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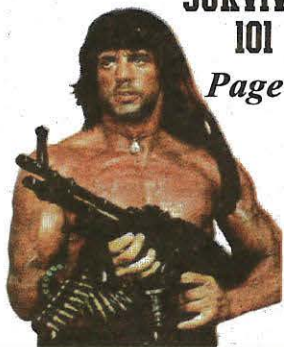
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MOTIONS

University of San Diego School of Law

The Void
THE USD MONTHLY
COMIC STRIP
Page 4

Volume 49, Issue 1

VISIT MOTIONS ONLINE:
WWW.MOTIONSONLINE.ORG



August 2012

Welcome to Law School from the SBA President!

By Joshua Poulson

Congratulations! You are officially a law student. You may have thought this day would never come, but you have made it and I want to welcome you to the University of San Diego School of Law. First and foremost, let me just tell you that you made the right decision. Attending USD has been one of the most interesting and rewarding experiences of my life. I have formed relationships with students, professors, administration, and Alumni that will last a lifetime. Yes, it has been hard, but it has been well worth it. You will soon find that USD is unlike any other law school that you may have visited or attended, and that is because of the people who walk the halls of Warren Hall. As you adjust to 1L life, I would offer you 3 pieces of advice as you embark on your law school career:

The first, and single most important piece of advice I can give you is to remember your "Why." Why is it that you came to law school in the first place? Why are you committing three years of your life to reading textbooks, preparing for oral arguments, and learning the language of the law? Law school is hard- no getting around that. And there will be times when you may question your decision to come to law school. It is during these times that you have to remember your "Why." I suggest you write it down in a place where you can see it daily. Your life as a law student will be much easier if you know the reason why you are putting yourself through the countless hours of study, the stressful tests, and revision after revision of your memos and briefs. Your "why" should be something beyond just the potential to make a lot of money. You have to have something beyond money that will drive you to put in the amount of work necessary to make these three years as beneficial as possible.

The second piece of advice I would give you is to "get involved." Your experience here at USD will be a direct reflection of your involvement with the school. As a law student, you will have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, social and networking events, and student organizations. We have over 40 diverse student organizations on campus appealing to a variety of professional and cultural interests, such as Pride Law, Christian Legal Society, Sports and Entertainment Law, and even Yoga Law. There truly is at least one organization for every student, and I encourage each of you to be an active participating member in as many of these organizations as you would like.

Some of the extracurricular activities, such as the law journals, will have to wait until your second year. However, Moot Court allows 1Ls to participate as bailiffs for their competitions, giving you a chance to familiarize yourself with Moot Court as well as to make a good impression on the Moot Court Executive Board. You can find out all about the different student organizations by attending our club fair on Tuesday, August 28th from 4pm-6pm.

You will also have the opportunity to network with some of our amazing Alumni. Networking is an important and rewarding part of your law school experience. The USD Alumni Association, the San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA), the American Bar Association (ABA), and many of our student organizations provide opportunities throughout the year for you to meet with practicing attorneys and judges in a more casual setting. These professionals and Alumni will provide you with career advice and are valuable resources when you begin your job search. Not to mention, these networking events often have free food and beverages.

And the final piece of advice that I would give to you is to "have fun." Law school can be a stressful place. You need to make time for yourself to enjoy San Diego and all that "America's Finest City" has to offer. During my 1L year, a group of students from my section would meet every Saturday on South Mission Beach to play volleyball for a couple of hours. I did not recognize it at the time, but those few hours spent outside on the beach every week saved me from burning out during my first year. Whether it is going to the beach, going to the gym, or just going out for

a night in the Gaslamp district, make sure you take some time every week for you and leave the books at school.

To help you have a little fun, the Student Bar Association (SBA) and the student organizations will sponsor several social events throughout the year. The main events that the SBA sponsors every year are the annual Halloween party, where we dress up and dance the night away, and the Barristers' Ball (i.e. law school prom). In addition, the SBA sponsors a weekly "Bar Review," where the students gather for off-campus socialization usually at a social venue in either the Pacific Beach or the Downtown area. The Dean will also host his bi-monthly mixer, where students can get free food and beverages and interact with the faculty and administration in the courtyard in a much more casual setting. With so much of our time as law students devoted to work, it is essential that we take a break to play every once in a while and the SBA and our social chairs are committed to providing you the opportunities to do just that.

In closing, I want to encourage you to email me at usdlawpres@gmail.com if you have any concerns regarding the law school. Also, feel free to come by the SBA office down in the Writs, as a member of the SBA executive board is usually in the office during the day. You can also visit the SBA website (www.sbausd.com) for the most current schedule of events, including club meetings, networking and social events, and academic dates.

Once again, I want to welcome you to the University of San Diego School of Law and good luck to all of you.



This is where you go to law school. Who cares about Harvard.

Your Handy, Dandy 1L Survival Guide

by Jonathan Jekel - National News Editor

In the first year of law school, many students verge on insanity. For the first time in your educational career, some of you will get C's or worse. Read the list below. It might just save your life.

1. Submit to the IRAC

You will spend the next three years learning the IRAC. Every essay and exam will depend on your ability to make your point as clear and concise as possible. The thing is, attorneys are busy people, and judges see the same motions hundreds of times. IRAC will make your life ten times better, and the sooner you embrace it, the better. The less time your readers spend trying to understand you, the more time they have to consider your argument. Assume that your reader knows nothing about your case. Although creatively deviating from IRAC will eventually help you in practice, 1L writing teachers do not appreciate it.

San Diego, America's Finest City

by Sabrina Piper - San Diego Culture Editor

Welcome to San Diego! You may have heard a lot of things about our beautiful city, but rest assured that it does rain (mostly in February), not everyone surfs (but a lot do), and sometimes the weather isn't so perfect (June Gloom and a touch of humidity). But whether that makes you happier about your choice to spend the next three years here or a little more hesitant, I think most of you will find something about San Diego that makes you happy.

San Diego County is made of smaller neighborhood communities which are each a little different from one another and each offer their own cultural environment. I highly suggest that you spend a little time exploring the different areas and finding out which of them feels most comfortable to you. But being as the school year has just begun and your time is probably otherwise accounted for; I'll give you a brief overview of a few of the areas closest to campus.

When most people think of San Diego, they think of beaches, surfing, fish tacos, and sunshine. On most days, you'll find plenty of all of those things in the Pacific Beach and Mission Bay areas. These places are great for a day of fun at Belmont Park, Sea World, or just hanging out at the beach; but they are also great for nights of sports bars, dancing, or Bar Review events.

Old Town tends to attract a lot of tourists and parking can be rather difficult at times, but it's a great place to head for Taco Tuesday or a margarita to celebrate finishing the last final of the year. It's known for its quaint shops and historic sites. It's a great place to take out of town visitors and to do a little site seeing.

South of campus along interstate 5 you will find yourself in downtown San Diego. You'll know you're there when you see tall buildings, airplanes, and suddenly find yourself on one-way streets. There are tons of things to see and do in downtown San Diego: Padres games, conventions, Sea Port Village, shopping at Horton Plaza, visiting the Farmers Market in Little Italy, and of course, the Gaslamp.

2. Sleep on Your Reading

In a 2010 study* at Harvard University, 99 students spent one hour learning how to solve a three-dimensional puzzle. Half of the students took a 90-minute nap, while the others relaxed. The only students whose performance improved afterwards were those who had taken a nap. Read your material with time to sleep on it. Dream about civil procedure. You may find your memories easier to navigate during exams.

3. Network

For many people, networking is a challenge. Take advantage of the events put on by clubs and career services. Find a subject that excites you, and meet professors that have mastered that discourse. There's nothing like a good conversation over coffee, and it never hurts to pick up the lingo.

4. Outline

LexisNexis has outlines for all of your first year classes. Take a look at them throughout the semester to understand how they organized the concepts. Do not use a commercial outline for your exams. Typing and organizing your thoughts will help you access them during exams. Law school exams take most students a full three hours. A tight, well-organized outline will help your essays read that way on paper.

5. Get Your Money's Worth

Part of your tuition pays for student services, career services, and academic advising. These people are experts in optimizing your law school experience. Send every resume and cover letter to career services. Bring any concerns to student services. Join or create organizations that suit your interests. If you are really cool, you can even write for *Motions*.

6. Use Academic Resources

Do not wait until finals week to use the resources on TWEN and CALI, which provide ample benefit for students looking for outlines and exam preparation material. If you struggle through CALI lessons, you will find those concepts easy to explain in class. I am sure you are smart. Over your whole life, you may receive good grades without even studying. That just won't cut it here.

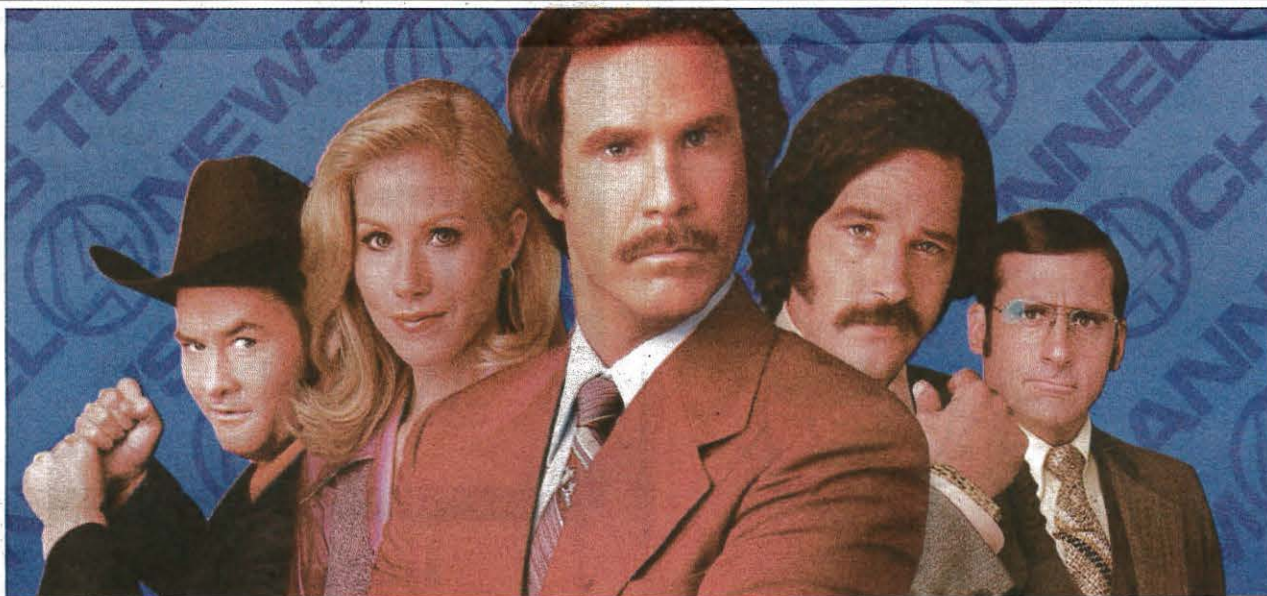
7. Make Compromises for the Sake of Your Budget

Ride a bicycle, rather than a car. Cook at home, rather than eating out. Block access to Gilt, HauteLook, and Ruelala. Unless Mom and Dad have deep pockets, you will run out of money at some point. Don't let finances kill your exams. I have been there before – one *omakase* too many. Remember, everything you borrow, you have to pay back, with interest.

8. Enjoy San Diego

San Diego is an amazing city. Get fish tacos at South Beach Bar & Grill. Join a softball team. Learn to paddleboard in La Jolla. Hobbies will help keep you sane, and they will make you someone that people actually want to talk to. Some of you came to law school to be millionaires. Some yearn for intellectual fulfillment. Regardless of your motivation, find a way to turn USD off so you don't feel overwhelmed.

*http://www.health.harvard.edu/newsletters/Harvard_Mens_Health_Watch/2012/February/learning-while-you-sleep-dream-or-reality



San Diego: Home of the Channel 4 Action News Team.

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The Gaslamp area is where you'll find clubs, restaurants, and some great people watching. You will probably become well acquainted with it after a few Bar Review outings, but when you're downtown it may help to keep these parking tips in mind.

1) Meters, Green, and Yellow Zones:

You can park in one of these spots after 6:00pm for FREE for any length of time up until 8:00am the following morning (just make sure there aren't any signs that indicate otherwise).

2) Sunday, Sunday, Sunday: You can park in most any area on Sundays or City holidays for any length of time for FREE (again, double check any posted signs).

3) Horton Plaza (the mall downtown): You can park in one of the mall parking lots for free for three hours with validation. There are automated validation machines spread throughout the mall, but they turn off at 9:00pm sharp.

In the Mission Valley area you will find plenty of good excuses to spend any money you have left in your account after buying books and supplies for class. Here, you'll find Fashion Valley Mall, plenty of restaurants, Mission Valley Mall, Dave and Busters, Ikea, Costco, and DSW. While this area has plenty to offer, some roads here are prone to flooding when it rains; so drive carefully and watch for detour signs.

If you are trying to find a place that promotes small businesses and supports alternative lifestyles, I suggest visiting Kensington, Hillcrest, North Park, Bankers Hill, or University Heights. All of these areas have a great mix of a small town atmosphere and sophistication which make them each well-rounded metropolitan neighborhoods. But don't take my words on it. Go visit them yourself!

I strongly believe one of the keys to success in school is being comfortable and



MOTIONS

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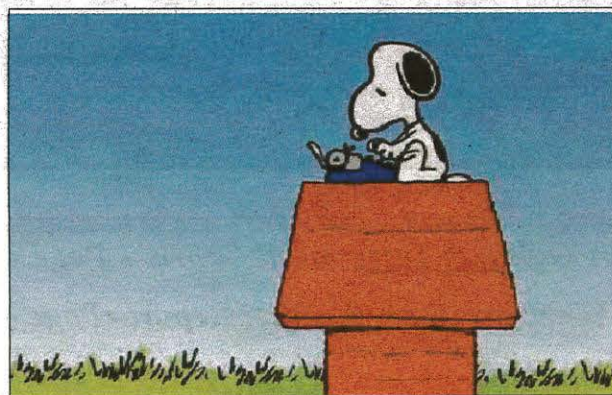
MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide news, information, analysis, and commentary to the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of the University of San Diego, the University of San Diego School of Law, and the general legal community of San Diego. Because journalistic excellence is the soundest foundation for our success, we pledge to seek and report the truth with honesty, accuracy, and fairness. These principles are cautiously guarded by each member of the *Motions* staff.

GET INVOLVED WITH MOTIONS!

USD Law students can be part of the *Motions* team in a variety of ways.

Contact motions@sandiego.edu to see what positions are currently available.



Join Motions today and show the world your first amendment powers!

by Sam Laughlin, Editor-in-Chief

Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "Where the press is free, and every man able to read, all is safe." The press is a powerful tool. It can topple governments, destroy businesses, and either ruin or raise the lives of average citizens. It can also uplift, inspire, educate, and entertain. Truly, the power of the press is a power to respect, to admire, and to fear.

Here, at the University of San Diego School of Law, you hold an example of that power in your very hands.

Motions is the only student-run newspaper at USD, published once a month both in print and online at motionsonline.org. The aim of the paper is to shed light on issues important to the student body, everything from new professors and policies affecting the school to events hitting San Diego. More importantly, Motions is here to entertain, to help bring students out of their periodic study funks, and to encourage all of us to dig deeper into USD and into San Diego. Last year, I wrote an article about Batman, just to give you an idea about how things roll around here.

Law school is intense, and one chief chore biting the sides of law students around the country is writing. 20 page briefs, 40 page journal comments, endless binders of notes (and doodles), and essay after essay after essay, law school is not short on writing.

Writing for Motions, however, is different. We encourage our writers to write articles on subjects they know and love, from surfing to movies to music to news to just about anything. Want to investigate potential conspiracies in intramural softball? We'll print it. The latest Supreme Court opinion got your

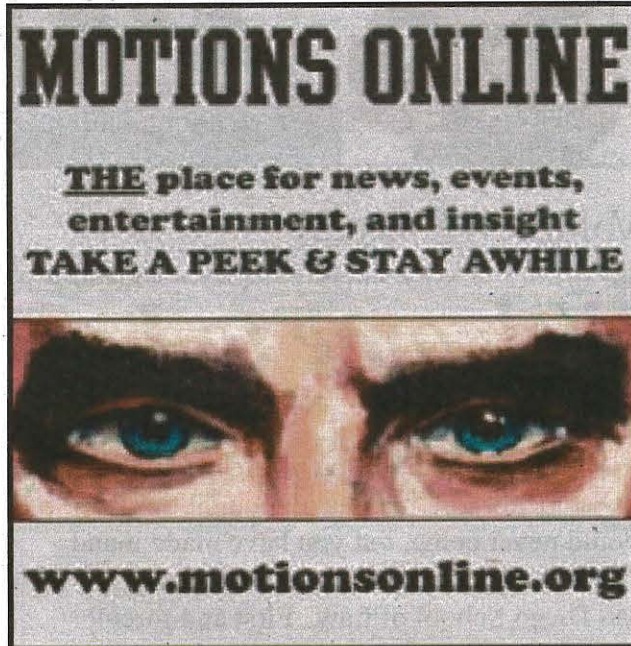


Little-known fact, Al Gore invented the internet. He also invented Motions, the electric car, and at least three flavors of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream.

SUBMISSIONS

Motions welcomes all guest columns, articles, photographs, artistic submissions, and commentaries. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for content, length, style, and the requirements of appropriate taste.

We attempt to financially reward the *Motions* staff for its contributions to the newspaper's growth and success. However, we are confined to our budget. Therefore, payment is never a contributor's right; contributors submit articles with the understanding that they may not receive any compensation at all. You can request our current Payment Policy by emailing motions@sandiego.edu.



goat? We'll print it. Like puppies? We'll print it. We want artists. We want photographers. We want those students who doodle in their casebooks (we will print your doodles if you insist). And we especially want those students spurred by a desire to tell a story to the world.

Motions is also a club unlike any other in law school. First of all, writing for Motions carries no commitment. Signing up is easy, by either seeking out our table at the student organization fair on Tuesday August 28, or by e-mailing us at Motions@SanDiego.edu.

Once placed on our e-mail list, you will receive a message once a month calling for writers. You can either submit an idea, or volunteer to write or investigate an issue we intend to write about. You will hear from one of the associate editors concerning your article, and off you go! If life has become too busy, and you're afraid you won't have time for an article... simple: do not respond to the e-mail. There are no dues, no meetings, nothing but your writing and your work, should you choose to contribute.

Also, Motions costs you nothing. In fact, Motions pays YOU. Depending on your contribution, you can earn between \$5 and \$40, per submission, for published work per issue. Please be aware that submitting an article is no guarantee it will be published, due to the number of articles we receive and the limited layout of the paper, but please talk to any of our staff about your ideas and we will work you and your articles into future issues, or let you post your article online.

Let your voice be heard. Get connected to your school and start telling stories. Your career in law is nothing without the skill to tell stories. So start telling yours today.

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The Legal Eagles, USD Intramural Softball champions from 2011, and the reigning kings to beat this year.

Law School Sports - Yes, That is a Thing

by Nicholas "Nico" Weiss - USD News Editor

Law school can addle your mind and turn your body into mush if you're not careful. Intramural sports are a great way to take a healthy break from school. The first thing that incoming 1Ls should know is that everybody plays intramural softball. Literally half of the 1L class last year joined a team. 1L softball is not only good for a study break, but also a great opportunity to bond with your classmates and practice your pun-manship.

The day of each game players wear their jerseys to class, sporting names like "Swinging Dicta" and "I'd Hit That." The best names are triple entendre of baseball idiom, sexual innuendo, and legal terms—but are still appropriate for law school.

There are just a few more things 1Ls should know about intramural softball: "Graduate-level beverages" are no longer

allowed on the softball diamond, and obviously inebriated students caught on-field will be asked to leave, but post-game gatherings still abound. Also, since the leagues are co-ed, female players are a hot commodity. And finally, it really is tons of fun—even for people who (like me) would normally rather play any other game.

If softball's not your bag, there are lots of other options to choose from. The intramural calendar is online (www.sandiego.edu/campusrecreation/intramurals), but highlights include flag football, soccer, volleyball, and basketball. In my experience, these non-softball

sports tend to be a bit more competitive and serious. There is no pre-gaming in intramural soccer on my team. The goal of these leagues is still to have fun, but players are of a high caliber and winning is fun. Nobody should feel disallowed from joining a league, but they will be expected to play regularly (and on many teams, to play well). Of course, for the high-school superstars and athletes-turned-law-students, this all might be good news.

Players can register online as either individuals or as a team. There is a small fee, an injury waiver, and a team registration form. Details can again be found online, but sign-ups close two weeks before the season begins. The website warns that leagues can fill up quickly so people should sign up early. After teams have signed up, captains attend a meeting that clarifies league rules. The captains' meeting is mostly mandatory and probably a good idea regardless, in order to make sure everybody is on the same page.

Whatever your game or intensity level, intramurals are a great way to stay sane during law school, with a wide range of choices so that anyone can play. So grab your cleats, pick up your bat, or oil up your lucky mitt and I will see you out on the field. USD Intramurals: "LEARN. LIVE. PLAY. THE RECREATION WAY."

San Diego Weather Report

July - December:



January:



February - April:



May - June:



The Void

by Sam Laughlin

