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obiter dicta

The Definitive Source for Osgoode News

The Osgoode Enquirer



**BEV'S
SECRET
DIARIES**

- A Tell All
- Supreme Court Exposé



**SOSS
SHOCKER!**

*"I did not have
Administrative
Relations with
that Tribunal"*



**Michael
Bryant's
SOX
SCANDAL**




***Osgoode's New Diversity
Policy REVEALED!***

Phase 2 of Osgoode Rebranding to Begin

pg. 6

Student Caucus to Change Their Name

pg. 7

Duty NOT to Warn

pg. 8

OBITERdicta*"The definitive source for Osgoode news"*

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"People who read the tabloids deserve to be lied to."

Jerry Seinfeld

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Editorial

Welcome to the Tabloid issue of the *Obiter*. Tabloid? What does that mean? It means fake news with real laughs. Still confused? Let us break it down for you:

- Osgoode is NOT hosting a celebration day in honour of SNAILS (sorry SNAILS, we know you were excited.)
- Occupy Osgoode is NOT a real movement and that article was DEFINITELY NOT written by Comrade Shellzzzzzzz (aka Dave Shellnutt).
- Osgoode is NOT entering into phase 2 of corporate branding. Maybe more firm names will appear, but not it's likely that they'll be on blimps or toilet stalls.
- Student Caucus is NOT changing their name... so feel free to keep on making "caucus" jokes.
- RJ Wallia has NOT been taken hostage. Well, maybe he has. We're too lazy to check.

Why did we do a Tabloid issue? Because school is getting tougher. Exams are approaching. Students are starting to buckle down. OCI's are stressing out the entire second year. Right now, it probably doesn't feel like there's a lot to

laugh about. Cue the *Obiter Dicta*. We took it upon ourselves to provide you with some much needed comic relief.

This is not to say that the tabloid articles don't touch on real issues. We may be joking about it, but there's a serious problem happening right now in our building – particularly our library. Sources have told the *Obiter* that law students can't get seats to study during the day because non-law students are monopolizing the space. Osgoode Administration, we implore you to do something about this! What's the point of having a law library if law students can't use it?

Another article touched on corporate branding. We have discussed this in our paper many times. Dean Sossin even responded to one of our articles about corporate branding in his blog. The Tabloid piece takes branding to the extreme and makes fun of the corporate branding situation. But doesn't it also make you think, how comfortable are we with the corporate branding that currently exists?

So take a few minutes to read through this issue. Have a few laughs. Maybe go out after and have a few drinks. There's a lot to stress about in law school, so it's good to take a step back now and then... and maybe read a fake news story or two.

Local, National & International News

Headlines from Around the World

- Newfoundland Suffers Earthquake and Floats Into Atlantic Sea. Quebec Jealous.
- Dean Sossin Wears Plaid Shirt. World.Freaks.Out.
- Leafs Preemptively Win Stanley Cup Because They Are "Too Awesome" To Play.
- NBA Players Agree to Accept Wage Reduction in Support of Occupy Movement.
- Poll: Rob Ford is Doing "such an amazing job."
- Facebook to Phase out "Like" Button: Nick Voight Loses His Shit.
- White House Releases Official Apology: Sorry About Horrible Political System That Fucks Over Everyone.
- White Privileged Dude Gets Into Law School: Victory for Status Quo Declared.
- Steve Jobs Back From Dead with iAlive.

Features

Fake It or Make It: This is for the SNAILS

KYLE REES
Osgoode News Editor

RJ WALLIA
Staff Writer

Since this is the Tabloid Edition of the Obit, we figured this is a good opportunity to speak to the SNAILS. Since you are a SNAIL I can assume you don't know what that stands for. SNAILS are Students Not Actually In Law. There have been some harsh words exchanged between the Law Students and the SNAILS recently, and this article will help resolve this conflict.

Everyone knows that diversity is a bad thing, especially among law students. I know we make pretensions of inclusion, but at the end of the day, if you choose Gap over Burberry or moonshine over Grey Goose, you can expect less invites and more de-friends.

Which is why SNAILS bother Law Students so much. Not because we hate undergrads, but because the way they look and act reminds us of how pretentious and warped our world has become. We are like the old people who hate MTV because it reminds us

of the sex we used to have. So the only solution is to blend in. And here's how:

Time to Suit Up

The first thing that every SNAIL needs to learn about is how to blend in. It's time to throw away your sweatpants and headbands and other paraphernalia highlighting your poverty and general lack of style. I don't care if you want to "express yourself". You're supposed to be a law student, remember? You're armed to the teeth with student loans and lines of credit and, for the precious few, the greatest bank of all...M&D Credit Union (Mom and Dad).

Ok, first step is denim. You must own multiple pairs of jeans. But not just any jeans. Your Levis won't cut it in this atmosphere. I'm talking Guess, Forever 21, Buffalo, Calvin Klein; if it's not costing upwards of \$150 bucks then it doesn't dare make the grade of making your ass look good. And please, the only time you're wearing those Lulu's is to go to your complimentary Yoga class.

Next step, buy yourself a button down shirt. Nothing screams SNAIL like wearing a simple t-shirt with your favourite rock band or ironic state-

ment designed to make you look witty and "totally awesome". You want to make a statement, you make a statement with the mouth and lungs you're paying \$20,000 per year to burst out inane legal argument in a controlled, moderated manner. Leave the t-shirt for the pubs.

Ladies, it's time to up your game as well. You get to shop at the adult side of the mall. J. Crew, Coach, Prada, Burberry. Embrace the cashmere cardigan and the wool fall coat. Increase your show budget exponentially. It's time to act like the adults you see on TV, you know, the ones who possibly couldn't actually afford the stuff they buy without the jobs that you're faking you're going to have.

Now we get to the crux of it. The suit. The blazer. The dress shirt and pants. Shoes and boots. Ladies and gentlemen, we get to the holy grail of the law student closet. This is where a SNAIL is at their most vulnerable. Pull this off, and there is no discerning you. Do it wrong, and it's back to South Ross for you. Blacks, blues and greys are the only suits you're going to get. Single notch lapels and light, conservative pinstripes are a must. Unimaginative dress shirts with modest cufflinks and ubiquitous ties coupled with brown and black shoes seal the deal for the men.

Ladies, this task is harder for you. Let's be honest, finding a skirt or pant suit that makes you look attractive is no mean feat. However, if you can find the right fit and the right colour to come off as conservative, tasteful and elegant, you've done right. SNAILS, this job is doubly harder for you, since you have none of the above qualities. Therefore, try to look like the mannequin.

Buy the Swag

The clothes may make the man, but it's the accessories that make the law student. The term 'accessories' includes many things, but I'm going to focus on a couple here.

Computers: Computers are important for a few reasons. First, there's no need to buy a Mac, because everyone ends up running Windows anyway. The important thing is to have a computer that looks like a Mac. I recommend white spray-paint and a glow-in-the-dark Macintosh decal to stick on the front. The computer is also used to check Facebook in-class, especially to FacebookChat to others that are in the same class with you about how the lecture is so hard to follow. Hint: Lectures are easier to follow when you aren't on goddamn Facebook.

Coffee: Besides being a delicious beverage, coffee serves as a sign that says 'OMG the work I have to do is so much more important and pressing than yours'. This is an important perception to broadcast in Law School, since people assume that this is a sign of success. Since no mere mortal can handle a steady flow of coffee all day, I recommend carrying an empty cup, and occasionally pausing to take a sip while looking pensive.

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Talk the Part

Legal:

You know how they say 80% of conversation is non-verbal? That doesn't apply to lawyers, since we bill by the word, and are told to avoid any expression that can't be read into a trial record. So naturally, a different sort of lingo has developed for Law Students, lingo that you must master in order to fit in. So here are a list of words you can use:

- Moot
- OCIs
- Analysis
- Crim/civ Pro
- LAN
- Factum
- CLASP (no, not class)
- *Obiter*
- Classhole

It doesn't really matter what these words mean. I don't think anyone really knows. Scholars maintain that the original meaning of these words was lost with the Sack of Rome. The point is, you can throw any of these words into a sentence and sound smart. For example:

"Hello there my good LAN, did you by any chance CLASP the factum in the obiter yesterday evening? It was a mooting good Civ Pro, don't you agree?"

Feel free to use this on your parents as well when they ask where their tuition money is going. The best thing about being a member of a profession that is accountable to the public is being completely unintelligible by them.

Non-legal:

On occasion, you will be required to talk about things that have nothing to do with the law. As rare as they do happen, these opportunities are not ones to slack off at. They are deliberate traps that are set by law students in order to see if SNAILS are making it through the filter. Here are some tips to get you through this trying task.

Things you can talk about outside of law school:

Various Vices: If you gamble, smoke, or drink, you've just added every conversation starter you will ever need to your repertoire. But I'm not talking about just your dinky little once a few months poker game or the domestic cigarettes you just bought from the local shop on campus or even the cheapest moonshine you could find from your "cousin's" bathtub. You better start talking about weekly poker games, blackjack, craps, cuban cigars, scotch, vodka, rum, premium stout and anything else which costs you more than the chump change you can make TTC fare with.¹

The Leafs: For some strange reason there are actual legitimate fans of this godforsaken franchise, the only difference here is, people

¹ If you know offhand the fare you need for the TTC, you've failed!

can afford to actually go to a game. This is always a safe topic of conversation. It is not recommended you try to support another team, as this will undoubtedly result in a conversation about where you are originally from or where you did your undergrad to ever partially excuse why on Earth you don't support this team. Remember, the less you talk about yourself, the better. And remember, Go Leafs...(yeah right)

Politics (but not legislation): Ah SNAIL, your Poli-Sci classes finally do you some credit. From time to time, the law student will talk about the state of affairs. Political theory and government action is right up your alley. With your Intro to Canadian Politics and International Relations courses under your belt, you'll be more than adept to handle these pseudo intellectual law students (particularly those with business degrees). Just be careful to not come across as completely one sided. Remember, a law student always looks at both sides of the argument, even if they can't stomach the idea of the other side even breathing, let alone being viable. When in doubt, just say you're a centrist.

Live to Fight Another Day

Alright, so you've basically done all you can in this situation. Things are going well and you're in. No one is complaining about your presence or can even smell the SNAIL on you. Things are going well...but, wait. They're asking more questions about your opinion on a recent SCC case. Or they notice that under your three piece suit is a t-shirt which shows your allegiance to some undergrad college on campus. Or worse, that you start spending an inordinate amount of time in the library on your blackberry rather than looking miserable reading some inane crap...SNAIL, you are on the path of being found out.

There's only one thing left to do. Retreat. You can't win this one and if you're found out, your likeness will be circulated around the entire Osgoode community. You'll be on Facebook, tweeted about and *gulp* written about in the *Obiter*. Here's some key phrases that you can use to get yourself out of any situation spinning out of control and segue into your exit:

- "Well, I'm gonna make my way home. You know how long it takes to get downtown"
- "Well, I gotta go to Second Cup to start some readings. Can't work in the library with all those SNAILS"
- "Ugh, my Blackberry is screwing up again. I need to get an iPhone. I gotta go take care of this"
- "Well, I gotta get going, I have to start prepping for a moot/debate/trial/on call in class"
- or, just walk away. Yes, that is acceptable. For some reason we've just come to be ok with that as a method of ending a conversation.

Conclusion

Well SNAIL, you're ready. You have the tools to actually make it through Osgoode without being noticed. Now you can hang out in the library while other law students are trying to find a seat without impunity. You can gravitate to the cafeteria and that room law students call a JCR and leave it in a mess when you're done. You can blend in and bask in the warmth and glow that all Osgoode students feel, knowing that they finally have a space of their own and don't have to share with other York students, who don't necessarily appreciate the idea of waiting years to accomplish a goal and make something of themselves, only to find that their law school for at least 2 years of their 3 was a construction zone with little amenities.

What, you don't know what I'm talking about? Oh, well then...just fake it. You'll be fine.

P.S. To any non law student who reads this and wants to come to Osgoode; we wish you the best of luck, seriously. Trust me, we're not all bastards with a false sense of entitlement and a misguided view of ourselves. We just like the place and wanted to give our new building a bit of a test run before anyone else. We're really not this bad...well, that's not entirely true, but you get the idea.

Make your mark.

The Toronto Student Experience

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What I Wish I Said in the OCI: The Interview Refurbished

ANONYMOUS Contributor

Interviewer (I): Nice to meet you, you must be

Student (S): Nice to meet you too, I am glad the firm didn't send that hottie listed on the website, I fear I would have had focus problems had she been here.

I: Why don't you have a seat...

S: Thanks

I: So we were really interested in a few things on your resume—namely the experience you had working as an engineer for the city of Toronto. It says you did your undergrad in Arts.

S: Actually I was a 'Garbage transfer engineer' for the city of Toronto garbage department. The 'engineer' part was just a little embellishment there. I transferred bags of garbage into the hopper. The engineering part involved my designing and building a spring loaded catapult which could fire bags of garbage into the hopper from a distance of about 20-30 feet. No shit.

I: When did you find the time to design and build the catapult?

S: At the sleeping spot, there were a lot of trees so I just got an axe and cut them down while my partner slept in the early afternoon for about a week. He was a lazy piece of shit.

I: That is really interesting. So, tell us, what was your favourite part about 1st year law?

S: Are you kidding? No one likes 1L. Ummmm...if I had to pick a favourite part I would probably say it was a night in early September where a bunch of us got really drunk and snuck into the bouncy castle which was set up for frosh week. I also got laid that night (brushes dirt off shoulder).

I: That was really honest. It sounds like you allow yourself to let your hair down. So, can you tell us if any employer has ever given you consistent feedback about something you need to improve on?

S: Well if the feedback was consistent then it probably meant that I was a moron and didn't improve on something right? So either it hasn't happened or I wouldn't answer that question. BALLL ONE!!!! Why don't you throw another pitch....

I: Ummm, I see you played baseball when you were a kid, what did you learn from that experience?

S: Well you probably want me to say that I learned about discipline, teamwork and how nothing is impossible if you set your mind to it right? Unfortunately, the only thing I learned while I was playing baseball was that it is possible to fit 30 people in a hotel room at a party and not get the cops called on

you. Oh yeah, I learned a few really good insults to hurl at people.

I: So, can you tell me an experience where you had to overcome a little adversity?

S: (lifts leg and lets out a triumphantly malodorous and musical fart). I am thinking the rest of this interview will be an uphill battle after that. I want you to see me overcome adversity in a live setting.

I: (Shocked look). I see you were a coach here, how did you deal with 'focus problems' with the kids or coaching to the different skill levels.

S: Well if the little bastards lost focus, they got their asses handed to them so that wasn't an issue after week 2. As far as different skill levels go, I was coaching to win so I never coached the shitty kids more than the good kids. I knew what the team needed and I did it.

I: How did the season go for you guys?

S: We ended up last but that had nothing to do with me. The kids got disqualified for smoking weed outside of the venue. Before that we were 10-0.

I: Wow, they must have been a handful.

S: Ironically, they were until someone (points at himself) introduced them to the weed. They were pretty chill after that...

I: Wow you seem like a really coloured and interesting person. Is it okay if I ask you a question about your background?

S: Sure.

I: Was your mom a stay at home mom?

S: What business is that of yours? Are you interviewing my mom? Were you googling her before the interview? My mom and dad are still married you know.

I: Good point. I see you don't take any guff from anybody.

S: You are really observant, you should have been a scientist...

I: I am not really sure how to take that. Do you have any questions for us? I see we only have a few minutes left.

S: Yeah, I was checking out your website and a few of the people on your webpage had cold sores when their pictures were taken. Can you see where I am going with this?

I: I can assure you, we do not have a herpes problem at the firm.

S: Good because I really want to have a clear mind when I start my 'extra-curriculars' at the firm. Also, I see you guys pay really well...seventeen hundo per week. OH SHITTTT! (obnoxiously snapping

fingers) What are the chances of getting a raise by the end of the summer?

I: Not good. You are more or less useless to us during the summer. We just hire you to make you feel good about yourself and impose a sense of obligation on you for when you become useful after your third year and articling year.

S: I can roll with that. Hey can I give you a little advice?

I: Ummm....sure.

S: (in a Brooklyn accent) Well, since every time dat you open your mouf all dat I can smell is garbidge, I would suggest dat you clean your friggen teeth before da next interview. Or alternatively tell da cat dat lives in your mouf to quit taking shits while you are trying to talk to people.

I: Thank you. I am glad someone told me. Honesty is really important. I think our time is up. It was really nice meeting you.

S: Nice meeting you too.

Outside in Concourse

Friend (F): Hey man how did that go?

S: Awesome bro, I really think they liked me, the guy said he liked how I don't take any shit from anybody and also how I am so honest. I don't think I will accept an in-firm from them. They kind of sucked.

F: That is really good man. Did you tell the story about the bouncy castle again?

S: Yes I did. I think they really liked it.

F: What else did you say?

S: I told the guy his breath smelled like garbage and cat shit. I did it using a really funny accent too.

F: Fuck man, I wish I could be as care-free and cool as you.

Later on in the Night

S: (Talking to himself) "Time to write this reject note."

Dear Interviewer:

It was really nice meeting you today. Unfortunately I will not be able to accept an in-firm from your firm as I have much better options than to work for someone whose breath smells like cat shit. I am sure that you will find some brobdignaggian troglodyte who will gladly hammer out research notes in between pile-driving beans and Roloids into their bespectacled face. I hope you enjoyed watching me overcome adversity as much as I did creating it.

Peace Out
Anonymous Student

The Happiness Project: Fake the Happy

CASS DA RE
Staff Writer

Midterms are upon us, and I will be the first to admit that any exam season can take a serious toll on any student's happiness level. This is to be expected with the lack of sleep, the "No Food" rule of the library and the inevitable pre-examination anxiety.

Before you catch your withered reflection of the person you used to be on the shining walls of Gowling Hall, take a break. Seriously kids, lighten up and relax. Read a joke, poke fun at the York Undergrads, and read this week's Obiter Dicta. Laugh. It's almost too simple to be true, but this is your lesson for the week: Laughter is the Best Medicine.

And if you don't find our jokes funny, that's okay. I have a holistic and economically savvy alternative for us debt-ridden individuals. Laughter Yoga entails laughing for absolutely no reason. There are no jokes, stand up comedians or YouTube videos involved. All you need to do is let go of the Western shackles of propriety and deeply ingrained inhibitions, and laugh - preferably loudly and with reckless abandon. It may feel silly

at first, but that's because it is. Be silly, frivolous, and childish; be all the characteristics that coordinated suits and monochrome wardrobes strip young lawyers of.

Laughter Yoga promotes the combination of deep breathing and unconditional laughter. Moreover and more telling, it encourages one to look at oneself in a "mirror" and laugh. The "mirror" is actually the face of your hand; think the "Halle Berry" dance move, and if you are not familiar, vide YouTube. The yogi is instructed to let go of all the negativity and feelings of attachment to worldly problems and material things. My only instruction to the novice Laughing Law Student, is to laugh away all the trivialities and mundane details that seem fundamentally important this week. After this week, a Torts or Tax test will no longer seem like the end of the world. After this week, the lunch date you cancelled to attend a panel (which you left early to attend class... which you couldn't reschedule because you had CLASP) will no longer be an aching black hole of guilt. These things shall pass, and laughter makes their passing a lot easier.

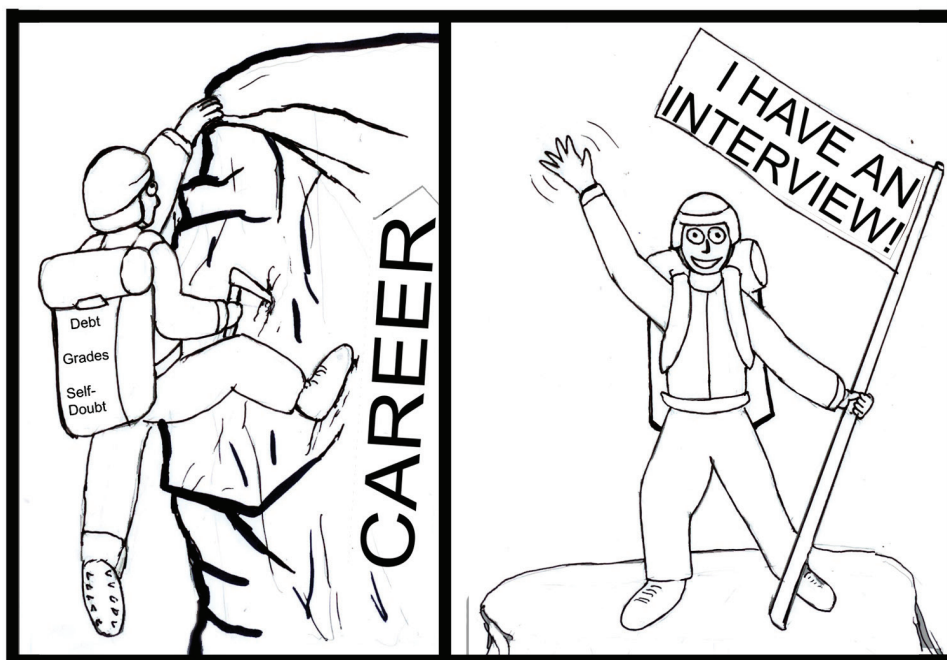
A young, but wise Simba once retorted "I

laugh in the face of danger." I propose, as law students, we laugh in the face of over-scheduling, over-studying and over-stressing. Studies have consistently shown the aforementioned vices to be a danger to our health. Laughter is found to reduce blood pressure, stress hormones, the likelihood of contracting disease and illness. A hilarious moment increases immune function, muscle strength and the level of endorphins. Who doesn't want an extra release of endorphins?

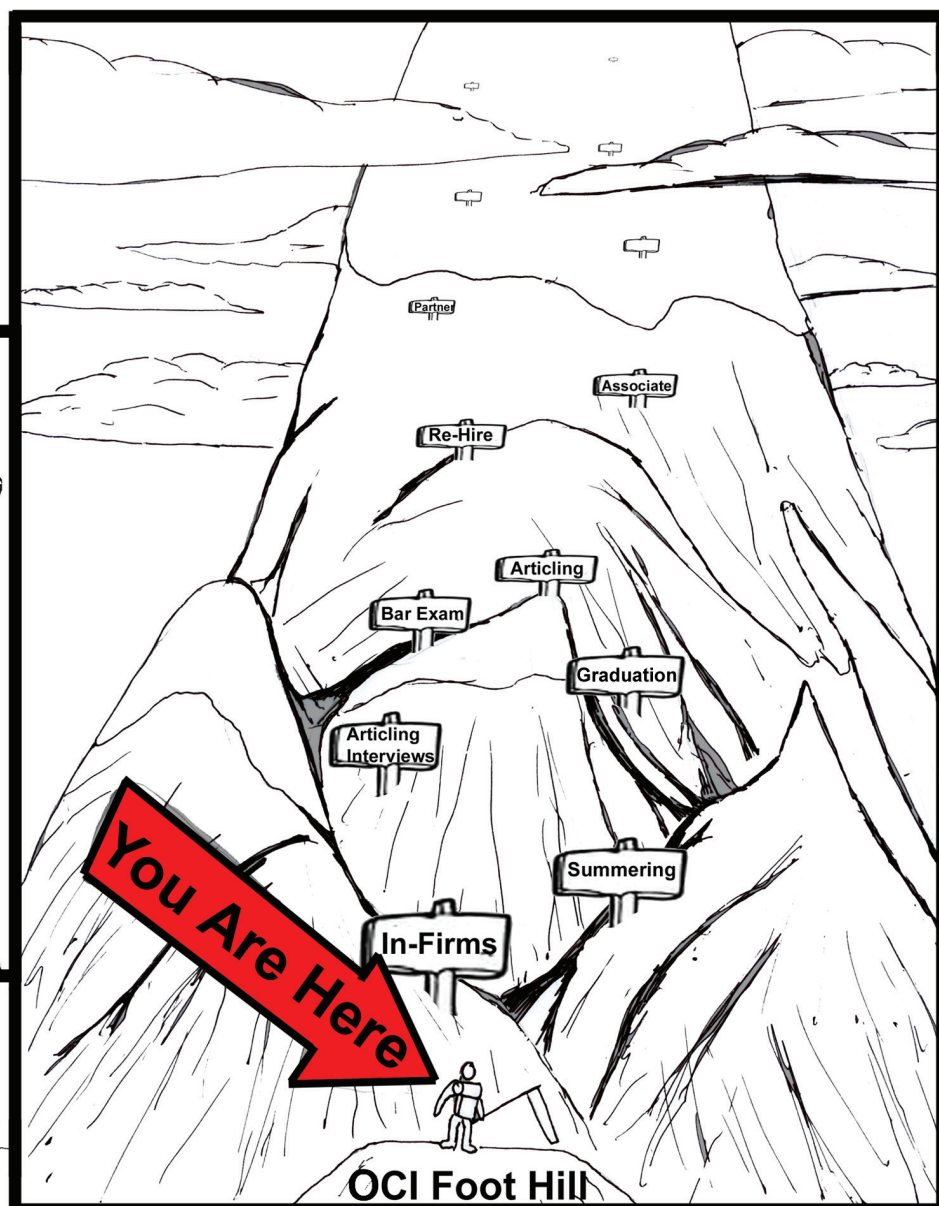
Laughter Yoga is premised on the fact that the body cannot differentiate between simulated and genuine laughter; either way you will get all the psychological and physical benefits. So, if you are actually miserable and probably reading this in a cubicle in the basement of the library, I ask you to fake the happy. The maxim, "fake it until you make it" has never been truer. You can in fact trick your body into releasing feel-good hormones and into thinking it is pleasant as a peach. If you continually and conscientiously act the way you want to feel, your pretence will turn into performance and the imaginary into reality. From your Happiness Guru, I implore of you, fake it until you make it.

Be (or act) peachy. Be (or act) happy. And for goodness sake kids, just laugh.

Character **IN** Issue Osgoode Comic Series



Rory Wasserman



Osgoode News

Osgoode Rebranding to Begin Phase 2 of “Operation Corporate Sell Out”

RORY WASSERMAN
Features Editor

Before the branding began, the new Osgoode building was a dreary, desolate and bleak place. Although the basic structure had been pretty much complete for some time, students immediately noticed something was missing.

In those early days, we would look at the bare white walls, puzzled and confused as to where the money that funded this fancy new building had come from. “Who paid for you!?” students used to desperately yell; the silent walls provided no answer. Even worse, with no obvious sponsors it was impossible to judge firms based on their financial contributions.

“I have a friend articling at a firm next year and I am still not sure whether I should congratulate him or pity him,” one student explained. “Without seeing the name of his firm in huge letters on the wall or floor of the school, how am I supposed to know if it’s prestigious or not?”

Thankfully, students need no longer fear this confusion. Just in time for the grand opening of the Osgoode building, the vast majority of the branding has been completed. Looking in pretty much any direction, firm names jump out at you, leaving no doubt who the top firms are. Gowlings Hall, the Goodman’s Bistro and the McMillan Reading Room stand out as clear winners. Other firms have opted to have rooms named after them, or, more simply, have had their names added to the contributors’ board. The branding has made career decisions much easier for 2nd and 3rd year students. After all, if a firm can’t afford to pay for a lunch room, how can we expect them to pay our salary?

Faculty are also glad that law students are finally receiving a clear and realistic message about the practice of law. “Students should realize, sooner rather than later, that wealth is the only indicator of a good firm and a rewarding career,” one professor commented.

Yet problems remain. While close to 70% of the building has been branded, the additional 30% has been wasted space, failing to bring in much needed sponsor dollars. New branding opportunities will ensure every room, wall, door and fixture earns its keep as a part of the new building. After all, a load bearing structure, by definition can’t be a freeloader. Furthermore, expanding the branding will allow other poorer (read: worse) firms to have their voices heard as well.

Fear not! Osgoode has heard your cries of despair, and has responded with the unveiling of PHASE 2 of “Operation Corporate Sell Out.”

“We are thrilled with the new branding and marketing opportunities”, Osgoode administration told us, “we have already found many new sponsors eager to slap their name on whatever space we have left.”

Phase 2 will begin with selling ad space for any free real estate on the walls and floors. After that, firms and companies can add their names to tables, chair and desks in the mixing areas, library, JCR and cafeteria.

But this is only the beginning. Once space has run out in all the obvious places, Osgoode will turn to more creative and drastic sponsorship schemes.

Plaintiff side personal injury firms have already agreed to sponsor the fire alarms, which will now automatically assess the burns and other injuries inflicted on those who run past it, and will quote how much a firm can win for you in a settlement.

Those who noticed the JCR’s similarity to an Apple Store will be pleased to know that this was indeed done purposely in a partnership with the legendary computer and phone manufacturer. Beginning with Phase 2 of the rebranding, Apple has announced that they are ready to move product into the JCR Apple Store and will soon be ready to open for business.

Social justice firms and Legal Aid, who were not able to muster up the funds to sponsor a hall or a room have agreed to a new sponsorship package which will

see new plaques installed on toilets and on urinals reading “Flush your career down the toilet with us.”

Sponsors have also shown enthusiasm for purchasing ad space on exam answer booklets, diplomas and graduation gowns. One seven sister firm has even expressed an interest in tattooing their name on students’ backs and faces.

Still, one of the most creative advertising venues arose out of necessity. “The problem with the new Osgoode building is there is too much valuable ad space wasted with glass walls and ceiling,” the marketing manager said, “yet, this amount of glass has actually tripled our available advertising revenue.” Phase 2 will capitalize on the excess of windows with aerial advertisements, blimps, strategically placed billboards, and even corporate themed bat-signals.

“We are very excited,” one Osgoode administrator exclaimed, “in the coming months students will have nowhere to hide from the onslaught of advertisements, brands, and names of firms.”



Artist's Rendition:

“Gowlings/Air Canada/Coca Cola/Sears/Office Depot Hall”
After Phase 2 of Osgoode Rebranding

Student Caucus to Change Their Name

CASSIE BURT-GERRANS
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Sources have confirmed that the student organization, the Student Caucus, are in the market for a new name. It appears that Student Caucus has finally tired of the giggling and pointing that follow when the “cauc” part of their name is announced.

A Student Caucus member confirmed this story: “Yes – it’s true. We are looking for a new name. We’re tired of all the penis jokes. People are always asking us how big our “cauc-us” is. Enough is enough.”

However, the Student Caucus member was quick to add: “We’re not changing our name because we have anything to hide. I mean, our organization is huge. Gigantic even. It may even be the biggest caucus you’ve ever seen...”

I doubt that.

Should Student Caucus tough it out and keep their long-time name? Perhaps. After all, there is a planet called Uranus, a bird called the Titmouse and a company called Kuntz (who specialize in metal finishings). Most names, if you try hard enough, can be made fun of. And, let’s not forget that anything, said with the right inflection, can sound dirty (also known as the Joey Tribbiani “Grandma’s Under-



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*Associated Office Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

pants” rule). I mean, just feel the dirtiness coming off this mundane sentence: “Student *Caucus*, tell me all about your *member...ship*.”

When asked if anything else spurred this decision to change their name, the Student Caucus representative further commented: “We are a serious organization. We need a serious name that reflects our work. I mean, we do a lot more than just sitting around, buying furniture all day.” (Congratulations on your new sofa, btw, Student Caucus).

The *Obiter* asked Student Caucus what new names they were considering for their organization. A representative replied that because the name “caucus” relates to meetings, they’d like their new name to remain in that spirit. They are considering a name that focuses on the words “meeting” or “meet”... because there are no penis jokes that can be made about the word “meat”... I mean, “meet”.

The *Obiter* wishes the organization formerly known as the Student Caucus good luck in choosing a new name.

Arts & Culture

Return of the Jedi: REDACTION!

RJ WALLIA
Staff Writer

Movie: *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi* (version: all of them)

Rating: 10/10 (10 being *Return of the Jedi* and 1 being *Braveheart*)

REDACTION!

Ladies and Gentlemen of Osgoode. My name is RJ Wallia. I have been taken hostage by a group calling themselves “The Last Jedi”. I am well. I am being held captive against my will. I have been subjected to “torture” but have been told that I have a strong will and “mind tricks do not work me”.

They have a list of demands that need to be met before I can be released:

1. Han Solo’s birthday must be celebrated as an Osgoode event, with a day off;
2. That it be recognized that when referring to the trilogy, it be made known that only the older movies are being referenced;
3. That Princess Leia be known as the epitome of womanhood;
4. That Jar Jar be ignored at all times;

5. That there be nothing but angry exclamations against George Lucas, the all-father’s, attempts at changing history with regards to the previous teachings and viewings of the series;
6. That *Star Trek* is unrealistic and a completely distorted, if hopeful, look at how society will be;
7. That at noontime, every Saturday, all will take a moment to attempt a Wookie growl/call/ordering a pizza; and
8. That the previous review of the movie by this author have no force and effect and that it be replaced with this review as written below:

“Like, OMG, this is like the best movie ever! I can’t believe how awesome it is. There’s like lightsabres, and force powers, and the final culmination of the most epic turmoiled battle ever! Hans Solo is great, Luke Skywalker is great, the Empire totally died after they all won and Anakin finally redeemed himself after causing the deaths, both directly and indirectly, of millions and millions of people. I was so wrong for ever doubting it’s genius and I apologize whole heartedly”

-RJ “totally wrong guy” Wallia

I encourage, whoever is in charge, to please take these demands very seriously. They have said that I will suffer to my very last breath. They have already attempted to “force choke” me as they hold out their hands clutching. I have had to act as if I am actually being choked. I have been told numerous times that they find my lack of faith disturbing. They have also attempted to win me over to the light side of the force. I have had to sit through their reenactments of EVERY SCENE OF THE RETURN OF THE JEDI (they even have little Ewoks).



Please, don’t let me suffer like this. I encourage you to acquiesce to their demands.

... THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS IS FOR REAL... THIS IS FOR REAL...

Occupy Toronto / I Ain't Gonna Work on Maggie's Farm No More.

COMRADE SHELLZ
Staff Writer

Last Sunday at the Osgoode Building Launch Dean Sossin invited a small group of us to sit down with the Honourable Chief Justice Beverly MacLachlin. I think Steph Marple's excitement would be echoed by all in the room. Despite how we may feel about her judgments, this was a great opportunity and I learned a lot.

The Chief Justice began by saying (this is not a quote but a poor paraphrase of one of our countries greatest minds), that she believes law students must be trained to uphold the law in the truest sense. Our institutions must encourage us to be defenders of the rule of law and those rights associated with it. She mentioned lawyers being detained for protesting government repression of rights in other countries. What spoke to me is that as law students, we must prepare ourselves for work not only at our day jobs, but whenever the law needs upholding, we must step in, kick ass and take names.

Now, you may brand me as a socialist, activist, whatever, but when I went down to Occupy Toronto this past weekend, I went with that same zeal and ideal that the Chief Justice wants us to have. I joined as a legal observer to see what this occupation was all about. I've heard the naysayers. I've seen the knee jerk hatred of those quick to label this as a hippie/communist movement. I'll be honest with you, what I have witnessed on some levels has made me cringe, has made me question why I am there. I have also seen the beauty of collective action and real democracy, like I imagine it was practiced at the dawn of the American Republic (sans slavery/no votes for women).

I remember going to the first general assembly to see what this movement was all about and in the first 10 minutes I almost left. This "people's mic" seemed crazy and cumbersome. Though after my initial anxiety, after having actually taken the time to hear people out, I understood it. When we use podiums and loudspeakers one person can just talk at us. The people's mic was an ingenious way to get everyone to hear the exact thoughts of the other. We were talking as a group. Well they were - I still felt and feel uncomfortable with it for some deep personal reason, but I get it.

I've heard people say this Occupy Toronto movement doesn't even have demands. Right there, you miss the point. Would it not be more terrifying if after 3, 5 or even 10 days there was a clear set of demands on what needed to be done to fix our unarguably flawed financial system and social inequality? It would seem as though some group was behind the scenes prefabricating a manifesto ooooo! In reality they are starting at zero. Forming procedures on how to talk to each other. Developing a sustainable community. Discussing actions to take. All these things are fundamental before anything can be put on paper as representative of the HUGE swath of the population that this movement

aims to include. I'm glad they don't have a plan, because I haven't had my say in what that should be. I'm not a multi millionaire, neither are you, and you know what 99% of us at Osgoode will never be. So we should be happy they haven't decided for us.

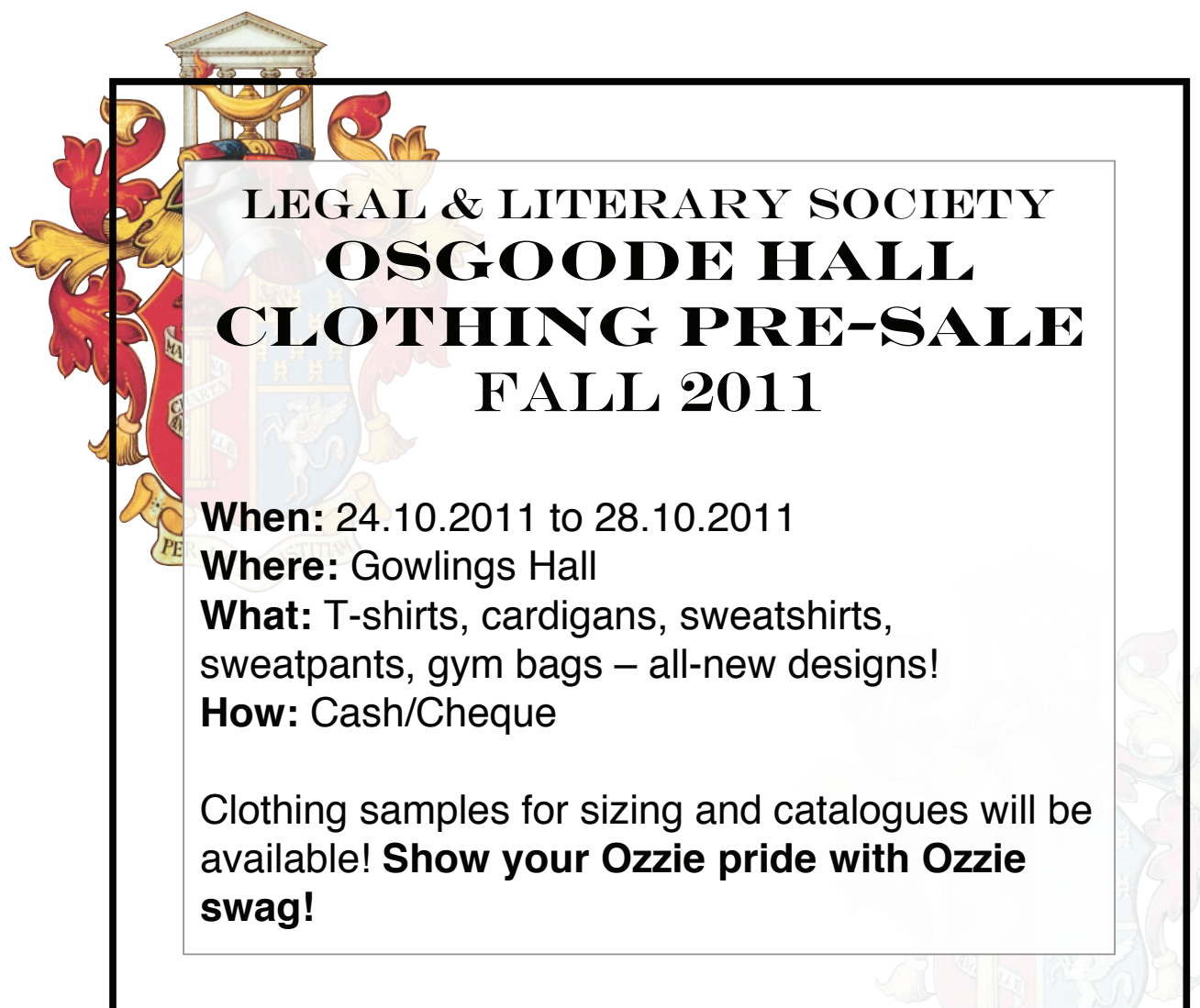
What the Occupy Toronto movement has done is set up a clean sanitation system, a library, logistics department, full service food (I ate beef chilli tonight, then washed my own dish), a medical centre, media centre and a women's safe zone that is one of the biggest tents in the park. A park I might add, that has been growing in tentage since Sunday.

Sure, this might go belly up. I've seen great general assemblies and I have seen them spiral into name-calling. By the time you read this, the occupation may have petered out and you'll be laughing at those hackie sack hippies. What I would suggest to you is that you go down and see what it's all about. This isn't some fringe movement like the "tea party" in the US. To equate it to that is a poor observation of what is going on globally. I do not see 46,000 tea partiers in Madrid, those folks were occupiers. Those in Australia, like in Toronto, New York, Rome and Madrid have divergent views and yes some are communists, some are labour unions, native rights activists, and so on, but I think they all have a general distaste for a system that turns a blind eye to bad corporate governance and allows the gap between rich and poor to increase in a unfair manner. Ask yourself if you really disagree with that. Conserva-

tive, liberal, who the hell cares.

John Tory tweeted the other day that the only people down there are those without jobs. So when myself and another Osgoode student saw him in the park Monday talking to the most fringe of folks, berating them for their "socialist ideals" or whatever, we thought it might be good to have a chat. We informed him that we were both law students with big firm jobs on the horizon, also like John, and one of us was a student government president. So please I implore you not to judge. Go down, check it out. To be honest with you all, I'm not sure where I stand yet. At the moment I am a legal observer for Movement Defence Committee. I haven't spoken at a general assembly or walked in a march. I stand on the outside and make sure that my fellow citizens rights are not infringed like they have been. I monitor the police and ensure that we still have the ability to peacefully protest.

I think what I'm trying to say to you is that while the end of capitalism might not be desirable to most of us, if movements like this are not acknowledged and compromises not made the boot on the neck of those disenfranchised will grow larger and one day be on yours. At that point a revolutionary shift may occur with great tragedy. This is what the Chief Justice said when asked about Occupy Toronto. She, as well as I, hope that we can work together on some compromise because clearly this system is not working in its current form.



LEGAL & LITERARY SOCIETY
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FALL 2011

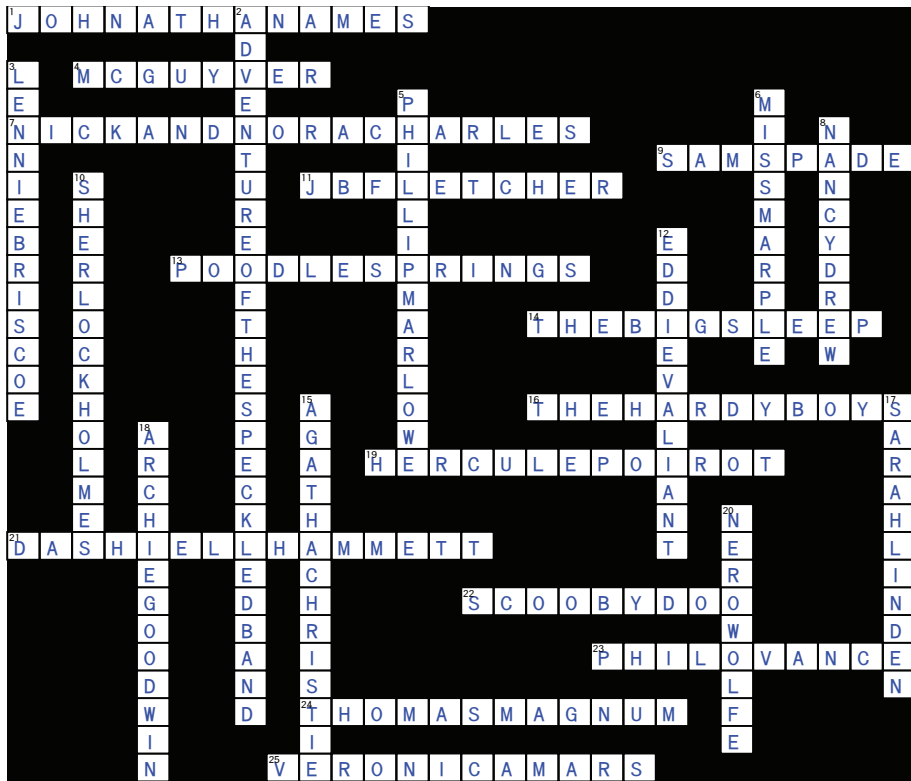
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How: Cash/Cheque

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Great Detectives Crossword Answers



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Across | 2 Down |
| 1 He's bored to death | 2 The murder weapon in this tale was a snake |
| 4 Favoured a Swiss Army Knife | 3 Ed Green's Partner |
| 7 High-society sleuthing couple | 5 The most hard-boiled of them all |
| 9 Foud a falcon from Malta | 6 The least hard-boiled of them all |
| 11 The 'she' of Murder, She Wrote | 8 Girl detective of the 30's |
| 13 The unfinished Raymond Chandler Novel | 10 Resides on Baker Street |
| 14 The film version of this book starred Humphrey Bogart as the PI | 12 PI employed by Roger Rabbit |
| 16 Brothers Frank and Joe, collectively | 15 Best-selling mystery writer of all time |
| 19 Only fictional character to have an obit in the New York Times | 17 She's looking for Rosie Larson's killer |
| 21 His most used character was the Continental Op | 18 Side-Kick detective created by Rex Stout |
| 22 Companion to "those meddling kids" | 20 Armchair detective extraordinaire |
| 23 Solved the Kennel Murder Case | |
| 24 Mustachioed PI from Hawaii | |
| 25 Played by Kristin Bell | |

DUTY TO WARN

- **Wednesday, October 26th, 12:30-2:30, Room 2003:** Conversations on Work and Labour: The Future of Public Sector Collective Bargaining Lecture
- **Wednesday, October 26th, 10:15, The Cube:** Special expanded edition of Coffee in the Cube with Osgoode Professors
- **Wednesday, October 26th, 6:30 to 8:30 PM at Hart House:** Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights (CLAHR) presents Michael Ignatieff who will discuss the R2P doctrine, which governs the way the international community respond to international crisis as an alternative to the more traditional humanitarian intervention model. \$10 Student Tickets available (limited quantity): To reserve, please visit www.claihr.ca or contact william.chan@claihr.ca.
- **Friday, October 28th, 1:40-3:00, Room 2027:** Feminist Friday, Friday, gotta get down on Feminist Friday
- **Friday, October 28th, 9:00 PM, The C-Lounge, 456 Wellington Street:** Osgoode Halloween Pub Night, Tickets \$10 from the OHAA booth.

25% off while quantities last.

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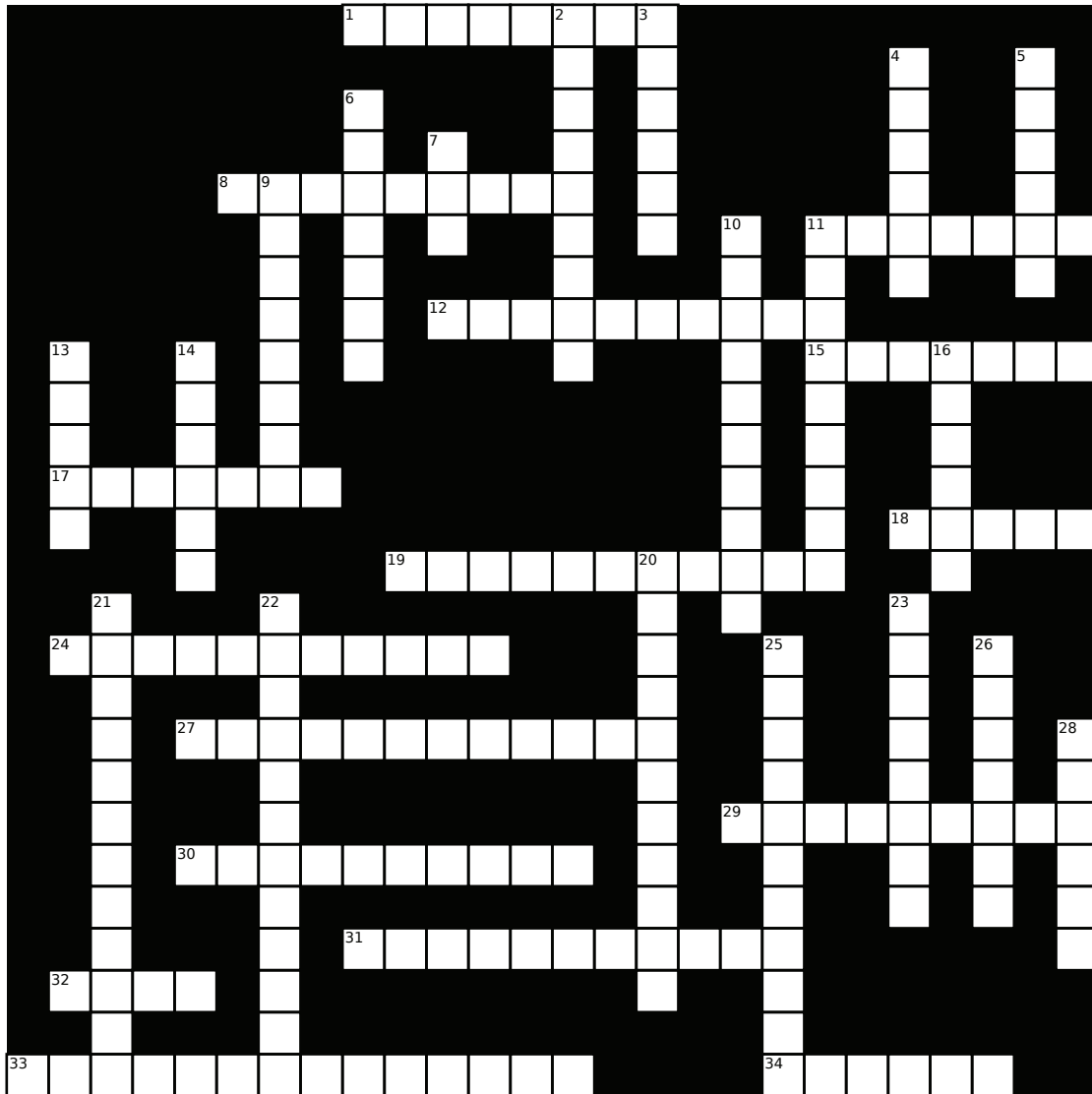
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Jokes on You

Emily Gray



- Across
- 1 Novelist Haruki
 - 8 Ration
 - 11 Childhood disease
 - 12 Winner of the 1997 Master's
 - 15 very thirsty
 - 17 CEO of Apple
 - 18 Church walkway
 - 19 Heroic
 - 24 Long flat noodles
 - 27 Absurd
 - 29 Game with X's and O's
 - 30 Funny Bone
 - 31 Teens
 - 32 Orange roote vegetables
 - 33 Best known as The Tramp
 - 34 Humourless

- Down
- 2 House Locations
 - 3 Machu Pichu natives
 - 4 CTV rival
 - 5 Thrusting sword
 - 6 Cost of a shave and haircut
 - 7 Afternoon snooze
 - 9 The Beatles first single
 - 10 Frequent defender of the Simpson family
 - 11 Lost
 - 13 The 3rd Rock from the Sun
 - 14 Fermented cabbage
 - 16 Comedian George
 - 20 Happy Gilmore and Billy Madison
 - 21 It means no worries
 - 22 Ale with citrus
 - 23 'One who serves'
 - 25 Longest running tv sitcom
 - 26 SNL's Wiig
 - 28 Opposite of Some



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