

The Foggy Notion

News of the Hastings Law Library

November 2003

What's happening in November? Well, of course, there's that major holiday that everyone makes a big deal out of celebrating – Mickey Mouse's birthday on Nov. 18th – but there's more going on...

We're Gonna Be Closed the 27th

Library hours for Veteran's Day, Tuesday, November 11th will be 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM.

The Library hours for Thanksgiving week will be:
Wednesday, Nov. 26th 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Thursday, Nov. 27th CLOSED
Friday, Nov. 28th 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday, Nov. 29th 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
and returning back to normal hours on Sunday, Nov. 30th 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM.

Take a Break

Let's say you don't have anything to do on Thanksgiving (the 27th), your family drives you crazy so you're not going there, and you can't come to the Library to study, so what are you going to do?

You could borrow one of the 500+ videotapes we have in our collection, or if you have a DVD player, you could borrow one of 33 DVD's that we've recently purchased. We just got the first season of the T.V. show "The Shield" starring Michael Chiklis.

You can find a list of the other DVD's in our collection by visiting the Hastings

Online Catalog and clicking **Search By Call #**, and then entering **DVD** as your search term. They are shelved behind the circulation desk, so ask for them there. All videos and DVD's have a 3-day checkout period.

If your DVD player is on the blink, you can use the DVD player in the Library's Micrographics Room. Borrow a set of headphones (also at the circulation desk), and watch with a friend (no popcorn, please).

Election Results

After November 4th you can check the San Francisco City and County Department of Elections' website (at http://www.sfgov.org/site/election_index.asp) for election results and statistics. Click on **Elections** on the right side and then **Current Election Results** near the bottom.

Other Voting Information

The California Ballot Propositions Database is a comprehensive, searchable source of information on California ballot propositions from 1911 to the present. The database contains the full text of the propositions, accompanying material contained in the ballot pamphlets, related legal and legislative history, and digital images of the ballot pamphlets.

Access the database by clicking on

California Ballot Measures under the **Research Databases** tab on the Library's website.

Almost Exam Time Again

Faster than you can say

"pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis", exam time will be here. You can view previous Hastings law exams (some with answers) from any computer connected to the Internet.

Start at the Library's homepage and on the left side (in blue), click on **Exams**, the first link under **Quick Site Links – Student Resources**. The exams database contains the bound volumes for Fall 1995 through Spring 2003, and all of the exams on Course Reserve kept at the library circulation desk.

Take Another Break

This is the time of year when you might be spending a lot of time either researching or finishing up a paper, so it's important to remember to take breaks from using your computer.

I visited the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website (at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/Ergonomics/Ergohome.htm>) and read a little about ergonomics.

Sitting in front of a computer for hours on end can really play havoc with your hands, wrists, elbows, shoulders, back, and neck. You might not have any physical problems now, but repetitive motions over time can cause damage to joints, tendons, and nerves.

One recommendation for prevention is to take mini-breaks every 20 to 30

minutes. But if your paper is coming due and you're swamped with work, it's easy to tell yourself, "okay, I'll just finish this paragraph and then I'll take a break."

And then you check the time and you think to yourself, "but I don't have TIME for a break." Yes, you do. A 3-5 minute break is all you need to push your mental and physical "reset" button. In that amount of time you could:

- ☺ call your mom and/or dad
- ☺ floss your teeth
- ☺ meditate
- ☺ stretch
- ☺ put the clean dishes away or
- ☺ set up your VCR to record your favorite show since you won't have time to watch it anyway.

See the CDC's website for more information and an evaluation checklist.

Westlaw Tidbit

Of the more than 20 million head-notes that West editors have written, the oldest are in the case *Galwith v. Galwith* which was decided in 1689 (and classified to Husband & Wife, key 289).

Article With a Weird Title

Eugene M. MacNamee, *The Government of the Tongue*, 14 LAW & LIT. 427-461 (2002).

Oh, and Mickey Mouse...

He's going to be 75 years old.

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