

La Voz

A FIRST AMENDMENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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AS THE SUN SETS ON THE QUARTER ...

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La Voz

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La Voz's student election soliloquy

This year's student senate and trustee elections comprised a drama of Shakespearian proportions.

Trustee candidate Lilya Mitelman was ejected from the race for an election campaign rule violation and reinstated a day later, turnout was so abysmal voting was extended a second week, and there were no debates between the candidates.

We're a little angry, but mostly we're disappointed. Responsible government requires responsible people. Mark Antony summed it up pretty well in Act 3, scene 2 of "Julius Caesar," so we're taking a cue from the Bard in telling you all how we at *La Voz* feel.

Friends, De Anza College students and staff, lend us your ears.

We come to mourn De Anza student government elections, not to praise them; the evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interred with their bones.

So let it be with elections ... *La Voz* hath told you the students were apathet-

ic: if it were so, it was a grievous fault, and grievously hath the elections process answered it.

Here, of the elections committee and the rest, (for the senate is full of honorable students; so are they all; all honorable students) comes *La Voz* to speak of the election's woes.

We believe elections to be important, and worthy of notice: but students have responded by not voting; and the student population is an honorable one.

DASB hath supported many programs for the students, whose fees do the general coffers fill with an approximately \$1 million yearly budget: did the student trustee candidates, the DASB presidential candidates, the candidates for senator seem too ambitious?

When that the poor students have cried, the candidates hath wept: governments could not be made of better stuff:

Yet De Anza students did not turn out in droves to vote for them; and the students are honorable people.

You all did not see that on the day

the debate was to be held a few candidates stood upon the stage, but not enough, and in front of no audience: was this the students' ambition? The candidates' ambition?

Yet the students will surely want some government to hand out funds, and, sure, they are honorable students.

We speak not only to disapprove of students who forfeit their right to some self-determination, but here we are to speak what we do know.

You all do want your student fees to go to good use, not without cause: what cause withholds you then to mourn for an election in which less than 3 percent of student's votes, the amount needed to ratify the results, were cast in one week?

O judgement! thou art fled to brutish beasts, and students have lost their reason ... bear with us;

Our heart is in the coffin there with our hopes of a well-run election with high voter turnout, and we must pause till it comes back to us.

Letter to the Editor

Candidate explains low voter turnout

Dear Editor

De Anza is not a high school, where the cheerleaders paint the names of their favorite student government candidates on their faces and arms, and everyone has known everyone as far back as kindergarten.

And De Anza is not a four-year college where students proudly wear their school sweatshirts because they feel they are the elite who have earned a competitive admission.

Behind the low voter turnout in this year's DASB elections, there is a student psychology that exists in community colleges across California. Any community college student government faces the same ironic problem, a lack of community among the students.

A spirit of solidarity is hard to establish within a student group so diverse. The age range of a De Anza student could extend from 16 to 83, the educational goals could span from the self-enrichment of one swimming class to perfection of a resume before applying to graduate school, and geography reaches from walking distance from the college to an hour's drive from Salinas. No high school is populated by a student body so individually different.

The second major factor is the inherent nature of a two-year college, and the ever-changing face of the student body. Due to the transitory nature of most of the students, a candidate would have difficulty developing a voting base that has not graduated and moved on.

Moreover, a student who is transferring probably sees little value of helping to elect a student government that he will not be around to see in action.

The high transfer rates that give De Anza its reputation are also the numbers of students who don't see a reason to care about a DASB they will leave behind.

In consideration of these facts, the blame for apparent voter apathy should not fall on the DASB. We do what we can for as many students as we can.

Thank you to all those who voted.

Anna Callahan
 Student

Parking structure name not so bad

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the editorial in the May 31 edition of *La Voz*, titled, "A Structure by any other name ..." I disagree with the editorial; I don't feel that the name of the new parking structure is any indicator that De Anza is encouraging banality or discouraging creativity.

De Anza offers plenty of support in the creativity department - check out the many different art programs. I support the statements made by Donna Jones-Dulin that the name of the structure is fitting because Stelling Road is where the new parking structure is located.

The name is appropriate and self-explanatory in my opinion, just as it should be. The name is simple, direct, and leaves no room for getting lost or any other confusion.

Gena Martin
 Student

Front page illustration by Steve Cabana

De Anza Voices

COMPILED BY SYLVIA LAM
 LA VOZ

Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?



"Becoming a police officer - knocking down one bad guy at a time and being successful in my career."

-Raul Rosales



"Hopefully I'll be married and successful in whatever career I choose."

-Elicia Sanchez



"I see myself somewhere in suburbia, hopefully with a family. I could pursue something in film or business marketing."

-David McKenzie



"Hopefully I'll be doing something in physical therapy with a professional sports team as a sports trainer."

-Marcus Anderson

Star Struck

BY MELISSA LEWIS
LA VOZ

Every year, Americans waste time, money, energy, and other resources on a recreation that has absolutely no social value. No, I'm not talking about NASCAR, I'm talking about the pre-occupation with celebrities and their personal lives.

Brad and Jen broke up because Brad wants Angelina, who used to be married to Billy Bob, and before that, like, so totally kissed her own brother.

This sounds like part of a conversation I would have suffered in junior high, not the content of mass media. It's both. And it makes me want to claw out my own eyes while waiting in line to pay for my groceries.

Celebrities, at least in the Hollywood context, are frequently carbon-based bipedal life-forms like the kid who sits next to you in class and never stops tapping crappy new metal beats on the side of his desk. The difference is that they have, talented or not, climbed the ladder of prestige made with child-labor and whose ubiquitous images you suffer on a daily basis.

I have favorite celebrities – Jon Stewart, Uma Thurman, and Paris Hilton. (Paris Hilton is on the list only because she reminds me of everything a woman should never embody.) However, I am as interested in their sex lives and bathroom habits as I am in those of the neighbor's dog – except I'd rather the dog be fertile than Hilton. They never have and never will shape who I am as a human being; in their personal lives, they have as much influence over the future as anyone does.

This is the power of the film and television actor, the musician, the author and every other celebrity: to influence whatever medium in which they work. Undoubtedly arts and entertainment shape culture and vice-versa, as we have observed throughout the recorded history of humanity. However, the celebrities' STDs, fits of anger, blemishes, and tears mean nothing to the starving and dying people of the world, and yet their pregnancy scares take precedent over themes of real human triumph and tragedy every day.

These people are not role models unless we

want them to be. They are not elite, glamorous, or eating three meals a day unless we want them to be. It's more important that we determine if they are edifying than if they're adulterous.

We, as Americans, as people living in a country of legendary accomplishments, innovation and strength of resolve, should take the initiative to remove the power of celebrity to occupy and empty our minds and wallets. These frequently overpaid and overrated people only have as much prowess as we give them, and we give them too much.

Paris Hilton is not a single mother working two full-time jobs to support her children, Ryan Seacrest is not defending our country, and the fact that Paula Abdul could be having an affair with a contestant on the worthless TV show currently paying her bills shouldn't offend us as much as the TV show's existence should.

On the "National Enquirer's" Web site, the second-least popular forum is the "war on terror" forum, with six topics and 22 replies. The "celebrities" forum has 71 topics and 92 replies. Good to know where the readers' priorities lie.

According to the "Top 25 Audit Bureau Circulation Surveyed Magazines" by Plunkett Research, Limited in 2000, the National Enquirer was in 7th place with a revenue of \$173,176,407.

This is, coincidentally, how much it would cost to buy about 8,000 De Anza College students a 2005 Honda Civic Hybrid. If only the suckers who bought the magazine that year had known how many of us maintain full-time jobs and still dedicate much of our lives to our education while driving beat-up economy cars.

The point of this article is both to vent and to implore. You must stop patronizing the same people who already make millions from the movies and television shows you watch. Use your resources to indicate to the bloated media parasites that you'd rather read the news that actually affects you and the rest of humanity.

Britney Spears and the rest of the silicone society was born and will die like the rest of us, and the rest of the details can stay within the multi-million dollar homes where they belong.



"Block the vote" redux

DE ANZA ELECTIONS SUFFER FROM LOW VOTER TURNOUT

BY SCOTT LIPSIG
LA VOZ

You know, when Dan Sealana and I wrote our "Block the vote" article for the May 16 issue of *La Voz*, we didn't expect the election committee to take the headline so literally.

We were attempting to send a message to the student body: don't vote for candidates you know nothing about, and, yes, we were suggesting that to be an informed voter, you might want to learn a little about the senate.

The message didn't take hold in the way we hoped it would.

I was shocked when I first learned Lilya Mitelman was disqualified by the election committee, and downright irritated when I heard that the committee reversed its decision the very next day.

Shouldn't the election committee have looked for ways to, oh, I don't know, get more students to vote, instead of throwing away the votes it already had because its members couldn't make up their minds?

Anna Callahan's retort to our article in a letter to the editor, while warranted, didn't carry the discussion where we had hoped. It's not that we don't understand what the DASB Senate does, what it is, or even how important it is. We do. But the vast majority of students, despite pressure to become involved, don't know anything about the senate.

That includes what it does, how much money it handles, how many computers it has ... and what's disturbing is how many students just don't care. (For the record, I'm not one of them. I voted.)

Yes, I really do want to see elections occur in which students actually turn out to show their support for the next set of student body officers. These students are competing for the

honor of representing us. When we fail to vote, we disrespect ourselves.

Student ignorance and apathy are recurring problems. De Anza College is a commuter college, which doesn't help. Nobody lives on campus, and most students don't have enough personally invested in the college to care what happens to it. And now we're facing a terrible reality: a senate without senators, a campaign without platforms (or debates, sheesh) and an election without voters.

To the MEChA club, which advocated a boycott of the elections: I hope you're happy. Your boycott has been a resounding success. It probably wasn't because of anything you did, but the voting did take an entire extra week this year. Congratulations on what I'm sure is a hollow victory.

Maybe you, the reader, don't think I should be arguing. "Be satisfied your vote counts for so much," you might be saying.

But I'm appalled that even I don't fully know where my vote is going. It's my job to keep up with what's happening at De Anza, but I don't have time to corner every senate hopeful and grill them on what they stand for and what they hope to achieve next year.

The debates never happened, and I think I've been robbed. It's irresponsible to think that students can somehow vote effectively without hearing from the people they will allow to make decisions on their behalf, and it sounds as though several of the candidates dropped the ball and just didn't bother showing up to debate..

At least current senate president Nadine Foster-Mahar has been out recruiting people to vote, and I don't think she's used bribes to draw people to the tables. Of course, Foster-Mahar is graduating this year – leaving De Anza to the next generation of student senators.

Heaven help us.



BY SARAH GAHAN
LA VOZ

I will be the first person to admit that I am not good with money. It's not that I'm incapable of saving – it's more that I prefer not to.

That's why I had to think twice about taking some loans offered to me by the graduate school I'll be attending in the fall.

I'm worried I'll spend the money just because I have it, and then I'll be several thousand dollars in debt, and then I'll be hospitalized after a freak zeppelin accident and then I'll lose my health insurance and die alone in poverty.

It's not the most rational train of thought, I know. Especially since my fiancé has a good job and health insurance, and my parents are going to help me out with grad school expenses – that, and zeppelin accidents aren't so common these days.

Mainly, I just didn't want to take the loans because so many of my friends and former roommates are still paying off college loans and credit card debt accumulated during college. We went to UC

Santa Barbara, which was pretty expensive. It wasn't just the rent, either.

There were the many, many nights spent downtown at the bars, the spring break vacations, the endless trips to the mall for clothes to wear when going out, going to the beach, and – oh, yeah, books for class and stuff.

I don't want to discourage any De Anza College students planning to transfer in the fall from taking financial aid and loans, though.

I didn't take loans, but I worked about 20 hours a week while taking full courseloads. My GPA wasn't bad, but it could have been better.

I could have found internships instead of cranking out mochas at the campus center coffee shop. (I also could have spent less on clothes, drinks, and sushi, but I wouldn't have enjoyed college quite as much. I guess I have a problem with deferred gratification.)

"I guess I have a problem with deferred gratification."

Student loans tend to be a pretty good deal, especially subsidized loans. If you do a stint in the Peace Corps or Americorps after graduating, you can sometimes defer loan payment or get part of your debt forgiven.

Every news story I hear about debt laments how many Americans are in it. We're charge-happy. Maybe we all just like feeling that we're doing our part to boost the economy.

We're not always smart about putting our money to use, either.

One of my friends, a former roommate, was paying 12 percent interest on her credit card and not using her savings – earning less than 2 percent interest – to pay it off. Her reasoning was, "What if there's an emergency?"

College students are especially vulnerable to the lure of plastic.

We want to keep up with the Joneses even though we're saddled with tuition,

book costs, and rent.

We want to spend and spend, even though we're not bringing in the dough because we're busy studying.

I'm no different. I never get too far into debt, but I'm never far away from it, either. I like buying stuff I like, and when my paycheck doesn't quite cover it I reach for the credit card.

Sometimes it's hard to know what purchases you're going to regret making, and which you'll regret not making. I don't have any easy answers.

Or rather, I think we all know what we need to do to stay out of debt. It just happens to be difficult, while getting into debt is almost effortless.

It seems that the best thing to do is just to be mindful of where your money is going.

Think about the difference between what you need and what you want. Think about where you see yourself in ten years, and what you want to be paying for.

I'm taking my loans. The debt? A few grand. A graduate degree? Priceless.

Sarah Gahan is a weekly columnist for La Voz. Comments should be directed by e-mail to lavoz_holdthatthought@yahoo.com

Hold *that* Thought:

Money Matters

Health Fair educates student body

BY KATHERINE NGUYEN
LA VOZ

Curious and concerned students gathered in the Main Quad for De Anza College's spring Health Fair last Thursday.

The fair was organized by Mary-Jo Lomax, a health educator for Health Services, and the De Anza Associated Student Body senate.

"The focus is on tobacco control, but we invited a variety of organizations," Lomax said.

Representatives from Nicotine Anonymous, De Anza Nutrition and Health Club, Stanford Prevention Research Center, American Lung Association, Peninsula Stroke Association, Homestead Chiropractic Clinic, and an AIDS prevention organization called Targeted Expansion Project for Outreach and Treatment all had booths at the event.

"We're trying to change the smoking policy on campus and district-wide," Lomax said. "The committee working on the smoke-free campus proposal will present its plans to the De Anza-Foothill Community College District Board of Trustee on June 6."

Advocates propose a smoke-free De Anza campus, excepting designated areas such as certain parking lots.

A variety of groups passed out pamphlets, brochures, Frisbees, pins, stickers, magnets, wristbands, condoms, lubricant,

candy, postcards, newsletters and other informational items.

"We have pamphlets informing students about healthy eating. We're also the De Anza branch of Earthsave, a non-profit organization that promotes plant-based diets," Nutrition and Health Club treasurer Tahirih Maddela said.

The Stanford Prevention Research Center recruited students to participate in a study comparing the reaction times of smokers and non-smokers. Volunteers will be paid \$50 for their time – one hour at the Stanford campus – and participation.

"The study started in February and the results will be presented next fall at a conference," said Leslee Throckmorton Belzer, postdoctoral fellow at the research center.

She said, "We're interested in why students between the ages of 18 and 24 are still not quitting smoking. The study looks at one aspect why they don't and we hope to prove this one reason."

Lamont Jones, program educator for the American Lung Association, said his organization wants to inform students about the dangers of smoking.

He was appalled at the number of smokers on campus.

"It's like being in Europe at De Anza, because everyone is lighting up and smoking here. It's even worse because the campus is enclosed, and second-hand smoke affects everyone,"

Lamont said.

Nicotine Anonymous, an organization similar to Alcoholics Anonymous, held an informational booth next to the American Lung Association.

The organization features a 12-step program for people who want to stop smoking, representative Gloria Brown said.

Brown smoked for 43 years and finally quit at the age of 60 with the help of Nicotine Anonymous.

The Targeted Expansion Project for Outreach and Treatment passed out lucky red envelopes containing condoms and lubricant.

Since condoms are sometimes viewed negatively in Asian Pacific communities, the red envelopes are meant to bring a positive connotation to safe sex TEPOP health educator Walter Chang explained.

"We hope to break down that taboo in the Asian Pacific community and that safe sex should not be pushed aside," Chang said.

The group featured two informational boards displaying different types of lubrication and condoms available to students.

"We provide STD, HIV, hepatitis and other prevention information for the students. We also administer surveys and provide slightly scaled or free health services to students who don't have the means to obtain it through their health care



Katherine Nguyen/ LA VOZ

Koji Sakakibara, a TEPOP health educator, presents his 'Rubber Rainbow' poster on different types of condoms. Students examined the water-filled condoms to decide which type is most appealing. Free samples were passed out.

provider," Chang said.

Dr. Helga Kovacs of the Homestead Chiropractic Group gave a free complete chiropractic exam to students at the fair. The exam included a spinal exam and a nervous system check-up.

"This is our third year here at the Health Fair. Our purpose is to expand people's knowledge of other options for health care. We care about the students and serving the community," Kovacs said.

"We probably had between 50 to 100 people stop by. All in all, it was a successful event. We're happy that we had representatives from the community as well as clubs. All of the invitees thought it was successful and worth their while, which is always nice to hear" Lomax said.

After you quit smoking: Within 20 minutes

- Blood pressure drops to normal
- Pulse rate drops to normal rate
- Body temperature of hands and feet increases to normal

After 8 hours

- Carbon monoxide level in blood drops to normal
- Oxygen level in blood increases to normal

After 24 hours

- Chance of heart attack decreases

After 48 hours

- Nerve endings regrow
- Ability to smell and taste begin to improve

Courtesy of Nicotine Anonymous

Stories published only online

Breaking News
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l a v o z d e a n z a . c o m

Elections cease, Noor to be student trustee

BY SCOTT LIPSIG
LA VOZ

At 4 pm Friday, Maryam Noor was officially declared the winner of the student trustee election with 197 votes – a mere 5 votes ahead of Lilya Mitelman, her sole competitor.

"It was a close call," said Student Activities Administrative Assistant Dennis Shannakian. He said that since the race was so close, the Scantron forms used as ballots in the election were hand-checked twice for accuracy.

Noor will be sworn in as student trustee today at the 6 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting, which will be held in conference rooms A and B inside Hinson campus center.

DASB results will not be known until later this week, according to Shannakian.

Today at 4 p.m., all candidates must hand in expense reports to the Student Activities office. 4 p.m. today is also the deadline for all DASB candidates to submit grievance forms, if necessary.

By Tuesday at 4 p.m., all campaign materials must be

taken down from around campus. If any candidate fails to observe this time limit, he or she may face disqualification.

The DASB Election Committee will reconvene on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. to consider grievances and candidate expenses, and on Thursday or Friday the DASB ballots will be counted. The results will be announced shortly thereafter.

The elections were extended one extra week in order to allow a greater percentage of De Anza students to vote.

Voting ceased Friday at noon in order to allow the new student trustee to be sworn in today. "There was no way to extend it," said Mitelman after Friday's announcement.

"They have to swear in the [new] student trustee on Monday."

The election committee unanimously voted to disqualify Mitelman on May 24 for failing to remove an election banner visible from the polling area. On May 25, the same committee threw out a week's worth of student trustee votes when it decided 14-1 to allow Mitelman to run. Mitelman said that the overall election had received enough votes for certification, but that the votes for student trustee did not represent 3 percent of the student body.

Photo courtesy of Student Activities



Noor

Withdrawal of 12 staff layoffs possible

BY KATHERINE NGUYEN
LA VOZ

Twelve employees previously slated for layoff will keep their jobs if the De Anza-Foothill Community College District Board of Trustee votes to rescind the layoffs at its meeting tonight.

"More recent information coming from the legislature and governor about funding for community colleges has enabled us to take this action," Chancellor's assistant Jon O'Bergh said.

On May 2, the board approved plans to lay off 13 employees on July 1 and 12 more employees on Aug. 31 because of lack of funding. Some of those employees could exercise "bumping rights," in which they would displace employees in other positions, and thus keep their jobs.

On June 6, the board will vote whether to rescind 12 layoffs, including three De Anza academic advisors and the executive director of the Euphrat Museum.

President of the Board of Trustees Robert "Sandy" Hayes said that there will be "substantial improvement" in the layoff situation.

The human resources department, headed by Vice Chancellor Jane Enright, will be presenting the plans at the meeting.

The Board of Trustee meeting will be held at De Anza College in Conference Rooms A and B starting at 6 p.m.

JUNE TRANSFER WEEK—JUNE 6-10

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TEACHING through experience



Photo illustration by Ryan Bell and Sarah Joy Callahan/ LA VOZ

Pauline Waathiq helps students with learning disabilities in the Educational Diagnostic Center. She is the recipient of the Distinguished Educator Award for the month of June.

BY SARAH JOY CALLAHAN
LA VOZ

Students may pass Pauline Waathiq on their way to the Open Media Lab every day without ever giving a second thought to who she is or the groundbreaking program she directs.

The Educational Diagnostic Center, located in Learning Center West behind the library but above the lab, is dedicated to assisting students with learning disabilities through college.

Selected for the month of June as De Anza's eighth Distinguished Educator, she is different from past Distinguished Educators in that the average student won't find her in front of a chalkboard on their first day of class.

"I thought that it was unique to pull in a student services person," she said. "But I certainly think of myself as an educator."

Waathiq was born in Pennsylvania and moved to California with her first husband. She began majoring in English, but later switched to speech and language.

"I've always been interested in learning," she said. "I'm really interested in how people learn." Mobiles of brains hang throughout the center, a

reminder of what's behind the learning process.

Waathiq is the fourth director of the program and named Karen Halliday, a previous director as her mentor and the one who directed interest into her particular field.

The disability program at De Anza was established in 1973, one of the first in the country for college students.

"Adults didn't have learning disabilities in the old days" she said. "It was something you grew out of." She says that just a few decades ago, the term "learning disability" was never used. Many learning disabilities were lumped together as "dyslexia."

Waathiq teaches guidance classes that focus on the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic for students who don't test into even the lowest levels of mainstream classes. She spends her time teaching English and works on developing such skills as spelling and pronouncing multi-syllable words.

Because Waathiq always worked with her strengths, she was unaware that she herself had ADHD, or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, until she participated in a learning survey.

"If I would have had this lab, it

would have been a lot easier" she said. "I wouldn't have had the self-esteem issues like in high school." She observes that since women are usually not hyperactive, for them ADD often goes undiagnosed. She also says that learning disabilities can be an underlying factor in depression.

Part of Waathiq's job is being a counselor for her students, from which she draws upon her personal experience.

"I love telling people, "you're really smart," she said. She says of her 31 years at De Anza, "Working here is like a gift."

Judy Miner, Vice President of Instruction, is responsible for creating and presenting the Distinguished Educator Award.

"Judy Miner is a real sneak," Waathiq said. "She came in and said she was interviewing me for a "grant."

Shortly after, Waathiq walked into a meeting to discover her colleagues waiting to honor her. "I don't like surprises" she said. "Oh my God, don't surprise me. But it was a good surprise."

Students can nominate a distinguished educator at: http://www.deanza.edu/instruction/dea_form.html.

Dunn reflects on time spent as student trustee

BY KHARMAN AIDUN
LA VOZ

Over the past year, Melanie Dunn has dealt with plenty of people, papers, and politics. She served as De Anza College's representative on the Foothill-De Anza Board of Trustees.

Dunn first decided to run for Student Trustee in the 2003-2004 election but lost to Adam Welch, who she claims was a better candidate at the time.

"After losing I was even more driven to run," Dunn stated in a letter to La Voz.

While she decided to get more involved with campus issues such as participating in the March in March, protesting to lower tuition by volunteering with Students for Justice, and working against the budget cuts.

"Melanie is a very open, accepting, and talented person," said Hala Hyatt, ICC Chair of Programs.

While she was doing volunteer work around the campus she was also working full time to support herself, since she did not qualify for financial aid.

Dunn said she wanted to let school officials know that when making important decisions that they should consider what is best for the students. She decided to align herself with Student Alliance.

"I felt that I needed to represent the college on a broader level," Dunn Stated.

Dunn ran once again for student trustee in the 2004-2005 election against Tara Vannsenyann and Sid Krishnan. She won by 118 votes against the second place candidate, Vannsenyann.

"I didn't know that Melanie was student trustee when I first met her," said Maryam Noor, who is currently running for the position of Trustee. "She is sweet and gives you a sense of confidence when you speak to her."



Dunn

see TRUSTEE, page 6

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“Lords of dogtown” will lull you to sleep SKATEBOARDING MOVIE FAILS TO DO THE TRICK

BY REENA SAMAAAN
U-Wire

A feature movie about the beginnings of the skateboarding counterculture and its inception into extreme sports has made it to Hollywood, but “Lords of Dogtown” might leave audiences extremely bored.

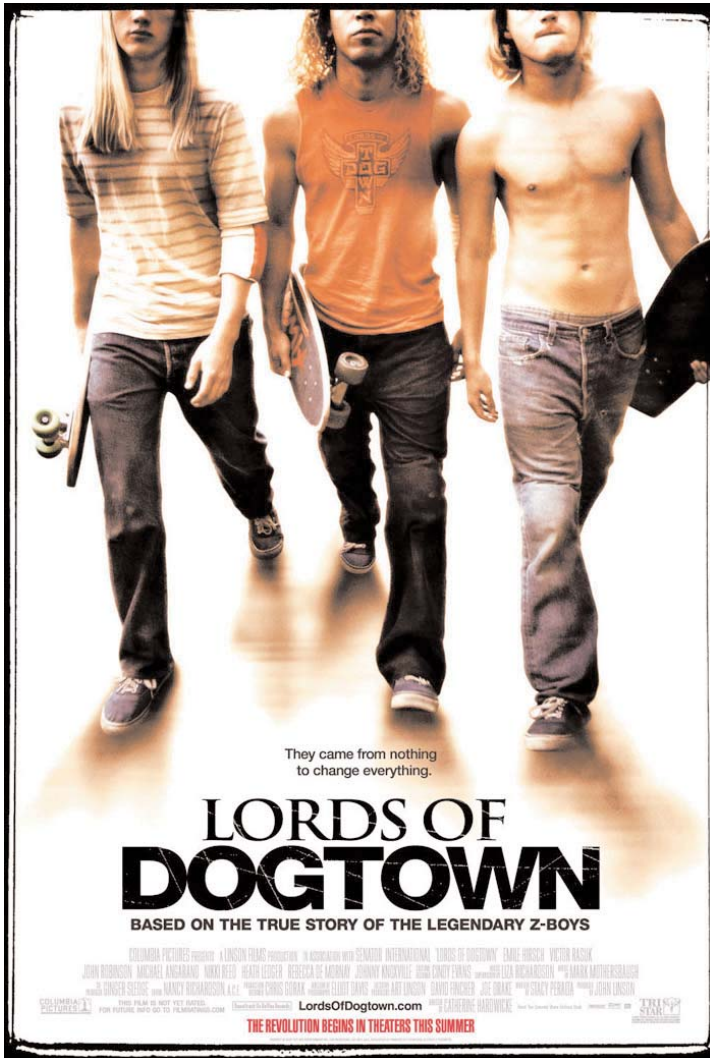
Written by former pro-skateboarder Stacy Peralta, the film follows Z-Boys Tony Alva (played by Victor Rasuk), Jay Adams (played by Emile Hirsch), and Stacy Peralta (played by John Robinson) in Venice, Calif., during the mid-1970s. Reckless and irresponsible, the teens sneak out of their parents' homes to surf in the early morning and cause trouble in “Dogtown,” a neighborhood in Venice Beach -- termed the “ghetto by the sea.”

Actor Heath Ledger plays Skip Engblom, a drunken washed-up hippie of a man who builds skateboards and surfboards for his Zephyr Surf Shop. He receives a package of urethane wheels (which grip to concrete, unlike its predecessor) and has the Z-Boys try them out on one of his skateboards.

Impressed by the performance of the new wheels and the radical moves on the board by the boys, Engblom decides to create the Zephyr Skateboard Team after he realizes “There’s money in this,” Engblom said in the movie.

After practicing everyday, the eight skaters travel to compete in their first competition where they shock not only the audience but also the judges.

Among 360s and 180-degree slides, the Z-Boys showcase never before seen extreme skating moves so outlandish that the sportscaster



was baffled by what to call them.

The competition ends in a gleeful yet bitter note.

With trophies in hand and obvious pride in their hearts, the Z-Boys engage in a fist-fight with the referee after Alva is disqualified -- the perfect foreshadow of the intense hostility to come.

With only one competition out of the way, the penniless Z-Boys immediately become rock stars of the skate world, and it is not because of their hair.

Skateboards are their instruments; vandalism takes the part of trashing hotel rooms; empty swimming pools are used as rehearsal space; fans are mostly groupies and the skate competitions are their concerts.

Competition after competition brings hometown and eventually national fame to Adams, Alva, and Peralta.

They score the front cover of Skateboard Magazine and deals with bigger skateboard companies -- but not without a conflict.

Ego-maniac, Alva, betrays Zephyr and joins Team Alvar, headed by Topper Burks, played by Johnny Knoxville.

“I want to make money,” Alva said to his teammates in response to why he decides to leave Zephyr. “I want to get laid every night.”

However, Alva is not the only one who sells out. Soon after, Peralta signs with G&S Skateboards, at the time the biggest skateboard manufacturer in the U.S.

Adams quits skateboarding altogether to join a gang, and every character in the film begins to fall apart before the predictable and unexciting ending of this movie is revealed.

There is nothing to figure out. Undoubtedly, “Lords of Dogtown” is inspired by the true story of the tidal wave that these skaters rode from the bottom to the top before it crashed and eventually panned out.

“What we didn’t realize is that the little wheels under our feet were going to take us on a ride through life that none of us expected,” Peralta said in a press release.

Although the film has been deemed a story about the birth of extreme skateboarding, even boarders may find themselves, well, bored by the constant repetition of fast-action cinematography and slow plot recognition.

There is a slight positive aspect to this, however -- frequent smoke breaks, snack runs, and trips to the restroom won’t cause viewers to miss a thing for the majority of the film.

La Voz is looking for film and television reviewers for our summer magazine. E-mail Steven Cabana at Lavoz@fhda.edu for information.

Trustee | rewarding position

continued from page 5

Dunn said that the most rewarding thing about being trustee is being able to represent De Anza college at the board level and to be respected and recognized by the academic community.

“I feel honored,” Dunn stated, “The position is what you make it, and I focused on holding dialogues with campus administration, like Brian Murphy and Judy Miner.”

The claims the position was challenging for her. Some of the responsibilities of becoming trustee include, meeting with the college president, attending student government meetings, and meeting with the college chancellor.

With all that she was doing, volunteering, working, and filling the position as Trustee, Dunn says that it was a huge challenge to juggle her schedule so everything worked out.

Dunn also says that there are other non-required responsibilities such as representing the school at events, banquets, charity gatherings, just basically being a type of role model.

“Overall I loved my experience as student trustee,” she stated, “I felt it was truly a learning experience. I learned a lot about college legislation, and how the government funds education, I learned so much I cannot list all of the great experiences.”

There is a lot that goes in to being the Student Trustee, that it isn’t for everyone. One must possess certain qualities to do the job well.

“She really helped me out by giving me information on becoming Student Trustee.” Says Noor.

Qualities such as being a good listener, being able to talk to your peers, knowing about agenda items, and feeling comfortable about your decisions were some of the things Dunn listed.

But the most important quality Dunn states in her letter is the ability to hold conversations with students, because they are the people that you represent.

Because of the position as Trustee she says “I feel now I have the experience and capabilities to branch out into society.”

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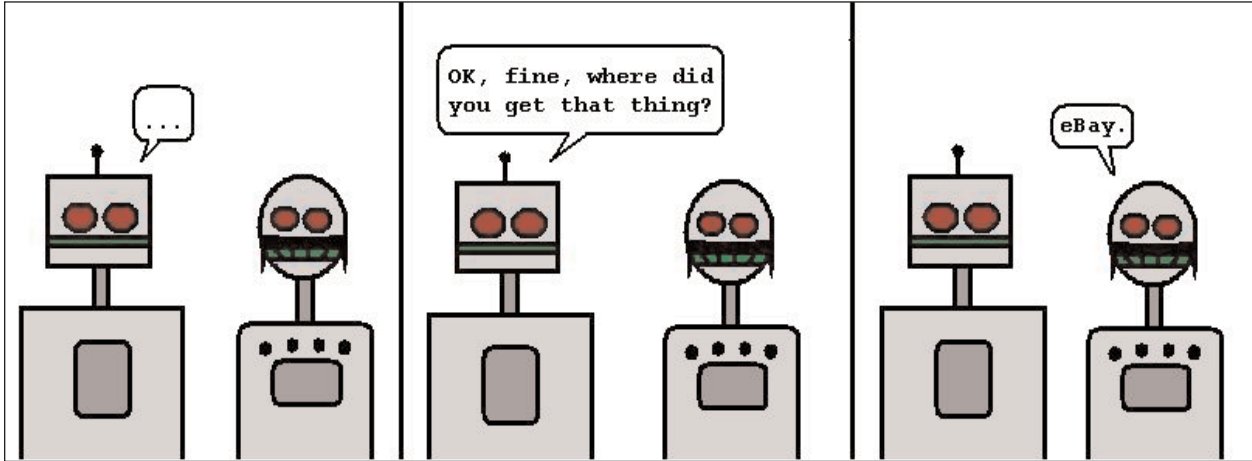
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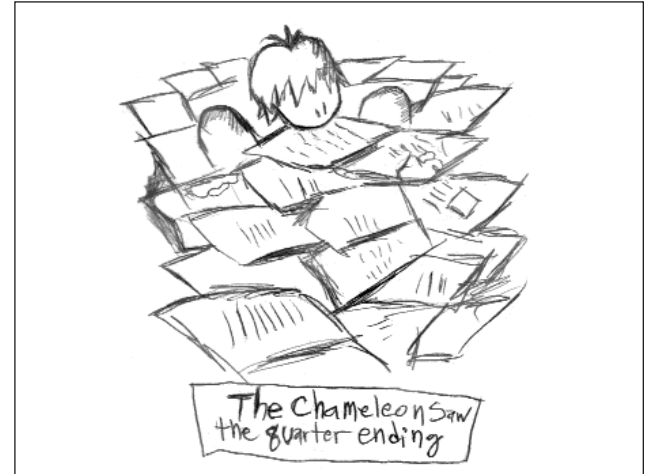
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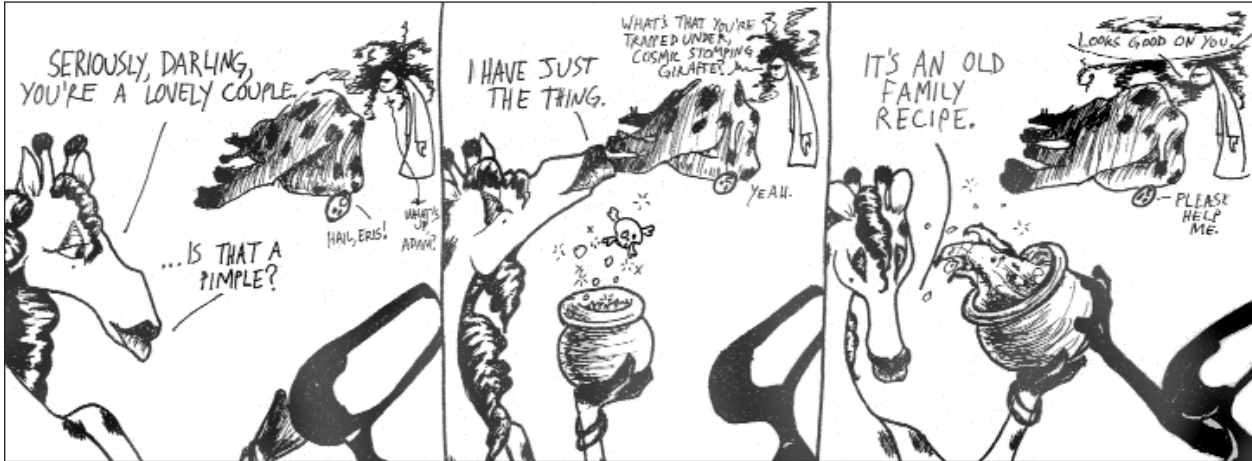
The Rebooted | Sarah Gahan



Joy Comes Bottled | Sarah Joy Callahan



Not Nowhere | Dodge Stewart



Horoscope | Sarah Gahan

Next week will be the last time horoscopes written by the illustrious Madame Sarah will grace these pages. All year, your future (or the future for you in an alternate universe) has been revealed to you by Madame Sarah. Why is Madame Sarah referring to herself in the third person and calling herself "Madame?" Usually, it's just "Sarah." It is because she realizes she will miss her duties as De Anza's resident prognosticator. But she is also tired of writing horoscopes, so this week she will instead let you read the first chapter of her sure-to-be-award-winning novel, tentatively titled "The Tentative Title." Like it? Don't like it? What do you know anyway? Have you written an award-winning novel? No? Well, then, it's great and you should say it's great. It's going to be the next "Da Vinci Code" except, you know, it'll deserve to be popular.

"The Tentative Title"
Chapter 1: The Opening Chapter

The first sentence reached out and grabbed the reader with yellowed, crusty fangs. The reader frantically pawed at the first sentence's claws, trying to pry their vise-like grip from his throat. The reader's name was Joe. Joe Trout. Joe had been in danger like this before. This sentence was strong, but it wasn't the worst he'd ever faced. Still gripping the sentence with one hand, he slipped his other hand into his pocket and pulled out a slim, silver sliver which gleamed sharp in the darkness of the library. The sentence reared back and retreated into its dusty, bedraggled tome.

"Didn't like that much, did you?" Joe sneered, pocketing the exclamation point. He pulled a pack of cigarettes from the front pocket of his shabby tweed coat. Carefully ignoring the Surgeon General's warning, he lit one up and took a long, slow drag. The books in their dry leather jackets shuddered almost imperceptibly on their shelves as the tip of his cigarette glowed orange.

Joe paced back and forth in front of the desk, rubbing his fingertips together. The wilted cigarette hung from his lips like a weed growing from the face of a cliff. He kept his eyes on the book. It looked like it would rather be anywhere but here, on a desk in front of Joe Trout. It tried to look innocent, as if it were just some misplaced discount hardback from Barnes and Noble. Joe knew better. A man was dead, murdered, and this book knew something about it.

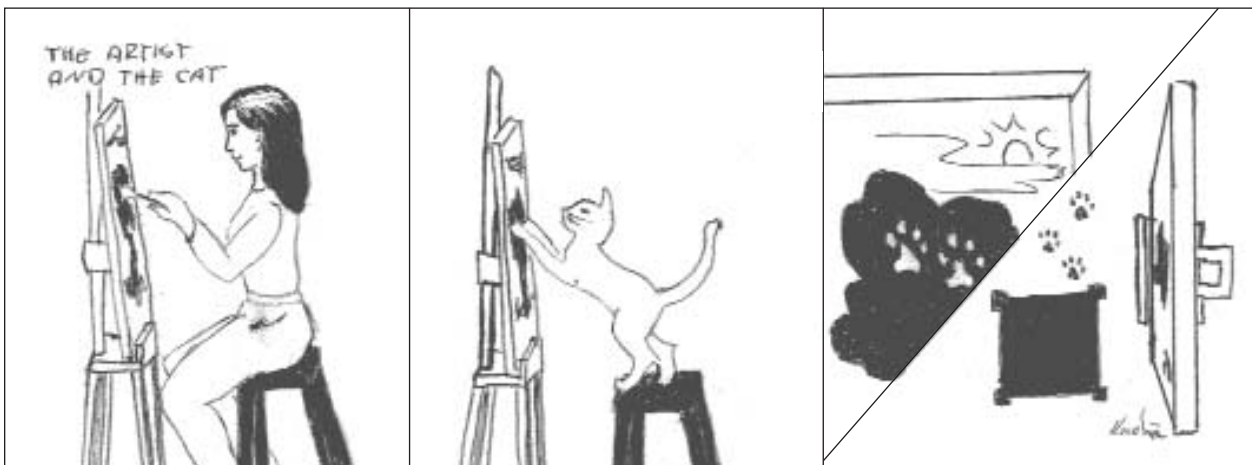
A week ago, a woman showed up at Joe's office. She had a crazy story, but she also had a big checkbook. So Joe listened to her story, writing down his grocery list as he listened so it would look like he was taking notes. A couple days of investigation, he thought, and she'd go away. Maybe see a shrink or something, which is what he remembered thinking she really needed - not some washed up literary detective with bunions and a bad back. Now, he wished he'd listened closer.

He leaned down over the book and gave it a long, cold, stare. He leaned closer, and whispered in a voice so low all the books in the library held their pages perfectly still to overhear him say -

"Tell me, or I'll break your spine."

With slow, terrified precision, the book opened. To just the right page.

Untitled | Karolina Lewis



A Day in the Life | Angela Tsai



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