

# La Voz

The Voice of De Anza

Volume 25, No. 2

De Anza College, Cupertino, CA 95014

January 24, 1991

### Students, staff discuss Gulf Crisis

By Beverly Schwendeman Managing Editor

De Anza students and faculty gathered in a roundtable forum Wednesday night to discuss various aspects of the war in the Persian Gulf.

Sponsored by the Inter Club Council and organized by Sharon Huntsman, the forum sought to be "an educational opportunity for people who might not go to protests or get involved to have a place that they can pick up information and learn from faculty and their peers," said Huntsman.

The forum began with a reading of an open letter to DAC students from English instructor Dave Denny. In the letter, Denny asks DAC students to question the United States' involvement in the Gulf Crisis and to determine what they are willing to die for.

"It's easy to be a cheerleader for the war. It's even socially acceptable. I hear a lot of tough talk around campus about 'kicking ass' in Iraq. A lot of bluster and bravado. These words come easily when all we've seen of the war are the video game representations of it shown on the evening news," wrote Denny.

Also lending his input to the discussion was John Swensson, who teaches a class on film and literature of the Vietnam conflict. Swensson has also served in Vietnam and in covert actions in Africa along with being a West Point instructor. His speech included his views on the draft, which he believes won't happen; prisoners of war, whom he says are "just doing what they were trained to do- don't worry about them," and on the general apathy of students on campus, "The war is a yawner on this campus."

Swensson also spoke out about the recent protests. "I'm very angry at some of these protesters I've seen. Where were these people last month or the month before? Why didn't they do anything before?"

After Swensson spoke, the floor was opened to general discussion. Most of those present expressed

confusion over the intent of the U.S. in the Middle East and were concerned as to what the outcome of whole crisis would be.

Another concern was the media's portrayal of the war. "It's an antiseptic war. We need to see the pain, and the Pentagon won't let us. It makes it too easy to go to war," said student Jess Daniels. "The pilots go over and drop their bombs and later say to the press 'It was the Fourth of July and Disneyland times 100!' Did they forget that people don't usually die at Disneyland?"

The lack of negotiations with Saddam Hussein was also an issue. "President Bush presented an ultimatum, not negotiations. His stance was 'get out of Kuwait then we'll talk.' That's not negotiation. He spent five months on planning war and only seven hours on negotiations." said DAC student Don Wilkinson.

Huntsman said she plans on organizing more forums in the future since the first one was such a success.

# DAC students gather at Sun n' Soil to talk about the war in Mideast

By Susan loakem Staff Reporter

On January 17, an angry tribe of De Anza students joined forces at the Sun n' Soil health food store to express their ideas, opinions and confusion about the war in the Persian Gulf.

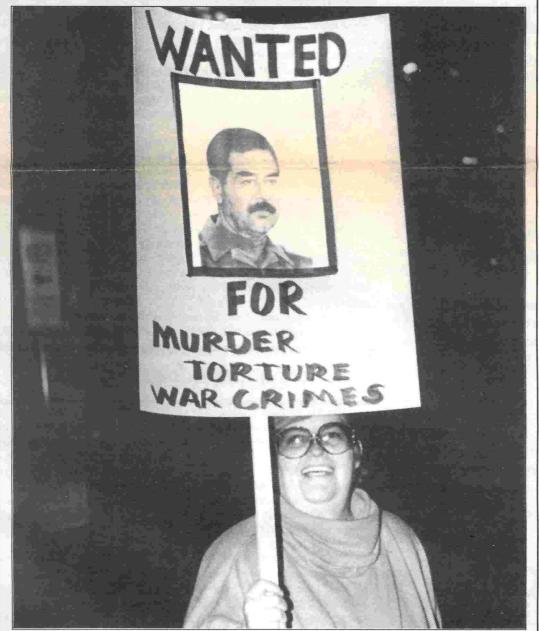
De Anza student and former military serviceman, Donal Wilkinson, led the discussion in hopes that the students would gain a better understanding of the war, and learn to fight the crisis together as fellow students.

"I went to Lynbrook High School to speak to the students. When I said I was protesting against the war, they practically jumped me. After I spoke to them, they realized that killing innocent people is wrong and protesting is a way to stop the violence," said Wilkinson.

Wilkinson discussed the reasons for the war, which included economy, oil, the restoration of Kuwait's monarchy, and to help our allies. He went on to encourage the audience to consider the alternatives to the war, one of which is to pull out our troops, except for a token force of 35,000 people.

Several students began to speak up at this point, suggesting alternatives to the war. One student recommended that students learn to be more educated about the war, while another emphasized the importance of getting involved in the political activities. Probably the most dramatic alternative was suggested by De Anza student Marcella Salisbury, who said," I think the government is lying

### **Wanted Dead or Alive**



Sandra Olson , a former De Anza Instructor shows her support for the troops on Tuesday night at the Pro-war rally in downtown San Jose. She has started a support group for the operation desert storm soldiers by supplying letters for people to send to the troops to help raise morale. The rally took place in front of the Federal Building on the corner of First and San Carlos.

through their teeth to us, and what we need to do is get Bush out of power,"

Despite all the different opinions, everyone agreed that the war must be ended. Wilkinson discussed the speculation over Saddam Hussein's strategies, which many people have been confused by.

"Just because Hussein looks like a stupid Arab, don't let that fool you. He clearly has a planned strategy, unknown but good," said Wilkinson.

Everyone who attended the meeting agreed that Wilkinson was definitely no ordinary protester, but a protester with a purpose.

"I have friends out there,

that's why I'm doing all this," said Wilkinson.

The Gulf meeting was followed by a Draft/Co meeting, which informed students of the draft laws, and enabled them to apply to be objectors of the war. Another meeting for conscientious objectors will be held Monday at 8:00 p.m. at Sun n' Soil.

# SLF protests opening of new parking structure

By Nicolas Trevor Staff Reporter

On January 7th, students and staff found hundreds of bright yellow flyers strewn about the new parking garage. The flyers pronounced the structure as "condemned due to violation of earthquake safety rules."

The flyers were distributed by an on campus subversive organization that calls itself, the Student Liberation Front (SLF). As yet, no members of the said group have made themselves known, and numerous attempts to contact the organization have been ignored.

According to campus security officers, no building can be built in this state, and especially this area, that does not meet the strict earthquake building codes.

Last quarter the SLF made brief news with their successful tampering with the football scoreboard. Apparently, someone got into the press box and inserted a message that read:"PONTIAC SUCKS- THE SLF."

The group, through DASB president James Franzen's voice mail system, claimed responsibility for numerous other antics on campus; tampering with the Flint center marquis, and the relocation of a soccer goal post.

The group also left messages stating that, "we do NOT claim responsibility for any of the thefts or break-in in the student parking lots."

President Franzen stated that he has received messages on his voice-mail from a group of "partiers."

"They left messages that sounded like they were having a big party. There was the sound of drinks clinking and people yelling," said Franzen.

Earlier in the year, the group sent a message to student senator Teo

continued on back page

Voice of La Voz

### Violence mars King's birthday

It is tragically ironic that the birthday of a man of peace, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has coincided with the breakout of violence around the world. From the war in the Middle East and violence in the Soviet Union, to the recent massacre of 15 peasants in El Salvador, this has been a sad new year for those who believe in non-violence.

Dr. King chose to fight the injustices of a society where African-Americans were treated as second class citizens without resorting to violence. It is unfortunate that our country cannot follow the example of Dr. King, and must resort to war instead of looking for peaceful solutions to political problems.

What kind of message does this send to the children of this country who, for the most part, are taught to settle disputes diplomatically, not through violence?

There are those who argue that every attempt had been made to achieve a peaceful solution. This is not true. Almost every former Joint Chief of Staff and economic sanctions expert who testified during the congressional hearings before the war argued that the economic embargo placed on Iraq should have been given more time to work. There was overwhelming evidence that the sanctions were having a tremendous impact on the economy of Iraq. Iraq was losing billions of dollars a day as a result of the embargo, and the G.N.P.( gross national product) of Iraq had been reduced by 50 percent.

The fact that Saddam Hussein could not profit from his invasion of Kuwait would have eventually provided him with an incentive to withdraw. Saddam Hussein had hinted many times that he would be willing withdraw from Kuwait if he could somehow save face, but President Bush chose to beat the drums of war, making it impossible for Hussein to leave Kuwait without being humiliated.

While war may be justified in some cases, it should only be considered when there are no other options. There are clearly many other options in this situation besides going to war

It is unfortunate that Dr. King's teachings have fallen upon deaf ears. We must practice what we teach our children, especially if we want them to have a world worth growing up in.

#### And finally...

If you are going to commute, try to carpool or take the bus at least once a week. This will help keep the price of gasoline at an affordable cost for everyone. It will also show the troops that they are not forgotten by the people who are left behind.

#### La Voz The Voice of DeAnza

Editor in Chief

Bev Schwendeman
Managing Editor
Steve Rickman
Photo Editor
Michael Barton
Sports Editor

Orlando Santos
Editorial Editor
Deborah Roth
Feature/Arts Editor
Jim Toland, Jeff Buehler
Technical Suppoert

Tim Hale Advisor

La Voz is published Thursday's during the academic year, breaks excepted. Offices are at De Anza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. Phone: (408) 864-8586 (newsroom) or 864-8785 (advertising).

Publishing costs are paid by advertising, the college and DASB through sales of student body cards in lieu of subscriptions.

Views expressed in *La Voz* are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent views of the college, student body, faculty or administration. Editorials reflect the collective opinion of the Editorial Board.

# U.S. foreign policy i based on hypocrisy

By Orlando Santos

Editorial Editor

Now that we are at war with Iraq, most Americans have chosen to rally behind President Bush. Recent polls show that over 80 percent of the American public supports the President's decision to go to war. A majority of the American people are being swept away with a sense of patriotism because our troops are off in some foreign land supposedly fighting for "freedom and world peace."

Unfortunately, these same Americans forget or are unaware that our government has supported oppression and tyranny around the world for years. To this day our government sends \$45 million dollars of military aid a year to one of the most brutal governments in the world. This country is El Salvador.

Various human rights groups including Amnesty International have linked the El Salvadoran government to "death squads" These "death squads" are responsible for the murder of thousands of innocent civilians whose only crime was speaking out against injustices of a society where 2 percent of the population control all the wealth of the country while the remaining 98 percent live in extreme poverty.

Numerous human rights groups have also accused the Salvadoran military of murdering several priests and social workers. In 1980 the archbishop of the Catholic church in El Salvador, Oscar Romero, was murdered in cold blood by a government sponsored "death squad." Romero was one of the first church leaders to speak out against the oppression of the Salvadoran government.

The Salvadoran military has recently been accused by several human rights groups of the murder of six Jesuit Priests, a housekeeper and her daughter who were found dead November 16, 1989.

Even though the Salvadoran government has admitted that the military was responsible for the murders, to this day, not one person has been prosecuted for the murders. As a result of this massacre Congress voted to cut military aid to El Salvador in half, from \$85 million to \$45 million.

Now President Bush is trying to use the recent incident where three U.S. military advisors were shot down by Salvadoran rebels to justify restoring full military aid to El Salvador's military. As horrible as this incident may be, this incident cannot justify the murders of thousands of innocent civilians committed by El Salvador's military.

The United States has also terrorized the people of Nicaragua for the past nine years by supplying the

contra rebels with arms. Despite drastic ir ments in social and economic conditional Nicaragua since the overthrow of the dictato tasio Somoza in 1979, the Reagan-Bush admition chose to undermine the economy of Ni using the Contra rebels as a way to shift the the Sandanista government away from soc grams to military spending.

Many of the Contra rebels were former of from the Somoza dictatorship. The Contras choose to fight against the Sandanista mill Nicaragua, but instead chose to target civilia were trying to make a better life for them More than 40,000 Nicaraguan civilians have a result of the U.S. sponsored war.

The U.S. achieved its goal of undermin Sandanista government, when the people of Nicaragua finally had enough of the terror is on them by the Contras and voted for a period candidate, Violeta Chamorro. Chamor promised the people of Nicaragua that if the for her the war would end. The people of Nichose to end the war by voting who Bush them to vote for. Despite the pressures placed people of Nicaragua, more than 40 percent of chose to vote for the Sandanistas knowing the would continue to be terrorized by the Contral

These are just a few of many examples kinds of atrocities that the United States staround the globe. The U.S. government has a ported oppression in Guatemala, Hondur Chile, to name a few countries.

Now we are supposed to be fighting for f and world peace. If we are truly fighting for f and world peace then why not free the Pale who have been living under the occupation of for over 40 years? There are over 200 Nations resolutions condemning Israel's occof the West Bank and Gaza strip.

Recent U.S. invasions of Granada and I have apparently become ancient history minds of most Americans who say that S Hussein must be stopped because he inv sovereign nation.

Despite the fact the fact the U.S. gover supported Saddam Hussein for 10 years w invaded Iran and used nerve gas against the I population of his own country, many Amechoose to believe Saddam became a "I overnight. It is a great tragedy that young Armen and women will have to die for this hypo

#### Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Orlando Santos,

I have read your article, "Price of war in Mideast will be costly" and by reading your first paragraph, I can tell that you are well uninformed about the whole situation. Your first sentence states," Despite all the calls for peace and rumors of secret deals, the unthinkable has finally happened." I would liked to know where did you receive the information of "secret deals." Are you a Central Intelligent Agent or are you an editorial editor? I have not been aware nor do I think that the general U.S. population been aware of "secret deals." You should also pay attention to the news more carefully because you stated, " Innocent Iraqi civilians will be slaughtered." The 2,000 sorties that are now taking affect everyday are pin-point bombings on military buildings, oil refineries, Iraqi's Elite Troop positions, and Scud missiles. With today's technology in our military, it is very unlikely to hit civilian areas. Another policy of President Bush is that he wants to punish Iraq's president, not the people of Iraq. I know there will be some civilian casualties because this is war, not a B-B gun battle. Another factor

that should be brought up is that Saddam Hussein went into Kuwait and killed their civilians in cold blood, stripped them of everything they owned and you should think about that before the Iraqi civilians. Your first paragraph is poorly uninformed and is obvious that you do not know what you are talking about.

I decided to go on and read the rest of your article. Your opening sentence states, "Unfortunately, Americans will get a taste of what war is really about when the United States becomes a battleground for International terrorism." It sounds like you never had a U.S. history class in your life. I will gladly inform that Americans have had a taste of war. It started with the American Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, The Korean War, The Vietnam War, and now the war in the Persian Gulf. All of these wars, except for the Vietnam and Korean conflicts, had the main issue of freedom. Either it was freedom in a civil rights way, for a example, the slavery issue in the Civil War, or freedom from mad man, for example, Adolf Hitler of Germany of World War II and now this lunatic Saddam

Hussein. Yes, Lunatic. You ulation of terrorism is corrunybody could have told yo What did you expect?

What did you expect? Iraq is known to have c ted terrorist attacks in th The bombing of the Pa flight three year land for example. Did you that they would not comp rorism. This time we are prepared for it by having security measures and have ways of handling terrorism state the terrorist will use b cal warfare. Come on give break. Are they going to s Scud missile loaded with a ical warhead through airpor rity? I do not think so. B chemical attacks have best when striking populated not embassies. I decided no on from here because I the was going to sick.

I think you should think your position a little bit thoroughly before your op mouth, especially if you editorial editor. You may w back anytime if you want mation about what is hap in the Gulf.

James A. Fonda

#### Behind the desk:

### Madame Lasserre impresses students

By Deborah Roth Feature/Arts Editor

Madame Lasserre is one of De Anza's best teachers. Described by her students as "tough, but fair," "lots of fun," and "caring," she is definitely well liked.

"She's funny," says student Mark Westall, "She's adorable, full of energy, she cares about her students, and she really cares that you learn French."

One of the busiest teachers in the area, Mme. Lasserre simultaneously teaches French classes at De Anza, San Jose State University, Santa Clara University, and until last year, at West Valley. In her cours-



Dave Oneto/La Voz

-Mme. Yvette Lasserre
De Anza French teacher

es students are given a calendar in the first week which details all of their assignments. She starts her classes by informing students that the only way to learn a language is to work hard. "Do not expect a miracle!" she says, "That is what I tell them."

French student Patricia Fraire says, "I like her because she's interested in her students. She really cares and encourages us to excel in her class."

Mme. Lasserre started teaching at De Anza 12 years ago, but her fascinating story goes back even further than that. Originally, she taught data entry to business personnel in France. Her job took her all over France for 2 months at a time, and to Algeria, at a time when the colony of Algeria was trying to break out from under French rule.

"I went in '58, it was at the time there was the war, between the French and the Algerians because they (the Algerians) wanted their independence. I stayed there for 2 months." At one point, the company became so concerned for her safety that she was moved from her hotel to a convent. The reasoning behind the move was that her employers assumed fighters would be reluctant to attack nuns. She married one month after she returned from Algeria and went to work for a well-known electronics company in Paris. As a manager of data processing, she was both the youngest person and one of the first few women promoted to a managerial position.

21 years ago she moved to California with her husband and three children, and that is when her association with De Anza began. "My English was very poor and I came to De Anza to learn English! I took every course that you can think of where

es students are given a calendar in the first week which details all of their assignments.

English was spoken. My most challenging course at was speech.

Imagine what it could be for somebody who does not speak English to take a speech class! I lost a few pounds that quarter, when I took speech, I was so stressed. I would write my speech in French, translate to English, memorize the whole thing, and then act as if I was delivering my speech reading from the cards...I got an A. The teacher said I was the best student in that class. The shock came when I looked at the speech that was videotaped, I heard myself speaking, and I didn't realize I had an accent."

Mme. Lasserre's accent is only part of her charm. She always looks like she just stepped out of a Christian Dior, or Chanel ad. She exudes efficiency, and her sense of humor is ever prevalent.

Her hectic schedule includes aerobics three or four times a week, and she has a heavy load of classes for any teacher. Her day starts at 6 in the morning and she rarely goes to sleep before midnight.

In addition to her regular courses, she also teaches a 15 unit, intensive French course every other summer at De Anza. During the summers when she isn't teaching, she returns to France. She also speaks to her mother and other relatives in France every week.

How she ended up teaching French at a school where she used to be a student is an interesting story.

"I came to De Anza because I wanted to improve my English, that was my goal, and after that I decided that I was going to work for a degree, be more practical. My husband advised me to get a degree in computer science. So after taking all of the

necessary courses at De Anza, one day I woke up and said 'I hate to do this. Why am I doing this? To please my husband? This is not what I want to do, I don't want to be programming all day long.

At the same time, my children were taking French in high school, I was able to see how they were learning French. I thought, I have so much to offer, teaching my language to other students. So I told my husband that I wanted to teach French. He said, 'Oh, you are crazy. You will never find a job. You need to be more practical.' I said, 'I don't care about that. I want to do what I want to do, and I know that I want to teach French.'"

She received her Masters in French Literature at San Jose State University and started teaching there. She then started teaching at Mission College, Canada College and eventually branched out to the universities where she teaches now.

Teaching 25 units in one quarter is almost unprecedented, but Mme. Lasserre does it. She assures that she gives the same quality of teaching in each of the three schools. She also takes pride in the fact that she has never, ever, cancelled a class. Another well-known attribute of hers is her practice of returning tests the day after they are taken, even when her classes at different schools have tests on the same day.

If she had to pick one school that she would like to teach at permanently, De Anza, she says, would be her first choice.

Why?

"Because at De Anza I get diversity of students. Different backgrounds, different ages. At De Anza you get very smart students, students who are going to do something with their lives."

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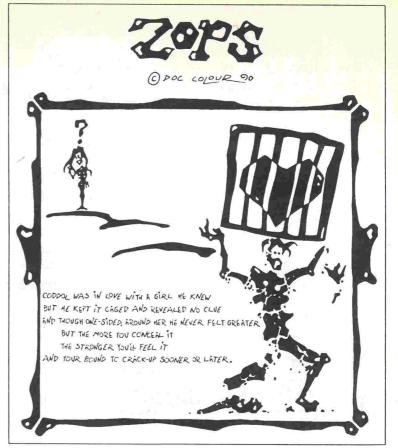
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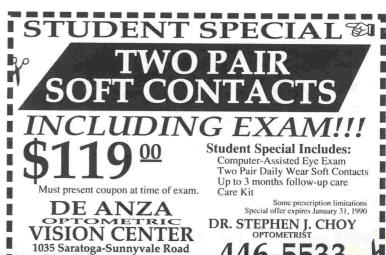
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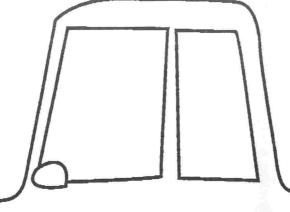
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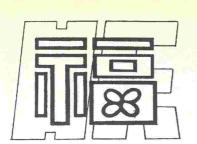
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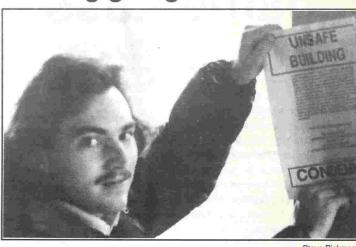
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#### Parking garage "condemned



A campus security officer removes one of the SLF flyers.

continued from front p

King, asking him to bring the issue of becoming a legitimate on car pus club to the senate floor. When the SLF refused to answer King' request for a meeting, the issue was forgotten.

As of the first day of this quarter, the parking structure is safe.

## Sportsbriefs

Dons lose to Skyline

Skyline intercepted an errant pass with eight seconds left ar Gerard Arcement sank two foul shots with three seconds remai ing as the Trojans edged the Dons, 91-89, in a conference gan

Andre Collier's three-pointer put the Dons (17-5, 9-2) with one point with nine seconds on the clock. After the timeout, Jol Ryan fouled Skyline's Billy Leonard sending him to the line shoot one and one.

When Leonard missed the first attempt, Johnson grabbed th rebound and tried to hit Kris Hicks breaking down the court, b Hicks wasn't looking and Skyline (17-7, 8-3) picked off the pass John Ryan fouled Arcement and the Trojan forward iced th

game, converting both free throws.

De Anza quickly extended a four-point halftime lead to to with less than a minute gone in the second half but, Trevor Pop left the game with injured hand and things started going Skyline

Skyline chipped away at De Anza's lead, going ahead for good, 67-66, with 11:43 left. Pope's absence from the gan seemed to hurt De Anza's ability to get the ball inside, but Don Coach Tony Nunes doesn't want to use that as an excuse.

"Some guys get hurt and some guys get in foul trouble," said. "I think its a game of decisions and I'm disappointed some of the decision we made

**Lady Dons Dominate Foothill** 

The Lady Dons continued their domination in the Coast Co ference last night, with a 76-55 win over Foothill. De An. improved their conference record to 5-0, 17-8 overall.

Trish Montgomery led De Anza with 20 points and Shanno O'Brien added 13 points and 8 rebounds.

De Anza only led by five at halftime, but opened up the gan midway in the second half. De Anza Coach Mike Gervasoni sa his team pulled away from Foothill because they stopped standing around, waiting for things to happen.

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