

# HAIRCUTS, SCOTCH, *and* POKER



## *CLF Auction breaks records, new ground*

It may seem that our students need a lesson in economics when you hear the record-breaking prices paid at the Ninth Annual Chicago Law Foundation (CLF) Auction. Target practice, \$1,100? Dinner, \$2,100? An evening sipping scotch, \$2,200? You might change your mind once you learn that the winning bidders will sample single-malts at Professor Douglas Baird's home, practice their marksmanship in the shooting range in the basement of the federal building with Professor Al Alschuler and U.S. District Court Judge James Zagel, and have dinner prepared by Chef Baird at the home of Professor Bernard Meltzer, '37, in the company of Professor David Currie.

CLF raised more than \$35,000 at its annual fundraising auction on January 19. One of the most popular and anticipated Law School activities of the year, the auction drew hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and friends to bid on 170 items ranging from the useful to the unique to the downright comical. "The auction is an amazing and fun community activity," said CLF board member Heidi Mueller, '07. "It's great to see students come together in support of their peers and their philanthropic endeavors." The funds raised will provide grants to approximately fifteen second- and third-year students while they work for public interest organizations and government agencies this summer. "For over twenty years, CLF has tried to raise awareness for public interest work," said CLF President Lara Rios, '06. "I'm really proud that we've been able to encourage and support more students to embark on public interest careers. Nonprofit organizations, public defender offices, and our government need smart, talented, young lawyers."

This year's auction raised more funding than any previous year and also received a record number of donated items. CLF is very grateful to all of the students, faculty and staff members, businesses, law firms, and alumni who supported them by participating.



*Eric Waldo, '06, revels in the glory of a winning bid—he and five friends will dine with Professors Douglas Baird, David Currie, and Bernard Meltzer, '37, at Professor Meltzer's home this spring.*

Some of the 170 items auctioned at the event this year included:

- Lessons provided by fellow students on knitting, cooking, art, poker, playing the guitar, flying an airplane, ice skating, fire-eating, conversational Chinese, tennis, and the correct way to wear a Hawaiian shirt in the middle of a Chicago winter.
- Law School perks including a parking pass in the Law School lot, a reserved study carrel in the library, free Plum Cafe coffee for a year, and front-of-the-line privileges for student lunch events on campus.
- Evenings of jazz with Professor Todd Henderson, '98; indie rock with Professor Adam Cox; poker with Dean Richard



*Auctioneer, chef, and professor Douglas Baird takes a bid as Meghna Subramanian, '07, spots a competitor.*

Badger, '68; a game of Clue in the chambers of the Honorable Rebecca Pallmeyer, '79; and a night at Bar Review including a round of drinks, late night munchies, and a designated driver.



*Darah Smith, '07, wonders what exactly Euler Bropleh, '08, is up to back there.*



CLF officers Lara Rios, '06, and Amir Sheth, '06, make last-minute preparations.



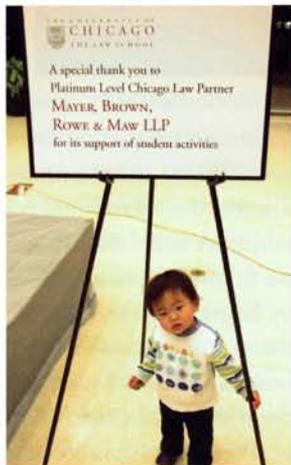
Norbert Ng'ethe, '07, and Professor Todd Henderson, '98, discuss the opportunity costs of bidding on different professors, and the irrational exuberance of various student bidders.



John Cise, '08, bids on a trip to see the Chicago White Sox from the Goldberg Kohn skybox with three friends and Lecturers in Law Wayne Gilmartin, '75, and James Rosenbloom, '72.



The Law School's Director of Financial Aid, Michael Machen, considers dipping into daughter Maya's college fund.



A prospective member of the Class of 2030.



Andrew Brinkman, '07, gives Gus Hurwitz, '07, an \$850 haircut.

Most creative auction prize goes to Justin "Gus" Hurwitz, '07, who auctioned off his hair. Hurwitz agreed to cut at least ten inches if students donated a minimum of \$300 and to cut additional inches if donations exceeded that amount. After more than forty students, faculty, and staff pooled



The hair was donated to Locks of Love, a nonprofit organization that makes wigs for children suffering from medical hair loss.

nearly \$850, Hurwitz—whose hair used to fall to his waist—cut seventeen inches. The student who made the largest donation, Andrew Brinkman, '07, wielded the scissors.

"The idea had been in the works for nearly a year," Hurwitz explained. "It was jokingly

suggested during a Friday afternoon Wine Mess shortly after the previous year's CLF auction. The idea went from joke to serious consideration after Professor Helmholz joined the conversation. He said that he thought it was a good idea—and when your Property professor suggests that auctioning something is a good idea, you listen. Ultimately, a model was adopted for the auction that was able to extract donations from many low-valuing buyers, who determined how much hair was cut, while preserving the marginal incentive for high-valuing buyers to compete for the highest bid, which won the right to cut the hair. This auction goes to show that, at Chicago, we can find a market for anything. It's worth noting that several people asked me if they could bid for me to not cut my hair. Maybe next year."