



## UI law students set the bar high

97% pass bar exam

BY CRAIG COLBROOK  
Staff writer

The University College of Law has a lot to be happy about.

Of students who graduated from the University College of Law in 2003, 97.3 percent passed the Illinois Bar Exam on their first try, crushing the state average of 86 percent.

Larie Walton, the deputy director of administration for the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar, explained how the test works.

"The test is a two-day test. It has three Illinois essay questions, six multi-state essay questions, and a multi-state performance test, a sort of real life situation, like writing a will or contract," she said. "The second day is 200 multiple choice questions, called the Multi-State Bar Exam."

Walton said the test is fairly comparable to tests in other states of similar size to Illinois.

"California — a much bigger state — has a three-day exam. Ours is easier than that, but our pass rate is consistent with states around our size," Walton said. "Some states may have more or less state-specific questions, but that's the state's choice."

Cindy Pacley, communication  
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The Associated Press

Palestinians gather to watch part of the wreckage of a U.S. Embassy car as it is lifted near the village of Beit Hanoun in the northern Gaza Strip Wednesday. A massive explosion ripped through the U.S. diplomatic vehicle, killing at least three Americans, Palestinian officials said. The vehicle was part of a U.S. convoy driving near Beit Hanoun, just south of the Erez crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip.

## Explosion in Israel targets U.S. convoy

### Three Americans killed in Gaza Strip bombing

BEIT LAHIYA, Gaza Strip (AP) — A remote-controlled bomb tore apart an armored vehicle in a U.S. diplomatic convoy Wednesday, killing three American security guards and wounding a fourth in the first deadly attack on a U.S. target in the Palestinian territories.

The attack, on a convoy of U.S. Embassy diplomats entering Gaza to interview Palestinian candidates for a Fulbright scholarship, was a dramatic departure from typical militant operations, which usually target Israeli soldiers and civilians. It was almost

certain to lead to greater U.S. pressure for a Palestinian crackdown on militant groups.

"Palestinian authorities should have acted long ago to fight terror in all its forms," President Bush said, blaming Palestinian officials for the attack.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, in a telephone call to Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, said the United States expected full cooperation in investigating "this heinous act and in bringing these murderers to justice," according to State Department

spokesman Richard Boucher.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat condemned the attack as an "awful crime," and Qureia promised to track down those responsible.

There was no claim of responsibility, and the largest militant groups — Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade — quickly distanced themselves from the attack. Palestinian security sources said they were focusing on small groups who receive funding from abroad, including from Iran.

The attack came four months  
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### NOT AGAIN!



CLAIRE NAPIER The Daily Illini

Jon Warga, senior in business and Cubs fan, tensely watches the Cubs vs. Marlins game in the eighth inning at Buffalo Wild Wings at 907 W. Marketview Drive Champaign on Wednesday night. Despite the loss, Warga believes the Cubs will win the world series next year, as long as no more fans interfere as one did in Tuesday's game.

## Winter abroad option offered

2 to 3 week program offers 3 credit hours in Paris, Nicaragua

BY MAUREEN WILKEY  
Staff writer

For the first time, the Study Abroad Office will offer students the opportunity to spend part of their winter break in a foreign country while earning class credit.

In December and January, students can spend two weeks in Paris, France, or three weeks in Isla De Ometepe, Nicaragua. They can earn three hours of credit for these programs.

ONLINE  
For more info, visit the Study Abroad Office at 910 S. Fifth St. or visit

www.ips.uiuc.edu/sao/

"There were many reasons for beginning to offer programs in the winter," said Jeremy Geller, the director of the Study Abroad Office. "The faculty was interested in trying it out; it has been known to succeed at other universities, and it prevents overlap of programs during the summer months so students can study abroad more than once if they wish."

Evelyne Accad, a French professor, is organizing the trip to Paris. Students who go to Paris with her this winter will receive credit for Comparative Literature 222, which will be taught in English and will include readings from various authors on topics from women's issues to religious tolerance. Speaking French is not a requirement for the trip. Accad said she thinks this trip would make a great holiday gift for students and thinks that the New Year's celebration in Paris would be especially fun.

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The Associated Press

Emergency boats gather near the Andrew J. Barberi Staten Island ferry after it crashed Wednesday in New York, killing at least 10 people, officials said, and reducing the front of the mighty vessel to a shattered mass of wood, glass and steel. At least 34 people were injured.

## Staten Island ferry crashes; 10 killed

NEW YORK (AP) — A Staten Island ferry slammed into a pier as it was docking Wednesday, killing at least 10 people, tearing off some victims' limbs and reducing the front of the mighty vessel to a shattered mass of wood, glass and steel. At least 34 people were injured.

The ferry pilot, responsible for docking the vessel, fled the scene immediately after the crash, went to his Staten Island home and attempted suicide by slitting his wrists and shooting himself with

a pellet gun, a police official told The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity. The pilot was rushed to the same hospital as many of the victims and underwent surgery.

After interviewing another crew member, authorities began investigating whether the pilot was asleep at the wheel as the boat approached land, a law enforcement source told the AP.

The 310-foot ferry, carrying about 1,500 passengers, plowed  
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## Groups use October to spread domestic violence awareness

BY LEAH GEORGE-BASKIN  
Staff writer

October might mean cooler temperatures, falling leaves, football games and Halloween parties, but it is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

In an effort to inform the student body of the growing trend of violence, Feminist Majority, Campus for Choice and Men Against Sexual Violence have teamed up and created a "house" to help make the issue more visible. Today is the final day of the groups' Quad display.

Trish Pruis, a senior in LAS and president of Feminist Majority, said the three-walled structure is meant to make people think about domestic violence by displaying national and local statistics about the issue.

"A lot of people, I think, feel far removed from it, and hopefully this will get people to notice that it's out there," Pruis said. "Hopefully it will make them think 'Hey, you don't have to go through this, you don't have to do this, you can report it.'"

Matt Rombach, president of

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TRISH PRUIS  
senior in LAS, Feminist Majority president

Men Against Sexual Violence and junior in LAS, said he hopes the structure will help raise awareness about the seriousness of domestic violence.

The large blue structure informs students that "more women go to the emergency room for domestic violence than for rape, muggings and auto accidents combined. 40 percent of teenage girls between the ages of 14 and 17 report knowing someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend, and 4,000 women and children are beaten to death every year (in this country)."

Also on the structure is a place for people to share their reactions, reflections or personal stories.

Volunteers stand near the structure handing out purple ribbons that symbolize remembrance and support for victims of domestic violence.

Lori Dieterle, a sophomore in business and president of Cam-  
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CAROL JONES The Daily Illini

Graduate student Erica Mayborne looks at the stories and sayings written on the Domestic Violence Awareness Month "house" on the Quad, Wednesday. The house, put up by the Feminist Majority and Men Against Sexual Violence, in observance of domestic violence awareness month, allowed those with experiences or stories relating to domestic violence to share them openly. "I think some people may be afraid to approach (the display), but it certainly makes them think about (the issue)," Mayborne said.