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## Motions 2009 volume 45 Special Edition

University of San Diego School of Law Student Bar Association

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## **Verba Volant Scripta Manent**

NOTIONS

**Volume 45, Special Edition** 

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August 2009

## Welcome from the Student Bar Association by Jason Marsh, SBA President

As we begin the 2009–2010 Academic Year, it is a distinct pleasure to welcome back all my fellow Toreros on behalf of the Student Bar Association's (SBA) Executive Board. I know that some of you are likely loathe to say goodbye to the freedom of our summer months, while many others may welcome a respite from hectic summer jobs and classes, but I believe that all of us can agree on our happiness to return to a beautiful campus and the brilliant combination of weather and opportunity that is San Diego.

A special welcome is due to our new class of 1L's. Although some have already come by campus meeting administrators and securing lockers, still many more are arriving for their first time. We are all very excited to have you here and look forward to developing relationships as colleagues, partners and friendly adversaries. We hope that you will find your legal education and life here at USD to be as fulfilling as we do, and we encourage you to reach-out for guidance to upperclass students and the SBA as you become a part of our community. There are a great deal of unique opportunities hear at USD, and the best way to find out about them is to network with your new classmates and student leaders.

Now that you're back, you may be interested to know more about what has been happening at campus when you weren't here. Over the summer months, the SBA remained an active advocate for students at USD School of Law. Committees for Student Leadership, Parking Reform, Orientation and more all toiled to complete projects during the break. Your VP's worked with the Dean's Office and set-up another successful 1-L Orientation, beginning on August 19th and lasting through the weekend, as well as the Mentor-Mentee program. (Haven't signed-up yet, 2L's and 3L's? Email USDLawEVP@gmail.com ASAP!). By the time you're reading this, we should have already begun this year's Book Exchange. The Club Fair is on August 27th, and

we'll be holding our first SBA General Meeting on August 31st.

Personally, I've recently returned from representing our school at the ABA Annual National Conference and I'm pleased to report that what we have done here is now being recognized nationally—our SBA intends to continue to grow our regional and national connections and the positive reputation of this school. This summer has also been filled with meetings on parking, faculty development (read: expansion), course credits and so much more; but perhaps I should focus on some tangibles you'll see right away:

The Writs and the adjoining lounge have a new look. The SBA worked with Facilities to revitalize our most important common-space, namely:

• The adjoining room (with the TV & couches) is now officially known as the "Writs Lounge," and new signage shows this, too.

• Also, the trophies have been moved from the Writs Lounge to the Writs, where they can be seen and appreciated, and creating more space to relax in the lounge-area (and possible further additions—let's get those IM-teams going!).

• Two new computers (dual-booting i-Macs) have been added to the Writs for student use.

• The painted signage has been redone, to better and more accurately represent the areas it designates (and beautify the space, as well).

In the coming year, your SBA is committed to continuing to serve the law school community of students and promoting programs which advance the prestige and practice of our graduates. We also look forward to hosting what has proven to be San Diego's most successful annual Halloween Party and many other opportunities to mingle and mix with friends outside the classroom. My board recognizes its vital role as student-advocates and leaders, and we welcome this *(Continued on page 7, "SBA Welcome")* 

## Special 1L Edition Editorial

As the Editorial Board for this volume of *Motions*, we'd like to welcome our newest 1L class to the University of San Diego School of Law. We're glad to have you here, and we offer this special edition issue to you as our present as you begin your legal studies.

This issue does not follow our normal format. Instead, we offer many exciting opportunities for you as new students. We've asked the Student Bar Association, student organizations, the faculty and the administration to give us new chances for you to experience as students. This issue highlights these chances for you.

Traditionally, this paper has been a venue for the student voice, expressing opinions from funny to somber, conservative to liberal, crass

"We want Motions to be your go-to source for information."

to solemn. As we cherish our old identity, we welcome where a new vision will take us.

It is our goal, as a newspaper, to be the first source of information for students, faculty, administration, alumni and the San Diego legal community. Whether a student organization event or cutting-edge legal development, we want *Motions* to be your go-to source of information.

We're also happy to announce we are in development of a brand new website that will revolutionize the way you interact with the paper. Coming soon to <u>www.usdmotions.com</u>, you'll be able to see new stories more frequently, comment on articles and columns and be part of an interactive, information sharing network.

With all these exciting changes, we constantly need writers, old and young, to fill our pages. If interested, please contact the editors and we'll get you writing and published soon.

Congratulations again on law school, and the best of luck during the next three or four years!

## Discovering International Human Rights Law by Camille Lucidi, Guest Columnist

According to the United Nations, nearly one billion people do not have access to clean water and one million people die from malaria each year. What will happen to the thousands of African children waiting for vaccination shots now that the world production is under intense pressure from developed nations' governments to produce enough H1N1 vaccines to face the global pandemic? What is the real progress towards achieving the Millennium Goals set by the UN now that ten years have elapsed?

the Nuremberg trials not taken place? The essence of IHRLS lives in Justice Jackson's opening statement for the prosecution at Nuremberg: "The wrongs which we seek to condemn and punish have been so calculated, so malignant, and so



The Bad News Bears celebrate their victory

As a human being, I believe that we have the duty to help our fellow human beings who are in need. As a lawyer, you will have a new power to change the realities of these people, whichever continent they live on. Joining the International Human Rights Law Society (IHRLS) will mean entering a network of people who share knowledge and opportunities through themed discussions, a blog, Continent Watch articles and social events.

In the past, some of the greatest legal minds of America have helped shape the international response to genocide and crimes against humanity. Where would international justice stand had "Silence is...the friend of those who choose ignorance because the task is too important or the challenges too demanding."

devastating, that civilization cannot tolerate their being ignored, because it cannot survive their being repeated. That four great nations, flushed with victory and stung with injury stay the hand of

vengeance and voluntarily submit their captive enemies to the judgment of the law is one of the most significant tributes that Power has ever paid to Reason."

Silence is the ally of those who use as weapons savage murders, rapes and threats, and the friend of those who choose ignorance because the task is too important or the challenges too demanding. IHRLS is a platform to gain informa-

in the spring softball intramural tournament.

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## Welcome to Club Faith by Justin R. Trauben, Staff Writer

Did the Pop King really pop pills to end his own life? Can Khamenei's boys truly count that quickly? How many of those Bruno stunts were staged? Is there really a communal lighter hidden at Doug's coffee stand?

Besides the fact that Detroit will only get worse before it ever gets better, what can we truly count on? While the world appears to feed on doubt, I wonder if we are not taking this skepticism binge too far.

Sometimes a consensus can be reached, an answer found. There is, at least for me, a limit—a point at which enough individuals have arrived empirically at the same conclusion and I no longer feel the need to remain a skeptic.

For those who believe that the IPCC is a leftist conspiracy, those that carry with them Rush Limbaugh's *See, I Told You So* at all times and those who appreciate science funded by Exxon, for you I shall quote the psychic from Bruno: "Good luck with your life."

Personally, I do not want to pay for a museum depicting Homo sapiens and dinosaurs not evolving simultaneously, I have never ordered freedom fries, and yes, I believe global warming is real. (As far as man-bear-pig is concerned, I'm only 60 percent sure.)

I believe, beyond merely being real, that global warming is quite easily the most significant issue of our time.

We all believe in something, and I choose to have faith in the power of my fellow man. In both the good and the bad: faith that the aggregate of our actions can have devastating consequences, faith that we can find a way out from between the rock and the hard place and faith that nothing should, or ever will, be easy.

We have a few clubs here at USD where students can pray to their respective faiths. I pray at the Environmental Law Society. I pray for the day when San Diego, a city that imports roughly 90 percent of its water, chooses to no longer waste 60 percent on lawns and landscaping. I pray for the day when San Diego municipal vehicles run on biodiesel, and when all new structures, public or private, must be built by Leed Gold standards.

If you are at law school for more than a piece of paper, if you think that going to classes will not be the highlight of your day, fret not, there is a club for you. It is called Everyone, and we meet at the bars. But some of us, before we head out to the Casbah, Jack's or Froggy's, meet up in the name of Progress (usually during lunchtime with a few slices of pizza).

When you see the next chalk announcement for a club that speaks to you, reach out. It just so happens that ELS is the best looking club on campus, but whichever you choose, may it not be Skepticism. To quote a different psychic: "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

PS: As for those questions supra: look at those record sales; only if they have thirty fingers each or used Diebold machines; something tells me Diesel, the Filipino bouncing ball was in on it; and lastly, you can ask Doug yourself. And yes, it's possible: one can write an entire article about the environment without using the 'S' word.

Justin R. Trauben is the President of the Environmental Law Society.

# **A Law Review Welcome**

by Noah Aleshire, Guest Columnist

On behalf of the San Diego Law Review, welcome to the University of San Diego School of Law! Over the next few weeks and months, you will probably hear about the San Diego Law Review and the other two journals here at USD: the San Diego International Law Journal and the San Diego Journal of Climate and Energy Law.

The San Diego Law Review is the law school's flagship scholarly publication, run entirely by second- and third-year law students. The journal prints four issues per year and publishes works of legal scholarship from some of the nation's most respected and cutting-edge legal thinkers. Students run the publication process from start to finish: we select the articles to publish, work with the authors to develop the pieces, verify the accuracy of the articles' citations and edit and prepare the final works for publication.

Law review members also write their own pieces of legal scholarship called "Comments." The best Comments are published in an issue of the *San Diego Law Review*.

Membership on law review is prestigious and highly competitive. There are two ways to get on: (1) through the annual Write-On Competition; and (2) through superior academic performance.

The Write-On Competition is held at the end of the spring semester. Participating students compose a memorandum analyzing a particular legal problem's legal issues. Law review extends membership offers to the authors of the best memos while also extending offers to students who have exceptional academic rankings.

Although the end of spring semester may seem to exist in the distant future, you can start preparing yourself now for the Write-On Competition. In addition to working hard in your regular classes, get the most that you can out of Lawyering Skills. Not only will you learn how to write an excellent legal memo, but you will also receive bonus points in the Write-On Competition for earning a high pass in either semester of Lawyering Skills. Bonus points are critical to performing well in the competition.

Congratulations again on entering the University of San Diego School of Law, and good luck in the new semester.

Noah Aleshire is the Senior Executive Editor for the San Diego Law Review.

# Motions would like to thank the Office for Student Affairs for making this special edition issue possible.

#### **Student Life Pavilion Open**

The University has opened the Student Life Pavilion, located across the street from Warren Hall and the Legal Research Center. The 50,000 square foot structure will serve as a go-to place for students when they are out of classes.

#### Scalia to Visit USD Law

**News Briefs** 

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia will be visiting the USD School of Law this fall.

Justice Scalia will be visiting with some

#### New Loan Programs Take Effect

On July 1, new repayment options took effect that change how law students can pay off their skyrocketing loans. Signed into law in 2007, the College Cost Reduction & Access Act offers law students two new programs for repaying loans.

The new structure will feature many food options, including new dining facilities, a weekly farmer's market and an in-house grocery store. The building will also house a graduate and law student commons, rumored to be complete with a graduate students only pub.

The SLP has its grand opening on Sept. 24.

## Partnoy on "Daily Show"

USD School of Law Professor Frank Partnoy appeared on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* in mid-May, promoting his latest book, *The Match King: Ivar Kreuger, The Financial Genius Behind a Century of Wall Street Scandals.* 

Partnoy, teacher of classes like Corporations and Deals, highlighted the massive financial scheme of Ivar Kreuger, perpetrator of one of the top five investment frauds in American history. classes, including 1L sections, and also be giving advice to competitors in the upcoming moot court contests. Justice Scalia's visit will culminate with a lecture to the law school community.

Students interested in attending a session with Justice Scalia must RSVP online. Due to the nature of the events, many spaces will be waitlisted for each class.

#### **USD Law Announces Master Program**

The USD School of Law announced the beginning of a masters program in law. Students can now receive a Masters of Science in Legal Studies, and the program is designed for students interested in law yet not seeking bar admission.

Although the traditional law program takes three years to complete as a J.D. candidate, the M.S. program could take as little as one year.

Students in the M.S. program will take classes alongside J.D. candidates.

First, students going into public interest careers will have their federal loans forgiven after ten years of service and repayment. The law also expanded public interest to mean public service such as education and health care.

Second, students can make income-based repayments. Students choosing this option will make payments on their federal loans based upon a discretionary income formula. These loans will also be forgiven after 25 years of repayment.

## **Campus Recruiting Dries Up**

Law firms continue to shrink student employment during the summer, with national trends showing program cancellation and deferrals.

Locally, this fall's on campus interviewing season only saw 37 firms or agencies interested in interviewing students on campus.

## MOTIONS

# **CLS Welcomes 1L's**

by Anna Russell, Guest Columnist

Do you have an interest in Criminal Law issues? Do you want to know what it is like to be a prosecutor or defense attorney? Perhaps you want more information about an attorney's job in the Justice Department. If you wonder what career and volunteer opportunities are available in the criminal justice system, join the Criminal Law Society!

CLS aims to provide students with the tools and resources necessary to facilitate legal internships and careers in criminal law. This is accomplished through networking events attended by attorneys from all facets of criminal law, as well as informational events led by hiring criminal attorneys and agencies. These events are held to arm students with everything they need to attain internships and permanent positions. CLS maintains an active connection with the legal community and has a large network of attorneys and students in the criminal law community. CLS also strives to keep students up to date on controversial issues in criminal law through speaker events.

CLS is free and will offer a variety of great information for you. This year we have a few open Criminal Law Executive Board positions that we will discuss at our first meeting. Enthusiasm is a must! Our first CLS Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th-look for our fliers and board notices. All are welcome!

Anna Russell is the President of the Criminal Law Society

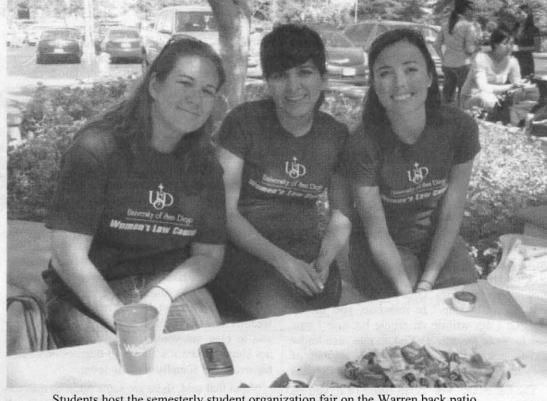
## **Join PBLA!** by Daniel Jones, Guest Columnist

There's many reasons to join the Pro Bono Legal Advocates:

Gain immediate legal experience and build your resume. Develop interviewing, researching and writing skills. Develop personal relationships with legal professionals. Explore different areas of law and get involved in important social issues. Be recognized at graduation for 100 hours of volunteer work.

PBLA offers volunteer opportunities to all USD law students, not just those pursuing public interest careers.

Daniel Jones is the President of the Pro Bono Legal Advocates.



Students host the semesterly student organization fair on the Warren back patio.

## Make the World Better, Today & Tomorrow by Julia Davis, Guest Columnist

Do you want to use your law degree to make the world a better place? We hope so! USD Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) is an organization dedicated to supporting law students who want to pursue careers in the public interest, a large area of law including environmental protection, civil and human rights, child advocacy and indigent representation. The goal of our organization is to encourage law students to use their degrees to help disadvantaged people and raise awareness for important legal issues affecting our society.

PILF has two main events each year: the Equal Justice Works (EJW) Career Fair in the fall and the Poker Tournament in the spring.

Every fall, USD pays for twenty students to attend the EJW Career Fair in Washington, D.C. This is the largest public interest and non-profit law career fair, and it is a great opportunity for students to find legal internships and jobs all over the country. Last year was a great experience with inspiring speakers and workshops, and internship and job interviews galore. If you are interested in applying to go to EJW, please contact someone on the PILF board or attend one of our information sessions in the beginning of the school year.

In the spring, PILF hosts USD's Annual Poker Tournament. This is one of USD's best events! Alumni, students, professors, and lawyers come together to have drinks, food, and play poker. All the proceeds go towards USD's Loan Repayment Assistance Program, which provides financial support for law graduates who pursue employment in public interest fields.

Please feel free to come to one of our meetings if you are interested in learning more about public interest law, EJW, LRAP and our organization. We will also be having various fundraisers and events throughout the year and we would love your support!

To contact PILF, please send us an email at PILFusd@gmail.com.

Julia Davis is the President of the Public Interest Law Foundation.

# Warming Up to Uncomfortable Realities

by Laruen R.S. Mendonsa, Guest Columnist

Being surrounded by a group of smart, driven and passionate law students brought together by their common desire to advance the values of reproductive justice is like waking up on a winter morning wrapped in your down comforternever want to leave (apologies if this reference doesn't resonate with Southern Californian readers). This is how I felt the weekend of July 12th when I joined more than 80 students from 50 law schools across the country to kick off the second annual Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ) Leadership Institute. Our weekend was filled with activities and learning opportunities that ranged from brainstorming strategies for building sustainable campus chapters, to learning the basics of writing a successful amicus brief, to applying a human rights framework to domestic reproductive rights law.

As much as I would have liked to stay envel-

oped in that moment of warmth and comfort, I could not ignore the fact that advancing reproductive justice is anything but comfortable.

intersecting oppressions that prevent women and their families from making meaningful choices about whether and when to have children and from achieving happy and healthy birth outcomes. But the knowledge that I was in a room full of aspiring lawyers, dedicated to eradicating barriers to reproductive justice, whose energy and support I could bring to USD, tempered my tears.

News

I felt a buoyant giddiness as I caucused with my peers about the challenges and success stories of new campus chapters-here was a group of people that understood my passion, shared my values and ambitions and wanted to support USD LSRJ's efforts to advance reproductive justice on our campus and in our community.

Being imprisoned and shackled during labor is not comfortable; finding a private, sanitary place to express breast milk between your Property and Torts classes is not comfortable and learning of your unplanned pregnancy, unsure

"I could not ignore the fact that advancing reproductive justice is anything but comfortable."

whether you have the financial and social support necessary to raise a child, is anything but comfortable. But these are the realities we must confront, engage and challenge

as law students-and soon-to-be lawyerscommitted to ensuring that all people and communities have access to the information, resources and support they need to exercise their sexual and reproductive choices and rights.

More than once, my eyes welled with tears as speakers at the Leadership Institute relayed the

Despite the discomfort of publicly discussing sex, sexuality and reproduction, a successful reproductive justice movement demands it. USD Law Students for Reproductive Justice welcomes 1L's and returning students to the conversation. We invite you to the speaker events, field trips, networking opportunities and community service activities that we will be hosting throughout the year. We hope you will join the supportive, energetic and engaging community USD LSRJ is creating to combat reproductive oppression and strengthen legal scholarship and leadership to advance reproductive justice.

Lauren R.S. Mendonsa is the Chair of the USD Law Students for Reproductive Justice. This column originally appeared on the RepoRepro blog, http://reporepro.lsrj.org/.



## **Pearls of Bar Wisdom** by Britton Lacy, Guest Columnist

Greetings 1L's! Welcome to USD! Some of you (read: most likely all of you) have no clue who I am. A select few of you (who are not actually 1L's) may think my name sounds familiar, and you may accurately recall that I graduated from USD this past May. So, while wondering why I'm writing an article for *Motions*, you're probably also thinking, "Give up the dream, Britt, you're all washed up." In response, you should know that I am writing an article because I was asked to write an article. You should also know that I'm getting paid an exorbitant amount of money for my efforts. [In pennies. –*Ed.*]

The bar exam: You've all heard of it, you all

know it's coming, and you all have no clue what it's about. Because you have not yet experienced the rigor and glory that characterize the summer after your

"Freaking out is going to happen at some point in law school, and perhaps often."

third year, there are three major bar-related pearls of wisdom that I would like to impart to all you neophytes. Get psyched.

[As a mild disclaimer, it's pertinent to point out that I do not yet know if I passed the July 2009 bar exam. On November 20<sup>th</sup>, I'll find out if I'm finished with the California bar for good, or if what happened at the end of July was just a fun practice run. No matter what, though, I've taken the bar. That gives me at least some street cred, so work with me.]

#### #1: Signing (or not signing) up for BarBri.

As soon as first year begins, you are given the option of signing up for BarBri, PMBR and a whole slew of other things that are currently meaningless to you. Take the time to learn about those things. They actually do mean something. If you know you're going to take the California bar after you finish what will undoubtedly be an illustrious USD career, go ahead and sign up for your prep class now. You can potentially lock in a much cheaper rate and you can also have one thing checked off of your "Things To Do In Order To Potentially Pass The Bar" list. You can even be a BarBri rep (that is, sit at the table that always has free candy and highlighters) and get the class for free. Free! Once you learn how much it costs to take these classes (i.e., an amount just shy of (Continued on page 6, "Bar Advice")

## Welcome to USD Law

## Editorial

This is a message to all incoming 1L's. First off, on behalf of the editorial staff at *Motions*, we want to welcome you. Second, good choice. Choosing USD Law was a fine decision, as we're sure your time here will bear that to be true. And for those who have not spent any time in the San Diego area, we're extra sure.

San Diego is truly America's Finest City. The slogan, though we're sure it was made up by some booster with an economic interest in drawing you here, is a great description of this place. It has the weather of Los Angeles—some would say better—without the outlandish prices and sprawling nastiness that makes it impossible to get across town. It has the amenities of a legitimate vacation spot without the overwhelming mass of tourists—save for summertime, when the state of Arizona empties out here. That combination of weather and fun activities makes it possible for you to plan out your fun on your schedule, and not simply when it's above 40 degrees or when a big event has actually come to town.

But that said, there are some oddities that you are going to have to get used to here. They call taquitos rolled tacos. They put french fries in burritos. It is a Republican stronghold with an all red County Council and three of five Congresspeople are Republican, but the county has a Democratic registration advantage. It is a military town, but is trying to move beyond retirees and veterans to become an economic and industrial center.

You'll find these incongruities at USD, too. It is a Catholic university, but chances are you're not Catholic. We have the Center for Constitutional Originalism, but there are enough faculty members to provide opposition at debates. So be glad you came here, if you are not already. The campus is beautiful, the people are beautiful and the beaches are some of the best in the country. If you are going to spend three or four years doing a lot of research and usually stressing out, this is the place to do it.

One thing you have to be careful of here is getting too stuck in your own neighborhood and within the law school community. Pacific Beach is a fun place to blow off steam, but don't forget to visit the Gaslamp, Ocean Beach and some North County hotspots. Get down to Mexico it's not as dangerous as you hear—go east to the mountains and further east to the deserts and make damn sure to get out to the horse races, some concerts or whatever it is that reminds you that reading law books is not, and never was, your favorite hobby.

Along those lines, make sure you get involved in the law school extracurriculars. Go to the 80's party next month; it is a great time. Play intramurals and remember why co-ed sports are worth some time on a Thursday night. Go to the Dean's keggers because they are a great way to eat and drink for free with some of the same people it will likely cost you money to talk to after school.

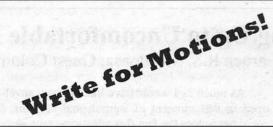
We are sure that everyone you know is giving you advice on how to "survive" law school parents, your friends, your parents' friends. But just remember that it isn't anything you haven't done before. Just like college, the people that put in the most work usually do the best, and those that do not either have to accept mediocrity or have to join SBA (just kidding). There really isn't another language you have to learn, and you don't have to wear a suit every day.

You do have to study a ton more than you ever have before in your life. You do have to memorize a lot of things that seem unimportant and worthless. You do have to spend a lot of time your first year outlining and taking notes on things that you will never be tested on. But you don't have to start chain-smoking. And you don't have to be a huge pain in the ass to everyone, simply because you might get a few letters after your name one day.

So all the advice in the world will really not do you that much good. Be thankful that you are coming in to school at a time when no one is getting jobs in the "real world." Be thankful that while you are working for free during some of your time here, you won't be passing up a fortune. And most of all, be thankful that you made the right decision in choosing law schools. You could be at some freezing, rigid university where a law student's idea of a good time is making up dumb songs about studying and putting them on YouTube.

No, instead you are at a warm, beautiful campus that is pouring money into the areas of law that will be key when you practice. Between EPIC and Prof. Dave McGowan's Center for Intellectual Property Law, you should graduate with a more valuable degree than you expected. So give thanks. And get to work.

Editorial Board opinions are crafted independently from news coverage.



## Staff Writer Positions Open

- Get paid to write what you love
- Share your thoughts with the world
- Contribute to USD's student community
- Impress mom and dad back home

SUBMISSIONS

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EDITORS-IN-CHIEF Andrew Adams & Austin Evan

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#### **INTERESTED IN WRITING?**

Motions is looking for staff writers for the upcoming academic year. Interested members of the student body, faculty, administration, alumni or San Diego legal community can contact <u>editor@usdmotions.com</u> for more information.

> ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW Carrie Wilson, Dean of Student Affairs

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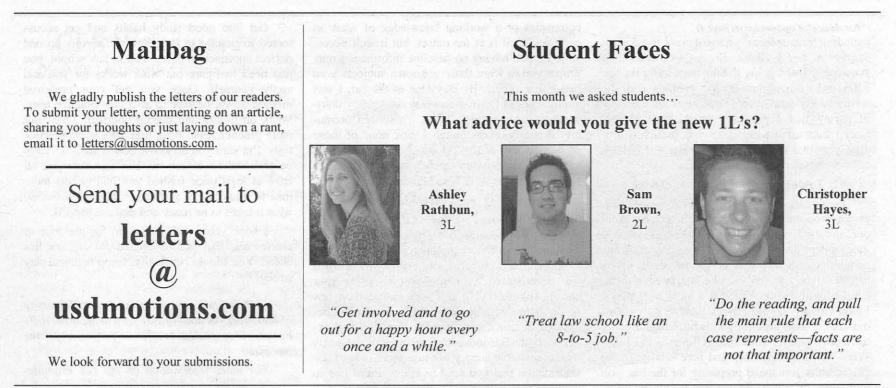
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## Opinion

**MOTIONS** 

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## The Swimming Boy by Peachdog Jones, Guest Poet

**Federalist Society** by Joshua Youngkin, Guest Columnist

The Federalist Society welcomes you to law school. We're here to primarily provide you what you probably won't get anywhere else: informed, civil discussion and debate on the jurisprudential matters that will frame your legal education and

Pulling his body from the murky

depths,

I cradled him,

And breathed into his deadlips-

My Life . . . My life . . . my life . . .

A cough;

A sputter;

And the boy begins to breathe again.

We rejoice,

For his life goes on.

A couple weeks later, some guy ran him over with a jet-ski.



future practice. Our speakers and debaters typically address questions of the following sort:

How do judges make decisions? How should they? What is the proper role of empathy, theory, text, history and precedent in deciding cases? What is the primary purpose of government? What is the difference between judicial lawmaking and textual interpretation? How does the separation of powers secure individual liberty? How will the forthcoming knowledge economy shape the practice of law? What *is* law, exactly, and how does it relate to morality?

Surprisingly, you could spend three years in law school and a lot of money without addressing these and other equally fundamental questions. To fill this gap, the Federalist Society brings influential scholars, attorneys and jurists to you from all parts of the nation.

Most of our events will take place during the (Continued on page 6, "Fed Society")

#### Page 6

#### ("Bar Advice", Continued from page 4)

including your spleen), you will want to take advantage of any available discounts or deals. Not knowing if I was going to take the California bar, I held off from signing up for anything until the spring of my third year. (That's just another way of saying that I paid full price. Well played, Lacy.) Like almost everyone else, though, I ultimately wound up doing both BarBri and PMBR. So, get educated and go for it.

#### #2: Taking (or not taking) bar classes.

First year, your classes are set for you, like it or not. You are a lemming. Embrace it. But, second and third year you regain some free will and independent thought. Take advantage of it. Some people may want to take all the bar classes they can. Some people may even be interested in them. I had a lot of friends who took a lot of bar classes. I took virtually no bar classes, and the only ones I did take, I took because I thought I would enjoy them (and I did). I am a firm believer in the Take-What-You-Like approach and here is why: In the two months you spend preparing for the bar, you will learn (or at least be exposed to) all the information you need. You will also learn the law in a different way than you did in law school. Sure, it may help to have a clue about limited liability

companies or a working knowledge of what on earth a codicil is at the outset, but it isn't necessary. In fact, having no baseline information may propel you to learn those unknown subjects even better than others. By Day One of the bar, I was almost excited to write an essay on Agency, Partnerships, Corporations, Wills, Trusts or Community Property, even though I took none of those classes in law school. (Fittingly, none of those subjects was tested on the July bar.) So, take the classes you want to take and dive into them.

#### #3: Freaking (or not freaking) out.

Freaking out is going to happen at some point in law school, and perhaps often. So, don't freak out about freaking out because freaking out is normal. (It's probably more cause for alarm if you never once even come close to losing your cool.) Although of a different nature than law school stress, bar-related anxiety is similar because it is also a near certainty that you will experience it. Bar-induced freaking out is pretty much inevitable simply because there is so much information that you need to know, and it just so happens that it is literally impossible to know it all. That being said, you can do things during your first year (and in your subsequent years) that can really help your cause down the line. Get into good study habits and get accustomed to putting in long hours. There is no one perfect approach to doing well in law school, you just need to figure out what works for you and apply yourself. Once you get your preferred method down, be sure to also take practice tests. Work on timing and pacing yourself. Then take more practice tests. After that, take some practice tests. I'm sure you all know how it feels to really be prepared for a test, but I'm also sure you all have at least once wished you had (a lot) more time to study before you had to take a test. So, do what it takes to be ready and make it happen.

I hope you're all geared up for the start of classes and that you're excited for all that lies ahead. You should be. Really. Good luck and stay strong!

Britton Lacy is an alumna of the University of San Diego School of Law and self-purportedly has pearls of wisdom to offer on preparing for the bar exam.

For more information on the bar examination, including its requirements and deadlines, we recommend contacting the California State Bar at <u>www.calbar.org</u> or the National Conference of Bar Examiners at <u>www.ncbex.org</u> for other states.

## **BLS is Back!** by Drew Myers, Guest Columnist

The Business Law Society (BLS) has been dormant for the past few years, but we are pleased to announce that the BLS is back!

The BLS has gone through a bit of a *facelift*, and we are reenergized and refocused on providing students with the best possible networking opportunities. To reach this goal, the BLS has reached out to the San Diego legal community and has successfully reconnected with USD alumni who are currently practicing businessrelated law. We have similarly reconnected with the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC). For

## ("IHRLS", Continued from page 1)

tion and exchange ideas with distinguished guests and fellow students.

In the past, IHRLS had the honor to welcome on campus Kevin Keenan, the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union for San Diego and Imperial Counties, Nick Vujicic, a limbless man who fights around the world for a right to life for persons born with a physical difference, and Abderahman Salaheldin, Consul General of Egypt.

IHRLS is proud to welcome new, distinguished speakers this year. Jackie Isaac, a USD Law alumna, has been invited to come on campus to talk about the cruelty of female genital mutilation. Living in the Egyptian countryside where the practice of excision is regular, she spent time hearing testimonies and conducting research. IHRLS also has a discussion planned on the theme of Transitional Justice conducted by a former Human Rights Watch researcher for Western Africa. IHRLS will continue to maintain its ties the first time in BLS history, we are bringing the ACC of San Diego on board to assist us in our primary goals: providing students optimal networking opportunities, panel discussions, seminars, possible student scholarships, access to internship postings and other sponsored events.

The Business Law Society provides a forum for students to share ideas and further educate themselves in business-related law. Contact BLS President Drew Myers for more information.

Drew Myers is the President of the Business Law Society.

Cornelia Law Center, an organization that supports human and international civil rights victims.

Members of IHRLS attend events at the Institute for Peace and Justice (IPJ) and meet for discussions or movie nights around a theme such as blood diamonds. Last year, IHRLS had the opportunity to hear the testimony of women lawyers from countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Africa. One of these women was the Voice of Victims of Rapes by War Lords and Their Soldiers in the DRC, a country constantly under tension due to poverty and corruption.

In the words of Justice Holmes, because "the life of the law has not been logic but experience," IHRLS hopes that the future of international human rights will be served by these interactions between students and professionals.

To join the Society, come see us during the Club Fair or contact us at <u>ihrlsatusd@gmail.com</u>.

Camille Lucidi is the President of the Inter-

## Weed Ads are Dope by Jennifer Chou, Guest Columnist

"I stole from my little sister."

"I got straight Ds."

"I left my ex-girlfriend 27 messages last night."

"I made my mother cry."

"I let people draw on me."

"I ditched my friends and let them find their own way home."

Apparently, these are the things that happen when you, commercial viewer, smoke weed. This is the latest propaganda put out by Above the Influence, a program of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Never mind that more than half of the situations listed above are classic, and comical, results of a hard night of drinking, not smoking weed. Not that personal anecdotes prove a point, but in college, I definitely drew on drunk people, not stoned people. I also do my most heinous drunk dialing when I'm blacked out from playing beer pong. When I'm stoned, I'm usually laughing too hard to be able to carry on a conversation.

I don't know what kind of weed these liars are smoking, but I've never heard of anyone doing any of these as the result of weed smoking. Can the government ever utter a word of truth when it comes to drugs? And how dare we look down our noses at the state-sponsored media in China? All the major newspapers in the United States are very careful to note that "China's *statesponsored media*" said xyz, when they refer to Xinhua. But what kind of drivel is our media spouting? Their government-media lies, and our government uses the media to tell lies. Really,

with the local office of the ACLU as well as Casa

#### ("Fed Society", Continued from page 5)

lunch hour on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. To encourage your participation, we freely offer plenty of good food and drinks. There is no need to leave a Federalist Society event hungry or thirsty. Neither will we bore you. As mentioned above, our speakers routinely address issues of national significance relevant to all existing and future attorneys. After an event, you will often have the opportunity to meet and talk with the speaker who will always be an expert on his or her topic and will often be a particularly distinguished member of the legal community. Whether a federal judge, ambassador, attorney general or Supreme Court justice, notable figures make themselves available to the Federalist Society

Because we aim to provide a forum for discussion and debate on jurisprudential rather than national Human Rights Law Society.

political matters, the Federalist Society is a bigger tent than you may have heard, and we therefore welcome you to the Society no matter what your political inclinations. All you need is an interest in the big questions that surround and envelope the law.

If you want more information on the Federalist Society or would just like to meet some of the people of the USD Chapter, stop by our table during the Fall 2009 Club Fair which takes place on August 27th from 4 to 6 PM out on the patio behind Warren Hall. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or would like to join our email list now, please write me an email at <u>usdlawfedsoc@gmail.com</u>. I will be glad to help in any way I can.

Joshua Youngkin is the President of the Federalist Society, USD Chapter.

what's the difference? Sometimes, I'm pretty certain that all this freedom and democracy talk in our country is just a farce. The politicians just throw those words around to brainwash people and garner public support.

This kind of tactic brings to mind an ad that ran in movie theaters not too long ago, depicting stoners driving through a fast-food drive-through and hitting a little girl riding her tricycle. Who knows who was behind that one ? Maybe it was Above the Influence; maybe it wasn't. Who cares? Of course, in order for this ad to have any effect at all, we have to disregard the fact that we have never seen any child ride a tricycle at a drive-through window. What kind of parent lets their child ride around in parking lots? Maybe that's social Darwinism at work. If my kid was riding her pink bike in a parking lot and got hit by a car going through the drive-through, I'd probably tell her how stupid she was after she got out (Continued on page 8, "Weed")

## **On Campus**



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# **Upcoming Events**

Annual Book Exchange Hosted by SBA Aug. 20 to Aug. 27, times vary The Writs

Interviewing Advice Panel Hosted by Career Services Aug. 25, noon hour -Grace Courtroom

> Fall 2009 Club Fair Hosted by SBA Aug. 27, 4pm to 6pm Warren Hall Back Patio

First Bar Review of the Year Hosted by SBA Aug. 28, 9pm Belo Nightclub (Gaslamp)

Who is St. Thomas More? Hosted by the Saint Thomas More Society Sept. 1, noon hour Grace Courtroom

Art Law Society's First Meeting Sept. 1, noon hour Warren Hall 2A

Originalist Approaches in Recent Supreme Court Cases Featuring Associate Justice Antonin Scalia Hosted by the Dean's Office

Sept. 2, 5:30pm to 7pm Shiley Theater (Camino Hall) (RSVP required)

IHRLS First Meeting Hosted by the Int'l Human Rights Law Society Sept. 3, noon hour Warren Hall 2A

80's Party Hosted by Phi Alpha Delta Sept. 18 (tent.), 8pm Cane's Bar & Grill (in Mission Beach)

Post your events with SBA for inclusion here.

# **Intramurals Standings**

Throughout the year, we will be posting intramural standings in this section of *Motions*. To hold you over until the seasons start up, here is a message from intramural director, Bridget Keto:

Welcome back upper classmen and welcome

## Is 20 Hours a Week Outdated? by Jason Marsh, SBA President

The American Bar Association (ABA) gathers delegates together at its Annual Meeting to vote on policy issues that effect law students, legal education and the legal profession. Each ABA-approved law school has two official voting delegates in the Law School Division Assembly: the SBA President and the ABA Law Student Division Representative, or their proxies.

At this year's Assembly in Chicago, there were five resolutions brought for consideration before the Assembly, three of which were also pending before the ABA House of Delegates. Of these resolutions, one generated great interest and debate, and will be discussed here.

The Resolution was known as <u>No. 09/8-01</u>. As it was not concurrently before the ABA House

of Delegates, it amounted to a Law School Division resolution suggesting that the ABA repeal Standard 304 (f) of the Standards for Approval of Law Schools. This stan-

"Such a change may shift the greatest burden onto those who already struggle the mightiest."

dard, as it stands today, reads, "A student may not be employed more than 20 hours per week in any week in which the student is enrolled in more than twelve class hours."

The resolution, proposed by Harvard Law School's SBA President, Mr. Daniel Thies, sought to strike this standard so as to allow greater "freedom of choice" to law students who may wish to work more during their schooling. The proposition was that the ABA was standing in the way of students working their way through school and burdening those same students with greater debt. In Mr. Thies's report, much credit was given to USD's own Maimon Schwarzschild and his article "The Ethics and Economics of American Legal Education Today," 17 J. Contemp. Legal Issues 3 (2008). Citations to the current economy and the weight of student loans were given and generated great sympathy among the delegates.

The use of our own esteemed faculty's work aside, Mr. Thies's other authority left something

to be desired. A 2009 study on student employment that dealt with undergraduates was used to suggest that working more than twenty hours per week often had net positive affects on the students. The study indicated that the highest achievers had little to fear. Although I appreciate Mr. Thies's argument that law students are the "highest achievers," this does not mean that all high-achieving undergrads can be "highest achiever" law students. Indeed, the traditional curve makes such generalization an impossibility. What is true is that law students are typically highly competitive, and in a world of competition, those who can work the most will in many cases be "the winners." Of course, the greater pressure will likely be with those who are already struggling, likely not on scholarship, seeking more work to distinguish their resume while further threatening a tenuous academic performance.

Economic concerns weigh heavy on all, and law students often carry a great burden of debt from their studies, so there are compelling emotional reasons to strike restrictions such as Standard 304(f). But there is also valid argument that such a change may shift the greatest burden onto those who already struggle the mightiest, and may further be shown to have a cumulative detrimental affect. After all, what is to stop the slow erosion of the academic experience with a commensurate increase in outside working hours? At what point do not only grades, but also Bar passage rates become threatened? If those carrying what is universally recognized as a full academic load are allowed-and by default in the law school experience encouraged-to take on more responsibilities outside of the classroom, what happens to the quality of the education?

Even if bar prep courses such as BarBri and Kaplan step in to tutor the vast majority, is it possible we've still done some disservice to our profession by a shortsighted eagerness to get ahead? Will our practices be as rich and informed, as balanced and thoughtful if the academic element is sacrificed to the pursuit of the dollar? Of course, for those highest achievers who will only benefit by such a release of constraints, there should be no Standard 304(f) restriction, and we need not worry at all. Right?

Check out www.sbausd.com for more SBA information!



Students dance it up at the annual 80's party.



Students save loads of money at the semesterly Book Exchange.

to our new 1L's! My name is Bridget Keto, your new Graduate Intramural Club President. This year, I, together with Steve Caloiaro and David Israel, will be coordinating the graduate level intramural leagues.

USD Intramurals is going to be amping up the number of sports this year, both at the graduate and undergraduate levels. To stay informed about our leagues, please join our Facebook group: USD Grad Intramurals. Also, if you are looking for some pick-up basketball action, I send out weekly info about when we will be running some games via the Facebook group USD pickup basketball. We will also be posting information around campus, reporting at SBA meetings, and you can look for us at the Club Fair on August 27th from 4 P.M. to 6 P.M. at the Back Patio.

Any questions, concerns or suggestions, please email us at <u>usdlawintramurals@gmail.com</u>. Have a great year!! ("SBA Welcome", Continued from page 1)

opportunity to serve.

Please remember to check our website for the frequent updates, leadership opportunities and the most current SBA-related news; we can be found at <u>www.sbausd.com</u>. You can also follow SBA at USanDiegoLawSBA Twitter. In the meantime, here are ten pointers to start your year by:

1. Get plenty of rest and exercise to go along with all that study.

2. Register EARLY for the Bar Exam (it's cheaper if you do!).

3. Go to the Bar Reviews, and enjoy yourself a little (or a lot).

4. Meet with your advisor in Career Services.

5. Get to know (or get to BE) your SBA Representative—they often know the most about what's happening on- and off-campus for USD Law students.

6. Register for the ABA. As a law student, it's CHEAP, and you get to join several professional divisions (e.g., Patent Law, Litigation, etc.) for free, which means you get their periodic publications, too. The news you get through this, as well as the networking, can really inform scholarly discussions (when one aims to impress).

7. Go to the Student Life Pavilion. Yes, that big new building across the street. Seen the cafeteria yet? Yes? Then I need say no more.

8. Ask for help, when you need it.

9. Shake a hand, smile a bit and remember that we're all in this together.

10. Join us for our first General Meeting of the new Academic Year, August 31st. You can learn a lot and maybe get involved with bettering your school.

That's all for the time being, but expect more soon.



Tips for Law School from our Society staff

1. Don't hook up with anyone in your section. No matter how many times you hear this, either you or someone you know will inevitably ignore this advice and make a bad decision. Or seven. And if you don't heed our warning, at least take it into account when it comes to picking your seat for the entire semester.

2. Flirt with upper classmen to get good outlines. Don't be above it; a good outline can be crucial when you're overlooking your notes at the end of the semester and find the inevitable gaps from "sick days."

3. No one likes the classhole. You will know exactly who we're talking about a week into classes. And if you don't automatically recognize one, you should probably put your hand down.

4. If it's ten o'clock and you don't have a parking space, don't even bother trying to make your ten thirty class. It's not worth it; cut your losses and just head to PB to get in quality tanning time instead.

5. It's just like undergrad; Thursday night might as well be Friday night. Schedule in extra time to drive through Carl's Jr. on your way to Civil Procedure Friday morning. Hungover breakfast will help ease the pain during what will be the longest class of the week.

6. Keep your computer screen dim at all times and use code names when referring to classmates in G-chat; just trust us on this one.

7. Invest in a keyboard protector, you never know when spilled beer might happen. Yes, we are suggesting it could happen while in class; dean's mixers often coincide with late afternoon classes.

Side note: Although beer and law school do not always mix, we are not suggesting the same goes for wine. Every law student will learn nothing pairs better with Contracts reading than a nice Pinot Noir. But this still will require a keyboard protector, because although your book is sure to look "super hipster" with red pages, your computer may not fare as well.

8. Although the first floor of the library says "quiet consultation area," you will be tempted to

#### ("Weed", Continued from page 6)

of the hospital. This implication that children die because of weed is a serious insult to my intelligence.

The liars will throw out all kinds of ridiculous statistics in an attempt to validate their

# Sam Keller Will Ruin My Favorite Video Game

by Matthew Golper, Staff Writer

If you are a Pac-10 football fan, you might remember Sam Keller. After a promising start to his career as a quarterback at Arizona State University, including starting as a freshman in 2003, Keller lost his starting job to Rudy Carpenter and eventually transferred to Nebraska for one season where he went on to suck. He subsequently went undrafted in 2008 and was cut by both the Raiders and Buccaneers in the preseason and then cut again by the Arena Football League's Los Angeles Avengers without ever throwing a professional pass.

This is the story for many college athletes, myself included. Fortune and fame don't always

attach themselves to college athletics. It's something that most of today's college athletes accept. The fact is, the time that I spent warming the bench on a Division III soccer team did little more for me

little more for me than give me a few good memories, the ability to tell girls I met at bars that I was a college athlete and a line on my resume that may have helped me get into law school. Just like Keller, I didn't make a dime off the athletic prowess I displayed twiddling my thumbs on that metal bench at the University of Redlands.

You've probably seen those commercials promoted by the NCAA with the tagline, "There are over 380,000 NCAA student athletes, and most of us will go pro in something other than sports." I am more than fine with that. I've gone on to law school, and unless Timmy Geithner or I completely blow it over the next year, it looks like I'll have a nice job lined up when I get done.

Unfortunately, Keller isn't so in tune with this idea of "going pro in something other than sports" and is still looking for a way to cash in on what he did during college. He filed a class action lawsuit this spring against EA Sports and the NCAA, claiming that video-game maker EA

talk, well, slightly louder than "quiet." This is no way a new phenomenon, although neither are the dirty looks you are bound to get.

9. Girls, if you're not sitting in the back, try to keep the online shopping to a minimum. Especially when it comes to lingerie and bikini browsing—unless you want to make a few new friends with the guys who sit behind you.

10. Don't friend your teachers on Facebook.

als behind bars? Is that what our government has come to? It taxes the masses in order to keep useless people employed doing things that harm people and burden society. Oh hey, that sounds like communism. Like Mao and his Cultural Revolution and his Red Guards. Given the severe problems of under-funding and overcrowding our prison system, does any of this make any sense? Sports wrongfully uses the names and likenesses of athletes in its NCAA football and basketball games. In doing so, Keller threatens to ruin the only video game that I play.

Life

Keller is not only demanding a jury trial, he's seeking disgorgement, actual, statutory and punitive damages as well as an injunction and the destruction of the offending video games.

Although Keller is arguably more deserving of monetary compensation for what he did on the field than I am, Keller's method of getting this compensation is highly suspect and threatens to mess up a very important part of my life.

Rob Karey, Keller's attorney, contends that Keller is "not interested in getting compensated for himself...[h]e just didn't think it appropriate that, given that the NCAA says you can't profit from your likeness...they do the wink and the nod when EA Sports presents them with the game, which has the likeness of the player."

I call bullshit. I'm not going to go all law student on you and analyze the merits of Keller's suit (this is *Motions*, not *Law Review*). Although the games for NCAA sports do not use players' names, even a casual college football fan would know that the 6'3", 240 lb., brown-haired, lefthanded, tackle-breaking QB No. 15 in the Florida Gators uniform is Tim Tebow.

I'm saying that there is a reason that a guy like Detroit Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford and his six-year contract worth \$41.7 million in guaranteed money is not jumping at joining Keller's suit like other former collegiate quarterbacks who couldn't hack it in the pros. *See* Ryan Hart, a former Rutgers quarterback, who also couldn't make it to the pros and similarly filed suit against EA in early July.

Keller is hiding behind this "mission" of protecting the student-athlete when all he is really trying to do is cash in. C'mon Sam, don't ruin this for us—I'm sure you were able to secure a few tangible benefits from gloating about being QB1 at the bars in Tempe and Lincoln during your college days. Let that be enough and let me play my video game. Thanks. Call me.

Or at least have them blocked or on limited profile so they won't see picture evidence as to why you didn't make their Friday morning class.

Our Society column will run in each issue in our Life section.

Check out more tips about life, campus and the San Diego community on Motions's website at <u>www.usdmotions.com</u> soon.

flected in arrest and incarceration patterns when it comes to criminal prosecution.

I don't want to repeat the facts about marijuana from my article earlier this year, so I'm not going to. The links to those facts, a World Health Organization study, and a UCLA study, are listed below. The government is confused, convoluted and destructive. In a time of economic hardship, it continues to waste billions of dollars trampling on people's liberties and asserting a racist agenda.

"Unfortunately, Keller isn't so in tune with this idea of 'going pro in something other than sports.""

clearly erroneous position. It's like Big Brother from 1984 -- mass communication of lies to "educate" the populus. For instance, one ad insists that about a third of drivers who were tested for drugs tested positive for marijuana. So what does this mean? Since marijuana stays in the system for up to 3 months, all this means is that, of those who were pulled over because they did too many drugs to act normally, some of them had used marijuana in the past three months. Wow, maybe the government should get a Nobel prize for that revelation.

These are the kinds of lies our government broadcasts to support its wasteful, ineffective and fascist drug policy, otherwise known as the War on Drugs. General drug use has not gone down. Use of hard drugs has not gone down. Drug trafficking has not abated. What the hell is the War on Drugs for? Just to waste money? To keep useless people employed? Why are we employing people to throw otherwise harmless individu-

Here's a suggestion: The true purpose behind the War on Drugs is fascism and racism. A telling example is the case of New York City. Between 1997 and 2006, police arrested and incarcerated 185,000 blacks, 110,000 Hispanics, and 53,000 whites for possessing small amounts of marijuana. Black people accounted for approximately 52 percent of the arrests, although they represent only 26 percent of the city's population. On the other hand, non-Hispanic whites constituted 15 percent of the arrests, but made up over 35 percent of New York's population. This is especially troubling, since U.S. Government studies of high school students have repeatedly found that whites use marijuana more frequently than Hispanics or blacks. Given this poor fit, it seems our government doesn't really care about potheads or marijuana use; it just wants to throw blacks and Hispanics in jail. This is clearly re-

All this is very clear to me, and I don't even like smoking weed. I rather dislike the stuff. So where are all the other angry people?

Study on Drug Arrests and Racial Bias. http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/10/ opinion/10sat1.html

Marijuana Facts. http://www.druglibrary.org/schaffer/hemp/ general/who-probable.htm

War on Drugs. http://www.realclearpolitics.com/ articles/2009/02/ reality\_intrudes\_on\_the\_drug\_w.html

Jennifer Chou is an alumna of the University of San Diego School of Law.