



VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

2017, 2018, & 2019 ABA Law Student Division Best Newspaper Award-Winner

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Wednesday, 31 March 2021

The Newspaper of the University of Virginia School of Law Since 1948

Volume 73, Number 22

The Libel Show is Here

RSVP ASAP
for the 113th
edition of the
Law School's
oldest and
funniest
tradition!*

**Law Weekly*
remains the Law
School's younger,
better-looking
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Libel: The Movie
is hosted for
3 nights only
on Zoom:

Thursday April 1:
3L Night

Friday April 2:
2L Night

Saturday April 3:
1L and Alumni
Night

Not Satire! The Libel Show is happening this week.

UVA's Law Weekly and Law Review Join Forces: VLR Cites Needs for Actual Readers

Phil Tonseth '22
Editor-in-Chief

In an unsurprising move, Student Affairs has announced that the *Virginia Law Weekly* and *Virginia Law Review* (VLR) have joined forces, becoming the *Virginia Weekly Law Review*. This new format, whereby the *Law Weekly* will incorporate VLR into its operating structure, comes at a critical juncture for both clubs. The *Law Weekly*, winner of the ABA Student Newspaper of the Year award in three of the last four years, graciously offered a lifeline to the struggling VLR, which cited the inability to publish any articles of interest and a lack of general gravitas in their work as reasons for the merger.

From a macro perspective, this merger seems like a win-win. The *Law Weekly* is not only able to draw from more talented writers to opine on whether cereal is a soup (it is) and if 1Ls deserve fundamental rights on the Court of Petty Appeals (they don't), but also the *Law Weekly* will be able to put the members of VLR in their place. Earning a position on VLR doesn't make these students any better than the rest of the student body, especially when the reward is unpaid labor solely for a line on their resume. To emphasize this point, the *Law Weekly* plans to frequently highlight the cringy LinkedIn and Insta-

gram posts of VLR members as examples of who-not-to-be at the Law School.

On the flip side, VLR also stands to greatly benefit from this merger. With a readership base declining faster than the value of stock in Zoom post-COVID, VLR needed an outlet so that their scholarship would actually be read. Enter *Law Weekly*. Although VLR members understand they must learn to be pithy and publish their pieces in only 800 words, they also understand that this will force them to distill key concepts and finally get to the point of the annoying hypotheticals that they frequently bring up in class. Further, VLR is slowly realizing who "Big Brother" really is in the publishing world at UVA Law, and they want in.

When asked for comment, Peter Kaplan '22, the Managing Editor of VLR, relayed, "I am just excited to finally be able to tell my mom 'good' when she asks how the school newspaper is going." In concert, *Law Weekly's* Editor in Chief, Phil Tonseth '22, added that he "is both elated and dejected by this merger. On one hand, this journalistic monopoly recognizes the growing importance of the *Law Weekly* and its ability to control the narrative both internally and external to UVA Law. Sadly, the *Virginia Weekly Law Review* will have a bumpy road at the beginning, as you can't invite all of the nerdy VLR kids

into the cool-kids-club and expect a smooth transition."

The impact of the merger on journal try-outs is unknown. The *Law Weekly* arguably has higher journalistic standards than VLR, as the members of *Law Weekly* publish quite frequently, as opposed to VLR's sole requirement that their members only publish one note during their time in service. In order to justify this solo publishing adventure, lowly 1Ls must endure an agonizing weekend of BlueBooking and replying to an antiquated prompt just to hope to make it through the byzantine selection process. Countering this, the *Law Weekly* try-outs simply entail showing up to three meetings, expressing a desire for free pizza, enjoying poking fun at and critically analyzing salient issues around the school, and exhibiting a general cool vibe¹. As negotiations are still pending on how journal try-outs will progress (read "dissolve"), the result will ruffle feathers regardless. Gone are the days where elitism can be bought through sucking up in office hours to achieve all A+'s to reach the head (as VLR thinks) of UVA Law's journalistic endeavors.

What this author can confidently state is that the quality

¹ Yours truly notwithstanding, but I'm the boss now.

Summer Break to Be Implemented Through Multiple Four-Day-Weekends, One Wednesday Off

Jonathan Peterson '23
Satire Editor

Following the screaming success of the School's implementation of spring break, we are now seeing the dawn of an even more ambitious project here at the University of Virginia School of Law. In regard to this project, high-ranking individuals from Student Affairs have been heard making claims as bold as "this summer break will revolutionize vacation across the legal field," and "UVA Law has once again proven itself to be the most innovative and forward-thinking legal institution in the world." So, what is this new project which finds itself at the forefront of administrative procedure the world over?

The idea? Summer break—but hear me out—implemented almost solely through four-day-weekends. I know I'm not the only one clapping right now. To be precise, *each* weekend of the summer will be a four-day weekend, some weeks with a Monday/Tuesday break, others with a Thursday/Friday break. However, as the school announced, it is important to keep in mind while planning any trips (which necessarily must be short in order to accommodate a return within four days) that throughout the summer there will be only *one* Wednesday allotted to the students.

The school has yet to decide which Wednesday is the most

appropriate for a break day; however, they have released their stated criteria for the decision, which are as follows: (1) which faculty birthdays fall on Wednesdays; (2) the level of seniority of the faculty members whose birthdays fall on Wednesdays; (3) which of the faculty members whose birthday falls on a Wednesday is likely to throw the best birthday party; and (4) which of the Wednesday-birthday faculty would be the cheapest to shop for, and conversely, which would be the most expensive. All of these criteria factor heavily into consideration; however, the school has declined to comment on whether any one of the criteria outweighs the others. Suffice it to say, students should be on the lookout for a significant birthday-bash on whatever Wednesday the faculty decides to give to themselves the students.

The school has cited a few lines of reasoning in support of this change. Perhaps the most compelling is the claim that some at the Law School "sometimes feel lonely" during the summer and that "a good way" to stop that would be to "restrict travel by beginning the fall semester in mid-May and incorporating summer break into it slowly through December." The Dean responsible for

VLW x VLR

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of the work between the two parties in the newly formed *Virginia Weekly Law Review* will be stellar. Pieces will no longer be edited/cite checked solely by one member (looking at you *VLR*), but three (the *Law Weekly* standard). Further, the articles selected for publishing won't be chosen by a select and close-minded student committee (again *VLR*, do better). Lastly, the articles will be something everyone will want to read. Scholars will no longer be able to publish nonsense, relying on their tenure, just for the sake of publishing. The journalistic standards of *Virginia Weekly Law Review* will be interstellar: be prepared ye wary writers.²

² I will not bring out the statistics of how few readers *VLR* has, but the *Law Weekly* had over 21K readers since January 1, 2021. There's a reason *VLR* is folding under the *Law Weekly's* umbrella...

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SUMMER

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these statements requested the comments remain anonymous, and the *Virginia Law Weekly* declines to expand on who, in particular, feels the horrible anguish of loneliness at the Law School during the summer. The Office of the Dean of Students did, however, request that the *Law Weekly* include a short statement on the *immense* popularity and *incredible* number of friends of The Office generally, and as such, this is that statement.

Surprisingly, or perhaps not, the strongest support for this change has come not from the administration, but from an organization here at UVA Law—the notorious Federalist Society. Claiming that this change embodies the ideals of federalism, specifically vertical separation of powers, this school's FedSoc chapter has extolled this idea as being “better than anything [they] ever could have come up with.” Their specific reasoning for these strong sentiments? FedSoc sees this move from the School as embodying the federalist principle of allowing State (schools) to operate as laboratories for innovation and subsequently, the betterment of “our historically great nation.” As such, the sight of UVA Law taking on the mantle of innovation in such a flagrant and bold manner, for better or worse, has sufficiently titillated our FedSoc peers to the point of ardent support. And, again for better or for worse, if FedSoc supports it at this school, it's here to stay.

Prof. Cannon Switches to Corporations: Cites Need to Find More Fulfilling Work

While eager students have months left to wait until Fall 2021 course selection, an in-

Dana Lake '23
Production Editor



sider with Student Records has let at least one shake-up slip: Professor Jonathon Cannon will be making the switch from Environmental Law to Corporations, citing the need to feel validated by his work.

Professor Cannon, former general counsel for the Environmental Protection Agency, has spent his career advocating for responsible land management and climate change initiatives. His 2015 book “Environment in the Balance” (which has five stars on Amazon) analyzes how Supreme Court decisions in environmental cases have changed along with the Court's priorities—from receptive and active in the 1960s to the more skeptical Court we see today. His life-long commitment to environmental issues earned him the position of UVA Law's Blaine T. Phillips Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law, but also made him the top choice for inaugural director of the Program in Law, Communities, and the Environment (PLACE). And now, finally, after twenty-three years

teaching environmental courses at the Law School, Professor Cannon is ready to focus on work he can find personally fulfilling.

The business organization and finance concentration offered by UVA Law is a neglected, underfunded segment of the Law School. An anonymous professor teaching Corporate Finance was recently heard lamenting just how few law students know how to do math. “It's a forgotten art,” he informed our reporter. “Students these days just don't care about making money anymore.” The statistics back this up: of the T-14s, UVA Law sends the fewest students into Big Law. “If I wanted the Law School's support and performative social media posts, I would be teaching Criminal Adjudication, not Mergers and Acquisitions,” another professor commented. “I don't teach business law for the glory; I do it for the love of the American corporate structure.”

Our source in Student Records has heard Professor Cannon shares the same drive as the few brave professors who have stepped forward to teach business law classes. While there are fortunes left to be made in non-profit environmental work, Professor Cannon is finally ready to close the door on public service. “He's been

wanting to find work that has real meaning to it,” our source explained. After sharing many post-class kombuchas with Professor Cannon, this source felt confident enough to reveal his real thoughts on environmental law: “The environment is so overdone. Climate change is a hoax, anyway. He's tired of fighting for sustainability when it's been proven the earth is just too big for humans to have a real impact on its natural resources. America just doesn't need more environmental lawyers, especially not when business law is so underrepresented.”

We are proud to announce that next Fall, Professor Cannon will be following his true passion: teaching Corporations. As one of the Law School's least popular classes, Corporations has only three offerings in the Fall with sixty student slots each. Although business law is unlikely to bring him the money and prestige of environmental law, we here at *Law Weekly* fully support Professor Cannon in his pursuit of true fulfillment and validation.

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COVID House: Who Wants 7 New Roommates?

It was a nice day out, the kind of day where you almost forget Sai Kulkarni '23
Culture Editor Stanley Birch '22
Managing Editor

we are in the middle of a global pandemic. The sun was shining, the air was warm, undergraduates were still acting like there was no 'Rona, and the birds were chirping. Breaking the calm of this Thursday afternoon was an email alert from Jim Ryan. After scrolling through the three-paragraph summary of what had happened over the last year,¹ some good news: case numbers were down, so people could meet outdoors in a group of ten. Two roommates² texted a few friends and filled out the other eight slots of the roster for a backyard “barbecue.” The texts read, “it'll just be a chill hang” and “no stress,” but everyone on the receiving end knew this was a call to get blotto. The night began exactly as the administration would hope: ten friends, sitting socially-distant, catching up and sharing camaradery. Nothing could ruin this policy-adhering COVID fun.

Until the second drink.

Having interviewed the seven individuals³ who make up the remainder of this story, the best explanation of what happened next is that this is the first time

¹ Yeah, because we'd all forgotten until that email...

² Who asked to be kept anonymous, for obvious reasons to come.

³ Again, asking to remain anonymous.

they had not been drinking with their roommate, with their parents, or all alone. The endorphins and the alcohol hit a lot harder than they remembered, with a few being K-JD's fresh off fraternity tolerance levels. Recollections of the remainder of the evening include: “chill,” “a little relaxed about the restrictions,” “it wasn't a big deal, we had all just gotten negative saliva results anyway,” and “I think it was nice.”

However the night escalated, and when the morning light hit, there were seven students still scattered around the house. The first of the rent-paying residents sat up on his couch, only to quickly lay back down and cover his head, now remembering just how bad Fireball hurts the next morning. Slowly this time, he sat up, opened his laptop, threw in some AirPods, and joined his Friday morning lecture. After the first 10 minutes of swimming in his own thoughts he heard his name. He was on call. “I can't see you. Are you with us this morning?” Panicked, he threw on a hat, turned on video, and apologized profusely. While speed-scrolling through the seven-year-old outline he managed to trade for, the questions came and went and it seemed like a miracle had been pulled off. A night of fun was had, he still answered cold-calls, and all this while “complying” with university rules. Then the professor innocently asked a question that his outline didn't hold the answer to. “Wow, how many roommates do you have?” Confused, he un-muted to ask what the professor

meant. “Well,” the reply started off, “I've just seen about five different people walk behind you on this call. One of whom was not wearing a shirt and I cannot be confident about pants.”

“I'm not sure what you mean,” was all he could muster as a reply.

“Well, let's hope you and all your roommates stay safe and healthy. I'll have to mention something about the lack of clothes to the Dean.” Before he could say another word, the cold-call had switched to someone else, so his video went off. Turning around for the first time since the night before, he saw three people slumped in chairs and another one on the air mattress behind him. None of them lived there. None of them had on masks. As it turned out, of the ten that started the “chill” evening together the night before, only three of them had Uber still installed on their phones. That left five people who had no idea how to get home, and in the moment, could not have cared less.

Just as the first roommate was coming to the realization that they needed to get a bunch of people out of their house, the doorbell started to ring. In response to the jarring noise, another husk of a man came shambling out of the bathroom as the second roommate trotted down the stairs to open the door. It was the neighbor,⁴ the same one who had texted nine

⁴ A 1L who not only acted like the biggest 3L gunner but actively took up the title and treated it like a badge of pride

times the night before about the group making too much noise. Without saying anything, they held up their phone, took a picture of the maskless sick-bay that had taken shape in the living room, smirked, and walked away. The second roommate closed the door and felt a cold-flush wash over them that they couldn't peg as being caused by the sixth White Claw or by the realization of what had just happened. After racing to the bathroom to unpack this newfound feeling, the two actual rent-payers gathered together to form a plan.

Realizing that an “anonymous report”⁵ was definitely about to be filed, they had to come up with something to explain what had happened. These two wanted to be lawyers, after all — they could read the rules and outsmart them. The indoors gathering of seven and lack of face coverings were what would get them. There was only one way they could see to avoid the oncoming earful from the Deans and a tedious UJC hearing: the exception for roommates.

After a few texts and pleadings, former roommates of the “freeloading five” brought their books, computers, clothes, and other basics to the doorstep of the new bunkhouse. What was a mildly spacious 2-bedroom had just become a very overcrowded, four-room, one-bath, two-

⁵ Actual information required includes your name, date of birth, Student ID Number, Social Security Number, astrological sign, spirit animal, and maternal grandmother's first grade teacher's name.

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Lawyers' Property Rights Are Fundamental Human Rights, NLG Protests

The National Lawyers Guild, long known as the lefty answer to the Ameri-

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Executive Editor



can Bar Association, has belatedly discovered the joys of property rights—specifically, the rights of lawyers to safeguard their stuff from interference (and maybe to get more and better property, too).

The abrupt about-face from the Guild's eighty-four-year history of focusing on public interest work promoting the rights of marginalized populations was announced on the NLG's National President's blog:¹

I had one of those moments today. You know, those moments where the blinders fall off, and you just have to question everything that you were certain about before. When you have to interrogate your assumptions about the way things are and the way that they are supposed to be.

This morning, while my fair-trade oatmeal was cooking in my solar-powered, cruelty-free micro-

wave, I was looking for my paperback copy of The Communist Manifesto. "Babe," I said to my partner, "have you seen Karl? I know I left him on the counter."

They barely looked up from their coffee. "Yeah, I put it in the Little Free Library, since you have a hardcover Manifesto by the bed and that mini one in the bathroom."

"Oh, okay," I said. "That's fine." But it wasn't fine. My frustration was boiling over, just like my oatmeal, so I took it out of the microwave. (The oatmeal, I mean. My frustration was harder to deal with.)

Since my oatmeal was still too hot to eat without pouring something cold on it, and the only thing I had in the fridge was oat milk, and that combo seems wrong somehow, I took a quick walk down the block to the Little Free Library. Actually, I found myself running. My book—would my book still be there?

As I approached the Little Free Library, I saw that a parent and small child were checking out the contents.

"This man looks like Uncle Dan," the kid said. "I like his beard."

I recognized the book in the kid's hands. I knew well that the front cover did feature a glorious beard.

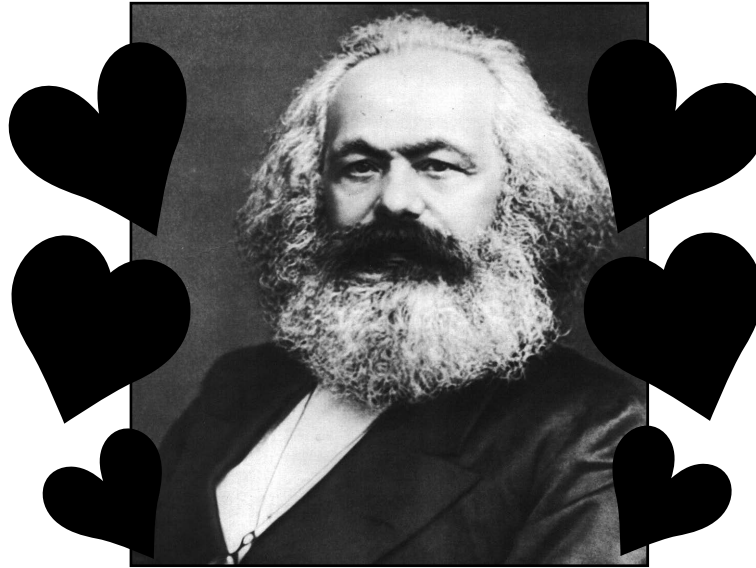
"THAT'S MY BOOK!" I shouted. "YOU CAN'T HAVE KARL!"

As they retreated, I ran forward and retrieved Karl. I cradled that battered paperback, and I knew: This book was my property, and no one, I mean no one, was going to take it from me again.

onto their property. Sometimes, lawyers' partners use their FAVORITE T-SHIRTS as pajamas and then those shirts SOMEHOW end up in the partner's dresser, instead of the lawyer's dresser, and then SOMEHOW they end up covered in mustard stains.

I know this pivot may come as a surprise to some of our members, who joined NLG in order to do things like prevent unjust policing, safeguard activists, and support immigrant communities. And I'm not saying that we'll stop doing those things.

But it's time to take a stand for lawyers everywhere. I'm calling on our legal observer teams to observe carefully: When you see a lawyer's rights being violated, speak out.



Don't try to steal my man.

"Sweetie," said the parent, "we'll come back for a book tomorrow. It looks like someone here is having a red-light moment³ and needs time to cool down."

I shared this story with the NLG Board. And it turns out, once one person tells their story, others are willing to come forward and say: Stuff is important to me. No one should be allowed to interfere with my stuff.

So I'd like to raise awareness about a critical problem facing society today. Society includes lawyers, and every day, lawyers are forced to do things like pay taxes and allow postal delivery people

1 The actual NLG president seems like a very admirable person who would never keep a copy of the *Communist Manifesto* in the bathroom.

2 Yes, I know that Friedrich E. was also involved in writing that whole deal, but he's not a celeb with star power like Karl.

3 This refers to a system of red-yellow-green categorization that can help small children describe their emotional states before they develop a nuanced vocabulary sufficient to describe the mens rea attached to the crime of "disorderly conduct with intent to tantrum." (Law students seem to operate in a perpetual red.)

Requests for comment from the NLG Board have been met with responses such as "Get off my lawn" and "Your email is trespassing in my inbox. You have been notified."

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Announcing: Zoom Prime and Its Upgraded Features

Last Wednesday, Zoom announced a boatload of thrilling new features. The

Jacob Smith '23
Professor Liason Editor



features are available as part of Zoom Prime, a service available for \$3.99 a month or \$49.99 a year. Zoom was planning to offer a limited number of free student licenses on a first-come, first-served basis, but, after consultation with the Virginia Department of Health, it clarified that individuals should not travel to Zoom.us without an official appointment or invitation. Instead, they should fill out a 190-question survey available on the Department of Health's website so free licenses can be reserved for those at higher risk of Zoom fatigue. Still, even if you do not qualify for a free license, Zoom Prime is well worth the price given its cutting-edge features.

Custom Muting

Finally giving into pressure from thousands of students, Zoom Premium will now allow users to mute any other call participant. Students can simply right-click on the participant's tile and select "mute." Another option is "mute video," which blacks out the participant's video for you, just as if they didn't have their camera on.

So far, custom audio and video muting has been

by far the most popular new feature. "I honestly couldn't be happier," Will Parry '22 said. "I mean, every now and then my Zoom will just go quiet, and then I'll sit back and check Instagram. I know it's a gunner, and I know their question would do absolutely nothing to help me learn, so I just don't want to hear it, you know?" Another student said it was a great relief not having to see her ex during class.

Filters and Clips

Basic Zoom allows users to apply filters to their own video, just like other social media platforms. This myopic approach ignored several unique features common to most Zoom calls—soul-crushing boredom, the need to seem "professional," and unprecedented access to live video footage of dozens of one's closest friends and enemies. Only the shameless or clueless show up in a cat filter, but privately tormenting the video feeds of other participants is much more fun.

Zoom Prime fixes this. Participants can now apply hundreds of filters to other participants' videos. Students can amuse themselves by depicting others as vegetables or felines. New-every-week "mystery filters" will analyze another user's facial expressions and background to provide even more entertainment. What kind of bagel is that crusty professor? What Hogwarts house does your Zoom crush belong to? No need to spend ten min-

utes filling out a BuzzFeed quiz. Zoom Prime will provide just as much accuracy based on five seconds of their webcam feed—even if it's turned off.

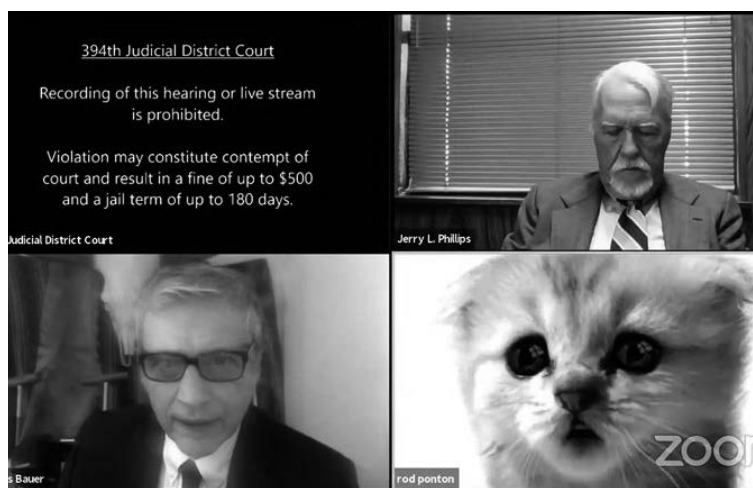
Even better, Zoom has taken a page out of Twitch's book and now allows students to share Zoom clips

Zoom Prime now comes with a Spotify plugin that allows students to select music to accompany an online class. The plugin even comes with an experimental matching algorithm that will select custom songs based on a professor's tempo, tone, and vocabulary. The plugin still

so they can watch shows or sports mosaic fashion while still catching every expression on their professor's face. "Some of my colleagues dislike it," Professor Mary Malone said. "But I get it, students are going to watch Netflix. At least this way they're still tuned in to class, so if I really need their attention I can wave my arms."

What's Next

Although Zoom Prime adds a few useful features, Zoom is still working on some more basic issues. For example, Zoom Prime still does not allow users to move videos around when someone has their hand raised or when non-video participants are hidden. Zoom public relations specialist Carlo Boreal explained by email that solving these problems is a difficult task, but he wanted to assure users that Zoom physicists are hard at work at the necessary research into parallel universes, dark matter, and subatomic particles.



Pictured: This could be you, now with Zoom Prime! Photo Courtesy of NBC.com.

of another participant's filtered video to social media. Want to show the world what your professor looks like as a potato? Now you can. Did a student say something vaguely controversial? Post it to Reddit and let the Internet decide.

Custom Music

Brave Zoomers have long known that a good smooth jazz playlist is what you need to spice up Property and that string quartet sonatas can work wonders for Federal Courts. Zoom has finally picked up on this trend.

seems to need some work, however, as during Constitutional Law classes it just plays "Free Bird" over and over again.

Mosaic Movies

Photo mosaics arrange many small photos to depict one bigger photo. Now Zoom is bringing this technology to online video conferencing. Just upload a photo, or find one on the Internet, and Zoom Prime will rearrange and style your video tiles to show that picture. Zoom Prime users can even link up video streaming services

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NGSL v. Administration

COVID-19, while in retreat, is still wreaking havoc on UVA Law and the North

Phil Tonseth '22
Editor-in-Chief



Ground Softball League (NGSL). For the second consecutive year, the Administration has ordered that NGSL cancel any plans for a national softball tournament, which NGSL hosts to raise over \$20,000 for ReadyKids charity.¹ Claiming their hands are tied by University-wide policies, the Administration offered little to no help to NGSL for its philanthropic endeavors. Undeterred by this rejection, NGSL challenged the Administration to a softball scrimmage on Copeley Field, whereby the winner would determine the fate of this year's tournament. Solely to shut up NGSL, and buoyed by a desire to finally get a tan, the Administration accepted, and the game was scheduled for March 30th.

On an unrelated note, the Administration concurrently announced the hiring of three new faculty members when the scrimmage time was finalized. Heading these hires is Alex Rodriguez (A-Rod) as Dean of Bombs. Two Associate Deans were also brought in to assist A-Rod, named Bawwy Bonds and Sami Sosa. While it is entirely unclear what these new hires will work on, the Administration was quick to advocate and celebrate their new positions with UVA Law.

With the game time set, each team had to work on building its most fearsome lineup. Itching to go back to old times, NGSL loaded its team with current 3L players who frequently roam Copeley on Friday afternoons. From a

¹ Is it also a cover to drink incessantly at a school function? Very much so.

steady hand in Brian Lee Patterson, to a smooth swinging Griffey look-alike in Will Hinton, the men of the NGSL team covered all of the bases. Not to be outdone, and arguably bringing even more skill to the team, the ladies of NGSL included the versatile Katharine Janes, the lightning quick Kat Goebel, and the home run hitter Elizabeth Lapp. On paper, this lineup had the potential to turn the contest against the Administration into a rout.

Not to be outdone, the Administration brought their own A-team. Leading the



team, Ruth Payne guaranteed she would bring the pain to the NGSL twerps who thought they would win. Vice Dean Leslie Kendrick was excited to be able to show NGSL first-hand what an intentional infliction of emotional distress looked like. Former Dean Paul Mahoney served as the trusty and reliable manager, maximizing the various talents from across the Administration's ranks. And yes, Dean A-Rod and his associates Bawwy and Sami also joined.

With lineups set, the game began in a huff. Dean Risa Goluboff, serving as a neutral observer and umpire, was quickly put to the test. With the Administration bringing in the LRW ringer Joe Fore as its pitcher, he worked fast to strike out the NGSL squad in

the first inning. Will Hinton would have none of that nonsense though, as he clobbered a moonshot that helped bulldoze the final remaining wall of the Inn at Darden that had yet to be demolished. Not to be deterred, Vice Dean Kendrick made a diving play in the outfield to end the inning, taking away what was sure to be an inside-the-park home run by NGSL's Kat Goebel.

With the Administrator's turn to bat, Dean Mahoney integrated the new hires² with the seasoned vets. Living up to her reputation, Ruth Payne blasted the first pitch

right between Reuben Brooks and Ethan Silverman, giving the Administration a leadoff triple. As you could've probably guessed, Bawwy Bonds attempted, but couldn't outdo NGSL's Will Hinton's home run. While Bawwy hit the chain-link fence in the air and thus tied the score, NGSL was still in high spirits that it had kept Big-Biceps-Bawwy from upstaging one of its own.

The game was back and forth over the next five innings, as NGSL fought tooth and nail in order to bring back its beloved tournament. Not wanting to bend to popular student will, the Administration used every

² Which, coincidentally, were very strong and good at softball. Strange timing for the hires for sure.

trick in the book to put down this movement, aiming to keep their stranglehold on NGSL's ability to operate a shadow government around the school. Going into the final inning, NGSL was winning 20-19. With one out left to get, NGSL felt confident when they saw Dean Jason Dugas walk to the plate, believing he would not be able to hit a home run and score both himself and Professor Anne Coughlin from third. Always a step ahead, however, Dean Mahoney played his final card. He inserted himself into the lineup, and, in a move reminiscent of the great Babe Ruth, pointed his bat directly at Darden exclaiming "it's time all of you NGSL members show some consideration for your elders."³ Not believing Dean Mahoney could fully swing a bat in his pristine three-piece suit, a pitch was lobbed in directly down the middle of the plate. The rest is history.

It pains me to say that NGSL will not be hosting its annual tournament this year. On one hand, NGSL is grateful for this abdication of its responsibilities. Following the loss, it no longer had to pretend to care about what they could do for charity, instead, turning its focus back to drinking copious amounts of alcohol in the secret society lair that it keeps. Conversely, having to listen to everyone now validly state that NGSL is a bunch of washed-up athletes stung a little bit. Guess it's time for both teams to hit the bottle, hoping next year will be better.

³ Yes, it was a bad dad-joke about contracts.



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Wilson Miller '21 to Clerk for Judge Judy

Wilson Miller '21
Guest Writer

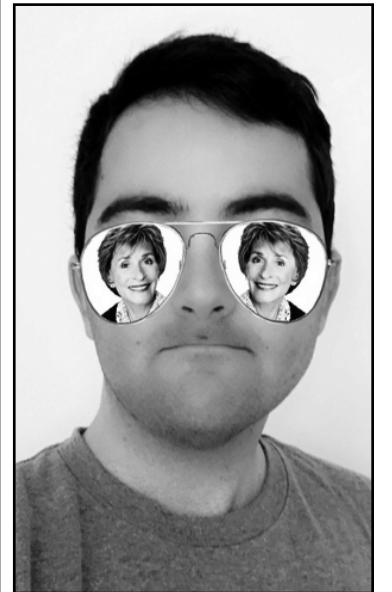
Wilson Miller '21, a student at the University of Virginia School of Law, will clerk for New York TV Judge Judith Sheindlin during a revival 26th season. Known to many as "Judge Judy," Sheindlin entered senior status at the end of her hit TV show's 25th season in 2020.

The Law School is fourth after Yale, Harvard, and Stanford in the number of graduates clerking for the U.S. Supreme Court¹ since 2005. And, with Miller's placement, it is now first among top law schools in the number of graduates who will have clerked for Judge Judy.

"I am so lucky to be working for a woman who is an icon in our profession. The people are real, the cases are real, the rulings are final. And I am looking forward to being a part of that."

Miller credits his wonderful professors for this opportunity. When reached for comment, one said "[w]e have no idea how this happened, but at least he has a job." Another said "[w]hat does a clerk for Judge Judy even do, exactly?"

Miller also credits April Fools Day for his success in this endeavor.



Pictured: UVA Law's soon to be MVA (Most Valuable Alumni).

¹ <https://www.law.virginia.edu/news/news-about-supreme-court-clerks>

Faculty Quotes

R. Hynes: "I might lack some of my manic energy this class."

R. Hynes: "You're training to be lawyers, not large dog breeders."

R. Hynes: "By the way, I'm not messing with Texas... just noting the different case law."

A. Bamzai: "I spent my whole life raging against the man [the government] only to wake up one day and realize, 'Wait, I AM that man.'"

A. Bamzai: "Is that a hand on your webcam? I've never seen that before. Oh wait that's my cursor."

A. Bamzai: "In the past I taught this and people came away with the impression that I do not know who Eminem is. I just want to make clear I do know who Eminem is."

Heard a good professor quote? Email us at editor@lawweekly.org

Virginia Law Weekly

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GroupMe Becomes the Most Useful and Beneficial Debate Forum: Users Thrilled by Lighthearted Comments Bringing Scorched Earth Commentary

We have lost a lot due to COVID. Snow days, mask-less hospital visits, and the belief that at Jack Brown '23 Staff Editor



our core human beings are rational animals are all permanent victims of the pandemic. Luckily, the passionate, pointless debate that the legal education system was built on has thrived in spite of the pandemic and will be here for generations to come.

While mandatory Canvas message boards and the ever growing UVA Law Reddit page have played a role in keeping debate between young ideologues alive, GroupMe is the main vehicle preserving this practice in the face of rapid societal change. Every post in any section, organization, or class chat brings with it the potential to spark a deluge of impassioned theses about the evils of an event or group of students.

In the pre-plague world, such debates would often be confined to disorganized Bar Review arguments or the occasional moment of Con Law uncongeniality. Whatever lighthearted roasts people might make about a ridiculous take would be made in whispers with their friends or as knowing side glances to the person sitting next to them. Even in

the rare moments when someone would call someone else out, it would either be in front of a professor they wouldn't want to disappoint or in a packed venue where the witty retort would get drowned out by the K-JDs belting out the lyrics of whatever song the bar was playing.

While it was good for its time, the community wanted more. They wanted arguments to be able to explode at any time and be unconstrained by social norms. And they wanted a captive audience for their disagreements. And they wanted the most extreme voices to have a platform to express their displeasure. And thanks to the pandemic, they got GroupMe.

Obviously, group chats of all shapes and sizes existed before COVID flipped everything upside down. But never before had they been so indispensable to the social dynamic. Combined with the increasingly polarized political climate, the stage was set for the ultimate debate forum. One that was poised to leap into action any time a FedSoc section rep had the terrifying task of plugging their next speaking event.

America was built on this kind of discourse: the debates between Anti-Federalists and Federalists during the ratification of the American Constitution were conducted in a similar forum,

as the different speakers sent in their passionate essays to newspapers to help the general public understand each side's merits. Great thinkers were able to freely articulate their positions in print and know that their arguments would be seen by a wider impressionable audience.

The modern day American Constitution Society vs. FedSoc debates have many similarities to rhetorical battles that took place in the newspapers of early America. There are incredible thinkers on both sides, there is a wide audience waiting to have their viewpoints changed by a paragraph furiously typed out on an iPhone, and both groups take their time to respect and thoughtfully respond to the concerns of the other position.

And of course, there are many improvements to the traditional form of debate. For one thing, everyone can throw their opinion into the ring now. While historically, debates of this caliber have only been between a handful of respectful opponents, in GroupMe brawls you can have hundreds of voices clambering over one another to make the definitive point on whatever issue the majority of people in there are hopelessly undecided on.

On top of this freedom to participate, you have the greatest

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Report: 1L Camaraderie at All Time High

The annual student satisfaction survey has confirmed that the sense of camarade-

Jack Brown '23 Staff Editor



rie amongst the class of 2023 is higher than any other class in the history of UVA Law. This is welcome—but not unexpected—news to the administration, who believed that a lack of contact between new students would help foster a level of community never before seen at UVA Law.

"It's so awesome having everyone at a distance, it helps keep up the façade that we're a collection of well-adjusted people who are here to do good in the world" said a girl who might be in section B or H. "Only knowing people as Zoom squares, or as a masked person who sits across the auditorium from you, prevents you from finding out how toxic their personalities really are!"

While the local Charlottesville bar scene does miss the incredible profit margins produced by sheltered law students eager to prove they could hang with the K-JDs they brought with them to bar review, the death of the practice has only helped this class grow closer. In particular, not having FedSoc true believers and future Big Law Bernie Bros mingle in the lead up to the 2020 election helped keep the 1L discord at a low level.

Professors have also reported enjoying the distance they have between their students. One hundred percent of respondents to the professor survey chose "being able to claim they didn't see the gunner's hand raised" as their favorite function of Zoom. Combined with an ability to feign technical difficulties when they forgot to prepare a PowerPoint for class and the ability to tell which students seem "mad chill" based on what their rooms look like, has led many professors to push for a permanent switch to distanced learning.

This socially distanced era has also elevated another remarkable tool for community building that has helped this class become so close. r/UVALaw previously had been a little-used tool mostly for oLs too timid to send an email to the Admissions Office. However, thanks to the complete collapse of the PA program, most 1Ls have to use this site to get basic information about surviving law school.

The complete lack of accountability on Reddit has led to an unparalleled sharing of ideas. Questions about being "too hot for OGI" and calls to "appreciate gunners for the work they put in to making class great" that normally wouldn't have been expressed have helped show 1Ls that they are not

alone in their concerns. Every day there is some new scandal that has helped keep members of the class of 2023 from alienating themselves from their section mates by complaining about their A-average or bragging about the managing partners their parents golf with.

Of course, despite the best efforts of the administration, there has been some in-person interaction between the new class. Luckily, these have also helped foster trust between the disobedient students who have had the audacity to meet together. The threat of disbarment if one of the seven people you're eating with decides to snitch, along with the lack of FOMO-inducing posts of everyone in your section except you at a vineyard, has helped curb the community-destroying effects of in person gatherings.

Not all is sunshine and rainbows within the 1L class unfortunately. Students who identified themselves as members of the Federalist Society report normal levels of dissatisfaction with their classmates. The shift to virtual classes has not allowed them to escape the typical bullying they endure from what one student described as the "virtue signaling left."

One student reported a lack of congeniality from his section after making a post celebrating his acceptance of an unpaid internship in the ICE deportation office. Many other FedSoc members confirmed that the added hurdle of being virtual has not stopped the NLG shame squad from doing everything in their power to dunk on FedSoc members every chance they get.

Members of the Federalist Society also have the added burden of seeing their ideological peers at the same rate as normal years. Thanks to their importance in keeping UVA's U.S. News ranking so high, they have been able to continue to have in-person events throughout the pandemic, while all other organizations that contribute nothing to the school's ranking have been blessedly banned from seeing one another.

Despite this small blemish, on the whole, the Zoom School of Law experiment has been a massive success. The administration's next challenge is to figure out how to keep the distancing into the fall semester, as the number of vaccinated Americans grows. Beyond praying for a vaccine resilient strain to emerge or for COVID-21 to show up, the administration has not given any indication on how they can keep next year's class as distanced as possible.

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Pfizer Reveals Vaccine is "Just Water." Stands Behind Effectiveness, Claims People were Just Dehydrated

Sam Pickett '21 Washed-up Reporter



It turns out all those Instagram influencers were right—almost all of our problems can be solved simply by drinking water.¹ In a shocking turn of events, our former News Editor (current Manag-

like our vaccine." Intrigued and ever-aware of news happening around him, Birch asked the employee to explain herself. She said that everyone in the world simply needs to drink more water and that COVID-19 isn't a virus—it's dehydration.

Birch's discovery comes in the wake of the Great Danville Migration, whereby most of the University of Virginia student

When the *Law Weekly* reached out to Pfizer for comment, it confirmed Birch's discovery. "People kept complaining about a lack of taste and smell," the executive said, "but they really had just drank so much coffee that their bodies forgot what anything else tasted like...their systems just needed a bit of a refresh." When asked about the contro-



ing Editor) Stan Birch '22 discovered this week that Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine is *actually* just bottled water.² Birch made this discovery when he and two Pfizer employees walked into a bar. The Pfizer employee asked for some H₂O and, just as Birch was about to order some H₂O,³ he overheard the other employee laugh and say "just

population drove 2.5 hours away to Danville, Virginia, in order to take advantage of the town's vast surplusage of vaccines because the Commonwealth of Virginia has demonstrated itself to be incompetent in vaccine distribution. The students were rumored to have received the Moderna vaccine, which begs the question—what is Moderna doing to solve dehydration? Students speculate that it's actually Gatorade, claiming to feel a bit "electrolyte-y" and "shocked" by the whole experience.⁴

versy this may cause, however, Pfizer stood by its effectiveness. It pointed to the statistics proving the vaccine's efficacy and claimed that the proof was not in the pudding, but instead, in the water.

With the Pfizer revelations and Moderna suspicions, one is left wondering: what on earth is in that Johnson & Johnson vaccine?! I posed this question to the Pfizer executive, who shuddered and speculated, "Pedialyte?" I guess we'll never know.

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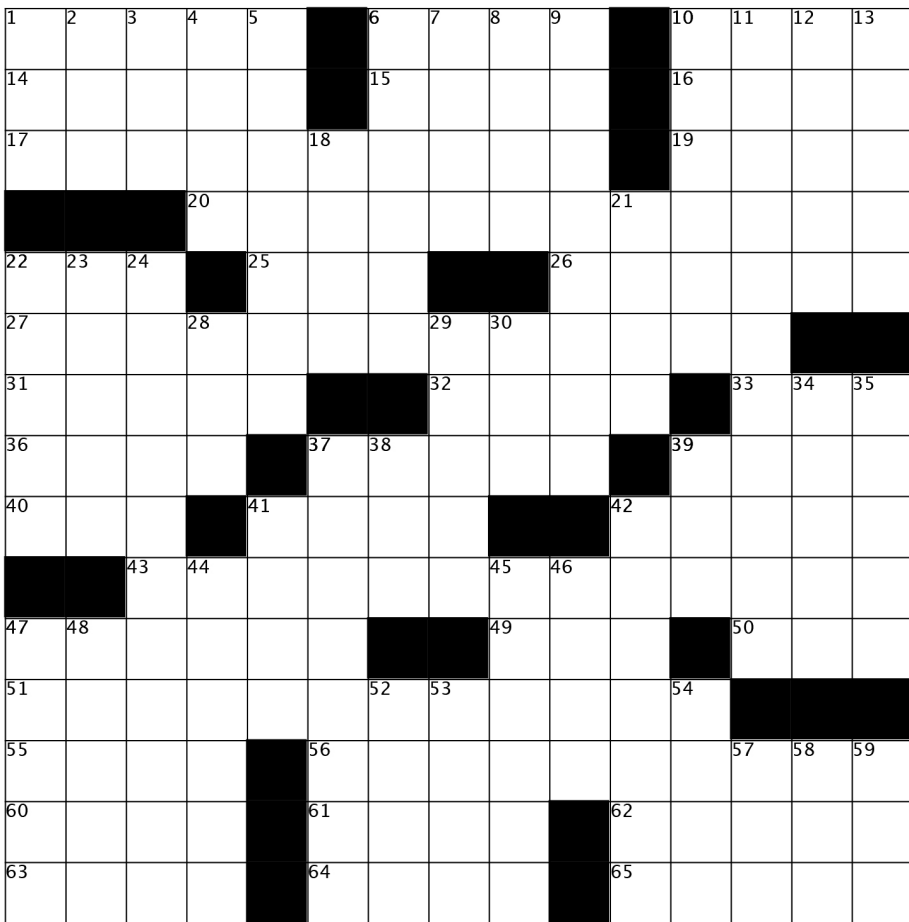
1 The jury is still out on those Flat Tummy Teas. I'm not ready to trust those.

2 Fiji water specifically. That rich stuff.

3 I had to work this joke in somewhere.

4 Just know that I also see what I am doing and that I, too, wish it to stop.

Crossword Courtesy of: **R. Kurtiak**



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April Fools

ACROSS

- 1. PC storage device
- 6. What a sail is tied to
- 10. Curly tops of barristers
- 14. Where non-lawyers may fight things out
- 15. "Legally Blonde" gal
- 16. Unknown author, for short
- 17. Accessory for Miss Piggy
- 19. "In that case..."
- 20. Virginia Law's most prestigious journal focused on BBQ sides?
- 22. The ever-complaining and never graduating law student
- 25. Confucian path
- 26. Stone pillars
- 27. UVA appellate advocacy competition regularly won by mimes?
- 31. Actress Catherine of "Schitt's Creek"
- 32. What "n." means in the dictionary
- 33. ___ v. Wade
- 36. Abate
- 37. Get a rescue animal, say
- 39. Alma mater of four current Supreme Court justices
- 40. Distress signal
- 41. McDonald's founder
- 42. Opposite of "take out"
- 43. Law school locale where one might get a whiskey?
- 47. Directors Hawke and Coen
- 49. "The Simpsons" storekeeper
- 50. "Star Wars" heroine
- 51. Leader of University of Virginia School of Gains?

- 55. Blemish on a witch
- 56. Locales for manicures
- 60. Website for film trivia
- 61. Sheer joy
- 62. Gathers leaves in the yard
- 63. Location of 55-Across on a witch
- 64. Attitude
- 65. End of Kipling's "If"

DOWN

- 1. School lunchroom, informally
- 2. "Dr." of hip-hop
- 3. Mens ___
- 4. Airing ___
- 5. Gandhi's title
- 6. Dry red wine variety
- 7. Actress Jessica
- 8. Partner of steady
- 9. Rips off, like notebook paper

10. Legal release

- 11. A double agent, for one
- 12. "Take a look!"
- 13. Cold precipitations
- 18. Biblical twin of Jacob
- 21. Vign-___ (Blackjack)
- 22. Plants that provide a soothing gel
- 23. Chinese greeting
- 24. Pieces from a broken bottle
- 28. Before, to a poet
- 29. Tennyson's Arden
- 30. Almost every character on "Brooklyn Nine-Nine"
- 34. Defenders of the QB, as a group
- 35. Itty-bitty
- 37. Vocal compositions often with piano accompaniment

- 38. Leader of Disney's dwarves
- 39. Vegetable with over 70% of world production in Nigeria
- 41. King ___ of movie fame
- 42. Back-up plan
- 44. "Impossible!"
- 45. Wires
- 46. Latin term for a numbered piece

- 47. Reagan attorney general Meese
- 48. "I love you," in Spanish
- 52. "___ Land" (2016)
- 53. 180° turns
- 54. Bobby from Food Network
- 57. Gives the go-ahead
- 58. Lead-in to conservative or liberal
- 59. No. on a tax form

GROUPME

continued from page 5

feature of any social media service: the ability to "like" certain posts. Now, instead of arguing for some policy outcome, participants in a debate can live off the sweet dopamine release that comes from the notification that someone "liked" what they said. This gives them the incentive to craft the best kind of arguments: short, succinct ones that strongly speak to people's emotions.

We saw all of these wonderful aspects of GroupMe debates come to a head in the recent 2L discussion about a Federalist Society speaker. For weeks, the halls of the Law School echoed with students buzzing about the eye-opening discussion they had the privilege of witnessing. No doubt that the screenshots of this momentous event will be shared for years to come, and that all the students who spent so much effort on their messages came away from the experience intellectually fulfilled.

While many things will change as we turn the page on the COVID pandemic, the people have spoken and will make sure to keep this perfect platform for debate alive and well far into the future. For whenever there is an opportunity for a pointless argument, you know law students will be there to blow it up to unreasonable heights.

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Barristers United Match Report: March 21st, 2021

(This Report Is Not Satire, Just Good Old Fashioned Reporting.)

A bright and early game on Sunday saw Barristers United looking to extend their perfect

Jack Brown '23
Staff Editor



record, while La Celeste kept searching for their first win of the season. The game went as expected, with Barristers winning comfortably 7-0 to build their lead at the top of the SOCA Co-Rec League Division A table.

With a big match coming up next week against Kerfuffle FC, the squad most experts pick as Barrister's greatest threat to the title, Manager Turk chose to sit several starters. This did not pose much of an issue to the team, whose depth is the envy of the rest of the league.

Barristers played with confidence as a midfield trio of Day Robins, Jordan Walsh, and Tom Schnoor were able to dominate La Celeste's play-makers and helped keep the ball out of Barrister's half. Thanks to the hours on the training ground, these players were able to instantly gel despite it being their first time in an official match together.

The highlight of this trio came near the end of the first half, where a brilliant sequence ended with Jordan

channeling his inner Zidane to spin between two defenders and bury the ball in the bottom left corner of the net. Thanks to their efforts, and solid play from the rest of the squad, the score to end the first half was 4-0.

During halftime, Captain Zach made an impassioned speech for the team to do their best not to get hurt, due to some members of La Celeste having questionable tackling technique. With the game already in hand, looking forward to the rest of the season was the squad's main focus now.

In the second half, Barristers were able to continue their good form with a brilliant half volley from fan favorite Stephen Wald, and a powerful strike from Kelli Finnegan, who had been terrorizing Celeste's left back the entire game. Impressive fullback play from Christian Sorensen and Erin Magoffie, along with a collected performance from John Lawrence, who is working his way back from a hamstring injury, kept Barristers in control till the final whistle.

All in all, it was a dominant performance capped off with Barrister's first clean sheet of the season. Next week they are going to be at Kerfuffle FC for a highly anticipated top of the table clash.

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around north grounds



Thumbs up to the Ever Given for shutting down the international market by blocking the Suez Canal. ANG knows how the Ever Given felt being inadvertently stuck while still needing copious amounts of attention, as ANG recently locked ANG's self in the bathroom and was almost late for LRW.



Thumbs down to 1Ls attempting to schedule softball games over the weekend. ANG, like the 3Ls and 2Ls who make up their opponents, is far too hungover on the weekend after the underground Friday night Bar Review scene to venture into public on Copeley Field.



Thumbs up to Professor Hynes for securing a sponsorship deal with Diet Coke. ANG gave up all forms of Coke for lent, but appreciates Professor Hynes' commitment to the deal.



Thumbs down to firms that rejected ANG in OGI that are still sending recruiting emails every three days. ANG doesn't want to attend your seminar if you didn't want ANG to work at your firm.



Thumbs sideways to the cinnamon toast crunch guy. ANG hates a milkshake duck but loves to feel included in viral nonsense besides COVID for once.



Thumbs up to the George Floyd trial being broadcast live this week. ANG hopes this encourages more outstanding students to commit to public service and protect individual rights, instead of chasing individual profits.

