



# Happy Holidays



## La OZ

The Voice of De Anza College

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### Friends of the Library supports Learning Center

By Peggy Yeung  
Staff Writer

Friends of the Library is a true friend to the De Anza Library. It collects and sells used books to fund the De Anza Library for purchasing reference materials and subscriptions to newspapers. Located at the rear of the Learning Center, next to the handicap elevator, the Friends opens on every Wednesday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This year the Friends funded \$3,226.40 to the De Anza Library. Most of the funding was collected from the book sale on De Anza Day, June 4, and the three days following. Now the Library is still receiving books donated by Apple, and sample copies by publishers.

Business law books donated are abundant. Companies who are in the midst of updating their libraries are generously donating previous versions. Boxes of unpacked books are still lying on the floor waiting to be sorted. The thirty boxes of books donated after a real estate deal were among the boxes.

The amount of books in store may surpass last year's record of 13,306 books received from the public, students and personal libraries.

The idea of setting up this Library started four years ago when a financial crisis hampered the De Anza Library from buying new books. Three innovative book lovers—Margee Randolph, Polly Swanson, and Mary Lou Gmeinder—who are longtime employees at De Anza, thought of backing up the De Anza Library financially. By collecting used books from donors, sorting them by subject on shelves, and letting students pick and buy, the three innovators have kept the book sale going for four years. This type of self-help program has motivated volunteers from campus staff and students to help sell books on De Anza Day, and also on Wednesdays.

**Friends of the Library is a true friend to the De Anza Library. It collects and sells used books to fund the De Anza Library for purchasing reference materials and subscriptions to newspapers**

From having a small corner at the periodic area, the Friends has acquired a room for storage. With the progress of construction, Margee can see ground floor of the Learning Center expanding and so will the Friends.

"The Friends is a wonderful back up for current classes," says Margee who had worked at the Learning Center for 17 years before retiring. As updated edition of textbooks are expensive, students can find the fundamentals of course subjects at the Friends with the affordable price of \$1 per book. With the price paid, one can use an extra book for reference.

Some books, however, are very recent because book lovers donated them "from the goodness of their hearts"—the generosity of sharing the wealth of knowledge accessibly. The most expensive books costs \$2, the majority costs \$1, fictions 50 cents, and paperbacks 25 cents.

"The fund also fills the needs of buying reference books for current materials," states Margee.

Margee also says some instructors have a wish list to complete for further reading or research purposes. To purchase the reference

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### Winter Wonderland in the South Bay

Danielle J. Cooper  
Staff Writer

This is the season for yet another California winter. The sun is shining, the grass is green, and the orange and palm trees are swaying. But I want snow, sledding, frosty windows... and for my car not to start, to shovel snow, and wear three layers of clothing? Well, maybe living without the snow is not such a big sacrifice after all. So, in lieu of all those drudging winter rituals, I decided to heighten my spirit by taking part in a noncommittal holiday activity: ice skating.

The San Jose Downtown Association and Dorothy Hamill Ice Skating Center have placed a beautiful outdoor ice rink right in the heart of Downtown San Jose. The first rinks were opened five years

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La Voz/Shumiala Pervaitz

Left: Sam Ortiz shows daughter Samantha, how to ice skate, as the song "We are Family" by the Pointer Sisters plays over the loudspeakers on Wednesday evening, Nov. 29, at the new outdoor Dorothy Hamill ice skating rink located in downtown San Jose. "This is the first time I see skating in the park in San Jose," commented Ortiz.

### De Anza draws younger crowd

By Tim Persyn  
Guest Writer

The demographics of De Anza College's student population for the fall of 1995 reveal important ways the college changes to meet the needs of students.

This fall the number of 17- to 24-year-olds enrolling at De Anza increased compared to last fall, according to a study by De Anza's Office of Institutional Research. In addition, Independence High School in San Jose, and Homestead and Monta Vista high schools in Cupertino were the top three schools in number of students sent to De Anza. Meanwhile, De Anza continues to maintain a racially and ethnically diverse student body.

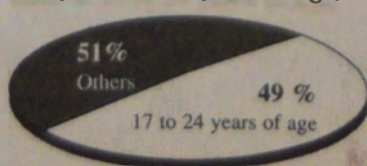
Forty-nine percent of those who registered for the fall quarter were aged

17 to 24. In terms of head count, 11,499 students in the age group enrolled at De Anza this fall, compared to 11,169 in the fall of 1994.

Rena Frabony of De Anza's Office of Relations with Schools (ORS) said this increase is due to at least three factors. One factor is the college's reputation, which plays a large role in drawing students. A recent survey conducted by the Marketing/Communications Office on campus showed that more than 40 percent of those

See Age, back page

**About half of the student body is 17 to 24 years of age.**



### Co-op Ed offer credits and work experience

By Carla Caceres, Aimee Gee, Lizz Miele, Jaqueline Ortiz, and Kimberly Stanford  
Guest Writers

Co-operative Education/Work Experience program at De Anza allows students to earn college credit and gain work experiences at the same time.

With the Co-operative Education/Work Experience program, any student currently employed or entering the work force to explore career choices can receive a maximum of four units per quarter. "The cooperative work experience process gives students a career path or paths to follow, specifically by helping the student set goals and identify steps to reach their goals. In the program, students can demonstrate, participate and evaluate their progress at work," explains Faculty Coordinator Bill Mathiasen.

Students have benefited from this program in various ways at De Anza. According to Carmen Pereda, staff assistant of Co-op, most graduates from Co-op have received raises and promotions

### About 90 percent of job supervisors are willing to work with students in the Co-op program

from their jobs, as well as improved communication with employers. Many students have found different jobs, not related to their Co-op employment, because of the skills they have acquired from their work experience. Co-op units are also CSU transferable.

Youth Employment Specialist and a student of Co-op for two years, Tiffany Johnson finds that the program has made her more aware of her objectives on the job.

"Now, I think about what I am offering to the job and what the job is offering me," says Johnson.

About 90 percent of job supervisors are willing to work with students in the Co-op program. Radio station KOMA is one of many friendly sites that hire interns each new quarter.

Doreen Hennrichsen, the internship supervisor at KOMA, comments, "We give students a chance

to work in the promotional and department programming. Students can see and learn how the different aspects of the radio business run."

In order to join Co-op, the student must be currently employed and enrolled in a minimum of seven units, including Co-op units. There are two types of Co-op Education. Students can apply for Occupational Work Experience if their employment relates to their selected major. Students who have not selected a major or if their job is not related to their major, can register for General Work Experience. The Co-op class requires students to fulfill assignments that can differ for each classmate. Not all internship offer payment or credit.

An assortment of information about fields ranging from graphics to health care is posted on the bulletin board in the Career Center in Forum 5. Students do not have to

join Co-op to get an internship or receive units for internship if they do not want to.

Another helpful program that prepares students for their prospective career is Occupational Training Institute (OTI). This is a ten year old program in the Foothill-De Anza district which upgrades students' skills, gives professional advice, career counseling, and AFDC (aid to families with dependent children) to low income residents, refugees, and displaced workers.

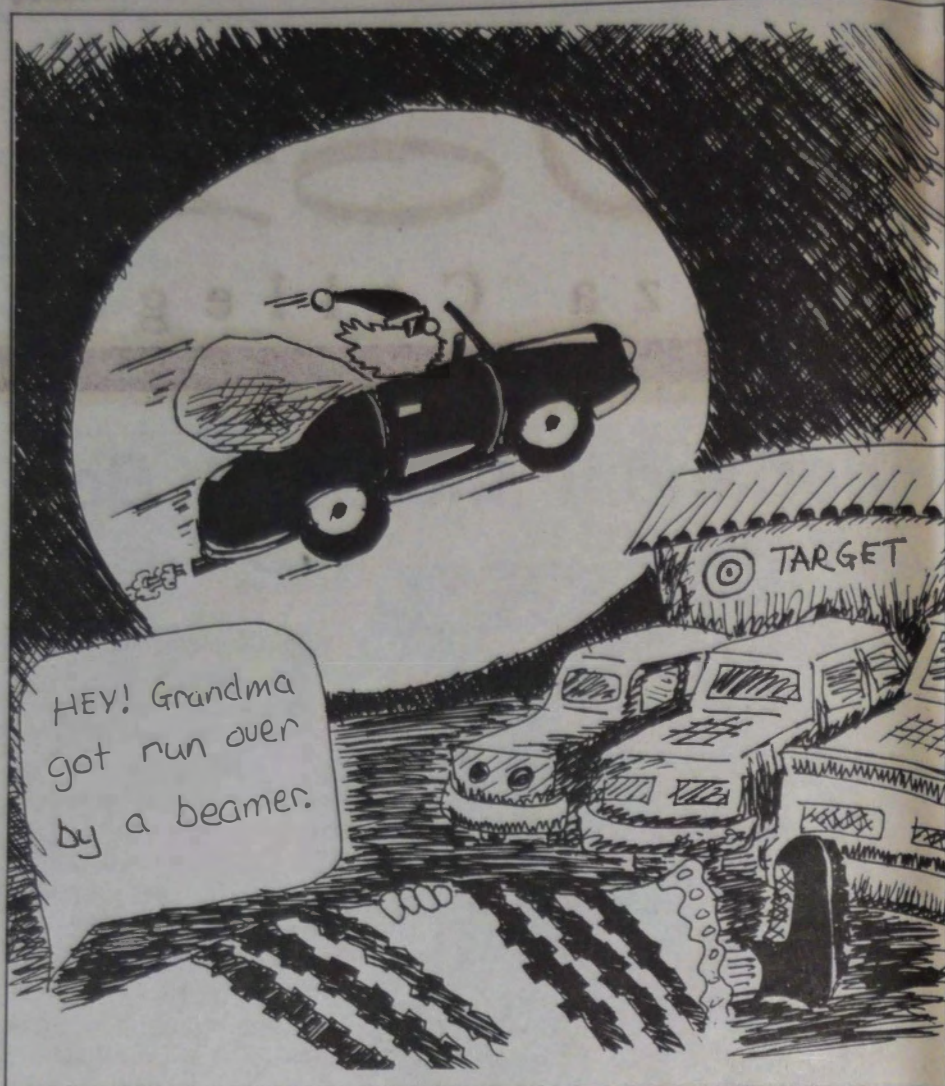
In today's world of layoffs and cutbacks, the OTI program is helping many people pick themselves up and jump back into the fast-paced world of modern technology. Kim Peterson of GAIN Liaison, says that the Occupational Training Institute helped over 1000 people last year.

OTI offers students internship, child care, financial aid, and an Advanced Technology Center to upgrade skills. Some of these state grant-sponsored programs are 9 to 12 months in length.

Kinesha Mayberry, OTI student, is entering her second year with this program studying computer

See Co-op, page 3

## Editorial



## Give grandma a break this holiday season

Once upon a time, on the day after the Thanksgiving holiday, in a land filled with cars and no available parking spaces, the Holiday Shopping Season officially began with a BANG! That is, a 'bang' caused by cars rear-ending each other.

As November rolls around, shopping malls begin to make pre-holiday preparations, with traces of decorations and advertisements foreshadowing the season's best sales, and the year's worst accidents.

More than any other time of the year, shoppers display more animosity and short tempers during the Holiday Shopping Season (the rate of automobile accidents and suicides tends to rise this time of year). The lack of parking spaces combined with excessive traffic and discourteous (not to mention exhausted) sales clerks, creates the perfect atmosphere for restless,

irascible shoppers who hunt for bargains like soldiers in a war zone.

Even people, who in normal shopping situations are courteous and patient, are transformed into intolerant individuals by the rushing and racing and pressing which come with a last-minute shopping spree.

It seems as though year after year journalists, song writers and religious leaders endeavor to remind the general public about the true meaning of the holiday season.

So, once again, let us remind you that the vacation time you are about to receive is for you to relax and not heighten your stress level by fighting with the little girl for the last barbie doll in the store.

Let us remind you that whether you are Christian or Jewish, are practicing a different religion or are nondenominational, this season is really about

spending time with your family, preferably around the fireplace, not with the store clerk in the mall.

But even if you find yourself without family this year, the holidays are also about genuine human kindness and consideration towards one another.

So, if you are planning to go shopping this weekend, or are just waiting until finals are over, try to find a kind and enduring side to yourself and instead of running her down, let the little old lady have the last parking space. As you ponder your gift list, listening to "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer" on the radio for the millionth time and circling the parking lot for an hour or two until you find the next available spot to park, remember to "Have yourself a merry little Christmas. Let your heart be light. From now on your troubles will be out of sight."

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## Where's Christ in Christmas?

Deep down inside, I have to admit that I love the holidays. Despite the rampant materialist consumerism that can make one retch at times, it's just a jolly time of year. The music, the food, the colors, even the often-cheesy decorations—all of them just create this unique feeling. It almost convinces me that the world is full of love and people actually do care. Almost.

Still, the holidays can be a lot of fun. From the wacky relatives who come visit to the unsuspecting pleasures (or nightmares) of mistletoe, I'll bet that even the people who claim that religion has nothing good to offer enjoy Christmas as much as everyone else. Speaking of which, isn't that what started this whole thing, the religion bit? Gosh, I can't believe I almost forgot! How embarrassing! I'm sure this has never happened to anyone else.

Of course, if that were really true, politicians would never lie and lawyers would be altruist. But in all seriousness, what happened to the whole religious aspect of Christmas? I can honestly say that besides being Jesus Christ's birthday, I don't remember much at all. I usually see a couple of nativity scenes each year, but more often than not, I embarrass myself by asking my friends what it all means.

Now part of me is really bugged by the tragic fact that someone like myself, having obtained some education and possessing a slight measure of intelligence (I hope), doesn't know the history and meaning behind what



Alex Kramer  
Columnist

is perhaps the biggest holiday of the year. Yet, every time I go Christmas shopping this fact doesn't seem very surprising.

Let's go on a little imaginary shopping spree. Picture yourself at the front of one of those modern wonders of the world: the megamall. You open the grand doors of this shining tower of capitalism and guess what you see? A Christmas tree! Wow, what a surprise. And who stands before that shrine of plastic and metal? It's none other than Santa Claus and his little elves! Man, this is getting too exciting.

But wait one second... how do these guys relate to Christmas? I mean, if you were to ask a lot of people what the heart of Christmas is, most of them would probably answer one of these two. Yet neither of them have much to do with baby Jesus or the shepherd or any

of that.

Since all of the cool stories and characters that are so intrinsically linked to Christmas don't have much to do with any religious beliefs, and these are the aspects of Christmas that are most widely broadcast, it was bound to happen that blockheads like me should wander around obliviously with Santa hats on. After all, even those who know about the history and are religious happily awake the next morning and join the rest of us in overly excessive gift giving.

I'm not sure whether this perversion of a religious tradition into a national spending orgy is necessarily a bad thing, but I don't think it would hurt to at least put it into a more accurate perspective. Otherwise Christmas merely exists as an event that perpetuates the values that it has adopted.

On the other hand, though, I have to admit that I love the stories and the songs and the pure childish fun of it all. At what other time of year is it socially acceptable for someone like myself to unleash their musical vocal talent (or lack thereof) upon the world? Just writing about Christmas has inspired me to hum *Jingle Bells* for the past hour.

So for what it's worth, before you go shopping and put up that tree, think about what it all means. Even if you don't come up with a spiritual answer, I'm sure Christmas has some special meaning for you. And if it doesn't, well, there goes my theory. At least you'll still have the presents and the tree, and we all sure love those.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Life after De Anza at Berkeley

Dear Editor,

It's November 1st, 1995. No, actually November 2, since it's 1:15 am in the morning. I have been leafing through pages of my photo albums, which contained pictures taken at the La Voz banquet. Looking at the familiar faces of some of the staff I used to work with made my heart aglow, and I found myself smiling and reminiscing over the good old times at De Anza.

Into the tenth week of the semester, I have gotten much attuned to the new environment at UC Berkeley. When I first came here, I felt everything was so tense and there was so much pressure. Traffic is heavy. Streets are peopled. There is also a mysterious aura of competitiveness around the campus, and I cannot exactly put my finger on it.

I have yet to adapt to the teaching and learning style here. Most classes are so much bigger, anyone who is unprepared for class can rest assured he won't get caught by instructors. The flip

side is that big classes are more impersonal, and it is difficult to ask questions in big classes. Therefore, more time has to be invested in going to instructors' or teaching assistants' offices.

As an English major, I find the classes here much more challenging and demanding. Some classes require 200-300 pages of reading per week, so it is best to armor yourselves with excellent reading skills (or maybe even speed-reading skills) while you are at college. You might have been able to get through college with flying colors typing your papers in the morning of the day it is due. Sorry, those days are over!

Having access to different resources at Cal, I feel that there is a vast treasure trove of knowledge waiting for us to discover. From the library resource system using Gladis and Melvyl, to the Internet facilities allowing us to browse through the World Wide Web and communicate globally via electronic mail, this treasure trove of knowledge really has no boundary.

November 25, 1995.

It's the middle of the Thanksgiving holiday. I returned from L.A., having visited my good friend Noel, also a De Anza alumna. She is happy at UCLA, and she chose the school not just because of its reputation, but also because she likes the campus and the environment. She said, "Don't choose a university only because of its reputation. You have to like the environment and the people too."

I talked to some other De Anza alumni at UC Berkeley, and I learn that everyone is taking time to adapt to this new study environment. Getting to know the area, making new friends, and developing a sense of belonging is all part of life too. I am not a city person, so I will always reminisce about the serene and peaceful town of Cupertino, where De Anza College stands.

Janet Li  
Former staff member

### Letters to the Editor Policy

La Voz welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters must be signed and a phone number should be included so that we can verify that the person whose name is signed is in fact the author, and not someone else or the named signed is authentic. Names will be withheld by request. Letters should not exceed two double-spaced, typed pages. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity, but will make no attempt to alter meaning.

## Editors needed for Winter Quarter

Keep the paper alive and make a difference in the community by becoming an editor. Interested students are encouraged to apply for available editorial positions for the Winter Quarter. Positions include News Editor, Feature Editor, Sports Editor, and Art Editor.

For more information call (408) 864-5626 or drop by our office located in room L-41.

# Backtalk

## What are you asking Santa for Christmas this year?

By Shamiala Pervajz



-Scott Swartz  
Physical Education  
"A football scholarship."



-John Goldston,  
Physical Education  
"A new car."



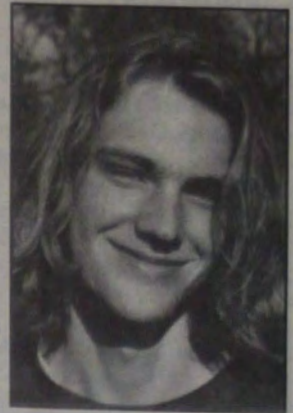
-Mimi Stewart,  
Art  
"I'm currently working towards getting a ceramics wheel for disabled people to enjoy while taking ceramics classes. I want the disabled people [following] me to use what I've enjoyed for the past two years. But the process of getting it is taking forever; it is a whole lot of red tape. Hopefully I will get the wheel soon; that is my Christmas wish."



-Paulene Njenge,  
Computer Science  
"I wish I could be home for Christmas in Kenya, Africa. It'll be the first time I'll be away for Christmas; but my host family is very nice and should make it easier for me."



-Isaac Levin,  
Medieval Folk Dance  
"Another girlfriend to be my sex slave!"



-Chris Milano,  
Film  
"I want some new friends because I need something more to pick on than my nose."

### Co-op offers work, credit

Co-op from front page applications. Mayberry comments, "The counselors at OTI are very friendly; they help you enroll in the class you need and are there when you need them. Preregistration, free child care and financial aid also help a lot."

Provost Michael Sullivan, administrator for vocational programs, says, "De Anza College is moving in a whole new direction. De Anza is currently expanding programs that offer hands-on work experience plus college credit with a primary focus of enhancing individual skills. Strong skills allow movement and adaptation to rapid changes taking place in the working world."

Dr. Mitchell, Chief Technology Officer of a computer corporation, agrees that while skills are important, "we need to maintain a balance with the basic fundamentals such as reading, writing, and math." He adds, "Employees who have only attended trade schools cannot easily adapt to changes in modern technology without being retrained."

### Friends support Learning Center

Library from front page materials needed, the Friends has sent the last check of \$1,800 to the Acquisition Department.

The big sale was on June 6, Tuesday, when the books at the were sold at half price. All others were sold at \$1 per bag on Wednesday. The rest left were put at the lobby of the De Anza Library for free. The Friends did not carry books over then. Thus, all books in the Friends are recently collected since June.

"Please come and find us," says Margee. A sign indicating the location of the Friends will soon be placed at the Learning Center. Margee is looking for student helpers to maintain the Friends. Last year it was fortunate to have a student volunteer every Wednesday. Margee says the Friends tries to have at least two staff on site on every Wednesday during office hours. Polly, a retiree from the Learning Center, and Mary Lou, a retiree from the Administrative Department, take turns to be at the Library.

For book donations, the circulation desk at the De Anza Library helps in the collection on other days of the week when the Friends is closed. Receipts will be given to donors for tax purposes. Thus, Margee advises donors to include their names, addresses and books donated in a sheet when leaving books at the desk.

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# A Spectrum of Seasons

## Wiccan Winter Solstice celebrates new year born

By Dr. Margie Brown  
Guest Writer

The ancient religion which pre-existed Christianity's evangelistic foray throughout Europe is still observed, and is known today as Wicca ("wise women") or Neo-Paganism ("of the people").

It is practiced in as wide a variety of styles as any other religion; highly ritualistic or small and intimate, strongly Celtic-based or inclusive of many traditions. For example, practitioners may include Indian medicine wheels, Our Lady of Guadeloupe observances, or Norse mythological journeys. Yet the foundation of the Wiccan/Neo-Pagan spirituality has at its core rituals of healing for the planet and ourselves, and celebrations of the great rhythms and circles of life.

The two great dramas of circular rhythms

The moon's journey symbolizes the waxing, fullness, and waning ("maid, mother, and crone") of the Goddess, or the celebration of the loving and feminine nature of universal truth.



are the monthly odyssey of the moon (seen as feminine), and the annual odyssey of the sun (seen as masculine). The moon's journey symbolizes the waxing, fullness, and waning ("maid, mother, and crone") of the Goddess, or the celebration of the loving and feminine nature of universal truth. The sun's journey symbolizes the planting, growing and harvesting rhythms of nature,

which celebrates the son of the Goddess in Wiccan mythic narrative.

At the Winter Solstice (Dec. 22), the "son" of the Goddess and the "sun" of the annual cycle are born. It is the darkest night, and the year turns toward the first tiny ray of sun which is promised. In early February (which has become Ground Hog's Day), a Festival of Light celebrates the Mother

Goddess and the growing Son. After the Spring Equinox, a celebration of fertility (now May Day) honors the coming into adulthood of the Son and the planting of the crops. After the Summer Solstice, a harvest festival in August (Labor Day) honors the fruition of the harvest and the son's growing wisdom that he must die as an individual for the good of the whole community. After the Autumn Equinox comes the journey into the dark (which has become Halloween) as the now-wise son goes into the world of darkness and mystery with the guidance of his wise mother, thereby helping us not to be afraid to go into our own darkest times.

All religions have their own way to honor these rhythms of life, as we can see by the parallels our own culture has created. Different cultures may celebrate at different times depending on their own context; for example, around the world the New Year

and Mardi Gras are held at different times, yet they still honor basic human spiritual needs. As religions overlap or co-opt each other throughout history, new holidays or alterations of traditions come into existence. Yet beneath the rituals or language are universal human truths which need to be expressed through spiritual holidays.

Scholars are of the opinion that Jesus of Nazareth was born sometime in April, yet the celebration of his birth, for a number of historical reasons, came to fall on the Winter Solstice Celebration. Whether we are celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Chinese New Year, Winter Solstice or another tradition, we are gathering together in the darkest and coldest times to help each other remember that we have been promised and we know from our experiences that the light pierces the darkness in our hearts and in our world.

## Hanukkah marks Jews' liberation with feast of light

By David Yaron  
Guest Writer

The Jewish celebration of Hanukkah (or Chanukah) means "rededication," and is celebrated for eight days beginning on the twenty-fifth day of Kislev (usually during the second half of December).



Hanukkah marks the deliverance of the Jews of Palestine from the oppression of the Syrian-Greeks in the second century B.C. Jewish history relates how the Greeks attempted to impose heathen practices upon the Jewish population, but Judah and his four brothers, sons of Mattathias the Priest, led a rebellion against them.

The revolt reached its climax when King Antiochus IV of Syria prohibited the observance of sacred Jewish practices, including circumcision, Temple ritual, Sabbath observance, and the study of the Tora. The decisive insult was the conversion of the Temple into a pagan shrine. However, in the year 165 B.C. the rebels succeeded in defeating the

Syrian armies, after which the Temple was cleansed and rededicated.

When the Syrian-Greeks captured the Temple, they had desecrated all the jugs of oil the High Priest had prepared for lighting the Temple menorah (candelabrum). After much searching, only one small undefiled jug still bearing the unbroken seal of the High Priest could be found. This cruse contained only enough oil to burn in the menorah for one day.

Nevertheless, the High Priest kindled the menorah and a miracle happened: the menorah flame continued to burn for eight days. To commemorate the event, it was decided that thenceforth the holiday would be observed annually by kindling

light for eight days, and Hanukkah became known as the Feast, or Festival, of Lights.

The ninth candle, called a shamash, is used to light the other candles in the menorah. This is a continuation of the practice followed when the seven-branched candelabrum of the tabernacle and Temple was lit. The seventh branch in each of these menorahs was called the shamash,

meaning "servant." Used to light the others, it was not counted as one of the lights.

A ninth candle is also used because the eight primary candles of the Hanukkah menorah may not be used for practical purposes. By having a ninth candle to light the others, one will not be tempted to use any of the eight primary candles for such purposes.



## Philippine festivities bright, fun

By Arnilyn Realeza  
Guest Writer

Christmas here in California is not much of a comparison to Christmas in Pililla, Philippines, my home town.

Christmas celebrations start earlier in the Philippines. Streamers of various colors decorate the narrow streets and plastic Christmas trees are up as early as September. Streets are crowded with children playing and women gossiping while the aroma of lechon (roast pig) lingers in the air.

When Christmas Eve arrives, everyone in town puts on their finest clothing and goes to church to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas.

Afterward, gifts are given. In my family, while the children unwrap the gifts, one of the uncles hides pesos around the house for us "kids" to search for later.

Today, my family and I try to preserve our Philippine traditions. Our house is covered with Christmas lights, Christmas songs are played and we often visit our family's home. Lechon is soon roasting, and children are searching for paper monies.

All in all, Christmas is not just food and decorations, but time for families to unite, praise and rejoice the birth of the Saviour.



## Facts on Christmas in Philippines

- Star-shaped lanterns, all brightly lit, hang on most windows or doorways in the Christian homes in the Philippines. They represent the Star of Bethlehem that guided the Three Wise Men to the Baby Jesus.

- Masses at dawn start on December 16 and culminate in a midnight mass on December 24, Christmas Eve. Outside the church, stalls sprout during the season selling all sorts of rice cakes and the traditional steaming ginger tea, perfect for the cold December mornings.

- Lots of visiting goes on; children who have started their own families take their

spouses and children to visit the parents; young children are taken to visit their godparents; neighbors visit each other. During all of these, children seek the blessing of the elders.

- No Philippine festivity is complete without lots of food. The tradition was for homes to be open even to strangers, and all guests had to be fed. The tradition has changed; but friends and family drop in unannounced, sometimes with other people they have sort of adopted for the season because they have no families nearby to celebrate with.

## Kwanzaa links U.S. to Africa

By Solomon Kassai  
Guest Writer

Kwanzaa, founded in America in 1966, is an annual celebration which takes place Dec. 26 to Jan. 1. The purpose of Kwanzaa is to provide the African-American community with a social, political and creative link to Africa.

Kwanzaa has seven principles, and ceremonial candles which represent each:

- Umoja (Unity)
- Kujichagulia (Self-determination)
- Ujima (Cooperative Economics)
- Nia (Purpose)
- Kuumba (Creativity)
- Imani (Faith)

Kwanzaa is a cultural holiday. During this week, the activities of

each day should teach about the theme for that day. This holiday is great because it looks upon the past and reinforces Africa's deep-rooted traditional values. It is a way of knowing and treasuring the African past, because the past is the bridge to the future.

In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, one of the richest and oldest cultures in the world, the holiday season is a time full of sharing and great festivities.

During the holidays, the beauty and traditions of these people are displayed to the fullest. All forms of business, government and private, are closed during the holidays. Everyone dresses in the traditional attire (Shemmas), visits with their families and shares in



the traditional foods and drinks served.

On religious holidays, people are engaged in different activities at church, such as overnight prayers.

Whether they are celebrated in Africa or in America, the one thing these holidays are never short of is love.

## Las Posadas tradition recreates Biblical journey to Bethlehem

By Patty Guerrero  
Managing Editor

The customary way for Mexicans and other Latin Americans to celebrate Christmas is deeply rooted in the Catholic religion, and emphasizes family and goodwill, scarcely stressing the exchange of presents. Las Posadas, as it is called, begins one week before Christmas Day.

Traditionally, a procession ranging anywhere from a few to a few hundred people beautifully recreates the Biblical story of Mary and Joseph's journey to find a place to rest in Bethlehem. During the procession, participants go from house to house in a given neighborhood, in hopes of finding "Posada," or a vacancy in that "Inn."

It is customary that the last place visited during the procession represents the place where Mary and Joseph stayed. The people in that house or church open their doors to the participants of the procession and place the nativity scene on a table inside to be viewed by all, as processioners sing a traditional song

Food and entertainment are a major part of the festivities once the procession is over. A "piñata" is



always a vital part of the celebration for the children, and homemade, old-fashioned, Mexican style hot chocolate is served along with "pan dulce" (sweet bread) and homemade tamales.

The "Baby Jesus" doll is kept hidden throughout the week until Christmas Day, when he is placed in the nativity scene, signifying Christ's birth.

Mexican children are not accustomed to receiving presents from

"Santa Claus" on Christmas Day. Instead, the holiday parties continue until the night before the Epiphany, or the day the Three Kings visited Jesus. Then children place their shoes outside their bedroom door, and in the morning, awake to find presents from the Three Kings, who "visited" them the night before.

This holiday season, here's wishing you a "Feliz Navidad; Feliz Navidad, Feliz Navidad, Prospero Año y Felicidad!"

# Skating, lights found in downtown wonderland



Skating from front page up in San Francisco and Sacramento. This is the first year for the San Jose rink. Located at Market and San Carlos streets, the rink is of impressive size. Holiday trees laced with white lights surround the rink as well as a concession stand which serves everything from hot dogs to biscotti and cappuccino. Alanis Morissette, Janet Jackson and Bush are just a few of the musicians

whose music is played while you skate. So far, the rink has been a huge success. Mark Franzini, one of the many competitive ice skaters working at the rink, says that "every pair of skates sold out on Thanksgiving day" and he feels that the rink is so successful because "...it is outdoors." The fact that the rink is outdoors seems to add magic to the whole event. Notre Dame High School student Diane Ott

states that "It is near that (the rink) is in the middle of traffic and buildings and you're just skating along."

Recreational skating is not the only service being offered by the rink. Later this month a Christmas show will be presented by experienced skaters and in January the innovator of the rink, Dorothy Hamill, will be a guest skater.

For those who want to get serious about skating, a variety of lessons are available. A seven-week course, one day a week for a half hour is \$100 and for \$15 you can drop in for a 15-minute lesson. The price for admission is

\$5.50 and an extra \$3 for skate rental (skates are free for children 10 and under.) The rink will remain until January 28 and is open daily from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and weekends and holidays 10 a.m.-midnight.

If San Jose does not satisfy your notion of big city skating, the Dorothy Hamill Ice Skating Centre also has a rink located at Embarcadero Center in San Francisco. So, what are you waiting for? Grab a couple of friends or that special someone and GO SKATE!

For more information on all locations call 1-800-DOT-SKATE.

Top left: In celebration of her 50th birthday, Sandie Walker and friend Debbie Garabato hold on for dear life, as they take a crack at the new outdoor Dorothy Hamill Ice Skating Rink, Nov. 29.

Left: Sam Ortiz helps his daughter Samantha skate at The Dorothy Hamill Ice Skating Rink Nov. 29.

Bottom left: Micheal Greco, chapter leader of San Jose Guardian Angels, hold his nine-month-old daughter, Amanda, over the fence in Christmas in the Park.

Bottom left: Maria Aguilar pulls her grandson, Andrew Melendez, 3, through Christmas in the Park Sunday night.

Photos by Shumiala Pervaiz



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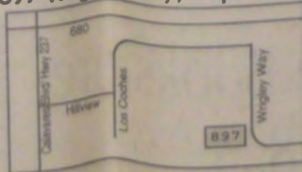
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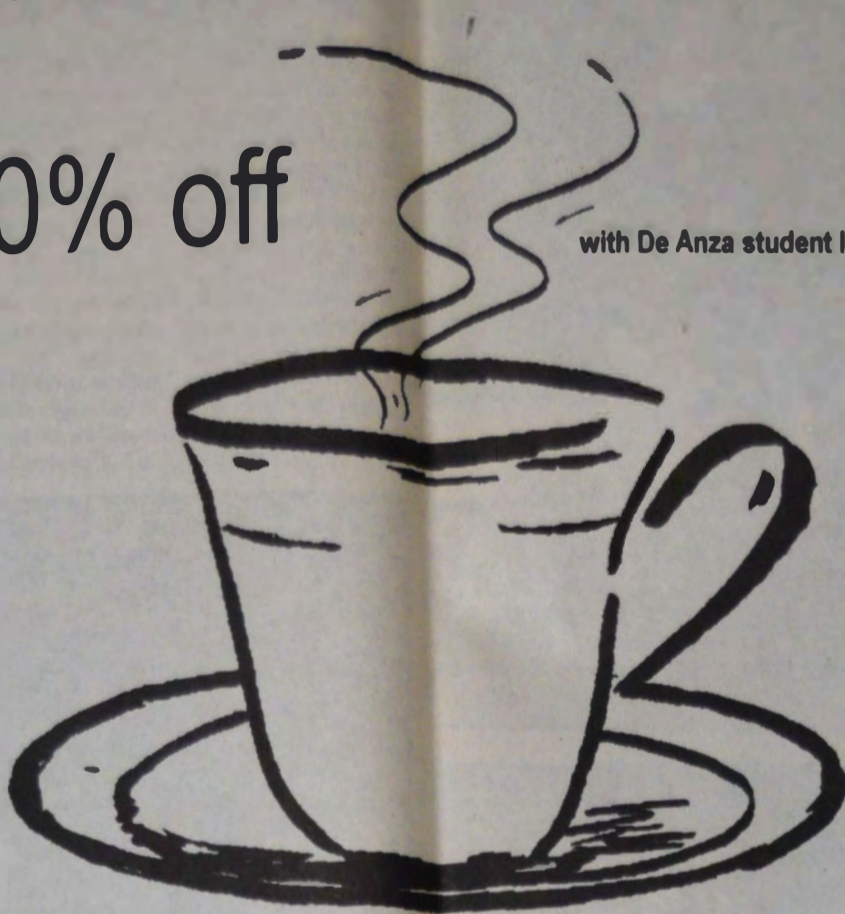
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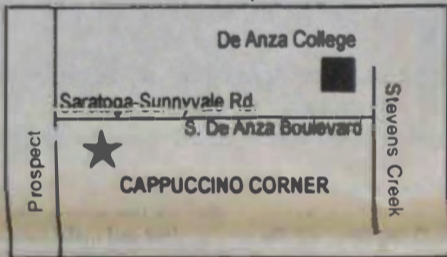
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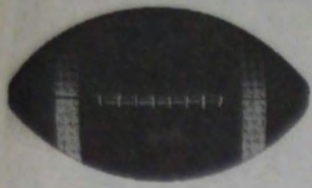
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# La Voz Sports presents Most Valuable Players



La Voz/Douglas Rider

**Volleyball:**

**Stephanie Burch:**  
Position: Middle Blocker  
What she did: Co-captain led team in kills (3.7 per game), MVP of Santa Barbara Tournament. All Tourney selection at C.O.S. Tournament  
Comment: "Stephanie is an all-around player and her leadership on the team is invaluable to us; she is one of the best, if not the best, middle blockers in the league," said coach Kathy Jensen.

**Alanna Whitnack:**  
Position: Setter  
What she did: Co-captain led the team with 9.6 assists average, and was an All Tourney selection at the Santa Barbara Tournament.  
Comment: "Alanna is definitely the best setter in the league and is a good team leader," coach Kathy Jensen.

**Men's Soccer:**  
**Ali-John Utush:**  
Position: Mid-fielder  
What he did: Utush was the team assist leader with eight and earned himself the Coast Conference Defensive Player of the Year.  
Comment: "He's a very good all-around player," said coach Kulwant Singh, "He could've played anywhere on the field."

**Women's Soccer:**  
**Julie Ruckreigel:**  
Position: Right Mid-fielder  
What she did: Ruckreigel's attacking type of play earned her the Coast Conference Player of the Year. She also tied for the team lead in assists with 10.

Comments: "Julie has shown a lot of versatility as she switched over to right midfielder this year. People look at her as an all-around player," commented coach Kulwant Singh.

Comment: "Instrumental as the team leader on defense. She had never played sweeper before and picked it up pretty fast," said Kulwant Singh.

**Water Polo:**  
**David McMillan:**  
Position: Inside striker  
What he did: McMillan's impressive stats include an All-American for the second consecutive year. First team Coast Conference. The team's best offensive player is being recruited by California, U.C. San Diego and

U.C. Davis  
Comment: "Dave and Tony [Aguilera] are the best duo [inside/outside hitters] De Anza's had in a long time," said coach Ted Ujifusa.

**Tony Aguilera:**  
Position: Outside striker  
What he did: Aguilera complemented McMillan with his powerful outside side that earned him First team Coast Conference. The team's best defensive player is also being recruited by U.C. San

**De Anza Fall Sports MVP's Top Row:**  
Volleyball's Stephanie Burch, Alanna Whitnack.  
Water Polo's Tony Aguilera, Dave McMillan.  
**Bottom Row:**  
Soccer's Julie Ruckreigel, Carrie Buckingham, Ali-John Utush.

Diego.  
Comment: "Like the old cliché goes, these two will be very hard to replace," commented coach Ujifusa.  
Etc...The football team wanted to keep their MVPs a secret as they wanted to save their announcement for their upcoming banquet on December 7th....Cross Country named their MVPs in last issue's Athletes of the Issue, who were Ralph Contreras and Maureen Sweda, who were not pictured.  
Information and quotes were compiled by sports editor Marko Ukalovic

## 1995-96 De Anza Dons Basketball Season Preview

By Marko Ukalovic  
Sports Editor

The Women's Basketball team, like many of the sports programs here at De Anza, is known for excellence. Last season was no exception as the Dons compiled a 26-10 overall record, became Coast Conference champions, made a trip to the NorCal tournament and a garnered an impressive number seven ranking in Northern California and 18th in state.  
This year, even though the team will not get a chance to play in the post-season, there is enough talent at De Anza to win the Coast Conference title again.  
The 1995-96 Women's team is led by head coach Mike Gervasoni, who returns for his ninth year at De Anza. Gervasoni, a former Santa Clara University basketball All American, has over 29 years of coaching and has won him six conference titles.  
New to the sidelines this season is first

year assistant coach **Lori Cox**. Cox, a former All American herself, from Harbor High School in Santa Cruz, brings her expertise from Fremont High School in Sunnyvale.  
The guard-oriented De Anza team has experience with eight returning players from last year's team.  
Sophomore guards **Kerri Reese**, **Kristie Barnes** along with **Kay Jackson** who was a red shirt last season look to lead the team as they gained experience from playing extensive minutes last season.  
Five-foot-ten **Donalyn Marchi**, the team's only front court player who had a lot of playing time last season as a freshman, will be the team's main banger down low in the paint. With the losses of leading scorer **Jenni Marr** (transferred to Missouri State) and 6'4" center **Angie Spano**, De Anza's size has severely dropped off.  
However, 5'8" **Lori Alvarez**, 5'10" **Kamikio Simpson** and 5'8" **Iisha**

**Coleman** will help out **Marchi** in the front court and have the potential to be impact players this season.  
The sophomores will be complemented this season with a good freshman class which consists of **Jenny Miller** (Prospect), **Selena Miller** (Riverbank) and **Shelly Savage** (Fremont). All three will fight for playing time, coming off the bench at guard. Forwards **Aisha Sullivan** and **Leslie Brown** will compete up front for De Anza.  
"Having the returning players will help out the [incoming] freshman, but there hasn't been too big of an adjustment," said Cox.  
The Dons will look to run and play a fast tempo style of basketball. De Anza has quick guards with good ball-handling skills and they like to shoot the three-pointer. De Anza looks to play a more perimeter, motion type of offense due to their lack of size in the frontcourt.  
On defense the De Anza players will pressure their opponents, with a lot of half-

court traps and occasionally full courts as well, looking to cause turnovers and create fast-break opportunities.  
The Dons have faced some tough competition at the beginning of the season as they have played three of the state powerhouses in their first five games. De Anza opened up against College of Sequoia, the team who beat them in NorCal tournament championship game, and beat them 69-61. They had a thrilling double overtime loss to Contra Costa (68-66) and a 59-51 win over Merrit of Oakland.  
In the Coast Conference De Anza has its work cut out for it as Foothill and San Mateo have a combination of quick guards and big low post players to give De Anza stiff competition.  
"We don't have any inside players [to match up against bigger teams]," said Cox, "we're going to have to be able to run the

ball and rely on our outside shooting."  
De Anza's goal is not only to win the Coast Conference this season, but to develop the young talent and make sure everyone fits into the system.  
"We definitely want to be [Coast] conference champions," stated Cox, "but mainly we just want to learn, build and develop players. The sophomores can still go on to four-year schools and they want to get as good as they can, especially the younger kids who are coming back next year."  
So will this season be a rebuilding year for the De Anza Women's Basketball team?  
"No, I wouldn't call it a rebuilding year," stated Cox, "It's more of a 'restructuring' year because we are going to find out where everyone can play and how the young talent develops. So not necessarily rebuilding, but I would say reconstructing."

## Learning year under new head coach

By Marko Ukalovic  
Sports Editor

The Men's Basketball program has gone through significant changes over the past four months.  
First, coach **Frank Cabarjal** resigned his position to coach at another community college.  
Second, Athletic Director **Al Vacio** in a mad scramble to find a coach right away hired **Mike Riley**, an assistant coach from San Jose City College, with no head coaching experience at the junior college level, a week before practice officially began in October.  
Third, with only one returning player from last year's squad and a lot of inexperienced freshman, coach Riley had little to work with in such a short period of time.  
"It's going to be difficult, the players don't know me and I don't know the players; it's going to take a while," Riley commented.  
Riley brings in his own assistant coaching staff, which is made up of former Lincoln High School coach **Alan Tokunaga**, **Arron Chain** and **David Oliver**.  
Due to the team's lack of incoming recruits this year, the team is looking to rebuild with what they have.  
The team's main goal this year?  
"To keep twelve players, on the team the whole season," said coach Riley.  
At the moment the team has 14.  
To make matters worse, the team has suffered through a rash of injuries to an already thin squad. Guard **Jebraun Jones** suffered an injury last week and has missed two games, and is doubtful for this weekend's De

Anza Four Team Classic.  
"We've had a lot of injuries this early, said coach Riley, "We've had a broken finger here, a sprained knee here; it's been terrible."  
Until his injury, Jones was the most consistent player on the team, shooting the ball well and showing a great deal of hustle. Forward **Chris Shoemaker** also has been playing well in the young season. **Farrell Hamann** has shown some flashes of brilliance at times, in the past two tournaments, but still has not played consistently enough for Riley.  
The has been a huge adjustment for both the players and coaches since the team has been practicing together for only six weeks, whereas the rest of the Coast Conference have had been practicing since the start of the school year, a full six weeks longer.  
"We [coaches] don't know what to expect from the players because of the short time we had to prepare for the season," said Riley, "so they are still trying to learn the system and it hasn't been easy."  
"Everyone's new here. There are 14 players that don't know the system and have little time to learn it. We are a very young team and are still learning," said Riley.  
The team is off to a 2-6 start, but according to Riley that is positive, with the young and inexperienced players who are starting all over again.  
"Heck, I say that's good, since everybody has picked us to go 0-30," stated Riley.  
Another problem the De Anza has, is they are undersized as well. **Jay Carter** at 6'6" 200 is the team's tallest player. Not exactly numbers that fit a center or power forward position.

"We're undersized so that's going to hurt us as well," stated Riley.  
The team must concentrate on getting healthy and using the De Anza Classic this weekend as a chance to develop some chemistry and gel as a team before heading into the grueling schedule of the Coast Conference, which starts December 13 at Hatnell. It will be a long year otherwise.  
"We're in a tough league, where the teams had been practicing six weeks longer than us," said Riley, "They have a lot of talent, so it's going to be an uphill battle."  
"We have a lot of talent, but haven't gotten the job done," said Riley.  
"We've got some kids working extremely hard; they all have a lot of heart. We're going

### Editor's Note

In the seven months since I've taken over as the sports editor I have done my best to give equal and adequate coverage to all of the sports here at De Anza. Thanks in part to the coaches and players for taking time out of their schedule to provide me information, statistics and quotes to help my writers and myself produce our articles.  
I just want to say that I was honored to give coverage to all of the sports at De Anza. They symbolize a winning tradition as the state's best sports program. I hope the future editor will provide the same type of coverage. Thank you

Marko Ukalovic  
Sports Editor

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# De Anza draws younger crowd

Age, from front page

who register at the college are referred by family or friends.

Other factors include:

• increased fees at the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems have caused many students to enroll at community colleges;

• De Anza's 15 guaranteed transfer agreements, which ensure admission to many UC and CSU campuses, are popular for students and their parents;

• there has been an increase in the number of high school graduates from the east side of the county.

Gene Murden, an ORS outreach officer, said the increased enrollment among 17- to 24-year-olds is due in part to some nontraditional recruitment methods. "We visited malls and Raging Waters, put on shows with the Phaze II dancers (a De Anza hip-hop dance team), worked with student government and advertised on radio," he said.

Although it is true that students often choose a community college because of its proximity, De Anza's special relationship with Independence High School of the East Side Union High School District has led to Independence sending more students to De Anza than any other high school in Santa Clara County.

"We have a superior reputation in the East Side district," Frabony said. Susan McCarron, also an ORS outreach officer, said De Anza has built a good relationship with administrators and counselors at Independence, including the establishment of a special annual College Day just for their students.

Finally, De Anza has a racially and ethnically diverse student body. Almost a third of students enrolling at De Anza in the fall of 1995 were Asian, while 45 percent were white.

De Anza is now accepting applications for the winter quarter. Appointments to register are given on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration for new students begins Dec. 15. For information, call Admissions and Records at (408) 864-5300.

### End-of-the-term Party

All La Voz Staff and all students interested in joining La Voz are cordially invited to attend our End-of-the-Quarter potluck, movie and raffle gathering. Remember to bring a snack-type food to share.

Date: Friday, December 15  
Time: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
Place: L-41 (Student Publication and Design Center)

We want to thank everyone who contributed to the outstanding work on the paper this Fall. And we want to welcome anyone interested in joining our staff for the Winter Quarter.

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