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Motions

Shaq’s right-hand-man...

A USD Alum?

USD: Merging Sports & the Law
from the editor

Bar/Bri: friend or foe? Personally, I have arrived at the "foe" conclusion. With one giant out of the ring, only one marauder is left to rape and pillage the unsuspecting inhabitants of USD. Did anyone notice Bar/Bri's latest flyers addressed to students here at USD?: "Bar/Bri's price will be going up as of October 31." Or how about the other propaganda infiltrating every corner of Warren Hall: "last chance to get a bar exam at a low price." Could our environment be any more monopolistic, competition so suppressed? Sure, there's a few lesser-known and underground alternatives out there, but we have been in the awesome shadow of the evil twins of Bar/Bri and Barpassers since day one. Now that Barpassers has passed on to the dark side, Bar/Bri has decided to rob us a little bit more. Why else would Bar/Bri be suddenly raising their prices, canceling historically consistent advertising and promoting their course prices as remnants of things past? "Last chance to pay $300 less for a bar course." Well hell, I'll take two! I would like to refuse to take Bar/Bri, if only on principle. I truly hope some other nationally recognized bar review course gets wind of this situation. Maybe then I will have the chance to help fuel the fire, so our approaching saviors can help Bar/Bri remember why they had discounts, competitive pricing, advertising in school newspapers and just how they needed students to sign up for their course in the first place. Of course, Bar/Bri might be too busy holding the "only" course over our collective head while we walk down the only plank available, straight into their clutches, to notice any impending chinks in their armor.

The only wrinkle in my ethically principled stance here is that I am a third year who intends to pass the bar the first time around. After being robbed by the defunct Barpassers and their elusive promise of a "free" course, I now have only one alternative: cough up the cold hard cash of a full-priced bar review course to the highway robbers at Bar/Bri... What a fun trip this has been.

On a more positive note, enjoy your trip through our "spotlight on sports" issue.

Maya Lee

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Affirmative Action. The words alone grab your attention. If you are on society’s inside fast track, you probably don’t want to hear them. If you are on the outside, it really doesn’t matter. Racism, xenophobia, and fear are unfortunate by products of the melting pot we live in. Sad but true. It is human nature to fear what we don’t know or understand. It is a safety mechanism of human nature which let us survive past the caveman days. It told us not to pet the tiger. Be afraid and you will survive. Fear let us win way back then, when things were much more simple.

Xenophobia, or the fear of foreigners, is a trait which I have seen up close and personal. For the past seven years I have worked and studied in rural Japan. Traveling having been a lifelong dream, I was fortunate to have been able to fill my first passport within five years. I have been back in America four months and one week. I taught English Conversation at Kochi University and studied Shotokan style Karate at Nikku Kan Dojo being that I was on a Cultural Visa. Rural Japan harbors and perpetuates an environment even more xenophobic than that of the America I returned to. And it is precisely this trait, that in my humble opinion, will prevent their great society from truly reaching its full potential. I am very much alarmed that these cowardly ele-

ments are recurring in my own country. Not by a long shot. Random acts of violence far outnumber random acts of kindness. Our elected leaders continuously point out that statistics show progress is being made in the war against crime. To this I counter that figures and numbers are so very easy to manipulate in order to meet your needs. Ask any tax accountant about that one. If you truly believe our streets are safe, try walking alone in South Central L.A., any night of the week. Is this an unavoidable by-product of capitalism? Or is it a result of the changing socio-economic structure and resultant attitudes in our part of the world? You don’t need to be a Steinbeck to read the writing on the walls. Or in the case of USD Law School, the writing on the bathroom walls. As a famous criminal once said, “why can’t we all just get along?” Isn’t it possible? I pray that it is.

Affirmative Action was implemented on the belief that America would finally become truly equal. The 1960’s civil rights movement had made it very clear that the nations’ minority and female populations were not receiving equal economic chances or choices. Separate but Equal was supposed to be a thing of the past. The implementation of Affirmative Action was America’s first honest attempt at solving a problem it had previously chosen to ignore. There are so many people who don’t see Affirmative Action as a positive thing and now are trying their

First of all, we must all agree that affirmative action on its face is another form of discrimination. Plain and simple, it distinguishes, treats, and is the basis for decision making based on racial characteristics.

Next, we must then ask ourselves if there is a justification which would allow us to tolerate this discrimination. After all, discrimination is the primary evil at which affirmative action and those of us who detest racism is aimed. Before considering these justifications, we must also realize what are the maximum possible benefits of affirmative action. By this I mean, what areas of social structure does it effect? Given a bit of thought, I think it is clear that affirmative action programs only effect employment and educational entrance opportunities to specific groups of people will there also be greater inclusion of those groups in the government - affirmative action does nothing to prevent their great society from truly being penalized?

This entire line of reasoning basically depends on a theory of social revenge. I question any policy which is based on revenge - we have all been told that two wrongs don’t make a right. This revenge ignores the interests of individuals for a supposed benefit to the interests of society as a whole. One major aspect of our society and Constitution is the protection of individuals; revenge is no reason to discard these protections.

Another reason asserted in favor of affirmative action is that it is an effort to balance society so that the racism which will always exist in a certain percentage of the incumbent and empowered ‘majority’ is counteracted by minority membership. This theory is perhaps even more flawed than the first.

It sounds good, but this ‘fight fire with fire’ notion fails to realize that there is no valid reason to conclude that simply having a ‘control group’ in this country with a more diverse make-up will result in a society with equal opportunity and diminished discrimination.

First of all, it attributes the current state of affairs to continuing discrimination. Racism created the ‘uneven field’ on which our current social structure may be based, but it is not necessarily the reason for its perpetuation. We have no laws which say “hey, this race here and this race over there.” What we have is individual human beings making certain decisions for whatever reason their brain may come up with. Even if we

Responses to last months topic, affirmative action, are printed below.
darnedest to eliminate it. These people need to realize that thirty years is not a long enough time to solve such a major societal problem which is ingrained so deep into our human nature. Affirmative Action was indeed making steady strides in countering the problem of racial equality in America.

Television is a mindlessly blatant, albeit superficial, cross-section of how a society views its own. In the Fifties and Sixties we had shows which refused to acknowledge the mere existence of a minority population. The Beaver never had any friends named Juan or Jamaal. The Sixties and early Seventies weren’t much better, but the Mod Squad and Mission Impossible did have one ethnic minority each which I can recall. Inner-city crime shows, such as Beretta did acknowledge that there indeed lived ethnic minorities in certain less desirable parts of town. Then there were shows like Good Times, What’s Happening, The Jeffersons, and Sanford and Son. They made an attempt to bring to light the problems faced by inner-city ethnic minorities, but rarely ever on a serious level. And never to my recollection were they written to serve as role models for anyone. Not until the Eighties did we begin to see ethnic minorities portrayed in an image not entirely bad. Although the Huxtables of the Cosby Show are not typical by any means.

When I returned to America this past summer I was amazed at the change in the approach television has made in an attempt at integrating an undergirding - albeit superficial, cross-section of how a society views its own. In the Fifties and Sixties we had shows which refused to acknowledge the mere existence of a minority population. The Beaver never had any friends named Juan or Jamaal. The Sixties and early Seventies weren’t much better, but the Mod Squad and Mission Impossible did have one ethnic minority each which I can recall. Inner-city crime shows, such as Beretta did acknowledge that there indeed lived ethnic minorities in certain less desirable parts of town. Then there were shows like Good Times, What’s Happening, The Jeffersons, and Sanford and Son. They made an attempt to bring to light the problems faced by inner-city ethnic minorities, but rarely ever on a serious level. And never to my recollection were they written to serve as role models for anyone. Not until the Eighties did we begin to see ethnic minorities portrayed in an image not entirely bad. Although the Huxtables of the Cosby Show are not typical by any means. When I returned to America this past summer I was amazed at the change in the approach television has made in an attempt at integrating an aspect of society which was so ignored for such a long time. It took decades but Hollywood finally woke up. Society followed. Gang fashions on the mainstream kids I came upon were indeed surprising, misleading, yet reassuring. Young White people trying to act like they were Black. Isn’t this an element of Affirmative Action also? Is it wrong to accept the ways of others? Where did it come from? And just what is this Grunge thing? I was gone for a long time. A rebellious approach to finding one’s own niche away from the mainstream? Until we find a better solution, we had better not dump what we now have, for who knows what the future has in store for us.

Opponents of Affirmative Action usually skip the key fact that it has been around longer than the status quo would want us to believe. Actually, it has existed since the birth of our country, albeit in a different light. I’m talking about the “old boy networks” which got our country going through its first two hundred or so years and got us into the mess we are in now. This is an aspect of our human nature with a capitalist twist. To let your “side” get ahead in the game of life, help those who have an identity, affinity, or similarity to your own.

White Anglo Saxon Protestant Affirmative Action is a twenty-four-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week thing. Because it is informal and indirect, it becomes more alienating to those who don’t meet the qualifications and aren’t in the “club”. An avant-garde notion exists that racism is economic/education driven because there are now many wealthy ethnic minorities. To this I cannot agree. It really doesn’t have to do with the width of your wallet but rather the tone of your skin. I am reminded of this every time I drive into Mexico and worry if the Border Patrol will let me back into California. It would not bother me so much if it weren’t for the fact that both that of my parents families emigrated from Mexico to America as farm laborers in the 1950’s. Having to endure “what-is-he-doing-here” looks when in the company of certain individuals or in certain zip-codes will leave a bitter taste in anyone’s mind, regardless of how much cash they have. As an undergraduate at UC Berkeley, I was undecided as whether to support Affirmative Action or to denounce it. With hindsight my relucance was due to the fear and stigma of being falsely labeled as an AA admit if I were to back it up. This system works against ethnic minorities either way. You’re damned if you do, damned if you don’t. Avant-garde notions and Old-Boy Networks are too often overlooked but a major cause of the problem. No one wants to be labeled a racist. It is not good for one’s social stature. But it is so easy to ride along on the wave of society, no matter how wrong it is. I find it frustrating that more than two hundred years we still haven’t gotten it right. In all honesty I don’t believe Affirmative Action to be the only or final solution. But when compared to having no plan, it ain’t all that bad, as it has produced positive results. I do have faith in our system that justice will prevail and we will find a better solution. If it takes another two hundred years it will undoubtedly be too late. We, as Law Students, and thus by default, the vanguard of the next millennia owe it to ourselves, our unborn children, and to our parents to honestly seek out and implement solutions to this predicament. To abandon it unsolved, as we have chosen to do is madness. The problem will not go away. It is foolish to think that Due Process and the passage of Legislation will keep things in order. It will have the terrifying effect of polarizing already chilly relations. Having a dual society comprised of “haves” and “have-nots” is not a viable solution. We were so quick to point that out to the prior government of South Africa. * By the way, have you seen the governmental census predictions regarding racial/ethnicity percentages in the first quarter of the next century? In 2025 I will be 59 years old and hopefully still alive. I don’t want to be witness to the race war prophesied in Revelations 6:4.

Continued from p. 3

that require a solution which does not discriminate, a solution which does not provide advantages to any given race. Every racial group, if we decide to recognize people by such characteristics, has these problems that hamper success. These problems have nothing to do with racism, an ideology that will exist as long as we do. These problems, I believe, primarily revolve around economics and the context it creates. Well, I can hear it now, “there are more minorities in poor economic situations, so that supports affirmative action.” No it doesn’t. Affirmative action helps some (and too few at that) at the cost of others. It ignores the individuals and views our society only as one big pie chart, never being satisfied unless that pie chart is perfectly proportioned.

What recognition of the underlying problems of our society does do is advocate greater unity in coming up with intelligent and creative ways to fight for disadvantaged children from all walks of life. Everyone needs to be concerned with elementary education, with strong parenting, and with the effects of drug addiction (to name some). Affirmative action is an unfortunate distraction from these real issues. Yes, there is racism, there is discrimination, and many groups of people suffered because of it. And you know what, there is always going to be a certain amount of discrimination, just as there is always going to be a certain amount of larceny, fraud, rape and murder. So lets not add to the discrimination, lets not organize it and make it a major past-time. To argue that there is simply to much discrimination is to argue that we need to strengthen our anti-discrimination laws, not add to the fire.Affirmative action is logically backwards in addressing that problem. We need to stop dividing ourselves along racial lines. We also need to stop claiming that affirmative action is the ‘moral’ view and only racists are against it. We need to do what is so often the missing element in our social programs, we need to actually think. We need to use our logic to solve our problems and stop simply reacting with our passions.

Daniel Kaminsky, 3L

Continued from p. 3

would have seen the adversity and...
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Writing on the Wall: Racism at USD

Dear Editor,

Last week, our school made news as reports of racist, homophobic, and religiously intolerant graffiti surfaced. School officials declared their shock and outrage and declared this campus has never had a problem with racism before.

They are correct in stating that this campus hasn’t had a problem with racism. It is the minority students who attend this campus who have the problem with racism. Everyone else has blissfully been able to ignore it until recently, and many continue to ignore it, refusing to believe there can be any expression of hate was the work of one of our colleagues.

However, racism is not confined to the actions of this so-called “lone outsider” defacing our bulletin boards. It permeates this campus. It goes by largely undetected and unchallenged in the form of attitudes, jokes, and case analysis. It has no effect on the majority of students here. But it is a reality that minority students here face on a daily basis.

-Racism is a student saying aloud, “Go on, brother,” in response to a joke by Professor Brooks.
-Racism is a professor of torts describing a case where a woman received a radiation burn on her shoulder as a result of a negligent X-ray technician as “her own private Hiroshima.”
-Racism is students complaining about the water and gaming rights of “Indians” and wishing that we send them all to Alaska or Los Angeles because we’ve already messed that city up anyway.

These are a few incidences I witnessed just in my first year here. Is it hard to find other accounts of racist experiences on this campus? Yes, but not because there is any dearth of them. Speaking openly about racism is taboo in this community. If we say we have experienced racism at this school, we might be branded as an instigator - a paranoid minority unable to get along with whites. I’m not alone in having racist experiences at this school. One alumni told me that he knew of an African American male who quit school in his first year because he could not stand being in such a racist environment. He also told me that a white male asked him what his LSAT score and GPA were because he wanted to know whether the student was here solely because he was Mexican. Another Latino alumni stated that he hated the school and that it was the most racist place he had ever encountered.

There are many other stories of racism out there. Does anyone want to hear them? Does anyone want to see the writing on the wall and admit that there is a problem with racism at this school? Most importantly, does anyone want to do anything about it?

The result of this racism is not merely the frustration and isolation of minority students here. The greatest impact of racism at this campus is on the legal community. I will graduate this year and leave this campus behind. Along with me will graduate many lawyers with blatant or unexamined racist beliefs. How will they serve the community?

Name withheld by request

AN EXPERIENCE

Dear Editor,

It was a Tuesday afternoon while listening to a torts lecture that I experienced a stinging punch of racism. The experience is a memorable one for two reasons. First, the experience itself was offensive. Second, it created frustration as the result of the isolation of my experience from that of my classmates.

The lecture presented that afternoon was on the topic of intentional torts. The exact tort at issue is one I am unable to recall due to the passage of time. However, I can remember the salient facts which gave rise to the racist experience. In order for the professor to make his point it was necessary for him to describe a social environment conducive to crime. The professor proceeded to describe a home located in Washington D.C. Characteristics such as high crime, violence and drugs was added to the picture. It was at this stage that the professor should have felt he sufficiently described the environment he wanted to convey. Unfortunately, it was not enough. As part of the coup de gras he said “How should I describe this place? Hmm...Let’s just say that it was colorful.”

Colorful? I thought to myself, “What did he mean by colorful?” Usually when I would hear the term it would be used to describe something characterized by rich variety, vivid, pleasant to the eyes. Needless to say, that usage was not consistent with the context of the neighborhood described by the professor. However, the usage was consistent with the ‘hood’ the professor tried to describe: A complexion of persons not classified as Caucasian, but as Negro.

I have been to Washington D.C. and I know the racial makeup of the city. Unlike what is shown on the evening news, the city is made-up of mostly people of color. I was highly offended by the fact that the professor deemed it necessary to inject the issue of color into the fact scenario. As if a person’s color has an effect on their tendency to be violent. I had feelings of pain, anger and disappointment towards the professor. I did not comment on the statements made by the professor for the remainder of the lecture.

Later that day and for the weeks that followed I mentioned what I perceived as a racist comment by the professor to some of my fellow classmates. I found that almost all the students I spoke to about the issue found no merit in my statements. The responses of fellow students varied from: “What? You are overreacting. The professor didn’t mean that,” to “Your just hostile.” With rare exception, people I spoke to thought that I was making a mountain out of a mole hill.

It is the inability of other students to relate to my feelings as an African American that is the most frustrating. The experience that day was real to me. I knew what that professor was saying. Yet no one in the class shared in my experience. Nobody in that class shared in my feelings that day. The more I tried to help other students understand, the more they failed to understand. That day I was the only one affected. I was alone.

To conclude. In light of the recent events that have taken place on this campus many students have asked me the question: “Have you experienced racism on campus?” The response that is expected, if the answer is yes, is similar to that which has recently been publicized: Such an such was written on such and such wall, or so and so told so and so this or that joke; or I have been called this and that. My point is that stinging racist comments can be very subtle, and often are that way. When thinking about this, don’t just think about patent offenses. Consider the implications of what is accepted as appropriate conduct. It may turn out that such conduct is not appropriate after all.

Name withheld by request

Hate Crimes, So What?

Dear Editor,

If you do not know what hate crimes were committed you should. Reference the memo to all law students from Dean Morris dated September 17, 1997 and Mr. Danesh L. Tandori's letter to the editor in the last issue of this paper. This letter is to urge students to be more aware of what goes on around here.

The title of this piece is meant to grab the eye and is not my opinion. Unfortunately it is a common reaction in the law school. I am not that surprised that after two weeks some students do not know of these hate crimes. Many students do not read most of the flyers and memos in their mail boxes. However, I am surprised that many students take this lightly. “So what” is not an acceptable position on this issue. This sort of activity affects more than members of BGALLSA, JLSA or BLSA. First, this activity is a criminal act and crime should be a concern to all students here. Second, and more importantly, this bigoted and hateful act shows a type of thinking I do not subscribe to, and hope the rest of my peers do not either. I want to know this type of bigotry exists at USD even if it is expressed in a cowardly fashion.

There was concern expressed that a memo from the Dean was not enough to address this hate crime. However, instead of complaining, students need to offer alternative solutions. To do this, they need to pay attention to what is going on around here. It is my belief that for every one hate crime exposed maybe six or seven are not discovered or reported.

Director of Public Safety Rana Sampson has requested that every act of this type, no matter how seemingly insignificant, is reported to her office. I urge all students, faculty, and staff to follow this request.

In the two weeks since these hate crimes were committed more has been done to address this problem. I am glad to see the symposiums and lectures on hate crimes and awareness scheduled. Hopefully they will have the desired effect and reach the people they need to.

Mark Stenson
"Click Click... Bang Bang... These !@#$%^& Laptops Drive Me Insane"

Dear Motions,

Most students can relate to the following: The first fifteen minutes of class lecture is productive. Concentration is high and boredom has not taken over. There is a spiritual connection between the student and professor. It is at this point when it happens. The soft sounds of click click can be heard. Like a train in the far off distance relentlessly approaching the clicking gets louder. Before long the locomotive has descended upon the classroom with the roaring fury of its five thousand horsepower engine. It reeks havoc and destruction throughout the classroom. Big hairy paws abuse, batter and assault laptop keyboards: Click, click, bang, bang, hammer, hammer, slam, slam is all that can be heard. Oh the horror! Then...the lecture ends. The locomotive packs up and heads for the nearest town. All that remains in its path are the hollow, empty carcasses of confused students who have no idea what the lecture was about. They are the victims of the click, click, bang, bang warlords.

There is a unique relationship between laptops and class lecture. The more important the professor's statements, the louder the click click, bang bang. This is a phenomenon that laptop computers, pagers and cellular phones are a couple of the conveniences available because of modern technology. Similarly, they make noises. Pagers go “bleep bleep” or “buzz buzz.” Cellular phones make a “ring ring” or “bleep bleep” sound. It is because of the noise these devices make that students do not bring them to class, and professors enforce an all out ban against these gadgets. Yet laptops, unlike pagers and cellular phones, are allowed in class and are not subject to regulation. Even though laptops are equally, if not more distracting.

Once the click click, bang bang is heard it can't be ignored. Any attempt to ignore the sound makes it that much louder. Not only is it loud, it is continuous. It is a constant sore on the !@#$%^& ears of students. These laptops should be derailed. Laptops should be banned from class rooms during lecture. They are an unnecessary distraction to other students in class. However, it is unlikely that laptop users will slow down the click click, bang bang train. Accordingly, a reasonable alternative is for professors to limit laptops to the last row in class. This way all the distraction would be concentrated in one area. Users of laptops can remain in touch with modern technology while other students would have some relief from the madness.

Christian Scott
NOTE TO STUDENTS: 4 or 5 years ago, the SBA passed a resolution asking that professors, upon student request, insist that students with laptops sit in the back row of the classroom. This resolution was adopted by the faculty and has been invoked a number of times in past years. It is a good idea to occasionally remind students and faculty that this resolution exists and remains, however dimly, in USD's collective memory.

The Reality of Distance

Dear Editors,

I never thought something so amazing and intense could happen to me. I never even knew that something like this existed, except for in the movies. Something so earthshattering that as I write this, I feel weak inside because this incredible thing has come to its demise.

Having finished finals the week before, I took off for Manhattan for a five day vacation with friends before I was to start work in Seattle for the summer. It was guaranteed to be a fun-filled weekend in one of the world's most exciting cities. On the night that “it” happened I was at a trendy New York club in the Village. I was introduced to "him." We have spoken about that night several times and wondered what exactly occurred that made us both feel as if the other person was the one we had been unknowingly searching for. Could it have been the way his eyes pierced into me amidst the drunken crowd around us or the way we were just kind of squinting at each other all night wondering how we were both connected and why this was happening to us. That night I met the person who was going to fill my life, for the next five months, with something I had never experienced before, and quite possibly never will again.

We proceeded to have four mystical days together in Manhattan where we hung out in Central Park during the day and complete shared life stories over wine at night. When I left to come back to Seattle we decided that we did not know exactly what would happen between us, but realized that what had transpired during the past four days was something that could only happen once in a lifetime, if that, for two people.

I came back to Washington like a heart stricken animal, thinking to myself that this person was “the one” for me, my soulmate in life, but he was all the way across the country. He, being a brilliant artist as well as a graduate student, sent to me a work of art a week after I returned from New York. It was a letter written on sketch paper in which he painted images of me in New York and other portraits of the time we spent together around the text. For those who have seen the English Patient, it was along the same lines as the journal she wrote in. I immediately wrote back. He called and we both realized that the time we spent together for those four short days was more than a great time, in a great city, with a great person. We had connected above and beyond all the other relationships we had been involved in.

I went out to New York to visit him two additional times during the summer. The last time I went, I was two days before school started, he was to start his most intense course work of his graduate career, he was applying to programs for the following year, and I was contemplating my future career prospects after law school. While we both spoke of the possibility of living in the same city the next year, we knew that the chances of that happening were slim. For him because of the arbitrariness of being admitted to programs on the West Coast, and for me, having to commit myself to a state by taking its bar. When I returned to San Diego, I was again heartbroken, walking around searching for something that would fill this gap within me, holding on to anything relating to and reminding me of New York, such as diligently reading the New York Times every day and doing the crossword puzzles that we would do together sitting on the subway. I was miserable because I had grown so emotionally attached to this person who lived across the country with no realistic possibility of us ever being able to live in the same city. He knew my pain because he was feeling it too. The day after I left New York after meeting him for the first time, he started a painting of “Manhattan in the Summer from Central Park” that was purposefully left incomplete when he sent it to me, symbolic of our incomplete relationship at that time. I often find myself staring at it thinking about this relationship which involves numerous factors conspiring against us.

I recently came to visit me in San Diego. Again, I felt so connected with him but the weekend provided closure in terms of our emotional attachment to each other. We both know we have to distance ourselves emotionally if we are to make the critical decisions in the next couple of months that will ultimately affect our careers for the rest of our lives.

I am O.K. today, still feeling a little weak, and I'm expecting to hit some emotional release. I know I have to keep telling myself that I should just accept this amazing thing for what it was and appreciate the fact that I am capable of having these intense feeling for another person.

The point of my story is not that long distance relationships are doomed from the beginning, but the chances of it working out are slim, if at all, for two people who are in graduate school on opposite sides of the coast. We could not even have normal phone conversations because of the time difference and our busy schedules. We have intense feelings for each other, but unfortunately it is interrupted by thousands of miles. I am a believer in the idea that there is more than one right person out there, but he was "The Right One." I have faith that I will one day meet someone else and have strong feelings again, but it will never be the same kind of intensity as it was with him. He was the one and will always be the one for me.

Name withheld by request
USD Alumnus sworn in as President of the California Young Lawyers Association

On September 13, USD School of Law Alumnus David B. Norris, a solo practitioner in downtown San Diego specializing in general civil litigation, was officially sworn in as president of the 40,000-member California Young Lawyers Association (CYLA) for the 1997-98 year. He was sworn in along with Marc Adelman, the new president of the State Bar of California, at the State Bar's annual conference in San Diego.

CYLA, the "right arm" to the 160,000-member State Bar of California, represents more than 40,000 young and new attorneys. The organization dedicates itself to the needs of its newest members and is the primary source of information, networking and marketing for new lawyers entering the field. All attorneys under the age of 37, or who have been in practice for five years or less, are automatically members of CYLA with their paid bar dues.

According to Norris, who has served for the past three years on the CYLA board, the number one goal of the organization is to respond to the employment crisis which has affected attorneys in the state for the past five years.

"There is no short term answer in sight," says Norris. "However, there are programs, career fairs and information that we can provide that will help new and young lawyers get on the right track to fulfilling their career goals. I encourage all new attorneys to "get involved" in some aspect of their local and/or state bar, regardless of their current employment situation. Bar involvement is the single best source of networking and marketing for new attorneys."

Norris is a 1990 graduate of the University of San Diego School of Law. He has served as president of the Barristers Club of San Diego, as well as chair of the SDCBA's Young and New Lawyer Section, Disaster Preparedness Committee and Membership Committee. He is currently chair of the Litigation Section of the SDCBA and was recently appointed to the University of San Diego Law Alumni Board of Directors.

1997-98 National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition rocks USD's world

You've probably never heard of it, you've definitely never participated in it, but it's one of USD's best kept secrets. On October 16-18th, the Eighth Annual National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition once again got underway.

The Criminal Procedure Competition began eight years ago, in part as a way of increasing USD's presence nationally, as well as to provide another option to law schools nationwide looking to compete in a new and topical moot court competition. This competition is not open to USD law students. Rather, USD plays host each year to approximately 24 moot court teams from around the country. This year's competitors included teams from such schools as Hastings, the University of Florida and UConn.

In short, each school sends a team of two competitors to argue a problem written and prepared by two tournament coordinators. This year, that role fell to Carrie Ornelas and Bryant Turner.

This year's problem involved a highly relevant and controversial issue, according to the problem's author, third-year student and Moot Court Board member, Bryant Turner. Specifically, the problem concerned a statute signed into law by President Clinton last fall which bans the transportation, sale, or possession of firearms by anyone convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor.

"What makes this so compelling," stated Turner, "is that this is clearly meant to apply to all federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel. This ends up affecting literally thousands of gun-carrying law enforcement officers."

When asked how he felt personally about the subject, Turner merely replied with a wry grin, "I can live with it."

Part of the challenge of the competition is the successful selection of prestigious judges for the final round of the competition, which took place on Saturday, October 18th. This year, after long hours of searching, the judges who ultimately committed to the competition comprised an impressive list indeed.

Honorable Richard Huffman of the California Court of Appeals, Fourth District; the Honorable James Ware from the US District Court of the Northern District of California and USD's own Professor Stuart Benjamin presided as the U.S. Supreme Court in the final round.

"The prestige of the final round judges ensures that the competitors will be challenged to the fullest extent of their advocacy abilities," stated Ornelas.
The Last Word on Parking at USD, or, just what are they doing over there and when will it be done?

By Mark Stenson

Fall semester started nearly two months ago and there are still those who grumble about the parking situation. Anyone with eyes can see that parking spaces at USD are in high demand. However, this school is in Southern California and transportation by automobile is a way of life and, most of the time, a necessity. The construction sight is not as bad as at many other college campuses.

While there are still close to 400 total parking spaces on campus, the truth is that more of them are now further away from most class room buildings. This does pose an inconvenience compared to the parking situation before construction began. However, parking at USD is not as bad as at many other college campuses. The farthest student parking space from class at USD is still closer than the closest student parking space at say, UCSD. The bottom line is that until the parking garage is completed, there will be an inconvenience to anyone who wants to park on the USD campus.

In addition to the actual construction of the parking structure, there are other factors that contribute to the parking situation. For example, Parking Services has determined certain ratios of drivers to spaces in order to determine what label the space will receive. This ratio is also based on the time use of the space. Therefore, resident students need a one to one ratio. Staff, faculty, and commuter students are assigned a ratio of 1.5 drivers to 1 space. It is clear then that there is not a space for every driver (i.e. permit holder). That Parking Services sold more permits than spaces is one of the complaints students have expressed this term. However, in theory this last ratio should work, as commuters move on and off campus throughout the day. It is not clear if this theory does work; however, this ratio system was in place before construction began.

There are also other factors to consider in the parking situation. Finding a parking space would be more difficult this year even without the construction sight. According to Public Safety Director Sampson there are two hundred more undergraduates and fifty more law students enrolled this semester. It can be assumed that most of these students commute and are in search of parking spaces. In addition, this semester Parking services has sold 92 more faculty and staff permits at this time last October. These permits also signify a need for parking spaces.

The parking situation has fueled many discussions. There have been numerous ideas offered to ease the situation. These solutions run the gamut from absurd to logical.

One solution I have overheard is to make the parking lot between the LRC and Warren Hall a lot for law students only. The problem with this idea is that if this were done there would have to be an offset somewhere else on campus. With the size of this lot coupled with the number of law students a commuter would still have to get to campus before 8 A.M. to get a space. If a law student did not find a space in the law school lot, it is unclear where they would be allowed to park. This hypothetical commuter would probably end up having to park in the West Lot down the hill anyway.

More shuttles have also been suggested to help the situation. The problem is there are only two shuttles on campus. The abbreviated routes are in place because of turn around time concerns. There is not enough time to make a full loop around campus from the West Lot and still expect students to be waiting when the shuttle returns to the West Lot. In addition, the speed bumps on the outer loop of campus damage the handicap access on the shuttles. If a shuttle is damaged and needs repair, it is one of two shuttles that is out of service. Finally, Ms. Sampson has said that when the shuttles did run on the outer loop, there was a very low usage of the service. So, for the time being, the two shuttle runs that are in place are the ones that will remain.

The structure itself is about two weeks behind schedule. This is about average in the construction business. Unfortunately, rain will affect the finish date of the project. Due to the El Niño, we are supposed to get more than the normal rainfall. I also had the chance to speak with some of the construction workers down at Mr. Peabody's and learned that the usual 6 A.M. time was bumped back to 7 A.M. due to resident student complaints. However, barring a major setback, the project should be completed relatively close to the anticipated date.

The bottom line is that the parking situation is going to stay the way it is. Soon all the outgoing students will be forced to suffer the inconvenience while newer students can look forward to parking in the new structure.
CLASS OF 1999 -- TIME TO CONSIDER JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

What is a judicial clerkship and why should I be interested?

Each fall, second year students at law schools nationwide are urged by faculty, career services staff, deans, and classmates to consider applying for judicial clerkships. (The application process begins in January.) Judicial clerkships are post-graduate/post-bar exam positions that involve working as a law clerk to one or more federal or state judges. Judicial clerkships carry a tremendous amount of prestige and provide an excellent opportunity for law school graduates to work closely with a judge, view the legal process from behind the bench, and sharpen legal research and writing skills. Additionally, judicial clerkships are held in the highest regard and are viewed as a tremendous amount of prestige for you and your resume!

Which courts offer judicial clerkships?

Most judicial clerkships are post-graduate/post-bar exam positions that involve working as a law clerk to one or more federal or state judges. Judicial clerkships are held in the highest regard and are viewed as a tremendous amount of prestige for you and your resume!

Why should I be interested?

Judicial clerkships are post-graduate/post-bar exam positions that involve working as a law clerk to one or more federal or state judges. Judicial clerkships carry a tremendous amount of prestige and provide an excellent opportunity for law school graduates to work closely with a judge, view the legal process from behind the bench, and sharpen legal research and writing skills. Additionally, judicial clerkships are held in the highest regard and are viewed as a tremendous amount of prestige for you and your resume!

When do I apply?

The application and interview process begins in your second year, second semester. 1999 graduates should prepare their federal court application packets during late December 1997/early January 1998 AND mail them to judges no later than the end of January 1998. State court judges have much broader application deadlines, some as late as third year, second semester. The application packet typically includes: resume, cover letter, 1-2 writing samples, 2-3 recommendation letters (see Career Services for additional information) and a transcript.

Most (if you have an interest in particular judges, call the current clerk to check on application dates) federal judges will likely continue to comply with a request from law school deans to not conduct interviews before March 1, 1998. Letters of recommendation from law faculty should not be sent before February 1, 1998.

Where can I find additional information?

Best resources:

Want's Federal and State Court Directories
LEXIS & Westlaw Judicial Clerkship databases

Calendar:

Watch Sidebar and Motions and Career Services Bulletin Board for information on the November 19th Judicial Clerkship Panel.

BOO!

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5:30 P.M.-1:00 AM
SALMON HOUSE
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Leonard Armato ’78: Merging the worlds of sports, entertainment & law

By Barbara Craig and Mike O’Connor

You have probably seen him court-side at the big games. You may have noticed him driving Shaquille O’Neal around in a decked-out convertible during a Taco Bell commercial. You may have even recognized his name on the credits of a few flicks, but did you know that this mega-marketing mogul is an alumnus of the University of San Diego School of Law. That’s right, the man who orchestrated Shaquille O’Neal’s one hundred and twenty million dollar move to the Los Angeles Lakers once walked these halls of Warren, books in tow.

These days the 44-year-old international marketing guru is chairman of the board for the exclusive Santa Monica based Sports Agency Management Plus Enterprises. His client list includes Shaquille O’Neal. Shaquille O’Neal and . . . then there is always Shaquille O’Neal. Actually, Armato’s client list includes, or has included, such sports greats as Hakeem Olajuwon, Ronnie Lott, Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Ahmad Rashad and now includes WNBA star Lisa Leslie and the number one ranked women’s volleyball player Holly McPeak (who has been voted MVP three years in a row by her fellow players in the Women’s Professional Volleyball Association). Armato’s vision is to transform the already larger-than-life Shaquille O’Neal into something comparable to a modern day Mickey Mouse, a household brand name. One meeting with this man and we are convinced that he’ll probably do just that.

Armato grew up in Brooklyn, New York. His father played an integral and constantly inspirational role in Leonard’s life, instilling in him a hard work ethic and respect for discipline. “My dad went to work during the day and took classes at night at Columbia University while raising our family,” said Armato. After earning a master’s degree in English, Armato’s dad eventually took a job with the University of Southern California as an associate professor and the family moved west. Armato’s father was also responsible for introducing Leonard to the wonderful world of sports, although his father’s main area of interest was boxing. Today, Sam Armato is affectionately called “Pops” by Shaquille O’Neal. Every now and then “Pops” has been known to give Shaquille a word or two of the day or two to mull over.

Now back to Leonard Armato. Armato graduated in 1975 from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, where he was an all-league basketball player while on scholarship at that University. He played under the guidance of Coach Stan Morrison during his years at UOP. Stan Morrison would turn out to be a long-lasting friend and prove integral in Armato’s entrance into the sports and entertainment arena; by introducing him to Ronnie Lott and company. Armato played guard, averaging 12.8 points per game for the Tigers hoop team. However, sports would prove to be a secondary consideration to another profession. Right after graduation, Leonard headed south to San Diego to begin law school at the University of San Diego School of Law. “Law school gave me the tools I needed to succeed,” said Armato. “My first year at USD was pretty overwhelming,” remarked Armato. However, during his second year Armato quickly discovered what his professors wanted him to write in those little blue books and he cruised through his last two years.

Armato has fond memories of many of the professors he met while attending USD, such as former Professors Edward Imwinkelreid and Kenneth Culp-Davis, whom you might recognize as appearing on the cover of some of your texts. “Imwinkelreid was very generous with his time and the attention he gave his student’s,” remarked Armato. Likewise, Armato took part in many Moot Court Competitions during his three years at USD. Moreover, Armato discovered fairly quickly that he did not want to work as a criminal defense attorney after he represented a client who concealed evidence and lied to him during his internship with the Federal Defenders.

In 1978 Armato graduated from USD with the knowledge that he someday would have the opportunity to represent professional athletes. He began his legal career as an attorney with the San Diego firm of Sullivan, Jones & Archer. Quickly tiring of the day-to-day grind of firm life and with nothing more than a three thousand dollar retainer, in 1980 Armato set up practice in San Diego. That same year he signed future Hall-of-Famer Ronnie Lott. Lott had been solicited by over one hundred sports agents. Armato says he met with Lott’s family and convinced them that he had the ability to make a positive impact in their son’s life even though he was not as experienced as the agents which were clamoring to get Lott to sign on with them. “I told Ronnie Lott that I was the best person to represent him because I was dedicated to helping Ronnie and his family fulfill their career aspirations,” said Armato.

Within a year’s time, Armato’s life would change forever. In 1982, Armato was diagnosed with what his doctors believed was a brain tumor. His entire career came to a screeching halt. This was a very tumultuous time for him and his family because...
he did not know whether he was going to live or die. After fourteen hours of surgery Armato found out that the tumor was not cancerous, but was rather a vascular malformation. This gut wrenching experience further solidified his desire to live each day as if he had left on this earth to its fullest extent. "Live life to its fullest and to your fullest potential. Life has its ups and downs, but I don't ever want to feel like I have wasted my potential," said Armato.

Armato has also proven to be a driving force in other areas. For instance, in 1983 he catapulted beach volleyball into existence and has since seen it jump into the summer spotlight under his executive directorship which included the five years after its inception. During these early years, Armato also worked as outside counsel for such organizations as apparel giants L.A. Gear and FILA. More recently, this past September Armato transformed the UCLA tennis center into the 1997 World Volleyball Championships. To this feat Armato added, "Volleyball needs an environment and venue to accommodate the fans and media so that it can flourish in this day and age." Truly the remarks of an ever-forward thinking marketing magnet.

On a personal and professional note, three years ago Armato began dating Women's Volleyball great Holly McPeak. McPeak is the "model" volleyball player who has both the advertising and sports worlds humming. I mean this woman is not only drop-dead gorgeous, but Sports Illustrated has referred to her as the smartest, quickest and undeniably strongest player in the history of the sport. 28-year-old McPeak is also very much enamored by and with Leonard Armato. This dynamic duo share an oceanfront house in Manhattan Beach. Armato says he and Holly walk the beach at night when they want to unwind. "I work out with Holly once in a while...but my workout is more like a cool down for her," laughed Armato.

Armato's molding of sports, entertainment and advertising actually began in 1987 when Armato helped guide legendary Laker Kareem Abdul-Jabbar out of near-bankruptcy by signing him to a sneaker deal with L.A. Gear. In 1988, Management Plus Enterprises was born. Armato. With this goal in mind and his impeccable knack for timing, Armato closed a deal with O'Neal's college coach, Louisiana State University's Dale Brown, and L.A. Gear, shortly before the Coach introduced Armato to SHAQ. After the initial introduction, Armato visited Shaquille's family at their home on a San Antonio Army base. "Some people were afraid of Shaq's father because he is a no-nonsense kind of guy," quipped Armato. Kids attending Armato's son's school might think that Shaq's father isn't the only intimidating one in the family. Perhaps thinking they were in the middle of an earthquake, it turns out to be Shaquille O'Neal picking up the two younger Armatos from school. The booming is coming from the 3,700-watt stereo system in his blue Ford Expedition, something akin to what you would hear if you were to stick your head next to the engine of a DC-10. A little "Shaq Diesel" for the young ones.

Likewise, Armato is known for his "tough as nails" negotiating tactics. For example, he called the Boston Celtics bluff a few years back after he sent Brian Shaw overseas to shoot hoops in Italy. Moreover, Armato masterminded a bidding war which had both Nike and Reebok chomping at the bit for SHAQ's endorsement even before the lopsided grinning rookie played his first professional game. In the end Reebok offered SHAQ an estimated 15 million dollar contract for his agreement to endorse a new line of shoes and apparel.

More importantly to the pleasure of the 7 foot smiling rookie, Armato had finessed a 40 million dollar seven year deal with the Orlando Magic for his basketball services. Last year Armato signed SHAQ up with the LA Lakers for a cool 120 million dollar seven year deal. It appears "million" has turned out to be a word both Armato and SHAQ are quite familiar with. Not only has SHAQ made a slew of cash for shooting hoops but he has fulfilled his own slogan - now record label TWisM: "The World is Mine."

"We are at the convergence of sports and entertainment," said Armato in his office in Santa Monica. "It's a tremendous economic force.... Compare the National Basketball Association to Disney: We have characters named Michael and Shaq. Arenas are theme parks. A brand is an intellectual property that stands for something and lives on in the mind of the consumer." "I have a seven-foot giant who runs like a deer but has a tiny heart of gold," said Armato. "Shaquille is multimedia and he is a part of a generation that feels you should try all options," he added. These options have included three albums "Shaq Diesel," "You Can't Stop the Reign" and "Shaq Fu Da Return", as well as two movies; "Kazaam" and "Steel" along with his own "SHAQ World" Web page.

The page is powered by the CBS Sportsline, complete with new photos of SHAQ hammering it up with his teammates at a recent media day shoot. You can also watch SHAQ grow by downloading his early childhood pictures. But wait, there's more. The page includes SHAQ'S statistics, merchandise, his chat room and some personal stuff. Check out this "oh so fun" and "fact packed" site: http://www.sportsline.com/u/shaq/chat.htm. Reading this WEB page, one really might get the distinct impression that this 300-lb seven foot giant is actually a kid at heart.

Speaking of kids, Armato's two sons, nine-year-old Anthony and seven-year-old Elio enjoy the best of both worlds because they have an intensely supportive and committed father in Armato and a fun-loving, dynamic big brother in Shaquille O'Neal. What's not to like about that deal? What does the future hold for Armato? We can only guess that one of our most famous alumni will continue his global marketing blitz of sports and entertainment. Can we be the first to get tickets for SHAQ-land?
USD students create and maintain Sports and Entertainment Law Journal on the Net

By Nikki Buracchio

It's all about who you know! Nowhere is this more evident than in the fast-paced, connections-based field of Sports and Entertainment Law.

Angelo Genova, 3L, moved to California with great ambitions of beginning a career in Sports Law. His life-long love of baseball deepened his enthusiasm for breaking into the business. Soon after his initial exposure to the field, Genova found that enthusiasm and a willingness to work hard were simply not enough. These attributes "don't matter unless you know the right people."

Last October, Genova attended the ABA's forum on Sports and Entertainment in Nashville, Tennessee. While attending this conference, he was struck by the large number of law students in attendance. These students represented law schools from around the country and shared a common passion to succeed in Sports and Entertainment Law. They also shared a common disappointment in the lack of networking opportunities. Genova notes, "the common theme which united us that weekend was our desire to find work in a profession which we hold out to be a dream."

Genova created an innovative solution to the lack of communication and networking among the law schools: a Sports and Entertainment Law Journal. "Law schools throughout the country are hosting a great number of symposiums which provide a wealth of information about the industry of S&E law and yet many people outside these host schools know little about their events. As such, the primary purpose of this journal is to allow law students a forum to share information and comment on current happenings in the S&E law world."

Because high costs prohibited publishing a printed version of the journal, Genova was forced to find an alternative means of reaching his nation-wide audience. His answer: a S&E law web site. The Southern California Sports & Entertainment Law Journal can be accessed at http://www.se-law.com and has had between eight and twelve thousand hits in its first month alone! The web site's success can be attributed to two factors: First, the diligent efforts of Genova and his assistants, Tom Sullivan (managing editor) and Zachary Roberts (design editor); Second, the fact that there is nothing like it in the country!

The journal conducts approximately three to four interviews per month in order to highlight professionals within the field such as agents, managers, attorneys, and celebrities. These personal interviews "explore what those who are successful in the field do, what they did to get started, how they feel about current issues, and what advice they have for those trying to break into the area."

It also offers a calendar of upcoming S&E events which are occurring nation-wide. Such events include "ABA events, school symposiums, forums, lectures and other similar happenings."

With one click on any desired location, one has access to a detailed schedule of events, including information such as fees and accommodations. Another unique feature of the web site is an editorial column which will allow students and others an opportunity to voice their opinions on current issues in the S&E law world. It hopes "to publish a number of Law Review quality articles speaking directly to S&E matters."

So what's next for Genova and his exciting new creation? Genova's goals for the journal include attaining more advertisers (i.e. the Sports Lawyers Association, Bar Review courses, etc.) and broadening the journal's distribution. Beyond these goals, the possibilities seem endless! Genova has already had offers from the ABA, who are interested in purchasing the idea. His personal goals and dreams still center around actively working in the area of Sports Law, but Genova certainly has not discarded the idea of maintaining the journal, even after graduation. He sees the journal as a fantastic experience which has enabled him to meet a wide variety of people within the Sports and Entertainment business. Editors Genova and Sullivan welcome any thoughts or comments regarding the journal. They can be contacted by e-mail at SE-Law@se-law.com or USD students interested in contributing to the journal can telephone Genova at (619) 284-9481.

USD can be proud of this pioneer effort in the area of Sports and Entertainment Law. This journal adds a practical perspective to a field which has traditionally received purely academic treatment by the USD legal community. It opens up new, untapped networking opportunities for students nation-wide while demonstrating a successful balance of competition and cooperation.
A FEW WORDS FROM CAREER SERVICES

WELCOME FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Career Services welcomes all first-year students. We encourage you to visit our office beginning November 1, 1997. To introduce you to the staff, resources, services and programs available to you throughout your law school years, we have scheduled the Career Services Open House and Job Search Overview on Wednesday, November 5th. In addition, resume workshops will take place on November 6th followed by cover letter workshops on Tuesday, November 11th. Seating is limited – sign up in Career Services beginning November 3rd to reserve a seat.

To keep informed about what's happening in Career Services, watch for articles in Motions, announcements in Sidebar, and programming information on the bulletin board directly outside our office.

Warren Hall, Room 111  619/260-4529
Monday - Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (during academic year)
Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Staff:
Susan Benson, Director
Kate Vargas, Assistant Director
Julie Hoyle, JLD Coordinator
Kemi Williams, Career Services Coordinator
Linda Sola, Career Services Assistant

SERVICES INCLUDE:
Career Services Official Communications
The Career Services bulletin board is the primary site for posting program announcements, interview schedules, special resume collections, and other legal career information. Students are responsible for reviewing the posted information regularly.

Career Counseling
By appointment, meet with Career Services staff to discuss career objectives and job search strategy. Brief walk-in appointments are also available during scheduled times daily.

Resume and Cover Letter Review
By appointment, mail, or the resume drop-off service, Career Services staff will edit your resume and cover letters.

Video Mock Interviews
Mock video interview and immediate playback and review by Career Services staff. Preregistration required.

Law Clerk and Attorney Job Listings
Listings are received daily, and posted in Job Binders—local, regional, and nationwide listings; government, private, and public interest employers; paid and volunteer positions.

Fall Recruiting Program
Employers interview students either on- or off-campus from mid-September through October each year.

Ten Steps to Beginning Your 1L Legal Job Search

The following ten steps highlight how to make the 1L job hunt a little less overwhelming:

1. Visit the Career Services Office. Introduce yourself to any of the staff, pick up a copy of our resources and services list, and take a quick glance at our reference shelves.

2. Make an appointment with a Career Services counselor. A thirty-minute session will allow you to ask questions, review resources, evaluate your options, and help you to begin assembling a legal job "application" packet.

3. Prepare a resume. The purpose of a resume is to get you an interview. Your resume should highlight your accomplishments and should be considered the first writing sample a potential employer will see. A Career Services Resume Guide will help you get started.

4. Draft a general cover letter. Your letter will need to be basic enough to introduce you to different employers while leaving room for customizing for specific position needs. A Career Services Cover Letter Guide contains an outline for writing cover letters as well as samples.

5. Request copies of your unofficial USD law school transcript from the Records Office. While some employers will accept only the official transcript, many will accept an unofficial copy. Be sure to also have available copies of transcripts from all colleges and universities you have attended.

6. Prepare writing samples. If you are in your first year of law school, your lawyering skills brief will suffice. If you have clerking experience, you may be able to use a legal document if all information identifying the client is redacted. If possible, have one to three writing samples available; they should be from 4 - 6 pages long — not to exceed 10 pages.

7. Develop a list of references. These people should know you in a professional context and be able to speak highly of you. Likely candidates include law school and undergraduate professors, former employers, and contacts through community service activities. Be sure to request permission before listing anyone, and keep them current on your application and interviewing activities.

8. Network. Contact friends and family who might be able to help you. While it is unlikely that someone is going to give you a job, many people know someone in the legal profession. One contact often leads to others.

9. Attend Career Services programs. Our office offers a variety of programs related to the job search, including resume and cover letter writing workshops, judicial clerkship panels and various employer panels. Career Services also participates in a number of regional career days and job fairs throughout the year.

10. Join legal organizations. USD has a number of on-campus student organizations where you can meet fellow students, attend presentations and get to know local attorneys. Students who have completed their second semester of law school are allowed to become student members of many local county bar associations and gain access to events sponsored by the San Diego legal community. A number of national legal organizations have student memberships.
Wedded bliss and law school excitement

By Christopher and Raquel Koch

Marriage and law school have some similarities. Both of them require your time, attention and commitment to succeed. What happens when the world of marriage and school collide? How does one reconcile these competing demands without losing one's mind? There is no question that law school will take away time and create stress in any student's life whether married or not. The question is how to deal with it without driving your loved one insane.

LOVE & UNDERSTANDING

While most spouses will never truly realize what you are going through, they do love you and will support you. When I asked Becky Robinson, a 2L, what her husband did to support her in school she told me he was understanding of her time constraints. She also noted that her husband did a lot of housework, including cleaning the dishes. Debbie Streeter, also a 2L, paralleled Becky's response. She replied that her husband cooks, cleans and does not demand too much time.

Support does not end there for hungry, messy married law students like myself. Our spouses give us emotional support. They love us and keep us motivated when we are down. James Gergurich, a 2L, explained that his wife, Michele, keeps him going when there seems to be too much going on, "she motivates me and is a person to lean on." Our partners are rocks in the mud, stressed out world of law school.

TIME

To have a happy rock we must show our appreciation by giving back. We have to give up the most precious commodity of all in USD School of Law, our time and attention. James Gergurich summed it up best when he said that spending time with his wife solidified their relationship. The critical question seems to be: how much time with your spouse is "enough" time?

That may depend on what your spouse's schedule is like. For example, when your spouse is as busy as you are the time constraints of law school are not as troublesome. Dan Cross and his wife, Michele, have very full schedules. Dan is a 2L, a Public Interest law Foundation member, and works for San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program. His wife, Michele, is a full time student, a part time waitress, and works as a volunteer to help the Salvation Army. Due to their hectic lifestyles they do not have too much time to spend with one another. However, this is not a big problem for Dan and Michele because they are happy just to be with one another when time permits. Dan explained that during school they coast as far as time goes. They see each other when they can. Then, during school breaks, they take the opportunity to spend more time together and plan for weekend excursions.

When your spouse is less busy than you are time may be more of a problem. According to Frank and Kirsten Grell, LLMC, when you are going to school and your spouse stays home or works during the day, the time constraints become more difficult for your spouse to understand. Your partner will want to spend his or her spare time with you. This could be problematic, especially if you are semi-neurotic about law school (which includes most of us).

A good way of dealing with this delicate issue is to "encourage" your spouse to try some fulfilling or interesting activity during their free time. Maybe they can finally attend those Spanish classes, or join a reading club, or a volleyball team. There are many options available through the Adult Continuing Education Centers as well as through the Junior Colleges. Although most spouses will understand your need to study during the most inconvenient times, they will feel better if there is a lot going on for them too. Besides, they will probably feel pleased for your support and interest in their well-being.

Another good approach is to manage your time wisely. If your spouse notices that you have been spending more time than necessary on non-school activities (such as TV or the Web), but that you seldom have time to spend with him or her, your spouse will probably feel neglected, or even "used." Waking up earlier or studying more during the week may help you to free up time on the weekends to spend together.

STRESS

Spending time together, any time, will make up for most of the stress you may direct at your partner or vice versa. For example, to deal with stress Becky Robinson tries to go away every other weekend with her husband for the day. Yes, the whole day! And here is the most important part: no studying! Kerry Wallis, a 2L, relieves stress with her loved one by being playful and teasing one another. She tries to see life from a lighter, less serious perspective. An important point, especially in law school, is to have fun and laugh occasionally.

Another way to keep our loved ones sane is to leave the horrors of law school at school. Both Kerry Wallis and Becky Robinson made the same point when they said while it is very important to communicate what you are stressed out about (law school), it is not a good idea to go over board with it. Carrie put it precisely, "nobody wants to listen to your bad mood all the time." She knows what she is talking about when it comes to communicating about stress. Her husband is going to medical school.

HOUSE CHORES

Although your spouses know you are going through a demanding law program, they don't get paid to pick up after you. Remember: your spouse also has his or her own life to live. You may have a frank conversation with your partner and explain that he or she may end up with the short side of the stick when it comes to house chores. However, don't make it a full-time job for them. By volunteering to do those dreaded house chores, you will make your spouse feel less taken for granted. Who knows, you may get a great big kiss out of it.

HAPPY END

So, is being married and going to law school easy? Nope! But it is rewarding (the being married part anyway). So, for advice to all you first year married couples from the jaded second year couples: remember to communicate with each other. Understand where your partner is coming from. Your spouses are taking care of you, remember to take care of them. So, tell your rock you love and appreciate 'em, then spend some time with 'em to prove it.
Summer abroad programs encounter difficulties

By K.A. Schuler-Hintz

The return to school this year brought the usual: an overload of books, an overload of reading, and of course the inevitable grinding of the rumor mill. The hot new rumor this fall concerned the summer study abroad program in Florence, Italy and Barcelona, Spain. Rumor has it that the University of San Diego was sanctioned for a violation involving the study abroad program.

In search of the facts, I went first to a student who had participated in the 1997 Summer Abroad program. The student was extremely pleased with the summer abroad experience. It amounted to four easy credits with good grades. The professors were easy-going and some even enjoyed "malt" beverages during class. The classes frequently ended early, except for the week the ABA and former Dean Strachan were visiting, when everyone had to be on their best behavior.

The student I spoke to was unaware of any problems with the 1997 Summer Abroad program (and indeed there were no problems with the 1997 Summer Program) and was not aware of any problems with the 1996 Summer Abroad program. To the student's knowledge, the visit from the ABA and Dean Strachen was not extraordinary and not the result of any violations or problems.

None of this is problematic, at least from a student's point of view. The coursework was interesting, educational and set in a beautiful environment.

My next stop was the ABA web site (WWW.ABANET.ORG). An e-mail inquiry brought back a response from Carol Weiss, Staff Director/ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. She replied:

"At its June 26 28, 1997 meeting the Accreditation Committee of the ABA Section of Legal Education & Admissions to the Bar publicly sanctioned the University of San Diego and its School of Law for operating unapproved summer programs in Barcelona, Spain and Florence, Italy in the summer of 1996 and for granting credit for and persistently mislead学生 participants as to the status of those programs. As a penalty the law school paid to each student participant the amount of tuition paid by that student for the program. The law school has accepted the sanctions and acknowledged its error in offering the 1996 summer programs in Barcelona and Florence without first obtaining the Accreditation Committee's approval. This acceptance of responsibility has now resulted in the ABA accreditation Committee's concern with all matters relating to the law school's action involving the 1996 foreign summer programs."

Thereafter, a follow-up correspondence requesting further details, elicited a reply from Kurt Snyder, Assistant Consultant on Legal Education to the American Bar Association. Unfortunately this was even less enlightening because according to the Internal Operating Practices Number 2, "all matters relating to the accreditation of a law school shall be confidential." Nonetheless, additional information could be sought "directly from the school which is not bound by the same confidentiality rules." (For those who are interested in accreditation standards the "Standards for Approval of Law Schools and the Criteria for Foreign Study" are available on the ABA website at www.abanet.org/legalad.)

Mr. Snyder did state that 1996 was the only year the violation occurred; no other violations have occurred since that time, and that the action taken by the Accreditation Committee with reference to the 1996 Summer Abroad Program will not have any effect on up-coming programs.

My next stop was Interim Dean Grant Morris. A colleague of mine, met with Dean Morris to discuss the matter and advised me that, according to Dean Morris, the sanctions stemmed from USD's failure to meet a deadline for applying for accreditation. USD's Summer Abroad coordinator Bert Lazerow sent the ABA a fax asking for an extension of the deadline. Unfortunately, the ABA failed to respond to this fax, leading USD to believe that the extension was granted. Thus, USD submitted its application late, after it had already committed faculty and facilities for the two summer programs. The ABA refused to accredit the program and would not allow USD to give academic credit for taking the courses. Nonetheless, USD went ahead with the programs, feeling that the strong reputation of the summer abroad program and USD's excellent record with the ABA would encourage the ABA to reconsider and give accreditation at its April 1996 meeting.

After over one year of discussions, Interim Dean Grant Morris accepted ABA sanctions. A neutral fact finder found fault on both sides, but USD admitted it made a mistake and accepted the ABA sanctions. USD gave credit to its students for the Barcelona and Florence programs. The summer program is now fully accredited and there have been no further problems with the ABA.

Dean Morris admits that the incident was an "embarrassment to the school," but assures everyone that the matter is behind the school. USD's summer programs remain among the finest in the nation, and the school is looking forward to another successful summer in 1998.

The end result? Everything is fine. The problem that existed was with the 1996 Summer Abroad Program only, and has been fully resolved. The 1997 Program was fully accredited. The Summer Abroad program is fun and educational and highly recommended by many students. As usual, the rumor mill was grinding over time.

Records bids adieu to Karen

By Richard Ormond

Many students, upon arrival at school in the morning, secretly decide to walk in through the front doors of the law school, just so they can peak into the front offices. This is so they can see who is there and if they can spend a few minutes socializing before the grind of their long day sets in. One of the main morning draws was Karen at the Records Office, who provided advice, comfort, sincerity and a candy jar on her desk for the students.

Karen retired last Friday to move to Arizona to ride her Harley across the desert and to the golf course. Many law students were sad that her familiar face won't be there to greet them whenever they go into the Records office from now on.

Karen, for many students, represented the calm within the eye of the storm when having to deal with the stresses of law school. Kathleen Moss, a 2L, expressed that, "Karen always knew how to solve a problem, or at least handle it in a way that would make you feel at ease." This was a common sentiment among students.

Karen's relation with students was evident at her farewell reception. A number of students stopped by the Records Office to get my daily TLC!

Matt Denham stopped by the reception, expressing Karen's importance to the students by describing her as kind and understanding.

The Records Office is not just considered another bureaucratic office at USD by the students, but rather a place where students can vent their frustrations, get comfort from the staff, or just hear a good joke. Karen was an integral part of this atmosphere. Students can only hope that her replacement can fill her shoes, and more importantly her candy jar, as full as Karen did.
The latest crop of cinema contains several losers but only one winner

By Dan Flynn

I hate to see summer end but I am ecstatic to see the Summer Blockbuster crap finally subside. Don't expect the movies to get any better, but at least they will be a bit more diversified, until Christmas, that is. Which reminds me, why are Christmas decorations on display already, in September? Are Halloween and Thanksgiving really that pathetic that they are just ignored by the large department stores, or are we as customers really that pathetic that the early displays actually work? Anyway, these are the films I saw, and if you are too burnt to read the reviews, remember my handy numerical scale: 1 = pay to see it; 2 = sneak into it; 3 = rent it; 4 = cable; 5 = avoid it like the plague.

THE FULL MONTY = 2

Directed by Peter Cattaneo and starring Robert Carlyle (TRAINSPOTTING) and Mark Addy, this film is about a bunch of out-of-work steelworkers in Sheffield, England, who contrive a plan: to form a male striptease revue (starring themselves) to earn some desperately needed cash. The catch is that the guys comprise a group of varying body proportions which are far from the type that are traditionally appealing.

More specifically the group consists of: Gaz (Carlyle), who is scrawny, greasy and pale with really horrible oral hygiene; David (Addy), who is a British version of Norm from "Cheers;" Guy, who is dumber than dirt but apparently well endowed; Horse, who is an old man, but who unlike the others, already knows how to dance; Gerald, who is also pretty old but is the choreographer; and finally a red-haired suicidal guy who is so pathetic that I forgot his name.

Anyway, most of the film is build-up, introducing the audience to the characters and watching them practice for the big night. There is sparse insight to the character's lives, explaining why they would stoop to such desperate measures. However, money aside, it all really comes down to the fact that the men really need to prove that they can follow through with their plan, that they have the balls (literally) to see it through to the end. I found myself pondering, not whether they were or were not going to go through with it, but instead, "do I want to see them go through with it?"

The film is very light-hearted but it did offer some intellectual stimulation in the fact that it required serious concentration in order to decipher much of the dialogue. I guess they were speaking English but I still felt the need for subtitles. There is also the little body politics issues, where the men realize that they will be on display for a lot of women; the proverbial tables have turned, and the men, at least momentarily, realize that they have agreed to be objectified in the same way they have often objectified women.

All that aside, when the dust settles, they are still unemployed. Pride does a lot of things but it doesn't pay the bills.

L.A. CONFIDENTIAL = 1

Directed by Curtis Hanson and starring Russell Crowe, Guy Pearce, Kevin Spacey, Kim Basinger, and Danny DeVito, this is a period cop/gangster flick set in the '50s. Based on a book by the same name, the script is refreshingly intricate with a heart of gold. Nevertheless, I think if you give it a chance you will be pleasantly surprised.

IN & OUT = 4

Directed by Frank Oz, and starring Kevin Kline, Tom Selleck, Matt Dillon and Joan Cusack, this film is pretty much summed up by its title. The concept is funny, and the plot toys with some poignant issues but surrenders them to oddball comedy. Basically it is about Kline's character being "outed" by his former student (Dillon) on Oscar night.

While I find most films at least mildly insulting, this is one of the few films that actually goes so far as to leave the lowest common denominators to stare blankly at one another and wonder simultaneously whether the screenwriter might have been mildly retarded. Beginning with its literal title, this film amounts to little more than a barely cohesive series of bad jokes.

Apparently according to this film, comedy equals having models tell vomiting jokes, have grown men kiss, have old women say the word 'testicle,' and have people accused of being gay because they listen to Barbara Streisand and cry during BEACHES. This film amounts to little more than a dozen plus actors standing on a stage reciting lines they read off the bathroom wall. The generalization of homosexuals is not the fatal flaw, as generalization is a common element of all comedies, but the comedy dies when the generalizations are proved true, and only half-way

De Vito and Spacey discuss a juicy arrest.
through the film!

Perhaps the most insidious part of the film is the depiction of Greenleaf, Indiana, as the representative of small-town America. All the townspeople are kind of doozy and don't really understand homosexuality but will accept it as long as gay people are nice. Call me naive but I don't think coming out of the closet in a small town would be quite as quaint and comfortable as it is for Kline's character.

EXCESS BAGGAGE = 5

Directed by Marco Brambilla and starring Alicia Silverstone and Benicio Del Toro, this is the first release from First Kiss Productions, a joint venture between Silverstone and her producer/manager, Carolyn Kessler.

First Kiss Productions has been touted as a company formed to find great, risky and challenging roles for Silverstone. I think they have lost sight of this relatively simple goal. Silverstone is known for playing a slightly spacey, blonde, rich girl in trendy clothes. So what is the first role she takes under her newly established production company? An obnoxious, blonde, rich girl in trendy clothes.

Falling outside of the target audience, perhaps I didn't quite grasp the point of this film. As I see it, this film is nothing more than the stale story of neglected rich girl hooking up with lower class guy. By locking herself up in the trunk of her BMW, Silverstone's character fakes her own kidnapping to get the attention of her rich father, but her plot is foiled when Del Toro's character, a professional car thief, steals the car. The first 15 minutes consists of some pretty promising action, after which the rich girl and poor boy drive around endlessly and argue while the plot ostensibly thickens.

I wasn't told enough about either character to give a dam, let alone buy the connection between them. Worse yet, the movie is PG-13, so there are no sex scenes, which, now that I think about it, is probably a good thing because with the way Silverstone's lips flip around with a mind of their own, an on-camera love scene might end up being down right repulsive. Instead, the two fight most of the film, then they get drunk, then they make-out, and that's that (maybe it is a film about date rape and I just didn't get it).

Meanwhile, back at soundtrack studio land, someone is going crazy with all the great pop music that the kids love. The movie is like a long music video, with selections from Dave Matthews Band, the Wallflowers, etc. They say that you always remember your "first kiss," this is one I would like to forget.

HOODLUM = 2

Directed by Bill Duke, starring Laurence Fishburne, Tim Roth, Andy Garcia and Vanessa Williams, this film focuses on the exploits of real-life Ellsworth "Bumpy" Johnson (Fishburne), an African-American numbers runner who rose to prominence in the shadowy New York underworld of the 1930s.

Basically, this is another film based on the tired genre of a guy who sacrificed his personal life to achieve fame and fortune through criminal wrongdoing. What makes this film different however is that, although as important and infamous a figure as his white contemporaries, Bumpy's name has been forgotten over the years, while gangsters like Dutch Schultz (Roth) and Lucky Luciano (Garcia) have been kept alive in the public's mind.

Fresh out of prison, Bumpy returns to his old stomping grounds in Harlem where he falls back into his role as right-hand man to the "Queen" of the numbers and the owner of a very lucrative gambling house. The success of the Queen has caught the attention of Schultz, the first of the white mobsters to realize that a black person's money is worth as much as anyone else's, and that he wants a cut of it. When the Queen is sent to prison, Bumpy is the new leader of Harlem's numbers racket because he is the only one unfazed by Dutch's terrorizing tactics.

In a word, "long." With a huge cast, the story is told on a grand, sweeping scale. Unfortunately, the film suffers from a lack of editing and focus, weakening the final product. However, this film is far from unwatchable. Bumpy is an interesting and complex hero: intelligent, savvy, and a brave ass-kicker. Bumpy is also well read and romantic, scoring him the affection of the beautiful Francine Hughes (Williams).

Additionally, Roth, as a tiny, scrappy, vicious Schultz, steals almost every scene he is in. All flailing arms and a Bronx accent, Roth is a pleasure to watch and has all the fun in the world running circles around the other lumbering mobsters. In stark contrast is Garcia as Luciano who is portrayed as benevolent and cultured.

I enjoyed Bumpy's story but I am left with the question of why it took so long to get to the screen.

Pure Comedy

October 21, 1997

Haywood Jawbloughmie
182 Blink St.
San Diego, CA 92109
(619) 976-MRLD

Attn: Head Honcho (AKA "The Man")
Down, Dover & McKraken
123 Acme Lane – Tool Plaza
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Neil, Ben and Phil,

Thank you for your recent denial of my request for employment with your firm. The letterhead was quite impressive, and with names like those you could recreate your own Aryan Nation. Because I receive a large number of rejection letters from highly qualified self-righteous ambulance chasing back-stabbing firms such as yours, it is impossible for me to accept them all. As a result, I regret to inform you that your rejection has been denied.

I will be in the office on Monday at 7:30 a.m. sharp to discuss my signing bonus and parking spot — please have breakfast available, Bloody Mary's will do fine. I appreciate your intense and comprehensive resume review process. The 28 seconds it took for my resume to get from your hands into the circular file is about the same amount of time I will spend on my research memos to Neil, Ben and Phil. I wish you continued success in getting the names correct on subsequent rejection letters to my colleagues.

I look forward to running the firm's expense costs to well above the national deficit. Did you know you can get access to Baywatch e-mail addresses off of Westlaw and Lexis? Anyway, that's not important now. You'll be glad to know that my most common business-lunch expense will take the form of $4.14 for a double-double meal at In-N-Out, but I'm sure you can mitigate that by stocking my fridge with premium micro-brew.

P.S.: An office with an ocean view will do fine. So kick the fat balding guy out of the corner office and stick him on the treadmill in the Copyroom.

P.S.S.: Damn the Man!!

Very truly yours,

Haywood Jawbloughmie
Professor David Cornwell on sports & the law

By Barbara Craig

The year was 1976, he was fifteen years old. It was another hot and sticky day in the upper northwest section of Washington, D.C. On this day he was told by his parents that he had to get a job. All I want to do is play basketball, he thought. A friend had told him about a basketball camp around the corner so he arrived at the camp at nine a.m. sharp. He walked to Coach Morgan Wooten and told him that he wanted to work at the camp. Without looking at him, Coach Wooten pointed to a bench outside. With that, Coach Wooten walked into the camp. So he sat and waited. The minutes turned into hours. He didn't move from that bench. At around 11 a.m. Coach Wooten came outside, looked at him and then walked back inside. An hour later Coach Wooten walked past him and said, "We're breaking for lunch." Wooten came back within the hour and walked right past him. At 4 o'clock he was offered a job as a referee. "The pay was nine dollars a day. Perseverance paid off," he said.

He went home to share the good news with his parents. His father was sitting at the kitchen table reading the newspaper while his mother was busy at the stove preparing dinner. "I got a job!" He said as he pulled a chair out from the table to sit down. His mother stopped what she was doing and turned around while his father put down the paper he was reading. "I'm working at the basketball camp as a referee and the pay is nine dollars a day!" He added. His dad chuckled. His mother frowned and said in disbelief "Nine dollars a day? Young David responded as if he was being questioned in open court. "Well, you said I had to get a job and I did. You didn't say how much I was supposed to get paid for that job."

That referee job was the beginning of David Cornwell's assent into the fast-paced world of Sports and the Law. Cornwell now works for Steinberg & Moorad, which is one of the leading sports agencies in the nation, and he teaches Sports & the Law at the University of San Diego School of Law. "I think Coach Wooten was testing me," said Cornwell. "I think he wanted to know how bad I wanted it." Cornwell added. Today he imparts that commitment to excellence to USD law students. "The students who thought Sports and the Law was going to be a blow-off class are sadly mistaken," said Cornwell. Students are required to read, on average, one hundred pages per week and be prepared to discuss those cases and notes each week in class. "If the students aren't prepared for one class they will be lost during our class discussion. If they are not prepared for two classes they may end up benched for the rest of the semester." The class draws on a student's knowledge of Contracts, Constitutional law, Labor Law, Negotiations and just about every other class imaginable. Cornwell's delivery vacillates between "the guiding words" of a coach and the "in your face" attitude of a point guard. At times he passes the ball replete with fact sensitive hyposts to his students and guides them through those fact specific issues to the goal. While at other times he allows the student to create their own ball of facts. "I challenge the students to think beyond the printed words of the hood. He grew up in a small neighborhood in Washington D.C. His father was a surgeon and a associate professor at Howard University while his mother managed the Cornwell family home. "I learned how to play basketball by throwing the ball around after school with my brother's Eddie and Michael. We used to play pick-up games in the neighborhood and I quickly developed a passion for sports," said Cornwell. That passion was tempered by his father's insistence to excel in the classroom as well as on the court. "Coach Wooten wanted me to transfer to DeMatha High School after the summer I spent immersed in the sport," Cornwell said. Cornwell was excited by that proposition because every graduating senior who played on the team usually received a basketball scholarship from some well-known college. However, when he told his father the good news his father said, "You don't go to school to play basketball." Cornwell's father focused him on what was really important in life. "They can't take an education away from you," his father quipped.

In the end, Cornwell attended Sidwell Friends High School in D.C., which is the same school that Chelsea Clinton graduated from last year. Cornwell continued to play basketball in high school and was recruited by a number of colleges, including Tulane University. During his senior year in high school he took time out of his hectic senior year to visit Tulane. In December of that same year, some scouts from Tulane came to see him play. "I had just sprained my ankle during a Christmas break and I was unable to play during that game," Cornwell said. A week later Tulane rejected me without even seeing me play because of the numbers game involved in scouting potential athletes," he added. It was at that point in his life that Cornwell decided to focus more of his attention on academics.

Cornwell went to Tufts University in Massachusetts. Undaunted by his Tulane rejection he ended up walking on Tufts basketball team and he played as a forward, point guard and a shooting guard for the next three years. He graduated from Tufts University with a B.A. in English and an emphasis in Middle Eastern studies. During his senior year in college he attended American University in Cairo and played semi-professional basketball. "It was a thrill to get paid for playing basketball," said Cornwell. "I was paid forty dollars a game and I was the quickest player on the team so I scored a lot," he laughed. It was at this point in his life that he realized he wanted to be come a lawyer. "I took the LSATs all by myself in a little room in Egypt," laughed Cornwell.

Cornwell entered Georgetown University Law Center in 1982. Cornwell worked at the Juvenile Justice Clinic and was affiliated with the Black Law Students association while attending Georgetown. He has fond memories of the clinic because he was able to represent juveniles in delinquency proceedings. During the fall of his second year Cornwell participated in Georgetown's on-campus interviewing program and he was offered a job as a summer associate with
Whitman & Ransom, a large law firm based in New York City. Whitman & Ransom specialized in securities, trademark and antitrust litigation and usually summer associates were rotated through many different departments during the course of their associateship. However, Cornwell persuaded the partners to let him spend the entire summer in the litigation department. “I just knew that I wanted to litigate so I used my negotiation skills to achieve that goal,” said Cornwell. At the end of that summer, one of the partners in the firm, Herb Polk, came up to him in the hallway, grabbed him by the tie, and said, “Despite my best efforts son, I think we are going to make you an offer.”

In 1985 Cornwell packed his bags and headed north to New York City. As a young associate Cornwell was given a tremendous amount of responsibility. For instance, he actually wrote a brief for a writ of cert which eventually ended up on the desk of a Supreme Court Justice. “Those experiences forced me to ultimately think and work as a lawyer,” said Cornwell.

In 1987, while Cornwell was still toiling away at Whitman & Ransom, he received a phone call one morning from his friend Vickee’s father, Vernon Jordan Jr. “David, are you so intoxicated with the practice of law that you would not consider leaving it to work in-house,” the voice boomed. “No” responded Cornwell as he desperately tried to shake the slumber from his head. The voice quipped back. “Well then son, send me some copies of your resumes and I will get back to you.”

A few days later Cornwell found out that Vickee’s dad, Vernon Jordan Jr. (who used to work as counsel for the NFL), was recommending him to Pete Rozelle for the position of assistant counsel with the National Football League. Weeks later Cornwell found himself sitting in former NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle’s office. “I really didn’t think I was going to get the job,” remarked Cornwell. “I was just extraordinarily grateful to have the opportunity to meet Mr. Rozelle,” he added.

A week later, Cornwell got the call which changed his life. Former Commissioner Peter Rozelle offered him a job with the NFL. “My father used to say that football was a microcosm of life and that life was actually a series of third down plays,” Cornwell recalled. His father used to sit with he and his brother’s every Sunday and watch the day’s football games and say, “One day I’m going to take you boys to the Football Hall of Fame.” However, Cornwell’s father died unexpectedly of Cancer during his second year in law school. That dream of visiting the Football Hall of Fame became a reality in 1989 when he accompanied Rozelle to Canton, Ohio for the Pro Football Hall of Fame induction into the Hall. “That was one of the most moving experiences in my life,” said Cornwell. “I know my father was with us and was proud of me as I walked into the Hall.”

He quotes Emily Dickinson in describing his feelings concerning his father. “I am struck by the memory of him based upon the things that we weren’t able to do.”

Cornwell has a deep sense of respect for Pete Rozelle. “His leadership of the NFL created what we now know as the ‘sport entertainment industry,’” remarked Cornwell. While working under Rozelle’s guidance Cornwell resolved numerous policy questions surrounding league resolutions; assisted in the administration of NFL substance abuse policies; drafted numerous decisions in commissioner arbitrations; managed the litigation department which included handling antitrust and other cases arising out of the 1987 labor dispute; negotiated and drafted stadium leases and contracts for goods and services for the Super Bowl, American Bowl Series, Pro Bowl and other league sponsored events and developed and coordinated the NFL Players Advisory Council; the NFL Education Program and the NFL Minority Program.

Cornwell worked under both Pete Rozelle and the present NFL commissioner, Paul Tagliabue. “Both men are fans of the game and each of them had their own way of putting their stamp on professional sports,” said Cornwell. As assistant counsel, Cornwell’s job also included working quietly behind the scenes to develop professional relationships with key athletes. At times these relationships transformed into on-going friendships. Such was the case with Seattle Seahawks’ Quarterback, Warren Moon. In describing his relationship with Moon, Cornwell remarked, “I have a tremendous respect for Warren because he is both a great father to his children and an astute player.” Moon also worked as a spokesman for the NFL in some video’s which Cornwell produced. In 1991, Cornwell met the woman of his dreams, Kimberly, at a party in New York City and they were married within months of meeting each other. In November of that same year, in what Cornwell describes as his “you are always interviewing theory”, he was introduced to world-renowned sports agent Leigh Steinberg. “It just so happened that Steinberg was Moon’s agent and he offered Cornwell a job upon Moon’s recommendations.”

Cornwell worked as an agent with Steinberg for one year. In 1993 he got a call from a head hunter who represented the Upper Deck Company. It just so happened that years ago that same head hunter had called Cornwell while he was working at the NFL to ask him if he could recommend a lawyer for an executive position opening at Upper Deck. During this call the headhunter wanted to know if Cornwell himself would consider interviewing for an executive position with the trading card giant.

Cornwell interviewed with Upper Deck and before he knew it he was offered a job with that company. With some reservation he left Steinberg & Moorad. While at Upper Deck Cornwell worked closely with a number of prominent athletes including “Mr October” - Reggie Jackson. Cornwell has also negotiated deals with such legendary greats as Michael Jordan, Junior Seau and Troy Aikman.

Today Cornwell is back with his old friend Leigh Steinberg in Newport Beach. Cornwell admires Steinberg for the fact that Steinberg makes an emotional investment in the lives of all of his clients. Moreover, Steinberg requires all of his athletes to make a contribution to the community which supported them. Steinberg refuses to represent athletes who won’t make that commitment to him.

You probably already have guessed what Professor Cornwell does for fun. He still enjoys playing basketball. “My brother and I try to shoot hoops every Saturday or Sunday morning,” laughed Cornwell. “I work out three times a week in order to keep in shape.” He added. One day a week he and his wife Kimberly work out together with a personal trainer who comes to their home. Cornwell enjoys watching games in his living room. “It is impossible for me to go to a professional game and sit in my seat because I feel like I have to ‘work the room,’” remarked Cornwell. The room he is describing is actually the sixty thousand seat arena where the game is played. In all, Cornwell has had the pleasure of being in attendance at twelve Superbowls.

Today, Cornwell juggles teaching at USD with his job as Osaka at Steinberg & Moorad and his family life. “Most mornings I play Mr. Mom and I get my fourteen month old son and my three year old daughter Taylor ready for the day,” said Cornwell. “My daughter Taylor complained to my wife Kimberly that she doesn’t like helping her get ready for nursery school because I always tell her to focus,” he laughed. Kimberly, is also a practicing attorney who works for an insurance defense law firm in Newport Beach. When his son David junior turned one, Cornwell bought him his first pair of Nikes. “I stepped over them this morning because they don’t fit him anymore. I’m putting them aside with the hope that one day I could give them back to him if it turns out that he has the ability to play basketball,” said Cornwell. “Right now he runs around the house with a toy vacuum cleaner. It appears he is a leading candidate for a job as a maintenance worker,” he laughed. Cornwell says he gets his crazy sense of humor from his father. “The rule at our house was to take what we did seriously but never take ourselves too seriously.”

Attention Second and Third Year Students

The USD Appellate Moot Court Board is proud to announce that it is time for the Annual International Jessup Moot Court Competition

Problems will be distributed beginning October 15. October 29: Briefs due November 5-7: Oral Arguments

* Four competitors will be selected for this competition to represent USD at the Regional, National and International Levels.
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