

Leslie Casaje/ LA VOZ

De Anza College bookstore employee Kris Rowberry assists a customer. The bookstore, currently managed by the district, may soon be changing hands.

## Campus Updates The Oaks



### BOARD REJECTS PLAN TO PURCHASE CENTER

BY LISA GU  
LA VOZ

Students who might be harboring hopes of taking classes in Oaks Shopping Center next to their favorite stores might have to wake up and smell the coffee.

In an Oct. 25 closed-session meeting, the Foothill-De Anza Board of Trustees discussed the possibility of purchasing the center.

The board decided not to purchase the Oaks Shopping Center.

The school does not have enough money to purchase the property, said Jeanine Hawk, vice president of college finance and services.

"We were not able to come up with the necessary capital in the time frame required by the owner," she said.

Money was not De Anza's only shortfall. The school also lacked critically needed time to come up with funding alternatives.

If De Anza had intended to make an offer, it would have to be submitted to the owner by Oct. 28, only three days after the Board of Trustees met.

"As I mentioned before, it was a very short timeline," Hawk said. "We needed to come up with the ability to finance the project by Oct. 28 and we were not able to do that in that short of a timeline."

De Anza still has another chance to make Oaks Shopping Center a part of the school, so students who really wanted to take classes there should not despair just yet.

"I think what we will be doing is waiting to find out who does purchase the center and then see if there is any opportunity for us to partner with them in some way," said Hawk.

The only solace for students who really wanted to see De Anza expand across Stevens Creek Boulevard might be the old saying, "You can't miss what you never had."

## WEAK SALES BIND BOOKSTORE

### ENROLLMENT DECLINE AND SLUGGISH FORECAST PROMPT DISTRICT PLAN FOR MANAGEMENT MOVE

BY LISA GU  
LA VOZ

Students may want to start saying their farewells to De Anza College's bookstore, because it soon could become a Barnes & Noble if the Foothill-De Anza College district has its way.

The district is considering the possibility of leasing the De Anza bookstore to outside management, said Jeanine Hawk, vice president of college finance and services.

Actual submissions from companies who want to manage the De Anza bookstore are expected by early January.

De Anza will then be interviewing each submitter and working with them to see which plan is the best way to go, Hawk said.

"I think there's a couple [of companies] that tend to be larger players in this. Barnes

& Noble is one of them and Follett is another one," she said.

"I think we might expect to see responses at least from those two."

Another possibility for the future of the bookstore is that De Anza will take control of the bookstore and put it under campus management said Hawk.

The bookstore is currently under district management.

"The ultimate decision on what happens to the bookstores will rest with the individual campuses," she said. "It will be our decision whether to keep the bookstore under campus management or outsource the management."

On campus, De Anza officials have put together a bookstore task force made up of faculty and staff.

Some students have also been asked to help in this process.

"What we are trying to do is come up with a sustainable model for the bookstore that leaves the bookstore under campus management," Hawk said.

The business plan for the bookstore created by the task force should be completed by mid-December.

As De Anza faculty and staff are trying to come up with a way to keep the bookstore under campus management, the district is issuing a Request For Proposal for outside management. The RFP is an announcement to be sent out to the public to inform those wanting to create a plan to manage the bookstore.

"That will be happening shortly here in November," Hawk said. "So they will be getting responses at the district level from

see **BOOKSTORE**, page 6

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# The bookstore belongs to De Anza

## Editorial

For those students struggling to go to school who cannot afford to spend more and more money: beware. Tuition hikes squeezed a few extra bucks out of you this quarter. Soon, national bookstore chains may also be getting a piece of your pocketbook.

As of right now, book prices are already pretty high. If the De Anza College bookstore is leased out to Barnes & Noble, book prices could suffer a considerable hike.

Students are scrambling to try to find cheaper prices to be able to fit education in their budgets. If the bookstore is leased out, this might create another barrier to the educational success of students, and it's not like we don't have enough barriers already. Budget cuts and fee hikes make our wallets emptier each quarter. To make it even harder for us to complete our education is wrong.

We understand that the bookstore has

been going through difficult times. We all have. There are ups and downs in the budget cycle, and right now we happen to be in the down part. It's not fun, but we'll get through it. The question then becomes the real function of the bookstore. If it is to provide students with a place to purchase the materials necessary to learn and prosper in the educational system at a reasonable cost, then there is no justification for turning the bookstore over to a corporation that couldn't care less about the population of De Anza.

De Anza should control the bookstore. The bookstore should serve the students and in profitable years invest that profit into the campus. The school could benefit from that, and so could the students. In leaner years, the college and the district need to be willing to chip in to sustain the bookstore. If we can't afford that, then perhaps we would be

better off with no bookstore on campus at all. It isn't De Anza's job to provide franchises with good locations.

We should not privatize the basic services needed in our school in the name of profitability. It is not an economic question, but an ethical one. If the school starts to see students only as numbers and dollar signs instead of the heart of this institution, its reason for being would become a travesty.

If the bookstore is leased out, and if Barnes & Noble moves in, no one benefits from it except Barnes & Noble. Higher prices and corporate bookstore management is not what the student population of De Anza needs, nor what it deserves.

The De Anza bookstore should be operated by De Anza. While profits from a De Anza-owned bookstore benefit the campus, the primary objective should be serving the students.

## Letters to the Editor

# De Anza Voices

COMPILED BY LESLIE CASAJE  
LA VOZ

## Are you happy with the outcome of the election?



"I feel that our country's going to be much worse off than it was these past four years, and I pity the people who actually voted for him."

— Bryan Fox



"I'm happy with the outcome because I'm going into the Marine Corps and I want someone in office who knows what's going on overseas."

— Bryan Eisele



"The Bush people voted, and with the 17 percent jump in Florida's voter turnout, there was a large GOP crowd. So yeah, I'm very happy with the outcome."

— Anthony Rud



"I'm for Kerry and I'm not really happy with the whole election, how Bush won, because I'm not for Bush and I don't believe in all the stuff he's done with the war."

— Eleanor Antonio

## Notice

Effective Monday Nov. 8, hours of service in the Open Media Lab will be restored. Those hours are: Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Feature or advertisement?

Dear Editor,

I am greatly disappointed by the most recent issue of the paper, in which a certain "textbook exchange" Web site was given over half a page of advertising space at no cost by disguising the ad as a features article.

Now, as much as the staff can try to legitimize the story as "human interest," the constant plugging of the Web site (three times) and the restaurant that the student owns say otherwise.

Moreover, the paper is glorifying a student who has, by illegal means, promoted his Web site on campus. On two separate occasions, he has barged into classes I was in, passed out his propaganda and interrupted class time, costing all of us students money in the form of lost class time. He has been caught on several occasions by campus security stapling his posters to live trees and throwing thousands of loose leaflets in the parking garage, causing a major mess of paper that could have been better used. Not to mention, what was the cost to the FHDA community in terms of cleaning up those slips of paper?

This student's marketing "methods" are illegal according to local ordinance 10.52.010, and *La Voz* glorifying him with free ad space is absolutely ludicrous. I would certainly hope that in the future, *La Voz* personnel should review their policies before submitting their articles to the publisher.

-Kristopher M. Rowberry  
Bookstore Employee

## New scholarship to debut

Dear Editor,

As Veterans Day nears, we would like to introduce students and faculty to a new scholarship administered through the Foothill-De Anza Foundation. Scholarships for Veterans is a nonprofit, non-partisan, non-political organization dedicated to making scholarships available to recent veterans.

Regardless of ones political perspective, or feelings and beliefs about the present military actions, we hope to motivate individuals and businesses to assist us in providing scholarships for veterans. Since I have heard the saying: "I support the troops" from both sides of the political debate, I hope that this is an encouraging sign - that we learned a hard lesson 30 years ago and that we will do what is possible to not let it happen again.

We have "seeded" the fund with enough money to start offering the scholarships in the spring. Money donated to the fund goes directly into the designated college's scholarship (in this case, the Foothill-De Anza Foundation) fund and is administered by them. Scholarships for Veterans will be a clearinghouse and selection committee only. Its members cover all expenses incurred by Scholars for Veterans.

- Louis Gary Lamit, CDI De Anza College  
Committee for Scholarships for Veterans

## That's another "W" for George Bush



DANSEALANA

**BUSH IS BACK;  
WE'RE TELLING  
HIM HOW TO DO  
HIS JOB**

Dear President Bush,

Congratulations on being elected for a second term as president of the United States.

Although you were awarded a more decisive victory this time around, you did not win by a landslide. The United States is still a very divided country. A major challenge of your presidency will be to bridge this divide. Forty-eight percent of the electorate felt the country would be better off with you out of the Oval Office.

The fact that you were re-elected should not give you the false idea that most Americans, conservative or not, are in complete agreement with your policies. One of the most pressing issues facing voters this election cycle was the war in Iraq. You argued that Iraq was an imminent threat to the United States, and that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. Americans truly don't know whether you knowingly lied, but we do know that according to the 9-11 Commission, there was no credible link between Hussein and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Your administration should be commended for liberating the citizens of Iraq from an oppressive regime. But even those who supported your decision to go to war know the aftermath of the war has not gone as well as you hoped. To date, over 1,000 U.S. soldiers have been killed. U.S. military personnel have complained that they haven't been supplied with proper armor. Iraq has remained in a state of chaos.

By electing you to a second term, Americans were not sending you a message saying that they agreed with your decisions in Iraq. According to the Washington Times, a national exit poll showed that 22 percent of voters said moral issues swayed their opinion more than terrorism or the economy. Your socially conservative policies are what won you re-election, not your handling of the war. Do not make the error of believing you have a clear mandate. Americans were willing to give you the benefit of the doubt when it came to Iraq. If mili-

tary intervention in another country is needed, Americans, both your supporters and detractors, will demand more concrete justifications.

Another priority of your presidency should be stimulating the economy. Although many Republicans believe that cutting taxes is the best way to help the economy grow, it shouldn't be done while increasing spending. First, your administration should work on cutting unnecessary spending. For example, the no-bid contract your administration gave to Halliburton to rebuild Iraq was a major mistake.

When deciding which programs to eliminate or reduce, your administration should vow to never lower funding for education. Educators should be given even more resources in order to increase the quality of our school systems. Get input from the educators themselves. Your "No Child Left Behind" Act, while created with the best of intentions, has not been well received by educators and has been widely criticized by the National Education Association.

U.S. military personnel are not paid nearly as much as they deserve. If your administration is serious about never bringing back the draft, then you must do all you can to offer more incentives to our military. The members of our armed services need and deserve pay raises. Veterans should never have to worry about their benefits being cut.

The recent news of Elizabeth Edwards' breast cancer diagnosis reminds us all of the importance of having quality health care available. Your administration must challenge itself to make sure that everyone has access to affordable medical coverage.

Your administration has done much to fight the global war on terror, but more could be done. Increase protection at our borders. A beefed up border patrol is necessary to prevent terrorists from sneaking in.

Finally, make it a goal of your presidency to capture or kill Osama bin Laden. Americans are tired of knowing that the man who murdered 3,000 of their fellow citizens is still at large. Killing or capturing bin Laden would be a blow to global terrorism, and would bring a sense of closure to Americans.

President Bush, the American people have chosen you to lead our country for a second term. You will only be effective if you remember your successes, but acknowledge your failures. Your choices will have lasting effects on the United States and the world, perhaps even more than in your previous term. The United States has given you this job for another four years. Please don't let us down.

## Kerry-ing on after losing the presidency



REZAKAZEMPOUR

What does a candidate do when he loses the bid for presidency? According to a recent Wall Street Journal article, Al Gore went into hiding, grew a beard, hung out with his wife Tipper and wrote "Joined at the Heart," a book about American families.

So what should John Kerry do? Here are my suggestions.

- Become a regular season ticket holder at Fenway. Hang out with the regular people. With the Curse of the Bambino over, you might enjoy another great season of baseball. Bring a glove.

- Write a book. But not a memoir.

- Become a news commentator. Your great speaking skills will increase the credibility of the broadcast. You'll probably want to stay away from Fox.

- Get together with your wife to develop a new ketchup product. I'm kind of getting sick and tired of the regular red ketchup. Bring back the

green Incredible Hulk ketchup or create a new blue ketchup for the Democratic party.

- Go hunting. It looked like you had some fun shooting some ducks and geese. Now, I know you did that for a photo-op for the election, but it looks like you had fun. Don't flip-flop, just pull the trigger.

- Get on the good side of Hillary Clinton. Rumor has it she'll be running for president in 2008. With her charisma and experience merged with your intellect and skills, you two can become a force to be reckoned with. Man, I would love to see a Clinton in office again.

- Become a spokesperson for

Botox. You look like Andrew Jackson. You could do for Botox what Bob Dole did for Viagra.

- Spend some quality time with John Edwards. You two looked like you had fun together. I'm sure you two have a lot to talk about.

- Throw a huge not-the-president party. Invite Walter Mondale, Michael Dukakis and Al Gore. Go fishing, relax and play that drinking game where you take a tequila shot each time President Bush makes a stupid comment during his press conferences.

- Look on the bright side. You may not have the power, but the other guy has all the stress.

A double skeleton sculpture adds drama to the atmosphere on Dia de los Muertos.



## Campus Camera

BY SARAH JOY CALLAHAN  
LA VOZ



Above: Nate Butler creates his own Celtic music at Club Expo. At right: "Cullan's Hounds" plays in the background while spontaneous polka dancing attracts attention.



At left: The Latin American community and interested participants remembered the dead for Dia de los Muertos. At right: A member of the Celtic music group Cullan's Hounds puts some soul into his music. The band has entertained audiences at Giants' baseball games.



At right: Edgar Ladrigan, a member of De Anza College's Fencing Troupe, lunges at his opponent during a demonstration at Club Expo held on Nov. 5.



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# De Anza students establish political workshops

**BY PEDRO PAULO VIEGAS DE SA**  
LA VOZ

Last week, a few students took a radical step in order to get the type of education they want. They decided to teach their own classes and they want to get credit for it.

"We believe that there should be an in-depth critical analysis of the classes we are taking," said Anna Reynoso, co-chair of the

club Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán, which is spearheading the project. "That way people can get more information and be more active."

The series of workshops, called Freedom School, is modeled after a similar San Francisco City College project.

MEChA plans to have the project every Friday, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the MQ-5 room.

The group's goal is to eventu-

ally make the Freedom School accessible to high school students.

"[At the Freedom School], you don't teach at people, you teach with people, and they teach one another," said Anthony Choice, the other co-chair of MEChA.

The organizers of the project have asked several deans to offer credit for those students who develop workshops or who participate and write a paper after-

ward.

They have not been able to offer those units yet. *La Voz* was not able to contact the deans for comment.

"I hope to make it an institution that stays on the campus," said Choice. He stressed the fact the organizers envision that the Freedom School to be student-led, and they are trying to reach out to other student organizations on campus, such as the Muslim Students Association, the Asian-

Pacific Americans for Student Leadership and Students For Justice.

The Freedom School curriculum includes practical workshops in organizing and leadership as well as theoretical workshops on history, cultural literacy and political education.

The Nov. 19 Freedom School will discuss question of power and the result of the election. Sessions will skip a week because next Friday is a holiday.

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## Bookstore | Increase in book prices a possibility



*"There has been a decline in enrollment. We have an economy that's depressed in the area and we have competition that have never been here before."*  
 -Deryl Jones, associate director



Jenny Louly, a De Anza bookstore employ, fits a piece of fabric into an embroidery frame before running it through the store's sewing machine.

### continued from front page

outside management as well as the proposal from the campus on keeping the bookstore under campus management."

As mentioned, even though the district is receiving the plans for the bookstore, it is the De Anza campus that has the final say on what happens to the bookstore.

It is unknown at the present how changing management of the bookstore will affect the prices of the books.

If the bookstore is leased to outside management it would be up to that management to decide the prices. On the other hand, if De Anza decides to manage the bookstore it would have to figure out a plan that enables the bookstore to be self-sustaining, which means that prices could change or not change, Hawk said.

"The change may be invisible to the students," she said. "If it is under campus control, the student may not even notice any changes. If it is under outside management control there may be a difference."

Any changes that may occur in the pricing of books should be seen by students around July 1 of next year.

The Board of Trustees will most likely discuss the issue of the bookstore in their March meeting.

"I think it would be nice to keep it under district or campus control, but since we haven't seen the proposals from the outside management groups we don't know,"

Hawk said. "They could end up offering something that is very attractive for faculty and students. So we'll have to wait and see. My preference would be to keep it under campus control, but ultimately we'll have to see which package is the best for students."

One of the main reasons that the district decided to reorganize management for the De Anza bookstore is because of the decrease in bookstore profits.

"This last year the bookstore has shown a loss," said Deryl Jones, associate director of the bookstore. "There has been a decline in enrollment. We have an economy that's depressed in the area and we have competition that have never been here before."

In the past year, the bookstore had the greatest decline in profits. Two years ago the bookstore made a gross profit of about \$9 million, but this year the book store could made a gross profit of about \$7.5 to \$8 million Jones said. Next year, the bookstore could break even or face another deficit.

"The campuses don't want to wait to see whether there's going to be a change in enrollment figures," he said. "They are still projecting that we are going to be down in enrollment ... They don't want to be in the position where they have to take district funds to support the bookstore even for a short term."

Jones said that the bookstore actually did better this year because enrollment was down and it is making about

the same as it did last year.

Still, not enough people are buying books to sustain the campus bookstore. Jones said this could be because there are not as many people as before on campus buying books, students could be sharing books or they could have found alternative ways of obtaining textbooks.

"What's going on now at both bookstores I believe works for the district," he said. "Other people have different opinions."

Whether the bookstore is leased or not, current employees of the bookstore, many of them students, may also be affected by the reorganization.

"Generally, leasing companies will bring in their own employees," Jones said. "They usually don't like to have union employees because they like to have more flexibility on how they run it."

The jobs of current employees are not safe, even if campus management wins in the end. To cut costs, the bookstore must be reorganized. This may mean cutting the number of employees, Jones said.

Students could also expect the bookstore to move to the new building under construction by the Advanced Technology Center either next spring or summer.

"Right now we're about 8,000 square feet," Jones said about the size of the new room for the bookstore. "We're going to be moving into about 11 ... It will still be undersized for the student population we have to serve."

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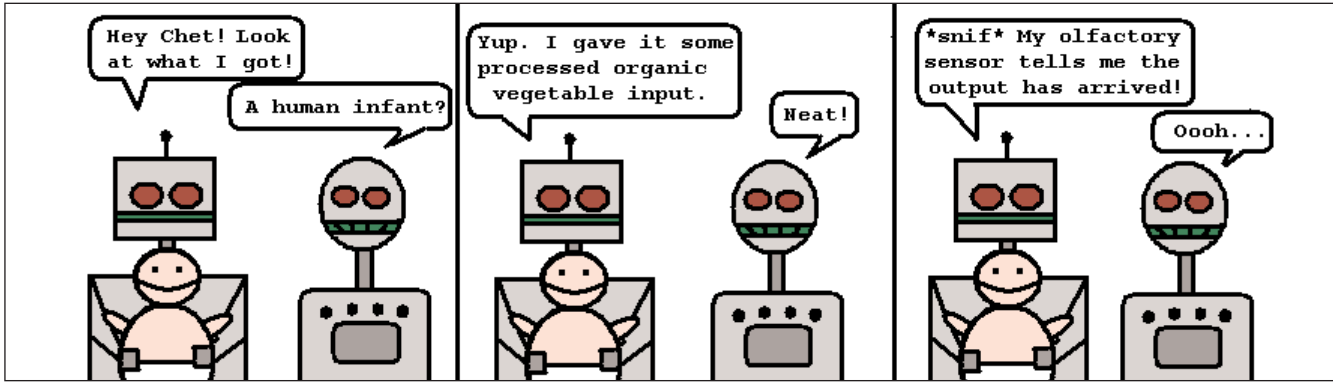
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Crunchy Life Bites | Pedro Paulo Viegas de Sa



Horoscope | Sarah Gahan

This week, we decided to go global with our horoscopes. We dragged some economists and political science professors to our secret island hideout and made them write your horoscope in exchange for mai-tais. Keep reading to find an answer to the age-old question, "If I were a country, what country would I be?"

**Aries – March 21 to April 20**  
If you were a country, you would be the small African nation of Djibouti. The capital of Djibouti is Djibouti. Like this country, you are fun to say. Djibouti Djibouti Djibouti!

**Taurus – April 21 to May 21**  
Taurus, if you were a country you would be Spain. Your sign is the bull, so run through the streets of Pamplona. Run like the wind!

**Gemini – May 22 to June 21**  
You would be North Korea, Gemini. You're an eccentric dictator, and I suspect you're carrying some nuclear weapons under that trendy poncho.

**Cancer – June 22 to July 22**  
Cancer, you are Denmark. You're a sweet little country – clean, friendly, and a pretty happy place to be. If it weren't for the crushing depression that comes with being rained on constantly during the

winter, you'd be just about perfect. for that.

**Leo – July 23 to Aug. 21**  
Ahh, mon amie. You are France. You're a country with a billion types of cheese, and we respect that. Mmmm ...cheese.

**Scorpio – Oct. 24 to Nov. 22**  
You are Merrie Olde England! Pip pip, bangers and mash and all that! Drive the lorry to the lift and don't get your knickers in a twist, wot. We don't always know what you're saying, England, but we love you anyway.

**Sagittarius – Nov. 23 to Dec. 22**  
You are Panama, Sagittarius. You've got hats and a canal, what more could you want?

**Capricorn – Dec. 23 to Jan. 20**  
You are Antarctica. You're not really a country ... more of an inaccessible, inhospitable frozen wasteland, but you've got penguins so we like you anyway.

**Aquarius – Jan. 21 to Feb. 19**  
You are Canada. What can we say? You're inoffensive. We apologize if we ever referred to you as Diet America – you're great, and we'll be moving there when the draft is reinstated, if not sooner.

**Virgo – Aug. 22 to Sept. 23**  
Where'd you go? Iran. How'd you get there? Iran. Virgo, you are Iran. Try not to get invaded in the next few years, OK?

**Libra – Sept. 24 to Oct. 23**  
The symbol of Libra is the scales. True to your balanced nature, you are the Netherlands. The sheer awesomeness of Amsterdam balances out the crappiness in the rest of the world, and we thank you

**Pisces – Feb. 20 to March 20**  
Because your symbol is the fish, you are the archipelago of Micronesia. You are slowly losing landmass as sea levels rise thanks to global warming. Swim, fishie, swim!

Featured Sign

**Gemini**  
The ugly one of us is not wearing pants. Heh heh, just kidding, there is no ugly one. Or pants...

Nameless Colors | Sarah Joy Callahan



Crossword Puzzle

Buy it in the bookstore

Answers at <http://www.lavozdeanza.com>

**ACROSS**

- The bookstore wants you to leave this there.
- Take this mat over to the P.E. quad to stretch and relax.
- It comes in white, yellow and ruled.
- Before the bookstore was a bookstore, it was a cellar. Really.
- They're useful for math class
- Buy it there, but don't leave it stuck to your chair.
- They can be boring black and blue, or exciting green, purple or magenta.
- Take these supplies over to the A quad
- Put your stuff here while you are shopping.
- Buy this to prepare for Halloween or Valentine's Day.
- Put it on top of yourself.
- They've got these sticky things there (hyphenated word).
- Well, duh!
- If you don't want to wait in one of these, buy your books online.

**DOWN**

- After you buy your computer, get some of this.
- Buy several that say "De Anza" to show your school spirit.
- Walk down these to get to the bookstore.
- Buy one of these and you won't have to worry about what hours the Open Media Lab is open.
- One of the few kinds of animals allowed on campus.
- Listening to a man in class may get you kicked out.
- Your math professor wants you to buy one of these.
- Buy one of these for your instructor on her birthday, and maybe it will help your grade
- What do you mean I have to pay to take a test?

# trying to stay



The Dons played tough against Chabot College, but failed to pick up their first win of the regular season

# a float

DESPITE IMPROVEMENTS, DONS GO WINLESS FOR THE 2004 SEASON

BY DOUG MEYER  
LA VOZ

The De Anza College women's water polo team suffered a crushing 14-9 defeat at the hands of Chabot College last Wednesday.

De Anza seemed to be overpowered in every aspect of the game and had no answer for the Gladiators' powerful attack.

Chabot was led by a three-pronged attack that scored all but one of their goals.

The Gladiators struck first with a goal 4:37 left in the first period. De Anza countered with a goal of their own, but found themselves down 5-1 after the first period.

It then became evident the Dons could not find a way to stop the Gladiators and they went into halftime trailing 7-2.

De Anza found some life in the third period when, with back-to-back goals, they cut the lead down to 7-4 with 2:48 left in the third period. But Chabot took advantage of two critical De Anza miscues and countered with two goals of their own, further increasing their lead to 9-4.

De Anza did show some resiliency and finished the period strong, scoring two goals within the final two minutes.

But the Gladiators dominated the fourth period and eliminated any thought of a De Anza comeback with four consecutive goals, sealing the game for Chabot.

"We need to work on picking up the missed shots, and improving our defense," said Ian Hardie, the women's water polo coach, after the game.

The loss to Chabot will leave the Dons winless for the 2004 season.



## WATER POLO CONFERENCE STATS

### 98

Total points for the conference leader in points scored by Laura Uribe from Chaffey College. Chaffey is in second place in the South Coast division.

### 259

Total saves for the conference leader in saves by Elise Estrada, from College of San Mateo. San Mateo is second in their division.

### 59

Nikkie Synder of Foothill College led the community college freeworld with 59 saves. Foothill sits atop the coast conference.

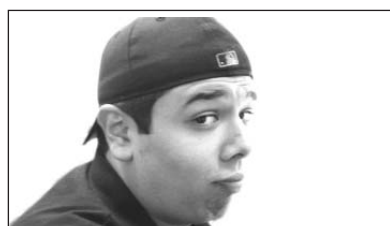
### 114

The conference thief is Miriam Cortez, of the division-leading Foothill owls, who led the conference with 114 steals.

stats provided by coasports.org

## Vote O'Neal/Rodriguez/Jordan in 2008

### A LA VOZ SPORTS SHOUT OUT



JLARA

There are 1,454 days left until the next presidential election.

I can't wait, really. I'm getting ready to camp outside my polling location starting tomorrow, just to be one of the first to have my vote mean absolutely nothing.

I'm so freaking excited that I'm going to cut this column a little short.

But before I go commit stupid act number 234 of my life, I'd like to point out that, since President George Bush won't be running for re-election, some of my favorite sports superstars should stop running the courts and make a run for the White House.

The idea seems far-fetched, but if there's

one thing that I've learned in the past eight years of watching politics, it's that anyone can win the presidency – all you need is a couple million people to believe in you, and you'll be running the joint in no time.

Here now are my top three candidates. I swear if any one of them run, I'd connect the line for them.

3. Michael Jordan – Michael is a proven winner (six NBA titles, two three-peats, five MVPs) and a clutch performer when the heat is up. He'd be perfect for the Oval Office since high-pressure situations wouldn't faze him.

2. Alex Rodriguez – The bad thing about

Alex is that he'll probably be playing the last bit of baseball left in him – but have you ever seen this man in front of camera? He commands charisma and an eloquent speaker. Plus, you wouldn't have to pay the man – he's got \$256 million to play around with.

1. Shaquille O'Neal – Shaq is such a cool customer. I'd love to see him in the White House and have people observe him while the boat starts to sink – it's like nothing gets to this guy. He's a great competitor and orator as well.

Plus, can you imagine Osama trying to threaten a 7'1," 300-pound man with a size 23 shoe? Nope, not happening.