

INSIDE

Spoken word artist Aya DeLeon speaks at De Anza to endorse creativity and encourage the reclaiming of hip-hop.

ARTS, Pages 10

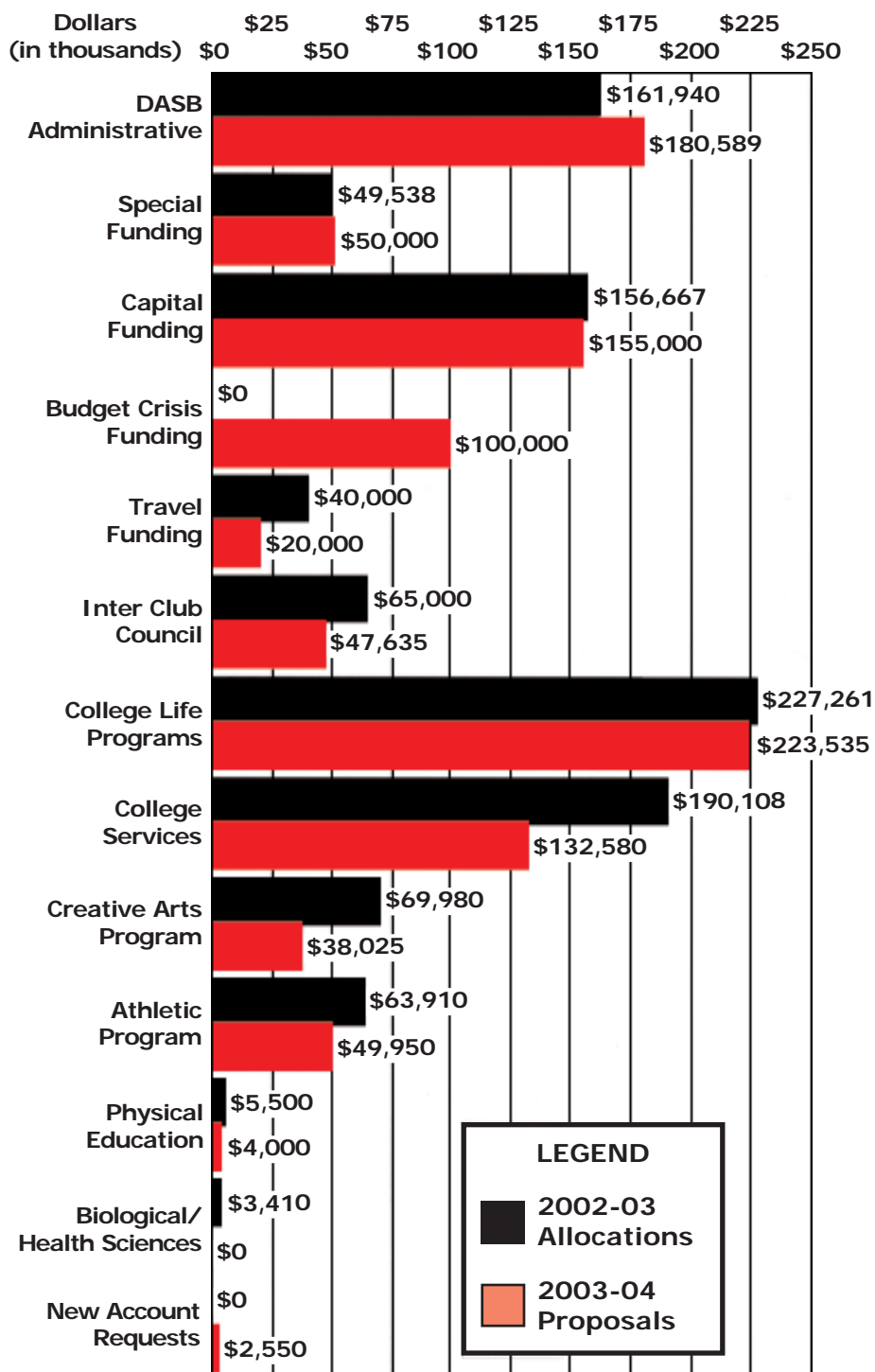


PROGRAMS VOICE CONCERNS AS DASB DISCUSSES BUDGET

SENATE HEARS TESTIMONY OF STUDENTS, FACULTY DURING EIGHT-HOUR MEETING; TOWN HALL SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY AT 12:30; DASB TO MEET AGAIN WEDNESDAY

How does next year's proposal compare to the 2002-03 budget?

The total budget proposal for 2003-04 is roughly \$30,000 less than this year's budget, but the Budget Committee wants to create a new \$100,000 crisis budget. How the proposal stacks up to the current budget:



Ling-Mei Wong, Karen Uyenco, James Newburg / La Voz

by Luke Stangel
La Voz

The DASB Senate began deliberations on next year's budget with an eight-hour meeting last Wednesday. Over three hours of the meeting were devoted to hearing testimony from students and faculty impacted by cuts proposed by the DASB Budget Committee.

Fifty members from 21 special interest groups were in standing attendance Wednesday night, taking 10 minutes per group to "passionately plea" for more money. Some students programs face up to 80 percent in cuts from the previous year's allocation.

The DASB organized a budget town hall meeting, scheduled from 12:30-2:30 p.m. for the general public. The purpose of the meeting will be to speak to senators about the budget crisis and the impact it will have on student programs. Senators who felt that they did not have enough information about the budget advocated for this meeting to take place.

It has not been decided if the meeting would

be in the Fireside Room or in Conference Rooms A and B of the Campus Center.

This year, the DASB is estimated to receive and distribute approximately \$1 million from student body card sales, the Flea Market, creative arts performances, accrued interest and a past surplus. This amount is less than it has been in previous years, compared to approximately \$1,251,000 in 2001-02, and \$1,028,000 in 2002-03.

Colin Pickel, vice president of budget and finance, attributes the projected decrease in funding to the DASB collecting less income from the flea market. After making \$325,000 from the market last year, the DASB is projected to take in \$278,000, a 15 percent drop. Pickel blames construction in the parking lots for the decrease in revenue.

"Cuts have to be made in programs," Pickel said.

Special interest groups on campus receive their funding from the state-sponsored district budget, the DASB student budget and public

see **BUDGET**, Page 5

What programs does the DASB Budget Committee want to cut?

For 42 programs, the Budget Committee has proposed that they cut their budgets at least \$1,000 from what they were in 2002-03. For 29 programs, the Budget Committee has proposed cuts of at least 40 percent.

Top 10 cuts by dollar amount

1. Travel Budget - \$20,000
2. DASB Scholarship/Book Grants - \$14,500
3. La Voz - \$10,900
4. Photography Department - \$10,000
5. General Diversity Events - \$10,000
6. Legal Aid - \$7,500
7. Diversity Leadership Training Project - \$7,000
8. Student Film/Video Production - \$6,375
9. ALTRANS - \$5,269
10. Multicultural/International Center - \$5,050

Top 10 cuts by percentage

1. Photography Department - 100%
2. ALTRANS - 100%
3. Graduation - 100%
4. Environmental Studies Area - 100%
5. Women's Badminton - 100%
6. Voter Registration/Get Out The Vote - 100%
7. Biology Student Recruitment - 100%
8. Student Film/Video Production - 88.5%
9. Herb Patnoe Jazz Festival - 66.7%
10. Food for DASB Leadership Training - 65.9%

Source: DASB

WHAT'S GOING ON

CAMPUS

College Advantage

How high school students at De Anza get highest priority for enrollment and how it may effect you.

Page 4

FEATURES

Are you a caffeine fiend?

Test your caffeine knowledge while peering though four days in the life of a caffeinated student.

Pages 8 and 9

CORRECTIONS and CLARIFICATIONS

"Returning student trades in his 0s and 1s for thous and thees," Feb. 24, Front Page
Photo by Karl Dotter

"Ocean researcher speaks at Flint," Feb. 24, Page 4
Photo by Naomi Blinick

"DA softball wins with rare grand slam in extra innings," Feb. 24, Page 7
Written by Payam Jahromi

LaVoz

The voice of
De Anza College
VOL. 36, ISSUE 18

JAMES NEWBURG
Editor-in-Chief
lavoz@fhda.edu

MARIECAR MENDOZA
Managing Editor
managinglavoz@hotmail.com

ABIGALE ALMERIDO,
Deputy Managing Editor
LING-MEI WONG, Campus Editor
MEERA KUMBHANI, Opinion Editor
ERNIE YBARRA, Features Editor
REZA KAZEMPOUR, Sports Editor
JULIO LARA, Assistant Sports Editor
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Assistant Arts Editor
KAREN UYENCO, Photo/Graphics Editor
MELISSA SWEAT, Online Editor
RON PANGRAC, Copy Editor
MICHAEL GREVELINK, Design Consultant

DEBORAH PEREZ, Advertising/
Office Manager
lavoz_ads@yahoo.com

JOSEPH BRUNA, Lab Technician
lavoz_labtech@yahoo.com

BETH GROBMAN-BURRUSS, Adviser
grobman@fhda.edu

Our Mission

Produced by students, *La Voz* is dedicated to covering news that matters to the diverse population of De Anza College and the surrounding community. As a First Amendment newspaper, *La Voz* takes full advantage of the freedom of the press afforded to all Americans. However, this freedom comes with a tremendous responsibility not to abuse it. *La Voz* strives to present news in a fair and accurate manner. *La Voz* approaches this task with absolute integrity and actively pursues the input of members of the De Anza community to make sure that goal is achieved.

About Us

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

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

The newsroom is located in room L-41 at De Anza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014.

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La Voz is partially funded by the DASB and is printed on recycled paper. Subscriptions are available, contact Office Manager Deborah Perez, 408-864-5626.

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Letters should not exceed two double-spaced, typed pages of no more than 300 words. Letter content must not be libelous or be intended to air unfounded personal grievances.

La Voz reserves the right to edit for length and clarity in accordance with Associated Press style, but will make no attempt to alter the letter's meaning.

Letters to the Editor should be sent via e-mail to lavoz@fhda.edu, or dropped off in the L-41 office.

The *La Voz* fax number is 408-864-5533.
SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT: *La Voz* strives for fair and accurate coverage. For corrections, please contact Editor-in-Chief James Newburg at lavoz@fhda.edu.

OPINION

DASB must lead during budget cuts



rezakazempour

When I heard a representative for Disabled Student Services plead her case for no cuts on behalf of her program, her speech was so motivating that I barely saw any dry eyes in the Council Chambers.

Those eyes soon dried up, as the next important thing on the agenda was their own agenda. The Senate came across whether or not its \$50,000 should be cut or not. I commend the senators who proposed a drastic cut in their scholarships to reallocate the funds to program that are in need of it.

However, I was furious as I heard senators justify the use of \$500 to be used as an incentive to fall back on volunteering

their time to serve as senators. Just because you represent the students on an administrative level, it doesn't allow you to determine what money should be reserved for Senate scholarship purposes.

If you want to represent the students, take some huge cuts, because that is exactly what the students you represent are going through.

Dang Le recognizes this.

Le, who is the vice president of administration, suggested that the Senate cut its \$50,000 in scholarships down to zero. Giving up this money is not the easiest thing to do in these times. Most students are struggling to pay for tuition, books, rent, car insurance and the other expenses that are part of being a college student. However, he realizes that there are people who need the money even more.

The first people to take cuts in this budget crisis should be the Senate. The true meaning of a leader is a virtue of giving up what you consider important for little or no reward. A leader is an

individual who makes sacrifices when they are needed most. They do not take care of themselves before others who are not in power to serve themselves. I am not here to teach you how to be a leader, nor am I saying that senators who want the scholarships are wrong in their justification. But in a time where the students of De Anza College are asking for money, do not abuse the powers given to you by those same students.

I currently have two jobs, putting in 20 units of classes and performing my editorial duties as required for *La Voz*, which alone requires 30-40 hours a week. I am not debate over whose job is more important or more time consuming, but I am here to say that there are other people who go out of their way to improve the status of De Anza.

The vote that you make this Wednesday night, please let it be the vote of a leader. This is my plea to the Senate to make the right judgment in the most important votes as a senator, and perform to the best of your abilities.

GUEST PERSPECTIVE

DASB senator responds to editorial

by Ole Petersen
Special to *La Voz*

I would like to begin by thanking the Student run newspaper staff for their diligence and hard work on *La Voz*, a first amendment based newspaper that serves as a powerful watchdog figure for all of the campus. However, as a Senator, I believe that there are some ideas in *La Voz's* editorial in last week's paper, which I must correct about the current proposed budget from the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee has cut several programs for next year's budget. This, of course, is a horrible loss to each program, and we wish we could fully fund every program that came to us. This year we had several teachers come to the DASB senate asking for funds to make capital purchases. One example of funding included hot plate stirrers for the chemistry department, which has been searching through dumpsters and garbage at local biotech industries to find. These pieces of equipment are absolutely necessary to the continuing education of many students for general education and completion of a degree. This is not an isolated case, but is a resounding problem

throughout the campus, especially true of Disabled Student Services and EOPS, which are taking a possible 43 percent cut.

With the recent cuts proposed by Governor Gray Davis, the DASB Senate clearly stated that our budget goals include "fund[ing] of programs that will help students succeed in achieving their academic or personal goals at De Anza College." Considering that statement, the finance committee has proposed placing \$100,000 into a special allocation denoted the "Budget Crisis Fund." This money will be open to those who ask for it, including *La Voz*, and many other programs that are currently being cut.

I would also like to mention that *La Voz* was misleading in their last opinion letter when they said, "The money for the student budget comes from students who attend De Anza when they pay for their DASB card and various other fees." This is true, however I would like to point out that nearly half of the money the Senate utilizes for student programs comes from outside sources, like interest, the Flea Market and Creative Arts. *La Voz* trivialized this information in order to make a more sensationalist statement. I am dis-

appointed that *La Voz* would target other student programs in a misleading way I order to secure more funding for itself. May I suggest *La Voz* take a more constructive role by participating in one of the many Finance meetings they never attended this year regarding our 2003-2004 budget, instead of making sensationalist statements that mislead the general student population.

In closing, I ask that *La Voz*, and any other programs that are dissatisfied with their funding, consider the ramifications of asking for more funding and who loses out when they do so. Does *La Voz* really need color printing, over possibly giving funding to programs like SLAMS, or the school for much needed capital purchases to further our educations? We use current and past data of student turnout and programs to predetermine a program's needs, and then fund them accordingly. If it turns out that they will need more money next year, then the \$100,000 Budget Crisis Fund will be there for them. In the future, I ask that *La Voz* research all the facts and information before making propagandist statements that lead their readers, the students of De Anza Community College astray.

Ole Petersen is a DASB Senator.

LETTERS

Tuition hike a travesty to international student's 'dreams of higher education'

Dear Editor,

I read the article "Students face fee hike," in your February 3, 2003 edition.

I am afraid this tuition hike will be the end of many students, including myself. I am already paying \$89 a credit more than my classmates and can't afford a dollar more. According to your article, neither can the "196,000 students expected to dropout." I don't qualify for financial aid and work will not compensate me for the cost of my tuition. That means the projected \$110 per credit cost of school will come directly out of my already fleeced pockets.

I don't make any more money than the next guy. I can only afford one class a semester. Now I don't think I can afford any. I think I will have to put my dreams of a higher education on hold and say farewell to my beloved college.

I came to De Anza because it was the cheapest place an

international student could go. I realize the college is hurting financially, and is soon to be \$10 million poorer. I have seen the same construction work going on for the last two years. With no money to finish the jobs, they lie and wait. We also have two condemned buildings on campus that serve as a constant reminder of budget constraints.

I am disappointed the government has let this happen. Supporting community colleges is a great way to ensure plenty of smart voters, or maybe that is their plan.

It's a well-known fact that when education is scarce, crime runs rampant. It would seem as though Davis is making room for all of us college dropouts in jail with his new budget.

*Jason Abrams,
student*



danieldebolt

The power of the masses

THE HISTORY OF PROTEST AND THE IMPORTANCE IT HOLDS TO THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD

We are living in dark times. Everyone is feeling the pinch as capitalism goes through its boom-to-bust cycle while we stand at the brink of war. Hundreds of thousands of people will be turned away from colleges next year because prisons were deemed more worthy of the state's money than community colleges. Is there anything that can be done? Are we just supposed to stand by and wait for change to come? Or, would protest work? *Does* protest work?

If you've ever opened a history book, you know the answer. Protest has made this world what it is today and is the only way we can create the world of tomorrow.

If it weren't for the brave and faithful who fought and died for better working conditions in the early 1900s, we would not have the 8-hour day or many of the laws that protect workers. If it weren't for all the freedom fighters of the 1960s who were willing to be put in front of fire hoses, machine guns and shouting racists, we would not have an awareness of racism and war that still reverberates today. Hell, our country was started because we protested, in

the form of a revolutionary war, against colonial rule by the British. Remember the Boston tea party? That was a form of protest. The constitution, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the end of slavery and our civil liberties are the result of protest.

The list of examples from history is endless, but one thing perplexes me: With our rich history of protest, why are so many put off by the sight of a protest march or rally?

It's amazing how fast we forget our history. De Anza is not immune to problems of short-term memory. In the four years I have been here, I have seen students use protest to successfully fend off two threats to De Anza's multiculturalism.

At De Anza all teachers are required to consider multicultural issues when teaching classes that meet general education curriculum requirements. In 1999, a few faculty members spearheaded a campaign to get rid of this requirement. If it were not for students who spoke out, organized a rally and crashed meetings to stop what they saw as a racist attack on education, multiculturalism at De Anza would be at a loss.

In 2001, the counseling department wanted to get rid of De Anza's unique intercultural studies (ICS) requirement for an A.A. degree. Unlike other community colleges, all students who transfer out of De Anza must take an ICS class, giving them the chance to learn to accept and understand people of different backgrounds. This is why we are able to have an ICS department that other junior colleges can only aspire to. Just as students of the 60s had to protest to get it started, students of just a couple of years ago had to protest to save it. If students had not been informed, involved, speaking out and attending academic senate meetings en masse, the ICS department would have been decimated.

No matter if you are fighting on a local, state, national or worldwide level, history is a cycle of oppression that is constantly repeating. People have never had true control over their lives and the social institutions that affect them.

No matter how slick and efficient the powerful think they are in operating their machines of bureaucracy and empire, there will always be that inhuman, non-demo-

cratic element that fills us with an unspoken rage. Centralized authority is imposed upon our workplaces, our classrooms our neighborhoods - the places we know best and are quite capable of running ourselves.

Until we learn that humans are not immune to the corruption that comes with imbalances of power, there will always be oppression of some sort and the need for some sort of resistance to it.

The United States was built on racism, violence, corruption, genocide, misinformation, war and unbridled capitalism. But, for as long as these have existed, there have been people who have resisted and protested, creating the foundation and a tradition we can build upon.

It's time we realized the value of protest; it's time we studied our history. If we don't, it will only repeat itself.

All hope for the future can be found at those rallies and marches you see at your school, in your neighborhood, on TV, or in the news. You may despise the way they look or the tactics they choose, but you are looking at the people who are writing history.

Forgetting to remember

'APATHY FOR HISTORY' LEAVES IMPORTANT LESSONS UNLEARNED



iamonthaliburton

In 1860, blacks in America had a combined net worth of half a percentage point of the entire worth of America. In 2001, after Civil Rights, Jesse Jackson, Oprah, Shaq, NAACP and Urban League, blacks combined net worth is still half a percentage point, according to the Black Think Tank.

In 1860, 98 percent of all blacks in America worked for white people. In 2001, 98 percent of all blacks in America still work for white people.

Time has passed with the purpose of teaching lessons. What we do with our time here at De Anza is receive lessons. The lesson that was acknowledged last month was one taught by the Diaspora of Africa. But as American culture is brewed together, in what Pastor Tony Williams of Maranatha Christian Center calls "a wonderful stew," the flavor of black people is becoming disoriented, and the lesson has been diverted.

It is better to think of the American experiment as a stew instead of a melting or assimilation pot, because like the ingredients of a stew, everyone keeps their flavor while rubbing off onto each other. A little bit of the potato jumps off and sticks on the carrot, and a little of the carrot jumps onto the meat, and the onion gets all over everything, but they keep their own flavor.

The problem with this experimental stew is that black people have lost a lot of flavor to the other ingredients in the mix, simultaneously losing a lot of favor. It is no accident that black people have a month named for their history. The history of America is the history of black people as Africans worked agriculture and lent political and social ideology to the white founders of the U.S. of A. before there was an America. There have also been many whites raised by black women in this country.

The assertion of the fact that black people

deserve to have their history remembered is similar to why we celebrate people's birthday. Your birthday may not be special to someone else, and it may not bring any revelation or esoteric meaning, but it is your day and consequently you receive smiles and acknowledgment.

The celebration of Black History Month has become no different. It is a time for people to acknowledge the presence and the contribution of blacks, but W.E.B. DuBois' inquisition as to how we are viewed is still alive nearly one hundred years later. "What is it like to be a problem?"

The fact that black people are problems and have problems is a subject that is heightened by the underlying dilemma in that Black history is one of strife and destroyed or hidden history. The essence of who someone is lies in their history. And the consequences of losing your essence are much worse than Joe Dirt articulates.

We have a minuscule knowledge of black history, something equivalent to a handful of sand from an entire beach. The fight to keep the worldwide exploration and explanation of black history is something that must never end. Black history, again, is all of our history, so it is important that all races, creeds and cultures be involved in this struggle.

There is scientific proof that the oldest human remains are African, and according to the Black Think Tank, "The first Americans or native Americans going back to 13,000 B.C. were black. Look up the Folsom people who lived in Arizona."

People reserve a dangerous apathy for history today. History has a habit of repeating itself and what you don't know can hurt you the most deeply. History is lessons and what you do with lessons helps determine the future.

Where we are right now in every aspect of life is determined by the lessons we have learned over the past millennia, and whether humans will even be around when the calendar year starts with a three, will depend on the lessons of the new millennium.

Getting black people to work with and not against each other is harder than saying "toy boat" five times really fast, but the reasons are there in black history. So let's educate to elevate and liberate.

The real black history

Black history facts you might not have known:

- ◆ Beethoven was a dark mulatto. He was called "The Black Spaniard." His teacher, the immortal Joseph Haydn, was colored, too.
- ◆ The Slavery Law of 1665, in effect until 1968, and the Maryland Doctrine of Exclusion, 1638, stated that blacks must be excluded from the benefits afforded whites and that blacks must remain noncompetitive with whites, except in sports and entertainment.
- ◆ Two white men, Bill Gates and Larry Ellison, have more wealth than the combined wealth of all 36 million blacks in America.
- ◆ There were three African Popes of Rome.
- ◆ There are no companies on the Wall Street Stock Exchange where blacks own the majority of controlling interest of the stock.
- ◆ Sixty-seven percent of all hate crimes in America are against blacks.
- ◆ Cheops, a black man, built the Great Pyramid. It is 451 feet high, has 2,500,000 blocks of granite, each block weighing two-and-a-half tons, covers 13 acres, took 100,000 men thirty years to build and was completed in 3730 B. C.
- ◆ Chicago surgeon Daniel Williams, who died in 1931, was the first to perform a successful operation on the human heart.

Information compiled from the Black Think Tank and *100 Amazing Facts About The Negro* by J.A. Rogers.

College Advantage program under scrutiny

SOME EXPRESS CONCERNS ABOUT EFFECTS OF PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ATTEND DE ANZA COLLEGE

by Meera Kumbhani
La Voz

Within the next few weeks, De Anza students will register for classes for spring quarter. While some may be listed on several different waiting lists, a select group have the blessings of priority registration, guaranteeing they will be able to enroll in almost every class they want.

While registration dates are usually distributed based on the number of units students have, each year 35 first-year students are brought to the top of the list, pushing back the registration dates of all other students, regardless of seniority.

These students are College Advantage students, high school seniors from around the Cupertino community who have left their high schools to explore the advantages of a community college while earning transferable college credit.

"I came here because I was looking for more opportunities," said College

Advantage student Corey Reese. "I think I had outgrown high school. De Anza is a lot larger and I just felt I could do so much more here."

However, as successful as the program has been for these students, others question whether or not it overlooks the needs of regular De Anza students.

"The advantageous part is, because they have such an early registration date, they go in and take classes earlier than many of the students who have been here, waiting to go into these classes for two or three quarters," said counselor Judy Coleman, specially assigned to the guidance of all College Advantage students.

All students in the program must complete English-Writing 1A, Political Science I, and Economics I in order to receive a high school diploma. Priority registration was initially given to them to ensure that they could finish these classes. However, other students have mixed feelings about the privilege.

"I don't think it's fair at all," said second-year student Pamela Kirkland. "I've been trying to get into EWRT 1A for a year and a half now. If I can't get into it, I won't be able to transfer anywhere ... Shouldn't our school be more concerned about its own students rather than high school students?"

Concerns have also been expressed regarding the program as a whole, especially with a coming budget crisis.

The program was implemented in 1997 to "to have good relations between De Anza and the connecting high schools," said Coleman. "I'm not sure what will happen in the future in terms of cutbacks though. Some faculty feel that it is not appropriate for high school level students to have priority in choosing courses over the indigenous population here at De Anza."

The budget allocated to the program mainly consists of counselors' salaries, including Coleman's, although special seminars and orientations are held specifically for the high school students as well.

"In terms of the hard times we are in, it's hard to rationalize or justify letting them have that kind of privilege when we are having cutbacks everywhere else," said Coleman, adding that 95 percent of the College Advantage students apply to universities such as Stanford and University of California at Berkeley as entering freshman, rather than continuing at De Anza. A large portion of the counseling services they receive here is to assist them in filling out college applications.

"From a budget perspective, I don't know if this program fits the mission of De Anza College," said Coleman.

Coleman said she believed the College Advantage program with counseling services and priority registration was not necessary. High school students have other options if they were interested enrolling at De Anza, such as evening classes. She said, "These students could be taking [Advanced Placement] classes at their high school and finishing their high school work there."

De Anza strikes planned in response to budget cuts and possible war on Iraq

by Daniel DeBolt
La Voz

Two different clubs have planned "Books Not Bombs" for Wednesday, March 5 in response to budget cuts and the impending war against Iraq. March 5 is the date the National Youth and Student Peace coalition has called for a nationally-coordinated strike to shut down all major college campuses.

The De Anza club Women's Solidarity Movement has endorsed the NYSPC call for a strike and is asking students to meet in Staff Parking Lot A at 8:30 a.m. for guest speakers and music by the Just Say No Posse. Activist and former De Anza student Sulaiman Hyatt will speak, as well as a representative from

Global Exchange. Donna Wallace will speak about the situation in Palestine. The clubs are planning to lead students door-to-door afterward to inform those in the neighborhood about the possible war in Iraq.

De Anza's Students for Justice has planned a major event in the Main Quad starting at 10:20 a.m. and ending at 3:00 p.m. There will be speakers, music, performances and dance from De Anza's hip-hop dance club Da Vibe.

Speakers will include Javier Rueda, president of the Service Employees International Union local chapter, representing staff and classified workers at De Anza, as well as Raj Jayadev from Silicon Valley DeBug magazine.

Representatives from different

clubs and other students and faculty are expected to speak out against the war and the budget cuts.

According to the NYSPC, "As students and youth, the future of this country, we are disturbed by the lack of attention paid to the real needs of Americans, especially education. Financial aid opportunities and family income are rapidly losing ground to the cost of higher education. Low income families are facing decreasing access to education. Student debt is increasing. All while the U.S. military budget steadily increases [12 percent from 2000-2002]."

For more information, contact the Women's Solidarity Movement at womensolidaritymovement@yahoo.com.

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BUDGET | DASB deliberates

SENATORS BEGIN TO TAKE STEPS TOWARD DECIDING BUDGET; DOZENS OF PROGRAMS IN LIMBO UNTIL AT LEAST WEDNESDAY

FROM PAGE ONE

and private sources. Each group on campus will be hit by cuts from both the state and DASB budgets this year.

The Honors program originally requested \$24,612 from the DASB to cover its total yearly expenses, but the Budget Committee recommended that amount be cut to zero.

"The [Honors] Program will die next year, if these budget cuts are approved," said Jon Almanza, an Honors student. "We are only asking for \$15,000 to serve as a stipend for our next part-time faculty adviser. We don't need refreshments, or supplies—we just need an adviser. Without an adviser, our program will die."

The DASB also listened to comments from the Diversity Leadership Training Project coordinator, political science instructor Nicky Gonzalez Yuen. The DLTP received \$12,000 from the DASB last year and may receive only \$5,000 this year, according to the budget committee's recommendation.

In a letter to the senate, Gonzalez Yuen wrote, "... the initial proposal does not look like it is a thoughtful document that reflects the broad needs of the student body and the college. In fact, the document that has been proposed looks extremely arbitrary in many ways." His letter decried the apparent disparity in relative budget cuts between programs.

His letter criticized the DASB's handling of its own money by saying, "If there must be cuts, why not dip into the budgets for the vice president of finance and the Budget Committee? Why not dip into the Leadership Scholarships (especially when book grants and international student scholarships got cut in half)? And why increase the overall DASB administrative

budget, including for phones? This looks like a budget prepared by people who were interested in protecting themselves and who were not in touch with the real interests or pains of the vast majority of the students."

The majority of programs that spoke Wednesday night were not as confrontational as the DLTP. Instead, they chose to focus on the unique services their group brings to the campus and the adverse impact that those services would suffer following budget cuts from the DASB.

After hearing three consecutive hours of testimony from community members, the DASB began examining the budget proposal, seeing where money could be better spent. Dang Le, vice president of administration, motioned to reduce the \$50,000 DASB/ICC Leadership Scholarship money to \$29,700, which was immediately voted down. Betty Duong, vice president of diversity and events, motioned to change the \$50,000 scholarship money to \$46,100, or approximately \$400 per senator and \$600 per executive officer. This motion was defeated too, and the scholarship money remained at \$50,000.

The Leadership Scholarship has been a hot-button issue lately because it has remained untouched in the midst of drastic program cuts in other parts of the campus. This scholarship is awarded each year to applying members of the DASB and ICC, and makes up two-thirds of the DASB's total government cost. Le expressed concern over his overturned motion.

"Overall, I feel some of the people are using this scholarship as a reason to stay in Senate, and I think that defeats the purpose of serving the students," said Le. "I approached

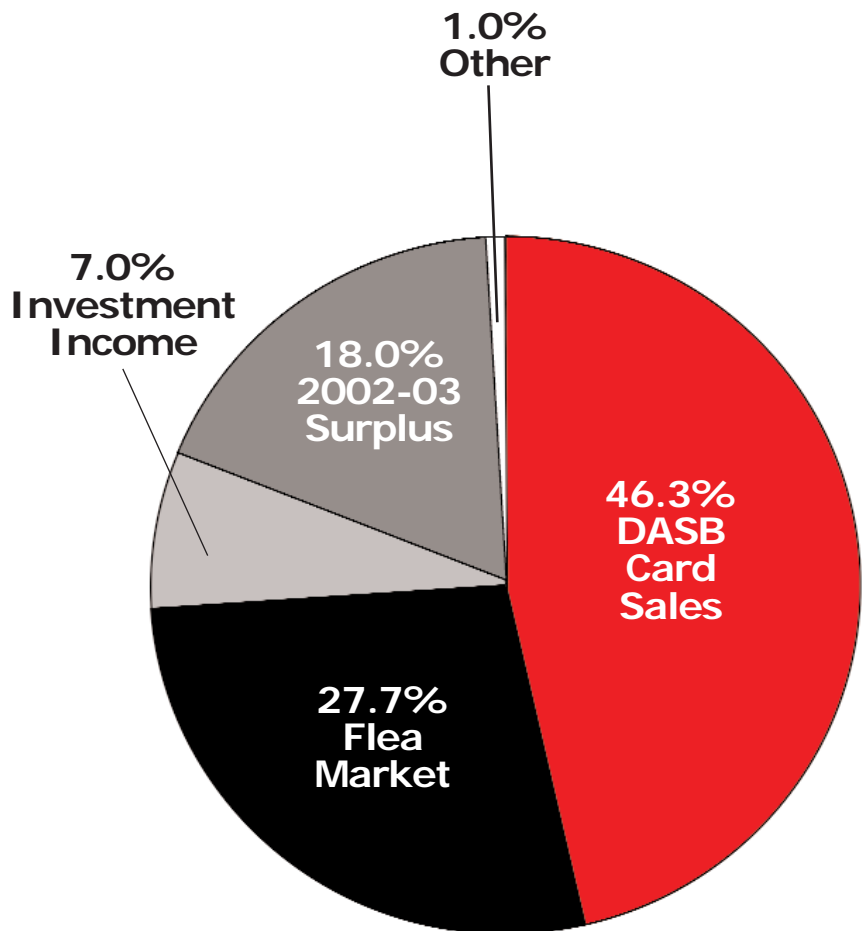
"Overall, I feel some of the people are using this [DASB/ICC] scholarship as a reason to stay in Senate, and I think that defeats the purpose of serving the students."

- DANG LE,
DASB VICE PRESIDENT
OF ADMINISTRATION

"If I wasn't getting that scholarship, I would not have as much time to do Senate, purely because I would need to get a job."

- OLE PETERSEN,
DASB SENATOR

Projected 2003-04 DASB Budget Revenue



Source: DASB

James Newburg / La Voz

these budget cuts in terms of necessities and non-necessities. I believe this is one of the areas that we senators don't need. Fifty thousand dollars is a lot of money and I think it can be better used somewhere else."

Senator Ole Petersen responded by saying that the Leadership Scholarship program helped members of the DASB and ICC to pay for books.

"If I wasn't getting that scholarship, I would not have as much time to do Senate, purely because I would need to get a job," said Petersen. "Actually, I already have a part-time job that I'll be starting in two weeks, and I'll see how that will affect my

ability to work in Senate."

At midnight, the DASB recessed until this Wednesday, instead of adjourning as commonly practiced. Recessing allows the DASB to pick up directly where it left off with budget talks, skipping the traditional senate proceedings before discussing action items.

The DASB will continue to discuss the budget this month. Copies of the proposed budget cuts are available in the Senate office and online at <http://www.deanza.edu/dasb/budget/index.html>.

La Voz Opinion Editor Meera Kumbhani contributed to this story.

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SAN JOSE
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(At Lawrence Express)
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National World Languages Week



De Anza College March 4-5, 2003

Intercultural - International Studies

(French, German, Japanese, Korean, Spanish & Vietnamese)

Tuesday, March 4, 10:30 am. - 1:00 pm. Inside
Cultural Exhibits, Hinson Campus Center

1:30 pm. - 3:30 pm.

“Performances Celebrating Cultures From Around the World” In Conference Rm., A & B

Wednesday, March 5, 12:30 pm. - 2:00 pm. A Panel discussion,
“World Languages and Your Future.”

Sponsored by DASB

CAFFEINE

AMERICA'S MOST

COMMON

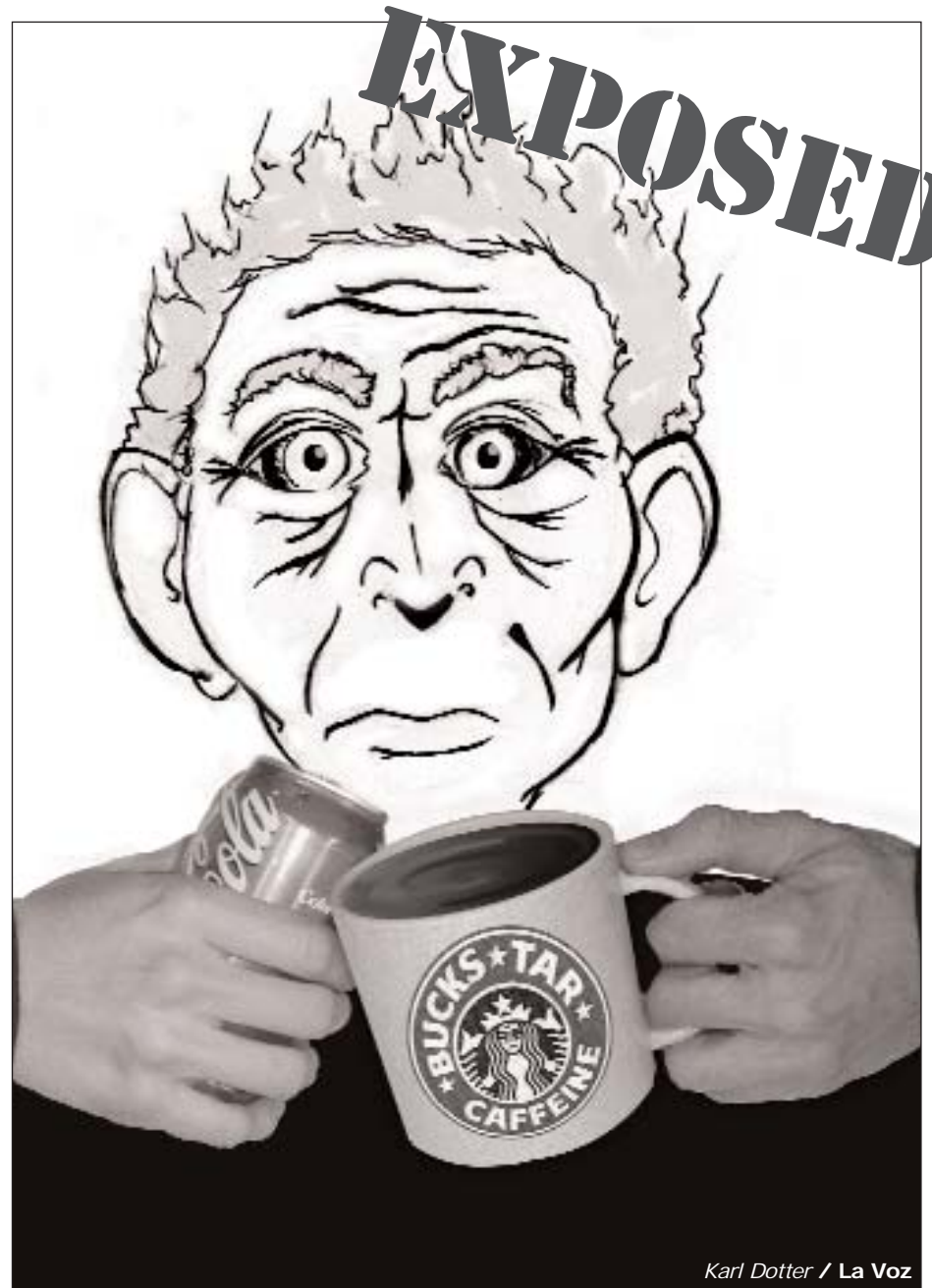
AND MISUSED

DRUG

by Karen Uyenco
La Voz

Students often find the burden of school, social life and even work too much to handle. You hear it all the time: "America's Youth Turn to Drugs as Way Out." Sure, our society is trying to help. There is the "War Against Drugs." You see programs such as D.A.R.E out there to reach out to our youth. Our televisions are bombarded with anti-smoking and anti-drug commercials.

Yet, the most popular and consumed drug rarely gets recognition. It's everywhere, on every street corner and even our own campus. It's caffeine, a drug found in so many mugs of coffee and cans of soda and bars of chocolate, consumed every day by 90 percent of Americans.



What is caffeine?

Medically known as trimethylxanthine, caffeine in its pure form is a white crystalline chemical with a bitter taste. It's the world's most commonly used drug. Caffeine is a stimulant of the central nervous system and operates on the same mechanisms that cocaine, heroin and amphetamines use to stimulate the brain. It is also useful as a cardiac stimulant and a diuretic.

Where does caffeine come from?

Caffeine naturally occurs in coffee beans, tea leaves, cocoa nuts, kola nuts and other plant life. Caffeine use has a history that dates back to 4700 B.C. The chief source of pure caffeine is from the process of decaffeinating coffee and tea.

Coffee beans from Central and South America contain about 1.1 percent caffeine. Those grown in Indonesia and Africa contain about 2.2 percent caffeine. Tea leaves contain 3.5 percent caffeine. However, a cup of tea still contains less caffeine than a cup of coffee because fewer tea leaves are used in the preparation of tea than the amount of coffee beans use in the preparation of coffee.

The effects of caffeine

Caffeine enters the bloodstream and within five minutes can reach all tissues of the body. It attaches to an adenosine receptor. Adenosine is a naturally occurring tranquilizer and when it is blocked out, blood vessels constrict and adrenaline is produced. Caffeine also increases dopamine levels similar to the way amphetamines do. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that activates the pleasure center. The result is a burst of energy and alertness with a kick of happiness.

Physical

Not all the effects of caffeine are beneficial. In exchange for the burst of energy, alertness and happiness, the body goes through numerous negative effects:

☞ Caffeine affects the quality of sleep. It alleviates neural activity and postpones fatigue. Taken before bed, caffeine will delay sleep, shorten sleep time and reduce "depth" of sleep.

♥ A caffeine user's metabolism, breathing, blood pressure and heart rate increase. When blood pressure drops, excess blood is rushed to the head, often causing headaches.

☞ The diuretic effect, which affects fluids quickly leave the body because of increased urination. This leads to dehydration and reduces absorption of essential nutrients, which causes jitteriness and caffeine-caused tremors that reduce hand steadiness.

Psychological

Use of caffeine causes mood changes, nervousness, agitation, anxiety and depression. A consistent caffeine-user may suffer from chronic insomnia, depression and persistent anxiety.

Tolerance, Dependence and Withdrawal

Caffeinism is a condition when a caffeine-user has difficulty dealing with daily life before their first cup of coffee – or anything containing caffeine – and may well be addicted to caffeine. Caffeine is an addictive substance that creates an abstinence syndrome when its use is discontinued.

Many coffee drinkers build a tolerance

to caffeine. Routine consumption reduces sensitivity to the substance. The body is able to tolerate more of a drug with less and less effect on the central nervous system. For example, a habitual coffee-drinker can drink a triple shot of coffee without feeling extremely jittery or alert. Instead, they drink it just to be awake and physically, even psychologically, "normal."

Recent research shows that people who even consume about two cups a day may experience severe withdrawal symptoms. Caffeine's half-life is about four to six hours. Symptoms include headaches, usually within 18 hours of the last dose of caffeine. The body becomes oversensitive to adenosine, and blood pressure drops, causing an excess of blood to flow to the brain. This may lead to a headache that can last from one to five days after withdrawal.

Withdrawal also causes the user to be tense and anxious from the lack of caffeine. These withdrawal symptoms may be relieved by more caffeine through coffee or even headache medicine. But much relief often leads to a renewed dependence on the substance.

The spread of caffeine

Overall, Americans drink 330 million cups of coffee a day, according to the National Coffee Association. And as of 1998, Americans consumed 54 gallons of soft drinks per person per year, according to the National Soft Drink Association. The World Book Encyclopedia compares the average annual consumption of 12 bottles per person in 1900, to the average annual consumption of 190 bottles of soft drinks

per person in the late 1950s.

The use of caffeine in beverages has been imbedded in our society.

Whether occurring naturally or as an additive, caffeine is found in so many products--from coffee, tea, and soda to chocolate and even headache medicine. Companies such as Starbucks and Coca-Cola contribute to the routine use of this drug and earn billions of dollars from it.

The Coca-Cola Web site contains this quote: "The Coca-Cola company exists to benefit and refresh everyone it touches." With all the negative effects caffeine causes, how does caffeine found in soft drinks truly benefit anyone? The two largest soft drink companies, Pepsi-Co. and Coca-Cola, are ranked in the top 100 on the Fortune 500 list. Pepsi-Co. earned \$26.9 billion and Coca-Cola over \$20 billion. Even the largest coffee company, Starbucks, earned \$2.6 billion by serving coffee laced with the world's most commonly used drug.

There are more severe long-term effects that caffeine can cause. Medical researchers have found that caffeine can decrease bone mass and many people consume less milk as they consume more soda. Too much caffeine may also increase the risk of certain cancers. For example, caffeine may be a contributor to the development of fibrocystic disease in breast tissue.

Coffee and soft drinks are seen as harmful. Sure, a small amount of consumption doesn't hurt anyone. But as years have gone by, more and more Americans have made these caffeine-rich drinks a regular part of their daily diet. What's more important is that our country's youth drinks twice as much soda as milk, according to a report published by the Center for Science in Public Interest.

With all that said, why do we continue to flood our society with coffee shops, baristas and soda machines? Why do we continue to let Coca-Cola and Starbucks run our TVs, magazines and lives?

Information compiled from www.coca-cola.com, www.foodnouveau.com, www.studenthealth.oregonstate.edu, www.acnp.org, www.cspinet.org and "Caffeine: The Quick Perk" packet by Life Skills Education, Inc.

CAFFEINE CALCULATOR					
Espresso	2 oz.	100 mg	Red Bull	8 oz.	80 mg
Brewed coffee	6 oz.	80-170 mg	Mountain Dew	12 oz.	55 mg
Instant coffee	6 oz.	60-120 mg	Coca-Cola	12 oz.	45.6 mg
Tea	6 oz.	20-140 mg	Pepsi	12 oz.	37.2 mg
Headache Medication	2 pills	60-130 mg	Dr. Pepper	12 oz.	39.6 mg

Information provided by Life Skills Education, NSDA

THE JOURNAL OF A CAFFEINATED STUDENT

WRITER KAREN LYENCO DESCRIBES HER EXPERIENCES DURING HER 4-DAY CAFFEINE EXPERIMENT.

Day 1
4:54 PM: I SLEPT MOST OF THE DAY. I HAD MY FIRST CUP OF COFFEE, A DOUBLE WHITE MOCHA FROM THE CAFE STAND IN THE L-QUAD.
8:30 PM: HEART RATE @ 89 BPM - SO I'M GLAD I DECIDED TO HAVE CAFFEINE TODAY. I'VE BEEN ON TOP OF ALL MY ASSIGNMENTS AND ARTICLES. I WROTE ALMOST 8 PAGES OF NOTES FOR A LECTURE. SWEET!
9:15 PM: MY MOUTH'S DRY, I NEED ANOTHER CUP OF JOE!
9:30 PM: DROVE TO STARBUCKS. I ORDERED A TALL TOFFEE NUT LATTE. NOTICED I'VE HAD TO HIT THE BATHROOM FREQUENTLY TODAY.
10:17 PM: I'VE BEEN GAGGING A BIT AFTER THAT LAST CUP OF COFFEE. I'VE HAD 300 MG OF CAFFEINE (3 SHOTS-ESPRESSO), SO I THINK I'M GOOD.
1:46 AM: WOW, I'M STILL UP. CONAN O'BRIEN IS THE MAN. USUALLY I WOULD'VE PAST OUT BY 10 OR 11 PM. IT'S OK, I DON'T HAVE CLASS UNTIL 12:30 TOMORROW.

Day 3
3:36 PM: AHH! SLEEP IS GREAT. I HAVE THE BOB MARLEY CONCEPT TODAY, BUT I'M REALLY LAZY.
5:10 PM: COCOA PEBBLES ARE GREAT. I'LL PROBABLY JUST GRAB A COKE, 'CAUSE I HAVEN'T DRANK ANYTHING BUT THE MILK IN MY CEREAL.

6:45 PM: FINALLY GOT CHANGED. THE COKE GAVE ME A SMALL BOOST. JUST WAITING TO GET PICKED UP → MAYBE I'LL TAKE A LITTLE NAP.
7:45 PM: WE'RE IN THE CITY, BUT WE CAN'T SEEM TO FIND OUR WAY TO THE WARFIELD. THE CONCERT STARTS @ 8:00 PM & WE STILL DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE PARKING SITUATION. GRRR! SOMEONE SHOULD'VE CHECKED MAPQUEST BEFOREHAND. NOOOO!
2:00 AM: CONCEPT WAS GREAT, EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT I ALMOST COLLAPSED AND PAST OUT. WHILE WE WERE BY THE STAGE, I STARTED TO FEEL MY CHEST CAVING IN. AND MY VISION WAS GOING AWAY. EVERYTHING BECAME BRIGHT - ALMOST WHITE. PROFUSELY SWEATING AND SECURITY SUGGESTED THEN MY MIND STARTED TO CLEAR + I FIGURED I WAS DEHYDRATED. I BLACKED OUT FOR 30 SECONDS AND HEADED OUT TO GET FRESH AIR. MY FRIEND GOT ME SOME WATER AND I STARTED TO COME BACK. THAT WAS TOO MUCH, CAFFEINE WAS NOT WORTH THAT NIGHTMARE OF 15 MIN. THAT FELT LIKE ETERNITY!

Day 2
1:19 PM: WOKE UP LATE - GOT TO CLASS LATE. DIDN'T SLEEP UNTIL 3:00 AM. CRAZY. OH WELL.
2:11 PM: OH MY GOSH! I COMPLETELY SPAZZED OUT! EVERYONE IN THE NEWSROOM SAW ME GO CRAZY. I FELT LIKE I COULD RIP SOMEONE'S HEAD OFF. I'M GOING TO GRAB SOME COFFEE.
2:57 PM: OH YEA, HAD A DOUBLE-SHOT CAPPUCCINO FROM THE L-QUAD CAFE. I FEEL A BIT BETTER NOW. GOTTA GET SOME WORK DONE.
3:30 PM: NOTHING NEW, JUST WANTED TO WRITE! ☹️ → HAHA!
3:25 PM: I DECIDED TO GET A CHERRY COKE FROM THE MACHINE. KINDA THIRSTY.
5:30 PM: I SWEAR THE BATHROOM HAS BECOME A SECOND HOME. HAHA. BETTER START HANGING UP PICTURES IN THE FIRST STALL. I FEEL LIKE ICE-CREAM.
8:50 PM: HAD SOME GREAT FOOD. MUST HAVE ANOTHER COFE. I THINK I'M UP TO ABOUT 200 MG OF CAFFEINE. NOT AS MUCH AS YESTERDAY. NO WATER 4 ME!
10:15 PM: HAD SOME LINDT CHOCOLATE. YUM!

Day 4
3:46 PM: I HAVE A HUGE HEADACHE, ONE THAT ENCOMPASSES MY WHOLE HEAD AND IS PROMINENT RIGHT IN THE BACK. MY NOSE IS STARTING TO RUN. I DRANK A LOT OF WATER LAST NIGHT. THAT WAS VERY RISKY OF ME TO NOT DRINK ANYTHING ELSE BUT COFFEE AND COLA. I'M ALREADY STARTING TO FEEL WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS AND IT'S NOT PRETTY.
6:00 PM: I TOOK A 3-HOUR NAP AND NOW I JUST FEEL SICK. I'M NOT GOING TO USE ANY HEADACHE OR COLD MEDICINE WANT TO GAIN A DEPENDENCE ON THE SUBSTANCE. I'M GOING CAFFEINE FREE FROM NOW ON. I DON'T GET HOW SOME PEOPLE COULD HAVE LIKE 5 CUPS A DAY. I HAVE FRIENDS THAT COULD DRINK A VANTI (IT HAS 4 SHOTS OF ESPRESSO) AND NOT FEEL JITTERY. THAT'S TOLERANCE, SOMETHING I WOULD NEVER WANT TO DEVELOP WITH CAFFEINE & ANYTHING ELSE!
 ☺️ Karen

CAFFEINE-FREE QUIZ:

FACT OR FICTION?

- 1) COFFEE IS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF CAFFEINE FOR OLDER ADULTS.
- 2) CAFFEINE CONTAINING PAIN RELIEVERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO CAUSE REBOUND HEADACHE THAN NON-CAFFEINATED PAIN RELIEVERS.
- 3) 750 MG OF CAFFEINE A DAY IS CONSIDERED SAFE USE.
- 4) CAFFEINE IS AN ADDICTIVE DRUG.
- 5) CAFFEINE ENHANCES THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PAIN RELIEVERS.

WHICH CONTAINS MORE CAFFEINE?

- 1) A. 1 CAN OF MOUNTAIN DEW
B. 2 TABLETS OF EXCEDRIN
- 2) A. 1 CAN OF DIET COKE
B. 1 CAN OF COCA-COLA CLASSIC
- 3) A. 8 OZ. OF MAXWELL HOUSE CAPPUCCINO (DECAFFEINATED)
B. 8 OZ. OF GREEN TEA
- 4) A. 16 OZ. BOTTLE OF ARIZONA ICED TEA
B. 1 CAN OF SUNKIST ORANGE SODA
- 5) A. INSTANT COFFEE
B. BREWED COFFEE

For answers to both quizzes, check out www.lavozdeanza.com.

"Fact or Fiction?" quiz taken from the National Headache Foundation.
 "Which contains more caffeine?" quiz derived from a chart compiled by the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Spoken-word artist presents different vision for hip-hop

AYA DELEON INSPIRES STUDENTS TO GET IN ON THE CONVERSATION



by Ngan Truong
La Voz

Words create, destroy, propagate, emulate, provoke, inspire, and most of all, communicate emotions and actions. Spoken word poet Aya DeLeon has found a way to take the power of the word to endorse creativity.

The poetry prize-winning, DeLeon, is a youth worker, Harvard graduate and director of the Mothertongue Institute for Creative

Development in Oakland. Speaking in conference rooms A and B on Feb. 20, she demonstrated how powerfully a poem or passion can be conveyed through words.

DeLeon seeks to reclaim hip-hop by presenting her vision of hip-hop, a vision that she says she is not alone in realizing.

"Hip-hop is what we make of it, and it's a conversation that everyone can get in on," said DeLeon.

She got into the conversation later than most people, because it took her longer to find her voice and she says, "female conditioning told me to wait."

In order for her vision to be realized, the very reality of present day hip-hop needs to be checked. Hip-hop, according to DeLeon, started out as a revolution; power to the people. But nowadays you hear hip-hop that's all about the Benjamins with a pimped-out car and 50 ladies in the backseat, losing the authentic purpose.

DeLeon addressed hip-hop's influence on pop culture and how it can be oppressive. Some messages being sent are that value is in sexy bodies, cute hair or the right car. The fantasy of present day hip-hop is just that, a fantasy.

"What we really need to do is be authentically connected," said DeLeon.

Many of her poems have the theme of gender empowerment.

"Girls need to embrace abundance... anorexia is not sexia," said DeLeon.

"Because a sick society is one that turns something so beautiful into something that thinks it must be fixed."

DeLeon made a shout out to sensitive boys and made the case that men aren't appreciated for the right reason.

She encouraged men to communicate feelings and the complex levels of male reality.

"Growing up male in America is a bitch. Boys are bullied, beaten and their only rebellion is through tears," DeLeon said.

The true effect of the poems could only be felt by DeLeon's powerful delivery.

Without the ability to hear DeLeon's message in person, one can only try and grasp how people,

who feels as if they are expected to fit into a certain shape, mode, or box, would feel after

"Hip-hop is ... a conversation that everyone can get in on."

- AYA DELEON

hearing someone say what they don't think they can.

Through her theme of reclaiming hip-hop, she segued into other poems. She took on the government in her anti-war poem, "A Thin Line Between Love and Hate." This poem is about how the United States has issues in its love life, referring to its foreign policy and choices.

She comments on the commercialization of love in a Valentine's Day poem stating that "romantic love is only one little element of Valentine's Day, [and] love is in a state of emergency, because people want real love." One of the most effective lines in that poem may have been, "Love yourselves. If you notice that you don't, you

"Love yourselves. If you notice that you don't, you need to work on that shit."

- AYA DELEON

need to work on that shit."

One poem made a play on Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a Dream" speech, exploring the commercialization of history, warning us to be careful who we let tell our history.

De Anza student Radley Funtanilla enjoyed DeLeon's visit.

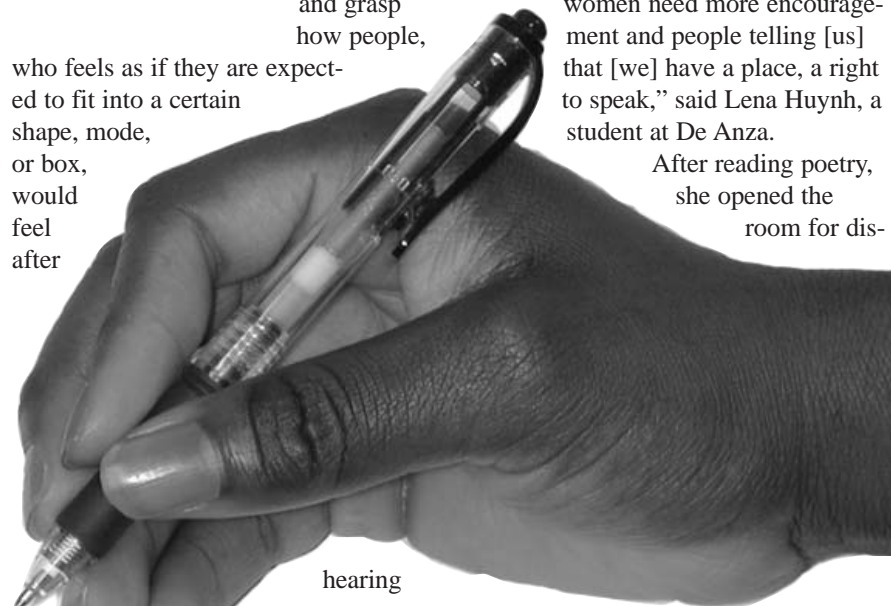
"We don't get many positive words toward the youth," Funtanilla said.

DeLeon made clear that creativity was something to be valued in a human being. She effectively put across the point that creativity is within everyone, but it needs a chance to emerge.

"I'm into hip-hop. It's been a part of me for a while [and] she's right ...

women need more encouragement and people telling [us] that [we] have a place, a right to speak," said Lena Huynh, a student at De Anza.

After reading poetry, she opened the room for dis-



Valerie Baldenegro (3) / La Voz

Aya DeLeon, a black and Puerto Rican spoken word artist, demonstrates the power of words at De Anza College in celebration of Black History Month on Feb. 20.

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munahamouie

Honorable Mention

Points Per Game	8.5
Field Goal %	.369
Field Throw %	.735
Rebounds/Game	6.2
Assists/Game	2.0



amberhall

Honorable Mention

Points Per Game	5.7
Field Goal %	.354
Free Throw %	.542
Rebounds/Game	6.3
Assists/Game	0.5



lindsaywebb

Division MVP

Points Per Game	14.2
FG %	.437
FT %	.736
Rebounds/Game	4.8
Assists/Game	4.8

2002-03 LADY DONS STATS

PLAYER	G	FG%	3FG%	FT%	REB	RPG	AST	APG	PTS	PPG
Abiang	11	.244	.083	.500	7	0.6	11	1.0	24	2.2
Brackin	28	.336	.241	.500	33	1.2	29	1.0	78	2.8
Denney	31	.337	.000	.674	92	3.0	15	0.5	95	3.1
Frierson	29	.207	.194	.421	62	2.1	51	1.8	117	4.0
Hall	31	.354	.000	.542	194	6.3	17	0.5	178	5.7
Hamouie	31	.369	.279	.735	191	6.3	63	2.0	264	8.5
Ingram	13	.344	.200	.643	47	3.6	8	0.6	70	5.4
Jimenez	31	.320	.200	.895	45	1.5	64	2.1	61	2.0
Mohammed	30	.233	.000	.423	82	2.7	94	3.1	53	1.8
Parker	30	.484	.200	.705	230	7.7	38	1.3	391	13.0
Robles	13	.324	.167	.667	24	1.8	24	1.8	51	3.9
Stagi	7	.258	.100	.000	8	1.1	3	0.4	15	2.1
Sullivan	22	.318	.235	.500	50	2.3	25	1.1	68	3.2
Vigil	17	.319	.167	.583	32	1.9	6	0.4	43	2.5
Wahhab	8	.409	.250	.500	17	2.1	4	0.5	17	2.1
Webb	31	.437	.351	.736	149	4.8	148	4.8	441	14.2



daniellogan

Honorable Mention

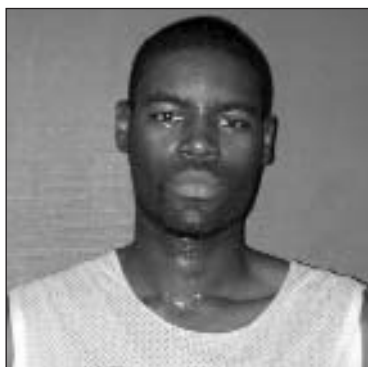
Points Per Game	13.2
Field Goals	141
Field Throws	55
Rebounds	286
Game High	23



keithmiyakusu

Honorable Mention

Points Per Game	14.9
Field Goals	113
Field Throws	24
Rebounds	N/A
Game High	29



darioburns

Honorable Mention

Points Per Game	11.9
Field Goals	119
Field Throws	61
Rebounds	189
Game High	26

MEN'S BASKETBALL 2002-2003 CONFERENCE GAME RESULTS

Date	De Anza	Opponent	Score
1/17	61	@ Chabot	63
1/22	64	SKYLINE	75
1/24	64	SAN FRANCISCO	84
1/29	56	@ Foothill	50
1/31	66	@ Ohlone	92
2/7	71	CHABOT	82
2/12	65	@ Skyline	73
2/14	53	@ San Francisco	80
2/19	58	FOOTHILL	77
2/21	65	OHLONE	62

Games in ALL CAPS signify home games

New acquisitions will be key for A's, Giants



jamesnewburg

As Spring Training starts up, the two Bay Area baseball teams can't help but think of how close they were to postseason glory. For the Giants, they were mere innings away from their first World Series championship since they moved to San Francisco. For the Athletics, they saw a Game 5 comeback fall short as Ray Durham swung at ball four to end the season in disappointment, losing in the Division Series to the Minnesota Twins.

Both teams retooled in the offseason, looking to make another run at a World Series ring. Here are four new players who need to perform if the Bay Area wants to end the season covered in ticker tape:

Edgardo Alfonzo, Giants: General Manager Brian Sabean signed the free-agent third baseman at below market value, locking up Alfonzo for four years at \$26 million. The former Met third baseman replaces David Bell at the hot corner after Bell signed with the Philadelphia Phillies.

Alfonzo brings to San Francisco a solid reputation as a two-way player. When healthy, he is a .300 hitter with good plate discipline and gap power. A shortstop in the minor leagues, he can pick it at the hot corner.

Ray Durham, Giants: Oakland's big pennant race acquisition will be plying his trade across the bay in 2003. Durham is a switch-hitting sparkplug who will be the

Giants' best leadoff since Brett Butler. While he isn't a standout in any one facet of the game, Durham is above-average in nearly every respect. He should hit .280 with 15 home runs, 30 steals and 70 walks, which would provide a vast upgrade over the likes of Tsuyoshi Shinjo.

Erubiel Durazo, A's: After spending four years on the bench in Arizona, Durazo will be unleashed on the American League as the A's starting first baseman. The left-handed masher with the quick stroke showed flashes of his ability in part-time play last year, dropping three home runs and nine RBIs in one game against Philadelphia. If he stays healthy, Durazo can give New York's Jason Giambi and Toronto's Carlos Delgado a run for their money as the best-hitting first basemen in the American League.

Keith Foulke, A's: Foulke may be the

best pitcher in the American League that you don't know about. Most A's fans may simply be relieved because he's not Billy Koch, but the former Chicago White Sox closer brings much more to the table.

Topping out at 90 miles per hour, Foulke's fastball would be laughed at by Koch and his fellow flame-throwing closers, but Foulke's excellent changeup and pinpoint control make him extremely effective. Over the last four years, Foulke has walked two batters per nine innings while striking out roughly nine batters per nine innings. The result? A 2.58 ERA during that span.

Will the Bay Area's season end with champagne and ticker tape, or Budweiser and tee times? Seeing that it's March, there's no way to know for sure. But you can bet the new kids on the block will have something to say about that.