

## LETTERS

**His Cup Runneth Over**

The magazine is beautiful, and I am pleased that Jan Hasselman '97, one of our Land & Environmental Law Program grads, is featured for the great work he is doing ("Into the Drink: One Man's Triumphant Water Fight," Spring/Summer 2009). Hasselman made many significant contributions while a student at BC Law as a gifted teacher of our main campus environmental legal process course for undergraduates, an active Environmental Law Society member, an editor on the *Environmental Affairs Law Review* where he published a note setting out a dramatically important new constitutional theory of non-preemption of common law, and as an awardee of our Land and Environmental Law certificate. Jan is lighting a stellar path for our students present and future.

—Professor Zygmunt Plater  
Environmental Law Professor

**Old Friends Break Bread**

I was pleased to see the feature article on Meg Connolly '70 ("Legal Aide," Spring/Summer 2009). I knew her back in the days when she was deputy director of the Boston regional office of the Legal Services Corporation. I am not at all surprised

that she has done so well and has received the well-deserved accolades cited in the magazine.

However, I was most surprised to read that, in pursuit of her laudable ecumenical efforts in "covering" all the religious holidays, Meg actually bakes challah for Passover! She may not realize it, but eating any leavened bread on Passover is strictly forbidden. That is why one sees matzo for sale in most supermarkets just before the holiday. (I don't know how one would bake matzo, but since no yeast is involved, the process is undoubtedly a lot easier than making challah.)

—Sandra Landau '85  
Northborough

Footnote from Meg Connolly: *That was a quote from my Jewish husband. I don't make challah for Passover, I make it for Rosh Hashana. I caught the error when I read the article and have been teasing Tom about it ever since.*

To submit a letter, write to: Letters to the Editor, Boston College Law School Magazine, 885 Centre Street, Newton, MA 02459, or email sandervi@bc.edu. Please be sure to provide your title, if relevant, and home town.

**THE GRAPEVINE**

"One simply cannot ignore that Pakistan's increasing political and economic vulnerability will not just be a localized phenomenon but will have far-reaching regional and global ramifications. That is why the international policy debate on Pakistan has to quickly transcend simplistic and at times counterproductive prescriptions such as chastisement, drones, and aid."

—Osama Siddique, associate professor at the department of law and policy, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan, from a presentation at BC Law in November

## Noah Grabisch '11

RAISED NEAR WASHINGTON, DC, MAJORED IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY AT UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, ONE OF SIX STUDENTS SELECTED NATIONWIDE AS A 2009 NAACP/KELLOGG'S LAW FELLOW.

**WHAT DID YOU DO AS AN NAACP FELLOW?**

I spent the summer in Baltimore working on a case where church leaders had been swindled into purchasing these junk kiosk systems. I had to help figure out the best legal remedy, and ultimately, we opted to litigate under the Consumer Protection Act. I also went to Savannah, Georgia, to work on the Troy Davis death penalty case. We were fighting all summer to get a hearing on important new evidence that could prove Mr. Davis [a former Canadian Football Leaguer convicted of murdering a Georgia police officer in 1989] innocent, and thankfully, the Supreme Court ruled in our favor.

**DO YOU HAVE A HERO?**

My father. When your parents are here, it's easy to take them for granted, but when he passed away in 2006, I realized how instrumental he was in my life. He instilled in me that whenever one door closes, another door opens. I basically live to do all the things that he believed I could do.

**HOW WAS YOUR 1L YEAR?**

Different from undergrad. You have to study every day, every week, every weekend, even when you sleep. It was tough. But the stories of BC being like Disneyland are also true. Everyone in my section got along, and we always helped each other out with notes.

**WHO IS YOUR CAREER ROLE MODEL?**

I'm a big fan of Reginald Lewis, the first African American to build a billion dollar company. He's also in the same fraternity as me. He made it to law school and became a successful lawyer, and that's what I plan to do.

**WOULD YOU EVER RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE?**

I was a legislative assistant in the Maryland State Senate, so I know how the process works. And back home, my father is very well known, so I could have a path. I think I will eventually run for some kind of office.

**WHAT IS YOUR ULTIMATE DREAM?**

To become a philanthropist and donate money to people who are underprivileged. I'd like to create scholarships and build schools and recreation centers. I didn't come from the worst background, but I know a lot of people who lacked the opportunity to do something with their lives.

—Mike Connolly '09

