

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then is not an act but a habit."

-Aristotle



see DE ANZA'S TOP FIVE, page 6-7

Bid for presidency decided in close call

FOSTER-MAHAR GARNERS 57 PERCENT; DUNN SWORN IN AS TRUSTEE

BY CAROL WORONOW
LA VOZ

Student Alliance candidates swept the election last week.

The team of Nadine Foster-Mahar and Amine Hambaba were elected DASB president and vice president with 57 percent of the vote.

Melanie Dunn won a three-way race for student trustee and was sworn into office at the Foothill-De Anza Board of Trustees meeting last Monday.

"Thank you for your votes," said Foster-Mahar. "This is a perfect time to

get involved. We want you."

Foster-Mahar said she wants to bring in more junior senators and agents, and hopes to persuade more volunteers to share the work.

"I can't do the whole Senate alone, and I don't think anyone wants me to," she said, "It's all about who you work with."

Foster-Mahar encouraged other students to get involved in the governmental processes that affect them.

"I'd like to see those that don't get involved, to get more involved, and I want to prevent those who get really involved from burning out," she said. "Some peo-

ple are on every single committee," and she said she wants to bring in more junior senators and agents.

The DASB president-elect said she wants to empower students, promote diversity, and preserve enrichment programs. "As soon as possible following the most recent occurrence."

She hopes to work with students and instructors to ensure that more students pass classes in math and other departments, she said.

To increase communication, Foster-Mahar plans to send out a monthly e-mail about what is happening on campus. She

said she also aims to get more computers to provide students easier access. The DASB already provides some funding for the open media labs on campus, she said.

Foster-Mahar said she developed her goals and philosophy after talking with current DASB President Saba Zariv, who is on leave, about the responsibilities of the position and any problems that she saw. Foster-Mahar also drew on her many years as an industry leader in computer technology.

A biology major, Foster-Mahar wants

see ELECTION, page 10



Rachel Schwartz/LA VOZ

Suzanne Bernardi (left) shows students literature about the budget cuts at last Wednesday's Students for Justice rally. SFJ teamed up with the student senate and T-Mobile so that students could call local and state politicians to protest budget cuts.

Rally reaches Schwarzenegger

BY BARRY SKIDMORE
LA VOZ

Michelle Bettencourt got a surprise last Wednesday while making a spam call to Governor Schwarzenegger. The 44-year-old nursing major expected to get an answering machine or at best a secretary to give her scripted one-paragraph diatribe; instead, she got the man himself.

The call was part of coordinated phone-calling campaign held Monday through Wednesday of last week by Students for Justice, a De Anza College activist organization, to protest the Governor's plan to increase fees to \$18 a unit.

"I was shocked" said Bettencourt of the call, "I started to give him the speech but then I got passionate about it and started telling him about my situation. I'm a single mother struggling to get by, and if we don't educate this generation we're going to have a nothing but garbage collectors and menial workers." She said that, despite her apprehension, "he was really nice and very attentive."

The campaign, which also targeted Assemblyman Joe Simitian, was the brainchild of members of the De Anza Student Body Senate and Students for Justice. The campaign culminated in a lunchtime rally.

During the rally there were several impassioned speeches made by SFJ members over a bullhorn. A table was set up to coordinate the calling spree and also hand out flyers, t-shirts, and other assorted paraphernalia.

"This phone drive was to raise awareness, both among students and politicians," said SFJ member Pedro Paulo Viegas de Sa. "It's to let people know that there are still people who are angry about this situation, and that we're not going away."

"I plan to join SFJ now," said Bettencourt, "It inspired me to get off my butt and do something about this situation."

"[Lowering the grade point needed to serve to] 2.0 is not an attempt to protect my own skin"

- Eddie Voss
ICC Chair

Inter Club Council lowers grade requirement

BY SARAH GAHAN
LA VOZ

Inter Club Council Chair of Finance Roxanne Chiu advocated for the council to raise the required grade point average for chairpersons from 2.5 to 2.7 in their June 2 meeting. Chiu denied the attempt to raise the GPA was a political decision.

Members of the ICC were offered a choice of three amendments to the council's code: one to raise the required GPA for a chairperson to 2.7, one to maintain the 2.5 GPA standard, and one to lower the requirement to 2.0.

ICC Chair Eddie Voss and Chair of Programs George E. Smith backed the successful amendment to lower the GPA requirement to 2.0.

A change to a 2.7 GPA requirement would have resulted in the immediate dis-

missal of any of the chairs with an insufficient GPA.

Eddie Voss declined to disclose his GPA to *La Voz*, though he would say, "The 2.0 is not an attempt to protect my own skin."

All of the ICC chairs and ICC Advisor La Donna Yomori-Kaku refused to comment on whether Voss' position as chair would have been in jeopardy had the standard been raised.

Referring to her motives for pushing for higher GPA standards, Chiu claimed, "The main purpose wasn't to get Eddie [Voss, current ICC Chair] into trouble; it would have been to impose it on the new chairs."

In an interview following the meeting, Voss told *La Voz*, "If one of the ICC officers had a GPA of 2.5, which is what they signed up for...they would have had to drop out [had the standard been raised.]" Chiu tells a different story.

"Basically the 2.7 would take place for the next chairs, not these chairs. It's in effect now because we lowered it," said Chiu.

However, an amendment to postpone the effect of the code change failed in a 6-13 vote, which made the decision to change the requirement for the chairs to a 2.0 GPA effective immediately.

An amendment specific to the proposal to raise the GPA to 2.7 would have had to be proposed and passed to prevent the change from affecting the current Chairs.

When presenting the proposal to raise the GPA requirement, Chiu argued the responsibilities of handling the ICC's more than \$50,000 budget should not be left to students with a 2.0, or C, grade point average.

In an interview with *La Voz*, Chiu said,

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LETTERS

La Voz Weekly

The Voice of De Anza College
 Phone: 408-864-5626
 Fax: 408-864-5533
 Room L-42
 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd.,
 Cupertino, CA 95014

Luke Stangel

Editor in Chief
 luke_stangel@yahoo.com

Steven Cabana

Managing Editor
 lavoz@fhda.edu

Jonathan Edwards

News Editor
 deanza_news@yahoo.com

Richard Martinez

Opinions Editor
 lavoz_opinions@yahoo.com

Katy Malatesta

Features Editor
 lavozfeatures@yahoo.com

Owen Ray and Arlette Thibodeau

Arts and Entertainment Editors
 lavoz_entertainment@yahoo.com

Scott Lipsig

News Assistant

Rachel Schwartz

Opinions Assistant

Sarah Gahan

Features Assistant

Cecilia Deck

Adviser

Joe Bruna

Lab Tech

About Us

La Voz is a First Amendment newspaper written and published by De Anza college students. Staff editorials reflect the opinions of the majority of the editorial board and do not necessarily reflect the views of the author or the opinion of the *La Voz* staff.

Opinions and viewpoints expressed by the staff and contributors are the opinion of the individual, and not necessarily the opinion of *La Voz*.

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Letters to the editor, submissions and press releases must be signed and include your contact information for verification and follow-up.

Letters must 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 unfounded personal grievances.

La Voz does not guarantee submissions and letters to the editor will be printed, and does not guarantee coverage of press releases received.

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Advertising

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STUDENTS FOR DISRUPTION

If education is so important to the members of Students for Justice, why do they keep disrupting it? They are quick to raise their fists, raise their voices (even when those voices are already amplified), and graffiti the school with their propaganda, but do they even consider the effects of their unnecessarily amplified tirades and blasting music on classes in session?

The Students for Justice may be willing to skip class during their rallies, but I am not. Why should my entire class—in a room with the door closed—be disrupted during a quiz?

Whether we support their cause in whole, in part, or not at all; whether or not we think the best way to protest paying more of our own school expenses is to spend limited student funds on such things as bus charters, printed shirts, sign-making supplies, and chalk for quad graffiti; whether or not we agree that it is our right to have other people pay for our educations; and whether or not we can accept the other weak arguments of the Students for Justice, some of us are demonstrating how important education is to us by actually participating in it.

The credibility and cause of the Students for Justice would be better served by allowing us to do so without disruption.

—Brian Sexton

SORRY, WE MEANT WAFER

Sarah Gahan ("Pro-choice politician wanna cracker?" June 7) falsely accuses Catholic bishops of politicizing the Eucharist by "threatening" to withhold it from pro-abortion lawmakers.

In fact, some bishops are merely saying that Catholics who disavow Church teachings in public should not present themselves for Communion. Catholic politicians are not exempt from this standard, if a bishop chooses to apply it, simply because they are politicians.

It is outrageous that the Eucharist, which Catholics hold to be the actual Body of Christ, was referred to as a "cracker" in the article's title. Disagreeing with the Church is fine, but using such derogatory language regarding one of the sacraments is inexcusable.

—Ken Foye

Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights

WORKING HARD FOR THE MONEY

The staff editorial "Money for Nothing and Checks for Free" valiantly exposes flagrant abuses of power undertaken by the student government.

The piece accomplishes this, however, by mixing crass insinuations with misleading facts in order to invent scandal rather than represent an informed opinion.

Therefore, in the interest of students who depend on *La Voz* for a holistic evaluation of De Anza life, it becomes necessary to dispel any misconceptions by offering a clear, factually sound account of DASB procedure and actions regarding Leadership Scholarships.

Contrary to the editorial, Senators are not arbitrarily granted \$400 awards. Instead, a committee including three students at large, faculty members, and the DASB advisor, gathers every quarter to

evaluate project applications for merit and adequate completion.

In both Fall and Winter quarters only five of the 33 eligible Senators and Inter Club Council chairpersons decided to take advantage of the Leadership Scholarship.

Most notably, however, the Senate voted in an overwhelming majority to slash money reserved for the Leadership Scholarships by 65 percent and return the funds to students in the form of a \$1500 Single Parent Scholarship, added funding to the Tutorial Center, and the purchasing of computer software that accommodates students disabilities. And as decided in March of the winter quarter, the only Senators eligible for Leadership Scholarship awards will be those in financial need.

—Saba Zariv
 DASB President

GRIEVANCES GET PERSONAL

About your recent article entitled "Accusations fly over election," the vivid metaphor I used to describe Lilya Mitelman was long awaited and well-deserved. My only regret was that I did not say it to her face sooner. If she or Nadine Foster-Mahar have legitimate, documented issues against me, they have the right and responsibility to take matters to the Dean of Students. However, both have willfully slung mud my way without taking any steps to resolve these issues.

The email accounts I sent to *La Voz* were a response to Luke Stangel's solicitation for information relating to the elections and the candidates. They were composed casually and from my perspective.

The First Amendment protection comes with a responsibility. I sincerely believe *La Voz* can be an excellent source of information, intellectual stimulation, and entertainment for its readers.

More importantly, it can be a whistleblower against transgressions and indiscretions committed by students, faculty and administration. But no one will want to read the articles if they're laced with unverified facts, sensationalized details and material conveniently taken out of context.

I am sure these things were not done maliciously and intentionally but a disregard to your journalistic and legal responsibilities do inevitably hurt the growth of the readership and negatively affect the credibility and legitimacy of the newspaper as a whole.

—Tara Vannsengyann

GOOD ADVICE: BEWARE OF BAD ADVICE

I am writing to you about my concerns regarding the quality of our college's student legal aide funded by student body fees.

As a disabled student after having

many positive experiences here as a student and an English writing tutor, I assumed I could trust a personal injury legal referral I received from our school's legal aide program facilitated by Mr. Ron Goulart. My personal injury lawsuit stemmed from an accident caused in part by a motorist traveling forty-five miles per hour who crossed a double yellow line and hit me. I wound up with a traumatic brain injury and have been determined to be over 50% disabled in the Worker's Compensation legal system.

I was referred by Mr. Goulart to an attorney who he claimed to know for twenty-five years. With this attorney's advice I came to settle the personal injury portion of my claims for \$5,000; all of which went to the attorney.

I spoke before our student senate last Wednesday and shared some of my complaints about how seriously mishandled I felt the case was including the fact that I delivered a letter to Mr. Goulart and his associates eight months ago to which none of them responded.

I am hoping this college seriously considers an oversight process to its referral program in which complaints are followed up on, logue books are kept, and any reciprocation for the referrals is noted.

I believe my fellow students deserve referrals they can trust.

—Scott McDonough

NEWBURG REFLECTS ON SPRING 2004

I would like to thank *La Voz* for their ambitious, passionate devotion for tracking down the stories on this campus and getting them out to the De Anza community. I know that the staff members took your fair share of criticism this quarter from administrators, faculty and fellow students. But that is a result of

having the courage to stand by your tough decisions, even when the aftermath was controversial.

While I have my own disagreements with some of the coverage (the drinking features in the Arts and Entertainment section, the countless squirrel references and the too-cute-by-half headlines), *La Voz* fulfilled their responsibility to inform the students. Besides, any time you have faculty or administrators coming into your office on a Monday morning, you're probably doing something right.

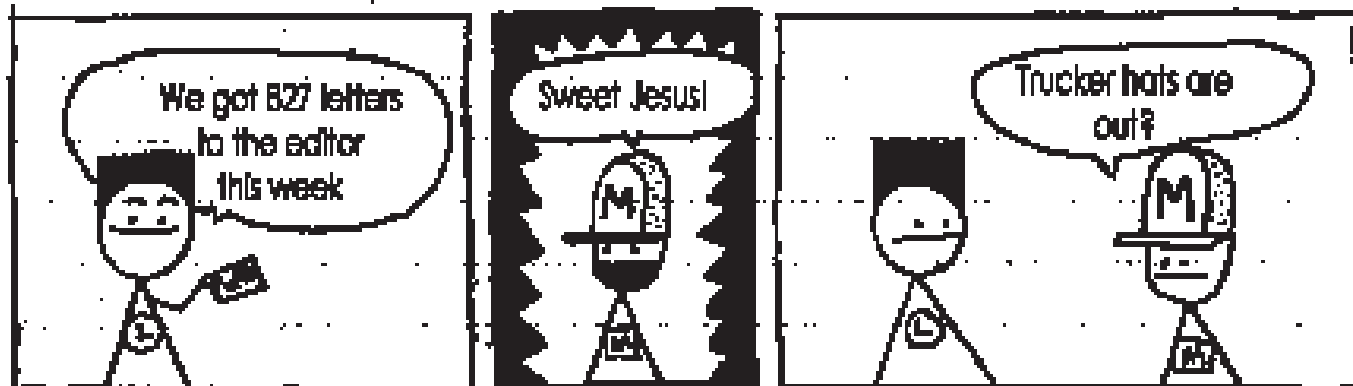
In closing, I want to express the hope that *La Voz* does not give an inch to some of the more unwarranted criticism being thrown around about the newspaper coverage and staff decisions. The student press is too important and too passionate of a voice to be quieted. In the words of Ronald Reagan, "Don't let the turkeys get you down."

Sincerely,
 James Newburg
 Executive Vice President,
 DASB Senate

"I believe *La Voz* can be an excellent source of information, intellectual stimulation and entertainment for its readers"
 -Tara Vannsengyann

FRIDGEART

By Sensational George





The end of the Stangel dynasty

LUKESTANGEL/ LA VOZ

This week, a newspaper dynasty dies. La Voz's team of reporters and editors this quarter was the best I've ever worked with. A newspaper is only as strong as its team, and sadly, we're all kind of ducking out en masse.

To keep this brief, I'll write one sentence about each reporter and editor that I've had to pleasure to work with this quarter. This reads like a really bad high school yearbook — but after collectively giving more than 1,000 hours of work to this paper, they deserve the recognition.

Steven Cabana, Managing Editor: Your photographs blow my clothes off, and I've lost an unhealthy amount of money playing poker with you.

Jonathan Edwards, News Editor: If a man is measured by the strength of his friends, I'm an Olympic weightlifter eating steroids like Mentos; squirrels can't catch footballs.

Julio Lara, Infrequent Sports Editor: We've taken it to the next level, and will undoubtedly do it again — thank you for your mentoring, I've more than paid for it in Vivi's cheeseburgers.

Richard Martinez, Opinions Editor: What happens in room 844 stays in room 844.

Owen Ray, Arts & Entertainment Editor: I used to hate you, then you made me hate you less, now I don't hate you anymore — much.

Arlette Thibodeau, Arts & Entertainment Editor: Your blog will always be more refined than mine, and you have an inhuman ability to recall obscure adjectives very, very late at night.

Katy Malatesta, Features Editor: You're a trooper, a damn fine human being, and the most responsible editor I've ever served with.

Rachel Schwartz, Assistant Opinions Editor: Santa Cruz just called.

Sarah Gahan, Assistant Features Editor: I cannot possibly convey in one sentence the immeasurably good impact you've had on this newspaper; robots unite.

Pedro Paulo Viegas de Sa, Graphics, Comics and Star News Reporter: Turkish hackers, instructors laying in comas bleeding in their offices, math teachers allegedly swearing to kill each other with golf clubs, and many more juicy stories

that we didn't get the chance to run; you're more connected than the telephone company.

Vadim Yaport, Reporter: It's time to sell that illegal ferret before someone reads about it in a newspaper and calls Animal Control.

Carlos Arrieta, Reporter: We talk and I'm filled with this crushing sense of disappointment; you're painfully more hip than me.

Sarah J. Callahan, Reporter: Jesus and this newspaper love you.

Anna Callahan, Reporter: Thank you for your critical perspective of our coverage and hard work; keep that 4.0 — and best of luck with your political aspirations.

Carol Woronow: 'Carol' has become synonymous with a bulldog brand of persistence — if De Anza was hit with a massive accounting scandal, your coverage would rival the Merc's.

Ellen Lockhart: Thank you for your wisdom and well-written work.

Krystle Ralstn: Krystal, I swear I won't misspell your name again.

Cecilia Deck, Advisor: I now know that Canada is infinitely better than the United States; sorry for calling it Diet America the first week. Thank you for your mentoring and support this quarter, I wish the best for you and your family.

Beth Grobman, Advisor: Thanks for everything journalistic, multiplied by seven.

Joe Bruna, Lab Tech: I never want to play basketball again; I'm confident you could network Apple 2110 to nearly anything.

Deborah Perez, Ad Manager: I'll miss you Deb; thanks for keeping the ads coming every week.

Let's pause, that's an accumulation of five quarters of sticky sentimentality. Between the lines, I've found a student family here on campus and I love this staff dearly — I would give any of them a kidney if they needed it, or even if they just wanted one for Christmas.

Keep on scooping your competition, betting it all on a two/seven off-suit, and never taking 'no' for an answer.



Parting shots, complaints from lab tech

JOEBRUNA
LA VOZ

As the staff here at La Voz attempts to finish their last paper of the quarter, a small and important part of my life comes to an end.

Look in the staff box, and you'll find my name sitting there under the Title "Lab Tech." Its been there for the last 4 years and, unless you somehow are related to me, you've most likely never noticed. Whether it be keeping aging computer systems running, figuring out how to get important pictures after a complete hard drive failure, or keeping the peace as tempers fly between editors as the deadline

rears its ugly head, I've kept the paper on time and in your hands 10 times a quarter for these last four years, or for a grand total of 120 issues. I've sat at this desk longer than any student, longer than any Editor in chief, past, present, and most likely future.

And now I leave. As loudly as I came, I'm gone. No more long sleepless nights trying to wait for that all important obscure bit of editing to be done. No longer worrying if our publisher will call me with a problem that'll most often take up what little of my Friday nights I have to myself. No longer dealing with the ulcers created by worrying about if equipment has been turned in at the end of every quarter. No more hearing the panicky calling of "BRUNA" in some corner of the lab as something goes down.

No more trying to find time to do homework and study between La Voz, REI, and my excuse for a social life. And I will it all and more.

One thing that I know I'll not miss is having to hear some say that all I'm here for is money. I would like to point out that after two pay cuts, a reduction of hours, no benefits, countless days spent off the clock fixing situations that were not my making, signing up for and taking many of the La Voz classes so that they had enough people to not be cut, that I stayed because there is nowhere else that you'll find this unique blend of people and situations, and why I've stayed well past the point of any sane person. I owe you, Beth, so much. Thank you. So, until next time, don't forget to shut down and reboot, it solves almost any problem.

Education doesn't grow on trees

KATYMALATESTA

LA VOZ

Walking through the quad and being bombarded with slick slogans is not my idea of a good time. Last week the Students for Justice Club took over the cement and scrawled their clever quips regarding the budget crisis in sidewalk chalk for everyone to see. They were loaded, angry statements that threw up a big red flag; a red flag immediately followed the question of just how truthful they really were.

One such claim that smelled a little fishy was that "Community college used to be free." It's hard to believe that anything was ever free, let alone schooling from a reputable institution like De Anza. I headed over to the library to find out if this was true. After searching through all the old De Anza catalogs of classes, there was no mention of payable tuition until the catalog for the 1987-88 school year. It said, "All students must pay an enrollment fee of \$3.50 per unit for students taking less than six units, and \$34 per quarter (Fall) for students taking six or more units (\$33 for Winter and Spring.)" So, as it turns out, De Anza hasn't been "free" for nearly 17 years.

But even if you wanted to call community college free before 1987, you'd still be wrong. If you break it down, you realize property taxes are what pay for public schooling, more specifically grades K-12 and community colleges. So it's the local property owners who were paying everyone's tuition. It wasn't until 1979 that Proposition 13 came to the table and was passed. The prop was about halting rising property taxes in California, and instead provided that property taxes be consolidated as state revenues, according to an article by Jenna Braun entitled, "Community colleges: Idea of free access is left behind." The result of passing the prop in turn took money from junior college budgets.

If someone were to make the argument that it's better to have local property owners paying for community college because they are rich and able to do so, then just think about all the people out there with second and third mortgages on their houses. Then add to their mounting debt with sky-high property taxes, and try to say you're only hurting the wealthy.

It wasn't until 1984, according to Braun's article, that California community colleges actually started charging \$5 per unit. And according to my personal research, it wasn't until 1987 that De Anza charged \$3.50 per unit. Students act as if this is the first time an increase has been proposed. In 1994, California community colleges had raised their price to \$13 dollars a unit, a mere four dollars less than the proposed increase for De Anza now. And if that isn't enough to get people to stop complaining, perhaps they would like to attend Cascadia Community College in Bothell, Wash., where the projected price for the fall of 2004 would be \$69.35 per unit. If people think \$17 dollars a unit is going to clean out their pockets, then they should be really grateful that they live in California, where with or without an increase in price, we still have the lowest fees in the nation.

Another saying that really irked me was, "Education is a right, not a privilege." Whoever thinks that is sorely mistaken. In America, we are guaranteed free public education from kindergarten to high school, and that's it. To insist you have the "right" to something that you in all reality don't sounds bratty and self-serving. Higher education is indeed a privilege, and to call it anything less is purely disrespectful of the opportunity we are offered.

There was a rally in the quad intended to make use of students and their cell phones, and urged everyone to call their congressmen and complain about the fee increase. But here is the irony; if you are so concerned with paying for your education, especially at a "whopping" \$17 a unit, then you shouldn't be wasting your money on a frivolous cell phone. Think of the money you could save and put toward your tuition if you stopped paying \$50 a month for a mobile phone (which could add up to more than \$600 a year in savings.)

In big, bold letters in front of the library, the greatest slogan was written. It read, "Make your voice HEARD, these budget cuts are ABSURB!" No, that's not a typo ... you read it correctly. Budget cuts are simply "absurb." Well, my advice is that next time someone wants to write a powerful political statement for the entire population of De Anza to read (roughly over 26,000 people) at least double-check what you've written. And if said person was really that concerned with their education, instead of spending time in the quad making fancy drawings on the ground, they should be in class learning how to spell.

After all, it is their "right."

Operation: Desert Chaos

Destined to repeat history, President Bush is pushing us through a war we cannot win.

PEDROPAULO VIEGAS DE SA

La Voz

As the deadline approaches for the United States to turn over sovereignty to Iraq, the extremism and violence escalates. More and more, Iraq takes the shape of a future Afghanistan, where the end of the Afghani-Soviet war and the consequent removal of U.S. is referred to as "the big betrayal." To ignore the consequences of America's actions in shaping the future and stability of Iraq could be the worst move of the Bush administration.

Now is hardly the time for "I-told-you-so" however tempting that might be. The mess that the Bush administration caused in Iraq needs to be solved before a generation of Iraqis is raised in the environment that seems to be developing in that country right now.

The Bush administration has officially embraced the tone and the actions of something that for a long time used to be an accusation of the left and is now an openly-bragged-about concept by the right – the idea of the American Empire.

To maintain the hegemony and power of this empire, everything is permitted, from launching a war based on fake evidence, to torture, to all-out colonialism. It is becoming harder and harder to ignore a more sinister intent in the words of George W. Bush when he refused to sign the Kyoto treaty: "What is good for America is good for the world." What is frightening is what Bush sees as good for America.

Interim Iraqi President Ghazi Mashal Ajil al-Yawer said in the Group of Eight Summit in Sea Island, Ga., that he is committed to "a free, democratic, federal Iraq, a country that is a source of stability to the Middle East." Nice words, President Al-Yawer. But without infrastructure to sustain such a stable democratic society, Iraq will become fertile ground for extremists to lead the country deeper into civil war.

The fact that we do not have Germans flying planes into our buildings or Japanese slitting American tourists' throats says something about other ways of dealing with former-enemy territories.

Whatever was done in Iraq, Hiroshima and Nagasaki are the biggest atrocities ever committed against a civilian population. According to the Avalon Project at Yale Law School, approximately 105,000 people died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki when the bombs got dropped; yet today, Hello Kitty is not bent on the destruction of Western civilization.

"Send me food or send me bullets," said

General Douglas MacArthur, who oversaw the Allies' post-war occupation of Japan in 1945. Reconstructing the infrastructure of Japan after the war, and providing social stability instead of a merely political one, was understood.

But it seems hard to believe that the current administration would follow such a logical path. Iraq administration is more likely to resemble the reign of a viceroy of the colonial Spanish America.

Let's get this straight. The interim government was indirectly appointed by the United States, which makes

name on the ballot.

To believe that Yankee-style democracy will just flourish spontaneously, while American troops are still the only significant peace-keeping force in Iraq and with the nation's infrastructure of the country remains pulverized by the war, is like believing that the weapons of mass destruction will ever show up. By the way, it would be easy to say, "No WMDs? I told you so." But that would be just petty.

The Bush administration makes so many mistakes that one has to wonder if they are intentional. What was done wrong in Afghanistan in the '80s is now being repeated in Iraq. And what was done wrong in Iraq, by imposing economic

sanctions and the isolating the country from the rest of the world, the Bush administration is trying to do in Syria.

Bush has created a permanent war, a war that can last forever because its goal is hazily defined. The effect of the actions of this administration is bound to create more people

who will fight the imperialism of the United States. If terrorism is defined as those who disagree with the occupation of their nation and grab guns to resist, the American revolutionaries should then be banned from the history books, or at least labeled the same.

It then becomes hard to ignore who is really benefiting from this permanent war. Colonialism is about exploiting natural resources of the colony for the profit of the metropolis, the heart of the empire. Halliburton and the other big corporations that are profiting as much as they can from Iraq are the contemporary East India Companies.

The path that the Bush administration is dragging this country along is the path of permanent war and permanent terror – and, unless we take the reins of our destiny from this destructive force, our future is doomed.

The Declaration of Independence states that when a government becomes tyrannical, it is the right, it is the duty of the people to throw off such government. And an empire is nothing if not tyrannical.

it, in the eyes of the Iraqi people, a continuation of the occupation. The United States appoints some people to the interim council. This interim council appoints the interim president and interim government, and all of a sudden they become legitimate Iraqi authorities.

The idea that the Iraqi population would not view this as a puppet government controlled by the United States is not plausible, especially after U.S. administrator of Iraq Paul Bremer closed the door of power on cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who led the Sunni resistance to the U.S. occupation.

This shutdown of the opposition will remind Iraqi people too much of Saddam Hussein's so-called elections, in which only he was the only



Ronald Wilson**REAGAN****1911****2004***Goodbye, good riddance to the Gipper***DEANCARRICO**
SPECIAL TO LA VOZ

It seems silly to write a eulogy for Ronald Reagan in this day and age, for a campus where the majority of the students, if shown a picture of the Gipper, would think it was a promotion for Bob's Big Boy. They're not to be blamed, really – there are similarities. The jet-black dye job. The vacuous, fatuous grin. The insatiable thirst for money and power by becoming a corporate spokeswhore.

And now they share one more trait – they're both dead. But their evil grins still permeate our memory. They both hold warm spots in our collective hearts. But do we remember anything of substance about the man as we read and watch the retrospectives, or is it all empty calories?

My first concrete memory of Reagan came back in March 30, 1981, when I was attending 4th grade in Hawaii. The teachers were called out of the classes en masse. When our instructor returned, she looked as if somebody had just shot her dog.

That wasn't far from the mark. With her voice shaking, she called us to attention. "Class," she said, "I have some terrible news. Your president, Mr. Ronald Reagan, has just been shot." The class fell into a stunned silence. And then, from the back of the room, one boy started to applaud.

I was that boy. I didn't know anything about Reagan at that time; all I knew was that my father didn't like him. That was good enough for me. But I barely made it out of that room alive, with many promising to "get" me later. I cut through a river and up the side of a mountain to get home that day, and told my father what happened, expecting to be congratulated. Instead, I received a lecture on the sanctity of human life.

Later, after learning the ways and means of Reagan's rise to power, I thought back to that day in Hawaii, and I've since realized that mine was the proper response. And that's why I responded the same way on June 5, when I read about the former president's passing.

People say it's not nice to speak ill of the dead, but frankly, they're less likely to punch you in the face. Of course, this doesn't make me safe from the hordes that love and revere him. They tend to remember the kindly old man who looked like a grandfather, a reason my roommate voted for him. He even had the quirks of a grandfather: forgetful, a strange affection for astrology, a shrill shrieking wife who would admonish those who dared question her man in public while ordering their removal in private.

Reagan was folksy. Down home and down to earth. The ultimate good-natured cowboy. At least, that's how his eulogies are reading in the major press. But who was he really? How did he get to be so adored? And what, in our teary-eyed tributes, are we forgetting?

In "Dark Victory: Reagan, MCA and the Mob," author and former Reagan staffer Dan Moldea meticulously detailed the president's rise to power in the entertainment industry. Long before he became governor of California, he was host of General Electric's Television Theater as well as president of the Screen Actor's Guild. When his studio, MCA, was brought under congressional investigation for corruption, Reagan appeared for questioning – and said he couldn't remember the specifics. He wasn't aware of any dirty dealings that would have happened right under his nose, making more than one member of Congress wonder what duties he did oversee. The same kind of questions came up 20 years later in the Iran-Contra scandal, and Reagan offered the same answers. To quote Reagan himself: There you go again.

Moldea's wasn't the only tell-all book on the Reagan

era. Indeed, aside from the slew of books recently published about our current commander-in-chief, no president has had as many trees felled in order to besmirch his name.

There were books on "The October Surprise," in which the Ayatollah Khomeini received such gifts as a cake, some Bibles, and some automatic weapons from a certain presidential hopeful. In return, Iran held onto U.S. hostages, making then-President Jimmy Carter look like a bumbling fool. The hostages were eventually released unharmed – 10 days after Reagan's inauguration.

Mark Hertsgaard's book "On Bended Knee: The Press and the Reagan Presidency" details the media's complacency that made the Great Communicator the Teflon president he became. Press favoritism wasn't anything new – the press unanimously agreed to hide FDR's infirmities in order to keep up morale – but Hertsgaard shows Reagan to be a tyrant in the matter of PR relations. Make fun of the president for calling ketchup a vegetable and see how quickly you are shut out of the inner press circle until your only choice is reassignment.

Even crackpot astrologer Joan Quigley wrote a book claiming her predictions were instrumental in White House policy.

But we hardly see these incidents mentioned in most major newspapers. Instead,

we're treated to a fawning tribute to a man whose cheeks we'd love to pinch while we talk about the good old days.

Everything you know is wrong indeed.

But now he's gone. And while you're thinking about that over the next couple of days in a moment of silence, don't be surprised if you hear one boy in the back, applauding.

People say
it's not
nice to
speak ill of
the dead,
but frankly,
they're less
likely to
punch you
in the
face.

*Time to reflect on past failures***SARAHGAHAN**
LA VOZ

Former President Ronald Reagan, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, died of pneumonia June 5 in the comfort of his Bel Air home, surrounded by family. Former first lady Nancy Reagan has pushed to expand stem-cell research in the hope such research could eventually cure Alzheimer's, but last Wednesday Laura Bush gave no indication that the federal restrictions President Bush placed on research in 2001 will be lifted anytime soon.

It's unlikely that many of the mentally ill Reagan made homeless as governor of

California or the almost 21,000 Americans who died of AIDS during his presidency before he felt the need to address the disease spent the sunset of their lives in the comfort and luxury available to Reagan.

Reagan could have made a difference in other Americans' lives for the better. He could have addressed the AIDS crisis earlier. He could have supported mental health services. He could have worked to help the poor, rather than relying on the wealth of the rich to "trickle down." The current administration should take his death as an opportunity to do what he never did.

The executive order signed by Bush banning the use of federal funds to harvest

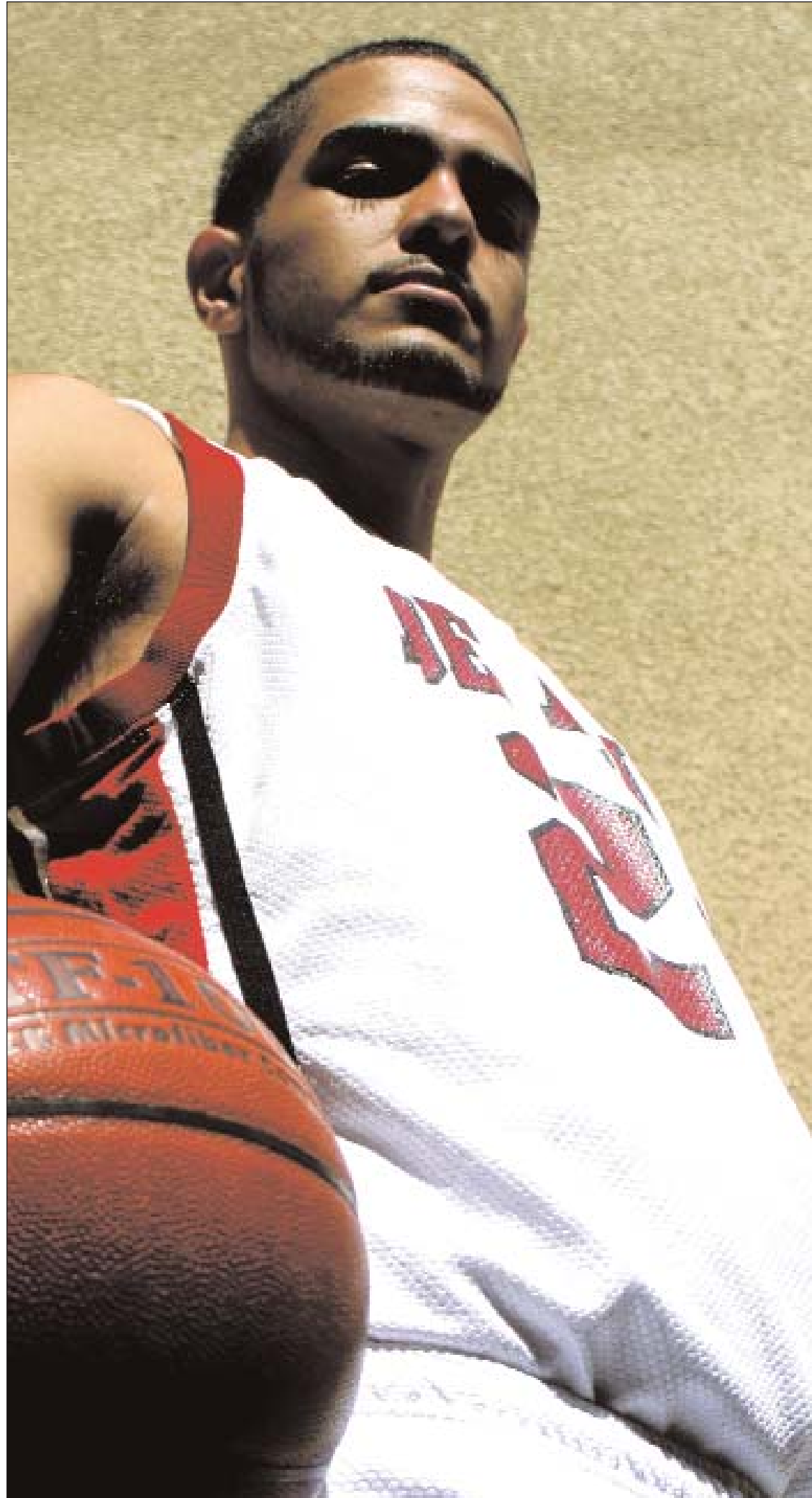
new stem-cell lines should be lifted as soon as possible. Whether we remember Reagan as a visionary who returned our country to greatness, or as a small-minded, mediocre actor who bankrupted the communist Soviet Union by nearly bankrupting America on the backs of the poor, Alzheimer's is a tragic disease and we should be doing everything in our power to cure it.

Our 40th president was a staunch opponent of communism. The CIA spent \$2.1 billion over 10 years on an anti-Soviet resistance in Afghanistan. Then America withdrew, leaving the country in a situation so dire many ordinary Afghans welcomed the Taliban's rise to power.

If the AIDS epidemic, the shrinking of the middle class, and the rise of Al-Qaeda have taught us one thing, it is that we should not wait to invest in improving the lives of others.

Once we support a president who fires striking members of an air-traffic controllers' union, we should not be surprised when unions and their attendant benefits crumble. When we wait to study ways to combat diseases like AIDS, we should not be surprised by the epidemic.

By restricting stem-cell research, we restrict American ingenuity and the chances many Americans have – to echo another Reaganism – to see a bright new dawn.



Prince Benitez, 20, seems to have it all. A winning record on the De Anza Don's basketball team, (he on average makes 12.3 points per game, has a 38 percent shot ratio from the field and a 38 percent shot ratio for three-pointers), a 3.4 grade point average and God.

Benitez has God, and found him through basketball. He's worked the last three summers with San Jose's Rohi Alternative Community Outreach, specifically with Midnight Basketball Leagues, a Friday night basketball league that hosts a discussion of God for an hour before the games. The program targets young people of color living in San Jose.

Benitez played his first midnight basketball league games at the age of 14, and said he was saved through the program.

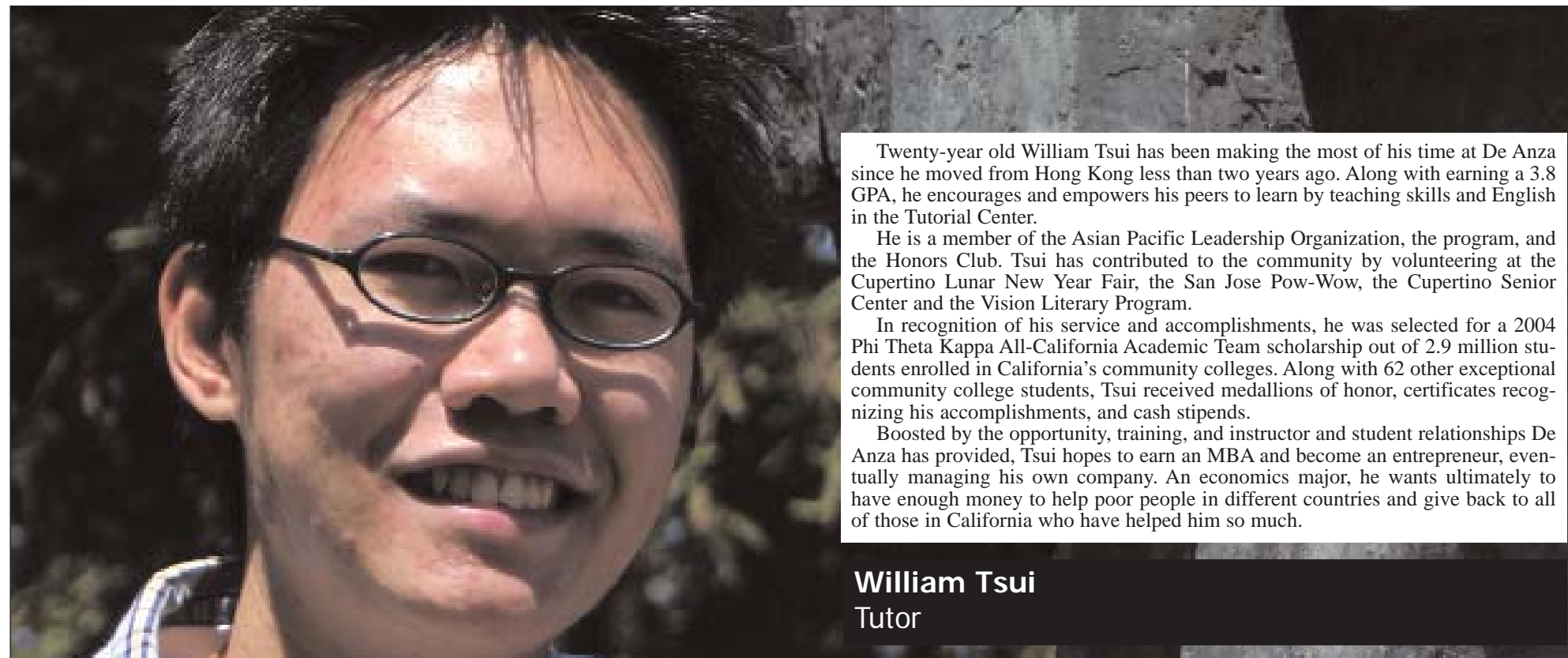
Benitez grew up in a rough neighborhood in eastside San Jose, playing basketball with his brother and trying to stay out of trouble.

"We had bad neighbors," Benitez said. "Drug addicts were coming to the door constantly." Despite growing up around crime, Benitez earned good grades, played basketball and stayed away from the streets.

"I'm 20 years old and I stay out of trouble," Benitez said. "I go to church, unlike most people my age. I've never been to jail, don't do drugs, don't smoke and I keep good friends."

He plans to transfer from De Anza next quarter as a business major, possibly to Notre Dame College in Belmont or Santa Clara University.

Daniel "Prince" Benitez
Mens Basketball Player



Twenty-year old William Tsui has been making the most of his time at De Anza since he moved from Hong Kong less than two years ago. Along with earning a 3.8 GPA, he encourages and empowers his peers to learn by teaching skills and English in the Tutorial Center.

He is a member of the Asian Pacific Leadership Organization, the program, and the Honors Club. Tsui has contributed to the community by volunteering at the Cupertino Lunar New Year Fair, the San Jose Pow-Wow, the Cupertino Senior Center and the Vision Literary Program.

In recognition of his service and accomplishments, he was selected for a 2004 Phi Theta Kappa All-California Academic Team scholarship out of 2.9 million students enrolled in California's community colleges. Along with 62 other exceptional community college students, Tsui received medallions of honor, certificates recognizing his accomplishments, and cash stipends.

Boosted by the opportunity, training, and instructor and student relationships De Anza has provided, Tsui hopes to earn an MBA and become an entrepreneur, eventually managing his own company. An economics major, he wants ultimately to have enough money to help poor people in different countries and give back to all of those in California who have helped him so much.

William Tsui
Tutor



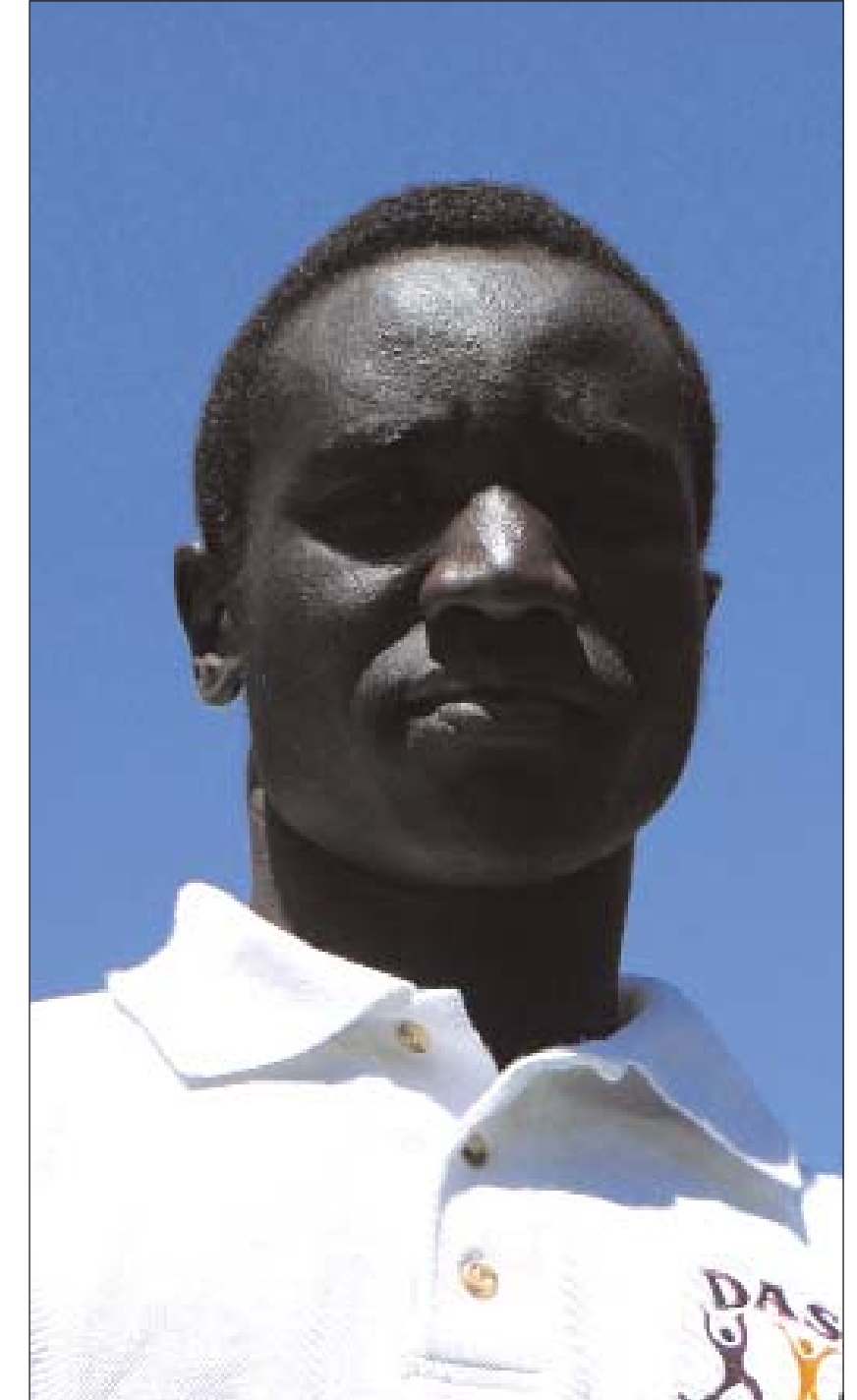
It's not often that one walks into a classroom and finds not a seasoned professional instructing the students, but a 19-year old in shorts and a tank top. De Anza student Mary Low has started her own class and teaches it for college credit. Low is a music major whose dream is to teach music and be a conductor. Her class consists of 12 vocal students who are interested in smaller projects in voice.

The class members, who call themselves "Douze Voix", or French for "12 voices" performed their own concert on campus on June 3. Low conducted each group performance, played accompaniment on the piano, and shared original pieces that were composed by both herself and her students. Most of the singers had a background as jazz vocalists and the group's sound includes a repertoire of Renaissance, classical, and modern music. Low, who is transferring in the fall, said that she has wanted to be a teacher since she was "little."

She was inspired to conduct in 7th grade after a short lesson from a music teacher, and was self taught from then on. In the future, Low's aspiration is to continue conducting and teaching, possibly at De Anza. She says of her goal, "I really want to inspire people to open their eyes to different kinds of music."

On June 3 the choral hall, which contained many noted faculty members, was packed as audience members sat back to experience a concert that was solely the product of students.

Mary Low
College Music Instructor



Samuel Akau was born in Sudan in 1982 and spent his early childhood tending cattle. Despite the unrest and war between the North and South, he was a passionate young student.

To his disappointment, the school collapsed just a year after his enrollment because of lack of funding from a government which had instead invested in war. He continued to pursue an education by running away from home at age eight or nine to a town where he hoped to live his dream.

When the war encroached, he sought refuge in Kenya in 1995. There he met his older brother, among other boys now known as the Lost Boys. In August 2001, four years after his parents died, Samuel and his older brother were admitted for resettlement in the United States.

Here he has worked part-time jobs, taken full-time courses at De Anza, and served as a DASB senator. His hard work resulted in his being one of three De Anza students accepted to Stanford for transfer in the fall.

After Stanford, he wants to study law and education because, "These are so vital for a democratic society. My dream is to foster some change [so] that future generations in my country won't go through what I did."

Samuel Akau
Senator

Top five students to watch

BY SARAH CALAHAN, ANNA CALAHAN AND STEVEN CABANA
LA VOZ

Editor's Note:

De Anza is nearly bursting at the seams with promising and exceptional students, so narrowing the list down to five was difficult. What follows are brief profiles of people we feel embody De Anza's range of creativity, intelligence and backgrounds.

La Voz sent notices to teachers and department deans last week and distributed fliers around campus asking for nominations for the most promising students. La Voz received more than 30 nominations, all for exceptional and talented students.

These and many equally exceptional students are in our classes, walking our halls and driving through our parking lots. Their stories are compelling, and their dreams are within reach.

We hope you have as much fun reading these profiles as we had writing them.



Christina Maine likes to express herself through her appearance. Maine's goal in life, which is not to become a fashion designer, might seem unusual from her appearance.

This business major's aspiration is to become a top investor. Her ultimate goal is to make it to the Forbes' 400 list of the Richest Americans. Since she's been at De Anza, she has been intensely focused on reaching this goal and pursues academic excellence to the point of not sleeping on a regular basis.

She hopes to use her revenue for the sole purpose of creating non-profit organizations to assist the less fortunate.

She remembers that even when she had a full Mohawk in high school, she was teased at Rock concerts as that "business geek."

Christina Maine
Future Philanthropist

The **Kansas City Royals** select ...

DE ANZA RIGHT FIELDER KYLE HARTZ GOES IN ROUND NUMBER 37 OF MAJOR LEAGUE DRAFT

De Anza slugger to start long journey toward "the show"

Often times it's a matter of being at the right place at the right time. This holds true not only in baseball, but in life as well -- for it's the truckload of hard work that makes opportunity knock on the proverbial door,

see **HARTZ**, page 12

Kulwant Singh is the man for the job

DE ANZA SELECTS SOCCER COACH AS NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BY LA VOZ STAFF
LA VOZ

De Anza College has named Kulwant Singh, currently head coach of the men's soccer team to the position of athletic director, effective July 1, 2004.

Singh will succeed former Athletic director Charlie Elder, who will retire at the end of June.

Elder leaves De Anza after 36 years in which time he has served as the schools first ever male Women's Volleyball coach, and a 12 year stint as the Don's football coach.

Going into his 15th year as a De

Anza instructor, Singh has coached both the men's and women's soccer teams to numerous coast conference championships and in 1994 and 1997 lead the men's team to the state championship along with six seasons as state finalists.

In 2001, Singh was named the California Community College Men's State Coach of the Year.

But Singh's experience goes far beyond De Anza.

From 1984 to 1991, Singh was head coach to both the boy's and girl's Northern California Olympic Development program.

Singh also served as technical director for the program.

Before joining the De Anza family, Singh was assistant coach for California State Hayward's soccer program, serving as assistant for both the men's and women's program.

Singh took a sabbatical to reenergize and turned the reins over to Colin Lindores for the 2003-2004 season where the Don's men's team ranked sixth in the northern region and finished with a 14-4-3 overall record.

Dean of Physical Education and Athletics Ron Warnock will remain and report to Singh.

Singh will continue to serve as the men's soccer coach through the 2004-2005 season.



Kulwant Singh

MANDATORY MAKEOVER: From tragic to tragically hip

BY KATY MALATESTA
LA VOZ



Hipster chic is easy to attain: you artfully assemble the perfect outfit that says "I don't care what I look like," style your hair like you just woke up, throw on a few accessories and saunter out the door. To prove how simple it is, *La Voz* forced Vadim Yaport, a resident reporter and unwilling guinea pig, to trade in his humdrum duds for a new and stylin' look.

Yaport was a good candidate for this hipster makeover because he's a total blank slate: he looks like he spends all of 30 seconds pick-

ing out his clothes in the morning. In the dark. After wrestling them from the teeth of a donkey. While it's sweet that he believes personality matters more than personal style, it wouldn't kill him to have some fashion forced on him.

To find clothes for Yaport's transformation, I headed down San Carlos Avenue's well-known thrift store Savers. After digging through through terrible, once-free giveaway T-shirts for 20 minutes, I found a pair of jeans with that nice lived-in, about-to-rip look that would make any hipster drool and were a steal at \$2.99

Sometimes it's worth paying extra to not sort through all that junk, and Crossroads, also on San Carlos, stocks brand names and gently-used clothing at higher-than-thrift prices. This made it harder to keep to the \$20 for an outfit, but a bright green t-shirt with a large demolition derby screen print going for 50 percent off the original \$17.50 came in well under budget.

Next it was time to move on to shoes, accessories, and the oh-so important hair factor. Most accessories were too expensive for the \$8 left in the budget, but Big Lots, a discount chain store on Campbell Avenue

in Campbell, had just the thing: a \$2.99 bright pink wristband with an applique of an ugly cartoon girl with "Beauty School Dropout" on it.

Aviator sunglasses were next and were cheap at \$3.99. Flip-flops, the perfect shoes that just *scream* "slack," were \$3.50, and brought the grand total to \$22.25, slightly over budget but worth every penny.

Before the transformation was complete, something had to be done with Yaport's semi-curly and slightly shaggy no-nonsense haircut. I whipped out my flat iron for a little straightening magic.

While many hipsters opt for the "it just grows this way" 1970s shag that costs \$30 and up at a decent salon, you can get that messy style without the cut. I straightened Yaport's hair, applied pomade to the front and sides to give it texture, and despite Yaport's very loud and insistent complaints, combed his hair with my fingers so it fell messily in front of his eyes.

Yaport hated his new look, complaining that the shirt was too tight, his hair was stupid and the jeans were uncomfortable. But when he wasn't slouching miserably or pulling at the legs of his pants, he looked almost disturbingly fabulous.

Left to right: Vadim Yaport's new hipster style; the "before" picture (note the deer-in-the-head-lights look); Yaport reluctantly has Katy Malatesta fix up his hair like he just don't care; seeing the world through rose-tinted aviators. Photos by Katy Malatesta and A. Thibodeau.



Summer fashion tips for De Anza and beyond

BY ANNA CALLAHAN
LA VOZ



As Spring Quarter ends, fashionable women at De Anza add a summer glow to the campus with their bold sense of style.

Beads, sequins, glitter, chains, miniature mirrors and rhinestones sparkle in bright sunlight. They are easy ways to

give an outfit seasonal spice whether they're small, glittering accessories, accents on shoes or big, bold patterns on tops, jeans and skirts.

You can show summer flair without showing off lots of skin when you wear candy-colored clothes. The strawberry-swirl colors of pink and white are two of the sweetest choices for warm weather.

Simple accessories can be striking, as long as you use them sparingly. Tie a rib-

bon around your waist or pin a flower in your hair for a fun, innocent look.

Light skirts are a classy way to keep cool. Some of the most popular styles come in muted colors and natural fibers and swish around the wearer for a hippie-style look.

And don't forget California classics like a short denim skirt worn with a T-shirt and flip-flops, or a dressy sleeveless top paired with heels and faded jeans.



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Election | Student Alliance slate sweeps election

continued from front

to become a reconstructive surgeon for children. "I love biology," she said. Board of Trustees President Paul Fong congratulated both Foster-Mahar and Dunn on their election wins. De Anza

College Interim President Judy Miner said Dunn would be "a wonderful representative."

Dunn said she was "very grateful to be elected as student trustee." Last year, Dunn ran for the student trustee position before bowing out and working on Adam

Welch's successful trustee campaign. This year, it was her turn.

The election results are provisional until all candidates complete their expense reports. As of last Thursday when the DASB Election Grievance Committee met, seven candidates had submitted

incomplete reports and another seven had not filed anything.

Under election rules winning candidates who had not completed the reports by 4:30 p.m. Friday, June 11, would be disqualified, and the next highest vote-getter would be named in their places.

ICC | Club council mimics senate with grade policy

continued from front

"The GPA shows that you're capable." Many ICC representatives disagreed.

Jeanne Fishback, a member of the Fencing Club and ICC representative of the Samadhi Meditation club, argued during the meeting and in a later interview, "I don't think you need an inspired GPA to be a stellar leader."

In an interview following the meeting, ICC Chair Eddie Voss explained his reasons for backing the change.

"[DASB's] requirement is 2.0, so that's

the requirement I decided to back." Voss said he was happy with the result of the code change. Voss explained the ICC leadership reviews the code regularly.

Of the debate over GPA requirements in the code, he said, "It was something that Roxanne wanted to get dealt with right away," despite plans to conduct a major overhaul of the ICC code in the fall.

George E. Smith, ICC chair of programs, says his GPA is a 3.45, but he did not back the idea of raising the requirements for officers.

"That was [Chiu's] idea. I didn't feel it

was a good idea." He noted, "The consensus in the ICC was that it would hurt the students more than help them." Of Chiu, he said, "I respect Roxanne as a very qualified officer."

Both Voss and Smith said though they would not have had a problem with keeping the GPA requirement for chair members at 2.5, they believed lowering it could enlarge the applicant pool for Chair positions next year.

"People can perform and have 2.0 GPAs...What matters is what that person is trying to do as a person," said Smith.

Voss was also optimistic.

"Last year there were five candidates for the three chairs. I think with the 2.0 more people will run."

The ICC also voted to amend a section of the code prohibiting members of DASB from becoming ICC officers, changing the code to restrict voting members, junior members, and agents of DASB from becoming an ICC club officer or the Student Trustee.

The current ICC leadership took the reins in March and will serve a year-long term into the spring of 2005.

Club demands policy reform on sexual harassment front

BY RACHEL SCHWARTZ
LA VOZ

Sexual harassment victim Kristin Traylor and nine other members of De Anza College's Gender Liberation club crowded into the Chief of Security's office last Wednesday, listing demands designed to prevent future incidents of campus confusion regarding sexual harassment claims.

After being sexually harassed by two male students on her way to meet a friend, Traylor decided to report the incident since she was in front of the security office.

The security officers Traylor talked to allowed the suspects to get up and walk

away.

Gender Liberation is an on-campus organization that has long argued that sexual harassment is a neglected issue at De Anza.

Jackie Dielman, a fellow club member, said offhanded sexual comments are a common occurrence on campus. "Whether it's meant harmlessly or not, it all depends how the comment is interpreted," she said.

After allowing the suspects to leave the scene, a campus police officer brushed off the incident as a non-police issue without offering Traylor any guidance on how to handle the situation, Traylor said.

"We didn't know who to talk to or where to go," said Traylor. "But Jessie

really made it her own little project, and after reviewing the school's sexual harassment policy, she decided that we should approach Trudy Walton."

According to policy, students who feel that they have been sexually harassed should report the incident to the Dean of Student Development Trudy Walton.

Club members say the policy is flawed because Walton can be difficult to reach, making it hard to report an incident in a timely fashion.

After talking with Walton, members of the Gender Liberation club set up a meeting with Ben Rodriguez, the chief of security, to discuss how the situation might be handled better in the future.

Their demands included making sexual

harassment literature more readily available, having security personnel undergo more rigorous training on the harassment policy and improving communication between security and Walton.

Most people who have been harassed go to the security office because it seems like the most logical place to file a report, even if it isn't where they're supposed to go, said club member Valerie Post during the meeting. This is why the security office should be prepared to handle the incidents, she said.

Rodriguez agreed that the situation could have been dealt with better, but defended the action of his officers, and agreed to keep copies of sexual harassment literature in the security office.

Foothill fears gay bashing at same-sex marriage celebration

BY PEDRO PAULO VIEGAS DE SA
LA VOZ

Foothill College will hold a wedding reception June 17 for an instructor and a student who married their same-sex partners in San Francisco — despite concern about money usage and an anti-gay preacher.

Drama instructor Jay Manley and his longtime partner Vance Martin, as well as student Danielle Fontaine and Linda J. Crothers will be honored from noon to 2 p.m. at the Foothill Library Courtyard as part of the college's celebration of Gay,

Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Heritage Month.

"Gay people have been coming into the picture for some time, and it is time to accept this," said Jeffrey Ellis, co-chair of the GLBT Heritage Month planning committee. "Foothill will be the first campus to recognize [the San Francisco marriages]," he said.

In February, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom issued marriage licenses to more than 4,000 same-sex couples until a lawsuit was filed against the practice.

The planning of the Foothill wedding reception encountered obstacles. "There

was a rumor that we were spending student money to buy Jay Manley gifts," Ellis said. But the committee dispelled the rumors.

The committee is most concerned that a preacher who makes anti-gay statements on campus may interrupt the reception. The man could not be identified or reached for comment. "Our first event got cancelled because of this guy," said Ellis.

"How can somebody be allowed to come to school and chastise you?" said Nick Nurman, Ellis' boyfriend. Nurman said that the preacher is very careful not cross the line between free speech and

harassment.

"Legally, he has the right," said Nurman. "It is free speech."

The California Supreme Court is to rule on the suit against the same-sex marriages in the coming months.

State law prohibits such marriages, but Newsom's lawyers argued that such a ban violates the constitution's equal protection clause.

If the Supreme Court rules against Newsom, Manley's and Fontaine's marriage licenses could be invalidated. "I hope they don't get revoked," said Ellis. "It would be sad and pathetic if they did."

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" I'm in it for the team concept. If we win I'm happy, if we lose I'm happy. I just love playing the game "

-Kyle Hartz



Hartz takes the grand tour after depositing a ball deep over the left center fence in a game against Hartnell College. The Don right fielder finished the year with seven bombs and drove in 37 others during the 2004 campaign

Hartz | First year Don gets the nod

continued from page eight

but it's that bit of luck that places you at the door when this happens.

Kyle Hartz, De Anza right fielder and slugger extraordinaire, is a hard worker -- luck is just a matter of relativity.

And both of these components gelled nicely June 9, 2004 when the Kansas City Royals selected Hartz in round number 37 of the Major League Baseball first year players draft.

With his selection Hartz joins a fistful of De Anza alumni that have been drafted by a Major League team. To say that it's a De Anza rarity would be an understatement -- baseball isn't necessarily the school cash cow like football or say soccer. But that only adds more glamour to the achievement of the young man from Santa Cruz.

The story starts in a single parent home in the hills of the northern California city, Hartz attended Santa Cruz high school where he tore up the baseball diamond as a first baseman/outfielder. During his senior campaign, Hartz hit .437, with 10 bombs and swipped 11 bases. Hidden among all of his impressive numbers was the number 1 -- one scholarship to play for the Spartans of San Jose State.

But with all stories that give off a feel good vibe, there are often obstacles to overcome. Hartz red-shirted his first year at SJSU and he warmed the friendly confines of the bench. It was this sitting and non-production that would land him among the squirrels of De Anza College and into Scott Hertler's office where he would agree to "don" the De Anza uniform.

"I was impressed with his maturity level from the start," said coach Hertler. "He wasn't arrogant, very mature. Most scholarship players come in, and are arrogant. They believe that they are better than everyone else."

Hartz would fit right into the a Dons baseball team coming off a 21-22 campaign in 2003 which saw them make the playoffs only to lose in the first round.

With the program on the rise, Hartz knew that he had to adjust quickly to his teammates, as opposed to having the team adjust to him.

"This is the closest team I have ever been on," said Hartz, who

expressed a need to fit in with his teammates, after suffering some dissension in other baseball programs he had participated in.

Despite missing a year of baseball, Hartz didn't miss a beat. He went on a tear his first year in the De Anza pinstripes, batting .307, blasting seven homeruns and leading the team in RBIs with 37. His offensive performance this year landed him a spot on the All-Conference first team and would lead the team back into the playoffs for a second straight season, where they eventually ran into the buzz saw that is the number two seeded Fresno Rams.

But when life throws you a 14-2 lemon, you hit for the cycle in front of major league scouts.

And that's what Hartz did. During the playoff game that saw the Fresno pitching staff man-handle the Dons line-up, the only thing they couldn't stop was the bat of Hartz, who went 4-5, completing the baseball cycle (a single, double, triple and homerun in the same game) and scoring the two Dons runs.

The performance caught the eye of scouts from the Royals and the Chicago Cubs who would later invite Hartz to a private workout and would then express interest in drafting the 19 year old.

Come June 9, and Hartz got the phone call that all young boys who ever pick up a bat hope for. Knock, knock. Who's there? It's opportunity calling with the 1105 pick in the draft.

"The whole thing has come as a surprise. I think it's every boy's dream to play in the major leagues," said Hartz.

But despite the success that has hit Hartz, he's humble in his approach, and like all of Hertler's boys, his focus is on what this will mean for his teammates.

"With me being drafted, that means we'll (the Dons baseball team) get a lot more exposure. A lot of guys that would normally will not get a chance to get looked at will have that opportunity."

These are exciting times for the baseball program that not to long ago dwelled in the lower part of the division standing. Now the window that people say that opens appears to be much bigger.

Timing is everything, people also use that cliché a lot as well.

For Hartz, living and breathing baseball in the present is important. For now, he's on his way to play baseball with some of college baseball's best players in the Cape Cod league on the east coast of the U.S. Come spring, he'll be patrolling right field for the Dons, and come the future, well, who knows, hopefully royal blue doesn't make Hartz look fat.

Carol Woronow/ LA VOZ

More stuff on the draft ...

So realistically we all can't be the number one pick of our respective drafts, but that isn't necessarily a bad thing.

With his selection in this year's MLB draft, Hartz joins a handful of De Anza alum to receive the call of opportunity. And if you thought being chosen in the 37th round is a lost cause, well, there's always the following players to look towards to for inspiration.



De Anza Alum

Dan Gladden patrolled the mean fields of De Anza in the early 1980s. Now retired, Gladden saw playing time with S.F. Detroit and won a couple of rings with Minnesota.



De Anza Alum

Jason Simontacci was an ace for the Dons staff. Selected by the St. Louis Cardinals, Simontacci had a cup of coffee in the big leagues and is currently working his way up.



Late Rounder

Mike Piazza was selected in the 62nd round by the Los Angeles Dodgers. Now a New York Met, Piazza has put up numbers that will land him in Cooperstown.



Late Rounder

Roy Oswalt when in the 26th round to the Houston Astros. He quickly climbed the ranks and now aces a staff that might be headed to the big dance in October.