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Photos by Meredith Barr | The UB Post

Third-year law student Mike Buhite's limited-edition Chevy Camaro SS, one of only 1,000 made in the U.S., is destroyed after catching fire in the Maryland Avenue Garage shortly after he parked and went to class on Oct. 13. In an ironic twist, Buhite's vanity license plate reads "SSMOKEU," which relates to the car's racing capabilities.



Garage Fire Destroys Two Students' Cars

BY DAN FLANAGAN
Editor-in-Chief

A vehicle fire on the fourth floor of the University of Baltimore's Maryland Avenue Garage left two cars heavily damaged and shut down the garage for nearly two hours starting around 3:35 p.m. on Oct. 13.

The two damaged vehicles belonged to Mike Buhite, third-year law, and Shane Holtman, general management.

Buhite did not notice anything unusual with his car as he drove to campus and parked it in the garage at about 3:15 p.m. He was later pulled from class by a Public Safety officer who said he needed to come to the garage. His car, which had caught fire about 20 minutes after he parked it, had already been destroyed by the time he arrived.

Buhite's was no ordinary car—it was a 1997 Chevy Camaro SS, one of only 1,000 limited-edition models, which he has owned since he was 16 and has put 86,000 miles on.

"It's not my only car, and fortunately, nobody got hurt," said Buhite, who used to race the Camaro on a quarter-mile drag strip at Crofton Capital Raceway.

"I feel bad for the other cars around it," Buhite said, referring to the adjacent 2002 Toyota Celica that was also heavily damaged.

The owner of that car, Holtman, was "shocked" to find his "wind-

shield and mirrors blown out and a hole in the side" when he arrived at the garage at 5:10 p.m.

"The car's been really good to me," said Holtman, who put only 42,000 miles on it since buying it new. "It was in perfect condition."

"[The fire] was reported to our cashier, who called the fire department and then informed us," said Patrick Mulligan, parking manager. He and Tim Krupnick, assistant manager of parking, then exhausted four fire extinguishers trying to put out the fire to no avail.

The fire department arrived within 8–10 minutes of the call and used a hose attached to the stand pipe in the stairwell to put out the fire within 10–15 minutes.

UB's e2Campus text alert system first sent a message to participating students at 4:02 p.m. to inform them that the garage was closed. At 4:19 p.m., it was announced that students parked on the third floor and below would be able to get to their cars. The rest of the garage remained closed for cleanup until about 5:30 p.m., when students were again able to enter and park their cars as normally.

Robert Streib, director of Auxiliary Enterprises, said that Joel Cherington, project manager from Parking Management Inc. (PMI), consulted with a structural engineer during a visit to the garage after the fire and concluded that its structural integrity was still sound.

The fast response from Public Safety and the fire department is credited with the lack of damage to the garage itself and cars other than the two vehicles.

"Due to the lack of time the fire was burning and the lack of temperature, there were no indicators of damage," said Streib. "The overhead

wires were not even damaged."

"There was great cooperation among PMI, the fire department and UB's Public Safety officers," said Samuel Tress, chief of Public Safety.

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Shane Holtman, general management, retrieves personal belongings from his damaged Toyota Celica with help from University of Baltimore Public Safety Sergeant Jason Kunz. Holtman's car was parked next to Buhite's Camaro.

Search for New Provost Continues

BY IBRAHIM DABO
Staff Writer

The University of Baltimore will continue its search for a new provost after a shortlist of four candidates failed to meet the university's criteria. The head of the search committee, Darlene Smith, Ph.D., said the search firm is in the process of identifying qualified candidates and the committee will be reviewing their résumés.

"At the direction of the president [Robert Bogomolny], and as a result of the community's response to the four candidates that came in, there has been a decision that the provost search will remain open," said Smith, who is also dean of the Merrick School of Business.

Of the 75 candidates who applied for the job, Richard Helldobler, Thomas Keon, Ronald Levant, and Steve Michael made the shortlist. Helldobler is associate provost and associate vice president for Academic Affairs at California University of Pennsylvania; Keon is dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of Central Florida; Levant is dean at the University of Akron; and Michael is vice provost at Kent State University.

The candidates were highly qualified but were not the best fit for UB at this time, said Smith. The committee now is focused on presenting the president and the UB community with candidates who best match the particular needs of the university at this point in its development.

She said they remain committed to identifying a candidate who is a strong fit with the strategic needs of UB, internally—in terms of building partnerships and collaborations with constituents—and externally, with the University System of Maryland and Maryland Higher Education Commission.

A definitive timeline for another round of on-campus interviews has not been finalized, but the goal is to have a new provost in place by July 1, 2009.

"It is our intent to continue the process within the next few weeks. We would like to have a decision, to tell you the truth, by the end of the fall semester if it's all possible, or certainly early next year," Smith said.

The committee is fortunate to depend on the leadership of Susan Zacur as interim provost, Smith said, allowing them time to make the best possible choice.

Zacur served as dean of the

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Law School Gets Promoted in Rank

By BEHROUZ ROOHI
Contributing writer

US News and World Report, known for its elaborate system of ranking American law schools, has promoted the University of Baltimore School of Law from fourth-tier to third-tier.

The ranking system is divided into four tiers in all. First- and second-tier law schools are further ranked from one to 100, with one being the highest-ranked institution.

"We are seeing a certain buzz in recruiting—we are getting a lot more prospective students touring

and sitting in on classes," said Jeff Zavrotny, director of admissions at the Law School. He added that law school education is a "very competitive market with many options for students."

Historically, such exposure has increased the number of applicants to the Law School, "but it is too early to tell," said Zavrotny.

Philip Closius, dean of the Law School, said that one of his goals is for the Law School to be promoted once again so that it is second-tier. Initiatives to achieve this promotion include the planned construction of the new law building at

1030 N. Charles St.

"The move [up in rank] brings greater respect for the program from local employers and will be noticed by students who might have overlooked the University of Baltimore," said Omar Barkat, third-year law. "It really is a great program and one that allows students to explore different facets of law."

One of the major criteria used to determine law schools' rankings is the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), a standardized exam administered by the Law School Admissions Council to applicants for all law schools approved by the

American Bar Association.

US News and World Report takes into account the median LSAT score, which is the middle score out of all full-time students at a particular law school. One of the criticisms of the ranking system is that it does not account for the LSAT scores of part-time students, who, as with the other two schools at UB, comprise a substantial amount of the Law School.

"The University of Baltimore offers a variety of different programs to cater to the part-time day and night students," said Zavrotny.

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Merrick School of Business from 2006 to 2008. A professor of management at UB since the late '70s, she has also twice served as chair of the management department.

"I'm pleased to do it," Zacur said, expressing her satisfaction with her current role as interim provost. "I am pleased to continue serving the university until the right provost is in place. My whole commitment is to help with the transition and be sure that we are all comfortable, including the new provost, going forward."

UB is also searching for a vice provost of Student Affairs (SA) following the departure of Robert Hradsky in October. Rather than choosing an interim vice provost, a transitional organizational structure for Student Affairs was set up, with Kathy Anderson, dean of students, serving as the "SA Point Person" for two "Team Leads."

"What we've done is take the division and spread it into two areas," said Anderson, who manages SA Operations, which refers to the Executive Assistant and Front Desk. "Susan Luchey, the director of the Center for Student Involvement, and Karla Shepherd, director for Diversity Education, will each sort of oversee three of the areas."

Team Lead Luchey will oversee the Academic Resource Center, Campus Recreation Services, and the Career Center. Team Lead Shepherd will oversee Counseling Services, Disability Support, and International Services. Luchey and Shepherd will both report to Anderson, who will then report to Miriam King, senior vice president of Enrollment Management.

The search for vice provost has yet to begin, but the groundwork is being laid, including a critical look at the job description.

"Our aim is to have someone to do the search so that we can take advantage of the professional conferences in the spring [and] do the search in the spring to have someone start July 1," Anderson said.

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Five Firms Vie for New Law School Building Design Job

By JACK COMBS
Contributing Writer

The land at 1030 N. Charles St., tucked between Mt. Royal Ave. and Interstate 83, currently functions as a parking lot for faculty, staff and students at the University of Baltimore. But a year and a half from now, that land will serve as the foundation for the new building of the John and Frances Angelos Law Center that houses the UB School of Law.

With private and public funding, most notably a \$5 million donation from law school alum-

nus Peter Angelos, this \$107 million addition to the nation's sixth largest public law school is scheduled to take root in early 2010 and be completed by 2012.

"The entire law school community is truly excited about this project," said Phillip Closius, dean of the Law School. "The new law school will enhance our regional and national reputation. It'll literally increase the visibility of the entire university. The prominence of the site will make it visible to people in railway cars and on the interstate...visitors leaving Penn Station will see the building as their first impression of the city."

Robert Bogomolny, president of UB, is also excited about the new law building.

"As an institution committed to excellence, we envision a signature building whose materials reflect the quality of our aspirations," Bogomolny said. "This building will be

a major development for the center of the city," said Steve Cassard, vice president for Facilities Management and Capital Planning. "The project site—along Charles St., the city's spine, and next to the Jones Falls Expressway and Penn Station, its largest transportation arteries—insists on a bold, forward-looking statement about our belief in Baltimore. The Law School's reach into the life of our city and state only added to our thinking."

The Abell Foundation in Baltimore has given \$150,000 to fund the architectural competition to design the new building, which has been narrowed to five architecture firms. On Nov. 11, representatives will present their plans for the building to a five-member advisory jury panel.

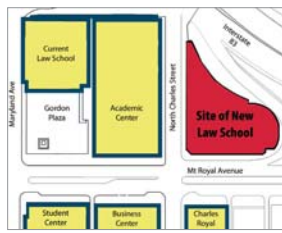
The five firms are Baltimore's Ayers/Saint/Gross, Inc., in association with Behnisch Architekten of Stuttgart, Germany; Cho Benn Holback and Associates, Inc. of Baltimore, in association with Foster and Partners of London;

Moshe Safdie and Associates, Inc. of Somerset, Mass., in association with Hord/Coplan/Macht of Baltimore; SmithGroup of Washington, D.C.; and Baltimore's Ziger/Snead, in association with Dominique Perrault Architecture of Paris.

The jury is comprised of Robert Campbell, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, architect and critic for the Boston Globe; Frances Halsband, the founding partner of Kliment Halsband Architects of New York City; Andrea Leers, practitioner and professor of architecture and urban design at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design; David E. Miller, a founding partner of The Miller Hull Partnership in Seattle, Washington; and James Stewart Polshek, public advocate and senior design counsel to Polshek Partnership Architects of New York City.

A winner and design will be announced on Nov. 17.

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Facebook Isn't Faceless

By SHIKHA POTDAR
Contributing Writer

Staff and faculty at schools of all levels are starting to open Facebook accounts, and the University of Baltimore is no exception. In addition to faculty and staff members, employers have also started making Facebook pages.

While Professor Karyn Schulz has "written on students' walls" before, she still hesitates to do so very often. "It can become difficult for students to distinguish the line between my role as faculty on Facebook."

Sandy Lin, academic advisor of the First- and Second-Year Program, has chosen not to "friend" students, "in order to protect their privacy." When asked how she feels about students and teachers interacting through Facebook, she said, "I think if that's how they choose to communicate, that's their prerogative."

Despite having slightly different reasons, both women seem to agree about limiting interaction with students through Facebook.

When asked how they felt about staff and faculty on Facebook, students had varying responses. Monica Hughes, pre-interdisciplinary studies, does not have staff or faculty friended either, because "I'm not really on friendly terms with any UB faculty or staff."

Hughes may not have staff and faculty friended, but she does not

see a problem with their joining Facebook. "It is a free country...they are people too and are allowed to do what they want on the internet, just like the rest of us."

When Facebook first started, it was "the second largest social network on the Web, behind only MySpace in terms of traffic." It was "primarily focused on high school and college students," according to "Facebook—The Biography," an article by Mashable's Sid Yadav on Aug. 25, 2006. Mashable is the world's largest blog focused exclusively on social networks.

Facebook issues have sparked a great deal of debate and discussion, especially concerning privacy. According to BusinessWeek's "The Debate Room," Greg Fish argues in favor of employers refraining from using Facebook to screen candidates: "One could argue that if you choose to make your profile public, everything you post is fair game."

Elyse Wilson, corporate communications, despite believing that "people don't have anything to worry about," dislikes the fact that some employers check the Facebook profiles of candidates.

"It's a shame, because [Facebook is] a part of your personal life. Employers shouldn't be looking at your page."

Jason Brannock, corporate communications, said that he and George Phillips, simulation and

digital entertainment, "decided not to get a Facebook account because of privacy issues. As far as I know, Facebook doesn't have any restrictions. With MySpace, you can restrict the general public."

On the other end of the spectrum, Hughes feels that "if you put potentially harmful stuff on your Facebook and it's not set to 'private,' it's your own deal. So no, I do not disagree with this practice, so long as it is not taken too far. It's not a violation of privacy because you are the one who put that information on the internet for all to see in the first place."

Not only do staff and faculty have Facebook pages, but also, because Facebook has opened to the general public in recent years, employers do as well. According to an article in Silicon Alley Insider, "CareerBuilder ran a survey of hiring managers and found out that just 22 percent of them are checking MySpace and Facebook to see if their prospective employees are drinking too much, doing drugs, trashing former employers, or letting out trade secrets on their profiles—up from 11 percent two years ago."

Dumont Owen, director of the UB Career Center, said, "Overall, 50 percent of employers use some form of technology to screen candidates—bearing in mind that students do not seem to be aware of this."

Owen's advice to students on a



job hunt is to "Google themselves. Nothing in Facebook is gone for good. If you can see the results, so can employers."

Students with a Facebook account need not panic; Owen has advice for those concerned about their profiles.

"Capitalize on your Facebook page by making sure it reflects your professional image," she said. "Employers take what they see seriously. Be careful of what you put on your Facebook for good."

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Photo illustration: Meredith Barr/The UB Post