



# VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

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

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## While You Were Gone...

Emily Becker '27  
Staff Editor

FOMO got you down? Feel like your winter break was a little less than fabulous? For all of you who spent more time than you care to admit poring over job listings, waiting for grades to drop, or puttering around your hometowns out of sheer boredom, this article is for you. I have harvested a few tidbits from a variety of local sources just to show you that everyone, even those living it up on the most lavish vacations, missed some fun stuff in our very own Charlottesville.

PS: For any of you who stayed here and miraculously caught all these events, I'm sorry. I've got nothing for you. But on the bright side, you must've had an interesting break.

Without further ado:  
**1. The storied 'Robin-hood of Jazz' played his final notes on Grounds:** I could not pinpoint exactly when this happened, but rumor has it that sometime between finals and now, the venerable UVA jazz director John D'earth's trumpet rang out across Grounds for its final time (at least officially). They say the truth reads like fiction, and that can certainly be said of D'earth's career. Raised on opera and jazz, he dropped out of college to play professionally, later attaining the now-coveted directing appointment for UVA's then-nascent jazz program. His band, Cosmology, inspired Dave Matthews. Countless students have, in D'earth's words, surpassed him, played professionally, and come back to record with him—hence his 'Robin-hood' moniker. D'earth has experienced multiple rare types of success, and in considering his trajectory, he has acknowledged that his career lacks the teleology that so many of us chase.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> UVAToday, John D'earth, the 'Robin Hood of

## Trump Inaugurated as 47th President of the United States



Source: Associated Press

Bradley Berklich '27  
Staff Editor

On Monday, January 20, Donald J. Trump was inaugurated into his second term as President of the United States from inside the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C. Brutal windchill forced the ceremony to move inside following projections of a twenty-three degree high temperature during the event. The move shrunk the population of possible attendees from hundreds of thousands to just 2,000, the capacity of the Rotunda. Attendance was limited to politicians, government officials, family, and donors, with overflow space in Emancipation Hall. Thousands more Trump supporters watched a livestream of the ceremony from D.C.'s Capital One Arena, less than a mile away.

The ceremony was opened with a speech by Chairwoman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Democratic senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota. She called for the citizens of America to "view others with a generosity of spirit despite our differences," and the leaders of America to "stand our ground when we must and find common ground when we can." Vice President J.D. Vance and President Donald Trump were then sworn in by Justice Kavanaugh and Chief Justice Roberts, respectively. Trump appeared not to place his hand on the Bibles, a family Bible and

the Lincoln Bible held by his wife Melania, during the swearing in.

Trump's speech painted a shining picture of his new administration and the country, saying "the Golden Age of America begins right now," a far more aggressive image of his "America First" policy than his 2017 inauguration speech, which was regarded as depressing. Trump made many wide-reaching promises, starting with outlining his intent to sign executive orders "today" to curb illegal immigration by reinstating the "remain in Mexico" policy and ending "catch and release" policies, as well as designating the cartels as foreign terrorist organizations. That designation would allow the U.S. to impose economic and financial sanctions, and may have destabilizing effects on Mexico, to the extent that the U.S. pursues legal action against them for providing the cartels material support.

Featured as well were promises to "drill, baby, drill" and export American oil abroad, to end the Green New Deal and the electric vehicle mandate, to make it official policy that there are "only two genders," to tax and tariff foreign countries by establishing the "External Revenue Service," and to create the Department of Government Efficiency or "DOGE" to be headed by the world's richest man, Elon Musk. Vivek Ramaswamy, who was slated to helm-

DOGE, has since bowed out.

Most striking among Trump's statements was his intention to retake the Panama Canal. "We have been treated very badly from this foolish gift that should have never been made and Panama's promise to us has been broken . . . China is operating the Panama Canal and we didn't give it to China, we gave it to Panama and we're taking it back." Trump also briefly mentioned "plant[ing] the stars and stripes on the planet Mars," though he glossed over it quickly. Musk reacted with a double thumbs up. The recent ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas initiating the slow release of the hostages, a deal which Trump took credit for (despite occurring during the prior administration), received the only universal mid-speech standing ovation, with Democrats rising as well.

Gone unmentioned was Trump's idea of purchasing Greenland from Denmark, which has circulated recently in the news. Nor was the hot-button issue of legal immigration reform through H1-B visas mentioned – a change pushed for by tech moguls, many of whom were in attendance. Also unmentioned in the inaugural speech, but touched on later in an address to Trump's supporters in the Emancipation Hall overflow room, were the events of January 6, 2021. In that later ad-

## around north grounds



Thumbs up to the two-month long *Law Weekly* hiatus. ANG sure is glad nothing important happened over the break.



Thumbs up to jury nullification. ANG thinks it's fascinating how US criminal law technically gives jurors the right to acquit defendants that they privately believe are guilty. Emphasis on privately. ANG thinks every American should know how it works!



Thumbs up to the \$10 bill that was mysteriously left in the Law Weekly office. With this lucky find, ANG has started the path to financial recovery.



Thumbs down to Darden renting out the entirety of Bowlero.



Thumbs sideways to bowling. ANG loves the thrill of dad-esque trash talk but fears sticking ANG's hands into ball holes before eating wings.



Thumbs up to the retainer left on the floor in Brown Hall. ANG saw a group of 1Ls lining up to test its fit to their mouths in a Cinderella-esque display.



Thumbs down to professors rescheduling classes missed on MLK Day. ANG does not appreciate disrespect to civil rights.



Thumbs down to movie talkers. Like any film buff, ANG goes to the theater to drift asleep to the soothing sound of The Rock's voice. ANG does not want to hear yours.



Thumbs up to Velcro shoes. ANG craves speed and the public devaluation of intellectual property.



Thumbs down to website renewal deadlines. ANG does not like getting scary emails about how ANG's domain is "expired," whatever that means. ANG is stressed enough already about the loss of ANG's life savings to \$HAWK coin.



## UVA

continued from page 1

**2. Monticello Country Ballooning's famous sunrise and sunset rides:** maybe you caught a glimpse of a colorful blip on the horizon as your train peeled out of town after finals. That may have been one of Mandy Baskin's hot air balloons. Baskin, Charlottesville's beloved veteran balloon pilot, offers an oft-overlooked means of taking in the Blue Ridge Mountains. As breathtaking as Thursday night sunsets at Carter Mountain are, that's nothing compared to a balloon ride.<sup>2</sup>

**3. UVA Architecture students made their annual trek to Alaska:** okay, this isn't exactly local *Charlottesville* news. But it's too good to exclude. Two professors at the Architecture School led a trip to study climate resilience in Alaska, particularly from a landscape architecture perspective. To quote one student, "It felt like something monumental happened ev-

*Jazz,' Retires.*

<sup>2</sup> Charlottesville Daily Progress, *Hot air balloonist Mandy Baskin is building community in the clouds.*

ery day."<sup>3</sup>

**4. UVA Health launched what looks to be its first mobile care unit:** setting aside the humor for a moment, I think it's important to appreciate that while students come and go, local residents and UVA staff work year-round to serve the wider Charlottesville community. The mobile unit will visit the Fifeville and Southwood neighborhoods twice a month.<sup>4</sup>

**5. Last but not least, the snowstorm:** I mean, where do I even begin? Sure, many of you probably got snow where you were. But did you get in a snowball fight on the Lawn? Did you roll around in the snow in front of the Law School like a puppy? Did you ski down the Rotunda steps? Didn't think so.

<sup>3</sup> UVAToday, *Why Cavaliers Are Chilling in the Urban Tundra.*

<sup>4</sup> CBS 19 News, *UVA Health launches mobile care unit to improve accessibility.*

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## Trad Wives and Free Speech Activists Unite: Protesting the Porn Bans

Malia Takei '25  
Guest Writer

Change has swept across the nation this last month, as porn bans have ultimately come into effect throughout the southern United States. The entire South, including the illustrious state of Virginia, is now facing black screens instead of our typical Porn-hub watch lists.

This move has resparked fierce debates over the legality of pornography, its impact on children, and even its impact on relationships.

In a shocking turn of events, wives across the nation have joined free speech advocates and LGBTQ+ rights activists in protesting the government's recent decisions. Their support stems from the far-reaching impacts of this legislation. Beyond merely barring access to explicit material, the legislation ultimately has left them with no choice but to associate with their husbands.

While sipping a glass of wine, a newly-wed shared her thoughts with this reporter: "I didn't sign up for this! My husband has . . . needs. And this ban upsets the careful balance of alone time I require for this relationship to

succeed!"

Similar sentiments have been uttered by other wives and girlfriends across the United States. As one anonymous wife commented: "This is an attack on marital harmony. Without an option for my husband to engage in \*self-care\*, he is constantly bothering me."

The ban on pornography has, it seems, freed up a significant amount of time for men across the country. Without an outlet for their desires and needs, their attention has been turning to their partners. "Now that he's not watching porn, he's staring at me like I'm a four-course meal, and I just don't have the energy for that," said another wife who preferred to remain anonymous for the sake of her marriage.

Experts predict that this pornography ban will have the consequence of husbands increasing their attention and participation in the lives of their wives and families. Reports are already incoming about the spike in requests for dinner dates, random cuddling, and—heaven forbid—talking. "Before the ban, my husband spent all his time holed away in his office with

his laptop. Now? He's asking me to provide instructions on helping out in the kitchen or how to clean the house," one frustrated wife lamented.

A premier relationship expert in the UVA Law community recently published an article on the importance of distance in heterosexual marriages. "Ultimately, given the societal pressure to get married and have children, pornography and much needed alone time are really what has kept our divorce rates from skyrocketing," the expert argued.

Protests are expected to continue over the next couple of days, as more Americans are radicalized. News of the pornography bans has finally reached Gen Z and the "smut" readers, who have been facing barriers to news after the enactment of the TikTok ban. Hashtags like #SmutIsLiterature and #PornWithPlot are already trending on X and other social media sites.

As one 3L put it, "What's next—banning ACOTAR or preventing Netflix from airing *Bridgerton* for being too smutty?"

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## The Strange World of Law Firm Recruiting

Garrett Coleman '25  
Executive Editor



With 1L Re-Orientation in the books, the world of Big Law is on the minds of many of our 1Ls. And while 1L second semester is significant for many reasons, it marks the dawn of the law firm recruiting season. In search of a paycheck large enough to cover your extortionate loans, you will have to speed date in virtual calls, make small talk during long dinners, and send painfully awkward emails to attorneys that have virtually no control over the hiring process. But most bizarre of all, your Tuesday and Wednesday nights will be commandeered by the dreaded firm happy hour. This is my recollection of those nights I should have used to study Property.

The average experience begins in a local bar. The benefit is that the firms cover drinks, but that comes with a catch. Get drunk, and your name may be written down in a bad place. So, like the Greek myth about a thirsty man forced to stand in ever-receding water, you must linger in an open bar while sticking to one beer. But that

message is lost on the attorneys, some of whom use the night in Charlottesville as an excuse to get smashed. Perhaps that is why they struggled to remember our generic small talk.

As everyone gets checked in, the circles start forming. This is where you will remain for the next fifteen or so minutes, rotating among yourselves so that everyone gets a question in. Once you have made enough eye contact with the attorney and he begins repeating his spiel, you must wait for a gap in the conversation, throw in a "It was nice meeting you," and flee to the next person. Be sure to remember his name so that you can reference the interaction in a callback.

While the Office of Private Practice may disagree, I do not think that these events are helpful in landing a job. Personally, there was no correlation between where I got screeners and callbacks and which firm happy hours I attended. I heard similar complaints from peers. And most of what you learn from the attorneys is universally applicable among Big Law firms. While it is nice to hear that a firm does not require you to formally join a prac-

tice group for a few years, that is not so unique a selling point as you may think. The best argument against this is that you get practice in speaking with attorneys so that you are better prepared for callbacks. While that is certainly a benefit, I would hope that most of our students do not need ample practice in speaking with fellow humans. And the actual interviews will be focused on you, whereas most of the happy hour consists of asking the attorneys questions about their lives.

My issue with the firm happy hour is that it obscures what the firms are really looking for. Law has been and remains a snobby field. And those with the traditional bells and whistles—high GPA, law review, federal clerkship offers—get the best private sector jobs. There is no talking your way into firms during their happy hours. And these events take place in what I think is the hardest semester of law school. Many students still have to find jobs for the upcoming summer. Everyone must sacrifice a weekend to the journal gods. And this is a time to get more involved with the extracurricular activities that you actually

enjoy. So, I would suggest going to these happy hours only when you have genuine free time and are interested in the firm. Otherwise, prioritize the cornerstones of your law school success and personal fulfillment.



*Source: Jeff Daly*

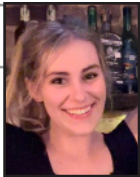
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# Cavalier Crossing: the G in Gentrification Stands for Granite Countertops

Nicky Demitry '26  
Production Editor



We're back at UVA Law after a restorative winter break full of family time, boxed wine, and watching the American Empire commit suicide. And setting aside—for now—the impact of the new political regime and the silver lining that is the existence of the word “broligarchy,” allow me to welcome you back to Charlottesville, Virginia: where the mountains are picturesque, the wine flows freely, and the housing market feels like a cruel social experiment.

The latest spectacle? The “redevelopment” of Cavalier Crossing—a project that feels less like a facelift and more like a cautionary tale about playing Monopoly with people’s lives.<sup>1</sup> Cav Crossing, once intended to be student housing for the University, has long been one of the only affordable housing options for low-income residents in Charlottesville. And in May of last year, Cav Crossing was acquired by Bonaventure Mul-

1 Comrade Detective—Monopoly. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jF1H5kn8ayY>.

## CAV CROSSING

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in December of last year, it was reported that UVA had approved one of its many properties<sup>9</sup> for residential development,<sup>10</sup> a project that has been “in the works” for literal years.<sup>11</sup> A lot of UVA’s affordable housing projects are supposed to finally see some action in 2026 and 2027, which is good news. But it does seem odd that it’s taking so very long to make headway on affordable housing projects when UVA has received over \$500 million in contributions for seven years in a row, and finished over \$577 million worth of projects in

packing local housing market, <https://shorturl.at/quchl>.

9 This is a whole other rabbit hole we can’t go down right now, but if you’re bored: David McNair, “Three’s Company: Can UVA, Charlottesville, and Albemarle County share the wealth?” - <https://shorturl.at/7PV67>; Jason Armesto, “Charlottesville would like UVa to pay at least some property tax. UVa isn’t so sure.” <https://shorturl.at/75B4f>.

10 Sean Tubbs, UVA Foundation moving forward with North Fork residential development, <https://cville.com/uva-foundation-moving-forward-with-north-fork-residential-development/>.

11 UVA Foundation wants to add up to 1,400 homes at North Fork. <https://shorturl.at/a99Vx>.



Source: Kori Price, Charlottesville Tomorrow

tifamily Income Trust for \$20.5 million,<sup>2</sup> kicking off a “rolling mass displacement” of some of Charlottesville’s most vulnerable residents.<sup>3</sup>

The City of Charlottesville promises transformation, affordability, and modern amenities, the typical redevelopment pitch of the tone-deaf petit bourgeoisie of Charlottesville—the same folks with the Kamala and “hate has no home here” signs in their front yards and Tesla charging in the driveway. There’s always the smug deployment of urban renewal buzzwords: “sustainability,” “community

2 Albemarle County GIS system.

3 Erin O’Hare, *Residents are being kicked out of one of the area’s most affordable apartment complexes to make way for luxury units.* <https://shorturl.at/b61Od>.

2024. If money isn’t the issue, then what is?<sup>12</sup>

These are complex issues that require equally complex analyses, including historical ones that frame both our attitudes and conceptions around housing on a national scale and at a local one. There is old money rooted here, and it is invested in maintaining the “small-town Southern charm” of this place. The issue is that small-town Southern charm, like so many similar things in America, is a mirage. We can’t look at what is before us and truly call it a charming and idyllic modern Southern utopia when that imagery and version of reality has come at such great cost to a broad swath of Americans that are not white or landowning. This bifurcated version of reality permeates every aspect of life. It’s in our Constitution, it’s in our legal systems. Case in point—the proposed revisions to zoning policies in Charlottesville that are being adjudicated in real time.<sup>13</sup>

12 Sean Tubbs, Look Back Part Four: Growth at the University of Virginia and steps toward more student housing. <https://shorturl.at/I8haj>.

13 Sean Tubbs, Judge Worrell is ready to rule in lawsuit against Charlottesville’s new Development Code, but allows time for more evidence to be filed,

engagement,” and “mixed-use development.” Translation? You might get a yoga studio on the first floor, but the rent will stretch you into poses you didn’t think were humanly possible.

For those already living at Cav Crossing, the process has been...educational. And by educational, I mean probably illegal?<sup>4</sup> Learning how quickly “affordable housing” can turn into

4 Jes.cville on Reddit, *Y’all know about Cav Crossing? (Now Attain on 5th)* <https://shorturl.at/USMlg>.

Gosh I wish I was a student in a place where one learns about the application of laws and the legality or illegality of such things, forthwith. But hey, if there’s one thing I definitely know now that I’m halfway through my legal education—it’s great to know the law but even better to know the judge. What’s a little illegal eviction amongst friends!

Maybe one day the city will strike a balance between history, charm, and housing for people who don’t have a six-figure income. Until then, let’s all raise a glass to the cheap simulacrum we keep being told is reality—because it’s the only thing left in this town anyone can afford to raise.

<https://shorturl.at/ogZvM>.

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“luxury apartments” is a rite of passage in this town. And let’s not forget the pièce de résistance of redevelopment—eviction notices that feel like a cheerful nudge off a financial cliff. Charlottesville loves to market itself as a progressive utopia, but the housing market tells a grimmer story. Cavalier Crossing isn’t just a redevelopment project—it’s a reminder that in Charlottesville, home isn’t where the heart is; it’s where market forces, upzoning, systemic inequality, and ROI calculations have priced it out of reach.

Curse your sudden but inevitable betrayal, Charlottesville!<sup>5</sup> I know I shouldn’t be surprised. Cville has always had a strong history of both allowing and directly perpetrating this type of development. Just take a wander around town to see the contrite plaques describing Vinegar Hill, a once-thriving black community in the 1950s that provided for its residents while Charlottesville was still segregated.<sup>6</sup> It’s all

5 *Firefly* ayyyyy.

6 Emily Hays, *Vinegar Hill Park process to start this summer* <https://www.cvilletomorrow.org/vinegar-hill-park-process->

## INAUGURATION

continued from page 1

dress, Trump tacitly stated his intention to pardon the rioters. “I was going to talk about the J6 hostages,” said Trump. “But you’ll be happy because, you know, it’s action not words that count. You’re gonna see a lot of action.” Trump also indicated that he wanted to talk about President Joe Biden’s pardons of his son Hunter Biden, and thirty-seven death row inmates whose sentences Biden commuted, but restrained himself.

One of Trump’s executive orders signed was that for this inauguration day, and all future inauguration days, that flags should be flown at full mast, a decision seemingly spurred by the death of President Jimmy Carter on December 29, which, as for the death of any president, requires that flags be flown at half-mast for the following thirty days. Even before the order was signed, the flag over the capitol was at full mast. Now, states who choose to fly their flags at half-mast for any reason during an inauguration must raise them.

It’s unclear at this time how much of Trump’s agenda will be realized during his second term, how the mandate granted to him by the

beginning to feel too much like eternal recurrence, although to be fair, I did get really into that weird German time travel show *Dark* over break. When Vinegar Hill was razed, it had 130 homes, five Black-owned businesses, and a church, all twenty acres of which were destroyed by the Charlottesville city government in 1965 under the guise of “urban renewal.” Ultimately, the City turned it into a parking lot.<sup>7</sup>

UVA’s role in this dynamic of disenfranchisement is also galling. UVA housing policies have continually had negative impacts on Charlottesville residents, worsening the housing crisis significantly.<sup>8</sup> However,

to-start-this-summer/; It had 130 homes, five Black-owned businesses, and a church, all twenty acres of which were razed by the Charlottesville city government in 1965 under the guise of urban renewal.

7 See UVA and the History of Race: Property and Power. “‘It just stayed like a cemetery,’” former resident Teresa Jackson Price remarked.” <https://news.virginia.edu/content/uva-and-history-race-property-and-power>.

8 Garrett Whitton, UVA students moving off-Grounds im-

CAV CROSSING page 3

results of the 2024 election will affect his priorities and his efficacy, or how much resistance he will face from a shaken and leaderless Democratic Party. At his farewell address, President Biden said, “We’re leaving office. But we’re not leaving the fight.” Biden and Vice President Harris returned to Wilmington and Los Angeles, respectively. Trump returned to the White House.

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LAW WEEKLY FEATURE: Court of Petty Appeals

The Court of Petty Appeals is the highest appellate jurisdiction court at UVA Law. The Court has the power to review any and all decisions, conflicts, and disputes that arise involving, either directly, indirectly, or tangentially, the Law School or its students. The Court comprises eight associate justices and one Chief Justice. Opinions shall be released periodically and only in the official court reporter: the Virginia Law Weekly. Please email a brief summary of any and all conflicts to [editor@lawweekly.org](mailto:editor@lawweekly.org)

*In re Whatever Is Going On Right Now*  
77 U.Va 13 (2025)

ALLARD, C.J., delivers the opinion of the Court.

This order comes as the *Law Weekly* has moved to amend its amicus brief in an action against reality itself. In December, WTF (We The Flustered) and HUH (Humans Unsettled by History) brought suit in response to what they describe as “a tortious heap of historical events, crazed acts, and general weirdness.” WTF and HUH asked this Court to enjoin the universe, God, and reality from engaging in further cosmic tomfoolery.

The *Law Weekly* editors, angry that these events occurred during finals season and winter break when the paper was not in publication, joined WTF and HUH’s calls for an injunction, submitting an amicus brief in mid December. But the litigation has dragged on for long enough that the *Law Weekly* may final-

ly publish Luigi Mangione-related ANG’s. The *Law Weekly* thus seeks to amend its brief to oppose plaintiffs, a procedural move that is both legally unprecedented and a blatant act of unprincipled opportunism.

Their motion to amend is GRANTED.

*"The curtains have been drawn; this Court and its opinion are merely a vehicle for the justices to launder their worst ideas into something called 'the law.'"*

The facts of the case are neither disputed by the parties nor relevant to the *Law Weekly*’s motions. But they are rather entertaining, and discussing them is the primary purpose of this opinion. So the Court will list just some of the “crazy” events cited by WTF and HUH.

1. On December 3,

South Korea’s right-wing president declared martial law, accusing his political opponents of being “communists” loyal to North Korea. The Korean National Assembly then unanimously voted to invalidate the president’s decree, Yoon was impeached,

and he now faces criminal charges.

2. The next day, the CEO of UnitedHealthcare was shot and killed in front of a New York City hotel. Rather than mourn the CEO’s death, many social media users delighted in the killing, which appeared to be motivated by anger toward private health insurers. When the suspect was caught, pretty much everyone agreed that he was really hot, prompting some

to jokingly<sup>1</sup> call for his acquittal. Oddly, the event prompted a unified outpouring of anger toward private insurers from across the political spectrum, yet politicians and journalists decried the public’s frustrated response as “vile” and “horrifying.” Then the NYPD perp

walked him or something. Like really I still can’t believe any of this happened as I’m writing this. Oh, also his name turned out to be Luigi. You can’t make this shit up.

3. Around the same time, litigation over the TikTok ban began filtering through the federal courts. The D.C. Circuit upheld the ban on December 7, which was swiftly appealed to the Supreme Court. The

<sup>1</sup> Or perhaps half jokingly. Or not at all.

Supreme Court upheld the ban just days before it went into effect. But then Trump said he wouldn’t enforce the ban, and TikTok came back. Meanwhile, millions of Americans downloaded Xiaohongshu, an even *more* Chinese app that’s sort of like TikTok but with more propaganda.

4. Just before Christmas, a Congressional ethics report on Matt Gaetz was released, presenting evidence that Gaetz allegedly paid more than \$90,000 to women for sex, bought illegal drugs, and had sex with a minor. Don’t worry about him though, he has a show on One America News Network now.

5. Oh yeah, and Trump started talking about making Canada a US state. And Greenland. And Panama. Then he said he was renaming the Gulf of Mexico the “Gulf of America.” Manifest Destiny is back, baby!

This is just a short sample of the events cited by WTF and HUH. They alleged that these strange, loosely related events portend “some-

Faculty Quotes


<b>E. Hu:</b> “Elon Musk is like a human issue spotter.”	<b>M. Collins:</b> “I don’t even want to think about the kinds of liquor they produce in Florida.”
<b>J. Fischman:</b> “Does size matter? As a general matter, the answer is no.”	<b>G. Cohen:</b> “I didn’t go to divinity school, I’m not a priest.”
<b>J. Harrison:</b> “The Dormant Commerce Clause today is a shadow of its former self, like a lot of us.”	<b>J. Duffy:</b> “If you get confused on this... Don’t!”
<b>K. Kordana:</b> “Don’t get bogged down in IRAC [pronouncing it as Iraq].”	<i>Heard a good professor quote? Email us at <a href="mailto:editor@lawweekly.org">editor@lawweekly.org</a> or submit at <a href="mailto:lawweekly.org/quotes">lawweekly.org/quotes</a>.</i>

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**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.

COPA

continued from page 4  
thing scawy,” an obser-  
vation that this Court  
has not yet certified but  
considers plausible.  
WTF and HUH asked  
the Court to expedite  
judgment, noting that  
Whatever Is Going On  
Right Now shows no  
signs of stopping.

II

In December, seeing  
all of the fun stories  
that it was unable to  
cover, the *Law Week-  
ly* submitted a brief in  
support of WTF and  
HUH. Relying on Jus-  
tice Coleman’s obser-  
vation that the news is  
a “natural resource . . .  
owned by” the Editor-  
in-Chief of the *Law  
Weekly*, see *Allard v.  
Law Weekly*, 76 U.Va  
12 (2023) (Coleman,  
J., concurring in the  
judgment), the Edito-  
rial Board argued that  
all satirizable global  
events must be im-  
pounded until the *Law*

*Weekly* returned to  
circulation in January.  
Upon returning for the  
spring semester, the  
*Law Weekly* sought to  
amend its brief to op-  
pose Plaintiffs, a move  
which WTF and HUH  
oppose.

WTF and HUH ar-  
gue that allowing amici  
curiae to switch sides  
after submitting their  
briefs would delay  
litigation, create un-  
certainty, and make a  
mockery of the law by  
allowing opportunistic  
and unprincipled ar-  
gumentation. WTF and  
HUH also note that  
the *Law Weekly* has  
missed its deadline to  
amend, as PRCP 13 re-  
quires amendments to  
be made “21 days after  
serving.”

But WTF and HUH’s  
arguments ignore the  
surrounding text of  
PRCP 13, which applies  
only to pleadings. Even  
if we accept WTF and  
HUH’s argument that  
PRCP 13 encompasses  
amicus briefs, a party  
may still amend after

the deadline if they  
“beg[] on their hands  
and knees.” Indeed,  
WTF and HUH have  
themselves moved to  
amend their complaint  
three times to include  
new global develop-  
ments.

More to the point,  
their concerns about  
uncertainty and oppor-  
tunism evince a mis-  
understanding of petty  
jurisprudence. They  
appear to rely on an  
argument that we re-  
jected in our stay order  
in *LexisNexis v. Doe*.  
24-77-9CV (2024) (Al-  
lard, C.J., dissenting)  
(“[W]e must follow  
proper procedure and  
at least kinda adhere to  
our law.”). The curtains  
have been drawn; this  
Court and its opinion  
are merely a vehicle for  
the justices to launder  
their worst ideas into  
something called “the  
law.”<sup>2</sup> Do I need to spell  
it out for you? “We do  
what we want.” PRCP 1.

<sup>2</sup> Which is, of course, noth-  
ing like what other courts do.

Accordingly, we re-  
ject WTF and HUH’s  
objections. We are  
persuaded by the *Law  
Weekly*’s argument  
that their ownership  
right over satirizable  
news is sufficient rea-  
son for the Court to  
grant leave to amend.  
We are so persuaded  
that we will even waive  
the requisite hands and  
knees begging in this  
instance.

III

Nevertheless, we shall  
DENY the *Law Week-  
ly*’s motion to dismiss  
the case outright. This  
opinion is thus a nar-  
row one. Yes, we can do  
whatever we want, but  
we will not allow a non-  
party to dismiss a case  
that they once support-  
ed as amicus. That, my  
friends, is a little some-  
thing called judicial re-  
straint.

The *Law Weekly*’s  
motion to amend is  
thus GRANTED, and

their motion to dismiss  
is DENIED.



Do This Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Apple platform
- 4 Musical with the song “Memory”
- 8 Puzzle master who (I hope) would appreciate this crossword’s theme
- 14 Opposite of SSW
- 15 Inter \_\_\_\_
- 16 First first lady
- 17 Dean of UVA Law
- 19 Years in Ypres
- 20 Secondary pile in poker
- 21 Mauna \_\_\_\_
- 22 Commotions
- 23 Obama’s first Home-land Security secretary
- 29 \_\_\_\_ Major (constella-tion whose name means “greater dog”)
- 31 Is unable to
- 32 Some Ivy Leaguers
- 33 Pic taker
- 35 Spring
- 37 Simile center
- 38 With 41-across, what 8, 17, 23, 55, and 65-across all are
- 41 See 38-across
- 43 Hush-hush org.
- 44 Opera solo
- 46 Malay Peninsula’s Isthmus of \_\_\_\_
- 47 French friends
- 49 “What’s \_\_\_\_ for me?”
- 51 Smart guys?
- 55 One of the Supreme Court’s “Four Horse-men” appointed by Wil-son

DOWN

- 58 Put \_\_\_\_ on (limit)
- 59 A.L. West team, on scoreboards
- 60 Brit’s beauty shop
- 62 Learn to live with
- 65 Best-selling author David who writes the “King and Maxwell” novels
- 66 2010s dance craze
- 67 “¿Cómo \_\_\_\_ usted?”
- 68 Summer mo.
- 69 Legends
- 70 Yard sale caveat
- 71 Blog feed letters
- 1 Squid’s squirter
- 2 Iroquois tribe
- 3 Forward
- 4 Koi, e.g.
- 5 “March comes in like \_\_\_\_”
- 6 Popular breath mint
- 7 Bag, in brand names
- 8 Chitchat
- 9 Vietnam’s capital
- 10 Showy
- 11 Hwy.
- 12 Not just any
- 13 Some pepperoni or-ders, informally
- 18 “The Bicycle Thief” director Vittorio
- 24 Buddy
- 25 Draft status
- 26 Mathematician Tur-ing
- 27 Not yet final, in law
- 28 Spanish she-bear
- 30 Room in a casa

- 34 Steeps in a liquid with herbs and spices
- 36 Aqua \_\_\_\_: U.K. min-eral water brand
- 38 “Semper Fi” org.
- 39 Squirrel fur
- 40 Lover of the grape
- 42 Peace Nobelist Yousafzai
- 43 “Miss Saigon” setting
- 45 Suffer
- 48 Gomez of “Only Mur-

- ders in the Building”
- 50 Six-point comple-tion, informally
- 52 Green vehicle
- 53 Political powwow
- 54 Parsley units
- 56 Pester, puppy-style
- 57 1972 missile pact
- 61 Nutritional stds.
- 62 Beloved gremlin of the Law Weekly
- 63 Train unit

- 64 So-so grade
- 65 Arthur of “The Golden Girls”

Think you’re the first  
to finish? Email us  
your answers and win  
a free pizza.

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16					
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62	63	64						65						
66								67				68		
69								70					71	



# Revisiting *Iqbal*: Racial Discrimination, Plausibility Standards, and the Lost Humanity

Ashanti Jones '26  
Features Editor



To preface this article, I proposed this idea back in early December when the reality of another Trump administration was still a sort of distant realization—oftentimes, I would forget he actually convinced people to vote for him again and being reminded he would be in the Oval Office a second time felt like an awful joke. Fast forward to January, and writing this article feels very *Hunger Games*-esque, but I find some solace in the fact I will 100% use it to jam pack as many insults at Donald Trump as I can. So without further ado, I present my review of the 2025 Inauguration Day fashion.

**Donald Trump**  
Meh. It's just a suit, the tie is okay, I guess. I will give him that at least this suit actually fits him because his suits tend to be baggy. Also note to whoever is on his makeup team, the very bare minimum would be to blend to his hairline if you're not going to match his skin tone, the half an inch pale white border be-



By Morry Gash  
tween his face and the start of his hair looks so bad during the close ups.

**Melania Trump**  
I know this outfit caused quite a stir, but I do appreciate the functionality of it. I think everyone is very aware Melania absolutely did not want to be there, and I think



By Angela Weiss  
the hat functioned as a nice compromise—she may have

**Ivanka Trump**  
Hands down best dressed, the suit has a great silhouette, and the emerald green



By Jeenah Moon  
had to be there physically, but she did not have to physically see it.



By Nathan Howard  
is just gorgeous.

**J.D. Vance**



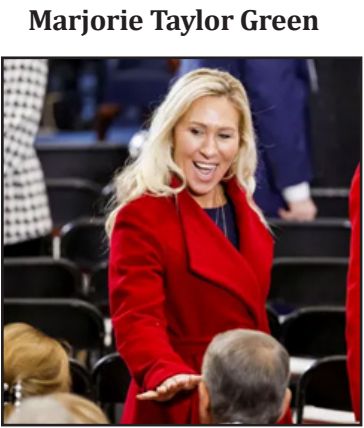
Meh again. It's just a suit.  
**Usha Vance**

Personally, she came in third for best dressed. The coat was not a one note piece, the ruffling down to the belt added a lot of dimension and the color complements her skin very well. I was not a fan of the boots, the color was fine, but the shape feels clunky.

**Kamala Harris**  
The all black was very on point, I too felt like I was witnessing a funeral. I don't have much to say on her outfit because if I was her I would not have even shown up, but kudos to her for coming and delivering another classic silk press.



By Nathan Howard



I actually expected more dramatics in her outfit from what she gave us for her previous State of the Union outfits, so this was rather tame and quite boring for her. I was fully prepared to see a very ugly, bedazzled "I ♥ TRUMP" shirt and am kind of disappointed she didn't de-

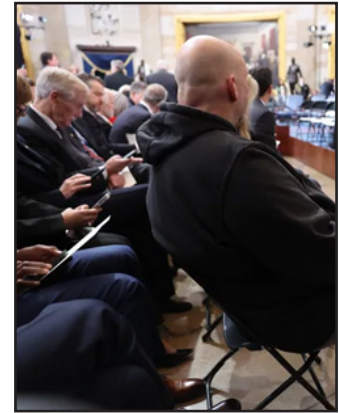


liver.

**Lauren Sanchez**

A bralette and suit jacket is definitely a choice, not sure if it was the right one but for sure a choice.

**Sen. John Fetterman**  
I mean honestly same.



--  
alj3emz@virginia.edu

## CROSSWORD

continued from page 5

1	I	O	S		4	C	A	T	S		8	S	H	O	R	T	Z		
14	N	N	E		15	A	L	I	A		16	M	A	R	T	H	A		
17	K	E	N	D	18	R	I	C	K		19	A	N	N	E	E	S		
20	S	I	D	E	P	O	T				21	L	O	A					
22	A	D	O	S		23	N	A	P	O	L	I	T	A	N	O			
29	C	A	N	I	S		31	C	A	N	T		32	E	L	I	S		
					33	C	A	M		35	L	E	A	P		37	A	S	A
			38	U	V	A	L	A	W		41	A	L	U	M	N	I		
43	N	S	A		44	A	R	I	A		46	K	R	A					
47	A	M	I	S		49	I	N	I	T		51	A	L	E	C	S		
55	M	C	R	E	Y	N	O	L	D	S		58	A	C	A	P			
					59	L	A	A			60	P	A	R	L	O	U	R	
62	A	C	C	E	P	T				65	B	A	L	D	A	C	C	I	
66	N	A	E	N	A	E				67	E	S	T	A		68	A	U	G
69	G	R	E	A	T	S				70	A	S	I	S		71	R	S	S

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