

**COYOTE VALLEY
WILDLIFE THREATENED?**



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**GO LADIES!
KEEP ON
KICKIN'!**



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**SUSPENDED
STUDENT LEADER
SPEAKS OUT**



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**CAMPUS EVENTS
CLUB DAY TO SHOWCASE
DE ANZA VARIETY OCT. 16**

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FROM DE ANZA STUDENTS**

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La Voz Weekly

VOLUME 42, ISSUE 3

The Voice of De Anza College Students Since 1967

OCTOBER 13, 2008

NEWS

Planned campus may harm local wildlife

Proposed Gavilan College site may end up destroying what one De Anza environmentalist said is an important animal habitat.

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Charity ball draws students

Student leaders from De Anza Associated Student Body Senate, others meet for a charity dinner at the San Jose Art Museum.

Profile: ICC Chair Lina Wang

You could call Lina Wang a club-hopper, all right. She makes it happen when it comes to the clubs at De Anza College.

Page 4

SPORTS

Lady Dons do it again

De Anza women's soccer team plucks yet another circle of hawks in an outstanding 3-0 win.

Joe's Sports Blurb

The De Anza Ducks? Shouldn't our school mascot be something other than a Don? Just how many people know what a Don is anyway?

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OPINION

Editorial: make textbooks more accessible

Today's method of supplying students with necessary reading material is based on an outdated and unforgiving system.

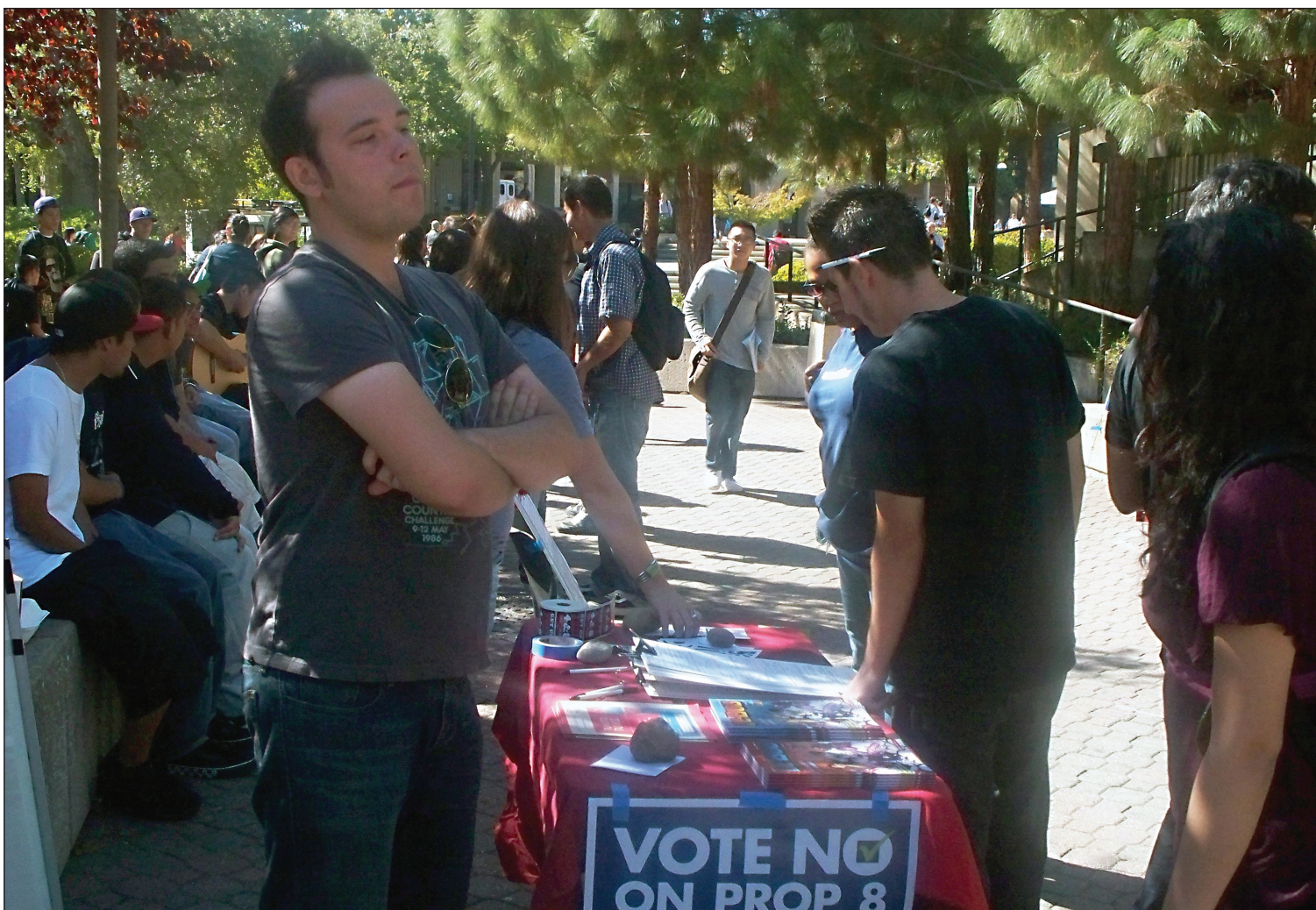
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La Voz Weekly is a First Amendment newspaper, produced by students for the De Anza College community. La Voz Weekly is printed on recycled paper.

Upcoming 'mock' election part of massive youth vote campaign



SOHEIL REZAEI/LA VOZ WEEKLY

Activist group Students for Justice works to encourage De Anza students to register to vote.

James Chen
LA VOZ NEWS

Now in the final stretches of the presidential election season, De Anza College, along with student activists and leadership groups, are hosting events aimed at encouraging college students to vote in 2008.

In an effort to educate students regarding the concept and procedures associated with voting, the De Anza Associated Student Body will be holding a mock presidential election Oct. 28 and 29.

"The election will be non-partisan and will serve as a platform for students to be educated in the democratic process," said Marisa

Spatatore, the director of Marketing, Communications and Development at De Anza College. "It will give all students the opportunity to register and vote, in exactly the same way as in the national elections."

The De Anza Mock Election mirrors a national effort being conducted on college campuses across the country to encourage youth voting.

The National Student/Parent Mock Election organization has been educating students and their parents regarding the power of casting their ballots since 1980.

According to the organization, nearly 50 million new young voters have cast ballots since their mock

See **VOTE**, Page 6

Students attend charity ball at San Jose Museum of Art

Sharon Su
LA VOZ NEWS

More than 750 students poured through the front gates of the San Jose Museum of Art on Oct. 4, many formally dressed, and with eager faces they stepped out of their cars and into the cool evening air.

Leading Entrepreneurs and Architects of Dreams, a social networking company, hosted the event and provided the refreshments. Billed as LEAD's 2008 All Access Charity Ball, the event attracted students from

all over the Bay Area, some from as far as Berkeley, all of whom came down Saturday for a night of well-dressed mingling.

The event, which lasted from 6-11 p.m., was aided by liberal presence of catered food and beverages from Sino, Straits and Whole Foods, as well as wine and beer for the over 21 crowd.

The atmosphere was set by the choice of locale, the San Jose Museum of Art providing the perfect backdrop of striking and mesmerizing imagery.

The night's entertainment was provided by live music and performances from several local dance crews, including Headhunters and DS Players. American Idol contestant



SHARON SU/LA VOZ WEEKLY

Associated Student Body President Terell Sterling admires a massive Lego robot sculpture while attending a charity ball in the San Jose Museum of Art.

LaVozDeAnza.com
Photos, video, breaking news:

See **BALL**, Page 4

CAMPUS EVENTS

Happenings around De Anza College

Monday, Oct. 13

SJSU TAA-WRITING OPEN HOUSE
MONDAY, OCT. 13, 9 A.M. - 5 P.M., COUNSELING CTR, SCSB
Students can drop in to get help with writing their transfer agreements to San Jose State University. Will be repeated Tuesday, Oct. 14.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

DOCUMENTARY FILM: 'ENGAGE HER'
TUESDAY, OCT. 14, NOON - 1:30 P.M., ADMIN 106
The film "Engage Her - Getting Minority Women to Vote and Lead" explores why a majority of Latina, African American and Asian Pacific Islander women in the U.S. do not vote. To be repeated Oct. 28.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

STUDENT SERVICES DAY
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15, 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M., MAIN QUAD
Student Services Day promotes De Anza's services and programs, so students can find out what opportunities and services are available.

FACULTY PANEL: 2008 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15, 12:30 - 2 P.M., CAMPUS CENTER RMS A & B
Join political science faculty Robert Stockwell and Nicky Yuen, humanities faculty Wendy White and philosophy faculty Cynthia Kaufman for a panel presentation on the presidential elections.

POETRY READING

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15, 1:30 - 2:30 P.M., WRC, ATC 309
Join nationally-known award-winning poet, author and University of Georgia creative writing professor Ed Pavlic, for a reading of his work. Pavlic's publications include "Paraph of Bone & Other Kinds of Blue" and "Crossroads Modernism" on African American literary culture.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE VIEWING

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15, 6 - 8 P.M., CAMPUS CENTER RMS A&B
Join the Speech and Debate Club and speech instructor Alex Kramer for a viewing of the final presidential debate, followed by a moderated discussion.

Thursday, Oct. 16

CLUB DAY
THURSDAY, OCT. 16, 11 A.M. - 1:30 P.M., MAIN QUAD
Come check out various clubs, watch club performances and get free treats.

Friday, Oct. 17

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
FRIDAY, OCT. 17, 8 P.M., FLINT CENTER
The Symphony presents Schumann's Symphony No. 2, Beethoven's Egmont Overture and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 3. Tickets available at Ticketmaster from \$40-\$67.

Saturday, Oct. 18

¡ANDELE! A WELCOME EVENT
SATURDAY, OCT. 18, 9:45 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
CAMPUS CENTER RMS A&B
¡LEAD! Latino/a Empowerment at De Anza presents ¡ANDELE! - a welcome event with workshops for new students and parents. Parents' workshop will have Spanish and Vietnamese translation available.

Monday, Oct. 20

UCSF SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PRE-MED WORKSHOP
MONDAY, OCT. 20, 11:30 A.M. - 1 P.M., SCS 202
The UCSF pre-med workshop will include presentations on developing a competitive application, understanding the application process and helpful resources. For information call 408-864-8841.

VOTER EDUCATION: IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION
MONDAY, OCT. 20, 1:30 - 3 P.M., CAMPUS CENTER RMS A & B
A record number of immigrants have become new citizens this year. Panelists from local immigrant rights organizations will discuss immigrant civic participation and proposed legislation impacting immigrant communities.

Tuesday, Oct. 21

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE
FILM SCREENING: 'CHICAGO 10'
TUESDAY, OCT. 21, 1:30 - 4 P.M., CAMPUS CENTER RMS A&B
The film "Chicago 10" explores the the protest at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago and the ensuing 1969 conspiracy trial. A moderated dialogue will follow the screening.

STORYTELLER OLGA LOYA
TUESDAY, OCT. 21, 1:30 - 3 P.M., WRC, ATC 309
Storyteller Olga Loya presents a "Dia de los Muertos" performance. Loya is a nationally recognized Latina performer who uses a dramatic mix of Spanish and English in her one-woman shows.

EUPHRAT MUSEUM OF ART RECEPTION
TUESDAY, OCT. 21, 5:30 - 7:30 P.M., EUPHRAT ART MUSEUM
A reception with presentations will be given for the De Anza and Foothill Art Faculty/Staff Exhibition, including an awards ceremony.

Wednesday, Oct. 22

SARAH WINCHESTER: MYSTERIOUS OR MISUNDERSTOOD? LECTURE SERIES
WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 22, OCT. 29, NOV 5, 6:20 P.M., CHC
Historian Mary Jo Ignoffo will give three lectures, along with a field trip to the Winchester Mystery House (on Oct. 25) on Sarah Winchester, the heiress to the Winchester rifle fortune. Sign up for the 2-unit class HIST 054X-97 or call Tom Izu at 408-864-8986 for information.

Thursday, Oct. 23

DE ANZA COLLEGE JOB FAIR
THURSDAY, OCT. 23, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M., CAMPUS CENTER RMS A&B
Approximately 45 local employees will be on campus for the fall job fair. Bring several copies of your resume to share with employers. For information contact the Career Center at careercenter@deanza.edu.

Friday, Oct. 24

PUNTE NIGHT AT TEATRO VISION
FRIDAY, OCT. 24, 8 P.M., MEXICAN HERITAGE PLAZA, SAN JOSE
De Anza's Puente Night at Teatro Vision features the Sandra Cisneros play "La Casa en Mango Street," directed by Wilma Bonet, which tells the story of Esperanza, a young girl growing up in the Latino quarter of Chicago. It is presented in Spanish with English subtitles. The Mexican Heritage Plaza is at 1700 Alum Rock Ave. in San Jose. Cost is \$12 ticket with proceeds going to the Puente Scholarship Fund. To purchase tickets contact Alicia Cortez at cortezalicia@fhda.edu or Becky Roberts at robertsbecky@fhda.edu.

Tuesday, Oct. 28

TRANSFER DAY
TUESDAY, OCT. 28, 9 A.M. - 1 P.M., MAIN QUAD
Meet with representatives from various California universities and colleges to get transfer questions answered.

CCC MOCK ELECTIONS
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28 - 29, TIME, LOCATION TBA
Vote in the DASB-hosted Mock Election, designed to educate students about the process and procedure of the national election. For more information, contact the DASB office or e-mail cccmock-election@gmail.com.

Tuesday, Nov. 4

ELECTION NIGHT PARTY
TUESDAY, NOV. 4, 6-9 P.M. (TENTATIVE TIME), CAMPUS CENTER
Attend an election night event sponsored by the Office of the President. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to Tina Woo at woo@deanza.edu.

ONGOING EVENTS

ART FACULTY/STAFF EXHIBITION
NOW - THURSDAY, OCT. 30, EUPHRAT, A-92
The De Anza and Foothill College Art Faculty/Staff Exhibition in the Euphrat Museum presents a variety of artwork created by faculty and staff including sculpture, painting, drawing, print, mixed media, photography and ceramics. Museum hours are Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and by arrangement. For more information go to: <http://www.deanza.edu/euphrat>.

FREE TUESDAY LUNCH WITH JIF
EVERY TUESDAY, NOON - 1:30 P.M., SUNKEN GARDENS
Come meet fun and interesting students from the De Anza Jews, Israelis and Friends club. A free lunch is provided during JIF's weekly Tuesday gatherings.

PLANETARIUM SHOWS
EVERY SATURDAY THROUGH DEC. 20, PLANETARIUM
Journey to the stars with the Planetarium's Infnium S Star projector and full-dome digital astronomy and laser light shows. Costs range from \$7-\$9. Go to <http://www.deanza.edu/planetarium> for a list of shows and times.

MASSAGE THERAPY CLINIC
EVERY MONDAY & WEDNESDAY, 6 - 9 P.M.
PE 12L & MASSAGE ROOM PE 12U
The Massage Therapy Program Clinical class is offering massages every Monday and Wednesday evening through Dec. 6. Appointment times are at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Cost for students is \$10, faculty/staff is \$15, the community is \$20. To make an appointment call 408-864-5645. For more information see <http://www.deanza.edu/pe/massage/clinic.html>.

COLLEGE REP VISITS

Schedule appointments to meet with representatives in the Transfer Center on the 2nd floor of the SCSB or by calling 408-864-8841.

Monday, Oct. 13
UC Davis: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., by appointment, Transfer Center

Tuesday, Oct. 14
UC Berkeley: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., by appointment, Transfer Center

Monday, Oct. 20
UCSF School of Medicine: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Admissions Workshop, SCS 202
UC Davis: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., by appointment, Transfer Center

Thursday, Oct. 23
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, time and location TBA

Monday, Oct. 27
UC Davis: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., by appointment, Transfer Center

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Let us know!

Send event notices to Happenings@LaVozDeAnza.com by Wednesday noon preceding the week of publication. Please type "Happenings" in the subject line. La Voz does not guarantee publication. All events take place on the De Anza College campus and are free, unless stated otherwise.

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Planned Gavilan campus at Coyote Valley may harm wildlife

Yujin Yoshimura
LA VOZ NEWS

The approval of an Environmental Impact Report on a future community college campus in Coyote Valley, green-lighting its construction, will permanently damage the wildlife there according to Julie Phillips, De Anza College's Environmental Studies Department Chair.

Located along Highway 101 near

Gilroy, Coyote Valley is the only connectivity point for the wild animals that inhabit the sparsely populated area between the Diablo Range and Santa Cruz Mountains.

Ecological consulting firm H. T. Harvey drafted the environmental study on behalf of Gavilan Community College and determined that the campus and buildings would eliminate wildlife movement across the site, but also concluded that the land is not heavily used by local

wildlife.

The Wildlife Corridor Stewardship Team at De Anza, headed by Phillips, has been studying animal movement across Coyote Valley for 18 months.

Through the use of field tracking techniques, GPS and infrared cameras, the team documented movement of several groups of animals; including mountain lions, bobcats and deer.

Phillips wrote in an article which

appeared in the San Jose Mercury News that Gavilan College's study was based on "little if any scientific data collected and only minimal literature review," and that Gavilan Joint Community College District trustees "should be embarrassed by the lack of scientific rigor."

Gavilan College is required by the state to adhere to the California Environmental Quality Act while determining future impact on the environment.

The college has said they will install animal crossing signs on roads near the campus to address concerns over the increasing road traffic in the area.

The Gavilan Joint Community College District extends over 2,700 square miles and currently has only one accessible community college.

Yujin Yoshimura is a freelance reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: yujinyoshimura@lavozdeanza.com.

DA VOICES

What De Anza students have to say

What three things do you suggest students do to be more successful in college?



"Hit the books, converse with students, don't be afraid to ask questions."

Stephen Navarra



"Get enough rest, eat a healthy diet, find a tutor."

Regina Ho



"Attend every class, do the homework, reach out for help."

Gary Druyfous



"Attend the classes, use the library, don't have a girlfriend."

James Kim



"Manage your time well, don't procrastinate, have fun."

Justin Ghazi



"Focus, find great mentors, take advantage of what's available."

Heather Genetti

COMPILED BY LINA KWON

ALERTLOG

CAMPUS POLICE

TRAFFIC HIT & RUN: DAMAGE ONLY

Thursday, Oct. 2
Location: Flint Parking Garage, Level 1
Summary: Incident occurred yesterday in Lot B.

TRAFFIC COLLISION: ACCIDENT - NO INJURIES

Monday, Oct. 6
Location: Parking Lot A
Summary: No further information.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT: DISTURBING THE PEACE

Tuesday, Oct. 7
Location: De Anza College Library
Summary: Loud behavior by two groups in Learning Resource Area.

INVESTIGATION: INTRUSION ALARM

Tuesday, Oct. 7
Location: De Anza College
Summary: Inside print shop.

VANDALISM: VEHICLE KEYS

Wednesday, Oct. 8
Location: Parking Lot B
Summary: No further information.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT: MINOR INJURIES

Wednesday, Oct. 8
Location: Perimeter road near Flint Center
Summary: Occurred at 1330 hrs.

LOST PROPERTY: LICENSE PLATE

Thursday, Oct. 9
Location: Parking Lot E
Summary: Silver Toyota Corolla.

COMPILED BY NARSU RAO

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT



A woman watches a meandering duck while sitting in the S Quad at De Anza College.

JOSE MARTE/LA VOZ WEEKLY



SOHEIL REZAAEE/LA VOZ WEEKLY

De Anza College Senate members mingle with other party members at a charity ball in the San Jose Museum of Art.

BALL | De Anza student leaders chalk one up for charity

Continued from Page 1

Voodoo Soul also performed.

A photo booth and several other activities were offered to the crowd, but the most popular entertainment of the night turned out to be the Legos™ at the robotics exhibit.

At around 8 p.m., socializing ended and the event got down to its purpose, which involved two hours of speeches from local business, educational and political leaders.

The two-hour forum emphasized LEAD's mission, its illustrious speakers communicating their vision of future leadership, and, importantly, why the next generation should care. Each panelist spoke of

the hardships and rewards of leadership, and of the extraordinary changes good role models can bring about in others' lives.

Thomas Main, CEO of International Processing Solutions, head chairman of LEAD and moderator for the night's panels, had successfully highlighted the different styles of leadership with his surprise question for the panelists. Their answers – and the trends inherent in them – were enlightening.

Professors Joe Guerra of Golden Gate University and H. Buford Burr of Santa Clara University emphasized the importance of intellectual competence in the characteristics of a role model. "Fundamentally, it's

about continual improvement," said Professor Guerra.

Councilmembers Madison Nguyen and Evan Low, as well as former San Jose mayor Ron Gonzales, however, asserted the importance of courage. Nguyen added compassion as a necessary characteristic.

But all agreed: passion was paramount.

The overall reaction to the Charity Ball was positive. "Some of [the students] are here to have fun. That's okay – that's a good thing. But a certain percentage of them are also looking for how they can expand their lives... It's a good start. It's a very successful turnout," Gonzales said.

Others, while also quite happy

with the mood of the ball, felt that it had room for improvement. "I think they could have let us mingle with the speakers more," said DASB Senate member Bobby Lee.

He may get his chance. According to Kim Ngo, LEAD is planning two major events a year. "The next one is in six months. It will be speed role-modeling. Students will get one-on-one time with leaders," she said.

"Silicon Valley has some of the world's best leaders. We just want to encourage them to hand the torch to tomorrow's generation," said Ngo. "We want young adults to have a good time, but we also want them to walk away with value; whether it be learning something new about their

local environment or expanding their network with a local college student, young professional or leader."

De Anza College Student Body Senate members made themselves a noticeable presence at the event.

"When De Anza rolled up," said Ngo, "they came in limos. These guys really represented... Terrell was really able to create a group with so much spirit."

To find more information on the LEAD organization and their events, visit their website at <http://lead-us.org>.

Sharon Su is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: sharonsu@lavozeanza.com.

Student Leader of the Week

Lina Wang
Inter Club Council Chair of Finance
Major: Economics
Dream school: UC Berkeley, UCLA

Sharon Su
LA VOZ NEWS

Lina Wang wanted to take on the responsibility of being the Inter Club Council Chair of Finance after a former Chair of Finance resigned. She says she's discovered a whole new world around her. A student who used to concentrate only on studies, Lina Wang learned of the various opportunities open to De Anza students. Willing to help students as much as she can, Lina Wang recommends not being shy or afraid to try new things.

What is your job as the ICC Chair of Finance?

Wang: I manage financial activities of clubs, such as asking money for writing requisitions, transferring money, and checking on each club and seeing if the money granted is used correctly. A lot of my job is paper work. I also help out with new club orientation.

What do you think about the ICC?

W: It's an opportunity to serve clubs. We provide money, room, even projectors for clubs. We also make sure people follow the rules, so that students don't get into trouble.

What are the benefits of being an ICC Chair of Finance?

W: Meeting a lot of people and keeping up with what's going around the campus are really beneficial.

What are the challenges you face in your position?

W: I face challenges in time management and in a little bit of English.

What would you like students to know about the ICC?

W: I hope the students will know that ICC does more than funding clubs. We also provide services and help clubs become official. In addition, I would recommend officers of clubs become familiar with financial codes. Knowing the rules and how the funding works help a lot.

What other experiences have you had besides the ICC Chair of Finance?

W: I was a secretary for Chinese Association. I also worked as a program specialist in the Discovery Museum in San Jose.

Who do you admire the most?

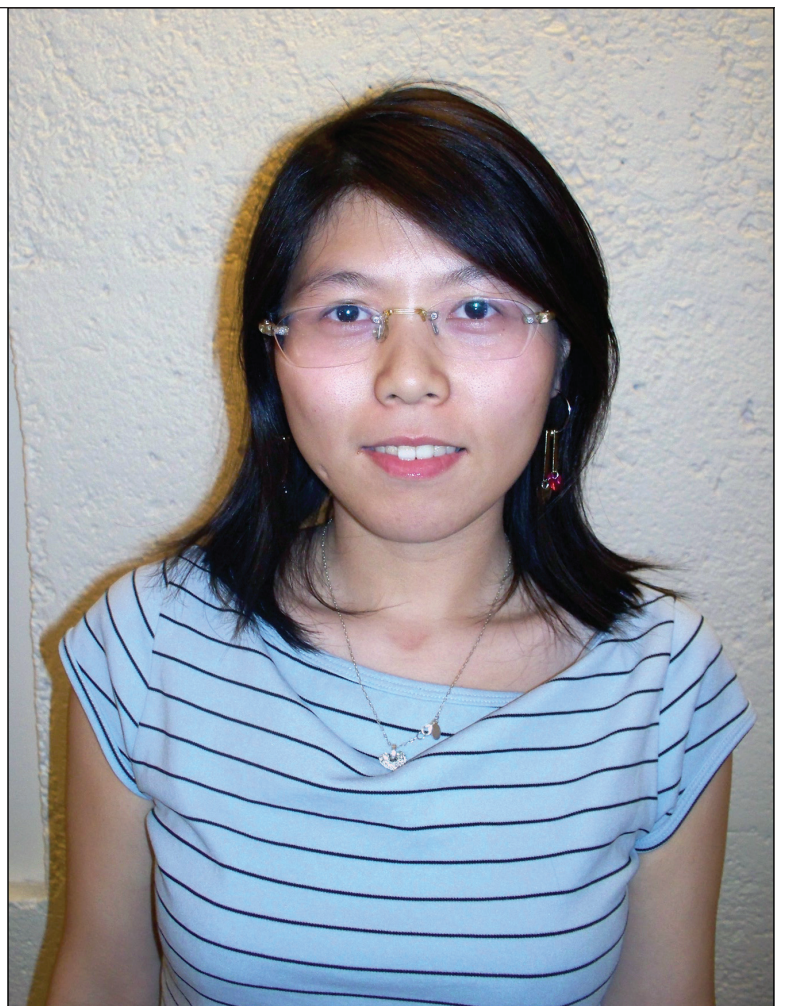
W: I admire my family. My family is important to me. My grandparents and parents give me a motto of where I should be.

What plans do you have for the future?

W: I plan to transfer to a 4-year university, get my bachelor's degree, then get an MBA. Next, I want to work as a financial analyst. After 10-20 years, I would like to open my own business, but where is undecided. It depends on how good the economy is.

What message do you have for students?

W: If you try, everything will become possible. De Anza is a good place for you. It's a place full of opportunity.



SPORTS



Another shut out!

Lady Dons deliver stunning 3-0 blow, this time defeating Evergreen College

Quan Luong
LA VOZ NEWS

Despite not having attack midfielder Jessica Herrera, the Lady Dons soccer team was able to hold off Evergreen College of San Jose. Herrera was injured in a previous game against Skyline College and was unable to play Evergreen Oct. 3.

"The team is not worried if Herrera is out of action for a few games," centerback Jessica Sanchez said. "We could find other ways to defeat our opponents."

The Lady Dons triumphed, easily defeating Evergreen 3-0.

Just three minutes and seven seconds into the game, left forward Mollyrose McBride scored the first goal, as the Lady Dons took a 1-0 lead. Less than seven minutes later, midfielder Jennifer Sablan scored the second goal pushing their lead over the Hawks to 2-0.

"We felt that in the beginning of the game, they were preparing to beat us by outsmarting us with their plays," Sanchez said. "But we didn't let them get away that easily."

In the 23rd minute, the Lady Dons struck again. This time left midfielder Jessica Heeb put the ball into the back

of the net, extending De Anza's lead to an insurmountable 3-0 score in the first half.

In the second half of the game, Evergreen's defense prevented the Lady Dons from scoring, by giving them a hard time, forcing them to take defended shots on goal. Even though Evergreen's defensive pressure picked up in the second half, De Anza was able to prevail over the Hawks with a 3-0 win.

The game also witnessed the return of defensive back Danni Ra Bon, who was suspended by the league for tossing an opponent to the ground in the Las Positas game, aiding in the shutout of the Hawks Oct. 3.

"When we had possession of the ball, we were able to make quick passes to our teammates," Sanchez explained. "We kept the chemistry and communication going and we stayed focused throughout the entire game."

The team's chemistry should continue to help as the season wears on, and it will become crucial in order for the team to make it to the playoffs.

Quan Luong is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: quanluong@lavozeanza.com.



CRAIG DARKNELL (2)/LA VOZ WEEKLY

Midfielder Jessica Heeb (top most) matriculates the ball upfield, aiding in the De Anza College Lady Dons' 3-0 victory over Evergreen College in San Jose. Jennifer Sablan (above) of De Anza passes ahead to a teammate.

Get on Dons' Bandwagon, or Ducks or Squirrels?

At a recent get together with my fellow editors, the discussion of a banana slug ensued. It really came out of nowhere, but I made the comment that the banana slug is not that menacing a creature. It's yellow, slow, and basically a useless creature.

What does this have to do with sports, you ask? Well, the University of California Santa Cruz's mascot is a banana slug. Not exactly the most feared of all the mascots in the world.

This brings me to the next focus on this week's Sports Blurb.

Mascots should be the most fearful creatures in order to strike initial fear into the opponents. You see a banana slug mascot and you don't exactly start running the other way with your skirt lifted up. It's a useless mascot, but it does have significance to its region.

The same could be said for the University of California Berkeley mascot. It's the state's symbol of the bear, but in this case, the bear doesn't

look at all intimidating. It has this lame look on its face with the old-school yellow sweater with Cal's "C" stitched on it. To make matters worse for this bear, he or she must walk with its hands behind its back. Not exactly the best fighting position if something comes upon it. You don't see too many bears with their paws behind their backs before engaging in some physical contact.

But Stanford University has a redwood tree as its mascot, again something that is territorial to their campus. Each year, the campus hosts Tree Week to decide who the next mascot will be for the campus, and they must make their own costume, making it the most original of all the mascots in the country, but again, not exactly striking fear.

I find that the most intimidating mascots tend to be animals and ones that are used in real life. For instance, the University of Colorado uses a real buffalo before coming out of the tunnel for football games. Most times, there are five or six students that run with it to make sure it doesn't get away and inflict any injuries to anyone who might be in its path.

The University of Georgia uses a real bulldog, and they also use a mascot of their bulldog, Uga. At a football game last year, Uga was in one of the endzones and the opposing team just scored. The player, obviously not seeing Uga, kept running and eventually ran too far. Because he was on an opposing team, Uga snapped at him in an attempt to bite the innocent player.

Now that's a good guard dog.

A couple weeks ago, our esteemed DASB President Terell Sterling stated that he plans on changing our mascot from the Dons to something to be named at a later time. The change could be good simply because not too many people, aside from the athletes and coaches, even know what the mascot is. The Don is a pirate, but it's not exactly an overwhelming school representative. So what should the mascot become?

It should most definitely become something that could be used by both genders that represent our school athletically, but it should also possibly reflect what the school embodies. There are plenty of squirrels scampering along the campus, so that could fit the bill and run along the same lines as a banana slug that represents Santa Cruz.

And while on the subject of bills ... last quarter there was an influx of ducks that appeared on this campus, and soon enough they were swimming in our fountains and quacking their

way around campus.

"The Mighty Ducks" trilogy witnessed the Ducks winning anything that came in their path. They won their pee-wee championships, a gold medal in the Junior Olympics and gained the respect of everyone at Eden Hall when they were in high school.

Ducks fly together and can be a menace to anyone that would get in their way. And anyone who has seen the movies knows that the "Flying-V" was probably the greatest thing that had ever come out of those movies. The Ducks fly together.

It's just a suggestion, but it's something that isn't meant as a joke. If the mascot is indeed supposed to change, then it would be of greater significance to have it be the Ducks or the Squirrels. You be the judge, but for the time being, we are the Dons.

Joe Chunnick is the sports editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: joechunnick@lavozeanza.com.



Joe Chunnick
The Sports Blurb

Playing the blame game won't fix anything, but it sure makes us feel a whole lot better

Up to this point, the United States has experienced ten recessions since the end of World War II. And since the double dipper of the early 1980s, recessions have been less frequent and rather mild.

Today our economy is facing a financial crisis of perhaps unprecedented scope. And though we do not yet know if we are currently in the midst of recession or if we will even experience one, it is looking more and more likely. Additionally, there are intimations leading many to suggest that if and when it hits, this could be the most severe economic contraction since the Great Depression.

Last week's column dealt with what happened to get us into such a precarious position; this week we will tackle the subject of how it happened – that is, who or what is to be blamed.

Like any economic-based crisis as large as we are now trying to deal with, there obviously has to be several causes and hence, many to blame. And if in your quest for catharsis you have been looking for someone or something to pin the blame on you may be a bit confused because, for example, if you were to go by a conservative publication like *The Wall Street Journal*, you would be convinced that the main culprit was the government.

But then a perusal of a liberal publication such as *The American Prospect* suggests that it was the free market and greed that has pushed us to the brink of disaster. That is to say, is this a case of government failure or market failure? Let's just say that, for brevity's sake, we have a generous combination of the two.

Now, the culprits of this nightmare scenario are many, thus – and remember, that this whole thing started with the bursting of the housing bubble – I will simply highlight the most commonly cited sources.

So let the blame game begin!

It was the Fed's fault! This is probably a good place to begin, because the Fed is supposed to be the overseer of the money supply. Due to an extraordinarily low interest rate policy pursued by the Fed in an effort to get the economy rolling after the slow recovery from the 2001 recession – which was caused in large part by the bursting of the dot com bubble – there was an abundance of cheap money sloshing around the system for which to make more and more home loans.

It was the greedy folks on Wall Street! To borrow a comment made by a former Labor Secretary during the Clinton administration, Robert (Big Bob) Reich, "What is Wall Street without greed? Pavement." Still, they played a significant role in the feeding frenzy, as a main source of the creating, buying and selling of all those nifty SIVs (structured investment vehicles) discussed in last week's column, including credit default swaps, which financier Warren Buffett presciently described as "financial weapons of mass destruction."

It was due to lack of regulation! It seems that the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act in 1999 has been a convenient whipping boy for accusers of the free market. The Glass-Steagall Act separated the banking system into two distinct groups: commercial banks and investment banks. In my opinion, the actual effect or effects of the discarding of this law are rather indirect. Nevertheless, the fact that investment banks had now to compete with commercial banks for the types of business caused them to overdo it

in terms of risk taking, helping lead to their eventual demise.

As of today, there is no such thing as a large-scale/stand-alone investment bank in this country. And, originally a rather staid industry, commercial banks became a bit too adventurous as well – which has contributed to the freezing up of credit markets. In addition, if some still believe that there was a lack of regulation, one need look no further than page 9 of the *New York Times*, Oct. 5 issue, business section, which features a diagram displaying a Flying Spaghetti Monster-like tangle of the regulatory agencies and the various financial institutions they are supposed to oversee, leading one to believe that as the picture got more and more complex, there was a lot of regulatory "shrugging" going on.

So perhaps it was Fannie and Freddie's fault! The tale of the Federal National Mortgage association, aka Fannie Mae, and her smaller younger brother Freddie Mac (the Federal Home Loan Corporation), could easily take up several pages, so I'll give you the short version of at least part of their role in the chaos.

Though recently taken over by the federal government, the F&F twins were quasi-public institutions created by the federal government to provide funds for home mortgages (they do/did not directly provide them). Before the takeover they owned or guaranteed around 50 percent of this country's \$11 trillion in mortgages. Fannie & Freddie were rather awkward constructs known as GSEs (government sponsored enterprises).

This meant that though they were

private sector companies owned by stockholders, they were explicitly backed by the government. As a result, pressured from many sides, F&F took on more and more risks, got deeper and deeper into the subprime scene and finally had to be saved by the US Treasury.

In a recent presidential debate, Republican candidate John "economics isn't my strong suit" McCain suggested that Fan and Fred lit the match to this conflagration – I'd suggest that their role was more of pouring fuel on the fire.

On the bright side, never had a mortgage? Now you do! One big chunk of \$11 trillion worth!

Let's continue: it was the unscrupulous lenders' fault! Much of this story was told last week – and yes, there were lenders that certainly went overboard, who, driven by greed and/or stupidity, gave loans and arranged payment plans to folks they knew would never be able to handle them. In partial defense, I'm sure in certain instances the hope/thought was that, yes, maybe we shouldn't loan to these folks, but – having fallen prey to the myth that home prices would keep on rising, they would – eventually these subprime borrowers would be able to refinance at lower rates. And we all know what happened to that pipe dream. Place (some) blame here.

Well, then, it's the unqualified borrowers' fault! Yes, they too deserve some of the blame. Populists are quick to point the finger at the "unethical

lenders and their predatory lending practices." But as harsh as this might sound, homeownership is not a right. And at the very least, don't you think that having a job might help you to make mortgage payments?

Okay, who did I leave out?

Um, the change in the bankruptcy laws which made it more difficult for people to unload credit card debt, so instead they unloaded their homes?

The Community Reinvestment Act, which apparently leaned on lenders to loan to lower income and less credit-worthy house-hunters?

Like any economic-based crisis as large as we are now trying to deal with, there obviously has to be several causes and hence, many to blame. So let the blame game begin!

The recently implemented mark to marketing accounting rules?

The rating agencies that "overrated" many of the SIVs?

Or, how about the house flippers?

Certain hedge funds?

A pox on all their houses!

(Hmm, wasn't that the root of the problem?)

So, take your pick.

Anyway, as you probably know by now, we have a big, bad, complex problem on our hands. And though finger-pointing might make one feel better, it accomplishes little.

The big question now is what can be done and what the future will bring.

See you next week: the ~~bailout~~ rescue plan!

Stephen Zill is an instructor of economics at De Anza College. He wrote this article for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: zillstephen@fhda.edu.



Stephen Zill

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VOTE | Groups aim to increase young voters' influence, power

Continued from Page 1

election initiatives began.

"The Mock Election is a good initiative from De Anza and will mobilize youth voters," said Tim D'Angelo, an economics major. In his experience, there are many students who haven't taken that extra effort to find out about the voting process and haven't registered themselves.

Other De Anza events surrounding the election include faculty workshops on managing political dialogue in the classroom and discussing issues such as what some economists are calling the nation's largest economic crisis since the Great Depression.

Voter education geared toward improving immigrant turnout and new citizen civic participation will also be highlighted. On Oct. 20, panelists from local immigrants rights organizations will examine proposed legislation impacting immigrant communities in the Hinson Campus Center at De Anza.

Additionally, the screening of the documentary film "Engage Her – Getting Minority Women to Vote and Lead" will explore why a large majority of Latina, African American and Asian Pacific Islander wom-

en choose not to vote in the United States, even though they may be eligible.

De Anza student activist club ¡LEAD! will also be hosting the ¡Andale! welcoming event for new students and their parents. It will include student-led workshops on civic activism and booths for new voter registration.

"Student enthusiasm about the election is higher than previous national presidential elections," said Stephanie Dickson, Physical Science, Math and Engineering division faculty, and added that students this year feel far more included and relevant to the topics being discussed and debated in mainstream politics and the media than at any other time in recent memory, a sentiment that seems particularly fueled by the youth-appealing campaign of Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama.

These events will culminate on Nov. 4, with an election night party sponsored by the Office of De Anza President Brian Murphy, which will take place in the Hinson Campus Center.

James Chen is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: jameschen@lavozeanza.com.

OPINION



La Voz Weekly

The Voice of De Anza Students

Shawn McGann Editor in Chief
lavoz@fhda.edu

Josh Bays Managing Editor
managing@lavozdeanza.com

Audrey Barker News Editor

Matthew Larvey Features Editor

Joe Chunnick Sports Editor

Kelly Truong Opinions Editor

Dae Kim Copy Editor

Soheil Rezaee Video Editor

Daniel Gamberg Website Editor

Business Staff

Beth Grobman Faculty Adviser
grobman@fhda.edu

Walter Alvarado Lab Technician
alvaradowalter@fhda.edu

Reza Kazempour Business Manager
ads@lavozdeanza.com

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Phone: 408-864-5626
Fax: 408-864-5533

lavoz@fhda.edu

www.lavozdeanza.com

Room L-41

21250 Stevens Creek Blvd.

Cupertino, CA 95014

Come to Room L-42 Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:45 p.m. to attend the newspaper staff class.

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EDITORIAL

Textbooks must be made affordable

If there's anything more daunting than a full load of college courses, it's what it costs to actually attend them.

The price tag of a college education has been rising steadily over the years, and the cost of textbooks makes up a significant part of that burden.

Students have become used to racking up huge bills at their college bookstores – or, as textbook prices have become even more outrageous, they've become used to relying on extensive lecture notes, often choosing to risk taking the class without the required reading. Some students have decided not to sign up for classes at all due to high textbook prices.

Considering how far we've come

in other areas, it seems ridiculous that education should be denied to anyone as a result of the crippling cost of textbooks.

It seems time for a major overhaul in how things are done; the current textbook system is archaic and too costly for students to remain as is.

The Community College Open Textbook Project, which compiles information from the public domain to create free textbook alternatives, has already begun operating

here at De Anza College.

We need to push forward and encourage reform along these lines.

With the world changing and new technology developing, it seems natural and inevitable that the textbook system should change. Why not take advantage of new technology to make college more affordable for students?

The increasing cost of textbooks means that students can no longer afford the opportunity that they should be automatically given. Education

should be a natural right, and not just for the privileged.

In a globalized economy, where we're competing with talented people from other nations around the world, we should be doing everything we can to encourage people to pursue education. Instead, the current system makes it difficult for people to do just that.

Education is all about innovation and reevaluating old ideas in light of new discoveries. In an increasingly paperless world, we're relying on an outdated twentieth century model for education. It's a truism that ideas need to change or die, and we've been using an old system for far too long.

It seems time for a major overhaul in how things are done; the current textbook system is archaic and too costly to remain as is.

OTHER VIEWS

Former student president says he was falsely characterized, wrongly suspended

Robin Claassen
HIS OPINION

I feel that the article "Former Student Body President suspended" (Sept. 22) failed to adequately describe the circumstances of my suspension. I would like to describe those circumstances because my suspension sets a precedent that affects the students' ability to have a voice.

I hope that my suspension can serve to bring greater attention to important issues that need to be addressed in our student government and college.

In the 2002-03 and 2003-04 academic years, the De Anza Associated Student Body Senate did a relatively effective job at defending student rights and addressing student concerns.

It was known to me then that the faculty adviser to the Senate was actively trying to limit the Senate's power and influence, and with this knowledge, we were able to mitigate

his impact. However, due to a chronic lack of continuity in the Senate, when I returned last year, I found that the adviser was playing a highly influential role in the Senate, and the organization had been reduced in scope to a mere extracurricular activity.

As I worked to restore the Senate's role of representing the students, and the adviser worked to increase his own influence and limit student empowerment, I had to speak out publicly against him.

I stated that I felt he had a negative influence on the Student Body Senate, that he made statements to the Senate that I personally found misleading, and that I felt we should replace him in his position as adviser. For this I was suspended.

The fact that I had spent time working in the Senate Office after

the building was officially closed (something that the majority of Senate members do), and a preposterous allegation that I had threatened another student were also tacked on as rationales for my suspension.

It's important to emphasize that the reason for my suspension had nothing to do with me personally. Its purpose was to suppress the student voice.

It's important to emphasize that my suspension was not about me personally. It was about suppressing the student voice.

The central assertion behind my suspension, that it is improper for a member of the Student Body Senate to criticize the DASB adviser, is completely erroneous. The Student Body Senate is given explicit authority by the District Administrative Procedures to choose its own adviser (AP 5500, Article III, Section A).

These Procedures further protect the right of all students to practice free

speech and express critical opinion so long as it does not have the effect of "harass[ing] or discriminat[ing] ... on the basis of race ... or any other legally protected status" (AP 5500, Article I, Section A).

More importantly, this right of free speech is protected by the California Education Code and the State and Federal Constitutions. My suspension was an abuse of a disciplinary tool by entrenched interests to defend the status quo.

The need for change in our student government is greater than ever. This is both a practical and a moral issue. The students must have a voice. We must work to forge an organization through which we, the students, can act collectively. I encourage all who can to get involved immediately.

Robin Claassen was president of the DASB Senate. He was removed from office in 2007 when the Senate passed a vote of no-confidence in him. Contact him at: greenisrobin-dasb@yahoo.com.

Prop 4 about ideology, not teens' best interests

James Chen
HIS OPINION

The battle between pro-choice and pro-life camps is rife with staggering quantities of misinformation. The mud being slung back and forth has proven an obscuring deterrent to voter comprehension many times, and the fight over Prop. 4 is no different.

However, just because both sides have not escaped this decades-long fight unblemished doesn't mean that they're both wrong. Indeed, in the case of Prop. 4, one side is definitely not on the side of the angels.

It's probably not the side you're thinking of, either.

Prop. 4 mandates that doctors and nurses performing abortions on minors must notify their parents or legal guardians. Given our culture's propensity to treat the family structure as sacrosanct and the parental rule as absolute, it is small wonder that the measure has a healthy base of support. So why are others so fervently against its passing?

Because the implications of its passing are, frankly, terrifying.

There are two major demons hiding in the shadows of Proposition 4. For one, Prop. 4 inevitably endangers young women, particularly victims of sexual assault, by driving them to seek alternative and often lethal

means of depriving themselves of their abusers' unwanted legacy.

We know that the latter scenario is entirely likely, regardless of whether or not the pregnancy was the result of rape. The entire rationale behind Roe v. Wade was to prevent dangerous back alley abortions. So many lives have been lost due to shame: the social stigma of an unplanned pregnancy drives young women to seek unsafe, illegal abortions.

The second beast in the shadows is more subtle. Prop. 4 is merely the same rendition of the same proposition put forth by the same loud-voiced minority group in 2005 and in 2006. It's been defeated both times - so why the third attempt?

An analysis of who supports Prop. 4 and why will reveal it as an attempt to fight legal abortion in general. Prop. 4 was never made with the safety of teens in mind. It's another ideological salvo from the same folks who scream and froth that Katrina, AIDS and 9/11 was the act of a vengeful God.

It's just dirty politics as usual - with a touch of crazy for flavor. And that's exactly why we Californians should reject it outright.

No on Prop 4.

James Chen is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: jameschen@lavozdeanza.com.

Abortion is an issue best kept in the family

Sharon Su
HER OPINION

Abortion, one of the country's most hot-button issues, is on the ballot again.

Proposition 4 would make it mandatory for doctors performing abortions on pregnant minors to notify their parents beforehand (or, if parental abuse has been reported, an alternative adult family member).

Modified from Propositions 73 and 85, Prop. 4 clearly supports parental supervision and cohesiveness within the family. Under state law, teenagers are still under their parents' supervision whether they like or dislike their parents. Legally, parents pay the cost for the actions of their children.

It is necessary that parents understand the issues in their children's lives in order to help them solve their problems. If teenagers are less than honest with their parents, they will be unable to rely on them for advice and support, which are some of the key elements in a family.

Potential conflict between minors and their lawful parents is not a good excuse for opposing Prop. 4. It is no good being called a family unless the family is informed about problems in the members'

lives. Families are supposed to work past conflicts together, not avoid them.

Why should young women hide their pregnancies from their parents? The initial concealment will almost certainly sprout even more problems when their parents inevitably find out. If it was hidden and therefore unprevented, the young woman might end up having more than one abortion, which is potentially detrimental to her health.

Parents should not only be informed because they are the supervisors of their children, but because they can help their children make wise decisions.

Teenagers are not always equipped to make such major life decisions and may end up regretting decisions made in panic. Parents will help them talk over the issue and try to resolve them in the best way for all parties.

If a young woman makes such a drastic decision of abortion without consulting her parents, it defeats the purpose of a family. What are parents for if not to advise and support their children? Facing the issue together as a family will produce the best possible outcome.

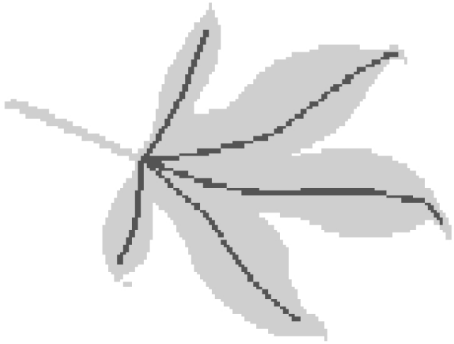
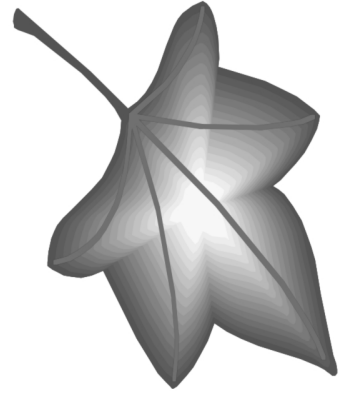
Sharon Su is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: sharonsu@lavozdeanza.com.

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