### THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF DE ANZA COLLEGE

November 23, 2005

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position and Reading

instructor, Karen Chow.

The class had a political

theme. I also took her

for EWRT 1B and an

45. David Speakman,

"I liked how the knowl-

edge learned could be applied outside of the

Introduction to Com-

puter Programming

Critical Thinking

classroom." 46. **Gary Chang**,

ELIT class.

and Writing

Using C

<sup>®</sup>I really liked the



Schopmeyer was elected 30-3 during Wednesday's ICC meeting. He said he would make meetings more efficient and focus on funding issues and plus/minus grading.

## Schopmeyer becomes Inter-Club Council Chair

#### Nicole Padres LA VOZ

Mark Schopmeyer was elected the new Inter-Club Council Chair at Wednesday's ICC meeting by a vote of 30-3. Schopmeyer, who defeated challenger Brandon Lim of De Anza College's Phi Theta Kappa club, will take office on Thursday.

Because ICC policy does not allow chairs to hold more than one position at a time, Schopmeyer resigned as ICC Chair of Finance immediately after the election results were announced.

Prior to voting, both Chair candidates addressed the ICC. Schopmeyer complimented

the clubs in attendance and

said that De Anza's Inter-Club Council is a role model for other community colleges. He also said that, as Chair, he would work to make ICC meetings run more efficiently.

Lim told the ICC that, if he were elected Chair, he would focus on funding issues and the plus/minus grading sys-tem, and would also make the ICC a place where school policies could be discussed.

The election of Schopmeyer as Chair replaces the vacancy left by Sarah Joy Callahan, who resigned from the position on Nov. 8.

The ICC will elect a new Chair of Finance to replace Schopmeyer on January 18.

This article was originally published Nov. 23 on La Voz Online.

# Trial of former De Anza

### employee delayed

**Corinne Reilly** LA VOZ

No date has been set for a preliminary hearing in the case of a former De Anza College employee charged with the murder of his long-time girl-

arrested in June after police discovered a dismembered human body, later identified as Hochstraser's girlfriend Dolores Gonzales, in a car the couple had been using.

Alexandre Hochstraser was

'We're still really in the investigation stage, " said Kajani,

### La Voz asks, "What is your favorite class?" STUDENTS OF DE ANZA GIVE VARIED RESPONSES

David Gunderson. Jeff McGrew and Katherine Nguyen LA VOZ

#### (see cover)

1. Jin Kim, Asian American Experience in History 'The teacher was really funny." 2. Saleha Pirzada, Social Problems "Rich Wood had good reading material. The texts were current." 3. **Hai Ngo**, Stellar Astronomy "Naps." 4. Sĥweta Narayan, American Government and Politics "It was interesting and provided us with different perspectives." 5. Katherine Silva, Cultural Anthropology "We got to learn about cultures dying out." 6. Michael Lai, **Beginning Bowling** "It was fun and I only had to play two games and then leave." 7. Melanie Antonio, Human Sexuality "I like sex." 8. Ralph Birchett, Introduction to Western Religions "Interesting religions." 9. Nicole Manzanilla, Graphic Design/Communication "We got to use really useful and interesting programs." 10. J. Scott, Introduction to Business "Learned about other things like business ethics? 11. Sarah Tumen,

American Government and Politics "Really cool instructor and it was a fun class." 12. Henry Liu, Elementary Cantonese "I liked learning another language and it was easy." 13. Ron Zimmer, Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality

Principles of Animation "Really went in depth on composition for cin-ematic film making." 15. Tanyi Chao, Acrylic Painting 1 "I like drawing and being able to express what I feel." 16. Golnoush Golshan, General Psychology "Funny, and made you think in a different way." 17. Joeanna Guzman, **Total Fitness** "The coach was really laidback. We got to learn at our own pace." 18. Paramvir Singh, Elementary Spanish "It was a different language that I was interested in." 19. Umer Arif, Elementary Urdu "It was fun, easy, and I got to learn about countries like Pakistan." 20. Ross Tollick, Enviromental Biology "Instructor Sullivan is the most influential person ever." 21. Calli Rickey, American Government and Politics "Gonsalves was inspiring and it was an active class? 22. Inderdeep Matharu, Human Sexuality "Lomax was the greatest." 23. Chervine Razmazma, Principles of Macroeconomics "Dr. Mack is good teacher and it's for my economics major." 24. Simranjit Singh, Physical Anthropology "Tiawana has a really great teaching style." 25. **Joel Ruiz**, Intermediate Photography "I learned a lot about photography." 26. Jessica Hinze, Intermediate Photography "I like to express myself through photography." 27. **Sophi Nakasako**, Elementary French "It's an easy class, sort

36. George Rabanal, Beginning Bowling "It's fun and near McDonald's. It was a very chill class." temporary Literature style? 38. **Stephen Young**, Human Sexuality interesting." 39. Veronica Davis, Introduction to Environmental Studies "It had information that is important for enthusiastic." 40. Andy Ring, Data Structure "There was a lot of hands-on work and group work. It's rare 41. Aris Millare, Human Sexuality perspectives. More education than sex." 42. Van Dinh, 28. Katyayani Bhag-General Psychology wat, Solar System "I enjoyed the class and learnt some interesting Astronomy "It's interesting learning facts? 43. Teferi Assefa Design and Color "It fits into my major for graphic désign." 44. Helen Gao, Com-The Home Front in World War II." Her new book is a biography ti-tled "Team of Ri-val: The Political Her first book, "Lyndon Johnson and the Ameriher works. can Dream" was Genius of Abraham Lincoln." in She followed 1976, followed by "The Fitzgeralds and the Kenne-dys" in 1987, and this with an ac-claimed autobiography titled "Wait Till Next in 1995 she won a Pulitzer for her Year: A Memoir." biography, "No Ordinary Time: Franklin and El-Publications such as the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, eanor Roosevelt: rum Office as the

**Elementary Japanese** "It was really informative and challenging. The class was taught in Japanese 90 percent of the time." 31. Arnel Lopez, Introduction to Sociology "I liked the subject matter and instructor." 32. Steven Barker, Introduction to Massage "There was less paperwork than other classes and it was relaxing." 33. Daniel Miao, Introduction to Psychobiology "We got to look at a real sheep brain.' 34. **Khalid Jakoush**, Public Speaking "Very challenging but fun." 35. Elizabeth Garcia, Public Speaking "I got to meet a lot of people and talk about my opinions." 37. James Smith, Con-Hattori was a cool and youthful guy. He has a very accessible teaching "Fun to learn and very everyone to know. The teachers were also very for a computer science class." "Joplin puts you outside of your comfort zone. The class opens up your

"Friendly teacher who helped me get into my major." 47. Minh Chan, Human Sexuality "The instructor helped me out in a really difficult situation." 48. Fernando Palacios, Intermediate Karate "It's a like a big family. It's not just an art but also a lífestyle." 49. Nicholas Johnson, Introduction to Eastern Philosophy "More interesting than any other classes. The chapter on Zen Buddhism was my favorite." 50. Amir Fard, Human Anatomy and Physiology "It's about your own body, outside and inside." 51. Jonathan Lewis, History of Cinema (1950s – Present) The teacher knew the subject and my favorite film was "The American Friend" in the class." 52. Claudia Garcia, Fundamentals of Oral Communication "The teacher had pink hair and the class opened me up." 53. **Chris Vega**, Reading, Writing, and Research "I liked how it was poetry orientated." 54. Bin Zuo, Cultural Anthropology 'Very multicultural and had a broad view of the world and its societies." 55. Lauren Coulson, Drawing "It's a nice break from a heavy course load. 56. Peter Rusanoff. Principles of Macroeconomics "Professor Rappaport taught really well." Flint Center does

friend

A date for the hearing was scheduled to be set on Nov. 4, but because lawyers were still waiting for evidence reports, the hearing date will not be decided until Dec. 9, according to Santa Clara County District Attorney Ted Kajani.

who is prosecuting the case. "We're still looking at evidence and reports."

According to Kajani, the preliminary hearing will probably take place in early 2006.

Hochstraser's attorney Kenneth Robinson declined to comment on the case.

### DASB to host \$3 fashion show

#### Scott Lipsig LA VOZ

Thursday, the student senate will host what may be its biggest fundraiser of the academic year, acording to Audrey Lo, Vice President of Diversity and Events.

The three-hour event will raise money for students displaced by Hurricane Katrina and attending De Anza College. The senate will hold the event in Conference Rooms A and B from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m., according to a promotional flier.

The flier promises a jazz band, a speech by De Anza President Brian Murphy, performances, a silent auction and a fashion show. The senate hopes that the silent auction will draw most of the donations, said Lo. She said she is trying to avoid using money to pay for event fees or promotions that could be put toward the fundraiser.

The fashion show models will be De Anza students, said Lo.

'Made me asked a lot of complex questions about life and purpose." 14. Fransico Soberanis,

in the planetarium. 29. Tomoya Kakimi, Financial Accounting 1 "I like the teacher." 30. Ryan Pratt,

### Acclaimed author to speak at Flint Center

LA VOZ STAFF REPORT

Doris Kearns Goodwin's extensive career published began with a article critical about President Lyndon Johnson in "New Repubmagazine," lic which attracted his attention. He hired her to work at the White House

and to eventually assist in writing his memoirs.

of.

and The Boston Globe commend Goodwin, also an NBC-TV news analyst, for

She will speak at the Flint Center in Cupertino this Wednesday through Dec. 2. Tickets for the Celebrity Forum Speakers are sold as a series pack-age only through the Celebrity Fo-

not sell tickets for the speaker series. You may con-tact the Celebrity Forum by calling (650) 949-7176

or by visiting their Web site, www.celebrityforum.net.

She will also attend a book signing at Bor-ders, 356 Santana Row in San Jose, noon Dec. 2.

# DA students become teachers in Education 1 class

#### Yekaterina Barilov LA VOZ

Education 1 is a class with no prerequisites that offers both De Anza College students with Master's degrees and students with no educational background the opportunity to pursue a teaching career. Recently renamed from

Recently renamed from Education 66 and revised to make it transferable to either a UC or CSU, the course is a hands-on internship program required for all students seeking a teaching credential. Juanita Cordero funded the

Juanita Cordero funded the course five years ago after the dean told her that no funds were available. The class provides students with information they'll need to become an elementary or junior high school teacher.

California requires a Bachelor's degree as well as additional coursework in teaching methods and pre-professional supervised experience to teach in the K-12 system.

Education 1 places students in the Teach for Tomorrow Program, which allows them to complete their internship credit.

The curriculum of Education 1 includes volunteering at an elementary or junior high school and pushes students to decide whether teaching is their career choice.

"This is where they get their feet wet," said Cordero. "They begin to understand what it's like to correct papers, prepare a lesson plan, and deal with students."

The course provides students with tutoring experience and places them directly in a classroom. "You get to know what you're going to do for your whole life," said John Nuch, an Education 1 student.

Aside from the internship aspect, the course also teaches students about the structure of the public education system in California, exposes them to

"You get to know what you're going to do for your whole life."

#### - John Nuch

possibilities for employment in the teaching profession, and presents an overall history of social, cultural, and political problems' effects on schools in the United States.

It also presents practical advice for academic planning, as well as workforce preparation such as a personal portfolio. Students will be able to take their portfolios, useful for job interviews as an elementary classroom teacher. Such a portfolio is used as documentation of professional growth activities and is required by the State Department of Education. Sandra Carson from the Transfer Center teaches students about the application and transfer planning process to universities that offer the B.S programs required for teachers. Credential Advisor Jan Grodeon from San Jose State University and Sarah Mac Gregor from Santa Clara University talk to students about their academic plans.

"Some already have a master's degree; some already earned their B.S. They are often from another country. This course teaches them about what's required to be a teacher," Cordero said.

After five years, the program has facilitated the successful careers of ten students who have become teachers at nearby public elementary schools including Sherman Oaks.

"I have a lot more respect for teachers," said Casy Hsu, a student enrolled in the class. Although the minimum is 30 hours a quarter in an elementary school classroom, Hsu only goes about twice a week to fulfill the requirement. According to Education 1 students, it is common for students to become attached to their classrooms and teachers. "I might go back to teach a class there," Hsu added.

The course does not have any prerequisites, and is offered twice a week in the Child Development Center. Students should plan for time and transportation before 3 p.m., though, to be able to volunteer at the elementary schools.



Left: Jun-Mayer Alcid, left, presents his group's observations to Juanita Cordero. instructor at De Anza College. EDUC 1 is an introduction to elementary education in a diverse society. Next quarter, the class will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. Cordero will also teach the three-unit class. Students will observe and partic-

Features 3



Cordero explains the role of elementary school principals. She mentions Dale Jones,



Sharm Lee, right, shares her ideas with her group, while her classmates YuMei Liu, Christine Dinapoli and Jennifer Kruss, counter-clockwise, take notes.



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# **4**<u>A+E</u>

## Potter battles both evil and hormones in 'Goblet of Fire'



Genre: Boarding School Fantasy (Not that kind!)

Why Parents Hate It This Time: Some scary scenes, many of which involve puberty.

Running Time: Two hours and 45 minutes, but it feels like two hours and 15 minutes.

#### James Schulte and Melissa Lewis LA VOZ

The most magical aspect of "Goblet of Fire" is that, unlike "Titanic," this movie doesn't move you to murdersuicide after two-and-a-half hours.

We now see Potter in his fourth year at Hogwarts.

It seems Rowling has subscribed to Joseph Campbell's model of a hero's journey. The boy who lost his parents or is from unknown origin is contacted by an agent that tells him that he is connected to greatness biologically and he must therefore fulfill a great destiny. Even unorthodox Potter fits the profile well.

He transforms from a small boy living in a cupboard to a famous wizard who has fought the powers of darkness across more pages in the past six books than God did in the King James version of the Holy Bible - it's no wonder I see more of Daniel Radcliffe than the Nativity scenes around Christmas now.

This film had a much higher action-to-exposition ratio than the last three films. With the last director, Alfonso Cuaron, the style was dark and brooding - fitting for a 13-yearold boy. Although it sets the film apart from the first two, the technique wasn't quite right. However, Mike Newell effectively reconciled the mature themes addressed in the last film with the youthful appeal found in Chris Columbus' stint with the first two.

As the series pro-

gresses, the themes grow more mature, however disproportionately with the characters. Potter learns to deal with increasing responsibility for his actions, interpersonal relationships and confronting death both in his past and present.

The acting, especially on the part of Harry and his two young cohorts, used to be harder to swallow than the popcorn, but that improved beautifully with this movie as well.

The pace is perfect for audiences of all ages and attention spans. This is due largely to the fact that the characters can be all-powerful



magic-users but still face the inevitable and constant humiliation that is puberty.

And not even Lord Voldemort could compare to the horror of publicly screaming an invitation to the Yule Ball at a chic A-class girl you don't know.

Speaking of he-who-must-not-usually-be-named, both Ralph Fiennes' performance and make-up are delightful, but not so much as Brendan Gleeson as "Professor 'Mad-Eye' Moody" because, as we all know, there isn't anything as fun in school as having a violent sociopath for a teacher.

## **Rock with Cash**



**David Cenzer** LA VOZ

We all knew it was coming. When any hero dies, Hollywood plops down the story of that person's life as if it was waiting for the great one to pass away.

Last year we got Ray Charles and this year it's Johnny Cash, the man in Bob black. Dylan still has a couple years left but imagine what a great few hours that will make.

The title re-

fers to Cash's song "Walk the Line," which is about his love for June Carter. But that's as far as the resemblance goes, because "Walk the Line" is not about Johnny's life as the man who wrote that he "shot a man in Reno just to watch him die."

Instead you'll receive a duet

from Witherspoon and Phoenix. Although both are terrific in their roles, their musical performances are the best part of this movie.When the two of them sing "Jackson" and "Time's A-Wastin", I wish I could experience the sparkling moment they share.

The story begins in Arkansas, where we see Cash as a poor farm kid growing up in poverty.

Johnny's brother dies in an accident while they are teenagers, for which their father will blame Cash, a guilt that haunts him the rest of his life.

Thereafter, Johnny joins the military, learns to play guitar, moves back, gets married and starts off as a musician.

All of this leads up to him becoming Johnny Cash, famous, but forced to be a part of a rock'n roll culture in which he doesn't fit.

Introduced to drugs, Cash

struggles with his fame, his family and the love of his life, beautiful June. Will he get it all together? Considering he lived to be 73 years old, it isn't a surprise that he is all right by the end.

The story itself is the weakest link, without any exploration of who the man really was. But we can enjoy the music that made the man so great, and we can enjoy Joaquin Phoenix.

Although Joaquin Phoenix never convinces me that he is Johnny Cash, when he dresses in black and aims his guitar like a gun, he convinces the whole audience that he is pretty darn good.

Phoenix's voice infuses songs like "Get Rhythm" and "Cocaine Blues" with new meaning, making me listen to the words.

There, I believe, is where you will find the true Johnny Cash.



Genre: Rock Music Hollywood Biopic

Why You Should See

It: Johnny Cash and liquor were put on this earth to help you on Karaoke Night.

survive? What could possibly

destroy the hordes of fatally

fearsome fruit? Their weak-

ness lies in the ear-piercing

radio hit "Puberty Love,"





Jarrod Pagan LA VOZ

In the history of cult clasof their cult status through cinematic merit and the sheer will of their fans. "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes," is not one of these films, and is therefore relegated to our Cult Classics Spotlight of the week. How can anyone argue with a flick that opens with a housewife being inexplicably murdered by a burbling and sentient tomato? Nobody in his right mind can, and so the tone is set for an 88-minute romp into absurdity. An isolated incident of rogue tomato violence becomes a saucy pandemic as the government fails to contain the problem from the outset. But never fear - the president has his best men on the case. Suave Press Secretary Jim Richardson, barely competent or likable

Agent Mason Dixon, men-tally unstable paratrooper Lt. Finletter and a handful of second-rate assistants are Earth's last hope. Hot on the sic films, few have broken out trail is Lois Fairchild, an awkward reporter on her first assignment. Watch the wackiness ensue as she seems to cause more trouble than she reports. Made with a budget to rival that of any late-night infomercial, "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes" wholeheartedly embraces its miniscule funds and focuses instead on providing a diverse slew of tongue-in-cheek political, media-centered, slapstick humor. The slow moments will make you wish you were watching an infomercial for the latest rump-tightening self-flagellating cookware. Rest assured, these moments are interrupted by of clever banter, musical interludes, an accidental helicopter crash, and a giant paper maché tomatoes on wheels.

How does the human race

which was actually sung by Matt Cameron, future drummer for Soundgarden and Pearl Jam. Both bands would probably have been better off with his vocals anyway. At loud frequencies, this classic forces the tomatoes to run like they're stuck in Buñol on the last Wednesday of August.

This film deserves no more or less than one full viewing. So put it in your movie rental queue or see it Tuesday, Dec.  $\overline{6}$  at 6:30 p.m. courtesy of the De Anza Health and Nutrition Club. Just get it off your list so you can go see Harry Potter a sixth time.

Also noteworthy is the film's flashy official Web site, www.killertomatoes.com, which includes a benevolent killer tomato who helps you navigate the site and an optional soundtrack.

# <u>A + e</u> 5

## Rio Adobe: Southwestern cuisine on a budget

#### Geraldine Escalona LA VOZ

I recommend that you grab your next meal at Rio Adobe. On the corner of De Anza Boulevard and McClellan Road, it's a quality restaurant with indoor and outdoor dining.

door and outdoor dining. You can either eat there or take food to go. You'll experience friendly and efficient service.

You'll not only taste good food at affordable prices, but also experience the taste of the southwest café with colorful décor and lively music.

When you walk up to the counter, a friendly staff will be ready to take your order. You can take a look at their specials menu or look above to the main menu, which includes appetizers, salads, entrees, sides, a kids' menu, dessert and beverages.

After you've ordered, you can grab your drink at the soda fountain next to a bar where you pick up your utensils and choose from a variety of fresh salsas, and then find a seat as you wait for your food.

This is a restaurant justified in boasting that they serve fresh, healthy food and they do it for five to ten dollars a meal.

I ordered one of my favorite Mexican dishes, a steak soft taco. At Rio Adobe it is the Al Carbon Taco, which is a soft taco with steak, onions and cilantro on two corn tortillas. I also ordered the generous De Gallo Chicken Burrito which is filled with chicken, guacamole, cheese and salsa wrapped in a flour tortilla for \$5.50. Both the taco and burrito came on their own individual hot plates with fresh, lightly salted tortilla chips.

I would recommend ordering two steak tacos, which are \$2.25 each and come with chips. I would also recommend one of their enchilada plates, which come with rice and beans for under ten dollars each. And if you dine in the restaurant, fountain drink refills are free.

Rio Adobe also has a web site where you can view their menu: www.rioadobe.com.











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# **6** Sports Volleyball team wins

#### LA VOZ STAFF REPORTS

division

The De Anza College women's volleyball team clinched a playoff spot with its fifth Coast Conference North Division title in seven years. De Anza (17-7 overall, 9-1 conference) earned the seventh seed in the Northern California regional of the state playoffs. They will host tenth-seeded Fresno (18-6) on Wednesday.

#### COAST CONF. NORTH DIVISION

	Conf.	All
	W-L	W-L
DE ANZA	9-1	17-7
San Francisco	9-1	12-3
Chabot	6-4	8-15
Skyline	4-6	5-9
Monterey Pen.	2-8	3-11
Hartnell	0-10	0-14



# Soccer teams get the boot

#### LA VOZ STAFF REPORTS

The soccer season is over. Both the De Anza College men's and women's teams fell in the Northern California regional last week to end their seasons.

For the women, it was a particular letdown. They were the second-seeded team in the Northern California regional playoffs. They were expected to make the regional final.

Instead, they lost 1-0 to seventh-seeded American River in the second round.

It was the first time all season that the De Anza women were shut out. They averaged nearly three goals per game in the regular season.

The De Anza men were expected to face a defensive struggle in their first-round matchup against Contra Costa. The two teams conceded less than one goal per game during the regular season, a feat accomplished by only seven other teams in the state.

The game lived up to expectations. De Anza lost 1-0 in a tight contest with few chances on goal.

The women finished the season with a record of 18-3-4. The men were 13-5-5.

Joseph Chen/ LA VOZ





10525 S. DE ANZA BLVD. #100 CUPERTINO, CA 95014 (408) 873-1600





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!

"Bringing the news to the campus"

# LA VOZ San Jose Alercury News

# The New York Times

The Readership Program is brought to you by La Voz Weekly and De Anza College. For more information, contact Reza Kazempour at (408) 864-5626

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

# Opinions /

### La Voz

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#### 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 opinions of the La Voz staff.

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

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ontent must not be libelous or intend ed to air personal grievances. La Voz does not guarantee that submissions and letters to the editor will be printed, nor does it guarantee coverage of events for which it receives press releases. La Voz reserves the right to edit letters and submissions for clarity in accordance with Associated Press writing style.

**Editorial** Some straight talk about Christmas

Christmas no longer has a precise meaning. For some, it's deeply spiritual and provides the opportunity to connect with others in a way that isn't possible the rest of the year. For some it exists because they have a need to fill their spiritual and emotional void with material goods and because generic Christianity is the socially acceptable default religion for people who don't want to

subscribe to anything else.

It should be renamed "Credit Card Debt Season" or "That Big Day One Month Before the Super Bowl." At least then it would be truth in advertising.

We began with gifts of frankincense and myrrh and turned it into a frenzied search for iPods and Playstations just hours after Thanksgiving.

The amount of people attending movie

theaters Christmas Day will far outnumber the people volunteering in soup kitchens and hurricane relief shelters.

As long as our culture is permeated with the latest red tag sales on shiny objects, we will live beyond our means to consume them. At least it will keep us from remembering that this season, many of us won't be celebrating with an idyllic fireplace, gifts, or even a home.



### SHOULD WE STAY IN IRAQ OR SHOULD WE GO?



### Let's accept that we lost and stop with the political games.

#### **jamesNEWBURG**

Pennsylvania congressman John Murtha was at the center of a political controversy with his public statement that the United States should pull out of Iraq. The press and politicians gave Murtha, a Democrat, a great deal of attention because of his past as a Marine and decorated Vietnam veteran.

(Incidentally, Murtha's military service is immaterial to his credibility. It doesn't matter if he killed a Third World army with his bare hands or if he was a hippy-dippy, flowerpower, pink-to-his underwear coward. All of that is irrelevant to the fact that Murtha and his supporters have the virtue of being right on this issue.)

Republican congresswoman Jean Schmidt launched a blistering broadside at Murtha. On the floor of the House of Representatives, she said, "Cowards cut and run. Marines never do."

Cowardice doesn't come from cutting and running. Knowing when to retreat and hide helped America win the Revolutionary War True cowardice is failing to speak the truth because it's politically inconvenient.

because we used chemical weapons on Iraqi civilians. Corrupt corporations are stealing billions of dol-

lars from both countries. Over 2,100 Americans are dead. Tens of thousands are disabled.

Over 100,000 Iraqi civilians are dead. That would be like killing every stu-dent at this college and their immediate family.

Given all of this, anyone who still believes we can win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people is misguided. In the words of author Bill James, they are "skating on thin ice above a sea of lunacy."

We lost.

The only thing we should be debating is how to leave. Staying the course is equivalent to standing still in a pit of quicksand.

Republicans, being the honest debaters that they are, tried to pull a fast one and vote on a resolution for immediate troop withdrawal. The text of their proposed resolution:

"Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives



#### jamesSCHULTE

Rep. Jean Schmidt (R-Ohio) set off a firestorm in the U.S. House of Representatives last Friday with seven words: "Cowards cut and run, Marines never do." Schmidt's comment came as the House debated a nonbinding resolution to pull U.S. troops out of Iraq.

Rep. John Murtha (D-Penn), the Democrats' military hawk, called for the pullout to occur within six months. A related resolution brought to the floor by Republicans was defeated by a vote of 403-3.

Schmidt apologized to Murtha as a general statement to the House. Murtha, a former Marine, took it personally.

But the vote spoke for itself. The cowards in the House were afraid to go back to their districts and explain why they voted the way they did. That is to say, if the war is losing support from the public, as public representatives, why didn't they vote to pull the troops out immediately? But they didn't because they were afraid. Murtha said, "The public turned against this war before I said it." Well if that is true, why did the vote turn out 403-3? If the public didn't support it then there should be no problem calling for troops to be pulled out. But these so-called gentlemen ran for cover and didn't vote for their interests - or those of their constituents. But these words needed to be heard. Congress calls the president a liar. One representative calls out another. 'Do as we say, not as we do' is the unspoken motto. General Patton once said, "Politicians always pull up short and leave another war for the Army to fight." That's precisely the situation we need to avoid with Iraq. If America needs to stay until Iraqis can take over.

we pull out too early, the country will fall to chaos. Iraq needs an army that the whole country can count on. Not just any fighting force will do. It takes two to five years to train a good soldier, and we need better than just good soldiers. We need Marines.

Despite the public opinion of the week, however, it's not as though if we leave now, all things will correct themselves. Iraqi children aren't going to burst into song out of joy, peace isn't going to magically engulf the planet and the old men of the House aren't going to suddenly start conducting themselves in a mature manner just because the Americans decided to withdraw their military presence from one small Middle Eastern country.

If we leave without first establishing a stable government, Iraqi children won't be singing for long. They'll be too busy keeping themselves alive once civil war erupts - about one hour later.

If that happens, we truly will have innocent blood on our hands. We now have the power and the responsibility to make things right. It is our duty to protect the weak. It took more than three years to build up Germany after World War II, a country with some knowledge of democracy. In Iraq, we are starting from scratch. There is no history of democracy - but its people crave change. Here we can help. Here we can make a lasting impact on the Middle East. This is not the time to waver. America is, in the words of Francis Scott Key, "the land of the free and the home of the brave." As such, we should never "cut and run" because we can't take the heat.

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What is the truth?

The truth is Iraq is a

mess.

The insurgents are not in their last throes.

Nearly everyone over there wants us out.

The Muslim world almost totally distrusts us. We don't have a meaningful coalition to help us.

We can't stomach more American casualties.

We don't have the budget to rebuild Iraqi infrastructure.

Our widespread torture of innocents makes us a human-rights pariah.

The world is outraged

that the deployment of United States forces in Iraq be terminated immediately.

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the deployment of United States forces in Iraq be terminated immediately.

Unsurprisingly, this resolution failed 403-3.

Republicans need to stop playing political games and start listening to the will of

the people. There are several politicians from both parties who are offering reasonable timetables for troop withdrawal.

Unfortunately, we will still have political hacks like Jean Schmidt who choose to make wholesale death a partisan issue.

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