

The Saints had their first training camp at Cal-Western University in San Diego, and it was Diliberto's first look at the upstart NFL team.

"The site of the training camp couldn't have been more perfect to cover a team," Diliberto said. "We were right off the Pacific Ocean, and while it was hot, it cooled off during the night and there was always a breeze blowing to ease the heat. It was a really brutal training camp. Head coach Tom Fears really put these guys through some tough practices, but as hard as they practiced on the field, they partied off the field. All the players and media ended up at the Kona Kai Club in Point Loma and it was like a nightly fraternity party. To say they had fun nightly was an understatement. The leader of the pack was Paul Hornung, but it was Doug Atkins who really made things interesting back then."

Hornung, who was one of the premier players in the NFL in the 1960's, was selected by the Saints in the expansion draft when Packers coach Vince Lombardi felt as though he would never play again due to a neck injury.

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