



Associated Collegiate Press /
National Scholastic Press Association

All American
1984 1985 1986
1987 1988 1989
1990 1991 1992

Regional Pacemaker
1988

Journalism Association
of Community Colleges
First in General Excellence,
Northern California
Fall 1994
General Excellence
Fall 2000

Editor in chief: Aman Mehrzai
News editor: Anna Nemchuk
Opinion editor: Gloria Guy
Features editor: Jessica Losee
Sports editor: Steve Chavez
Writers: Annie Utter
Ad manager: Corie Howell
Adviser: Bill Parks
Printer: F-P Press

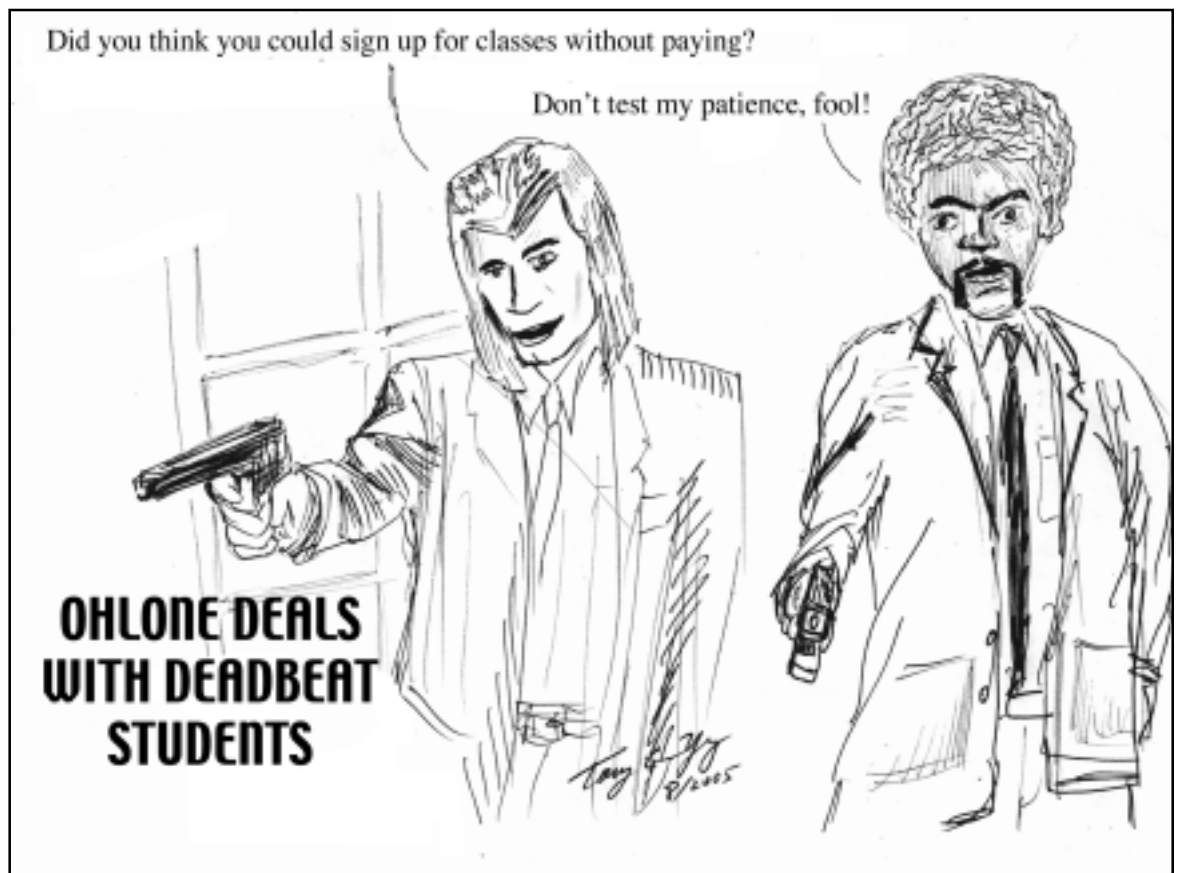


Offices are located in Room 5310 on campus, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont 94539-5884. Call (510) 659-6075. Fax: (510) 659-6076. E-mail: monitor@ohlone.cc.ca.us

Opinions expressed in the *Monitor* are those of the respective authors and are not necessarily those of the staff, the college or the Associated Students of Ohlone College. Unsigned editorials reflect the majority view of staff members. Advertising material is printed herein for informational purposes and is not to be construed as an expression of endorsement or verification of such commercial ventures by the staff or college.

The *Monitor* is funded by the district, by the Associated Students of Ohlone College, and through advertising revenue.

The *Monitor* is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, Journalism Association of Community Colleges, Community College Journalism Association, California Newspaper Publishers Association, College Media Advisers and Society of Newspaper Design.



OPINION

Look it up in the dictionary – there's lots of new stuff

By JESSICA LOSEE
Features editor

There have been a few new additions to the tens of thousands of words in Webster's Dictionary. Yet, the new accompaniments may not be all what you're expecting.

According to the Baltimore Sun, the dictionary accepted such words as civil union as well as cargo pants and the notorious chad (the tiny area of the polling card from the 2000 Presidential Election that was meant to be punched out for the person you wished to vote for). These tiny pock-marks of paper became the bane of that election and appeared in several fascinating forms including the swinging, hanging, dimpled, and the most popular, pregnant chads.

Of course, dictionaries must consider and deliberate over their new additions.

"For words to be included in the dictionary," explains the Sun. "three criteria are considered: How long has the word been around? (A minimum of three years is typical.) How widely is it used? (It must show up in mainstream sources, not just obscure journals.) And how frequently does it appear?"

Those among the words that did not appear in Webster's this year included Amber Alert, ringtone, and TiVo. TiVo, the program that allows customers to record television programs on a hard drive to view at a later time, fast forward and rewind live TV; in brief, the best thing since sliced bread and Nintendo.

The Sun also points out that improvements have been made to the definitions of existing words including sheesh (interj. used variously to express disbelief, surprise, annoyance, etc.) and the addition of other slang words such as wedgie (n. a prank in which the victim's undershorts are jerked upward so as to become wedged between the buttocks).

Another dictionary has been expanding their own collection of words, the Oxford Dictionary of English just added such words as demographic, phishing (email scams to get unsuspecting people to give out their bank account numbers in order to receive a portion of a large amount of money, but being robbed instead), and labradoodle (a mixed breed of dog made by cross-

ing a Labrador and a Poodle).

When one goes to look up slang words in the dictionary, one tends to find merely the space where the word would be alphabetized if it had been added or a definition unrelated to which the searcher was expecting.

I recollect looking up the word dork in my enormous 10 lb. dictionary and finding something similar to the following:

n. the penis of a whale

Now, to a 12-year-old, that definition would be the joke of the year, but in recent editions of dictionaries, the definition has been changed to the following, from www.dictionary.com:

1. Slang. A stupid, inept, or fool-

ish person: "the stupid antics of America's favorite teen-age cartoon dorks" (Joshua Mooney).

2. Vulgar Slang. The penis.

Not only has the definition changed, but it has become a certifiable slang term. As a child, I dreamed of having a slang dictionary, which would, undoubtedly, provide hours of enjoyment for my easily-entertained sixth-grade humor.

The fun of this has faded away, today these dictionaries will approve such words as labradoodle and, yes, even Botox, and next year, they will be toasting their new edition which will feature a diamond-studded special-edition with the word bling imprinted into the book in gold plate.

Sheesh.

Campfires in Texas: Bush continues to burn in spotlight

By TONY C. YANG
Special correspondent

Army Specialist Casey Sheehan's dead, cold body lies six feet under, in loamy soil.

But his death continues to haunt his mother, Cindy Sheehan, fueling her spirited campaign to gain some "facetime" with President

George Bush.

As of last weekend, Bush had still not acquiesced to her request—more of demand—now that she has camped out in front of his Crawford, Texas, ranch.

This apparent snub comes at a time when more than a majority of Americans say they have lost faith in the president. His approval rating is an abysmal 38 points.

Ms. Sheehan has been called a traitor and an opportunist, and even members of her own family said she had an agenda.

And she does.

What mother wouldn't want to know the reasons for a son's death? What parent wouldn't go to the ends of the earth, in her case, the deserts of central Texas, to find out the truth?

President Bush missed a great opportunity to reclaim his compassionate conservative image when he sped by in an armored SUV, on his way to a \$2 million barbecue with Republican contributors.

Taking an hour out of his five-week vacation does not seem unreasonable, especially when he admits he has only met with less than 200 "Gold Star" families.

Sheehan was not your typical grunt. He had aced the ASVAB and wanted to be a chaplain's assistant.

The young man, only 24 years old, was killed in Iraq last April.

It was, as T.S. Eliot put it, the "cruellest month" for Sheehan's mother. She posed a question to Bush:

"Why do you make time for donors and not for me?"

CAMPUS COMMENT >>>

Strangest thing that happened this summer?



KIRANDEEP KAUR
Undecided.

"I went to India and got pulled over by the cops who demanded bribes."



STEVE WARNER
Business

"I was in a major brawl in Reno during a baseball game."



REBECCA CHEN
Undecided.

"I met a guy in Tahoe in the street and asked him to pose nude in a photo and he did."



ERIC WESTCOTT
Business

"Worked at a cemetery and had a lady ask to be buried in her car."



TUAN LE
Engineering

"I almost died river rafting when my boat tipped over. I screamed, 'Help I am drowning.'"