

'BODY OF LIES' REVIEW: MORE THAN JUST EYE CANDY?

Page 4



SPORTS

DESTROYED!
GLADIATORS HAD SIZE, SKILL
DONS COULDN'T COUNTER

La Voz Weekly

VOLUME 42, ISSUE 10

The Voice of De Anza College Students Since 1967

DECEMBER 1, 2008

NEWS

California colleges less expensive

The fees associated with attending a community college in California are cheaper than anywhere else in the country.

Campus police reach out

The Foothill-De Anza Police Department has begun to focus on a community-based plan to soften their image.

Page 3

SPORTS

Women's basketball slip

The Lady Dons lost their footing early and failed to drum up an adequate offense to the Rams.

Page 5

OPINION

Holiday spirit vs. 'Bah Humbug!'

The pros and cons of the ever-growing holiday season, from family woes to shopper-traffic nightmares.

Page 7

INDEX

Campus Events.....	2
Campus Mascot.....	3
Alert Log.....	3
Sports.....	5
Opinion.....	6

La Voz Weekly is a First Amendment newspaper, produced by students for the De Anza College community. La Voz Weekly utilizes environment-friendly soy-based ink.



ALEJANDRO JIMENEZ/LA VOZ WEEKLY

A driver pilots an electric cart through a crosswalk on De Anza College campus.

Mad dash in mini carts

Drivers, students often fail to yield right of way

Nasru Rao
LA VOZ NEWS

Drivers in the dozens of small electrically powered carts that can be seen darting all around De Anza College often fail to yield the right-of-way to students and pedestrians walking around campus.

Electric carts at De Anza College are intended for travel, transport of people, and items around campus.

Organizations with access to the

See CUTS, Page 3

Just in time for the holiday season, dispensing some economic justice

It's hard to believe that we're coming to the end of another quarter, and hence the final installment of Economics for Everyone – that is, until the coming quarter.

And like you perhaps, I am feeling a bit torn and frayed by the seemingly never ending turmoil in, and bad news coming out of, the world of finance and the economy. Just trying to keep track of the most recent machinations by the Federal government is a job in itself.



Stephen Zill

Economics for Everyone

For example, you may have noticed that after it appeared the government had given up – at least for the time being – ready to simply sit back and watch the carnage proceed, they announced (another) new rescue plan, which they labeled, “term asset-backed securities loan facility” (TABSLF? Just sort of rolls off the tongue, huh?)

And just as I feel I can't take anymore, I am heartened to see that we are swiftly approaching one of my fa-

vorite times of the year – and for two reasons: the holidays and final exams.

Yup, the time of gifts and grades. So grab a cup of eggnog, pull a chair up to the fire (or put your TV on that channel that has a fake fire burning on it), sit back and allow me to summarize the wild and crazy ride of the last few months by assigning grades and suggesting potential gifts to the sundry participants in our latest misadventures – both the victims and the perpetrators.

Keep in mind that many of the grades here are partial “Incompletes” or “works in progress” and could very likely change when all is said and done. And don't worry; there are plenty of lumps of coal to go around.

To Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson: Now, Hammerin' Hank's grade practicality changes from day to day, since he seems to change his mind on what needs to be done (or not) from day to day.

Just two weeks ago, he approached the podium to announce that half of the original TARP money would not be used to buy the infamous “toxic debt” because the steps taken thus far seemed sufficient to ease things in credit markets.

A week later, he and Fed Chair Ben Bernanke introduced Plan III/2B-XY/4A (or something like that) because, “The financial markets are not working as we'd like them to work ... and this is an effort to address that

See ZILL, Page 8

ADVERTISEMENT

ATTENTION DE ANZA STUDENTS!!

OPEN EDITOR POSITIONS

- EDITOR IN CHIEF
- MANAGING EDITOR
- NEWS EDITOR
- OP/ED EDITOR
- BROADCAST EDITOR
- PHOTO EDITOR
- A & E EDITOR
- FEATURES EDITOR
- SPORTS EDITOR
- WEB EDITOR
- GRAPHICS EDITOR
- ASSISTANT EDITORS

If interested in an editor position at La Voz for winter quarter, please email your 300 word (or less) letter of intent to Beth Grobman at grobman@fhda.edu. Deadline for submission is Friday, Dec. 5 at noon.

SIGN-UP FOR YOUR 61 NOW!!!
(La Voz Newspaper Staff)

- Reporters
- Photographers
- Columnists
- Artists

CAMPUS EVENTS

Happenings around De Anza College

Monday, Dec. 1

WINTER QUARTER REGISTRATION BEGINS

Winter quarter registration is beginning for returning students. See "My De Anza" online for appointment times.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

CANDIDATE FORUM: VP OF INSTRUCTION

TUESDAY, DEC. 2, 11 A.M. - NOON, FIRESIDE ROOM, CMPS. CTR. Cristina Espinosa-Pieb, a finalist for the position of De Anza's Vice President of Instruction, will give a presentation on providing leadership.

SYMPHONIC WINDS FALL CONCERT

TUESDAY, DEC. 2, 7:30 P.M., CHORAL HALL A-11 The De Anza Symphonic Winds presents "The Pulse of Rhythm" for its fall concert. For information contact russelljohn@fhda.edu.

Wednesday, Dec. 3

STUDY ABROAD IN AUSTRALIA PREVIEW

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3, 1:30-2:30 P.M., EL CLEMENTE RM. Professor Matt Abrahams invites students to an informational meeting about the summer 2009 Campus Abroad program to Sydney, Australia. For information, go to: <http://www.foothill.edu/programs/campusabroad/australia.html>.

CANDIDATE FORUM: VP OF INSTRUCTION

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3, 1 - 2 P.M., FIRESIDE ROOM, CMPS. CTR. Katie Townsend-Merino, a finalist for the position of De Anza's Vice President of Instruction, will give a presentation on providing leadership.

CANDIDATE FORUM: VP OF STUDENT SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3, 11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M., FIRESIDE RM. Jeanne Gross, finalist for the position of De Anza Vice-President of Student Services, will introduce herself and provide an overview of her experience.

Thursday, Dec. 4

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR CARL BROWN

THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 2 - 3 P.M., FLINT CENTER Carl Brown, Director of the High Tech Center Training Unit for the California Community Colleges, and husband of Foothill-De Anza Community College District Chancellor Martha Kanter, passed away on Nov. 21. All are invited to this memorial and celebration of his life. A reception will follow at 3 p.m. in the Campus Center.

FILM SCREENING: 'THE LAST GHOST OF WAR'

THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 6-8 P.M., DECILLIS VIETNAM COLLECTION, 2ND FLOOR, LEARNING CENTER During the war in Vietnam, American forces used dioxin, the deadliest chemical known to mankind, on that country's environment. Two generations

later, dioxin is still wreaking havoc on millions of Vietnamese lives. The victims are suing the chemical companies in U.S. courts. This one-hour documentary film, in its West Coast premier, introduces the victims, their cases and the issues. Following the screening will be a Q&A with a panel of experts. For information, e-mail vuduc.vuong@gmail.com.

DE ANZA 'DADDIOS' IN CONCERT WITH GUEST ARTIST MIKE VAX

THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 7 P.M., HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL Bandleader, trumpeter and educator Mike Vax will appear in a concert of Big Band Jazz with ensembles from De Anza College, Homestead High School and Miller Middle School. General admission is \$8, students/seniors are \$5. For information contact Steve Tyler at tylerstev@fhda.edu.

Friday, Dec. 5

PSYCHOLOGY TEACHING CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 9:30 A.M. - NOON, CAMPUS CENTER ROOM B Well-known psychologist and professor Philip Zimbardo will speak at this conference on techniques professors can use to enhance their teaching. De Anza professors are welcome at this no-cost event, but should pre-register by calling x8474 or by e-mailing martinez@pgsp.edu. The conference is presented by the Psychology Department and the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology's Bachelor of Science Program.

CANDIDATE FORUM: VP OF INSTRUCTION

FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 11 A.M. - NOON, FIRESIDE ROOM, CMPS. CTR. Carolyn Wilkins-Green, a finalist for the position of De Anza's Vice President of Instruction, will give a presentation on providing leadership.

DE ANZA VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLES IN CONCERT

FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 8 - 10 P.M., A-11, CHORAL HALL The De Anza Vocal Jazz Ensembles will perform. General admission is \$10, student admission is \$5, children are free. For information contact Michelle Hawkins at hawkinsmichelle@fhda.edu.

JOEL MCHALE IN CONCERT

FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 8 P.M., FLINT CENTER "The Soup" TV host Joel McHale will perform. Tickets available from Ticketmaster for \$32.50.

Saturday, Dec. 6

DE ANZA FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY, DEC. 6, 8 A.M. - 4 P.M., PARKING LOTS A & B The monthly De Anza Flea market offers about 850 vendor stalls. Entry is free; parking is \$5.

GUITAR WORKSHOP, STUDENT RECITAL

SATURDAY, DEC. 6, 7 - 9 P.M., A 11, CHORAL HALL This guitar workshop and De Anza student re-

cit is free. For information contact Ron Dunn at dunnron@deanza.edu.

Sunday, Dec. 7

DE ANZA STUDENTS' CHORAL CONCERT

SUNDAY, DEC. 7, 3 P.M., UNION CHURCH OF CUPERTINO The De Anza winter Choral Concert will be held at the Union Church of Cupertino at 20900 Stevens Creek Blvd. For information contact Billie Bander-mann at bander-mannbillie@fhda.edu.

Monday, Dec. 8

BUDGET TOWN HALL/OPEN FORUM

MONDAY, DEC. 8, 11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M., CAMPUS CTR. RMS A&B Administrators will provide a budget update and gather feedback on the governor's proposed 10 percent budget cuts to education.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, DEC. 9, 1-3 P.M., ADMIN. BLDG. LOBBY Staff are invited to celebrate the employees of the months for October, November and December: Jorge Morales, Charles Norona and Sandra Sokabe. This meeting has been rescheduled from Dec. 4.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

SF SYMPHONY CHORAL CHRISTMAS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10 7:30 P.M., FLINT CENTER Tickets for San Francisco Symphony's Choral Christmas Spectacular are available through Ticketmaster for \$40 - \$67.

Saturday, Dec. 13

SF SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY, DEC. 13, 2 P.M., FLINT CENTER Tickets for the San Francisco Youth Orchestra's performance of "Peter and the Wolf" are available from Ticketmaster for \$15 - \$38.

KFJC PSYCHOTRONIX FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, DEC. 13, 7 P.M., FORUM 1 The KFJC Psychotronix Film Festival shows unusual and unique vintage 16mm films revealing follies, faults and foibles of the past. The event is sponsored by De Anza's Film/TV Dept. and Foothill's Communication Radio Dept. Cost is \$5. For information go to <http://www.kfjc.org> or contact Susan Tavernetti at tavernettisusan@deanza.edu.

Sunday, Dec. 21

MOSCOW BALLET'S 'NUTCRACKER'

SUNDAY, DEC. 21, 3 P.M., FLINT CENTER Tickets for the Moscow Ballet's Russian Nutcracker are available at Ticketmaster for \$25 - \$65.

Tuesday, Dec. 30

DEADLINE FOR SPRING QUARTER IN PARIS TUESDAY, DEC. 30

Applications for spring quarter in Paris are due Dec. 30. Download an application at <http://www.foothill.fhda.edu/programs/campusabroad/paris.html>.

ONGOING EVENTS

FREE TUESDAY LUNCH WITH JIF

EVERY TUESDAY, NOON - 1:30 P.M., SUNKEN GARDENS Come meet fun and interesting students from the De Anza Jews, Israelis and Friends club. A free lunch will be provided.

PLANETARIUM SHOWS

EVERY SATURDAY THROUGH DEC. 20, PLANETARIUM Journey to the stars with the Planetarium's Infinium S Star projector and laser light shows. Costs range from \$7 - \$9. Go to <http://www.deanza.edu/planetarium> for a list of shows and times.

MESSAGE THERAPY CLINIC

EVERY MONDAY & WEDNESDAY, 6 - 9 P.M. THROUGH DEC. 3 PE 12L & MASSAGE ROOM PE 12U Massages are available through the Massage Therapy Program. Appointment times are 6, 7 and 8 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost for students is \$10, faculty/staff is \$15, the community is \$20. To make an appointment call 408-864-5645.

This is the last issue of La Voz for fall quarter. The next issue will arrive Jan. 5.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Tuesday-Friday, Dec. 9-12: Finals

Friday, Dec. 12: Last day to file for fall degree or certificate

Monday, Dec. 15: First day of winter recess

Monday, Jan. 5: First day of winter classes

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Let us know!

Send event notices to Happenings@LaVozDeAnza.com by Wednesday noon preceding the publication week. Please type "Happenings" in the subject line. La Voz does not guarantee publication.

All events take place on the De Anza campus and are free, unless stated otherwise.

Earn your Bachelor's degree on the De Anza College campus!!

Transfer to PGSP's Bachelor of Science degree programs

- Psychology and Social Action
- Business Psychology



- 2 years to earn your BS degree

-small classes with excellent professors

-professional internships

-preparation for careers in non-profit and for-profit jobs

-fast track to graduate study in psychology

Check out our web site!
Pacific Graduate School of Psychology
Undergraduate Programs
www.pgsp.edu



Silicon Valley School of Nursing

Now enrolling for the following programs:

Nursing Assistant
Home Health Aide
Acute Care Nursing Assistant
Restorative Nursing Assistant

408.392.9737

1620 Oakland Road D-100, San Jose



CLASSIFIEDS

SPORTS WRITERS/PHOTOGRAPHERS
NEEDED FOR ONLINE SPORTS MAGAZINE
(www.sjsportsreport.com)

San Jose Sports Report covers all SJ sports including the Sharks, Stealth, Sabercats, Giants, and many more. We are looking for writers/photographers to freelance for our staff.

This is an unpaid position but will look great for your portfolio. We currently need beat reporters for SJSU Athletics throughout the year. Press passes are provided.

If interested please e-mail us your clips and tell us why you want to write for our magazine. All inquiries should be sent to reza@sjsportsreport.com

VISIT
WWW.LAVOZDEANZA.COM
AND CLICK ON
CLASSIFIEDS TO SUBMIT
YOUR CLASSIFIED POSTING

CARTS | Meant for convenience, can be hazardous

Continued from Page 1

carts are the Foothill De Anza Community College District Police Department, the De Anza Campus Services departments and some student organizations.

The 50 carts currently residing on campus serve several purposes including patrolling campus, setting up events, and help moving large, heavy or bulky items.

The carts help campus police cover

more ground and respond quickly to emergencies, while De Anza's custodians carry their cleaning supplies around campus and move trash.

Since there are no designated driveways for carts and most of campus lacks roads, the carts share De Anza's small sidewalks with pedestrians. If pedestrians do not let carts pass, the carts become essentially useless.

When the carts drive too fast and do not observe the pedestrian's right

of way can become potentially dangerous. "You see students not giving the right of way, and sometimes the cart drivers don't either," said Cheryl Owiesny, faculty in Physical Education Department.

Cart operation is regulated through the FHDA police department; Certification is issued only after passing a test on vehicle operation and safety guidelines.

Cart drivers around campus are bound to the rules and safety guide-

lines taught in the online course, which include yielding right of way to pedestrians at all times, not entering a crosswalk until it is clear and keeping speed near that of a brisk walk (three to five miles per hour).

The safety committee monitors the safe usage of carts and any driving issues or complaints. Unauthorized joy riding in the carts is a frequent problem.

The locking mechanism of the cart can be easily tampered, and un-

less the cart is parked in a safe area, it is easy to steal.

Carts have been abandoned miles away from campus; police officers see De Anza College on the cart and contact the school to collect it. The carts often break down; in the last three months 12 cases of maintenance have been reported.

Narsu Rao is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: narsurao@lavozdeanza.com.

College tuition cheaper in California than in any other state

Maryann Sparelic
LA VOZ NEWS

The price of education at a community college in California is lower than any other state. California state residents attending community college pay an enrollment fee instead of tuition; the fees are \$20 per semester unit or \$13 per quarter unit.

Out of state and international students pay tuition on top of enrollment fees, tuition for out of state students at De Anza College is \$115 per unit and for foreign citizens it is \$123.

California's is the largest higher education system in the nation: serv-

ing 72 districts, 110 colleges and over two million students annually.

The state has made the effort to keep costs as low as possible for students, said Cindy Castillo Director of Financial Aid at De Anza.

The average price for a year of education at public two-year colleges outside of California is \$2,761, according to the College Board, compared to \$634 for California community colleges.

The Community College of Vermont is the costliest in the nation, according to the American Association of Community Colleges, where state residents pay \$191 per credit hour and out of state students pay \$382

per credit hour.

Written in 1960, the Master Plan for Higher Education in California designed specific regulations for all California institutions of higher education in order to promote student success.

The plan initiated enrollment fees instead of tuition to keep costs down and encourage commitment to higher education. The rules are especially stringent for junior colleges, which must maintain quality standards because they have to accept everyone.

Junior colleges offer education through grade fourteen, two years after high school graduation. The standard collegiate courses offered are

transferable to higher institutions, including vocational and technical offerings and liberal arts courses.

Completion of the two-year programs confers either an associate of arts or associate of sciences degree.

Comparing income of each states' residents California averaged \$59,948 to Vermont's \$49,907.

The cost of living in California is much higher, which may account for some of the difference in cost; state revenues contribute to California's community colleges, providing public subsidies to offset the cost of providing education to all residents.

While California community colleges are outwardly more affordable,

enrollment fees are only a fraction of the cost of attendance.

The cost of California living adds up: enrollment fees at De Anza College for one full time year costs \$480; books and supplies for one year of school total \$1,566; food and miscellaneous costs for one year add up to \$3,546; yearly housing costs in Cupertino, CA average \$10,692.

When living expenses and books are added on top of enrollment fees, community college in California is as expensive as other states.

Maryann Sparelic is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: maryannsparelic@lavozdeanza.com.

De Anza campus police hope to interact more with students

Soheil Rezaee
LA VOZ NEWS

When Ron Levin was sworn as chief of the Foothill-De Anza Campus Police in August of 2004, one of his top priorities was to institute a community oriented policing program.

Five years later, there has been a significant reduction in the number of crimes committed on campus.

"I feel confident that the Foothill-De Anza District Police Department fully embraces the concepts of community oriented policing," said

Levine, "and we are dedicated to enhancing our ability to serve the community effectively."

Community Oriented Policing is a program where officers have more personal interaction with people on campus at De Anza College. It serves as deterrence against crime while helping to establish trust between students, faculty and the officers.

The program has required both officers and Police Student Aides go through a "Train the Trainer" course for Community Policing, 40 hours of "Crisis Intervention Training," along with a Peace Officers Standards and Training certified bicycle patrol

training program taught by the San Jose Police Department.

One of the key elements is requiring the officers to have more contact with both students and faculty on campus. Officers have been encouraged to do more foot patrol and while driving their cars to have the windows down so they may make eye contact with people.

Another important aspect is having officers patrolling the campus on bikes. Three officers have been certified to patrol campus on specially equipped mountain bikes.

These bikes give the officers a better opportunity to patrol parking lots

and the inner campus areas.

Yet with a decrease in crime, with it the police have been having more personal interaction with students.

Examples of the effectiveness of the community policing included when Bob Concilla, Director of Campus Security, assisted a student who was writing an English term paper on campus parking by taking the time to answer her questions.

"I'm really enjoying the opportunity of seeing Community Policing in full force," said Concilla, "It makes working here all the better."

Another officer, Frank Rocha, took the time to connect with a stu-

dent who he had apprehended for speeding to become acquainted.

Other techniques that are being used include communicating with students through Facebook and Myspace and also having a strong working relationship with student media.

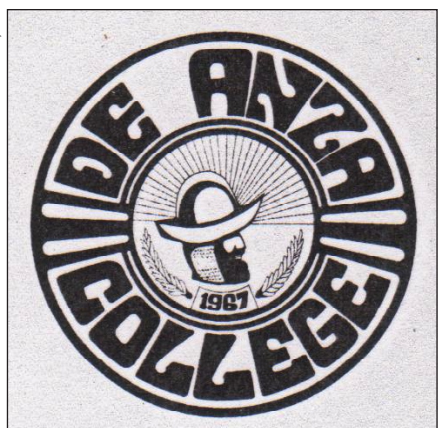
The Community Oriented Policing program has received strong support from the district, who are encouraging police to expand the program while continuing to build their trust among faculty and students.

Soheil Rezaee is the video editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: soheilrezaee@lavozdeanza.com.

CAMPUS MASCOT



ILLUSTRATED BY GALEN OBACK



GRAPHIC (2) COURTESY OF DE ANZA COLLEGE

THE DON

De Anza College's elusive school mascot is all but invisible on campus today. The word "don" is Spanish and refers to a nobleman's title, and over the years the image of the Don at De Anza has become associated with Spanish conquistadors, sexism and injustice, largely contributing to the mascot's falling out of favor with students.

ALERTLOG CAMPUS POLICE

**TOWED VEHICLE:
STORED**

Wednesday, Nov. 19
Location: Lot 4.
Summary: Five or more unpaid parking citations.

**THEFT:
PERSONAL IDENTITY**

Thursday, Nov. 20
Location: District Offices D120.
Summary: No further information.

**THEFT:
PETTY THEFT UNDER \$400**

Thursday, Nov. 20
Location: De Anza College PD substation.
Summary: No further information.

**INVESTIGATION:
FIRE ALARM**

Monday, Nov. 24
Location: De Anza College.
Summary: Plastic recycling fire.

**THEFT:
GRAND THEFT OVER \$400**

Monday, Nov. 24
Location: Krause Center for Innovation
Summary: No further information.

**CIVIL SERVICE:
PRESERVING THE PEACE**

Monday, Nov. 24
Location: S4 Building Chemistry Lab
Summary: Instructor will confront students after class.

**BURGLARY:
AUTO FORCIBLE**

Tuesday, Nov. 25
Location: Learning Center West
Summary: No further information.



IMAGE COURTESY OF WARNERBROS.COM

'Body of Lies' bores, but visuals stun

Cathrine Schermann
LA VOZ NEWS

Far and wide, no new "Apocalypse Now." Seven years after the drama of Sept. 11, 2001, there is no such terror movie that can compare to that of Francis Coppola's Vietnam.

In short, Ridley Scott's "Body of Lies" disappoints, as before "Charlie Wilson's War" and "Rendition" did. "Body of Lies" is simply boring and its central conflict bottomless, cheesy and incredible in most points.

Rapid, explosive and thrilling in the best scenes – but based on conventional patterns. Although the techniques are perfect, Scott's film is missing out thrilling drama, credibility and conclusiveness. His work is too banal, he is relying too much on the perfection of his actors.

Though, his biggest weakness is his lack of innovative ideas.

"Trust no one; Deceive everyone," is not only the tagline, but also the

corresponding theme. Trust is a luxury secret agents have to abstain from. CIA freelancer Roger Ferris (Leonardo DiCaprio) wants to arrest a top-class Jordanian terrorist. He is dependent on orders and consultation of his contact man Ed Hoffman (Russel Crowe), whose intentions become more and more obscure.

Consequently Ferris confides in the boss of the Jordanian secret service, Hani (Mark Strong). Their different intentions become more complicated as the film continues until they dissolve in a furious finale. At the end, Ferris is depicted as the refined man who's experienced something like deliverance.

Scott uses the sand and sun, dusty, narrow streets and derelict barracks' as stylistic devices. His usage of handheld shots and dirty optics bring visual authenticity to the terror element.

"Body of Lies" is active and brisk in many scenes; it depicts a labyrinth in which it is hard to differ half-truths from lies.

Moreover, it is quite impressive how Ferris and Hoffman keep in constant cell phone contact during the movie. Scott thought about pointing out the time difference, but apparently forgot about the thousand of miles separating the two in Washington and Jordan.

Additionally, it is quite doubtful that Ferris' ability of speaking Arabic let him pass as a local resident. Also, is it not understandable why the rescue of his love affair, the Islamic local nurse Aisha (Golshifteh Farahani), becomes the central point at the showdown of the movie, since they never shared a "love at first sight" connection or a sexual interest.

In brief, "Body of Lies" disappoints in terms of plot and character developments, but highly stands out for visuals as a movie in dealing with terrorism; not to mention DiCaprio's and Crowe's acting skills.

Cathrine Schermann is a freelance reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: cathrineschermann@lavozeanza.com.

Zeni's Ethiopian delights, fair-priced

James Chen
LA VOZ NEWS

Ethiopian cuisine's still fairly esoteric here in the Bay Area. Though you can get sashimi, eggplants in bean sauce almost as easily as you can get a burger, getting a mouthful of Injera bread's another thing.

Zeni, of Saratoga Avenue, makes a good case in suggesting that this is a drastic oversight on part of Bay Area foodies.

Though the place was deceptively empty by the time we got there at 5:30 p.m., but if you want to dine at Zeni's, beat the dinner rush. This is, of course, a good sign. A busy restaurant is a well-reputed one – and reputations are built solely on the food offered.

We opted not to eat at the standard Western table settings, but the ethnically themed wicker tables and cushioned stools. It's recommended to do so out of the presentational bonuses alone, as the meals, served in giant plates layered with a large pilaf of injera bread and covered in the various curried meats and vegetables on the menu, look more appetizing.

But the food isn't just presentation. We opted to get the vegetarian sampler, at least to start off with, consisting of smaller versions of five of the vegetarian entrees, a house salad in a tangy, clear sauce, and all the tangy injera bread you can eat.

There are no knives, forks or spoons- Ethiopian cuisine is decidedly finger-food, as you tear

off chunks of the injera bread to grab and dip from the communal plate.

The "Ye-Timatim Fitfit" was one of the more popular dishes among the group. Pieces of the sour injera bread blended with tomatoes, onions and green peppers, with Zeni's homemade dressing made for a surprisingly complex flavor. "It didn't taste like I expected it to," said Arthur Chien as he went for another handful.

For the meat lovers, the "Ye-beg Tibs" are strongly recommended: lamb chunks sauteed in herbed butter and seasoned further with onions, green pepper, tomatoes and rosemary. You have the option to have them served fried or "juicy," with the latter being recommended, as the sauce makes otherwise tough lamb as succulent as can be desired.

At this point, we've consumed what seemed like a ton of heavy food. To wash it down, the Ethiopian spiced tea is recommended – a spicy, warm drink especially complementary to the quickly cooling weather, and it comes with a sugar bowl to flavor to taste.

Even with a group of four, we ended up having a fairly large load of leftovers. Not only will a single entree serve everybody, but it also means that the total cost gets divvied up. A fully satisfactory meal for the average college student.

James Chen is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: jameschen@lavozeanza.com.

BUDGET CUTS WILL:

- Cut classes
- Cut staff
- Cut student programs
- Double the tuition

Sign Our Petition Against Budget Cuts

Located in the DASB Senate Office
(lower level of the Campus Center)

Come to us for more information.

SPORTS



KEN ENG/LA VOZ WEEKLY

Lady Dons goalkeeper Gabby Batmani made the necessary saves for the women's soccer team this season, including nine shutouts.

Student Athlete of the Week

Gabriella Batmani
Women's soccer team
Major: Criminal Justice

Quan Luong
LA VOZ NEWS

In the 22nd regular season games total, freshman goalkeeper Gabriella Batmani prevented nine teams from putting the ball into the net. For each of those nine games, Batmani was able to help her team come out with a stunning victory and didn't let any of those games end up in a draw.

Batmani has been a huge factor for De Anza College's Lady Dons, making 58 saves in the regular season and playing a total of 2070 minutes.

She only allowed 24 goals on the season in the 22 games keeping her goals against average at just over a goal a game.

Batmani ranks 26th in the state in goals against.

So how does it feel to be nominated as player of the week?

Batmani: I feel great. I'm really surprised to hear that you've nominated me athlete of the week.

What got you interested in joining the soccer team at De Anza?

B: When I was still in high school, Coach Owiesny

came over here and got me into joining the girl's soccer team at De Anza.

Do you have any siblings in the family? And do any of them play any kind of sports? Would you consider it a family thing where everyone plays a sport?

B: No, I'm the one kid in the family. I definitely consider soccer as a family thing because I'm Brazilian and my family is Brazilian.

After you're done with your GEs at De Anza, which four-year college are you planning on transferring to? What do you want to do for your career? Why did you choose this as your career?

B: Right now, I still haven't decided which school I'm going to transfer to. I want to work in criminal justice because it's something active.

Who is your favorite athlete of all time and why?

B: My favorite athlete is Hope Solo. She's been an inspiration to me.

So when was the first time you played soccer?

B: I started playing when I was five years old.

During your free time, what kind of activities do you like to do?

B: I like to hang out with friends and doing almost every outdoor activity that's entertaining.



KEN ENG/LA VOZ WEEKLY

Men's basketball lose home opener in drubbing to Chabot

Joe Chunnick
and **Quan Luong**
LA VOZ NEWS

When the De Anza College men's basketball team took to the court for their first home game against Chabot, they didn't foresee a 30-point demolishing. The Gladiators had size on the Dons, whose tallest player measures up to be 6 feet 5 inches.

De Anza fell behind early, 12-2 after a 10-0 run by Chabot, and couldn't quite match the intensity and communication proved to be a hindrance to De Anza.

In the beginning of the first half, the Gladiators picked up a couple fouls early, but they were still leading over the Dons, as the Dons got into the bonus fairly early, but only had six free-throw attempts.

"I was really disappointed with the team's performance, Dons head coach Jason Damjanovic said. "As of right now, we're not playing as a team and the players have a hard time communicating with each other."

By the time the first half had ended, the Dons trailed Chabot 50-28, shooting 32.4 percent from the field.

In the second half, the Dons made

some adjustments and were able to keep pace with Chabot's frantic scoring and tough defense. The Gladiators were tough inside the paint, with five blocks on the night, to De Anza's zero.

Shooting guard Melvin Sneed led the Dons offensively with 21 points and was 7-8 from the free-throw line. Point guard Jeremy Rios chipped in 15 points for the Dons, who shot a bleak 7-25 from beyond the arc.

"There are ten players on my team who are freshmen," Damjanovic said. "Right now they're having a hard time following my directions, especially when I asked them to make the plays that I've assigned for them to do."

The young team struggled offensively, shooting 35.2 percent overall, while Chabot shot a stunning 38-51, scoring 101 points to the Dons' 71.

"As a team, we did the best we could," Sneed said. "They're a brilliant team, but we just need to practice harder and work as a team so that way we'd be able to get the team back on track again."

Joe Chunnick is the sports editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: joechunnick@lavozeanza.com.

Lady Dons thumped by Fresno, lose 71-51

Alejandro Jimenez
LA VOZ NEWS

Dressed in their home whites and coming off a victory against Solano College, the De Anza College women's basketball team faced one of California's top ranked teams, the Fresno City College Rams. However, it was a losing effort.

The Dons came to within 11 points in the second half, but the Dons came up short in their attempt to knock off powerhouse Fresno, losing 71-51.

They started off on a bad foot stumbling into six fouls and turning the ball over five times to the Rams, all within the first seven minutes of the game. They weren't getting any breaks from the referees either, being called for traveling five times early in the game.

The offense the Dons brought to their home court was dismal throughout the night. At one point in the first half, De Anza trailed by as many as 21 points, as the Dons couldn't find their rhythm offensively, missing several three pointers and lay-ups. "We could have improved in

the start of the game," said sophomore forward JoVanna Cobos. "We played scared and didn't get our intensity up until the second half. We are way better than we played but it just goes to show that we have to come out strong in the beginning."

On the defensive side of the ball, De Anza's women played an average game, struggling to rebound the ball.

Coming out of halftime the Dons got on a roll on offense in what looked to be an attempt at a comeback. They got to within 11, early in the second half, but the struggle continued for De Anza. After the Lady Dons' run, Fresno took the reins and put the Dons away for good, building their lead back up to 20.

Lopez also cited that one of the biggest improvements the women would have to work on was "just getting chemistry" out on the court, and "players stepping up" overall. "They need to have more confidence when playing top ranked teams," Lopez added.

Alejandro Jimenez is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: alejandrojimenez@lavozeanza.com.

Apply all of your
qualifying Associate
Degree credits to
a Bachelor's Degree.

Apply your qualifying associate degree credits and earn a bachelor's degree at DeVry University. We offer bachelor's degree programs that can lead to rewarding careers in Business, Information Systems, Healthcare Technology and more.

Students who have completed their associate degree can earn their bachelor's degree in as few as 1 1/2 years. So think about completing your education in an accelerated degree program that's just right for you.

To get started, visit DeVryCompletion.com/DeAnza
or call 866.610.8868

DeVry 
University
We major in careers.™

Four convenient
locations in the Bay Area:

San Jose
Fremont
Daly City
San Francisco

DeVry University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, www.ncahlc.org.
Program availability varies by location.
© 2008 DeVry University. All rights reserved.

OPINION

EDITORIAL

In the future, your dog will walk you!

In the spirit of today's news media obsession with gabbing on and on about *what might happen, if this happens*, we at La Voz would like to close out the quarter with a list of predictions for the future – say, ten years or so, for accuracy's sake.

Google will begin indexing the idle daydreams of its users. Google Analytics will make this data available to the public and a new branch of psychological study will thusly be born.

Oil prices rise, housing costs increase and much of the Earth's coastland is flooded over by the melting polar ice caps. Millions of people begin living in colonies of makeshift

houseboats near where their coastal homes and cities used to be.

Mike Huckabee will return to run for the office of President of the United States in 2012, and after his victory in the primary, will choose Stephen Colbert as his running mate. They will win the election.

Todd and Sarah Palin will become the first co-presidents of a new separatist nation in Alaska.

Tiger Woods will win two of the four golf majors after his recovery from reconstructive knee surgery.

Britney Spears will continue her recent reemergence to stardom, only to fall even harder in the longrun.

After leaving office, President

George W. Bush will become a philanthropist, jump on the Habitat for Humanity bandwagon and found a charity organization with the goal of ending the proliferation of nuclear weapons worldwide – but first, 18 holes with pop.

A religious cult established to worship the tenets of Bob Dylan will reach its one millionth member.

The Minnesota Twins will win the World Series, proving you don't need a \$130 million third baseman to be successful.

Starbucks and Walmart franchises will become embroiled in corporate territorial warfare spanning the globe. Thousands of lives will be lost.

When the San Andreas and Hayward Faults go, California will detach from continental North America. Arnold Schwarzenegger will take the opportunity to declare California as sovereign and establish himself as king of the island nation.

Cabrillo College's student newspaper "The Voice" will continue to wind down in circulation and readers' interest, being reduced to serving only the most banal of purposeful uses: wrapping fish, packing boxes, lighting Duraflame logs, lining cages of vermin, etc. It's editorial staff will disappear into obscurity.

So ends our imaginings! Farewell, fall quarter!



La Voz Weekly

The Voice of De Anza Students

Shawn McGann Editor in Chief
lavoz@fhda.edu

Josh Bays Managing Editor
managing@lavozdeanza.com

Audrey Barker News Editor

Matthew Larvey Features Editor

Joe Chunnick Sports Editor

Kelly Truong Opinions Editor

Soheil Rezaee Video Editor

Daniel Gamberg Website Editor

Business Staff

Beth Grobman Faculty Adviser
grobman@fhda.edu

Walter Alvarado Lab Technician
alvaradowalter@fhda.edu

Reza Kazempour Business Manager
ads@lavozdeanza.com

About Us

La Voz Weekly is a First Amendment newspaper written and published by De Anza College students.

La Voz Weekly is partially funded by the De Anza Associated Student Body and is printed with soy-based inks at Fricke-Parks Press. All rights reserved; no part of La Voz Weekly may be reproduced without permission.

Staff editorials reflect the opinions of the majority of the editorial board and do not necessarily reflect the views of the author or the opinions of the La Voz staff. Opinions expressed by staff and contributors are the opinions of the individuals and not necessarily the opinion of La Voz Weekly.

Phone: 408-864-5626
Fax: 408-864-5533

lavoz@fhda.edu
www.lavozdeanza.com
Room L-41
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Cupertino, CA 95014

Come to Room L-42 Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:45 p.m. to attend the newspaper staff class.

Contact Us

Letters to the editor, submissions and press releases are welcome and can be submitted to:

www.lavozdeanza.com/letters

Letters should be 300 words or less; letters more than 300 words may be edited for length. Letter content must not be libelous or intended to air personal grievances. La Voz does not guarantee that submissions and letters to the editor will be printed, nor does it guarantee coverage of events for which it receives press releases. La Voz reserves the right to edit letters and submissions for clarity in accordance with Associated Press writing style.

Advertising

Advertisers reach 3,500 De Anza community members weekly by advertising in La Voz Weekly. Contact Business Manager Reza Kazempour by phone at 408-864-5626 or send an e-mail to ads@lavozdeanza.com for rates.

Photo Reprints

Images published in La Voz Weekly or online at <http://www.lavozdeanza.com> are available for purchase. Ten limited use digital images can be obtained for \$20 or 8x10 prints for \$25. Contact Business Manager Reza Kazempour to place an order.

Additional Copies

The first copy of each issue of La Voz Weekly is free to everyone. Additional copies can be purchased through Business Manager Reza Kazempour.

OTHER VIEWS

Anti-smoking campaigners' agenda reminiscent of Nazi propagandists'

Soheil Rezaee
HIS OPINION

Cigarette smoking is hazardous to your health. This is common knowledge.

So what is the point of having a smoke-free campaign, other than to state the obvious?

This isn't elementary school, where little children need to be made aware of the dangers of smoking, or high school, where we ignore all we've been taught and start lighting up during lunch.

It is completely illogical for people to waste their time informing others about an issue of which everyone is already aware.

In college, where we're all adults, everyone is accountable for their own actions. If students choose to smoke after spending long hours in a dull classroom, they are aware of what they are doing.

It's difficult to take such campaigns seriously due to its early roots in racism.

For example how the modern anti-smoking campaign first began in Nazi Germany; were the propaganda depicted the act of smoking as being associated with groups that were seen as undesirable.

Anti-smoking advocates often employ a combination of fear tactics, propaganda and demonization of the industry and its patrons.

Their lies include the idea that one cigarette can get an individual addicted, that the tobacco industry targets children and that smokers die at a young age.

Yet they fail to mention that modern medicine has increased a person's life expectancy rate and smokers de-



velop a taste for tobacco over time.

The truth is that most people started to smoke because they tried it and liked it. Nobody forced or pressured them into doing it as a ritual of acceptance, and only an idiot would think smoking would make them look cool.

Finally, there are the stories of how the tobacco industry profits from smokers dying. First off, no industry benefits from death (except health insurance companies, Blackwater and Halliburton).

The only people who gain something from tobacco illnesses are the anti-smoking groups, who parade around dying people using the corpse-

count in their favor and nothing more than propaganda.

To top it off, the anti-smokers I've encountered tend to be more rude and disrespectful than smokers. Most smokers always put out their cigarettes if someone asks them to. Yet anti-smokers always make some kind of ridiculous, childish scene that draws unnecessary attention.

Why is so much attention being paid to smoking when there are other substances killing people in greater numbers? Obesity is the leading cause of death in America, yet there are no Surgeon General warnings on a Big Mac.

Death is unavoidable. People need to abandon this fantasy that it's possible to live forever by cutting out one act.

Or in the words of comedian Bill Hicks, "Non-smokers die every day, good luck living."

Soheil Rezaee is the video editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: soheilrezaee@lavozdeanza.com.

Joe the Plumber's novelist aspirations put him among America's literary greats

Evan Ducharme
HIS OPINION

F. Scott Fitzgerald, William Faulkner, J.D. Salinger and Joe the Plumber.

Yes, Joe the Plumber. The inclusion of Samuel Wurzelbacher – Joe's less-catchy full name – in the list of great American authors may cause a good deal of surprise from so-called literary know-it-alls, but it's a victory for the American dream.

Sure, Wurzelbacher may not have a great education in literary classics, or any education at all. He's not even writing the book himself, thanks to co-writer Thomas Tabback.

But isn't that the true mark of American greatness: not working and getting paid? And isn't it the mark of a true genius to use any feasible medium to make a fortune without care or regret for destroying any remaining semblance of dignity and respect within the medium?

I believe it was Mr. Fyodor Dostoevsky who said that books are just ways to make a quick buck, or maybe it was Kafka. Regardless, Wurzel-

bacher's (yes, I know, awesome last name) literary attempt may be underappreciated.

For what is a better storyline than the existentialist crisis facing the plumber who dreams of bigger things and, against all odds (but with the help of several money-grubbing publishing houses), accomplishes it?

The story will undoubtedly follow the journey of Joe, coincidentally a plumber, seeking revenge for his lowly position in society. Like the late and quite hesitant Hamlet, Joe

will struggle indecisively between crawling out of his plumbing to become a great economist, musician or plumber with a legitimate license before finally rejecting his fate and becoming an author.

Buried in the incredibly morbid and equally inspirational work will be spots of comic relief. He'll have our sides splitting with laughter as we find out his real name isn't Joe, he was never a licensed plumber, and he's really, really broke. But we'll quickly turn to tears over his strug-

gle to achieve literary triumph in the form of wads of cash.

Through this journey spanning the range of human emotions, we are asked never to forget the will and steely strength of character in the man who the holy deity Fox News has proclaimed the typical American.

So to all who say Wurzelbacher should be ashamed of cashing in on his fifteen minutes of fame in the same way a one-hit wonder musician soaks up the most amount of fame and fortune as humanly possible, I say look to our other favorite American authors.

Consider their past occupations before judging. Ernest Hemingway was a bullfighter, John Steinbeck counted dogs for the government census during the depression and Harriet Beecher Stowe was a slave.

Let's give Wurzelbacher some credit where credit is due. At least his book will be better than Britney Spears's or Paris Hilton's.

Evan Ducharme is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: evanducharme@lavozdeanza.com.



ILLUSTRATIONS (2) BY GALEN OBACK

PRO & CON

The holidays are great, so now let's try to fit them into our busy schedules

Lina Kwon
HER OPINION

Lighted snowflakes and neighing reindeers, eggnog lattes and gingerbread man cookies, elongated holiday hours and one jolly man in a fat suit for every mall in town!

I love everything about the holiday season, but I can summarize why it means so much to me in just two words: holiday spirit. This magical holiday spirit will lead many into peace.

It sounds corny, I know, but I am not usually this romantic or idealistic. Most of the year, I am busy with a packed 30-unit schedule per quarter, a 15-hour-a-week commitment to dancing, every weekend devoted to church, and the rest of my life dedicated to the journalism room; basically, I leave no room for dreaming or breathing. Why? Because I'm insane, says my editor in chief; but in my defense, I am an anxious over-achieving student with a phobia of rejection letters. (*Editor's note: in his defense, he's being sarcastic. Happy holidays, Lina!*)

In the past couple decades, leisure has become a luxury. Everyone frantically works around their busy schedules to reach goals or to make ends meet.

Students of all ages have evolved into super-people, carrying an impossible amount of units, hours at work and internships. Workers of all ethnicities must deal with the ever-increasing pressure of the unstable economy. Parents ... continue to be the masters of what seems to be unfeasible multitasking.

However, this time of the year, all of us can use the holidays as an excuse to find time to spend with our families, friends, and significant others. It is the only time of the year when leisure does not feel so guilty and when we can truly be free from work-related-stress. (Unless you work retail, in which case, I am so sorry.)

More importantly, though, the holidays make all of us a little more generous. I feel obligated to pick up at least one or two of those Wishing Tree tags, decorate and fill up a shoebox or two for Salvation Army, and gather spare change for charity coin boxes.

I go Christmas shopping and find joy in buying for others. Unlike when I'm shopping for



myself – which usually results in a five-minute high at most – I look forward to the reactions of my loved ones, which result in cute little thank you cards and smiles you won't forget for awhile.

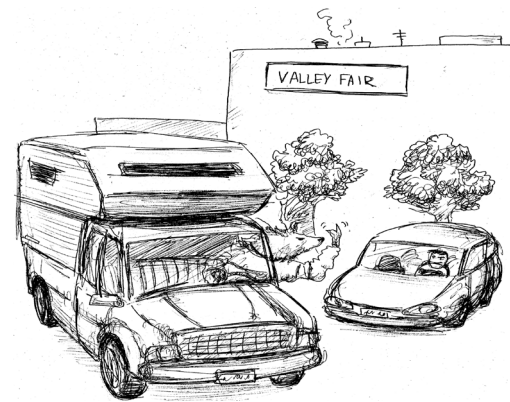
If we can conserve this magic, I wish the holidays would start somewhere around mid-October – around my first midterm. (Maybe my professors would feel generous too.)

If you're a skeptic, I am one too. I stopped believing in a fairy godmother, Prince Charming, and glass slippers about ten years ago; love-at-first-sight about five years ago; and utopia and happily-ever-after endings about two years ago.

But unlike Disney's false depiction of magic that portrays unrealistic image about men and love, this magic is sure as hell real.

There's something special about the bright lights decorating cold nights, seasonal drinks that come in red cups instead of white, and Christmas-themed songs that makes us feel warm and cozy. It all comes together to create a holiday frame of mind that is magical.

Lina Kwon is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: linakwon@lavozdeanza.com.



ILLUSTRATIONS (C) BY GALEN OBACK

Maddening holiday season out of hand, getting worse

Vinh Vu
HIS OPINION

Call me Mr. Scrooge, or even the Grinch, but keep all the holiday baggage in the holiday season. The year's events come in and out of all of our lives fast enough, and there is just no sense in rushing it.

Excuse me if I sound like the villain from Whoville, out to steal Christmas, but there is something about hearing Christmas carols when Halloween has barely passed and Thanksgiving is yet to come that makes me want to rip the holidays apart.

I am a very typical person. Yes, I believed in Santa Claus at one point, and yes, I love the food and presents, but as each holiday passes, it gets more mundane and tedious. The only positive thing I see positive about the holiday season is that it gives people an excuse to have a few days off to be with their family (even though some may not even want to).

Are the holidays really worth all the trouble, especially with all these crazed holiday-happy people trying to jump the gun and start the season months too soon? The time leading up to the holidays is filled with stress, and people rushing it just make it worse.

For instance, playing holiday songs and commercials this early confuses people. I know a few college students going to schools away from home who say all this holiday stuff makes them think it's winter break already.

On an environmental note, let's talk about the people who always put up their Christmas lights early and leave them on until mid-June. I'll be honest: the lights don't annoy me as

much, since I think they can be awesome if they are done right. But people who put them on early and leave them on late don't understand the climate we live in today. What is the positive outcome of all these people wasting energy putting these lights on so early? There is none – it's purely decoration.

But none of this comes close to my biggest peeve about the holidays coming too soon: holiday shoppers.

I live a block away from Valley Fair, and already there aren't enough parking spaces to satisfy the army of holiday shoppers. What does this mean? Residents like me get their home parking stolen by crazy shoppers. Neighbors of mine go as far as to put towing signs and cones on their sidewalks just so they have a spot to park in after getting home from work.

That's not even the whole story. Once you finish the search of a lifetime for parking – a process that includes following people who leave the mall to their parking spots and having light signal wars with other cars who try to steal your parking – there is the shopping itself. I have never seen so many people in the mall as I have during the time leading up to the holiday season.

That brings up another environmental problem: population. There are just too many people to be in the malls, fighting over items and bumping into one another.

Look, the holidays may have initially been a good thing, but as the season threatens to take over the entire year, it makes you think. Is all of this really worth it?

Vinh Vu is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: vinhvu@lavozdeanza.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students should support smoke-free policy at De Anza

I think we should support a smoke-free campus at De Anza College because it is an important way we can provide a more healthy environment to study.

In order to truly combat tobacco use on campus, it's necessary to address the issue on many fronts. Classrooms, dorm rooms, offices, living rooms, etc. should all be explicitly targeted in this policy.

Smoke-free campuses are becoming more popular as the dangers of exposure to second-hand smoke and the increased risk of fire become more apparent. I face clouds of smoke every time I walk through the parking lot that I do not wish to breathe. Sometimes I hold my breath as I walk through certain areas of campus as to not inhale the secondhand smoke. Smoking has been banned on at least 130 university campuses in the United States.

Pennsylvania has issued a smoking ban for college campuses in their state. The law states there shall be no smoking on any campus grounds, which is not limited to buildings and residence halls. Smoking cigarettes is unhealthy in general, and we have all seen the tobacco commercials with a cowboy singing through a tracheotomy.

I am not going to tell people whether or not they should smoke. It is a choice.

However, I do not want to be forced to walk through a haze of chemicals every time I walk across our campus. I think all students need to think about having a smoke-free campus. Other schools in California are catching on and joining smoke-free campuses across the United States. Why not join and be one of the forerunners in California for a healthier campus? I think we should start it right now.

Mark Du
STUDENT
DE ANZA COLLEGE

Student lending helpful hand for printing in the library

I have worked in the De Anza library for several months. I would like to tell people how to use their DASB cards to print. We don't use printer cards anymore.

There are people still asking to buy printer cards at the front desk. You can put money on your card with the machine beside the front desk of the library, and you can use the library computers to print. I want to share this piece of information with everybody. Thanks!

Arum Kil
STUDENT
DE ANZA COLLEGE

Economics for Everyone column mischaracterizes socialists

First let me get some things straight. I am a socialist, and no, I don't own a Wii or a plasma TV, much less a car. In fact, I'm a student, an activist and a part-time janitor. And I would like to give some feedback on the "Economics for Everyone" article.

I disagree with the article's statement that "capitalism's flaws can be corrected for."

History has shown how the interests of corporations, multinationals, and firms always stand in the way of any significant reform.

On the other hand, in a command economy, run in a democratic way by the workers and the creators of society's wealth, the possibilities to run society are endless. What matters is human need, not profit.

The reason why there are few planned economies has to do with the Stalinist ideology of those countries, such as the theory of "socialism in one country," the bureaucratic way the countries were run, etc.

Also, I would like to remind La Voz readers, that after the return of capitalism in Russia, poverty and inequality went up, workers lost their jobs, prostitution became widespread and

the life expectancy of the Russian people went down.

Capitalism, as Karl Marx analyzed and the current recession confirms, is a system characterized by crisis and cycles of boom and bust. Therefore the corporate elite, in order to save the capitalist system, will more likely push for "Neo-Keynesian" policies arguing for more regulated capitalism, with more government intervention. But history has shown us that, during the Great Depression, even these type of measures weren't enough to end the crisis. WWII was what pulled the economy out of crisis.

Keynesianism will at best ease the effects of the crisis. What we need instead is a socialist society run for the needs of the people.

Jose Romero
STUDENT
DE ANZA COLLEGE

Removing trees from De Anza bad for students, wildlife on campus

Last summer, I noticed the now-barren landscape of De Anza College's L Quad, S Quad, and even some areas in A Quad that were once shady and covered with trees and shrubs. These trees that are cut down in the L Quad and S Quad provided shades to the students sitting on the bench as well as the passersby. Now there are far fewer people sitting on the benches or standing around. The few people who dare to study under the trees have to wear sunglasses.

This operation could mean bad news for many animals living in these small and scattered niches. Birds are nowhere near to be found; squirrels only occasionally pass by this uncovered area with ever more caution (although I don't suppose anyone wants to kill them). I suppose these newly planted saplings have many years to grow as tall as their predecessors.

And not surprisingly, at least five snails are dead on the spot where the strip of shrubs were by the palm trees in the A Quad. Their soft body have shriveled to almost nothing, all but

remained is the empty shell that reminds us the once lively snails. These are evidently desiccated by prolonged sunlight, high temperatures and the dry season in the summer. They are the casualties in the master plan. I started to wonder when the population of snails in this narrow strip would recover once the shrubs are replaced by plants.

In addition to the replacement of trees, the plan also includes cutting down the wood trees while rescuing others. The question is: why did anyone plan them in the first place? And for the tree replacement, Eucalyptus is not local; these trees are from Australia. Crepe myrtle is native to the Indian subcontinent. I wonder if the goal of environmental sustainability by using trees that are native here applies to this plan as Jones-Dulin claimed.

Hao Guo
STUDENT
DE ANZA COLLEGE

De Anza deserves award for its environmental innovation

Congratulations on De Anza's award winning! I would like to say thank you to Quan Luong for mentioning De Anza's environmentally conscious program in the article "And the winner is..." on Nov. 3. To win the 2008 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design award is wonderful for us De Anza students. I'm taking an Environmental Science class in the Kirsch Center that won the award. When the professor taught us the system of the building in my first class, I was amazed at how profitable and considerate of our environment the building is. We don't need to turn on the light nor heater most of the time in class because windows are placed by consideration of a direction of the sun. I think it will be great if other buildings in our campus would be built as the Kirsch Center.

Miho Ogura
STUDENT
DE ANZA COLLEGE



Marina Food Cupertino Deli Dinner Bento Promotion Coupon



Bento Buy One Gets One Free Everyday

Expiration Day: 12/31/2008

- Bento only buy one gets one free with equal or lesser value.
- Coupon must be present during the check out, can't be combined with other discount, cash payment customer only.
- One coupon per customer, photocopy is not valid, Valid Deanza student ID can be accepted instead of coupon.
- Apply to purchase only, no cash value for the coupon.
- Only redeemable in Cupertino Marina Food Deli Department

Marina Food Cupertino, 10122 Bandle Drive, Cupertino, CA 95014

Tel: 408-255-2648, Store open daily from 8AM to 10PM (Deli close at 8:45PM)

Are you
looking for
a job?

Are you
undecided
about your
major?

Are you confused
about your career
direction?

VISIT THE CAREER CENTER!!!

Student and Community
Services Building,
2nd Floor

ZILL | Grades, gifts; Santa Conomist is coming to town

Continued from Page 1

situation," a quote that will undoubtedly make many year-end lists for the top ten "understatements of the year."

Additionally, his tendency to be consistently inconsistent has simply heightened the aura of uncertainty at a time that a certain amount of certainty is essential. As of last week, I would have probably assigned him an "F." But, based on his above admission and his deciding to once again try something new:

Grade: D+

Gift: a new dartboard; the one he's been using to make all his recent decisions has worn out.

To Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke: Poor Ben. Apparently willing to be the Robin to Paulson's (somewhat blundering) Batman.

A victim of bad timing due to many events being beyond his control? Forever associated with the meltdown and all the attempts – at least to this point – which have proven ineffectual? Following in the "Maestro's" stead was supposed to be a piece of cake.

Twiddle the Fed Funds rate every once in a while to tamp down inflation in times of generally rising prices or to goose economy in times of a slowdown, all the while having to fight off clamoring hordes of adoring fans on your way to the pantheon of great central bankers.

To quote another contemporary financial genius, Homer J. Simpson, "D'oh!" Nevertheless, he deserves a higher grade than Mr. Paulson. While the European central bank remained preoccupied with inflation, and hence, insisted on keeping interest rates relatively high – having recently been slashing them – Gentle Ben was well ahead of the curve (on this issue), aggressively reducing the Fed Funds rate even in the face of skyrocketing oil prices.

In addition, Prof. Bernanke has urged more aggressive responses from the government, including direct assistance for struggling homeowners.

Grade: C+/B-

Gift: his old job at Princeton College (some rumors suggest Lawrence Summers will take over the Fed Chair in 2010) and a new copy of Alan Greenspan's autobiography (in a fit of frustration, he set fire to his autographed copy). Oh, and a piece of cake.

To FDIC Chair Sheila Bair: President-elect Barack Obama is running out posts in his economics cabinet, but if there's anyone who has partaken in this fiasco thus far who deserves a position, it is Sheila Bair. Her persistence in calling for direct aid for troubled homeowners has been largely disregarded by the administration, which has continued to emphasize "Wall Street" over "Main Street," as opposed to Ms. Bair's call for the opposite.

One of the first things the FDIC did when it took the reigns of the failed SoCal bank IndyMac, was to contact financially strapped mortgage holders and work out easier terms. They've also extended their "insurance umbrella" in an effort to restore confidence in the banking system. Perhaps if others – Treasury, the Fed, et al. – had acted with the consistency and decisiveness of Sheila Bair and her comrades at the FDIC, we wouldn't be quite as mired in the mess that we are.

Grade: A

Gift: a place in the Obama cabinet and a good deal of admiration.

To Congress: The House initially rejected TARP on the grounds that they were acting in the best interests of the taxpayers and "fiscal responsibility." Oh, to laugh! What is the gross public debt at right now? 'nough said. At least they didn't give in to the United States auto makers, who recently had to fly back to Detroit with the tails of their private jets between their legs.

Grade: D-

Gift: a clue.

To the American Consumers: The resilient U.S. consumer; that massive sector of the economy that simply loves to "shop 'til they drop" has apparently hit the deck. Consumer spending fell for the first time in 17 years recently, and although improving a bit – due mainly to falling gas prices – sentiment hit a 28-year-low. Can you blame them (us)? Still, through the storm, the U.S. consumer has held up pretty well.

Grade: A-

Gift: a 6-9 month prescription of Zoloft (hopefully not much longer than that).

To President Bush: When you haven't anything good to say ... Actually, his "accidental Keynesianism" that helped get him into the White House the first go 'round (oh, and with a *little* help from the Supreme Court) – though aimed rather heavily at those with loftier incomes – did probably soften the blow of the 2001 recession. Then there's his failure to address the soon-to-be rapidly growing problem of Social Security and his – oh, never mind, like I said ... Tell you what, I'll leave the rest up to you (feel free to e-mail me with suggestions).

Grade: _____

Gift: _____

To President-elect Obama: It appears that there has been a little bit of murmuring amongst the masses pertaining to his choices for his "economic cabinet," which some are referring to as "Clinton rebrands." "What happened to change?" they ask. Well, now is not the time for neophytes.

So far, Mr. Obama has chosen a group of moderate economists (so much for the "socialist" government of Barack Obama), most with past government experience, some from the world of academia (okay, here I suppose I am somewhat biased), which include former Treasury Secretary Larry Summers, Former Fed Chair Paul Volcker and UC Berkeley academic Christina Romer.

Also, it's quite likely that his longer-term economic platforms will be put on hold in an effort to address the short-term crisis. Though heavy on "what he will do," we are again a bit in the dark as to how he "will do it."

Nonetheless, I like his activism. A strong response to our problems should instill some confidence back into the economy. So far, so good.

Grade: a *very* incomplete A

Gift: a little time.

To my readers, my students and everyone else:

Grade: A (of course)

Gift: the last nine columns of "Economics for Everyone." C'mon, what more do you want? I don't get paid to do this, you know. (And as for my current students: no, you don't get any "extra credit.")

Good luck on your final exams, happy holidays everybody, and I'll see you next year.

Stephen Zill is an instructor of economics at De Anza College. He wrote this article for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: zillstephen@fhda.edu.



Stephen Zill

Economics for Everyone