



## Academic Senate president on plus/minus grading

Robert Balicki  
LA VOZ

Dan Mitchell, the president of the District Academic Senate, is one of the foremost proponents of plus/minus grading. In an interview with *La Voz*, he defended the proposal against allegations that he said were based on misinformation.

### Allegation: Plus/Minus Will Lower GPAs

The district looked at not only its own study, but also studies conducted by other colleges.

"What we can say is that in studies that have been done in colleges that did adopt, overall aggregate GPA didn't change much at all," he said.

The Academic Senate looked at a study that speculated that GPAs might actually improve, because instructors will be more likely to subjectively bump grades up smaller amounts, rather than a whole letter grade, he said.

### Allegation: Plus/Minus Will Hurt Stronger Students

At a Student Senate meeting, Mitchell urged senators to think of not only the 3 percent of students who are 4.0, but also of the vast majority with lower GPAs.

With plus/minus grading, it will become easier for students to push themselves harder in one class and see a change on their transcripts, he said.

"The typical community college student has a lot to benefit," he said.

Besides, having a perfect GPA is not everything, he told the Senate. "People get into Cal, UCLA, Harvard, [and] Stanford with a GPA that is not a 4.0."

see MITCHELL, page 2

## DA film students at Cinéquest 16

Two films by five De Anza College students will be shown at Cinéquest Film Festival 16 in the Students' Shorts Program on March 2 at 8 p.m. and March 5 at 9 a.m.

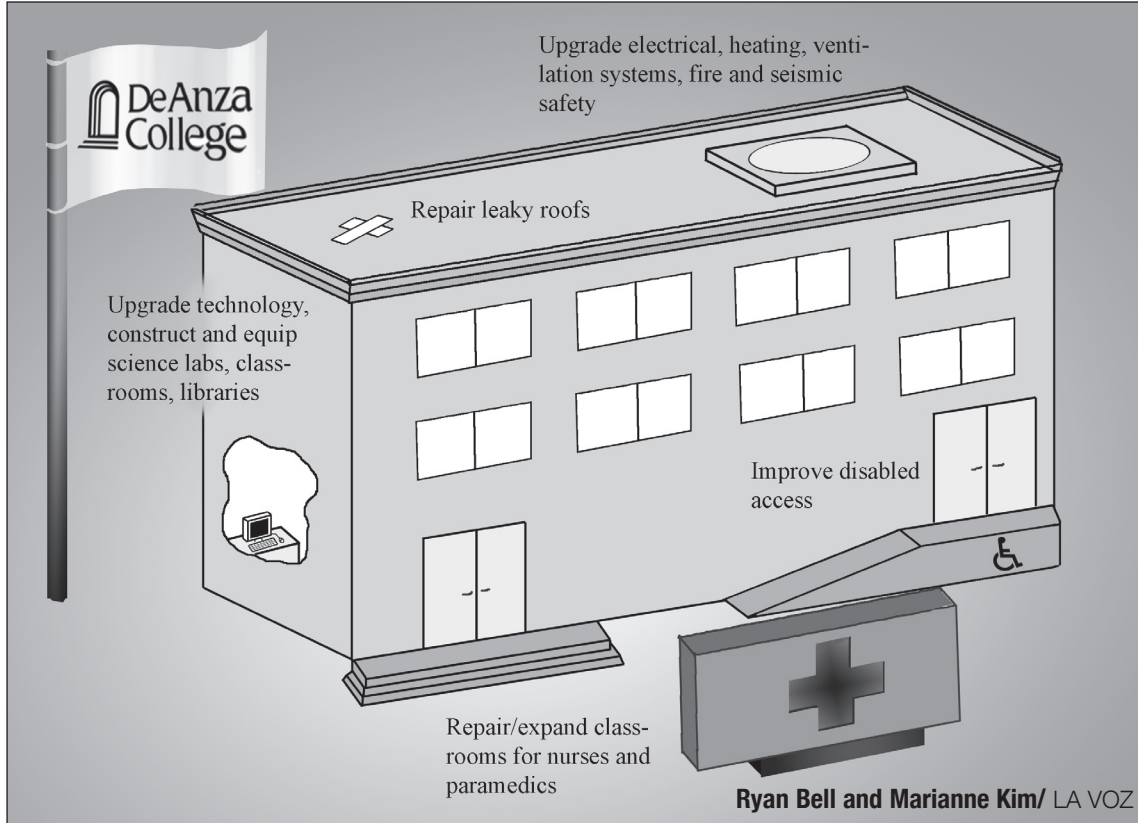
The two films are "Black Candle" by Rekha Radhakrishnan and Paul Gill, and "Pasta Point of No Return" by Neil Baker, Jackie Marr and Chetan Patil.

The films will be shown at Camera 12 Cinemas in downtown San Jose.

"Black Candle" is about a Muslim woman who unburdens herself from the shackles of religious doctrine and must now make her own way in the world.

"Pasta Point of No Return" is about a hungry student lured into a nest of vicious meatballs by his lunch, and taken out by the godfather of Italian entrees. The film was shot on the De Anza campus. For more information visit [www.cinequest.org](http://www.cinequest.org).

## District Board of Trustees puts Proposition 39 on ballot



Robert Balicki  
LA VOZ

This June, voters will be given the option to approve a new \$490 million dollar bond measure. The bond, which was approved by the Board of Trustees last Tuesday, will be for equipment and facilities for the

Foothill-De Anza Community College District.

The new bond will be nearly twice the amount of Measure E because the district now has the legal authority to purchase equipment with bond money. Measure E funds paid for construction of the Kirsch Center, the new parking structure and other buildings.

Local homeowners will pay less than 1/40th of 1 percent of the value of their homes to pay for the bond. This amounts to less than \$10 monthly on an average priced home, according to the bond resolution.

The Board said that if Prop 39 does not pass, it will increase see PROP, page 2

## Student senate amends budget

Robert Balicki  
LA VOZ

The Student Senate voted to keep \$3,000 for free parking passes for senators in next year's proposed budget on Wednesday.

In deliberations that lasted over seven hours, the Senate amended the proposed budget for next year 13 times, making \$2,000 in cuts and balancing the budget by allocating the remaining \$22,000 to various campus programs.

The amendments were approved on a first vote. Next Wednesday, a two-thirds majority must be reached on the second vote to pass the budget.

The Senate allocated an additional \$7,000 for the Euphrat Museum of Art, \$5,000 for *La Voz*, the student newspaper, \$3,299 for the Disability Support Services Computer Assisted Lab, \$1,050 for the Multicultural and International Center, \$1,000 for the California History Center, \$300 for Adaptive Physical Education, and \$250 for De Anza College Student Body senate scholarships and book grants.

The Senate also decided to fund the Puente Project, a state-wide program that helps disadvantaged students transfer to four-year universities, which is separate from Student Success and Retention Services.



Jeff McGrew/ LA VOZ

Senators vote to fund the DASB Outreach and Recruitment account. It failed to pass by a two-thirds majority. The budget meeting lasted for more than seven hours Wednesday in the Student Council Chambers.

The total funding for Puente and SSRS remained roughly the same as the first budget proposal and recommendation.

The free parking passes will encourage students to join Senate, said David He, senator.

Currently, the Senate has two open seats.

"We don't need it this year," said Bernardo de Seabra, Senate executive vice president, "but there are years when it's really

hard to get people to join Senate."

"This has been one of the biggest debates [in the Senate] of all time: should DASB get special privileges or not?" said Anna Callahan, president of the Senate.

Currently, the college gives free parking to the Senate officers and to Inter-Club Council officers.

In this year's budget, the Senate funded the annual Student Art and Photo Competition, but not see SENATE, page 2

## Plus/minus workshop stirs discussion

Paul Beitsayad  
LA VOZ

As a trial, a number of faculty have used plus/minus grading since the fall 2004 quarter and will continue to do so through the 2005-2006 academic year, said Dan Mitchell, the Foothill-De Anza College District's Academic Senate president, in his presentation at Tuesday's Plus/Minus Grading Introductory Workshop in Conference Room A.

The plusses and minuses did not appear on the students' transcripts, but were used to study the effects this grading system would have on the average GPA. Current grades are A, B, C, D and F.

The Board's decision to fully implement plus/minus grading in fall 2006 will be revised if the pilot study indicates a "substantial" effect on students' grades.

The result of the study conducted by the Institutional Research and Planning Department "shows no substantial adverse impact on students," according to researchers.

Mitchell said that the average GPA's slight decline from 2.92 to 2.91 in the trial is not one "we can draw a conclusion from, and is not enough to prompt a revision."

Mitchell said one of the factors left out during this partial implementation period is the motivation for students who have a "B," for example, to work that much harder in order to turn their grade into a "B+." This could have caused an overestimation in the study of the negative impact on grades.

The De Anza Student Body Senate will vote on March 1 whether to support the implementation of plus/minus grading. The "bad news" for those who oppose implementation is that the decision is, "by tradition and law," solely for the faculty to make, said Mitchell.

"That doesn't mean we don't listen," he said as he answered questions and addressed opposing arguments.

Student Senator Yessenia

see GRADES, page 2

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This is Vol. 39, Issue 17. Call us at 864-5626 or e-mail us at [lavoz@fhda.edu](mailto:lavoz@fhda.edu). We're hanging out in L-41.

De Anza College Student Body senators take notes as personnel from organizations including the Tutorial Center and Planetarium spoke, about their programs and need for funding.



Jeff McGrew/ LA VOZ

## SENATE: allocates funds

FROM PAGE ONE

the Euphrat Museum of Art.

The Senate also voted against increasing funding for the Honors Program. Senators were concerned that the program did not benefit enough students.

One of the stated goals of this year's budget is to fund programs that benefit many students.

Funding the Honors Program "will allow the program to grow, therefore it'll benefit more students in the long run," Senator Saleha Pirzada said.

Each proposed amendment to the budget had to receive a two-thirds vote before passing. The entire budget then had to be approved by a separate two-thirds vote.

## PROP: one-half billion for facilities, equipment

FROM PAGE ONE

the pressure to tap the limited General Fund in order to pay for new facilities, equipment and renovation.

"The board agreed that it is critical to meet the district's urgent facility and equipment needs and that the long-term financial planning represented by the bond proposal is the best way to ensure that the excellence and opportunity that we provide for our students continues," said Betsy Bechtel, the president of the Board of Trustees.

"State funding simply cannot meet all the facilities and equipment needs we face, particularly with increasing demand in a variety of critical fields such as nursing, and an influx of students expected in coming years."

The bond measure would upgrade, maintain and replace facilities, improve fire and earthquake safety and disabled access, reduce energy costs, and upgrade technology and equipment, said Board Chancellor Martha Kanter in an e-mail to District faculty and staff.

## MITCHELL: plus/minus

FROM PAGE ONE

GPA that is not a 4.0."

**Allegation: The District Study is Faulty**

"The idea that [the district is] trying to hide something or make something up is pretty offensive" and "quite ludicrous," said Mitchell.

The study was designed and conducted by Bob Barr and Andrew LaManque, the district and De Anza institutional researchers, respectively. Despite the fact that instructors volunteered to participate in the study, the sample was effectively random, and covered all departments, said Mitchell.

Additionally, every other study showed the same results.

**Allegation: Plus/Minus Will Make it Harder to Transfer**

Critics of plus/minus grading point to a study conducted by Gavilan Community College that shows a 20 percent drop in transfer rates the year plus/minus marks were included.

However, Mitchell pointed out that the grading system would only affect student success two years after being implemented.

Additionally, it is nearly impossible for community colleges to get accurate data on transfers. Community colleges receive no feedback from four year universities and colleges that would allow for reliable tracking, Mitchell said.

**Allegation: The District Academic Senate is Pushing this Despite Students' Concerns**

Had it wanted to, the Academic Senate could have forced through plus/minus grading two years ago, without a test period, Mitchell said.

However, because of input from students he proposed a pilot program.

"That's not exactly evidence that we don't care about students," he said.

The Student Senate is set to vote on endorsing plus/minus grading Wednesday.

## GRADES: faculty defend proposed grading plan

FROM PAGE ONE

Ramirez said that an "A-" would result in a 3.7 GPA rather than a 4.0, thus ensuring that "4.0 students [will] become nearly extinct."

"There is no evidence to support that," said Mitchell.

Student Senator Shrey Prasad gave a presentation supporting Mitchell's argument.

He pointed out that plus/minus grading is consistent with the UC/CSU system, "B+" students can get

a 3.3 rather than a 3.0, and that effort can be measured more precisely with plus/minus grading.

English Professor and Academic Senate member Lydia Hearn, who taught at the University of California at Santa Barbara before coming to De Anza, gave another argument for plus/minus grading. She said universities do take such marks into consideration.

Mitchell said he believed that a change to full implementation of plus/minus grading would lead to an increase in students' GPAs.

## Career Center helps with job searching

James Schulte  
LA VOZ

Rent, credit cards, phone and cable bills are late, again. Now is the time when you need a job.

But how is it done when the "Help Wanted" ads have few or no jobs that meet your interests? So where else can you go? Well, all you have to do is walk up a flight of stairs in the Student and Community Services Building to the De Anza College Career Center.

The Center provides students with information on career exploration and job searches. It provides a career reference library, counselors, workshops and computer programs. There are a variety of technological tools and office equipment for student use, including a phone, fax and copy machine.

**Career Exploration**

Students may sign up for a no-cost personal career counselor or obtain ID codes for two career assessment computer programs, Eureka and Discover. This will help students to "craft their choices, to gain focus," Cindy Lister, the Center's coordinator said. It enables students to find a career that fits.

Eureka and Discover are Web sites that offer career development information. Eureka explains career fields, as well as college preparatory programs and contains a database of career titles. Students take skills tests rating their attributes, and Eureka returns suggested occupations. Discover presents occupational information, including the predicted demand for personnel in a particular field.

**Job Search**

The Career Center partners with Monster.com, which gives students access to information about thousands of jobs located in the Bay Area. The "Bay Area Jobs Weekly" is a job bulletin that stocks and distributes information. Files of job listings are kept for up to a month.

The listings selected for inclusion are generally aimed for those who are just entering the market, called entry-level. Those looking for more advanced jobs can log onto different boards to search for employers with open positions. Students can send cover letters and resumes to employers over the Internet.

**Workshops**

To help students with their career quests, the Center offers one-hour workshops on job searching, resume writing and interview execution. Schedules are available at the Center and at their Web site, [www.deanza.edu/careercenter](http://www.deanza.edu/careercenter).

**Career Library**

The Career Library, for use only at the Center, helps students with career information. One reference is a bibliography, which lists occupations and describes how individuals achieved their positions. A series of videos explains what people do in different careers.

Career Center Hours

Monday - Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Thursday - 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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BEIJING (JULY 1 thru JULY 21)  
SHANGAI (JULY 22 thru AUGUST 3)

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER FOR 6 UNITS WHILE IN THE PROGRAM; FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, ATTEND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

FEBRUARY 6 1:30-2:30 P.M. SANTA CRUZ ROOM  
MARCH 6 1:30-2:30 P.M. LA MARGARITA ROOM

**what's happening on campus**

E-mail items for Campus Notes to [LaVoz@fhda.edu](mailto:LaVoz@fhda.edu). All events are held at De Anza College, unless otherwise noted.

**Production on Langston Hughes's Life and Works**

The Tabia Theatre Ensemble will perform an original production, "Langston Lives," on Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 12:30 to 2:20 in Conference Rooms A and B in the Campus Center. The dramatic piece explores Hughes' works and the African American experience through drama, poetry, song and dance.

**Exhibit Opening and Panel Discussion on the 1906 Earthquake**

"Recall and Prepare," a panel discussion on the 1906 Earthquake in the Santa Clara Valley and what could happen in the near future will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the California History Center. Speakers are geologist Sandy Hay, historian Jim Williams and historian and exhibit curator Mary Jo Ignoffo. The exhibit will last through June 22. For more information call 408-864-8712.

**Creativity and Community Lecture**

San Jose State Professor Consuelo Jimenez Underwood and retired San Jose State Professor Tony May

will address the idea of barriers to creativity and the metaphor/actuality of boundaries to equity and social change in Conference Room A in the Campus Center on Wednesday, March 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Jimenez Underwood, a weaver, creates challenging art dealing with social issues, and pushes the boundaries of traditional craft materials by using them in different ways, including large-scale installations. May is pursuing a collaborative public art project of a memorial to Father Mateo Sheedy. For more information contact Jan Rindfleisch at 408-864-8836.

**Writing and Reading Center Workshops**

One-hour workshops to be held this week in the Writing and Reading Center in SC3 are: "Periodistas del Futuro: Encouraging Latino Students to Become Journalists of the Future" on Monday, Feb. 27 at 12:30 p.m.; "Sentence and Paragraph Focus" on Wednesday, March 1 at 12:30 p.m. and "Poetry Workshop" on Thursday, March 2 at 12:30 p.m.

**How to Ace that Interview**

A presentation for students on improving interviewing skills will be given at the Career Center on the 2nd floor of the Student and Community Services Building on Thursday, March 2 from 2 to 3 p.m. For more informa-

tion, e-mail [careercenter@deanza.edu](mailto:careercenter@deanza.edu) or call 408-864-5711.

**UC Davis Transfer Opportunity Program**

A UC Davis adviser will provide advisement on the transfer process along with application assistance, the personal statement and the financial aid process on Monday, Feb. 27 in the Transfer Center on the 2nd floor of the Student and Community Services Building. Appointments are available from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and drop-ins will be taken from 9 to 9:30 a.m. and when time permits. For more information contact Coleman Billingslea at [clbillingslea@ucdavis.edu](mailto:clbillingslea@ucdavis.edu) or call 510-893-4126.

**Humboldt State and CSU San Bernardino Transfer Information for International Students**

An admissions representative from Humboldt State University will be available at the Transfer Center in the International Student Office in MQ-11 on Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Tracy Chung-Tabangcura at [chungtracy@deanza.edu](mailto:chungtracy@deanza.edu) or 408-864-8841. A representative from CSU San Bernardino will be available at the Counseling Center on the 2nd floor of the Student & Community Services Building on Wednesday,

March 1 from 9 to 11 a.m. For more information, contact Arlena Allende at [aallende@csusb.edu](mailto:aallende@csusb.edu) or 909-537-3204.

**Academy of Art University Admissions**

An admissions representative from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco will be available to talk to students about transfer on the first floor of the ATC Building on Wednesday, March 1 from 11 to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call Tracy Chung-Tabangcura at 408-864-8841.

**UC Santa Cruz Baskin School of Engineering Transfer Program**

The UC Santa Cruz Developing Effective Engineering Pathways program is open to students who want to explore engineering, computer science or high-tech fields, and/or want a guaranteed transfer to the UC Santa Cruz Baskin School of Engineering. An information table will be available in S43g in the Math/Science Tutorial Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through March 23. For more information contact Ismael Moreno at [imoreno@ucsc.edu](mailto:imoreno@ucsc.edu) or 831-460-3038.

**Initiating Creative Exchange on the International Level**

A San Francisco Bay Area panel of artists and an author will speak about the creative presentation of cultural and intellectual ideas abroad, and how art and culture serve as catalysts for change. On the panel are Flo Oy Wong, mixed media artist; Lenore Chinn, painter; Nina Koepcke, artist and arts facilitator; Connie Young Yu, author; and Joyce Iwasaki of the Arts Council Silicon Valley. The event will take place in Conference Rooms A & B in the Campus Center on Tuesday, March 7 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**Patnoe Jazz Festival**

Trumpeter Marvin Stamm and pianist Bill Mays will be the featured guest artists at the 25th annual Herb Patnoe Memorial Jazz Festival on Tuesday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Homestead High School Theater at 21370 Homestead Rd. in Cupertino. Stamm and Mays will appear with the De Anza College "Daddios" Jazz Ensembles, directed by De Anza Professor Steve Tyler. The festival is held in memory of Patnoe, who taught at De Anza until 1981. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$23 at the door. Tickets can be purchased through the Web site: [faculty.deanza.edu/tylersteve](http://faculty.deanza.edu/tylersteve). For more information, call 408-864-8999, ext. 3450.

**Shakespeare in Ashland**

A 2-unit course, ELIT97 – Shakespeare in Performance, will be offered this summer from Aug. 30 through Sept. 3. Students will travel to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland to see six plays. The class costs approximately \$800, which includes the plays, travel, lodging, breakfasts and dinners, class lectures and an "Actor's Talk" with one of the performers. For more information, go to the Web site: [faculty.deanza.fhda.edu/dennydave/](http://faculty.deanza.fhda.edu/dennydave/) or leave a voicemail message for Dave Denny at 408-864-8623.

**Fee Waivers and Financial Aid Available**

Personnel in the Financial Aid Satellite Office in the Campus Center will help students find out if they qualify for a fee waiver or financial aid. Hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays. Visit [www.deanza.edu/financialaid/](http://www.deanza.edu/financialaid/) or call 408-864-8718.

**Spring Schedule of Classes Available in Bookstore**

The printed edition of the Spring Schedule of Classes is available for sale in the Bookstore. Students may also view it online at [www.deanza.edu/schedule/](http://www.deanza.edu/schedule/). Continuing student registration begins March 1, and new and former student registration begins March 20. Spring quarter runs from April 10 through June 30.

**Suggestion Boxes on Campus**

DASB Suggestion Boxes are located in or in front of the Library, ATC, L47, ISO, Cafeteria, PE Quad and the Science Center. The De Anza Student Body Senate will collect and review suggestions. Look for white, locked boxes with a slot holding blue suggestion cards.

**Free Legal Advice**

Free legal advice regarding employment, landlord-tenant, automobile accident, insurance and other legal problems and concerns is available in the Lower Level of the Campus Center, along with law-related career counseling. A current DASB card is required for the service. For an appointment, call 408-864-8756.

**Computer Application and Office Systems Classes Still Enrolling Students**

Students may enroll in winter term CAOS self-paced courses through March 10. Courses include Business English, 10-Key, PhotoShop, DreamWeaver, PowerPoint 2000 and more. A list of courses is available at [www.deanza.edu/schedule/opcaos.html](http://www.deanza.edu/schedule/opcaos.html).

**Internet Accessible Computers Available in Open Media Lab**

Students with a DASB card may use computers in the Open Media Lab to write papers, check their e-mail and search the Internet. The OML is located in the lower level of Learning Center West, behind the library, and houses 76 Windows PC computers and six Macintosh G4 computers.

**Employment Services Available**

The Occupational Training Institute provides employment services including counseling and advisement, career education, job placement, financial assistance (books and college fees) while concurrently providing employers with qualified employees. Students who have been laid off, are economically disadvantaged or are seeking employment for a better job may qualify. For more information, see [www.deanza.edu/oti](http://www.deanza.edu/oti) or call 408-864-8869.

**Student Success and Retention Services Center**


The SS&RSC is a support program for students with historically low retention and transfer rates, first-generation students and re-entry students. It provides a supportive community of peer mentors, tutors, faculty and staff to help students achieve their educational goals. For eligibility and application, see [www.deanza.edu/ssrsc/services.html](http://www.deanza.edu/ssrsc/services.html), call 408-864-8470 or visit the office on the second floor of the Student and Community Services Building.

**Family Planning and Well Woman Clinic**

If you are interested in getting birth control, having an annual well woman exam or think you have a sexually transmitted infection, medical services are available at the Student Health Services on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All appointments must be made in person, and a non-refundable \$10 administrative fee, by cash or check, will be charged at the time the appointment is made. Condoms are available for free during open hours. Pregnancy tests, birth control refills and the morning after pill are available by appointment Mondays through Fridays. For more information, call 408-864-8732.

**Phi Theta Kappa Membership**

Students who have taken at least 12 quarter units of college classes with a GPA of 3.5 can join the Alpha Sigma Alpha chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international community college honor society. A lifetime membership is \$66 for students who maintain at least a 3.0 GPA throughout their college career. Meeting times are Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m. in the Santa Cruz Room in the Campus Center. For more information, e-mail VP of Fellowship Monique Bertulfo at [cutelylstar@yahoo.com](mailto:cutelylstar@yahoo.com)



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2006**

<p><b>MARIACHI AZTECA</b> WEDNESDAY MARCH 1 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Come learn all about mariachi music Presented by instructors from the Mexican Heritage Corp.</p>	<p><b>LIVE PERFORMANCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD</b> THURSDAY MARCH 2 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Featuring local professionals and amateur performers.</p>
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# Business professor earns educator award

DAVID STRINGER, TWENTY-FIVE-YEAR DE ANZA COLLEGE VETERAN, URGES STUDENTS TO 'PURSUE THEIR DREAMS'

**Maya Chakroborty**  
LA VOZ

This April marks Professor David Stringer's twenty-fifth year at De Anza College. During those years, he's taught, chaired the business department, pioneered innovative uses of technology in the classroom, and received both the President's and Distinguished Educator awards.

Stringer's life has been one of exploration and learning. Although his parents never attended high school, Stringer was determined to advance and make a difference. Taking evening classes at San Jose City College, he found his passion through a professor who motivated students to push themselves. "He wanted each and every one of us to succeed at whatever we did. It's just excit-

ing to be in a class with a teacher who is electric like that. I saw that, and it inspired me to teach," he said.

Stringer went on to run a computer distribution company in Oregon, where he also taught for eight years. "I couldn't help it," he laughs, "it was hard sometimes, teaching during the day and working at night, but when you love something, you don't mind the hard work."

The mementos in Stringer's office show his relationship with students. There is a quiet pride and satisfaction when he points out a poem and note from a former student.

"He just stopped by, out of the blue, to say that he graduated in business from Berkeley and to say thank you. It's things like that that make my day."

Classroom Performance System is one of the technological systems adopted by Stringer and other business faculty. This system allows for wider student participation and instant feedback. The instructor presents a question and the students respond by pushing the appropriate buttons on their remote control "clickers." The software immediately collates the responses in summary form.

"Jack Lynch and I started using CPS a year and a half ago, and it's really helped ... [students] love immediate feedback on quizzes and tests. He says it also allows shy students a chance to participate without feeling intimidated.

Stringer received the Distinguished Educator Award in January, a highlight in his career. "It was so incredibly touching, being

presented with it in front of my class by the vice president and my dean. The fact that students had chosen to give it to me was immeasurably meaningful."

Stringer constantly looks at information from the business community to incorporate in class, such as news from the Wall Street Journal.

"Everyone should know the fundamentals of business because it affects us all the time, teaches us how to invest and handle money, and provides skills that are useful and applicable in several other areas," he says.

In his spare time, Stringer enjoys reading books from the 1600-1700s and listening to music. Stringer spends time with and is proud of his son, who participates in the Special Olympics and recently won the gold medal in floor

hockey. If he had no concerns in the world, Stringer says he would love to be a philanthropist.

Asked what advice students should take to heart, he replied, "They should pursue their dreams, explore different things, and enjoy what they do."

Perhaps he isn't a philanthropist with a big checkbook, but Professor David Stringer has certainly been philanthropic in imparting his knowledge, warmth and kindness.

A quote by K. Patricia Cross on the Distinguished Educator Award page online states, "The task of the excellent teacher is to stimulate 'apparently ordinary' people to unusual effort.

The tough problem is not in identifying winners: it is in making winners out of ordinary people." Here's to you, Professor.

## movie reviews

Movie:  
Final Destination 3

Will Make You Laugh Now:  
Roller-coaster terror!



www.horror-movies.ca

## Gruesome horror does not impress

**Nate Green**  
LA VOZ

"Final Destination 3" leaves no survivors, on screen or in the audience.

The most gruesome in the series by far, it showed exploded guts along with bodies burned to ashes.

If you liked the first two films, you will probably approve of this one. "Final Destination 3" did have twists and turns unlike its predecessors.

And if you didn't like the first two films, you would have stood up and walked out of the theater.

Photos were taken and deaths followed like a bad stench of dirty socks. The deaths obviously had something to do with the photo, and idea was really dumb and cliché. Was I asking for another "Ring" movie? But we knew that there had to be some change in the already lifeless plot instead of a line of incidental and unconnected killings.

Like the previous two films,

you could anticipate the outcome of each bloody situation. This one was no different. I should have waited until this movie came out on video because there was nothing to figure out or solve.

It was another brainless and not even cheesy horror flick.

You could see everything coming from a mile away. You can watch everything unravel and fall apart right in front of your eyes.

The creators should have stopped at "Final Destination 2," for our sake.

## Blender and dog better movie stars than Harrison Ford

Movie:  
Firewall

Will Make You Laugh Later:  
You'll envy the dog.



www.rottentomatoes.com

**Ruth Tepper**  
LA VOZ

The title of this film would seem to imply that the firewall would be an actual barrier for someone during the movie, or that the film would involve technical issues with some degree of accuracy. "Firewall" does neither of these.

How would you feel if you were typing an e-mail on the computer, and when you were about to press "send," the message you typed disappeared and "I THOUGHT WE HAD A DEAL" appeared in its place? Not so good, huh? But if you were in this situation while a bank robber was forcing you to hack into your own bank's accounts, would you

start to wonder why, if they had all this tech savvy knowledge, they coerced you to do it in the first place? I sure did.


There was one innovation in this movie: an invincible blender. The protagonist whacks his attackers with a glass blender over and over, killing them and producing geysers of blood, and the blender remains intact. I suggest that NASA find out what this unbreakable material is, as it could be an extremely valuable breakthrough.

Movie critics for Yahoo, the San Jose Mercury News, and imdb.com really, really hated the film. But, in its defense, if you ignore the technical inaccuracies and most of the drama, the plot line was actually one of quality.

However, the screenwriter didn't spend the time on the script it needed.

And no commentary on "Firewall" would be complete without mentioning the ending. Remember the "Lassie Comes Home" movie? Think of that, except the family comes home to Lassie. Rusty, the family dog, spends the last few scenes of the movie waiting for his family to battle their captors and escape from an abandoned house. After the 62-year-old father somehow manages to fight and kill his fit, young attacker, the family is reunited. A sun sets in the distance, and as the family, dirty and tired, walks over a hill, their faithful mutt barks with joy.

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# Students can volunteer with little time, transportation

All they need is an Internet connection between classes, and these organizations can help students to improve their community and the world

PASSIVE

## World Community Grid

**Description:** Install secure software on your computer and contribute your unused computer time to an infrastructure that allows researchers to process information. Your computer will be used with many others to process information that only "supercomputers" would otherwise be able to process.

**Contact:** Greg Baldwin at 1-800-426-4968  
**Web site:** www.worldcommunitygrid.org



Melissa Lewis/ LA VOZ

### Requirements:

- At least a 200MHz Intel Pentium processor or equivalent
- At least 128 MB RAM (with virtual memory enabled)
- 600 MB Hard Disk Drive with at least 50 MB available for use
- The ability to display 8-bit graphics at 800x600 resolution
- An Internet connection with minimum 40 kbps speed
- Operating System: Windows 98, ME, 2000 or XP

ACTIVE

## The United Nations Volunteers Programme

**Commitment:** Volunteers choose their own  
**Description:** You can research various volunteer opportunities that suit your skills, abilities, availability and topic of preference. You can also specify which countries of the world and the groups of people you would prefer to assist as well.

**Web site:** www.onlinevolunteer.org  
**Contact:** The Web site provides a form for contacting the organization



## Achievement Advocate

**Commitment:** 1-2 hours/week for one year  
**Description:** Assist children in fourth through sixth grade as a mentor, helping them with homework, responding to them personally, developing and achieving short and long-term goals and more.

**Requirements:** Volunteers must be at least 21 years old, have a personal e-mail address and regular Internet access.

**Web site:** www.achievementadvocate.org

Sources: www.volunteermatch.org, www.1-800-volunteer.org

Photo courtesy of www.wikimedia.org

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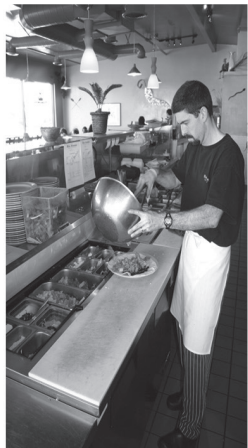
I made a cool discovery recently. Seems the locals were on to Rio Adobe way before me. Rio Adobe is one of those places that automatically gets on your favorites list. I knew even before my food arrived that I was going to return again.

It's ALL about the food! Mexican with a Southwestern accent-- unlike anything I've had before. The food is prepared with fresh ingredients and the flavors have a richness that only comes from slow cooking.

OK, the fresh salsa bar is eight bowls deep, the chips are made fresh, and the beer roster is quite respectable. (It's a bit of a hybrid—you order at a counter, but then your food is brought to your table on ceramic plates.)

The Burrito Mojado was stuffed with citrus marinated char-grilled chicken (or steak), covered with a New-Mex style red sauce, and topped with baked cheese. Good night, now!

What are you waiting for? Get going. Get Rio!



www.lavozdeanza.com

TO BE CONTINUED. . .

## Saratoga Family Health Center

Margaret A. Cochran, MS, MSW, PhD, LCSW, ACSW  
 David J. Waggoner, MD, FAAFP, FASLMS

Comprehensive care one patient at a time

### An Open Letter to the Faculty and Staff of De Anza College

Greetings!

It has been brought to my attention that some of you are having difficulty in finding physicians who are taking new patients and are preferred providers for Principal Financial Group CCN PPO Insurance.

I believe that all of you make an immeasurable contribution to the lives of your students and to the community as a whole. I have therefore made a special space in my practice for any of you at De Anza College who need a physician and have Principal Financial Group CCN PPO Insurance.

At Saratoga Family Health Center, we specialize in individual care, same or next day appointments and "in office" weekend emergency treatment. We do not use physician assistant or nurse practitioners; you will see me personally each and every time you come in.

At Saratoga Family Health Center, we believe in taking care of you, all of you. That means you and your family can come to us for everything from your child's sniffles, to laser surgery, to life counseling.

We are conveniently located just off Highway 85 at Bascom. You can call (408) 358-1955 or check us out on the web at [www.sfhc.com](http://www.sfhc.com) for more information and directions. See you soon.

Wishing You The Best Of Health!

David J. Waggoner MD FAAFP FASLMS

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**La Voz**

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Opinions expressed by staff and contributors are the opinions of the individuals and not necessarily the opinion of La Voz.

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Letter content must not be libelous or intended to air personal grievances. La Voz does not guarantee that submissions and letters to the editor will be printed, nor does it guarantee coverage of events for which it receives press releases.

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The first copy of each issue of La Voz is free.

**Citation process makes a mess of parking fines**

According to the Jan. 26, 2004 *La Voz* feature on Chris Engstrume, a Foothill-De Anza police officer, police officers issued tickets when cars don't have a permit, take up two or more spaces or weren't parked in a designated area.

*La Voz* reporter Stacy Vinyard shadowed Engstrume for a day and wrote that officers issue citations "only after assuring that there is no parking permit."

Vinyard wrote that officers check every corner of the front and rear windshields and look at the car's bumper, despite instructions to display the stickers on the lower left side of the front windshield.

It's two years later.

Apparently, the district police have changed their procedure with time.

On Feb. 3, *La Voz* Lab Tech Walter Alvarado paid \$30 to clear his record of a parking ticket he should never have received.

"It was a Friday night," he said. "Exactly when the seasons were changing."

Alvarado never removed the current parking stickers from his car, but when he got back after working on *La Voz*, he found a surprise.

"I got a ticket but my sticker was still on the car," he said. "I went to the Security Office, but they said, 'I'm sorry, we can't send someone to double-check this.'"

What they did instead was tell him he could appeal the decision by photocopying the ticket and parking sticker, and attaching the copies to a form they provided.

He received a letter back dismissing

his case as an invalid claim.

While he understands the possibility of human error when the ticket was issued, he's baffled as to how an external, supposedly neutral party can support a mistake.

"How can they verify something that has been an error?" he said.

"They don't listen. They don't care. It's not like you can bring [a parking citation grievance] before any real court and argue it out."

-Ryan Bell,  
La Voz Layout Coordinator

*La Voz* Layout Coordinator Ryan Bell was ticketed after the start of this quarter after waiting a week and a half to receive a parking permit he ordered online.

Although he got proof of payment, the security office said they couldn't do anything about the ticket.

Bell said he didn't appeal because he knew the process wasn't worth it and the county office rejects legitimate claims.

"They don't listen. They don't care," said Bell. "It's not like you can bring it before any real court and argue it out - it's pretty arbitrary instead. They have the final say, so what's the point?"

De Anza journalism instructor Brad Kava was ticketed for not having a permit, though he did have one.

He said it was probably hidden by the glare shield on the upper part of his windshield and didn't realize the cops

would have trouble seeing it.

When he found the ticket, he talked to the police officers responsible and they said they couldn't do anything about it besides contest the ticket.

Although Kava sent photocopies of his permit along with the ticket and proof he was an instructor, his appeal was denied and he was forced to pay the fine.

Kava said he was technically in the wrong because he displayed the sticker on the wrong area of his windshield, so it's right for him to pay, but we at *La Voz* feel differently.

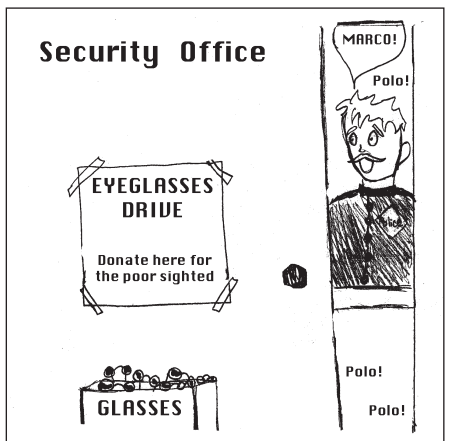
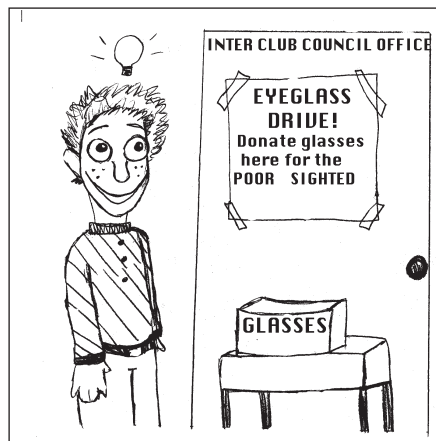
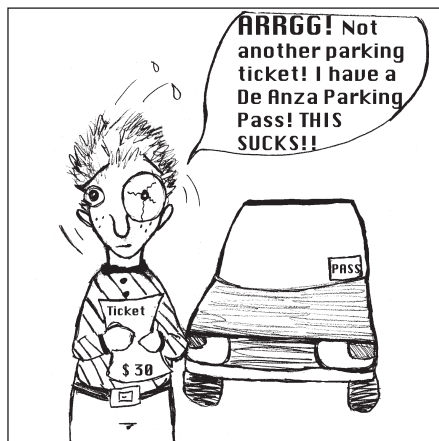
Any person, especially one serving De Anza, shouldn't be penalized just for displaying

a parking sticker on a different part of their car. If you've paid the parking fee, you shouldn't be fined on top of that.

Certainly this is what we should expect from a police department that claims to check every car carefully before writing a \$30 you-owe-me, or from county agencies that make it difficult to contest what may not be a legitimate citation.

The district police need to make sure their citations are valid, and the Office of Parking Violations needs to review cases based on whether or not the person is at fault. It's not fair and not legal to uphold a ticket issued in error.

The county should also look into making appeals easier, since the current process only allows for snail mail — while payment can be sent by snail mail, phone or through an online payment system.

**A Day at De Anza** by Kharman Aidun**letters and comments****Kirsch Center not first green education building**

The Kirsch Center is an impressive building, and De Anza College deserves great credit for building it.

However, De Anza isn't actually the first campus in California to have a green building capable of hosting classes.

The Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management at University of California, Santa Barbara has classrooms and is a LEED Platinum building that was completed in January 2002.

It might be one of the first green buildings at a community college, though the Los Angeles Community College has also been doing a lot on green building.

Regardless of whether it's the first or not though, it's still a wonderful building.

Julian Dautremont-Smith

[julian@aaashe.org](mailto:julian@aaashe.org)

Associate Director, AASHE: Associa-

tion for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
Portland, OR

**Senate difficulties not unique or newsworthy**

The purpose of the DASB is to serve and represent the students. The students should know what we're doing to serve and represent them or know if we're not doing our job.

Like every group of people, including every organization and program on campus, there are likely to be conflicts of personalities and opinions.

There are struggles and disagreements all across campus, which is why the college hires mediators, works with human resources and conducts workshops and sessions on dealing with conflict and understanding diversity.

So any difficulties the DASB senate is currently having are by no means unique.

They are also not newsworthy unless they are interfering with our ability to accomplish

our purpose.

The issues never should have hit the senate floor, and if the item had been conducted ideally, names never would have been mentioned.

The senate will continue to deal with business on the senate floor and personality issues off of it.

The DASB senate is an institution that strives to increase the vitality of the campus, enhance the college experience of those who attend De Anza, provide important financial support to college programs, and accurately represent students to administrators and faculty through attending a wide variety of campus committees.

Your recent coverage reduces the senate image to an organization overrun with internal struggle, which it is not.

Anna Callahan

[Dasbpresident@deanza.edu](mailto:Dasbpresident@deanza.edu)

Student Body President

**Corrections**

- Men's basketball box score: The end of the scores were cut off. Both Valderama and Buckner scored three-point goals.
- Marijuana article: In the sources box, the correct Web site is

[www.wikimedia.org](http://www.wikimedia.org).

- Staff box: Ruth Tepper is an assistant Culture editor.

# James vs. James

THE CASE OF MICHAEL MORALES INCITES QUESTIONS OF THE DEATH PENALTY'S PLACE IN OUR SOCIETY



**jamesNEWBURG**

The case of Michael Morales calls into question the legality of the death penalty. In a society that explicitly bans cruel and unusual punishment of criminals, we are forced to question whether or not the death penalty, in its most overtly benign form, falls under that heading.

As it stands now, the Supreme Court has ruled that death by electric chair is cruel and unusual punishment.

The state of California considers the gas chamber to be cruel and unusual. Now, with the legal maneuvering of Morales' lawyers, the constitutionality of lethal injection is up for debate.

All of this rhetorical hair-splitting over the state's machinery of death obscures the basic issue: does the state have the right to kill criminals?

It is easy to understand why we do it. We see true evil in our society – Jeffrey Dahmer, Ted Bundy, Morales – and find ourselves unable to comprehend the sheer monstrosity of their crimes. Uncomprehending, we strike out in blind rage. We give in to our animal desire to kill and sate our thirst for justice with their blood.

But every time that we decide to kill a criminal, we demean the ideals that serve as the foundation of society. When we kill a criminal, we are no longer adhering to the rule of law; we are surrendering to the uncontrolled passion of the angry mob. We are no longer administering justice; we are getting vengeance.

It is easy to divorce ourselves from the act of killing through any manner of rationalization.

We can say that the legal process ran its course, or that the death penalty is the law of the land, or that the punishment fits the crime, or that the criminals die in a humane fashion. But all of these mental gymnastics do not change the fact that dead is dead.

If anything, lethal injection is the most insulting method of execution that humanity has ever devised. In using this process to kill a human being, we do not see anything that resembles a struggle between life and death. At worst, the person's death looks like they are fitfully sleeping. It exists not only to minimize the criminal's suffering, but to minimize our suffering as well.

Instead of lethal injection, why don't we behead death-row inmates? Not with a guillotine, either, but with our own hands. The criminal should be made to sit on his knees. One technician should hold his head up by the hair. The other technician should take a combat knife, place it in front of the criminal's neck and start sawing away. They would have a little bit of trouble with the windpipe. It is rubbery and difficult to cut. But once they made their way through that, they could work on severing all of the muscles and nerves.

The criminal would still be trying to scream, but that would go away as the knife tears through the carotid artery. He would start bleeding rapidly, but he would still be alive. The technician would keep sawing and finally work his way through the criminal's spinal cord, thus carrying out the punishment set forth by the state of California.

If this offends you, ask yourself why this offends you more than a lethal injection. Is it because of the pain and suffering? The ultimate suffering of death is no different if it comes from burning people at the stake, beheading them with a guillotine, riddling their bodies with bullets, sending 50,000 volts of electricity through their bodies or stopping their organ function with a chemical injection.

Regardless of how or why it is done, the act of killing should trouble our consciences.



Ryan Bell and Marianne Kim/ LA VOZ



**jamesSCHULTE**

We used to live in a country that lived by the phrase, "the punishment should fit the crime," that if you take a person's life then you yourself have to forfeit your life as well.

Thomas Jefferson, the author of our Constitution, wrote a death penalty proposal. It stated that when a person is convicted of murder he is to be hung the day after the trial and that the convicted person's goods are to be sold off and given to the victim's family.

But then the United States Supreme Court struck down the death penalty in 1973, characterizing it as "arbitrary and capricious."

The states then enacted revised legislation to satisfy the Supreme Court's objection to the death penalty. The penalty was re-enacted in 1977, and since then there has been nothing short of war over the death penalty.

Look at the latest example here in California – the near-execution of Michael Morales. His execution couldn't be carried out because U.S. District Judge Jeremy Fogel ordered licensed anesthesiologists to perform the injection, knowing fully well that no doctor would do this because of the Hippocratic oath. The judge is trying to end the death penalty through the back door.

Morales' lawyer said that the actions of the state prison officials and Attorney General Bill Lockyer "flout every notion of decency as that term is understood in a civilized society."

What Morales' lawyer forgets, is that we who live in this so-called civilized society have lived by a contract that Morales broke. He broke it when he raped, then beat a 17-year-old girl before he stabbed her in the heart and murdered her.

Did Morales care about her rights, or if he was being civilized or humane while murdering her?

No, I think not.

We ought to consider the victims. These cases take so long to go through the courts we have a tendency to forget the atrocities these criminals have committed to earn their place on Death Row.

This society has a right to protect its citizens. That right is the motivation behind the death penalty: to truly protect society from these monsters by removing them from the whole of the community.

But people want them removed from sight instead of altogether. By warehousing them we are congratulating ourselves on what a civilized society we have. But these criminals just become a burden on our society, taking up resources that are needed for others.

Of course these activists say keeping an inmate on death row is using more resources. But the price has risen because of those same activists that want to end the death penalty in the first place. They have added layer after layer of judicial wrangling and extended these cases to more than 20 years. They created the problem they now use as an argument for Morales' case.

In his brilliant defense of the death penalty in the Harvard Law Review (1986), Ernest van den Haag points out that "crime always demands a suitable punishment, and to fail to punish crime is to degrade and disrespect the rights of every other citizen. Crime without punishment is anarchy, and laws without just and appropriate penalties for violators are merely pious pronouncements."

## California's History of Capital Punishment

**1872**

California authorizes death penalty in Penal Code

**March 3, 1893**

The first state-conducted execution is held at San Quentin State Prison

**August 27, 1937**

Gas chamber replaces hanging as a method of execution

**December 3, 1937**

Final Folsom State Prison execution takes place. San Quentin becomes only location of executions except the Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla

**May 1, 1942**

Final California execution by hanging takes place at San Quentin

**February 18, 1972**

California Supreme Court declares the death penalty to be cruel and unusual punishment

**August 11, 1977**

Legislature re-enacts the death penalty

**August 27, 1992**

Lethal injection is introduced as a new method of execution

**February 21, 2006**

Two court-ordered doctors refuse to participate in the lethal injection of Michael Morales

Sources: Feb. 23 article of the San Jose Mercury News, [www.deathpenalty.org/index.php?pid=history](http://www.deathpenalty.org/index.php?pid=history), <http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/ReportsResearch/historyCapital.html>

# Winning coaches expect more success

**Robert Erdei**  
LA VOZ

The De Anza College Dons Head Softball Coach, Dennis Pennel, has been involved in softball for over 15 years.

For 10 of those years he has coached the Dons, De Anza's softball team. Under Pennel, the team has gone to nationals three times.

He has coached not only college softball, but also Little League.

The Little League team he coached earned second place over Canada, Russia and Mexico in the Little League World Series.

He also coached at Fremont High School for three years.

Assistant Coach Stephanie Noble is more experienced with playing softball than coaching it.

For two years, Noble played third base for the De Anza Dons — also the duration of her De Anza coaching career.

She won numerous awards when playing for Pioneer High School, and spent eight years playing for the Amateur Softball Association.

This season, the Dons are 8-2 overall and 3-1 in league. The coaches say they are looking forward to a successful season because the team is comprised of experienced players who know the game thoroughly and because they feel the team's "offense and defense are really solid."



Stephanie Noble and Dennis Pennel coach De Anza College's softball team. They predict a successful season.

# Foodborne illness presents major problem

UNDERCOOKED MEATS, SHELLFISH, EGGS, MILK ARE MAIN VESSELS OF FOODBORNE ILLNESSES



**Mary-Jo LOMAX**

An estimated 76 million cases of foodborne illnesses occur each year in the United States. While the majority of these cases are mild and cause symptoms for only a day or two, some cases are more serious. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that there are 325,000 hospitalizations and 5,000 deaths related to foodborne diseases annually. The most serious cases usually occur in the very young, the very old or those with weakened immune systems.

Foodborne illnesses are caused by a variety of bacteria, viruses, parasites, and even toxins. Symptoms can appear from a few hours to a week or more. The most common symptoms involve gastrointestinal distress including vomiting, abdominal cramping and diarrhea. Foods that are most commonly associated with foodborne illnesses are raw or undercooked animal products including eggs, unpasteurized milk and shellfish.

According to the CDC, the most common microbes that cause foodborne infections are Campylobacter, Salmonella, E. coli 0157:H7, all bacteria and a group of viruses called Noroviruses.

Campylobacter is transmitted through raw or undercooked meat, poultry or shellfish, raw milk and contaminated water. Symptoms appear in about two to five days and include fever, headache

and muscle pain followed by diarrhea, abdominal pain and nausea. Symptoms can last up to seven to 10 days.

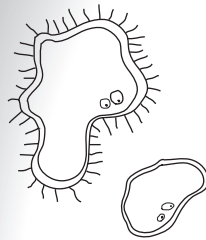
There are over 2,300 types of Salmonella; Salmonella enteritidis is found in raw eggshells. It is transmitted through raw or under-cooked eggs, poultry, fish and seafood. Food-handlers can also spread the disease. Symptoms begin from 8 to 72 hours after eating the contaminated food and last one to two days. Symptoms include stomach pain, fever, chills, nausea, diarrhea and headache.

Escherichia coli 0157:H7 (E. coli) is another bacteria found in the intestinal tracts of animals, in raw milk and in unchlorinated water. According to the CDC, the most common way for E. coli to be transmitted is through food or water that has been contaminated by microscopic amounts of cow feces. In addition, E. coli can also be transmitted through unpasteurized apple juice, uncooked fruits and veggies, and from person to person. Severe abdominal cramps and diarrhea (often bloody) begin two to five days, and can last up to eight days. A particularly serious case of E. coli infection can lead to kidney failure.

Noroviruses cause gastroenteritis or the stomach flu. Noroviruses are a group of viruses that had been called caliciviruses or Norwalk-like viruses. Transmission of a norovirus is almost always spread from person to person, rather than from eating raw or undercooked meat, poultry, fish or eggs. Symptoms, including vomiting and diarrhea, occur quickly and are usually over within two days.

Mary-Jo Lomax is a health educator at De Anza College. For more information, visit the Health Center in the Hinson Campus Center.

## How to prevent foodborne illnesses



- **Wash:**
  - o Hands thoroughly with soap and water before handling food
  - o Fruits and veggies before preparing
  - o Utensils, including knives and cutting boards, that may have been used to prepare raw meat, before using them to prepare vegetables to avoid cross-contamination
- **Cook** meat, poultry and eggs thoroughly at a minimum of 160 degrees Fahrenheit to kill any lingering bacteria
- **Don't** put cooked meat back on the same platter that held raw meat
- **Refrigerate** leftovers as soon as you can because bacteria can grow quickly at room temperature



Marianne Kim / LA VOZ

### These Web sites will rock your broccoli

[www.vegweb.com](http://www.vegweb.com)

This Web site is the best for finding a variety of recipes. It also allows users to comment on the recipes they've used.

You can start your own profile, complete with pictures and contact information so you can network worldwide with other vegans and vegetarians.

[www.vrg.org](http://www.vrg.org)

This site, aptly named the Vegetarian Resource Group, provides nutritional information, quick and easy vegetarian menus, links to other sites and a list of restaurants. It's a must-visit for any vegetarian.

[www.vegsource.org](http://www.vegsource.org)

This site has a great F.A.Q. section and a lot of medical articles for anyone who is vegetarian or is considering it. It also features links to other helpful sites and informative discussion boards on a variety of topics.

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Anna Rembold, Community College Transfer Student

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When you're ready to transfer, the first place you should look is a school that puts you first. Mills College offers women the chance to learn, grow, and challenge themselves in a dynamic, intimate environment renowned for academic excellence. What's more, almost half of our entering students are transfer students, so you'll fit in right away.

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### INFORMATION SESSIONS

Saturday, March 4, 10:00 am-1:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 14, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm  
Call 800.87.MILLS to reserve your space.

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