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Ro Khanna Interview: The Man Who Wants to Bring Silicon Valley Thinking to Capitol Hill

By Brent Tuttle *Managing Editor*

California's 17th Congressional District could easily be considered the most influential district in the Nation, or perhaps even the world. Visit Berlin, Paris, London, Mumbai, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Guadalajara, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, or really any city on the planet, and you'll find people using products that originated from our very own backyard. Home to innovative companies like Apple, Intel, Yahoo, and eBay, this district is central to organizations which have changed the world and continue to do so at a rapid pace.

Even more interesting than the companies that call this district home are the people who work and reside here. Think about it: without the wide-array of unique cultures, personalities, and imaginative ideas that make up Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Fremont, what would our district, and by extension the world, look like?

The planet can ill afford to lose the inventive spirit of California's 17th, and one man seeks to embolden Silicon Valley's innovation and forward thinking in the House of Representatives. Enter Ro Khanna. Dedicated to reforming a stagnant Congress polluted by special interests, Ro doesn't want money, power, or fame: he simply wants to serve to the community he calls home. Learn more about what he stands for in the interview that follows;

Continued on Page 3 See "KHANNA"



Restrictive Changes Imminent for LSO Budgets, Events, and Operations

By Nikki Webster Senior Editor

Is the glass half full? Or half empty? The water is at the midline, but by now, you have probably learned that your answer indicates whether you take a positive view of the world – half full, or a negative view – half empty.

Your view may influence my next question. If you are given the glass of water, and it's yours to do with what you will, how would you prefer to receive and use the water? Here's a hypo to help you answer:



In this Issue:

PAGE 2: Music to Set Your Mood and Get Through Finals ; Law Student Organizations Facing Changes

PAGE 3: Interview with Congressional Candidate Ro Khanna

PAGE 4, 5: Good Riddance: Departing Faculty and Staff

Suppose it's summertime, and you're a kid at the fair. You go every year. And every year your mom drops you off with your four best friends and gives you some money to spend on the crazy rides, the fried food, and all of the fun to be had. Every year, you have a blast, and even though you don't have time to ride every ride or play every game or eat every style of twisted pretzel or cotton candy, some of your friends try the things you run out of time for. When you all walk back together to the car at the end of the day, your friends tell you about their experiences and you decide that some of their picks are worth trying out the next year.

This year, however, when your mom drops you off and hands you some cash, she says, "Honey, I'm really sorry but we just didn't make enough money this year, so I'm decreasing your budget by about 25%." Your four friends have the same decrease in funds too. This is where the road splits.



In the first scenario, you respond, "It's okay, thanks for the money!" You and your friends race off with the same amount of time, the same amount of rides and food and fun offered by the fair, but with a bit less cash than you would otherwise have. By the end of the day, you have each learned that a smaller budget can still go a long way because if everybody shares one type of pretzel instead of each getting his or her own, then there's more cash to spend on other food. And because your friends coordinated so that every ride would be ridden by at least one person, there is a story about each of the rides in the fair, and everybody feels like they have experienced the fair to its fullest, just like all the prior years.

The second scenario is a little different.

This time your mom says, "Honey, I'm really sorry but we just didn't make enough money this year, so I'm decreasing your budget by about 25%." She goes on, "Since your budget and your friends' budgets have decreased significantly and I know there was some conflict last year about not having time to ride all of the rides, I am going to make some rules. I took the liberty of getting everybody punch cards instead of cash. What these punch cards do is allow you to go to one main activity that is open to everybody, and then you can use the remaining spots on the card to do things that are exclusive, or on your own. There are a limited number of spots to use up on the punch card, but you can Continued on Page 2

See "LSO RESTRUCTURING AND BUDGET CUTS AHEAD"

Open Up Before Leaving SCU Law

PAGE 6: Contempt of Court: Donald Sterling; Reflections Abroad in Hong Kong

PAGE 7: IHRC travels to Puerto Rico to Investigate Human Rights Violations

BACKPAGE: Vaya con Dios brahs! Outgoing Editorin-Chief and Sports Editor look back on their time at The Advocate

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Music to Set Your Mood and Get Through Finals

By William Falor *Editor-in-Chief*

It's that time of the semester. You're about to hunker down for a few weeks and attempt to learn everything you already should've committed to memory. And you're dreading it. Finals are the worst. Everyone often looks for the best study aid, but often folks forget about one of the most helpful; music. More specifically, music that taps into what mood you are, or perhaps more likely, want to be in. And music that, by enhancing your mood, allows to keep an even keel whether you're zeroed in or zoned out. Below are three mood-based music playlists designed to help you get from point A to point B during this semi-annual rite of passage. Try them out. Or just listen to *The Downward Spiral* on repeat and succumb to the psychosis.

You're feeling *frivolous*. You've hit a wall in your studies and just want to turn your brain off and blast some feel good tunes for the ride home. Dream, dream of better days than these.

Def Leppard – "Pour Some Sugar on Me" Bon Jovi – "Bad Medicine" Guns N' Roses – "Paradise City" Van Halen – "Panama" The Beach Boys – "Good Vibrations" Queen – "Fat Bottomed Girls" Huey Lewis & The News – "Hip To Be Square" Phil Collins – "Sussudio" Kiss – "Rock And Roll All Nite" Aerosmith – "Sweet Emotion" You're feeling *fancy*. You forwent your typical Taco Bell in favor of a sit-down joint, and you've upgraded your daily reward from the oh-so-plebian Yellow Tail to the oh-soeffete Kendall Jackson.

Antonio Vivaldi – "Concerto For 4 Violins In B Minor" Sergei Rachmaninoff – "Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor" Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov – "Scheherazade" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – "Concerto No. 3 in G Major for Violin and Orchestra" Edvard Grieg – "Piano Concerto in A Minor" Max Bruch – "Violin Concerto No. 1 in G Minor" Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky – "Violin Concerto in D" Johann Sebastian Bach – "Double Concerto in D Minor for Two Violins and Strings" Ludwig van Beethoven – "Concerto No. 2 in B-Flat Major for Piano and Orchestra" Felix Mendelssohn – "Violin Concerto in E Minor"

You're feeling *frantic*. It's twelve hours until the exam and you'll be damned if you feel anywhere close to fully prepared. It's now or never, and you're not spending the summer filled with regret.

The Bloody Beetroots – "Rocksteady (Original Mix)" Chromeo – "Night by Night (Shreddie Mercury Remix)" Fatboy Slim – "Right Here, Right Now (Trumpdisco Remix)" Russ Chimes – "Targa" Arty – "Open Space (Original Mix)" Deadmu5 – "There Might Be Coffee (Original Mix)" Radiohead – "Everything In Its Right Place (Case & Point Bootleg)" Pryda – "Allein (Original Mix)" Florence + the Machine – "Rabbit Heart (P.E.S.T. Remix)" Gorillaz – "Stylo (Alex Metric Remix)"

LSO Budget Reductions Ahead

Prove You Are Passionate

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Writing and submitting articles to The Advocate is a great way to

Continued from Fron Page

ask a friend to join your card and use the spot with that friend. You have to have that friend sign up on your card to do so. I also contacted the fair coordinator, who's a friend of mine, and she agreed to have only one type of booth open at a time at the fair, meaning there will be one ride open at a time, one type of food sold at a time, etcetera. This should help you manage your day better, allow you to spend wisely and make you feel like you didn't miss out on anything."

Think for a moment and decide which scenario you would prefer. Made a decision? Now think about it as though you were on the board of a Law Student Organization (LSO) at Santa Clara. You attend a mandatory meeting for all LSO leaders where the school regrettably informs you that the school is facing major decreases in its budget, so your organization's funding from the school is going to be cut by about 25%. Then, you are told that new rules are being imposed to help manage the overburdened calendar and the LSOs' decreased budgets. There will be a master calendar person and guidelines for scheduling and booking rooms in Bannan. Each LSO gets one "external" event in fall and in spring. If the LSO invites other people (those who are not members of your club, i.e. all law students, faculty, etc.) to a meeting, it is considered an "external" event. However, LSOs can co-sponsor and partner so that an LSO that does not normally have an external event can give it to another LSO that typically has more than two per year. For example, if The Advocate did not plan on having

an external event one semester, it might agree to "own" an event with the Law and Business Society so that LBS can have more than one event open to all law students.

Aside from the single external event per semester each LSO gets, a LSO may have unlimited "internal" events, where only "members" of that LSO may attend.

I admit, we are no longer in the hypothetical; these rules are real, and they will be imposed on all LSOs next fall. At the meeting, future LSO leaders expressed concerns about the coordination of the events and the new limitations. While it is true that there are often so many attractive panels, meetings, and events on calendar that it can be very difficult to pick one per lunch and impossible to attend them all, it seems that the new rules come from "the glass is half empty" perspective with an approach much like the second fair scenario described above, as though rules can change a person's perspective. As a result of the new rules, it is likely that some LSOs that have several external events, such as APALSA and Women and Law, will have to forgo some of their external events and make them available only to club "members." At the meeting, there was already talk of "loopholes" allowing and encouraging unlimited students to become members by simply joining an email list. Though organizations would benefit from coordinating with each other, this kind of forced coordination imposes a limitation greater than the budget cut. LSOs can raise funds, but there are a finite number of organizations that will be willing to co-sponsor. At the meeting, I learned that we have 40 clubs, plus

other organizations. Even if half of the organizations give up all of their external events and "co-sponsor," the other half will only be able to put on two external events per semester, whether they are panels, workshops, guest speakers, fundraisers, or something else.

At the meeting, we were asked to look at the big picture, that coordination will cause expenses to be shared, increase meeting attendance because there will be fewer events on the calendar, and decrease the likelihood that a three person panel will travel to Bannan to speak to an audience of two law students and cause embarrassment to SCU Law.

However, the new rules won't necessarily solve the panel ratio I just described and fewer external events on

show that you have an interest in a specific area of law. Further, employers will be interested to see that you have sought means to enhance your writing skills beyond writing classes.

Writing for The Advocate is a lowstress, low-commitment way to enhance your resume and stand out from others, as well as a vehicle to learn about areas of law in which you have interest.

A career in law has many paths. The Advocate encourages all law students to submit articles about their own journey.

We can be reached at scuadvocate@gmail.com.

the calendar means less information to be shared, fewer opportunities to network, fewer interactions with law students in different years and programs (e.g. part time, LLM, JD-MBA), and fewer chances to get a taste for another area of the law. It also shifts Santa Clara's burden of calendaring to individual law students by requiring them to sign up for emails from every LSO if they want to be on notice of and attend internal events. If there is such a concern about having multiple events on the calendar and students not being able to attend all of the events they want to attend, then perhaps events should be recorded and made available online to the entire student body, instead of limited to particular members of a certain LSO.

Though "mom" is the boss of us and we wouldn't be able to go to the fair without her, if you had a choice, how would you prefer to receive and spend your budget? Do the rules further the purpose of LSOs? What is your perspective?

THE ADVOCATE

Ro Khanna: An Innovative Vision for Our Country's Future



Q: So, this is a law school newspaper, and I wanted to begin with a question that I think a lot of our readers could relate to; what initially drew you to law school?

A: An interest in public service and human rights. I thought a legal education would be one of the best ways to understand complex issues of Constitutional law, of international law, and of human rights.

Q: The upcoming months are a big question for a lot of students right now, and I think they might be curious to know what a man of your caliber did during his 1L and 2L summers?

A: My 1L summer I worked for Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, the daughter of Robert Kennedy. I did an unpaid internship in Annapolis. She was the Lieutenant Governor at the time. It was a great experience. And my 2L summer I was a litigation associate at a law firm in Philadelphia.

Q: It's my understanding that while you were an undergrad at University of Chicago, you worked on President Obama's original State Senate campaign. What was it like? Can you share any of your experiences in that process?

A: I don't want to overstate it. I helped knock on doors and went out a couple times on the campaign with Will Burns who is now an Alderman in Chicago. At the time we were working together at Blue Gargoyle and he got me interested in Obama's race, so I have memories standing outside grocery stores handing out flyers and knocking on doors. Of course, I never would have guessed that he would have been President a few years later. Q: Through that experience, how did that change your perspective of the American political system? Or did it have any impact on the way you viewed the political system? A: It was the first time I really had gotten involved in any political campaign. Before then, my knowledge of politics was very much based on watching Meet the Press or other television shows, and I saw that most politics was at a very grass roots level, and my first exposure to campaigning. Even back then, I doubt anyone would have said Barack Obama would have become President. People saw him as a very charismatic figure who wanted to change politics on the South Side in Chicago, and was drawn to candidates who wanted to bring change.

the role of Deputy Assistant Secretary at the US Department of Commerce. What did your job duties entail?

A: My job was to oversee 109 of our Commerce offices. We've got one here in San Jose, one up in San Francisco. They help manufacturers and other businesses keep manufacturing in the United States and increase our exports and sell to foreign markets.

Q: And you also spent a good amount of time touring the country and visiting with local business owners and domestic manufacturers, correct? What is your vision for the future of manufacturing in the United States?

A: We've got a great prospect for advanced manufacturing, for high-end value jobs that require 3D printing or advanced robotics or CNC machines, and we need to educate people in those skills. And you look at Flextronics in my district, if you walk on the factory floor it's like being in a science-fiction movie. The question is how that manufacturing is going to stay in the United States. But we have to have people who understand how to operate those machines.

Q: On that note, how do you see 3D printing/robotic manufacturing and human labor merging together in the future?

A: Someone needs to make the robots. Someone needs to make the 3D printers. Someone needs to operate them. And someone needs to still design the specifications, going back and forth. And those are the jobs that we need to prepare people for.

Q: I imagine you could have just

some of the specifics of the broken system and steps you would take to fix it?

A: Well my reform agenda; not taking any Political Action Committee (PAC) money, not taking lobbyist money, not taking corporate money. Banning these junkets, lobbyist paid junkets to foreign countries. Buying my own healthcare insurance so I'm living like everyone else. Not having Congressional pensions, putting a ban on the revolving door between Congress and lobbyists. Having a five-year ban on members of Congress not to be lobbyists. Those are some basic things that I think would fix the system. And all of them are pledges which I have taken personally.

Q: It's rare to see a Democrat to challenge a sitting Democrat in California. For all those who don't know you too well, what makes you different from Mike Honda?

A: All of these pledges, in not taking special interest money, not taking the PAC money. Then my background and expertise on economics and manufacturing. And finally, I'm a teacher and I've taught courses at Santa Clara and Stanford, and I feel more connected to the younger generation and their needs. I feel a greater sense of understanding of the difficulties of the job market and what we're going to need to get people skills for 21st century jobs.

Q: Can you lay out your platform on higher education and 21st century jobs?

A: Well, changing financial aid to not count parents' 401K so that we have greater scholarship loans to students. Having a lower interest rate, I support Elizabeth Warren's proposal of a 2% interest rate loans. We should be lending to students at the rates that banks get money. We ought to be having massive open online courses and making sure that some of that could reduce the tuition costs, and we need to make sure that we are holding colleges, universities, community colleges accountable for job placement. Q: What are some other issues that you think are important to the future of America and its' youth but that aren't being adequately addressed on Capitol Hill? A: Teaching coding in the classroom. We need to have more technology proficiency, having more women in science and technology fields, and in general creating a culture where science, engineering, and math are valued and considered popular in schools. Making sure that we continue to encourage

citizenship and civic participation, a lot of our students are not really engaged in the political process and I think inculcating that civic-mindedness is important.

Q: Why do you think the youth are disenfranchised with politics?

A: I don't think they have people who can relate to them. They see it as so distant, they're on Facebook and on Twitter, and engaged. And many of the political leaders in Washington are out of touch and can't speak their language, can't speak to their concerns, and so they see it as irrelevant to their lives. We need people who are going to really connect with the young people again.

Q: I think there's also a sentiment that people in Washington don't really fix anything, that they just sort of "kick the can down the road" and fail really to deal with many of the major issues our country faces. Would you agree with that?

A: Well there used to be a time in our country's history when the government worked much better. People took on big issues, whether it was building the interstate highway, or helping set up the semiconductor industry, or having comprehensive tax reform, and they did things on a bipartisan basis. That has not unfortunately been the case the last ten to fifteen years, and we need to hit a restart and get people in who are going to be willing to lead and build coalitions and get things done.

Q: So the Primary Election is June 3rd. How can law students make an impact on this election? A: They can like our page on Facebook at "Ro Khanna USA" or contact us at ro@rokhanna.com if they're interested in being part of the campaign.

Q: So then President Obama gets elected, and then he appoints you to

stayed put at the Department of Commerce and climbed the ladder in D.C., providing a nice, cushy life. What made you decide to leave your job at the Department of Commerce and pursue a run for Congress?

A: I wanted to come back to the community. I had worked on an issue when NUMMI shut down on bringing a grant back to Fremont to help Fremont prepare for advanced manufacturing. I thought that the experience that I had, that I could come back to Silicon Valley and really make an impact in my own community, and that Washington and the bureaucracy was broken and needed more infusion of Silicon Valley values, of entrepreneurship and risk taking. So I made my contribution, I was excited, and got good experience, but I really felt a desire to come back home.

Q: Coming off what you just said, it seems like one of the only things our politicians can agree on is that the system is broken. Can you highlight

Q: Last question; what piece of advice would you today have given yourself in law school?

A: Don't sweat the small stuff. People get so wrapped up in what's next, but you figure out that the first 5 years of what you do are more experiential. It doesn't make that big of a difference if it's this law firm versus that law firm, if it's this judge versus that judge, this nonprofit versus that non-profit. Just to be more experience based. Enjoy your time, don't worry about all the details, don't sweat the little stuff.

To find out more about Ro Khanna and his reform agenda, visit www.rokhanna.com or www.facebook. com/RoKhannaUSA

THE ADVOCATE

Q&A WITH OUTGOING FACULTY AND STAFF

The Advocate recently learned that several members of our beloved faculty and staff will not be returning to campus next semester. It is with sincere gratitude and appreciation that we here at The Advocate would like to extend a very big thank you to the faculty and staff who have shaped so many students into model attorneys. Congratulations on your accomplishments here at Santa Clara Law and good luck with any future endeavors you embark on. You will all truly be missed. While this period of transition is undoubtedly bittersweet, we felt it was only appropriate to give each of the departing individuals a chance to tell the rest of our Santa Clara Law community a little bit about themselves. To this end, we've given each a set of questions. Their answers are below;



Nancy Wright Associate Professor of Law

Areas of Specialization: Torts, Appellate and Moot Court, Moot Court Board, Seminar in Legal Analysis Research, and Writing Education: -J.D. cum laude, Santa Clara University School of Law -B.A. University of California Berkeley

1. What do you consider your greatest professional success?

My greatest professional success at Santa Clara was co-founding and co-directing (with my husband Professor Eric Wright) what is now the Katherine & George Alexander Community Law Center. We were also the first co-founders and co-directors of what is now the Center for Social Justice and Public Service. I am also very proud that, in 2006, Stanford Law School named an endowed Chair for a Clinical Professorship the Eric and Nancy Wright Professorship of Clinical Education. My understanding is that this was the first time (and as far as I know the only time) that an endowed Chair at one law school was named for Professors at a different law school.

2. What technology are you currently most excited about?

I am still very excited about digital cameras and Photoshop technology and hope to spend more time on photography when I retire. I also am excited about purchasing my first iPhone in the near future.

3. What did you want to grow up to be when you were a child?

When I was a child I wanted to be an actress and a singer (and pursued both careers as a teenager).

4. What historical event do you find most interesting and why? In my lifetime, I think 9/11 had the most impact and, therefore, I find it the most interesting. It brought to a halt what seemed like a naïve, nationwide innocence that nothing that horrendous could happen in the U.S. The assassination of President Kennedy also had a huge impact on me. I was attending Cal at the time and President Kennedy had spoken on campus only a few months before. When he was killed, the entire campus was eerily silent – as if everyone at the university had simultaneously lost a beloved member of his or her own family.

5. What is your favorite guilty pleasure?

I have always loved Little John's English Toffee candy as well as ice cream topped with Brown's hot fudge sauce. I also currently enjoy watching a few 'guilty pleasure' TV shows like The Good Wife, Homeland and House of Cards. I would want to meet with Judy Garland because I was a huge fan of hers while she was alive and she was my inspiration while I was hoping to become a professional singer. I would, however, want the meeting to be followed by having her sing in a huge concert venue so that everyone I know could experience firsthand the magic that she created when she performed.

7. Who are your favorite characters in literature and/or film?

I loved Scarlett O'Hara in Gone with the Wind because she had such an unquenchable love of life. In film, my favorite characters tend to be lovers such as Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart in "Casablanca", Deborah Kerr and Cary Grant in "An Affair to Remember", Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford in "The Way We Were" and Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks in "Sleepless in Seattle".

8. What did you do your 1L and 2L summers?

While in law school, I was a part time student who was working full time and parenting four daughters (aged 3, 4, 8 and 9 when I started Santa Clara). During both my 1L and 2L summers, I continued working as a paralegal but took as much time off as I could to spend time with my kids.

9. What do you consider to be the most important development in your field over the last 5 years?

In my specialty field of child abuse and neglect, the most important development has probably been the use of brain imaging technology to demonstrate the devastating, lifelong effects of maltreatment on abused children. The technology has also led to increased awareness that witnessing abuse of a sibling or witnessing domestic violence can also lead to demonstrable damage to the brain of the witness.

10. What piece of advice would you today have given yourself in law school?

Three of my daughters went to Santa Clara Law School and I saw through their experiences that law school can be a lot of fun and a chance to form lasting friendships. With my work and parenting responsibilities, I didn't have time for the social part of law school and I wish I had. Luckily, being a law school Professor has given me a second chance to experience the joy of law school through my colleagues and my students.

6. If you could sit down for coffee, a cocktail, or a meal with any person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

1. What do you consider your greatest professional success?

I think my greatest professional success is measured in the success of my students' ability to fashion a well-organized, well analyzed legal document – a legal memorandum or a memorandum of points and authorities. My goal is to prepare students to enter the world of practice and it's gratifying when they let me know that an employer respects their work.

2. What technology are you currently most excited about?

I love my Kindle. It's so easy to read on the Kindle – and of course store lots of books on that little device. Once I retire I also look forward to checking Facebook more to see what friends and family are up to.

3. What did you want to grow up to be when you were a child?

Since I was in elementary school I wanted to be a lawyer - and a

across the street. He then blessed each of the homes once they were built. I so admire him as a statesman and advocate. He has served his country long past his time in the White House in ways that help those with few resources.

Second is Rufina Amaya, the sole survivor at El Mozote, where she witnessed the murders of her entire community during the Salvadoran civil war. She hid while government troops murdered her family. I would like to know how she could continue emotionally and psychologically after losing her four children and husband. Even after these losses she continued to work to redress the horrendous human rights violations visited on many Salvadoran children and other noncombatants.

7. Who are your favorite characters in literature and/or film?

My favorite character is Portia from The Merchant of Venice. She masquerades as a male lawyer to save a man from certain death after he breaches an agreement with an unscrupulous moneylender. What I especially recall is the speech she gives to convince the court that her client should not be held to the terms of the agreement; those terms if breached required that he "give a pound of flesh," Shakespeare's way of referring to "death." It reads in part: "The Quality of Mercy is not strained; it droppeth as the gentle rain…upon the place beneath…It becomes [t]he throned monarch better than his crown." With these words she makes it clear to the court that law should be tempered with mercy. Portia is a strong, confident and compassionate person; all characteristics to be applauded.



Patricia Rauch Associate Clinical Professor of Law

really good soccer player. At least I accomplished one of those goals.

4. What historical event do you find most interesting and why?

There are so many possibilities. After a trip to the Normandy beaches last year, I would choose the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944.

It was the largest amphibious invasion in history, executed after months of careful planning. But sadly many, many lives were lost at Omaha Beach; you can still see the German "pill-boxes" perched on the top of the escarpment where German soldiers were able to gun down these young men. Many young men also lost their lives because they drowned before even reaching the beaches. Even though the Normandy invasion eventually helped turn the tide of the war in favor of the Allies, it was only at the expense of losing teenage boys who could not have envisioned what a world war really involved. Our visit to the American cemetery confirmed just how many boys never returned home.

5. What is your favorite guilty pleasure?

My favorite guilty pleasure is watching English Premier soccer and "Inspector Lewis in Oxford." It's so much fun watching really good soccer. And Lewis offers interesting murder plots in the beautiful city of Oxford.

6. If you could sit down for coffee, a cocktail, or a meal with any person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

I would choose two people. First, I would love to meet and talk with Jimmy Carter. A few years ago we had the opportunity to build a home in Detroit through Habitat for Humanity. Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, both in their late 70's, were working hard building the house

8. What did you do your 1L and 2L summers?

After my first year of law school I was a research assistant for a law professor. I researched the issue of whether church-run day care centers could use corporal punishment. Many states prohibited such behavior especially when young children were the target. The churches involved contended that they were entitled to follow their own precepts based on the "freedom of religion" clause of the First Amendment. As you can imagine, courts took different stances on this issue. It opened my eyes to the types of conflict that can arise under the "free exercise of religion" doctrine. Then following my second year I worked at the Consumer Fraud unit at the Santa Clara District Attorneys' office. Lots of interesting cases! I was happy to see how effective that unit was against businesses that indulged in some very unfair business practices.

9. What do you consider to be the most important development in your field over the last 5 years?

I am very pleased to see that legal research and writing programs are offering more information about actual law practice. Economics do not allow law schools to adopt the medical school model, in

Education: -J.D., Santa Clara University School of Law -M.S., Southern Illinois University -B.A., St. Louis University

which students do rotations in a hospital or a doctor's office. Now our LARAW faculty discuss assignments in relation to how the assignment fits within a client's case. We also stress both the intellectual and social skills that law firms expect from summer and junior associates. Hopefully some of the realities of law practice are less a mystery when a student takes on that first job.

10. What piece of advice would you today have given yourself in law school?

Re-write, re-write, re-write any of your work. It is rare that one iteration of a legal document nets a thorough and clear analysis. When you prepare a draft and then re-write, you generally deepen your analysis and make the work clearer and better. I find it valuable to re-visit anything I've written – often more than once. (I edited this document more than once and could continue to!)



Karin Carter Associate Clinical Professor of Law

Areas of Specialization: HMCE (Honors Moot Court External) Education: -J.D., magna cum laude, Whittier College School of Law -B.A., Scripps College **1. What do you consider your greatest professional success?** Seeing my former students graduate, enter the practice of law, and then come back to serve as moot court judges or team coaches!

2. What technology are you currently most excited about? Being able to watch the LA Dodgers TV broadcasts with Vin Scully on my smartphone anywhere in the world, but especially in the Bay Area.

3. What did you want to grow up to be when you were a child?

Linguist, historian, musician, and baseball statistician 4. What historical event do you find most interesting and why?

The First World War – it began as the result of a seemingly isolated regional incident 100 years ago this July, but dramatically altered the map of Europe and the course of the century since.

5. What is your favorite guilty pleasure?

Attending a Dodgers vs Giants game at AT&T Park, in full blue & white fan gear!

6. If you could sit down for coffee, a cocktail, or a meal with any person, dead or alive, who would it be and why? Thomas Mann, the German novelist, to discuss present-day European culture and politics and how it has changed (or not) since his passing in 1955.

7. Who are your favorite characters in literature and/or film?

If you don't count Star Trek (from TOS on, but especially DS9), then the family Buddenbrooks, the subject a Thomas Mann novel (it's more dramatic in the original Klingon).

8. What did you do your 1L and 2L summers?

1L- clerked at the LA County Dependency Court with attorneys representing abused/neglected children.
2L- clerked at the Public Law Center in Santa Ana, CA, doing client intake and preparing attorney training materials for volunteer attorneys taking low-income domestic violence cases
9. What do you consider to be the most important

development in your field over the last 5 years?

The advent of "LawMeets" – a law school student competition for transactional lawyers: student teams interview a client, draft a contract & exchange markups, then meet negotiate a deal.

10. What piece of advice would you today have given yourself in law school?

Don't be surprised if you change your goal of how to use your law degree while you're earning it! (Thus my advice to clerk doing what you think you want to do. I did that - see item 8 above - and went into corporate law!)

1. What do you consider your greatest professional success? Getting to be a law professor. 2. What technology are you currently most excited about? Cloud computing. 3. What did you want to grow up to be when you were a child? Some kind of professional. 4. What historical event do you find most interesting and why? The resurrection of Jesus Christ, because He thereby made a way, where there otherwise is none, for all people to be saved who trust in Him as their Lord and Savior. 5. What is your favorite guilty pleasure? Playing on-line Scrabble with friends when I should be working.

6. If you could sit down for coffee, a cocktail, or a meal with any person, dead or alive, who would it be and why? The Apostle Paul. I have questions about his epistles.

7. Who are your favorite characters in literature and/or film?

Literature: Ignatius J. Reilly, from Confederacy of Dunces, by John Kennedy Toole, and Timofey Pnin, from Pnin, by Vladimir Nabokov; film: Rick Blaine, Casablanca. 8. What did you do your 1L and 2L summers? 1L: Worked for a judge. 2L: Worked for a law firm. 9. What do you consider to be the most important development in your field over the last 5 years? Dramatic changes in the market for legal education. 10. What piece of advice would you today have given yourself in law school?

I have two: In studying, spend more time developing the ability to apply the law to facts; and spend more time thinking about why clients hire lawyers and what clients want from their counsel.



David Hasen Associate Professor of Law

Education: -J.D., Yale Law School -Ph.D., Harvard University -B.A., Reed College



1. What do you consider your greatest professional success?

I consider my contributions to the Heafey Law Library during my career at the law school to be my greatest professional success: the growth of the collection; the creation of the reference department; services offered to faculty and students; embracing technology; having a first rate team on staff.

2. What technology are you currently most excited about?

Professionally I am excited about our growing presence with our Santa Clara Law Digital Commons. In less than two years we have already uploaded all issues of our three journals, have faculty scholarly research online, and have had over 900,000 downloads of materials. I am also excited about the next generation of our integrated library system which is scheduled to go live this summer. There are so many technologies popping up in the library world and I am excited as our staff explores and adopts software to improve workflow and services. 3. What did you want to grow up to be when you were a child? When I was growing up I wanted to be a teacher – specifically a math teacher. Law school was the furthest thing from my mind. My college roommate wanted to be the lawyer. Ironically she became a teacher and I went to law school - not to be a practicing attorney but to be a law librarian. So in a way I did become a teacher - using teachable moments to hopefully give students the ability to enjoy the process of legal research.

6. If you could sit down for coffee, a cocktail, or a meal with any person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

Again, as with a single historical event, to pick just one person to sit down and talk with is really tough. I think right now I would love to be able to sit down with my maternal grandmother who died when I was just six years old, so I never really got a chance to know her. What I do know about her is that she was one of the first business women in early 20th century Chicago and she also performed as a concert singer before she married my grandfather. I would be fascinated to know more about her and her struggles before women were given the right to vote.

7. Who are your favorite characters in literature and/or film?

Archie Goodwin (Nero Wolfe's confidential assistant); Sherlock Holmes; Elizabeth Bennet (Pride and Prejudice).

Mary Hood Librarian and Executive Law Librarian

Education:

-J.D., Santa Clara University School of Law -M.L.S., San Jose State University -B.A., Santa Clara University

4. What historical event do you find most interesting and why?

History has always been one of my favorite subjects so it is hard to pick just one event. Currently I am interested in the Civil War era (pre- and post-war). This period of history continues to have an impact even today. This interest has probably been sparked by the recent movies: Lincoln and 12 Years a Slave. Now that I will have more time, I look forward to reading the books on which they were based. I found the congressional hearings depicted in the move Lincoln to be fascinating.

5. What is your favorite guilty pleasure?

I love to read murder mysteries (and collect them), particularly those with female protaganists such as the Kinsey Milhone series by Sue Grafton, the Sharon McCone series by Marcia Muller, and the V.I Warshawski series by Sara Paretsky (among many others). I also love science fiction and action movies.

8. What did you do your 1L and 2L summers?

Since June 1970 I have worked at Heafey Law Library full-time. Beginning in fall 1971 I started law school in the part-time program at SCU. During my 1L summer in addition to working full-time at the law library I took Administrative Law from Prof. James Blawie, reading The Exorcist for a study break. During my 2L summer I took it easy and only worked.

9. What do you consider to be the most important development in your field over the last 5 years?

The impact of technology on libraries has greatly transformed the landscape of libraries and will continue to do so. The idea that everything is online is not quite true (at least for now). The thought that libraries will no longer need print materials and thus need fewer funds to support the research needs of the library users is misleading. So I view the rapid changes in technology and how libraries respond to and work with the technology to be the most important development in the library world. How library staff adapt to new technologies is critical to providing excellent support to researchers.

10. What piece of advice would you today have given yourself in law school?

Note to self: don't get too stressed out in law school! If you attend classes regularly (even if you are not always prepared), study a reasonable amount, stay balanced in your life, you will do fine. Don't let things overwhelm you. You can do it!

THE ADVOCATE

By Michael Bedolla Sports Editor

No franchise in basketball best exemplifies perpetual failure quite like the Los Angeles Clippers. Since their move to California in 1978, the Clippers have been perennial basement dwellers or, at best, a defacto playoff bye for the Western Conference superpowers of the day. The Clippers are a place where careers either begin or end, but are not forged: they are used a stepping stone for quality players and coaches (Ron Harper, Lamar Odom, coach Larry Brown), a final stop for players long past their prime (Dominique Wilkins), or a rest home

for players that could never find that next level (Corey Maggette). To make matters worse, the Clippers are not even masters in their own home, as they share both their city and even their home arena, the Staples Center, with the darling LA Lakers.

The Clippers' latest black-eye, however, comes not from another pitiful on-court season (the Clippers actually won the Pacific Division) or another "it seemed like a good idea at the time" player signing, but from the Clippers' owner Donald Sterling's racially inflammatory comments. Celebrity gossip site TMZ obtained a recording purportedly between Sterling and former girlfriend V. Stiviano in which Sterling demanding that Stiviano not publicly associate with African Americans, and that African Americans were not welcome at "his" [Clippers'] games. It should be noted that the African American whom Stiviano photographed herself with and invited to the Clippers' game was NBA hall-offamer Magic Johnson.

The resulting media firestorm has dwarfed all other storylines in the NBA - which is no small feat considering the playoffs have just begun. The Clippers' players and



coaching staff resisted calls for a boycott of Sunday's Game 4 against the Golden State Warriors (the Warriors won anyway), but refused to wear their Clippers' jackets during warm-ups, and wore black socks and armbands during the game in protest. Media commentators have begun calling for new NBA Commissioner Adam Silver to fine, suspend, and possibly even expel Sterling as an owner. Even President Obama, currently halfway around the world completing a tour of Asia, felt the need to criticize Sterling's "incredibly offensive racist statements."

Sadly, this is not Sterling's first encounter with racial controversy. In 2009, Sterling paid \$2.75 million to settle a claim with the Justice Department that Sterling had engaged in housing discrimination; central to the government's case were statements by Sterling that African Americans and Hispanics were undesirable tenants. In a wrongful termination suit, former Clippers GM Elgin Baylor alleged that Sterling wanted to have "a white Southern coach coaching poor black players" and that Sterling treated his players like racehorses in allowing women into the players' locker room to gaze at the players' "beautiful black bodies."

While Sterling's comments are not surprising given his history of racially inflammatory remarks, it is his smug and invincible attitude that has led to the current crusade for the league to exile him. Sterling has shockingly never been fined nor suspended by the NBA for his alleged remarks. Sterling boasted that the 2009 settlement was paid by the insurance companies, and that he successfully defeated Elgin Baylor's wrongful termination suit. And with the Clippers now a budding NBA power, led by superstars Blake Griffin and Chris Paul, his franchise is for the first time a competitive and marketable product.

One thing is clear: the NBA cannot afford to let Sterling's racism slide this time. While Sterling is certainly entitled to due process, and the NBA should be given the opportunity to conduct a full and fair investigation, the pattern of Sterling's racism is too great to ignore, and too toxic for a league with such a high percentage of African American players and fans to permit. While Sterling won't be deterred by any fine (Forbes estimates his net worth as 1.9 billion), and other NBA owners aren't exactly likely to follow Sterling into his racist lunacy, a suspension

is necessary to avoid an escalating scandal should the Clippers advance in the playoffs. Imagine the outrage if the Clippers won the NBA Finals, with the image of a triumphant and defiant Donald Sterling hoisting the Larry O'Brien Championship Trophy serving as the defining moment of the 2013-14 NBA season.

It is a shame that for long-suffering Clipper fans, just as their team was on the verge of respect and even greatness, they instead find themselves fans of America's most hated team. While fans may hate the Miami Heat because of their smug superiority complex, or the constant success of the dynastic superpowers of yesteryear like the Lakers during the Kobe-Shaq years or Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls, fans' hatred of the Clippers is only due to their racist owner and the desire to see his franchise return to basketball obscurity. So, as fans and commentators plan boycotts of Clipper merchandise and protest outside the Staples Center, fans across the country must hope that Commissioner Silver will save the NBA by throwing the entire bookshelf at Donald Sterling.

Reflections From Overseas: Abroad in Hong Kong

By Paola Aguiar

Secretary, LLM Student Association

Hong Kong was a wonderful experience for me in areas of my life. I was immersed in an Asian culture with English traditions. Hong Kong is not only a city with tropical weather, beautiful islands and amazing landscapes, exotic food, and sophisticated people surrounded by impressive skyscrapers, but it also offered me an incredible learning experience, which started by my immersion at the Hong Kong University where I learned Hong Kong's legal system which is also based on the English common law. Also I studied other areas of law in a comprehensive comparison with the legal system of People's Republic of China. Students came from different universities like SCU, UCLA, San Diego State, and others. We were designated a specific employer to do a legal internship with. I was fortunate to practice with two different barristers at two different prestigious chambers where I worked closely in the analysis of well-known criminal corporate cases related to money laundering, forgery, as well as IP cases concerning trademarks. The visit to the Superior Court in Wan Chai and The High Court located in Central were literally our permanent residence, particularly when Carson Yeung and international experts were scheduled to attend or testify in the hearings. It was also exciting to research and engage in the forgery case involving Asia's well known richest woman Mrs. Nina Wang, whose exlover, a feng shui master, was accused and sentenced to jail for forgery her will.

Department, which allowed me to socialize with chambers where one can practice. attorneys and law students in a collaborative and professional manner.

Beyond my professional duties, I had fun doing

Personally, the three main reasons I joined the program were: First, I realized that the life is really short to miss taking an action and reaching for what different outdoor activities with my classmates: Alex, you want. Further, programs like this only appear once Josh, Kelly, Chrystal, George, Komal and Tobin. We in a while, and I did not want to pass it up. Second, I went kayaking and hiking in Sai Kung. As well visited needed to understand why Hong Kong is one of the many places such as Kowloon where we enjoyed people most financially important cities in the world. Third, I

Networking and business events were organized by the program's director and SCU Summer Abroad playing music in the street when heading to "Mayta," wanted to explore new opportunities for foreign licensed

a restaurant that offered a fusion of Peruvian dishes. We visited Tia Tan Buddha "Great Budha,"Aberdeen, Shek O Beach, Ngong Ping 360 cable car, The Peak, Lamma Island, Hong Kong Convention Exhibition Centre. One evening, we sailed on the Star Ferry to see the Festival of Lights; it was spectacular. Later, we went up to the top of the ICC (International Commerce Center) building. On weekends, we found colorful places to do massive shopping trips in Mong konk, Sham Shui Po, Tsim Sha Tsu, Stanley and Wan Chai. I would like to return to Hong Kong to visit my English friend Frances who helped me during my stay, as well as the new friends I met.

I highly recommend law students to enroll in this program. Licensed

attorneys have many opportunities to enhance their attorneys to advance in the field I am specializing in. legal career in Hong Kong, where there is a predominant White & Case, Baker & Mckenzie and other Solicitors



Evaluate your determined situation and take an action presence of American attorneys and Law Firms such as to develop your career in the field you like. Summer Abroad Program will enhance your future career.

IHRC Students Travel to Vieques, Puerto Rico, to Investigate Human Rights Violations by the U.S. Navy

By Natalie Kirkish For The Advocate

Some law students spend their spring break relaxing on the beach, while others spend their spring break defending human rights, on the beach.

Over spring break, IHRC students Giovanni Avelar, Ryan Keever, Natalie Kirkish, Gloria Lee, Christian Mora-Castrellon, and Noemi Desguin traveled to Puerto

Rico on a fact-finding mission as part of a Clinic project on human rights and the environment. These students are in the process of writing an amicus curiae brief before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The trip provided an opportunity for the students to perform firsthand factual investigation meetings, by attending conducting interviews, and visiting the location where the human rights violations occurred.

This project gained the attention of the Clinic on September 23, 2013, when a group of affected citizens from the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico filed a petition before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights against the U.S. government. Their

Internet

Society

petition alleges that the U.S. Navy violated the American Declaration on Human Rights when it used the island as a bombing and training facility and then subsequently failed to clean-up the contamination that they left behind. The residents of Vieques suffer from a disproportionately high level of cancer and other illnesses, and attribute their health problems to the Navy's contamination of the island. Through the

petition, Viequenses seek improved health care and compensatory damages to remediate the harm that they have suffered.

The International Human Rights Clinic is supporting this effort by filing an amicus curiaebrief to assist the Commission in making a decision on the petition. Clinic students are researching allegations that the Navy's activities violated the petitioners' right to health and a healthy environment, right to access to information, with government officials, medical experts, community members, and petitioners. Through these interviews, students were able to substantiate and verify facts, personally examine research methodology, and conceive of thematic arguments. The students were able to experience the political and cultural factors that significantly impact the relationship between Puerto Ricans and the U.S. government to better understand how these factors have affected this case.

> One prominent interviewee was Ana Irma Rivera Lassén, president of the Puerto Rico Bar Association, who has dedicated her career to defending the human rights of underrepresented groups. She framed the case of Vieques as both an environmental racism issue and a women's rights issue. Ms. Rivera eloquently summarized the case when she said "the Navy left but it left its bombs, it left but it left cancer, it left but it took the health and left the illnesses."

> The highlight of the trip was spending two days on the island of Vieques. The Clinic had the opportunity to attend a meeting in a local church in the town square and listen to stories from the community about fighting for information from the government, fighting to remove the Navy from their island, and fighting cancer. The students also toured the island, observing both the island's famous beaches and bioluminescent bay as well as the artifacts left by the Navy - abandoned bunkers, fences, and signs on the beaches

also includes an evaluation of whether petitioners have met the Commission's jurisdictional requirements by exhausting the remedies provided by domestic law.

The fieldwork in Puerto Rico contributed significantly to the development of the brief. The Clinic visited the University of Puerto Rico, the island of Vieques, and the Puerto RicoBar Association to conduct interviews

LLMSA

LL.M. STUDENT ASSOCIATION

warning visitors of unexploded bombs.

The clinic students found the experience to be educational and enriching. "This trip allowed us to develop critical interviewing and case strategy skills in the field," said 3L Ryan Keever.

Keep an eye out in the future for further updates about the Clinic's involvement in this case

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Internet Society presents:

"Cyber Surveillance: Silicon Valley Impacts and Responses"

We will be hosting our Second Cyber Surveillance Conference. On Friday, May 9th at the Mayer

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and right to access to justice. In addition, their research



Theater on Santa Clara University Campus. We will be focusing upon a unique perspective on the topic: What harm have the recent revelations (whether you consider them valid or not) about NSA cyber surveillance activities had upon Silicon Valley companies? What will happen if nothing is done to change those activities? What can Silicon Valley companies do to mitigate that risk? What can or should public policy advocates do to help?

Join us, as panels of experts from the business community, public policy advocates and even members of the press weigh in on

Panel #1: Perspectives from individual businesses. Representatives from Silicon Valley businesses will express their concerns about impacts upon their customers and their businesses

Panel #2: The technological perspective. Companies' current and planned technological responses to protect their customers and themselves.

Panel #3: Members of the press voice their opinions about those news stories that have had the most impact upon Silicon Valley companies

Panel #4: Public policy experts express their views about what public policy changes should be made to protect Silicon Valley business and their customers and what public policy advocates should do to advance those changes SCU Professor Glancy will be part of the panel.

Panel #5: Business and public policy panel members join to discuss what opportunities and challenge exists for better collaboration between the business community and those involved in the world of public policy and governance SCU Professor Glancy will be part of the panel

Featured speaker: David Brin. He is a bestselling and multiple award winning Science Fiction author, physicist and futurist who has written broadly on the topic (including an influential non-fiction book, The Transparent Society). He has also appeared in a number of documentaries on The Science Channel.

- Friday, May 9th, 2014 DATE:
- Mayer Theater at SCU (Located behind the Mission Church) PLACE:
- 9am to 5pm TIME:
- Free Admission includes continental breakfast, lunch, & afternoon snack. PRICE: * Attendance is limited to 200 people.

* Event will also be webcast on Live Stream & available for on-demand video streaming on YouTube

Serve on the Board for Volume 56 and earn school credits

What Are the Requirements?

- Summer/Fall Casenote: 8-10 pages & 80-100 footnotes
 - Comment: 30-40 pages & 200-300 footnotes
 - Production hours: 55 hours of cite checking

• GPA requirement: 3.00

SUMMER CASENOTE WILL BE RELEASED ON MAY 24TH. DUE BY JUNE 7TH

If you have any questions, please email: Jennifer Velarde, Senior Comments Editor jvelarde@scu.edu

Yours for the Taking Thoughts from Michael Branson, outgoing Editor-in-Chief

By Michael Branson *Editor Emeritus*

In the last issue of last year, outgoing editors Benjamin Broadmeadow and Amy Askin wrote a back page article with their final thoughts. By writing this article, I hope to make this "last thought" a tradition of sorts, and also provide an opportunity for future EICs to reflect not only on the state of the paper, but also the state of Santa Clara Law. I hope to also use this page to help explain why it is essential for future law students to continue contributing to The Advocate.

Over the weekend, The Advocate hosted a "Law School Experience" event for recently admitted students. I remember going to this event with my mom shortly after I received my admission letter, and the event served its purpose well. It actually did convince me that I wanted to go to Santa Clara for law school, mainly because I was impressed with the professors that spoke at the event. So well done law admissions staff. While I was learning about the law school experience that weekend, I also remember picking up an issue of The Advocate, and pretty much right away knowing that I would try to get involved with the paper during my 1L year.

I thought the paper would be a great way for me to get some writing experience, get connected with 2Ls and 3Ls, and perhaps "contribute" to the law school culture. I had visions of contributing to a paper where students regularly share opinions and learn about major changes within the school, and where faculty and staff share a writing platform with students. I didn't really know what I would write about, or how I would have anything worth saying as a 1L, but I figured the paper staff could help me along.

I have absolutely enjoyed working on the paper these past three years, but I think it can seriously be questioned whether the paper was serving the purpose I had envisioned. My first article was an opinion piece about President Obama's proposals for tax reform ("Class Warfare and the Buffet Rule")—not exactly a crowd pleaser. A few issues later, I wrote a restaurant review article, followed by another restaurant review article an issue later. I believe one of these articles ran next to a food review article written by another student, while the other article ran next to a book review article. I have pretty much held on to a policy that The Advocate will print whatever students think should be in The Advocate, but today I highly question the value of some of my first articles.

There certainly is nothing wrong with running strange articles every once in a while, but I do think the paper missed opportunities to be more vocal about some of the major changes happening in law schools nationwide as well as the major changes at SCU Law. I hope we did a better job of bringing these changes to the attention of fellow students this past year. In the first issue, we ran a three-page interview with Dean Kloppenberg, who had just entered the job and was preparing to make major decisions regarding changes to the law school budget. In March, we followed up with this article by discussing the major changes that Dean Kloppenberg highlighted at the Townhall Forum with students: major changes in total enrollment, buyout packages offered to professors, the perennial discussion of new law school facilities.

But bringing issues to the attention of students is really only half the purpose of the paper. Perhaps the more important role of the paper is to provide a forum for students to share their opinions about these issues. Unfortunately, many students remain ignorant of the decisions made by the law school related to staff cuts, budget changes, and enrollment decisions. Regularly, I hear students claim the school lacks transparency in these decisions. I respond first by sharply disagreeing. I think the school is actually quite open about these topics, and seek to gain student input along the way. That is not to say that every decision made is the correct one. But as Editor-In-Chief of The Advocate, I have never been in a position where the school refused to disclose information.

My second response is this: how can we expect the school to be transparent when we regularly show indifference to the decisions made? And when we do form opinions and disagree with decisions—not keeping Prof. Wendel on staff next year comes to mind as one shared by pretty much every student I have talked to—we as a student body fail to challenge the decision and make the school aware of our opinion.

I hope this paper continues to serve as a forum for students to share their opinions about decisions made by the school that are to the detriment of students, and also for the school to respond to criticisms. Of course, it should also act as a platform to commend actions that strengthen the school. There are many topics that should be vigorously debated, and we as future lawyers should have it in our nature to argue civilly about these decisions. Is it the right decision for the school to reduce enrollment permanently? Does it benefit students to substantially reduce Honors Moot Court External next year? And more generally, is the school making the decisions necessary to raise our unacceptable law school ranking?

The law school serves the students, and the school will respond when students object to major changes. The Advocate strives to serve as a platform for civil discourse on these issues. But I worry about students becoming apathetic in the decision-making process. The editorial staff of The Advocate should continue to address these contentious decisions. But unless the student body as a whole takes interest and voices its opinion, The Advocate will serve no purpose beyond an opportunity for our editorial staff to practice writing and enjoy free meals while writing restaurant reviews.

Confessions of a Passionate Sports Fan

My Reflections on How to Survive the Law School Crucible

By Michael Bedolla Sports Editor Justin Verlander in Game 1 of the 2012 World Series. The Warriors, A's, and especially my to play roller hockey throughout law school. I regularly would preach that a healthy mind requires a healthy body, and that regular exercise keeps one's mental faculties sharp and creative. In my case, my hockey habit not only allowed me to stay in shape, it ultimately landed me a job with an attorney who played roller hockey as well. So, as I make my final submission for the Advocate, and prepare to leave the tumultuous world of law school behind, I encourage everyone to maintain their passions. While mine was sports and writing, but for others it is music, art, travel, or something entirely unique. I thought that the law school experience meant abandoning these passions to focus only on the work, when in fact, embracing those passions was the key to surviving the experience. Whether you still have two years left in law school or are about to join me in the crucible that is Bar prep, let us all hold fast to what motivates and energizes us.

When I entered law school, I was warned by both long-practicing attorneys and current law students that I was about to enter a deluge of work. Between the 14 hour days spent entirely within the confines of either Bannan Hall or Heafey, hundreds of pages of reading per week, moot courts, and then externships taking up what little time I had left, I nearly drowned under the weight of it all. Only two things allowed me to persevere and even thrive: the love I have for my girlfriend, and my love for sports.

During law school, I was fortunate that the sports world provided me with no shortage of entertainment. The 49ers made it to the NFC Championship all three years of my legal education; I may need to enroll in post-Bar classes just to make sure that the 49ers make it to their fourth and finally win that sixth Super Bowl. My girlfriend and I ducked out of Evidence class one evening to go to AT&T Park and cheer on Pablo Sandoval and the Giants embarrass the "invincible" beloved Sharks have all been contenders and provided a healthy distraction from the law school grind.

It was for these reasons that my work for the Advocate gravitated toward sports, with my articles focused on the intersection between sports and law. It allowed me to interview sports personalities, like the Sharks COO John Tortora, NFL Referee Ed Hochuli, and NHL Officiating Manager Rob Shick. And while I wanted to write about something that interested me, I also hoped my articles would give readers an escape, while engaging their legal minds as well. Between free agency (contracts), lockouts (labor & antitrust law), concussion lawsuits (torts), and even Aaron Hernandez (criminal), there was no shortage in of material in the past three years to highlight just how frequently our legal education seeped into the sports world.

Not content to merely follow, watch, or even report on professional sports, I found it necessary to participate in them, which was why I continued And if you see someone wandering around campus in the June heat stubbornly wearing a San Jose Sharks jersey, don't think it weird; go with it!