are people with an extraordinary moral compass.” He also described his brother’s birth and joked that we shouldn’t criticize Pepsi too much as his brother survived off sugar water despite being only two pounds at birth. Although there was an ocean of sorrow in his story, Hall felt it was important for the younger generations to hear it and remember that it was not so far removed from our current realities. In fact, Hall took the effort to shake the hands of everyone in attendance so that if anyone encountered a Holocaust denier, we could say that we shook the hand of someone who lived through it.

In his opening remarks, Hall asked if what he lived through as a child could happen to us today. His answer was an unequivocal yes. He stated that the rhetoric he hears today is horrifyingly similar to the rhetoric heard under Nazi occupation. Hall went on to explain that “when

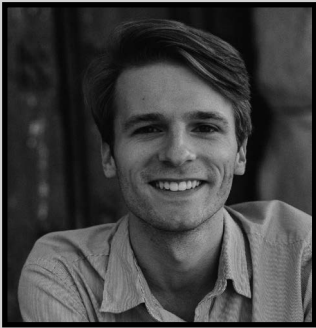
the Nazis took control of Germany, they only represented six percent of Germans,” and that a similar comparison could be made to “all the other extremists” in the U.S. today. And he stressed that “every time you don’t register to vote...you are trusting your lives and the lives of your children to precisely the people you do not want.” When one student asked how we, as future lawyers, could prevent this from happening again, Hall was visibly pleased by the question. As lawyers, he explained, “we are the first line of defense,” and our primary goal is to serve our society. As long as lawyers ensure the rule of law exists, we ensure our societies are protected from discrimination and tyranny. He emphasized that this holds true in both private and public sector practices in that part of a lawyer’s job is to “say no” to any practice that would weaken the rule of law. He stated in simple terms, “when you see something, say something and do something.” While this may sound cliché, Hall reminded all the attendees in the realest terms that, “the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for the good men to do nothing.”

ic7sa@virginia.edu



Allan Hall speaking to an audience in Caplin Pavilion last week about his experiences in Nazi-occupied Germany and the importance of civic engagement and the rule of law in combatting extremism. Photo credit Kolleen Gladden '21.

HOT BENCH



Michael McGuire '19

Where did you grow up?
In Maryland, on both sides of the bay.

What were you doing before coming to UVA Law?
I worked in a language school in Seville, Spain. I also did freelance marketing and design work.

What is your favorite English word?
Nacreous or rhythm—for the way they look in print and not because either is particularly useful.

What is your favorite Spanish word?
Azahar. [Editor’s Note: The Editorial Board were curious what this meant, and found that it meant “orange blossom” for any of our curious readers who are too lazy to Google.]

What’s the best meal you’ve ever had?
Almost any *tapeo* in Spain or

Thanksgiving dinner with my family.

What are your favorite ways to escape the stress of law school?
Cooking for friends. Playing piano and singing. I also buy myself a new (old) book or album every other month.

Where is your favorite place to vacation?
Bald Head Island, N.C., book in hand and phone at home.

What did you eat for breakfast?
I have a bowl of cereal every morning.

How do you take your coffee?
I don’t.

What sound or noise do you love?
Birdsong. My grandmother’s hello.

What sound or noise do you hate?
Alarms of all kinds. Silence during a cold call.

What turns you on creatively, spiritually or emotionally?
Black-and-white photographs, old maps and floorplans, Martha Stewart manuals.

What turns you off?
Ignorance and a lack of empathy.

What profession, outside of law, would you like to attempt?
Interpreter or translator.

Travel writer.

What profession would you not like to try?
Sports announcer.

What’s something your classmates would be surprised to learn about you?
I won an online “Un-Break My Heart” cover contest one summer during undergrad. [Seven-time Grammy winner] Toni Braxton selected the winner. When she called me (!), we chatted for a half-hour about her music, Spanish and a mutual love of Barbra Streisand.

If you could live anywhere, where would it be?
I’d divide my time between a farmhouse in Maryland and an apartment in Seville.

If you won the lottery, what would you do with it?
Invest, tithe and keep working.

See also dream homes, *supra*.

What’s the best gift you’ve ever received?
My first big-kid bike. Nothing beats freedom.

What advice would you give to 1L Michael?
Hard work will pay off, but get out of the library more often.

msm2mr@virginia.edu

FINAL FOUR

continued from page 3

lacrosse, then I’m attending soccer or wrestling. If I’m not falling asleep to the late basketball game, then I’m falling asleep to football or hockey. So, sports are very much a part of my life—including softball at UVA Law.

I’ve only played in one section softball game. I was dressed like Benny “The Jet” Rodriguez, and I stood in left field, praying the ball would not come my way. However, I have found that my way to contribute to my section, and my way to make a lot of enemies, is by keeping a book. I have a love-hate relationship with baseball statistics, but it’s pretty safe to say that the umpires and the other teams have a hate-hate relationship with me keeping statistics at softball games. And my section just appreciates that I keep the lineup straight. This weekend was particularly special for our section softball team because it marked the return of all-star third base coach and all-star PA Alexander Hofarth ’18 to North Grounds.

But as much as I care about section softball—and let’s be clear, I care too much—I cannot bring myself to care about UVA sports. Alexander is the perfect counterpoint. He also went to an ACC school for undergrad. He also attended a bunch of sporting events at UVA. And he also is a beacon of school spirit (if you think I’m not, tell that to the children’s socks I bought at Courts &

Commerce and regularly wear). Alexander treats the Cavaliers as his team, unless they are playing his Boston College Eagles.

On the other hand, it took me ages to wear a UVA shirt to a sporting event here, because I’m not a UVA fan. I’m a Tar Heel. This weekend, someone even suggested that UVA losses don’t need to upset me and I could celebrate the wins. I pointed out that that is being a fair-weather fan, and there’s nothing more despicable to me. Becoming a fan means taking on the wins and losses. While I’ve come to have quite reserved reactions to the outcomes of games (*compare* Carolina beating Duke twice this season *to* Carolina losing in the Sweet Sixteen), that doesn’t mean I want to adopt another team. Instead, I hold my Heels close to my heart, and I attend UVA games to get my fix of live sports.

So, what happens when UVA Men’s Basketball goes to the Final Four? It’s not clear. Some say I should get over myself and just become a UVA fan. Some say an allegiance to the ACC means I should root for the Cavaliers. My dad says I should cheer for UVA so he can win his bracket pool. My mom says I should support UVA because Tony Bennett is “a hottie.”

In all likelihood, I’ll just fall asleep on my couch watching the game.

lw8vd@virginia.edu

WHITEHOUSE

continued from page 3

UVA Law students, especially those hoping to enter public service, Senator Whitehouse stated clearly and emphatically, “Dive in! Do not be picky! Work really hard! Try to be helpful! And trust that your behavior in that fashion will attract the attention of people who will want you to come work for them.” Even the most verbose *Law Weekly* editor cannot make this advice any plainer.

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse’s rise from an average law student who started his legal career in the Public Utilities Regulatory Office of the State’s Attorney General’s Department (at a pay scale that, when measured against hours worked, came out to less than minimum wage) to a U.S. Attorney, a State Attorney General, and finally a United States Senator demonstrates

that when the flame burns a bit brighter, you go a bit further. An inspired effort and a relentless drive are the true indicators of success.

To borrow from another’s words, “A man’s reach should exceed his grasp, or what’s a heaven for?” If we can learn one thing from Senator Sheldon Whitehouse ’82, regardless of where we are from, where we are now, or where we will be, we can all reach just a little bit higher.

The *Virginia Law Weekly* thanks Senator Whitehouse and his deputy press secretary Richard Davidson for their time and efforts in making this interview possible.

Senator Whitehouse will be visiting North Grounds on Friday April 5 to speak to current students. The Law Weekly encourages you to attend.

ahjgez@virginia.edu

Cartoon By Raphael



THE DOCKET

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST	FOOD?
WEDNESDAY – April 3				
12:00 – 13:00	Lexis Lunch & Learn	WB 101	Free, RSVP encouraged	Provided
13:00 – 17:00	Virginia Journal of Law & Technology Symposium	Purcell	Free	Lunch provided
THURSDAY – April 4				
17:00 – 19:00	Federalist Society Spring 2019 Banquet	Darden	Free	Cocktail Reception
18:00 – 22:00	International Refugee Assistance Project Screening of “On Her Shoulders”	Caplin Pavilion	Free	Provided
FRIDAY – April 5				
9:00 – 15:00	Virginia Journal of Criminal Law Symposium It Happens Here: Finding Legal and Policy Solutions to End Child Marriage in the U.S.	Purcell	Free	Provided
11:30 – 1:00	Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse ’82: “How We Win: The Path Forward in Congress on Climate Change”	Caplin Pavilion	Free	Provided
18:00	Seeing Black: Disrupting the Narrative	Jefferson School African American Heritage Center	Free	----
All day	36th Annual Softball Invitational	Park Fields	Free	----
SATURDAY – April 6				
All day	36th Annual Softball Invitational	Park Fields	Free	----
19:00	Alabama concert	John Paul Jones Arena	Starts at \$34	----
20:30	Southern Accents: The Ultimate Tom Petty Tribute	Jefferson Theater	\$15	----
SUNDAY – April 7				
11:00	Women’s Tennis: Virginia v. Louisville	Snyder Tennis Center	Free	----
19:00	Jazz Small Groups Spring Concert	Old Cabell Hall	Free	----
All day	36th Annual Softball Invitational	Park Fields	Free	----
MONDAY – April 8				
12:00 – 13:30	The Past, Present and Future of the International Human Rights Movement	Purcell	Free	----
13:00 – 15:15	Sports & Entertainment Law Event, Pittsburgh Pirates General Counsel Bryan Stroh ’02	WB 152	Free	----
17:00 – 19:00	UVA Law Spring Diversity Reception	Caplin Pavilion	Free, RSVP requested	----
TUESDAY – April 9				
15:40 – 17:30	The Academic Career Path with Profs. Brady & Schragger	WB 102	Free	----
20:00	Robert Earl Keen	Jefferson Theater	\$30	----

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